





Darwin Initiative Main: Annual Report

To be completed with reference to the "Project Reporting Information Note": (https://www.darwininitiative.org.uk/resources-for-projects/information-notes-learning-notes-briefing-papers-and-reviews/).

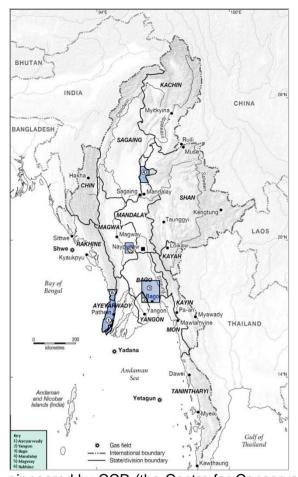
It is expected that this report will be a **maximum of 20 pages** in length, excluding annexes)

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Darwin Initiative Project Information

Project reference	27-012
Project title	Promoting Human-elephant Coexistence Through Education and Seasonal Fencing
Country/ies	Myanmar
Lead partner	British Asian Trust with Elephant Family (BAT/EF)
Project partner(s)	Grow Back for Posterity (GBP) Myanmar Compass Films (CF) France
Darwin Initiative grant value	£365,335
Start/end dates of project	August 2020 – July 2024 (Yr2 extended to cover 2-years)
Reporting period and number	Annual Report Yr2.2 (Apr 2022 – Mar 2023)
Project leader name	Belinda Stewart-Cox
Project website/blog/social media	www.britishasiantrust.org www.compassfilms.net www.elephant-family.org www. growback posterity.com
Report author(s) and date	Belinda Stewart-Cox, Klaus Reisinger, Aung Myo Chit, Auro Shashwat, Ellie Jones (9 May 2023)

1. Project summary



Over 70% of Myanmar's population lives in rural areas and depends on the land for subsistence. Human-elephant conflict threatens the lives and livelihoods of villagers and elephants in several areas of central Myanmar from retaliatory killings, crop damage and habitat loss/fragmentation. This problem was identified and well documented by our project partners, Grow Back for Prosperity (GBP) and Compass Films (CF) and underpinned our previous Darwin project (24-024, 2017-20) which developed a Human-Elephant Peace (H.EI.P) programme to embed an HEC mitigation strategy into government policy and practice. This project builds on the achievements of its predecessor, educating villagers about elephants. the causes of human-elephant conflict, and how to stay safe living alongside elephants, thus turning fear into a more confident understanding, along with feelings of empowerment, whilst also instilling the concept of human-elephant coexistence (HECx) as a way of preventing elephants becoming defensive-aggressive.

However, raising awareness is not enough to maintain HECx or protect elephants if they forage on crops and threaten livelihoods. Therefore, this project also trains villagers to install safe, solarpowered seasonal electric fencing using a method

pioneered by CCR (the Centre for Conservation Research) that CF/GBP have adapted for use in Myanmar. Most countries affected by HEC use electric fencing to stop crop-foraging, usually erecting permanent fences which block elephants year-round from customary feeding grounds and corridors. Working with CCR, the Smithsonian and Friends of Wildlife, the CF/GBP team implemented a pilot project in 2018-19 to find out whether seasonal electric fencing would work in Myanmar as well as in Sri Lanka. It did, so the then government agreed to its adoption as a system of HEC mitigation nationwide and approved a rotational soft loan mechanism (with villagers as the principal co-funders), which would ensure the scheme could be sustainably implemented for years. This project planned to introduce this fencing method into six areas of the central regions where HEC most often occurs, institutionalising it as a government programme to ensure sustainability and safeguard human and elephant lives and livelihoods, thus reducing retaliatory killings of elephants and the impoverishment of villagers. However, the military coup of 1-Feb-21 made our two most northerly target areas (Magway and Mandalay) unsafe, and has deterred villagers from requesting government-approved loans, so we have focused on the growing problem of HEC in the four southern target areas (Ayeyarwady, Bago, Yangon, and Rakhine states), and villagers have opted to find their own funds to purchase fencing equipment.

2. Project stakeholders/ partners

The plan to create this project's partnership with Grow Back for Prosperity (GBP) and Compass Films (CF) was first proposed by Elephant Family (EF, now merged with British Asian Trust) in 2015 when EF's then Head of Conservation met the GBP and CF partners at the first Myanmar Elephant Conservation Action Plan workshop and learned of the challenges faced in tackling the problems this project aims to address. This partnership was therefore responsive and participatory from the outset and has remained so ever since, with full partner involvement at every stage of planning, evaluations, and report writing, including this report, although the coup in Myanmar has made internet communication with GBP more difficult. However, working with BAT/EF and Klaus Reisinger (CF) and Aung Myo Chit (AMC), we created a data reporting system which, in the last year, the GBP team can now add to from the field and complete, as needed,

after each field trip. This has been a major capacity-building undertaking in difficult conditions, and is still a work in progress, but it does provide the data needed to monitor project progress.

Contact between the implementing partners and government agents at local, regional, and higher levels was developed over the course of the last Darwin project and has been maintained and expanded during this one (though mostly at a local level since the coup to safeguard the team and project participants). Initially, members of the Forest Department (FD), its Wildlife Conservation Division (WCD), and representatives of the Ministries of Education (ME) and Religious Affairs & Culture (MRAC) attended the H.El.P educational workshops simply to find out what GBP was up to, but they soon recognised the workshops' value. Nowadays, local conservation officials, teachers, school heads, monks and community leaders are significant aides to project planning and implementation and, importantly, to project continuity. Moreover, it is thanks to these relationships and the trust they have engendered that villages now report the appearance of strangers thought to be poachers, usually to GBP although before the 2021 coup they had begun to report to local government representatives as well, overcoming their customary wariness of officialdom. Contact between GBP and villagers continued by telephone during covid and immediately after the coup and continues, even now, in remote target areas if it is risky for GBP to travel there, or if the team has not been able to get there for a while (e.g. during monsoon months).

For the fence-training programme, the Elephant Emergency Response Units (EERU) of the Myanmar Timber Enterprise (MTE), which is part of the FD, became the main government implementing partner rather than FD officials. This is because the EERU is now responsible for addressing human-elephant conflict on behalf of the government, while district FD officials focus on illegal logging and forest encroachment. This EERU collaboration is proving beneficial as the head of the unit takes charge of any reporting required at higher levels of government and maintains contact with the CBD & CITES focal point in the Forest Dept. Friends of Wildlife and the University of Yangon, proposed collaborators, are currently unable to help because of political constraints.

One challenge faced by GBP, our in-country partner, is the regular transfer of local government officials to new postings, which means forging new relationships with the replacements. This was even more challenging following the coup, but because good relations were already established with key individuals at local level (the coup mostly disrupted officials at higher levels), GBP has been able to continue the project, albeit in a modified way. In fact, the turnover of government personnel can be advantageous if supportive officials are promoted to key positions in the regional or national offices. In the past, this helped GBP promote the Human Elephant Peace (H.EL.P) programme at higher levels which, in turn, prompted a request to provide materials for permanent exhibits at the new Elephant Museum in Yangon and, in 2020, helped GBP acquire the coveted status of a National NGO.

We cannot know what personnel changes the political situation may cause longer-term, but partners continue to monitor the situation. Many senior officials were part of the ousted regime and most have left or been removed from office. For example, the Minister of Forestry was replaced by his permanent secretary who was supportive of H.EI.P. activities and approved the fencing and education activities. All agreements obtained before the coup remain valid and field permits are issued by local officials when needed. Those relationships allow the project to continue.

3. Project progress

A reminder: due to challenges caused by the Covid pandemic in April 2020 (which postponed the project start to August 2020), and the Myanmar coup in February 2021 (disrupting everything), we requested a 1-year extension, splitting Yr2 into two years. We notified Darwin of the delay start-date and requested a no-cost extension to project activities, making some slight adjustments to the logframe, which were approved. This report covers year 2.2, the second half of the extension, which means the project has been going for almost 3 years.

The project continues to adapt to political realities to ensure safe implementation and remains largely on track as per the change request of April 2021. Yangon, Ayeyarwady, Bago, and southern Rakhine, are relatively quiet in so far as pro-democracy protests have been curtailed,

but the authorities are ever vigilant, and the situation remains challenging. Support for the project by relevant authorities continues to be positive, but their involvement is restricted to local and, indirectly, provincial level. There is a growing demand from villagers for the kind of fence training we provide and the only way the Forest Department can satisfy this demand is to support the project and its implementing partner, GBP. The Department, itself, can do little to help, lacking the means and the know-how.

In the last year, the project has made progress, despite the constant challenges. Internet connections are still disrupted by the junta and are only reliable from 10pm-5am. Despite being vaccinated, GBP's project leader Aung Myo Chit (AMC) caught Covid again in 2022 though not nearly as severely as in 2021. Other team members also caught Covid, but none badly. With or without all team members, GBP has continued to implement project activities, undertaking monthly field trips to Yangon, Bago, Ayeyarwady and, in March 2023, to southern Rakhine (#1,2,3+6 on map), but not to Magway or Mandalay (#4,5) where there continues to be active resistance to the junta, making it dangerous to implement project activities.

The source for all figures cited in this report is the project database, which is filled in by team members, when and wherever possible from the field, a facility introduced in 2022. The data is checked by GBP's M&E manager so discrepancies can be raised with the relevant team member and clarified or corrected. Every month, AMC also looks over recent records. In future, Klaus Reisinger (KR) will also check them quarterly, so project reporting becomes easier and more timely. This year we introduced a reporting form linked to the logframe (Annex 4.1) which, with practice, will improve reporting practices. The database itself is designed around the numbered activities in the logframe. Other information on project progress was checked with AMC by BSC and/or KR via WhatsApp when the internet allowed. BSC is the lead writer of this report.

3.1 Progress in carrying out project Activities

Output 1 - Saving Lives:

Human-Elephant Conflict education events scheduled for the northern provinces of Mandalay/Magway were moved to new areas of Ayeyarwady, Yangon, and southern Rakhine. The team conducted elephant safety education presentations in 78 villages, directly reaching 4,052 people (1,303 adult men, 1,171 adult women, 788 male and 790 female students) in this reporting period. So far, the project has reached 173 villages and over 13,000 villagers overall. Every student received an educational kit and 1,434 survey forms have been completed to date representing 11% of participants. We know from previous surveys that participants share their knowledge and materials with at least three friends/family members, so the total number of people reached directly and indirectly in the last year is likely to have been around 5,000.

During this reporting period, 149 elephant sightings were recorded by community members, as well as 10 HEC incidents (fences broken by bulls), and 3 human deaths, one of which was a man from a project village. In the target areas, no elephants were killed by people last year and no significant poaching was reported. Elsewhere, 16 elephant deaths were recorded, one of natural causes, 6 poached for ivory & skin, two probably poisoned, six apparently accidental, two unknown (Annex 4.4). The increase in poaching is likely linked to China's border trade re-opening after Covid and the junta's 2022 release of poachers from prison. GBP now gives education sessions in areas where poaching is reported to counteract this trend.

In March this year, we began HEC education, together with fence training, in southern Rakhine state which adjoins Ayeyarwady region and is becoming an HEC hotspot. The necessary groundwork to establish contacts with regional officers, villagers and a local conservation NGO began late last year.

Output 2 - Protecting Lives & Livelihoods:

The fence training programme is being implemented in areas of Yangon and Ayeyarwady where GBP raised HEC awareness between 2017-20 under the previous Darwin project (24-024) as well as in new HEC areas of those regions. In 2023, a new region – Southern Rakhine – was added. Following current practice, the education and fencing teams visited HEC villages together in order to gather historical information HEC, teach villagers about elephants and how to avoid conflict with them while at the same time assessing the HEC threat. This included doing a

financial analysis with farmers to decide whether it would be cost-effective for them to install seasonal electric fences. HEC education sessions are always repeated, wholly or in part, in every village visited, to reinforce previous lessons learned in how to stay safe around elephants.

The HEC-education and fence training teams include members of the Forest Department's Emergency Elephant Response Units which are managed by the Myanma Timber Enterprise. Locally recruited to look after MTE's logging elephants (made redundant by a logging ban) in forest camps, the EERU teams are now responsible for alleviating HEC and are more acceptable to villagers and democracy supporters than other government people.

Last year, nine fence training courses were held for 154 people (7 from EERU along with 112 village men and 35 women) and eight community fences installed. One of the courses was for women only, both as trainers (four women who were certified as fencers in 2021) and 15 trainees (Annex 4.5)

All but one of the participants on these courses attained the necessary standard to be certified. As noted in Yr1's reports, the government now limits all gatherings, including fence training courses, to 15 people (rather than the 30 proposed), but a higher-than-expected percentage of trainees are being certified (99% as opposed to the 30% expected). GBP compiled feedback surveys from these courses (although the most constructive comments were given verbally) and has given printed certificates to all trainees.

In the original plan, one training fence and 2-3 community fences were to be installed in the first half of Yr3. In Yr1, we did install training fences but since then, all fences have been for real. So far, GBP has installed 17 fences (three around elephant camps to keep captive elephants in and wild ones out) but 27 other fences were set up independently, 14 of them by certified trainees using Thai or Chinese energizers. This shows that farmers are willing to invest their own funds to purchase fencing equipment and provide labour to set up their own fences – contributing to our exit strategy and long-term goal. However, there are other farmers who would like to install fences but cannot afford to do so.

A total of 44 fences are now operational (17 project ones, 27 independent ones) and GBP/EERU are monitoring all of them, advising the owners on best practices for safety and maintenance. However, data on crop yields is so far available for only 10 of those fences, but the findings to date are encouraging. Every farmer has increased his or her yield by at least 50% and in some cases, much more.

The fencing protocols, instruction manual and data collection forms, drafted in English and translated into Burmese in Yr1, are now being used. Two versions of the manual exist, a fully comprehensive version for fence trainers and government associates and a slightly simpler one for trainees (Annex 4.10)

The online activity reporting system has been tested over the last year by the education and fencing teams. Because of logistical constraints in remote field areas, the fencing team still handwrites its training, monitoring, and survey records, but the education team can usually compile activity data online from settlements. The fence training and monitoring logs were digitized by the end of 2022.

An exit strategy is being developed whereby villagers cover the field allowance of the underfunded EERU teams, enabling them to continue to provide fence training and HEC mitigation support. GBP is trying to ensure that its safe fencing programme can continue in future without NGO involvement.

Output 3 - Building capacity:

Klaus Reisinger (CF) was finally able to visit GBP for 5-days in October 2022 to photograph a fence training for the manual. In February 2023, BAT representatives, with Klaus, managed a 6-day visit to see a fence training course and hold the long-awaited monitoring, evaluating and learning (MEL) training workshop – the latter supported by Keith Lindsay online as he could not join us in person. In the last year, dozens of online capacity-building sessions were held between CF and GBP (averaging one a week) and BSC also participated in various online meetings. Topics ranged from reporting activities, improving the data logging system, and planning HEC education and fence training sessions. There was also notable progress in making GBP's

accounting system more timely and secure. The new system has been fully adopted by all GBP staff. The system for logging photos with associated dates and captions has also been improved.

Historical HEC data is slowly being collected, along with current HEC data. Last year, it was again possible to evaluate the education workshops and get fence training feedback. Following a performance review by the education team (Annex 4.2), the team leader changed and new staff were recruited and trained.

We have also developed the capacity of local government representatives (EERU & FD) who participated in the HEC presentations, helping to deliver the workshops as trainee trainers. The salaries of the EERU trainees are paid by MTE/FD, but field costs are currently covered by GBP. In effect, EERU staff have been seconded to GBP so that the education programme can continue as planned with a local, low key government presence – a benefit in these tense times. EERU's participation in all education and fencing activities, including monitoring, as trainee trainers is key to the project's longer-term sustainability.

Output 4 - Sharing knowledge

As noted in the Yr2.1 annual report, this output has been markedly affected by the coup, initially because the government shut down social media and then because people were unwilling to use it as they know it is monitored. It could be counter-productive to post online. Likewise, broadcasting project activities on MTV and MiTV, as happened during the previous Darwin project, risks a public backlash. GBP posted only nine stories on Facebook in the last 6-months. Instead, the project has shifted to a low profile, low media presence, while remaining active in villages. Knowledge is shared directly, by internet, SMS, and word-of-mouth as evidenced by the independent installation of unreliable fences by untrained farmers. However, farmers have begun to use Facebook again to ask GBP to visit their villages and help resolve HEC.

The Project Leader also presented the project at the IUCN Asian Elephant Specialist Group Meeting in India in February 2023. The meeting offered an opportunity to discuss the project with the members of the Specialist Group and understand the efficacy of different human-elephant conflict mitigation approaches utilised across the elephant range states.

3.2 Progress towards project Outputs

Output 1: Saving lives - Awareness about HEC is improved for at least 30,000 villagers in 180 villages in three regions and the rates of injury or death are reduced through the application of improved awareness.

GBP team has conducted elephant safety education presentations in 78 villages, directly reaching 4,052 people (1,303 adult men, 1,171 adult women, 788 male and 790 female students) in this reporting period. So far, the project has reached 173 villages and over 13,000 villagers overall.

During this reporting period, there were three human deaths, one of which was a man from a project village. However, if the regularity of calls from villagers reporting elephant sightings is anything to go by, participants are engaging more actively in the project, which suggests a positive feeling of confidence, optimism, and well-being. We expect to achieve this output in its entirety.

Output 2: Protecting Livelihoods - A seasonal system of crop protection is established in 10 villages in three regions wherein FD trainers, supported by GBP, train and certify villagers in the fencing method who then install at least 15 community-based seasonal electric fences, cofunded by GAD partner banks, which are maintained by villagers and allow elephants seasonal access to habitual areas.

This output is well on track to achieve its aims. The fence training programme is being implemented in areas of Yangon and Ayeyarwady where GBP raised HEC awareness between 2017-20 under the previous Darwin project (24-024) as well as in new HEC areas of those regions. In 2023, a new region – Southern Rakhine – was added. Last year, nine fence training courses were held for 154 people (7 from EERU along with 112 village men and 35 women) and eight community fences installed. One of the courses was for women only, both as trainers (four

women who were certified as fencers in 2021) and 15 trainees (Annex 4.5)

So far, GBP has installed 17 fences (three around elephant camps to keep captive elephants in and wild ones out) but 27 other fences were set up independently, 14 of them by certified trainees using Thai or Chinese energizers. This shows that farmers are willing to invest their own funds to purchase fencing equipment and provide labour to set up their own fences — contributing to our exit strategy and long-term goal. However, there are other farmers who would like to install fences but cannot afford to do so.

Output 3: Building Capacity - The capacity of key partners to implement effective project monitoring and evaluation is strengthened.

This output is certainly being achieved, though not quite as intended. The Covid pandemic and the coup meant we could not hold an M&E training workshop at project outset. However, Klaus Reisinger (CF) was finally able to visit GBP for 5-days in October 2022 to photograph a fence training for the manual. In February 2023, BAT representatives, with Klaus, managed a 6-day visit to see a fence training course and hold the long-awaited monitoring, evaluating and learning (MEL) training workshop – the latter supported by Keith Lindsay online as he could not join us in person. In the last year, dozens of online capacity-building sessions were held between CF and GBP (averaging one a week) and BSC also participated in various online meetings. Topics ranged from reporting activities, improving the data logging system, and planning HEC education and fence training sessions. There was also notable progress in making GBP's accounting system more timely and secure. The new system has been fully adopted by all GBP staff. The system for logging photos with associated dates and captions has also been improved. We have also developed the capacity of local government representatives (EERU & FD) who participated in the HEC presentations, helping to deliver the workshops as trainee trainers.

Output 4: Sharing Knowledge - skills and lessons learned in this project are shared locally, nationally, and internationally via print, broadcast and social media.

Apart from sharing HEC awareness materials with villagers and project associates at every education event, this output has been significantly disrupted. After the coup, social media platforms are so closely monitored that most people, including GBP, think it wiser to stay offline. The project has shifted to a low profile, low media presence, while remaining active in villages. Instead, GBP keeps its website up to date with photos, activity reports and articles of interest. If/when the political situation improves, GBP will revive its social media presence.

In the meantime, information about the project, its progress and findings, is shared with all project participants, and with the local officials with whom GBP collaborates comfortably. The Project Leader also presented the project at the IUCN Asian Elephant Specialist Group Meeting in India in February 2023. The meeting offered an opportunity to discuss the project with the members of the Specialist Group and understand the efficacy of different human-elephant conflict mitigation approaches utilised across the elephant range states.

3.3 Progress towards the project outcome

Project Outcome: In six regions of high biodiversity and human-elephant conflict, a programme of co-existence education plus skills training in seasonal electric fence management provides an effective model for nationwide application.

In spite of the restrictions, this project is making good progress against three of its four outputs and, with the extension of the timeframe, we believe it will achieve all outcomes. The indicators to be reached by project end are the efficacy of the HEC education workshops and the seasonal electric fencing, so human losses are reduced by 50% and crop losses by 70% at fenced sites.

Historical data on human/elephant deaths and HEC in the target areas needed as baseline for this indicator is being collected cumulatively as/when GBP engages new target areas. A final comparison will be possible at project end. Happily, empowering villagers by teaching them about elephants and how to avoid conflict will, in itself, have a beneficial impact. Knowledge and confidence are key to human-elephant coexistence. The indicators agreed are adequate for measuring the intended outcome.

Even though the Covid situation in Myanmar has eased, the political crisis will likely define the operational context over the remaining project period (1 year 4 months), ensuring an element of uncertainty and regular frustrations. The partners have adapted well, making notable progress despite the challenges of the last three years. We are confident that, with the extended timeline, this project will achieve its outcomes although it may do so in four rather than six regions, if northern areas remain too risky to visit.

3.4 Monitoring of assumptions

Outcome level Assumptions

Assumption 1: Villagers confirm their interest in using the seasonal fencing crop-protection method to village leaders or the GBP team.

Comment: This assumption is very clearly holding true. Villagers have shown themselves to be extremely keen to join this programme. Eighty-one communities requested fences in Yr2.1, after doing a cost-benefit analysis with GBP, only a quarter of those were financially viable. In Yr2.2, even more villagers asked for fences, but only eight went ahead after doing a cost-benefit analysis with the GBP team, but another 27 went ahead independently, 14 of them with the help of certified GBP fencers. Additional, somewhat worrying proof that villagers are interested in using the seasonal fencing method to protect their crops is the number of farmers in areas not currently targeted by the project who have installed fences without first being trained – occasionally with distressing consequences. One man electrocuted himself when he inadvertently fell into a pond while holding a live wire. When it hears of these cases, GBP invites the farmer to join its H.EI.P programme and receive both HEC and fence training

Assumption 2: Forest Dept. honours its promise to assign 12 staff (4/year) to become trainers in seasonal electric fencing and covers operational costs.

Comment: This assumption is also holding true. The Forest Department has so far sent 19 members of the Myanmar Timber Enterprise's Elephant Emergency Response Unit (EERU) which is responsible for elephants and HEC to be trained by, and work with, the project. Members of all EERU teams in target areas have attended HEC-awareness and electric fence training courses and are now helping to train villagers in HEC awareness, how to install safe fences, and how to monitor their fences.

Assumption 3: GAD honours its promise to help villagers get private-sector loans for community-based crop-protection fences from Yr 2.

Comment: We cannot know whether this assumption would hold true if villagers wanted to arrange loans via the government because, since the coup, farmers who want to erect fences have opted to do so at their own expense. We have no reason to think GAD would not honour its promise unless it turns out that the political and financial disruption caused by the coup means that it cannot, in fact, help. It is also possible that banks would not be able to lend funds even if they were asked to do so.

Assumption 4: It is possible to clearly establish a link between the level of HEC and project mitigation efforts. The HEC level will be determined through a 3-factor measure (crop/property damage/elephant deaths) and human deaths.

Comment: This assumption is still valid although we are finding that there were/are fewer human deaths and injuries than we expected in the target areas. But comparative data on crop loss and property damage is revealing. The HEC data already collected includes estimates of historical crop loss but current data on yields from 13 farmers before and after erecting electric fences (Annex 4.7) are more accurate.

After the Yr1 annual report, the Darwin reviewer suggested we could add two assumptions, one for covid and its possible impact on activities, and one for the military coup and its impact on outputs, particularly in terms of access to key government counterparts and GBP's ability to share knowledge widely through Myanmar. We added the following:

For outputs 1, 2, 3, we added:

Assumption 5: Covid outbreaks do not stop GBP from carrying out an effective work programme.

Comment: this has held true. Even in 2020-21 when covid was at its worst and GBP was confined to Yangon for varying periods, it managed to modify its work programme to keep going and has managed to attain most of the targets set for each year.

For outputs 1 & 2 we added:

Assumption 6: The military coup does not prevent field activities throughout the target HEC areas or the involvement of key government staff at local level.

Comment: To date, the coup has not prevented field activities in all the target HEC areas and we do not expect it to do so, even if opposition continues to make remoter areas unsafe to visit. Nor has it stopped the MTE's EERU teams from participating in the project. Their involvement is key because they operate at local level and are welcome in villages even though MTE is part of the Forest Department and its director reports, as necessary, to government higher-ups to share project progress which means GBP does not have to do so. It is highly unlikely that outlying conflicts caused by the coup would stop GBP doing any fieldwork at all. It is not in anybody's interest for the country to seize up completely.

Output level Assumptions:

Assumption 1: Villagers (same as in Outcome 0.1) see value in attending the HEC safety education workshops.

Comment: The assumption is very clearly holding true. So far, the project has reached 173 villages and over 13,000 villagers overall. We know from previous surveys that participants share their knowledge and materials with at least three friends/family members, so the total number of people reached directly and indirectly till date is much higher. Moreover, GBP continues to receive several requests from villagers to conduct trainings in their villages.

Assumption 2: Learning about elephants/causes of HEC/how to avoid it facilitates more confidence and positive attitudes.

Comment: This assumption is holding true. During this reporting period, there were three human deaths, one of which was a man from a project village. However, if the regularity of calls from villagers reporting elephant sightings is anything to go by, participants are engaging more actively in the project, which suggests a positive feeling of confidence, optimism, and well-being.

Assumption 3: Villagers use HEC measures taught in education workshops.

Comment: This assumption is holding true. So far, GBP has installed 17 fences (three around elephant camps to keep captive elephants in and wild ones out) but 27 other fences were set up independently, 14 of them by certified trainees using Thai or Chinese energizers. This shows that farmers are willing to invest their own funds to purchase fencing equipment and provide labour to set up their own fences – contributing to our exit strategy and long-term goal. However, there are other farmers who would like to install fences but cannot afford to do so.

Assumption 4: In target areas, all HEC incidents & elephant encounters are recorded.

Comment: This assumption is holding true. In Yr2.2, 89 sightings were logged of 3-7 elephants walking beside fences (Annex 4.7); fences were broken 10 times (6.7% of visits). While one elephant died of natural causes near Taikkyi (Yangon province), 13 were poached for ivory & skin in Ayeyarwady outside target areas. This sudden increase is likely from China border trade re-opening post-covid & junta releasing poachers from prison. GBP has begun HEC education in poaching areas to counteract trend.

Assumption 5: Villagers continue to want to train in seasonal electric fence methods.

Comment: This assumption continues to hold true. The fence training programme is being implemented in areas of Yangon and Ayeyarwady where GBP raised HEC awareness between 2017-20 under the previous Darwin project (24-024) as well as in new HEC areas of those regions. In 2023, a new region – Southern Rakhine – was added. Last year, nine fence training courses were held for 154 people (7 from EERU along with 112 village men and 35 women) and eight community fences installed. One of the courses was for women only, both as trainers (four

women who were certified as fencers in 2021) and 15 trainees (Annex 4.5)

Assumption 6: Enough villagers meet the criteria needed for professional certification.

Comment: This assumption is holding true. Last year, nine fence training courses were held for 154 people (7 from EERU along with 112 village men and 35 women) and eight community fences installed. One of the courses was for women only, both as trainers (four women who were certified as fencers in 2021) and 15 trainees (Annex 4.5). All but one of the participants on these courses attained the necessary standard to be certified.

Assumption 7: GAD help villagers to get loans for the seasonal electric fences to be installed.

Comment: We cannot know whether this assumption would hold true if villagers wanted to arrange loans via the government because, since the coup, farmers who want to erect fences have opted to do so at their own expense.

Assumption 8: Villagers appreciate the need to record data accurately and consistently.

Comment: This assumption is holding true. The findings to date are encouraging. The fencing protocols, instruction manual and data collection forms, drafted in English and translated into Burmese in Yr1, are now being used. The online activity reporting system has been tested over the last year by the education and fencing teams. Because of logistical constraints in remote field areas, the fencing team still handwrites its training, monitoring, and survey records, but the education team can usually compile activity data online from settlements.

Assumption 9: Elephants perceive and respond positively to reduced levels of HEC incidents and changed nature of the landscape with seasonal electric fences.

Comment: This assumption needs more data. In Yr2.2, 89 sightings were logged of 3-7 elephants walking beside fences (Annex 4.7); fences were broken 10 times (6.7% of visits). Elephant sightings and signs are being recorded by participant villages as well as by fence monitors.

Assumption 10: GBP can recruit & retain 4 new staff (3 for M&E, 1 for communications) for project duration, at least.

Comment: This assumption is holding true. GBP has a dedicated staff in place. Also, in Yr2.2, M&E workshop finally held in Feb23 with GBP staff, CF & BAT reps in person & M&E advisor online.

Assumption 11: Villagers accept the need to maintain the performance/efficacy of fences and do so consistently & diligently.

Comment: This assumption is holding true. A total of 44 fences are now operational (17 project ones, 27 independent ones) and GBP/EERU are monitoring all of them, advising the owners on best practices for safety and maintenance. However, data on crop yields is so far available for only 10 of those fences, but the findings to date are encouraging. Every farmer has increased his or her yield by at least 50% and in some cases, much more. This is a clear motivation for them.

Assumption 12: Elephants continue to come into, or move through, the areas targeted for seasonal fencing.

Comment: This assumption continues to hold true. In Yr1, 7 sightings of 3-10 elephants were reported. Yr2.1, 217 signs/sightings were logged by villagers (near villages) & field guards/monitors (near fences). Mapping done during monsoon. Yr2.2, 149 sightings were logged of 3-7 elephants walking beside fences.

Assumption 13: MITV/MRTV and local press continue to want to broadcast/ publish H.El.P films, stories and photos

Comment: We cannot know whether this assumption would hold true. MRTV/MITV broadcasts old programmes about elephant, dolphin, bird conservation which were made before

the coup. This creates more problems than benefits as GBP needs minimal exposure.

Assumption 14: Broadband quality allows villagers to access live streaming and VOD's nationwide.

Comment: This assumption needs more time. It is not possible at present but will be possible once the films can be made by CF. Moreover, internet connections are still disrupted by the junta and are only reliable from 10pm-5am.

Assumption 15: Villagers see the value in VODs and use them.

Comment: This assumption needs more time. It is not possible at present, but will be possible once the films can be made by CF.

3.5 Impact: achievement of positive impact on biodiversity & poverty reduction

Intended impact: Human-elephant co-existence is achieved in Myanmar by institutionalising an HEC mitigation programme that safeguards the lives and livelihoods of rural communities and elephants as well as their habitations nationwide.

This project is having an impact on biodiversity conservation in the following ways:

- HEC education: these awareness-raising events use audience-educator interactions and audio-visual aids/games to share knowledge about elephants (behaviour, ecology, needs) and some of the anthropogenic causes of HEC. Education kits, comprising a DVD, two infogames and a booklet, are shared with students and feedback tells us that these are used repeatedly by individuals/groups in each household. Past feedback also tells us that participants become more sympathetic, or at any rate less antagonistic, towards elephants. The beneficial impact of these workshops appears to be lasting as participant villagers continue to report suspicious poaching activity in their area (see below). Raised awareness about elephants and HEC is also motivating villagers to want to take on the extra cost in time and money of fencing their properties so this is a progressive evolution of interest, engagement, and coexistence.
- Fence training: Every village that requests an electric fence hosts an HEC education event before the GBP fence team works with farmers and community leaders to do a fencing cost-benefit analysis. If it becomes clear that an electric fence is financially worthwhile, fence trainees are given a manual that includes information about elephants (behaviour, ecology, needs) so they are reminded when, why and which elephants are likely to raid crops. Because they understand elephants better, we expect these participants to become less antagonistic towards elephants, particularly if their crops are successfully protected. So far, no elephant has been killed by electrocution in target areas indicating that the certified farmers who have erected fences are doing so correctly. Nor were elephants killed this year or last by any other means in target areas.
- Reduced poaching: During the last Darwin project (2017-2020), GBP received an increasing number of telephone calls from villagers who had attended an HEC education workshop reporting suspicious activity in or near their community which they thought might be poachers. GBP shared the report with the Forest Dept and encouraged villagers to continue reporting such incidents to them or, if they felt comfortable doing so, directly to FD. As a result of this growing 'neighbourhood watch' by project participants, no elephants have been reported killed in target areas once an HEC education workshop had been held. Even during the covid crisis, villagers continued to call GBP when suspected poachers were seen in or near their village with the result that, in the last two years, although poaching has increased, no elephant has been reported killed in areas where GBP already has an established relationship, whereas there are reports of poaching elephants in areas outside our project zone. This is encouraging as it suggests that the HEC education workshops do have a lasting impact in changing attitudes in favour of elephants.
- Sharing knowledge more widely: The project plan to produce film clips and videos for national TV broadcast, live streaming via social media and videos on demand has been halted by the coup, but we will implement these activities as soon as it is safe to do so.

• Impact on human development and well-being (poverty alleviation): Evidence so far suggests that this project is having a positive impact on human development and wellbeing. It is teaching farmers and other rural people how to install and manage solar-powered electric fences to protect their crops and, if need be, their houses and is thereby developing skills which are empowering. So far, the fences are deterring elephants, and even after breaking a fence, elephants do not always enter protected fields because they are guarded by farmers who make their presence known with shouting and other noise. So, as well as preventing the diminution of livelihoods that crop losses represent, positive project impacts so far are boosting villagers' confidence which is itself an element of wellbeing. By project end, we will be able to calculate whether the fences have effectively reduced crop damage over time, bearing in mind the elephants often stop being afraid of deterrents. We will also be able to calculate how much income has been saved by the fences, thereby contributing to poverty alleviation. The data on improved crop yields so far (Annex 4.7) are encouraging.

4. Project support to the Conventions, Treaties or Agreements

This project directly supports the implementation of the CBD, in particular Myanmar's national implementation through the Myanmar National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan. This action plan links directly to the Aichi Targets, and lists Action 12.1.1 "Pilot and scale up conservation and research initiatives for priority species." By embedding it into the government system, the electric fence training is providing a mechanism to scale up an initiative that, over time, will reduce further fragmentation of elephant landscapes and through-routes while also averting conflicts between people and elephants.

Indirectly, this project is also contributing to CITES by educating villagers on the illegality of elephant poaching during the HEC education workshops and the fence training while also encouraging them to report poachers and elephant deaths. Elephants are being poached in Myanmar and their products are transported illegally across the border to China and elsewhere but, to date, no elephants have been killed in project areas. In rural communities, villagers do not normally report poaching out of fear that they will be blamed. The penalty for killing an elephant (a prison sentence of 7-10 years) is strictly enforced and most villagers are afraid to risk that. By building trust with communities, GBP acts as an intermediary between villagers and authorities, leading to more reporting of activities that contravene CITES, thus ensuring more effective enforcement. This had already started to happen under the previous Darwin project (24-024) and continues now despite covid and the coup.

GBP's director did have regular contact with the CBD and CITES focal points (and their successors) on his trips to Naypyidaw, the administrative capital, but these visits have stopped since the coup. Instead, contact is maintained by the MTE director who is a strong supporter of this project.

5. Project support to poverty reduction

Outputs 1 and 2 are directly helping to reduce poverty. The HEC education workshops teach villagers how to stay safe in the vicinity of wild elephants so that no one in the family, particularly no bread-winner, is killed or injured so badly that they cannot farm or generate their usual income. So far, no one has been killed or injured by an elephant in villages who have joined the H.El.P programme. The fence training component is helping participant farmers protect their crops from elephants, and their houses and grain stores, all of which tend to be raided at night. Loss of crops to elephants represents a double loss; food and income. Most crops cultivated by farmers, particular the staple crop rice, is a family's food supply, and any surplus is sold to provide money.

By reducing or stopping elephants from feeding on crops, in the field and in storage, this project will have a notably beneficial impact on poverty reduction in target villages. So far, the electric fences installed under this project are deterring elephants from protected fields but have not blocked them entirely; of the 149 sightings of 3-7 animals reported this year, elephants broke the fence 10 times (6.7% of visits). In fields that have been harvested, they have reduced the amount of crop lost. The 10 fences for which crop yields available have greatly reduced crop loss with harvests now double or triple those of previous years.

The project will also contribute to poverty reduction indirectly by raising awareness of the value of elephants to the ecosystem during the HEC education workshops and the fence training courses. And by requiring up to 12 villagers/households to work together to manage and guard community electric fences, we may also be fostering more collaborative community management.

6. Gender equality and social inclusion

The project management team has had several discussions on how to involve women as well as men in all areas of project work and to ensure, at the very least, that women do get the opportunity to engage with this project along with men. Every project partner has a gender equality policy in place and this is translating into project practice in two ways:

- Local team members: Under GBP's policy of gender equality, women and men can apply for all positions available under this and other projects i.e. the HEC education teams, the fencing teams, the M&E team and the communications role. To date, however, GBP has found it difficult to recruit women to its field teams, because the job entails travelling to remote areas, spending many days away from home, and living alongside male colleagues. None of these conditions are culturally normal for women. Women did apply for the communications and M&E teams because those jobs are office-based with only brief field visits to familiarise themselves with project activities. The communications role is held by a woman. Now that the TV and social media work has dried up thanks to the coup, she spends her time updating GBP's website, posting stories and activities of note, and sending information via SMS or whatsapp. GBP's local partners, including MTE and the Forest Dept, are aware of its gender equality policy and hope that female representatives of those organisations will join its own training teams, but it cannot insist. Government employees in provincial areas tend to be men if the job involves travel away from the office.
- Project participants: The gender of participants at every HEC education event is recorded and there is always a notable number of women (usually over 50% if the workshop is held during the day). In Yr2.1, 4,284 (52%) of the 8,233 adult villagers who attended the HEC education events were women. This year, 1,171 (47%) of the 2,474 adults who joined HEC education events were female, as were 790 (50%) of the 1,578 students. So women made up (48%) of all attendees (n=4,053) in 78 villagers.
- Increasing the number of professionally qualified women fencers: In Yrs 1+2.1, GBP trained 8 women as fencers, all of whom achieved the standard needed for certification. This year, another 35 women were trained, and certified, 15 of them at a women-only training course, organised to encourage women to train as fencers. Two of those women, both based in HEC-affected villages, have since been recruited by GBP as fencing trainers, teaching both men and women. To date, 251 people have been certified as fencers, 21% of them (n=43) women. These women are now installing and maintaining fences around crop fields, and around homesteads to protect the crops that are stored. When elephants break into kitchens or granaries to steal foodstuffs, women and children are most at risk (Annex 4.5).

Please quantify the proportion of women on the Project
Board¹.

The Project Board is 25% women and 75% men, with one woman (Belinda Stewart-Cox, BAT, Project Lead) and three men (Aung Myo Chit, Project Implementor, GBP Director; Klaus Reisinger, Producer, Project Manager, and Auro Shashwat, BAT, Conservation Programme Manager)

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¹ A Project Board has overall authority for the project, is accountable for its success or failure, and supports the senior project manager to successfully deliver the project.

Please quantify the proportion of project partners that are led by women, or which have a senior leadership team consisting of at least 50% women². Compass Films senior management is 100% women, BAT is 50%.

7. Monitoring and evaluation

With the help of Dr Keith Lindsay, the independent M&E specialist who evaluated EF's 2017-20 Darwin project (24-024), the project partners used the logframe to highlight data that would have to be collected (as noted in the measurable indicators and means of verification). The partners then designed forms for the field teams and villagers to use for recording the data needed to assess project impacts. These forms are:

- 1. An HEC education feedback questionnaire to assess participant knowledge of and attitudes towards elephants as well as their corresponding empowerment and confidence before and after the workshop (Annex 4.2).
 - 2. A form to profile farmers, their land, crops, income, experience of crop raiding, wild elephants and HEC, their attitude towards elephants, their financial and practical willingness or ability to help manage an electric fence (Annex 4.12)
 - 3. A form to monitor electric fence while it is in place, recording elephant sightings, elephant responses, whether the fence was touched/broken, and management actions (Annex 4.13).

Together we also designed a spreadsheet, which is now a database, into which the GBP team logs the data from these forms along with other data (e.g. number and gender of participants) so that it can then share that record with BAT/EF and CF at regular intervals for monitoring and reporting purposes. Because the master worksheet is unwieldy to review, the spreadsheet has separate worksheets for the activities associated with each output. This makes reviewing data more manageable and it ensures that the data we need for M&E is collected and recorded.

When GBP adds data to the master worksheet, the other worksheets are automatically updated with the information relevant to them. This system is a work in progress and is being improved as issues arise, but it has allowed us to collaborate remotely on this report, even though we are handicapped by the lack of reliable internet. It also helps the GBP team better understand the requirements of a good M&E process and the data needed to evaluate the impacts of project interventions. All this was addressed during the M&E training workshop in Feb23, to reinforce the GBP team's understanding of the purpose of M&E.

This year, BSC created a reporting sheet, using Excel, which contained the cumulative activity information from the last two annual reports against the logframe, leaving a space for GBP to fill in the information needed for this year (Annex 4.1). Given Myanmar's weak internet, this has been easier to share back and forth, with queries and corrections, than the database itself. It has also focused GBP's mind on M&E reporting requirements and has therefore helped strengthen the organisation's capabilities.

Apart from adaptations required by covid and the coup, no other changes were made to the M&E plan. The process has been entirely collaborative which is remarkable given the constraints we are dealing with, not least the intermittent internet in Myanmar making it slower to communicate. Other qualitative indicators of achievement include the fact that district and regional officials as well as villagers are continuing to support and/or work with GBP to implement this project as best they can. This, as much as anything, demonstrates the strength of the relationship GBP has established with its local partners.

8. Lessons learnt

In the 'Detail Notable Problems' section of the Yr2.2 (2022) half-year report we noted that the coup in Myanmar continues to affect project implementation. The project strategy and activities have had to adapt to an evolving situation. GBP has been able to continue operating effectively

² Partners that have formal governance role in the project, and a formal relationship with the project that may involve staff costs and/or budget management responsibilities.

by keeping below the radar of senior officials and pro-democracy activists, a skilful balancing act.

All lessons listed in the annual reports of Yrs 1+2.1 are still valid. They were:

- Lesson 1: Meet in person if you can. Virtual meetings/exchanges are not satisfactory substitutes for meeting in person and going on field visits where project activities and M&E needs can be reviewed if queries or issues arise. The virtual collaboration made necessary by Covid and the Myanmar coup has only been possible, and effective, because key partners spent time together on previous project evaluation trips and had established strong and comfortable relationships. Without those, managing this project over the last three years would have been much more difficult.
- Lesson 2: Develop an accounting system that is easy to keep up to date. Although we
 were able to respond swiftly to the financial audit sprung on us by Darwin this year, it made
 us realise that GBP could improve its accounting system by incorporating it into the project
 database. Now all costs and associated receipts are uploaded into the system by GBP staff
 at any site that has a mobile signal or internet. This saves a lot of time and makes year-end
 accounting much easier.
- Lesson 3: Be sure to develop robust relationships with the local communities and local government representatives with whom you engage. In spite of the difficulties experienced over the last three years, GBP kept the project going by adapting to the changing situation. This was only possible thanks to the strong and effective relationships it had established with local and regional government officials and members of the target villages over the last 3-4 years. Without trust and commitment key characteristics of those relationships this project would have been in trouble. As it is, GBP has done well in keeping the project going more-orless as planned while also in meeting most of the target figures.
- Lesson 4: Learn to walk a political tightrope if necessary. Since the coup, GBP has steadfastly stayed out of politics in keeping with its NGO status. It maintains its neutrality by engaging at local level only, i.e. with community or township leaders rather than officials higher up. This has paid off as the democratic rebels, coup authorities and villagers all continue to support the project. Initially, because villagers feared that GBP staff might be informants, it was difficult for GBP to collect historic HEC data from new target areas, but once villagers got to know the project team, they cooperated fully.
- Lesson 5: Be aware of the different experiences and perspectives of the project management team. The mindset of project implementors and project managers is different. Implementors work on the ground, in the field, face-to-face. They know if things are going well or not, and their reasons are often qualitative. Project managers are one or two steps removed from this practical involvement and may not have first-hand experience of the project areas. It can be hard, especially remotely, to explain the data needs of an M&E programme, including the need to evaluate the impact of the main project interventions which are not the same as the activities that help achieve those interventions. It takes time to understand each other's perspective, especially when there are language differences and communication is remote. It helps to have one or two people on the management team with relevant field experience to liaise between project administrators who understand procedures, and implementors who understand field needs. Our team is nicely balanced.
- Lesson 6: Develop an easy reporting system as part of capacity building. The need for clarity, consistency and comprehensive data is difficult for GBP to fulfil. This challenge was addressed by creating a database designed to match logframe activity points, thus making it simpler to link data to its reporting requirement. This year we also designed a reporting spreadsheet that records the information provided for every annual report against each logframe activity, thus reminding GBP what data is needed for each one. This helped, but still needs practice.
- Lesson 7: Keep log-frames clear and simple to streamline data recording. Log-frames
 need to be sufficiently detailed and comprehensive, but they also need to be simple enough
 to make data recording easy. When designing and filling the spreadsheet that has now
 become a database, and its associated reporting form, we realised that data from two different

activities and measurements overlap, meaning that some entries are either duplicates or redundant.

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

Comment 1: The project officially started in August 2020, however some activities are season bound and had to begin before using match funding provided by other partners (USFWS).

Comment 2: All Output assumptions have been reviewed in this Annual Report.

Comment 3: The Team has elaborated the link between the Myanmar Timber Enterprise and the CBD and CITES focal points in Project Stakeholders/ Partners section of the Annual Report.

Comment 4: References to visiting Sri Lanka have been removed from the logframe.

Comment 5: Output 4 and its relevant indicators have been revised so that the project can still demonstrate it has met these.

10. Risk Management

No new risks were identified in the last 12 months.

11. Other comments on progress not covered elsewhere

The difficulties and disruption caused by the coup in Myanmar have been noted elsewhere in the report, including the limited internet availability. GBP team members must log data and do other online work late at night when the internet is working.

The M&E capacity of GBP has been our focus this year and will continue to be a focus next year. Last year, GBP established a database for all project data, linked to the project's logframe activities. This year, to facilitate easier and timelier project reporting, we prepared a reporting form (Annex 4.1) which showed reporting lines, activity by activity, for the last 2-years so that this year's data could be added. This system is a work in progress.

12. Sustainability and legacy

- Our stated exit strategy was as follows: This project will reach a stable and sustainable end-point because key components will be embedded in the government system before project end. Forest Dept. staff will be trained to implement HEC safety education training as well as seasonal electric fence training, thus allowing the department to take ownership of both processes. GAD will institutionalise loans for villagers to buy the equipment necessary to erect temporary fences. This mainstreaming of HEC mitigation ensures long-term sustainability and a clear exit strategy. The practical safety steps imparted to villagers by the HEC education workshops will not be lost, once learned, because elephants pose a constant threat to them and their children. This safety-promoting knowledge is reinforced by discussions and information sharing within and between households and communities, as well as by villagers reviewing the educational kits + DVDs they are given. Similarly, training in seasonal electric fence installation, coupled with the means to buy the equipment needed, will soon become standard practice in areas shared with elephants. If fences are installed and managed properly, farmers will be able to keep their crops. Training manuals and videos on demand will be available post project. GBP staff will develop skills in communication and M&E; the challenge is retaining them in-house.
- As far as we can tell at present, this exit strategy and legacy are still valid and will continue
 to be valid so long as it is possible to implement project activities. Villagers and local
 government officials are as keen on this project as the GBP team and will, it seems, do
 what they can to help ensure that it keeps going whatever the conditions.
- In response to Yr1's annual report, the Darwin reviewer noted we had not commented on how likely it is that our outputs, outcome and impacts will be sustained such that they become a lasting project legacy. We have no doubt the project outputs will be sustained because they all involve the acquisition of knowledge and skills that, once learned, will

not be unlearned because they are valuable enough be practiced by all those who acquired them, whether to protect themselves, their livelihoods, or the efficacy of their work. So far, all the signs are that the outcome (nationwide application of the H.EL.P coexistence programme of HEC education and seasonal electric fencing) will also be sustained, partly because it is proving effective and is favoured by villagers, and partly because the government partner responsible for HEC mitigation (the EERU teams of MTE) is incorporating this training into its own work programme. For that reason, we expect this project to further the impact it is trying to achieve.

Although not funded by Darwin but by USFWS, the Myanmar H.EI.P programme of
education and seasonal electric fencing is being developed in Sri Lanka by Sunel
Rambukpotha who has established a local NGO called H.EL.P. Sri Lanka. And later this
year, Compass Films and GBP will work with the National Trust for Nature Conservation,
Nepal, to train members of Ujyalo Nepal (Bright Nepal), a local NGO that is based near
the Bardia National Park, in the same programme.

13. Darwin Initiative identity

Darwin's name and logo are already well known in Myanmar because they were so widely seen on thousands of project products (presentations, TV films, media reports, posters, booklets, DVDs, board games, t-shirts, notebooks, uniforms, publications) distributed at every level of engagement, from local to national, during our previous Darwin project. Many of these items are still out there, and are still being used. The same materials are being used in this project and are also distributed to village and project associates during project activities.

Because the coup created so much political tension in Myanmar, GBP has stopped visiting senior officials in regional capitals and in Naypyidaw, the national capital, but it does still give presentations to local officials in the target regions, all of whom know who the donors are as that is of interest to them.

- Websites + newsletters: BAT notes the support of Darwin and the UK Government online/in e-news sent to 16,000+ supporters worldwide. Darwin and UK Aid are also credited in EF's 'What We Do' on the website/social media (https://elephant-family.org/our-work/conservation/human-wildlife-coexistence/on-the-fence-in-myanmar/). The DI logo is also displayed on GBP's website and project vehicles. GBP has a dedicated H.EL.P Facebook page, the most common social media platform in Myanmar, although this is currently dormant. A part-time GBP staff member updates project activity reports in Burmese with the continuous presence of Darwin logos on all visual and textual publications. A link to Darwin UK is also provided on GBP's Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/Human-Elephant-Peace-769921153111397/.
- NGO & field team recognition: As this project builds on previous GBP and Elephant Family
 work in Myanmar also supported by the Darwin Initiative, there is already clear recognition
 across the field teams of the Darwin Initiative and UK Government support. This continues
 to be emphasised at all outreach events and on project materials.
- National recognition/awareness: MONREC, the Ministry of Natural Resources & Environmental Conservation, the Forest Department, Myanmar Timber Enterprise (MTE) and Forest Police are all aware of Darwin UK funding for GBP.
- T-Shirts & teaching materials: The Darwin Initiative logo is highly visible on tens of thousands of educational materials (board games, information booklets, DVDs, notebooks, TV broadcasts) and banners used at education and training events as well as on vehicles, uniforms and t-shirts used by GBP field teams.

14. Safeguarding

Has your safeguarding policy been updated in the past 12 months?	No
Have any concerns been investigated in the past 12 months	No

Does your project have a safeguarding focal point?	Yes
Has the focal point attended any formal training in the last 12 months?	Yes, [15 March 2023]
What proportion (and number) of project staff have received formal training on Safeguarding?	Past: 70% [5] Planned: 0%

Has there been any lessons learnt or challenges on safeguarding in the past 12 months? Please ensure no sensitive data is included within responses.

No

Does the project have any developments or activities planned around safeguarding in the coming 12 months? If so please specify.

No

15. Project expenditure

Table 1: Project expenditure <u>during the reporting period</u> (1 April 2022 – 31 March 2023)

Project spend (indicative) since last Annual Report	2022/23 Grant (£)	2022/23 Total Darwin Costs (£)	Variance %	Comments (please explain significant variances)
Staff costs (see below)				
Consultancy costs				
Overhead Costs				
Travel and subsistence				
Operating Costs				
Capital items (see below)				
Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E)				
Others (see below)				

				first before printing. I will be completed in Q1 Y3 and we would like to carry-forward the balance amount to the next year.
TOTAL	61,998	56,607.64	-8.7%	

Table 2: Project mobilising of matched funding during the reporting period (1 April 2022 – 31 March 2023)

	Matched funding secured to date	Total matched funding expected by end of project
Matched funding leveraged by the partners to deliver the project.		
Total additional finance mobilised by new activities building on evidence, best practices and project (£)		

OPTIONAL: Outstanding achievements or progress of your project so far (300-400 words maximum). This section may be used for publicity purposes

I agree for the Biodiversity Challenge Funds Secretariat to publish the content of this section (please leave this line in to indicate your agreement to use any material you provide here).

The outstanding achievement of this project, in the view of the overseas partners, is simply the fact that the implementing partner has managed to continue conducting field activities, with minor adjustments, in spite of the taxing and often frustrating circumstances resulting from the coup, including issues of personal safety and the near total absence of internet during daylight hours.

Annex 1: Report of progress and achievements against Logical Framework for Financial Year 2022-2023

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2022 - March 2023	Actions required/planned for next period
Human-elephant coexistence is achieved in Myanmar by institutionalising an HEC mitigation programme that safeguards the lives and livelihoods of rural		No elephants were killed in project target areas this year (Annex.4.4) or last despite increased poaching nationwide of elephants and other wildlife. Villagers in target areas hunt only small animals for protein.	
		So far, 10 farmers who trained, and were certified to erect electric fences, have crop data for 3 harvests and have doubled or trebled their yields (Annex.4.7) In spite of the costs entailed, more farmers contact GBP to learn to protect their fields from elephants.	
Outcome In six regions of high biodiversity and human- elephant conflict, a programme of coexistence education plus skills training in seasonal electric fence management provides an effective model for nationwide application.	0.1 HECx effective: By end Yr3, villagers who had HEC education and seasonal electric fence training experience 50% reduction in human losses and 70% reduction in crop losses at the fenced sites; Baseline = cumulative by end Yr3 0.2 Fencing system embedded: By end Yr3, seasonal fence training is established in 3 regions and managed by Forest Dept with operational funds for farmers from a partner bank under recommendation/accreditation by GAD. Baseline = 0 0.3 Elephant use of corridors shared with people is sustained: Rates of HEC cases reduce by 50% while sightings of elephants moving through target area remain at or above baseline. Baseline = cumulative by end Yr3	 Despite disruption by covid/coup in Myanmar, this project has made progress against outputs by adjusting its fieldwork programme to avoid unsafe areas. Human losses are infrequent but 1 died died in Yr2.1 & 1 in 2.2. Crop yields to date have doubled. We are likely to achieve this outcome. Official information is limited so we collect historic data in each target area. Political tension makes villagers wary, so we collect historical data at the same time as current data once trust has been established. The same applies to the historic data on elephant sightings, HEC incidents and the income from past yields. 	GBP will continue with the coexistence/ HEC education programme in target areas that are safe to visit, holding these events in all HEC villages that request fencing. In 2023/4, GBP will work in southern Rakhine state as well as Yangon, Bago and Ayeyarwady regions. Feedback surveys can now be done before and after the education sessions. Once participatory financial assessments establish that a fence is cost-effective, training courses for 12-15 people will be held in safe areas. At present, bank loans are not sought by fencers who continue to find their own funds if they can, though many farmers cannot afford the expense. GBP hopes to arrange its own loan scheme for energizers. Villagers will continue to record elephant sightings around settlements (where, when, how many etc) as well as all HEC incidents.

Output 1: Saving Lives Awareness about HEC is improved for at least 30,000 villagers in 180 villages in three regions and the rates of injury or death are reduced through application of improved awareness.	1.1 Feelings of empowerment: By end Yr3, 70% of HEC education workshop participants in all gender/age-groups in 180 target villages express more confidence about their relationship with elephants and ability to mitigate HEC. Baseline = 0. Protocols agreed online. 1.2 Harm reduced: By end Yr3, 30% drop in human death in all gender/age groups by elephants in 180 target communities. Baseline = cumulative by end Yr3	 1.1 In Yr1, covid regulations stopped GBP from getting participants. In Yr2.1, GBP requested them from in M&E sessions online, to be analysed in the mon time for field trips. But the fact that no elephants we hardships and regular sightings near target villag is working, villagers feel more confident about mit 1.2 In Yr1 (2020-21), no human deaths or injuries by e one was reported in June 2021 in Phonemaungky project area (Annex 4.3). Baseline data collection participants provide historical data, and are doing 	current & past participants using forms agreed soon. The dry season (Nov-June) is the busiest ere killed in project areas despite the coup/covid es/fields (Annex 4.7) suggests HEC education ligating HEC and less inclined to retaliate. Elephants were reported in target areas. In Yr2.1 vine village and in Yr2.2, 1 man was killed in the is continuous i.e. once involved with the project,
Activity 1.1 - Educational kits (30,000) proworkshops	oduced for HEC awareness/mitigation	In Yr1 (June 2020), 10,000 kits were produced. In Yr2.1 (2021-2) another 10,000. In Yr2.2 (2022-3), 7,000 booklets and 2,500 elephant memory games	Up to 10,000 more kits (or kit ingredients) will be produced next year as needed
Activity 1.2 - Training in the delivery of HEC awareness/mitigation workshops held for any new GBP education team members.		Yr1, 6 new recruits trained. Yr2.1 (Aug21), refresher course, and performance reviews, held for HEC team. Yr 2.2, under-performing HE team members replaced by 3 new recruits who were then trained.	New recruits trained as/when needed and/or refresher training sessions held to maintain high levels of effectiveness.
Activity 1.3 - HEC mitigation workshops (3-5/year) held for teachers/headmasters in three new target regions to introduce them to the educational methods and materials.		Yr1, one held Jun20 with head teachers in Magway (new area). Yr2.1, none held coz covid (no travel) and coup (schools closed). Yr2.2, new Gov policy prevents NGOs joining meetings of school heads.	These dedicated meetings will be held in new target areas as/when possible but for now, head teachers learn about the project by joining education sessions at schools
Activity 1.4 - HEC awareness/mitigation workshops at <60 schools/year in three new regions (Mandalayx60, Sagaingx60, Magwayx60) Total=180		Yr1, only 34 HEC workshops possible coz covid. Yr2.1, 61 workshops in villages coz schools closed by coup. Yr2.2, workshops in 78 villages in 4 regions (Ayeyarwady, Yangon, Magway, Rakhine)	HEC education sessions will be held where possible in new areas, including those that express an interest in electric fencing.
Activity 1.5 - Conduct surveys to assess the efficacy of each HEC awareness/mitigation workshop by gender and age.		Yr1, questionnaire surveys not allowed coz covid. Yr2.1, surveys resumed, retrospectively & current. Yr2.2, 934 people aged 9-90 filled feedback forms in 4 regions (695 male respondents, 239 female)	Feedback questionnaires will continue to be collected to help monitor the efficacy of the HEC education programme

TBC at M&E workshop) and produce summary reports to feed back to the education team		Yr1, few forms collected before covid shut schools. Yr2.1, 527 forms collected, retrospective & current, but we await analysis. Yr2.2 934 forms filled and analysed (Annex 4.2).	Analysis is done during the monsoon (June-Oct) when many target areas are too difficult to access and GBP team has office time.
Activity 1.7 - Log elephant encounter/injury data from participant communities and analyse it annually to monitor impact of HEC safety education		Yr1, 7 sightings of 3-10 elephants reported. Yr2.1, 217 signs/sightings logged by villagers (near villages) & field guards/ monitors (near fences). Yr2.2, 89 sightings logged of 3-7 elephants walking beside fences (Annex 4.7). Fences broken 10 times (6.7% of visits). One elephant died of natural causes near Taikkyi (Yangon province), 13 poached for ivory & skin in Ayeyarwady outside target areas. Sudden increase likely from China border trade re-opening post-covid & junta releasing poachers from prison. GBP began HEC education poaching areas to counteract trend.	Signs/sightings records will continue to be collected as/when reported by villagers at HEC workshops or farmers guarding fences, and will be logged post field trips, checked and analysed during the next monsoon.
Activity 1.8 - Every 3-4 months, or sooner if problems arise, CF & GBP evaluates delivery of the HEC awareness/mitigation workshops to identify any modifications needed		Yr1, 3 online reviews by CF/GBP. Yr2.1, education performance reviewed monthly by GBP after field trips, shared with CF during regular online updates. Yr2.2, as before, reviewed monthly and team leader replaced to improve the operation	This system of monthly reviews and regular updates with CF will continue
Activity 1.9 - At year end, CF & GBP to review/adapt the content of HEC educational kits as needed to meet new/changing requirements/realities for Yr2 or Yr3		Yr 1, two online reviews of education programme (Jul20/Mar-21). Yr 2.1, reviews held Dec21/ Mar22). Agreed to revise material for education kits (print & DVD) when trips allowed. Yr2.2, CF visited Myanmar Oct-22, revised education material now in prep.	Revised education kits to be ready for use in June 2023. This review system will continue with education materials being improved as needed if/when project budget allows and field visits to Myanmar are possible.
Output 2: Protecting Livelihoods A system of seasonal crop protection is established in 10 villages in 3 regions wherein Forest Dept trainers, supported by GBP, train and certify villagers in the fencing method who then install at least 15 community-based seasonal electric fences, co-funded by GAD partner	2.1 By end Yr3, 1,080 villagers (at least 20% women) are trained in seasonal electric fencing protocols by 3 teams of FD/GBP trainers (12 FD/8 GBP) Baseline = 0 men+0 women 2.2 By end Yr3, 30% of trained villagers in target areas (inc. women as	 2.1 In Yr1, Covid & coup interfered with original fencin can be trained at one time but, to date, 252 people 2.2 In Yr1, all 46 fence trainees (inc. 4 women) were concertified, In Yr2.2, 153 (out of 154) trainees were confarmers keen and committed. Hence the 99% certical in Yrs1-2.1, 9 community fences installed by the pele-camps, 3 around orchards, 1 around houses) and in Yrs1-2.1. 	ertified. Yr.2.1, all 52 trainees (4 women) were ertified. The situation in Myanmar has made fication success rate. ilot project re-trainees; 7 permanent (3 around

banks, which are maintained by villagers and allow elephants seasonal access to habitual areas.	appropriate) get professional certification as seasonal electric fencers. Baseline=0 2.3 By end Yr3, at least 15 temporary electric fences installed by certified trainees in target communities. Baseline=0 2.4 By end Yr3, crop-loss (amount measured in acreage and baskets of rice, converted to monetary value) is reduced by 70% in 10 villages, and 15 fencing operations. Baseline = cumulative per site by Yr3 2.5 By end Yr3, elephant sightings within habitual areas continue at baseline levels. Baseline TBC at M&E workshop 2.6 By end Yr2, a system is in place & in use by villagers to apply successfully for loans to buy fencing materials. Baseline = no system	several families. In Yr2.2, another 8 fences installe incorporate home grain stores), 1 around clusters As fewer people can attend courses, fences are in 2.4 In Yr1, form designed for use by villagers/fence sue each year post-harvest, with historical data collect project start, covid and timing of harvest seasons, data to monitor impact until the monsoon. Crop yie far, fences have resulted in a doubling, and for so 2.5 Historical data needed to establish baseline levels sightings are collected cumulatively, site by site, Yr3. Historic data is collected when a field area is is constantly being added to. Y2.2 data collected sign of elephants disappearing from area 2.6 Because of the coup, farmers who installed fences costs themselves. They prefer not to engage with the banks in Myanmar could or would provide load facilitating a loan scheme for farmers to buy Galla	of houses, 1 around an orchard (Annex 4.6). Installed for real, not just for training supervisors to record crop yields & crop losses ted before fence training. In Yr2.1, the delayed meant we did not yet have enough checked eld data available in Yr.2.2, indicates that so the farmers a trebling of their yields. In each area as well as data on contemporary to be analysed during the monsoons by end is surveyed for a potential fence, so this dataset shows no drop in elephant presence and no se from Yr1 to the present have opted to cover a authority and it is, anyway, uncertain whether ans to villagers at present. Y2.2 GBP began
Activity 2.1 - Yr1: GBP's fence team (TT1 seasonal fences installed by communities		Yr1, not possible because of covid.	No longer necessary, especially as CF is helping to establish a H.El.P programme in Sri Lanka. The budget was reallocated
Activity 2.2 - Yr1: With CCR rep from Sri Lanka, GBP fencing team trains 4xFD recruits in seasonal electric fencing system [funded by USFWS funds]		Yr1, recruits from FD (the local EERU teams from MTE) were trained, but not with a CCR rep.	Training or re-training of trainers is being done at each fence training course
Activity 2.3 - Yr1: Working with CF/CCR, GBP/FD fencing team modifies the CCR seasonal electric fencing protocols & guidelines to suit Myanmar		Yr1, a fencing manual for Myanmar was modified on line in English.Yr2.1, draft translated to Burmese, used and field tested, by training courses. Yr2.2, Burmese fencing manual available in print/online for trainers.	Because CF was able to photograph in Oct22, an illustrated fencing booklet is being prepared for all past and future certified fencers and will be available in June 2023. For reference, and sharing, the English version will be modified to match in Yr3

Activity 2.6 - Assessing & monitoring Yrs1-3: each crop-season, supervised by GBP/FD training team, fence trainees in each region maintain training-demo fences to ensure they work properly and to enable evaluation of their effacey at reducing crop-raids. Aided by FOW, they will also record data on elephant sightings. As part of the certification process, trainees are monitored by GBP/FD and FOW on their ability to maintain fences effectively. Activity 2.6 - Community fences: From Yr 2: certified fencers will install at least 5 community-based solar-powered temporary electric fences per year around crop-fields (5-40ha.) vulnerable to elephants in 2-districts (total by end Yr3=15). GBP/FD trainers will be available to advise (location/installation/maintenance) and FOW will help monitor the HEC-mitigation efficacy of the fences and ensure they are properly installed, maintained, and dismantled at the end of the crop season. Activity 2.6 - Community fences: From Yr 2: certified fencers will install at least 5 community-based solar-powered temporary electric fences per year around crop-fields (5-40ha.) vulnerable to elephants in 2-districts (total by end Yr3=15). GBP/FD trainers will be available to advise (location/installation/maintenance) and FOW will help monitor the HEC-mitigation efficacy of the fences and ensure they are properly installed, maintained, and dismantled at the end of the crop season. Activity 2.6 - Community fences: From Yr 2: certified fencers will install at least 5 community-fences of felds/forchards) erected independently by tarmers using cheap Thai/Chinese energizers. Of these, 13 were set up by certified trainees, 14 by untrained farmers. GBP/EERU checked all 44 fences for shortcomings, prompting all 14 untrained farmers in training course. BP/EERU checked all 44 fences for shortcomings, prompting all 14 untrained farmers in training course. BP/EERU checked all 44 fences for shortcomings, prompting all 14 untrained farmers in the public project: 1st contained from the project installe	Activity 2.4 - Training Yrs1-3: Region 1: 0 6x30 groups of villagers, installing two travulnerable crops in separate districts. Yrs supervised by 2xGBP trainers, trains and another two training fences in different dia a training/demonstration fence set up in separated in Regions 2+3 with GBP training (TT2+TT3) for each region.	ining fences around seasonally 2+3, TT1, now led by FD trainers but ther 6x30 villagers/year, setting up stricts. By end Yr3, Region1 will have had ix districts. Yrs 2+3, this training process	Yr1, 2 training courses for 46 trainees, erecting 2 training fences. 9 community fences erected by pilot project farmers. Yr2.1, 4 training courses for 52 people, erected actual fences maintained/ monitored by trainees & supervised by GBP/EERU. Yr2.2 = 9 training courses for 154 people (112 men, 35 women) inc. 7xEERU staff. So far, 252 people have trained to fence (19 EERU men +186 male, 47 female villagers)	From Yr1, covid/coup regulations have limited the number of people permitted on each training course to 15. Fence training will continue, probably as now, with fewer participants in whichever target areas are safe to visit under the current circumstances.
community-based solar-powered temporary electric fences per year around crop-fields (5-40ha.) vulnerable to elephants in 2-districts (total by end Yr3=15). GBP/FD trainers will be available to advise (location/installation/maintenance) and FOW will help monitor the HEC-mitigation efficacy of the fences and ensure they are properly installed, maintained, and dismantled at the end of the crop season. Taking the properties where a participatory cost-benefit assessment using local HEC data justifies their installation. More certified fencers likely to install fences for other people, thus serving as professional fencers, a new livelihood. So far, six GBP trainees installed 13 fences for other people out of the 27 fences erected independently by a fence with an inverter. This news spread widely, highlighting the need for safety, and prompting more farmers to apply for GBP's training course. Trainees. Yr2.1, 7 fences erected around 369 acres (4-150 acres each). Yr2.2, 8 fences erected. GBP monitors all 17 (Annex 4.6). Another 27 fences (785 a participatory cost-benefit assessment using local HEC data justifies their installation. More certified fencers likely to install fences for other people, thus serving as professional fencers, a new livelihood. So far, six GBP trainees installed 13 fences for other people out of the 27 fences erected independently i.e. not as part of this project: 1st course: U Myint Aung (five fences) 2rd course: U Han Zaw Htun (two fences) 3rd course: U Hoo Gey (one fence) U Pho Khwarlay (two fences) 4th course: U win Soe (two fences)	GBP/FD training team, fence trainees in each region maintain training-demo fences to ensure they work properly and to enable evaluation of their efficacy at reducing crop-raids. Aided by FOW, they will also record data on elephant sightings. As part of the certification process, trainees are monitored by GBP/FD		partners & M&E advisor, all fences are monitored for correct installation, maintenance, and efficacy. A fence monitoring team comprising four EERU team members plus a GBP staffer monitor fence sites 2xmonth in crop season and 1xmonth after harvest (permanent fences around households, orchards,	installed under this project and non-project field fences also being monitored by EERU and GBP once they are aware of them – partly to ensure safety as well as efficacy but also to get data on the reliability of Gallager energisers, used by GBP, versus cheaper
	community-based solar-powered tempora fields (5-40ha.) vulnerable to elephants in GBP/FD trainers will be available to advis FOW will help monitor the HEC-mitigation	ary electric fences per year around cropare 2-districts (total by end Yr3=15). The (location/installation/maintenance) and an efficacy of the fences and ensure they	trainees. Yr2.1, 7 fences erected around 369 acres (4-150 acres each). Yr2.2, 8 fences erected. GBP monitors all 17 (Annex 4.6). Another 27 fences (785 acres of fields/orchards) erected independently by farmers using cheap Thai/Chinese energizers. Of these, 13 were set up by certified trainees, 14 by untrained farmers. GBP/EERU checked all 44 fences for shortcomings, prompting all 14 untrained farmers join a training course. GBP wants to ensure they use energizers that are safe for elephants, rather than the 50hz.220v mains or an inverter current. In Jan23, a man was killed by a fence with an inverter. This news spread widely, highlighting the need for safety, and prompting more farmers to	installed around fields and properties where a participatory cost-benefit assessment using local HEC data justifies their installation. More certified fencers likely to install fences for other people, thus serving as professional fencers, a new livelihood. So far, six GBP trainees installed 13 fences for other people out of the 27 fences erected independently i.e. not as part of this project: 1st course: U Myint Aung (five fences) 2nd course: U Han Zaw Htun (two fences) 3rd course: U Htoo Gey (one fence) U Pho Khwarlay (two fences)

Output 3: Building capacity

The capacity of key partners to implement effective project monitoring and evaluation is strengthened.

- 3.1 By end Yr1, at least 4 project staff join a planning/training workshop led by M&E specialist, develop & finalise project monitoring & implementation protocols. Baseline: 0 personnel are familiar with M&E system before inception meeting 3.2 By Yr3, GBP demonstrates that it
- has acquired the skills to train trainers, monitor activities and analyse impacts inc. HEC, attitudes, incidents, crop-loss. Baseline: Limited skills evident at start
- **3.3** Community-based seasonal electric fences (5/Yr2, 10/Yr3) effectively maintained from Yr2 by villagers in 10 villages, supervised and monitored by FD/GBP. *Baseline:* 0
- **3.4** Elephant sightings and signs are mapped in/around target areas and 10 fenced community fields from Yr2. *Baseline:* 0
- **3.5** GBP's improved expertise in communications using TV, press and social media is demonstrated from Yr2. Baseline: Figures of Yr3 DI project 24-024 (was TBC at inception meeting)

Activity 3.1 - Inception/M&E workshop (3-days) at project onset, with all project teams, finalise M&E protocols, establish TBC baselines, train GBP's M&E recruits, agree appropriate safeguarding/ethics/gender equity policies for GBP [led by M&E consultant].

Activity 3.2 - GBP M&E team collates historical data available on human HEC casualties in target areas and any recorded elephant sightings/crop-raiding data.

- **3.1** This was done, remotely, in Yr1 with the BAT/EF and CF partners working together with the GBP director, who then convened virtual meetings with key members of his team to discuss and, if necessary, modify the proposed protocols. This process involved 66 online meetings.
- 3.2 GBP's skills have been tested and strengthened by the constraints imposed on project implementation by covid and the coup. The M&E data gathering spreadsheet designed in Yr1 was translated in Yr2.1 into a comprehensive but somewhat unwieldy database, partly because there are some overlapping data points, but it does make reporting easier although it is proving difficult to share online because the internet in Myanmar is currently so restricted. In Yr2.2, the database was improved by AMC and a freelance Burmese programmer to make it easier to navigate/log data remotely by phone. Field staff then received practical training in how to use it.
- 3.3 This indicator is ahead of schedule, with 9 community fences installed in Yr1, 6 in Yr2.1 and 8 in Yr2.2 (total = 14 to date, not including MTE's ele-camp fences), all of them monitored by the fence installers & supervised by the local EERU team and/or GBP (Annex 4.6)
- **3.4** Elephant sightings and signs are being recorded by participant villages as well as by fence monitors. In Yrs 1-2.1, elephants were seen near fences 36 times, In Yr2.2, 54 times. In Yr2.1, fence maps were provided in GBP's project evaluation report and again in Yr 2.2 (Annex 4.8).
- 3.5 In June 2020, GBP & CF planned a communications programme, prioritising Facebook (the most popular social media platform in Myanmar) and the two TV channels for streaming, as well as printed materials for participant villagers. Both TV channels agreed to broadcast H.EL.P awareness materials, as they did for the previous Darwin project (24-024). GBP put 12 postings on Facebook from 24-Nov-20 to 16-Jan-21, reaching 733,969 people, the majority aged 24-34, one third of them women. Then the coup happened. TV and social media are now so closely monitored by the junta that project supporters have stopped using Facebook and it was politically prudent for GBP to reduce its online profile.

Yr1: an in-person inception/M&E meeting was not possible because of covid. Activities were done remotely but some baselines to be established by project end when historical data is collected by the HEC education and fencing teams once trust. Yr2.2, M&E workshop finally held in Feb23 with GBP staff, CF & BAT reps in person & M&E advisor online.

Yr1, no public historical data available for target areas so GBP gets it from communities who join the programme. From 2003-2019, 8 people killed by elephants (4men/4 women); In 2021, 3 men killed, 3 injured; 2022, 2 men killed in Magwe,1 man in Ayeyarwady; 2023, 3 men killed 2 in Magwe, 1 in Ayeyarwady (Annex 4.3). In the last 2-years, only two people killed by elephants in project areas

Activity 3.3 - HEC safety education workshops evaluated from feedback questionnaires Yrs1-3 (done with education team, detailed activity to be agreed at M&E workshop)		Duplicate data (activity same as 1.6). Yr1, few forms collected before covid shut schools. Yr2.1, 527 forms collected, retrospective & current, but we await analysis. Yr2.2 934 forms filled and analysed (Annex 4.2).
Activity 3.4 - Elephant encounters record GBP/FD; both harmful HEC incidents (hu	ed in target communities by villagers/ iman death/injury) and harmless sightings	Duplicate data (activity same as 1.7). Yr1, 7 sightings of 3-10 elephants reported. Yr2.1, 217 signs/sightings logged by villagers (near villages) & field guards/monitors (near fences). Mapping done during monsoon. Yr2.2, 149 sightings logged of 3-7 elephants walking beside fences. Broke fences 10 times (6.7% of visits).
Activity 3.5 - Training of villagers in seaso questionnaires at end Yrs1-3	onal fencing is evaluated via feedback	Yr1, feedback surveys (n=30) were provided for the first two fencing courses (Dec 20/Jan 21), more were retrospectively collected from pilot project farmers who trained in July & Oct 2020, and 60 were collected from trainees who attended the 5 courses in Yr2.1. In Yr2.2, GBP got 200 feedback forms from its 9 courses. Useful information was given verbally to the trainers, not via the forms.
Activity 3.6 - Seasonally installed training maintenance & HEC-mitigation impact in Yr3 Regions 1+2+3)		In Yr1 this was done at the 2 training fences installed at MTE's Myaing Hay Wun camp, but in Yr2.1, training courses installed fences for real which were monitored by the local EERU team with GBP. As there is now no distinction between community/training fences, this section & 3.7 are the same.
Activity 3.7 - From Yr2, seasonal community fences monitored for effective installation, maintenance & impact (Yr2: Region1, Yr3: Regions 1+2: Region3 = post-project)		In Yr1, done at the 9 community fences installed by pilot project farmers and Yr2.1 was done at the 7 community fences. In Yr 2.2, the GBP/EERU teams made 343 monitoring visits to the 41 fences now in operation, not including the MTE ele-camp fences (Annex 4.6). In the crop season, field fences are visited 2/month. In the off-season, household fences are visited 1/month.
Activity 3.8 - Incidents with & sightings of of training fences and, from Yr2, commun		This is done by villagers and checked by EERU/GBP at all 41 community fences (Annex 4.11, for sample report forms in Burmese) with maps for elephant sightings around 16 of fences.
Activity 3.9 - GBP M&E team collates & analyses data from Outputs 1+2 and produced timely reports for feedback to project partners (schedule TBC at inception workshop)		In Yr1, when travel was restricted, data was recorded on a logframe activity spreadsheet. In Yr2.1, a database replaced the spreadsheet and was regularly fine-tuned as/when glitches arose. In Yr2.2, further changes were made following the M&E workshop. Analysis is now much simpler and quicker (see the reporting form filled by GBP). However, data needed for this report was hard to get on time because GBP is busy doing field activities before the rains start.
Output 4: Sharing Knowledge The skills and lessons learned in this project are shared locally, nationally, internationally via print, broadcast and social media	4.1 H.EI.P safety awareness films (x12) broadcast weekly on TV. By end Yr3, at least 624 broadcasts. <i>Baseline=0</i> 4.2 By end Yr3, 30,000 HEC awareness kits (printed material + DVD) dispersed to families in 180 villages. <i>Baseline=0</i>	 4.1 In Yr1, both national TV stations were broadcasting H.EL.P films weekly but after the coup, GBP withdrew them. They may be resumed once it is safe for GBP to have a nationwide profile. 4.2 In Yr1 GBP made 10,000 HEC awareness kits which were shared with families in 34 villages. In Yr2.1, another 10,000 were shared in the 61 villages where HEC education workshops were held. In Yr2.2, another 7,000 booklets and 2,500 games were shared in target villages. 4.3 This has not been possible because CF was not able to visit Myanmar until Oct 22 to film the HEC education activities. The films are now being edited and will be available later this year.

- **4.3** By end Yr3, one HEC safety awareness workshop streamed live quarterly via FacebookLive. Baseline=0
- **4.4** Fencing manual developed/ printed and by end Yr3 1,500 manuals dispersed to trainees and key officials. Baseline=0
- **4.5** By end Yr3, at least one fence training course streamed live quarterly. Baseline=0
- **4.6** By end Yr3, all 12 education and 20 audio-visual fencing videos available as videos on demand (VODs). Baseline=0
- **4.7** Findings and lessons learned from 15 fenced community fields shared with target communities in 6 regions at village meetings by end Yr3. Baseline=0
- **4.8** Feedback presentations given to senior officials in Naypyidaw annually. *Baseline=0*
- **4.9** Presentation about project processes, findings & lessons learned shared with at least one international forum, by end Yr3.

 Baseline=0
- **4.10** Datasets from project M&E archived with national institutions FD, Yangon University and GBIF or other searchable, secure database. Baseline: 0 datasets archived

- **4.4** In Yr1, a draft fencing manual was produced in English and translated into Burmese to be field-trialled at fence training courses. In Yr2.2 it was tweaked for clarity and comprehension, printed in Burmese for distribution and the changes will be added to an English online version.
- **4.5** Not possible at present but will be possible once the films can be made by CF.
- 4.6 As above
- **4.7** Not applicable this year, but by Yr3, the number of fenced community fields will be more than 15, given that Yr2 has been extended to cover 24 months.
- **4.8** Not possible or politically wise at present. In Yr1, presentations were given to 5 senior officials in Yangon and Mandalay, and two were given to relevant officials at local level this year.
- **4.9** In Yr2.2 (Mar) BSC gave presentations on behalf of AMC at the AsESG meeting in Delhi and again at the Asian Elephant Conservation Group workshop a few days later.
- **4.10** Not yet possible, although GBP has offered to share/store datasets with Yangon University so that MSc students can work with the project using its data.

Activity 4.1 - With CF, GBP's communication staff plans a TV, press & social media strategy at the inception workshop, producing a working schedule	In Yr1, done via online meetings June/July, but since the coup, the only PR was periodic updates on GBP's website. In Yr2.2, Facebook was used by HEC-affected farmers to ask GBP to visit them. At Feb23's M&E workshop, while reviewing activities, a full media strategy was put on hold for now,
Activity 4.2 - Following the agreed schedule, GBP communications staff implements the agreed TV, press & social media strategy, including printing education kits	Done until covid and the coup intervened. Will be resumed as/when politically appropriate. The TV stations are re-running old footage with AMC in which creates more problems than benefits as people call to ask whether the films are shown with AMC's permission i.e. is he cooperating.
Activity 4.3 – GBP's communications staff keeps a record of all TV, press and social media outputs and achievements	Done in Yr1, nothing to report in Yr2.1, and but in Yr2.2, GBP posted 9 times on Facebook (in 2022, Sept 8, 10, 11, 17 26, Oct 14. In 2023, Feb 20, Mar 17, 20)
Activity 4.4 - GBP's communications staff works with the field teams to share project findings and lessons learned with target communities in six regions	Project findings are constantly shared with target communities, every time the GBP team visits. Communication with participants, in person or by telephone, is constant. After field trips, the GBP discusses whether, and if so what, activities to post on Facebook.
Activity 4.5 - Every year, the GBP director &/or communications staff gives a presentation about project aims, activities and results to senior government officials	GBP avoids personal contact with national-level officials but in Yr2.1 it gave two presentations to senior officials at local level to tell them about the project. In Yr2.2 (6-Mar-23), GBP submitted a written progress report to the FD & MONREC ministry to comply with project permits.
Activity 4.6 - The GBP director gives at least one presentation about this project at a relevant international meeting	In Yrs 1+2.1, no opportunity. In Yr2.2 (Mar23), BSC presented on behalf of AMC to Asian Elephant Specialist Group meeting in Delhi and, a few days later, to the Asian Elephant Conservation Group workshop which focused on HEC mitigation. Both talks prompted much discussion of the merits of temporary field fencing and our farmer-responsible approach. In Yr3, CF/GBP will lead a 1-week HEC education & seasonal fence training workshop in Bardia, Nepal for GOs, NGOs & villagers.

Annex 2: Project's full current logframe as modified in June 2020 and agreed by Darwin 26-Aug-20

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Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
Impact: Human-elephant coexistence is communities and elephants as well as the		n HEC mitigation programme that safeguar	ds the lives and livelihoods of rural
Outcome: In six regions of high biodiversity and human- elephant conflict, a programme of coexistence education plus skills training in seasonal electric fence management provides an effective model for nationwide application.	O.1 HECx effective: By end Yr3, villagers who participated in HEC education workshops & seasonal electric fencing plots have 50% reduction in human losses and 70% reduction in crop losses at fenced sites; Baselines TBC during project Inception or by end Yr1 O.2 Fencing system embedded: By end Yr3, seasonal fencing programmes established in 3 regions and managed by Forest Dept with operational funds for farmers from a partner bank under recommendation/accreditation by GAD. Baseline = 0 O.3 Elephant use of corridors shared with people is sustained: Rates of HEC incidents reduce by 50% while sightings of elephants moving through target area remain at or above baseline. Baselines TBC by end Yr1.	assessment data on elephant encounters/ HEC and at fenced sites from target communities over 3-yrs records deaths/ injuries and extent/ economic values of crop loss. 0.2.1 From Yr2, project teams assess effectiveness of training villagers in temporary electric fencing by FD with GBP assisting only. 0.2.2 From Yr1, fencing certificates issued to farmers by FD/GBP. From Yr 2 letters of recommendation provided by GAD based on those certificates and addressed to partner bank to issue loans for equipment needed for community-based or individual seasonal crop-protection fences. 0.3.1 Records collected by GBP/FD/ and villagers in target communities of incidents/ encounters of elephants attempting to enter farms, and of sightings when they pass by.	 Villagers confirm their interest in using the seasonal fencing crop-protection method to village leaders or the H.El.P team. Forest Dept. honours its promise to assign 12 staff (4/year) to become trainers in seasonal electric fencing and covers operational costs. GAD honours its promise to help villagers get private-sector loans for community-based crop-protection fences from Yr2. It is possible to clearly establish a link between level of HEC and project mitigation efforts. HEC level determined through a 3-factor measure, crop/property damage, elephant deaths, and human deaths.

Output 1: Saving lives

Awareness about HEC is improved for at least 30,000 villagers in 180 villages in three regions and the rates of injury or death are reduced through application of improved awareness.

1.1 Feelings of empowerment:

By end Yr3, 70% of education workshop participants in all gender/age-groups in 180 target villages express more confidence about their relationship with elephants and ability to mitigate HEC. Baseline = 0. TBC at M&E workshop.

1.2 Harm reduced:

By end Yr3, 30% drop in human death in all gender and age groups by elephants in 180 target communities. Baseline+monitoring TBC at M&E workshop.

- **1.1.1** Surveys pre/post HEC safety workshop assessing confidence/ empowerment in relation to elephants and the respondents' ability to reduce HEC; data collected for men, women, and youth.
- **1.2.1** Analysis of elephant encounter/ HEC data from target communities over 3-yrs document rates of death; data collected for men, women, and youth
- Villagers (same as in Outcome 0.1)
 see value in attending the HEC safety
 education workshops.
- Learning about elephants/causes of HEC/how to avoid it facilitates more confidence and positive attitudes
- Villagers use HEC measures taught in education workshops.
- In target areas, all HEC incidents & elephant encounters are recorded.

Output 2: Protecting livelihoods

A system of seasonal crop protection is established in 10 villages in three regions wherein Forest Dept trainers, supported by GBP, train and certify villagers in the fencing method who then install at least 15 community-based seasonal electric fences, co-funded by GAD partner banks, which are maintained by villagers and allow elephants seasonal access to habitual areas.

- 2.1 By end Yr3, 1,080 villagers (at least 20% women) are trained in seasonal electric fencing protocols by 3 teams of FD/GBP trainers (12 FD/8 GBP)

 Baseline = 0 men+0 women

 2.2 By end Yr3, 30% of trained villagers
- in target areas (inc. women as appropriate) acquire professional certification as seasonal electric fencers. *Baseline=0*
- **2.3** By end Yr3, at least 15 temporary electric fences installed by certified trainees in target communities. Baseline=0
- 2.4 By end Yr3, crop-loss (measured in acreage and baskets of rice, converted to monetary value) is reduced by 70% at 10 villages, and 15 fencing operations. Baseline TBC Yr1 per site using protocols finalised at M&E workshop
- **2.5** By end Yr3, elephant sightings within habitual areas continue at baseline levels.
- Baseline TBC at M&E workshop

 2.6 By end Yr2, system in place/used
- by villagers to apply successfully for loans to buy fencing materials.

- **2.1.1** Training implementation reports with details of participants/ trainers.
- **2.2.1** Records & photos of villagers receiving certificates awarded by FD/GBP in accordance with agreed standards of professional fencing attainment.
- **2.3.1** Record of fenced plots with maps, photos, equipment specifications and installers names.
- **2.4.1** M&E analysis of HEC-impact monitoring data collected by villagers with Friends of Wildlife (FOW) at fenced sites.
- **2.5.1** HEC-impact assessment forms of village monitors/FOW, analysis of data by GBP's M&E team.
- **2.6.1** GAD recommendation letters for loan agreements between lenders (partner banks) and individuals or groups of farmers with FD fencing certificates for purchase of fencing materials/ equipment.

- Villagers continue to want to train in seasonal electric fence methods
- Enough villagers meet the criteria needed for professional certification
- GAD help villagers to get loans for the seasonal electric fences to be installed
- Villagers appreciate the need to record data accurately and consistently.
- Elephants perceive and respond positively to reduced levels of HEC incidents and changed nature of the landscape with seasonal electric fences

	Baseline = no system		
Output 3: Building capacity The capacity of key partners to implement effective project monitoring and evaluation is strengthened.	3.1 By end of Inception Meeting in Yr1, at least 4 key project staff participating in a planning and training workshop led by M&E specialist, develop and finalise project monitoring & implementation protocols. Baseline: 0 personnel are familiar with M&E system before project start 3.2 By Yr3, GBP demonstrates that it has acquired the skills to train trainers, monitor activities and analyse impacts inc. HEC attitudes, incidents, crop-loss. Baseline: Limited skills evident 3.3 Community-based seasonal electric fences (5/Yr2, 10/Yr3) effectively maintained by villagers in 10 villages, supervised and monitored by FD/FOW/GBP from Yr2. Baseline: 0 3.4 Elephant sightings/signs are mapped in/around target areas and 10 fenced community fields from Yr2. Baseline: 0 3.5 GBP's improved expertise in communications using TV, press and social media is demonstrated from Yr2. Baseline: TBC at M&E Workshop	of attendees, before and after questionnaires, and the agreed M&E project protocols inc. who will do what, when. 3.2.1 Initial assessment at Project Inception; Project reports with outcomes of each activity, data sets processed	 GBP can recruit & retain 4 new staff (3 for M&E, 1 for communications) for project duration, at least. Villagers accept the need to maintain the performance/efficacy of fences and do so consistently & diligently. Elephants continue to come into, or move through, the areas targeted for seasonal fencing. MITV/MRTV and local press continue to want to broadcast/ publish H.EI.P films, stories and photos
Output 4: Sharing knowledge The skills and lessons learned in this project are shared locally, nationally, internationally via print, broadcast and social media	 4.2 By end Yr3, 30,000 HEC awareness kits (printed material + DVD) dispersed to families in 180 villages. Baseline=0 4.3 By end Yr3, one HEC safety awareness workshop streamed live quarterly via FacebookLive. Baseline=0 4.4 Fencing manual developed/ printed and by end Yr3 1,500 manuals dispersed to trainees and key officials. Baseline=0 	 4.2.1 Reports/photos of H.EI.P education workshops 4.3.1 Records of live streaming 4.4.1 Photo records of distribution of fencing manual/DVD at fencing courses 4.5.1 Records of live streaming 4.6.1 Download links for all 32 VODs available 4.7.1 Reports/photos available 4.9.1 Reports/photos available 4.10.1 Dataset archive(s) identification 	Broadband quality allows villagers to access live streaming and VOD's nationwide Villagers see the value in VODs and use them

4.5 By end Yr3, at least one fence training course streamed live quark Baseline=0 4.6 By end Yr3, all 12 education at audiovisual fencing videos availabed videos on demand (VODs). Baseline=0 4.7 Findings and lessons learned for 15 fenced community fields shared target communities in 6 regions at village meetings by end Yr3.	nd 20 e as
Baseline=0 4.9 Presentation about project processes, findings & lessons lear shared with at least one internation forum, by end Yr3. Baseline=0	
4.10 Datasets from project M&E archived with national institutions - Yangon University and GBIF or oth searchable, secure database. Baseline; 0 datasets archived	

Activities (these will be finalised at the start of each year when preparing the annual workplan)

Output 1: Saving lives

- 1.1 Educational kits (30,000) produced for HEC awareness/mitigation workshops
- 1.2 Training in the delivery of HEC awareness/mitigation workshops held for any new GBP education team members.
- 1.3 HEC mitigation workshops (3-5/year) held for teachers/headmasters in three new target regions to introduce them to the educational methods and materials.
- 1.4 HEC awareness/mitigation workshops at <60 schools/year in three new regions (Mandalayx60, Sagaingx60, Magwayx60) Total=180
- 1.5 Conduct to assess the efficacy of each HEC awareness/mitigation workshop by gender and age.
- 1.6 Analyse feedback surveys from education workshops (time-frame to TBC at M&E workshop) and produce summary reports to feed back to the education team
- 1.7 Log elephant encounter/injury data from participant communities and analyse it annually to monitor impact of HEC safety education
- 1.8 Every 3-4 months, or sooner if a problem arises, CF & GBP evaluates delivery of the HEC awareness/mitigation workshops to identify any modifications needed
- 1.9 At year end, CF & GBP to review/adapt the content of HEC educational kits as needed to meet new/changing requirements/realities for Yr2 or Yr3

Output 2: Protecting Livelihoods

- 2.2 Yr1: With CCR rep from Sri Lanka, GBP fencing team trains 4xFD recruits in seasonal electric fencing system [funded by USFWS funds]
- 2.3 Yr1: Working with CF/CCR, GBP/FD fencing team modifies the CCR seasonal electric fencing protocols & guidelines to suit Myanmar
- 2.4 Training Yrs1-3: Region 1: GBP/FD Training Team1 (TT1) trains 6x30 groups of villagers, installing two training fences around seasonally vulnerable crops in separate districts. Yrs 2+3, TT1, now led by FD trainers but supervised by 2xGBP trainers, trains another 6x30 villagers/year, setting up another two training fences in different districts. By end Yr3, Region1 will have had a training/demonstration fence set up in six districts. Yrs 2+3, this training process repeated in Regions 2+3 with GBP training FD staff to establish a training team (TT2+TT3) for each region.

- 2.5 Assessing & monitoring Yrs1-3: each crop-season, supervised by GBP/FD training team, fence trainees in each region maintain training-demo fences to ensure they work properly and to enable evaluation of their efficacy at reducing crop-raids. Aided by FOW, they will also record data on elephant sightings. As part of the certification process, trainees are monitored by GBP/FD and FOW on their ability to maintain fences effectively.
- 2.6 Community fences: From Yr 2: certified fencers will install at least 5 community-based solar-powered temporary electric fences per year around crop-fields (5-40ha.) vulnerable to elephants in 2-districts (total by end Yr3=15). GBP/FD trainers will be available to advise (location/installation/maintenance) and FOW will help monitor the HEC-mitigation efficacy of the fences and ensure they are properly installed, maintained, and dismantled at the end of the crop season.

Output 3: Building Capacity

- 3.1 Inception/M&E workshop (3-days) at project onset, with all project teams, finalise M&E protocols, establish TBC baselines, train GBP's M&E recruits, agree appropriate safeguarding/ethics/gender equity policies for GBP [led by independent M&E consultant].
- 3.2 GBP M&E team collate historical data available on human HEC casualties in target areas and any recorded elephant sightings/crop-raiding data
- 3.3 HEC safety education workshops evaluated from feedback questionnaires Yrs1-3 (done with Education team, detailed activity to be agreed at M&E workshop)
- 3.4 Elephant encounters recorded in target communities by villagers/GBP/FD/FOW; both harmful HEC incidents (human death/injury) and harmless sightings
- 3.5 Training of villagers in seasonal fencing is evaluated via feedback questionnaires at end Yrs1-3
- 3.6 Seasonally installed training fences monitored for effective maintenance & HEC-mitigation impact in Yrs1-3 (Yr1:Region1, Yr2: Regions 1+2, Yr3 Regions 1+2+3)
- 3.7 From Yr2, seasonal community fences monitored for effective installation, maintenance & impact (Yr2: Region1, Yr3: Regions 1+2: Region3 = post-project)
- 3.8 Incidents with & sightings of elephants recorded and mapped in area of training fences and, from Yr2, community fences in target areas
- 3.9 GBP M&E team collates & analyses data from Outputs 1+2 and produces timely reports for feedback to project partners (schedule TBC at Inception workshop)

Output 4: Sharing knowledge

- 4.1 With CF, GBP's communications staff plans a TV, press & social media strategy at the project outset, producing a working schedule
- 4.2 Following the communications schedule, GBP communications staff implements the agreed TV, press & social media strategy, including printing education kits
- 4.3 GBP's communications staff keep a record of all TV, press and social media outputs and achievements
- 4.4 GBP's communications staff work with the field teams to share project findings and lessons learned with target communities
- 4.5 Every year, the GBP director &/or communications staff gives a presentation about project aims, activities and results to senior government officials
- 4.6 The GBP director gives at least one presentation about this project at a relevant international meeting

Annex 3: Standard Indicators

DI Indicator number	Name of indicator using original wording	Name of Indicator after adjusting wording to align with DI Standard Indicators	Units	Disaggregation	Year 1 Total	Year 2 Total	Year 3 Total	Total to date	Total planned during the project
DI-A04	No. of education workshop participants in all gender and age-groups in 180 target villages express more confidence about their relationship with elephants and their ability to mitigate HEC	Number of people reporting that they are applying new capabilities (skills and knowledge) 6 (or more) months after training.	People	Gender; Age Group; Stakeholder group: Indigenous Peoples, Local Communities, Nationals, public sector, civil society, private sector;	TBC at project end	TBC at project end			21,000
DI-A05	No. of villagers trained in seasonal electric fencing protocols	Number of trainers trained reporting to have delivered further training by the end of the project.	People; Number trained	Gender; Age Group; Stakeholder group: Indigenous Peoples, Local Communities, Nationals, public sector, civil society, private sector.	46	52+154			1080
DI-D15	Percentage drop in human death in all gender and age groups by elephants in 180 target communities.	Net change in incidences of human wildlife conflict.	Number	Conflict typology	TBC at project end	TBC at project end			30%
DI-D16	Percentage reduction in crop loss (amount measured in acreage and baskets of rice converter to monetary value) at 10 villages and 15 fencing operations	Number of households reporting improved livelihoods.	Househo Ids	As measured through household surveys, livelihood metric (income, education, health etc.).	TBC at project end	TBC at project end			70%

Table 2 Publications

Title	Type (e.g. journals, manual, CDs)	Detail (authors, year)	Gender of Lead Author	Nationality of Lead Author	Publishers (name, city)	Available from (e.g. weblink or publisher if not available online)
Protecting the lives and livelihoods of people and elephants in Myanmar	Article for online blog	Belinda Stewart-Cox, 2023	Female	British	Elephant Family/ British Asian Trust, London, UK	www.britishasiantrust.org www.elephant-family.org www. growbackposterity.com (in Burmese)

Checklist for submission

	Check
Different reporting templates have different questions, and it is important you use the correct one. Have you checked you have used the correct template (checking fund, type of report (i.e. Annual or Final), and year) and deleted the blue guidance text before submission?	
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Is your report more than 10MB? If so, please discuss with BCF-Reports@niras.com about the best way to deliver the report, putting the project number in the Subject line.	
Have you included means of verification? You should 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 need 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.	
If you are submitting photos for publicity purposes, do these meet the outlined requirements (see section 16)?	
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.	