



Darwin Initiative Main Annual Report

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

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

Submission Deadline: 30th April 2022

Project reference	28-002
Project title	Pioneering sustainable grazing for plants and livelihoods in Cape Verde
Country/ies	Cape Verde
Lead partner	Fauna & Flora International
Project partner(s)	Biflores, Municipality of Brava, Community Association of Fajã d'Água, National Agricultural Research and Development Institute (INIDA)
Darwin grant value	£341,546.00
Start/end dates of project	1 st October 2021 – 30 June 2024
Reporting period (e.g. Apr 2021 – Mar 2022) and number (e.g. Annual Report 1, 2, 3)	Oct 2021- Mar 2022 Annual Report 1
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	1 st June 2022

Darwin Initiative Project Information

1. Project summary

Covering 62.5km², Brava, "the island of flowers", has a unique microclimate, making it the greenest of Cape Verde's islands. Cape Verde hosts 92 endemic plants, 78% of which are threatened with extinction, making Cape Verde's flora the most threatened in Macaronesia. Brava supports the most endemic species (21) of all Cape Verdean islands. The primary livelihood of Brava's ~6,000 residents is subsistence agriculture, animal husbandry, and fishing. Brava's remoteness and lack of accessibility limit livelihood opportunities for its residents. Surveys (2018) by FFI and Biflores identified frequent overgrazing and overcrowding by nonnative invasive plants and consequently little regeneration of threatened endemic plants. Goats (est. 1,285 animals), cows (est. 506 animals) and other domestic mammals, like donkeys, pigs and chickens (est. 2,465 animals) roam freely (2020 survey by the Ministry of Agriculture), grazing every leaf that they can find and preventing plant regeneration. Grazing animals were introduced on Cape Verde in the 1400s; hence, ecosystems are not adapted and are

particularly sensitive to grazing pressures. Soil erosion and recurrent severe droughts exacerbate issues, contributing to the loss of pasture, declining crop productivity, and the loss of livestock to slaughter as herds cannot be supported through prolonged dry seasons. Brava may also face future threats from the increasing aridity that currently affects other islands. especially at lower elevations, which could lead to species population reductions and restrictions on their distribution ranges. Brava's "Ribeira de Fajã d'Água" Key Biodiversity Area (KBA) recognises the island's extraordinary but fragile plant diversity. This part of the island (1.1km2) was designated an Important Plant Area (IPA) in 2017, containing Critically Endangered plants such as Launae thalassica (which only occurs on Brava), as well as Endangered species with extremely restricted ranges, such as Echium hypertropium, Campanula bravensis and Diplotaxis varia (over 10% of these species' world population is found in this KBA). Additionally, these plants are highly valued by the local communities that use them for their food, animal nutrition and disease treatment. This KBA, the only one in the island, has the highest significant potential to demonstrate sustainable agriculture approaches in Bravo to implement sustainable and data-driven grazing and land management strategies that protect endemic species, improve livelihoods, and increase local resilience to climate change. Initially supporting sustainable grazing management at the local scale in Ribeira de Fajã d'Água (output 1), the project will also generate evidence needed to inform island-wide grazing management and conservation strategies (output 2) and also influence grazing management across Cape Verde (output 3).



Map of Brava and Cape Verde in inset.







2. Project stakeholders/ partners

Overgrazing is considered a key priority issue in Cabo Verde, by both government and NGOs. Whilst there are and have been other initiatives addressing part of this issue (or issues related to this) – like goat husbandry, fodder production, drought, soil erosion, livestock production – our project is the first one aiming to develop a sustainable grazing management plan in Cabo Verde (even if initially focused on Brava). This is a great interest to other islands and organisations, as it could help address and fulfil goals/commitments for government and NGOs alike. Overall, partnerships, engagements and collaborations listed below are demand-led.

The project is still in its early stages, and therefore relationship building between some of the project partners and stakeholders is still underway.

Stakeholder / Partner	Named in proposal?	Role (Interest / Influence)	Update
			FFI maintains weekly to bi-weekly meeting with Biflores to share project updates, exchange expertise (or access to it) and plan next steps.
Biflores Yes	Main project partner, leading on in-country implementation, and acting as a connector between FFI and other in-country stakeholders.	It has been difficult to recruit project staff at Biflores, most importantly a project coordinator and a finance manager. The Biflores Director and Project Assistant and FFI's Project Lead have had to fulfil these roles, and FFI has brought in some additional, but limited, in-house capacity to ensure delivery of the project. We have a list of potential mitigation measures, and will continue to monitor these recruitment challenges and support Biflores.	
			Additionally, the Director of Biflores will leave in May 2022, and recruitment to replace this position is ongoing, as well as a Project Coordinator.
			The Board of Biflores has completely changed since the project start, and whilst still recent, they are actively engaged in the organisation's work, including finance management.
Municipality of Brava / Câmara Municipal da Brava (CMB)	Yes	The Municipality of Brava is a governmental partner in the project participating in workshops, providing advice and access to information. They will approve the final output, and provide a crucial link with the authorities, ensuring the	FFI and Biflores have coordinated project activities closely with the MAA and CMB. Biflores presented on the project goals with both organisations in November 2021, allowing sharing of lessons learned,

		feasibility and legality of the actions decided on in the management plan.	feedback and practical suggestions on implementation, and 2 further meetings and field site visits, attended by 5 technicians from MAA and CMB, have since taken place.
Ministry of Agriculture and Environment (MAA) / National Directorate for Environment (DNA)	No	The Brava-specific office for MAA/DNA is a governmental partner in the project, participating in workshops, providing advice and access to information, and providing a crucial link with herders and other similar initiatives or expertise in other islands. They will also approve the final output, and will ensure the feasibility and legality of the actions decided on in the management plan. They are the ultimate decision- makers and owners of the management plan.	 The CMB have been providing support in contacting herders and designing and budgeting the corrals (fenced pens for the goats); this project helps them address a priority issue (overgrazing), which they don't have capacity or resources to address We are supporting them yo put in place some measures to protect biodiversity of Brava; similarly, the establishment of botanical gardens was also a priority for them, not just our project's. Past interactions with the MAA have been limited, due to availability of DNA representatives. However, the current MAA/DNA office have been actively engaged and supportive: supporting with fodder production and building capacity on drip irrigation. They also supported Biflores in contacting herders (they are the holders of the herder's database for Brava) and provided input into designing and budgeting the corrals.
Community Association of Fajã d'Água	Yes	The association is mostly involved in developing and implementing projects related to community development such as financial and organisational support to herders and fishermen (with fishing gear and drip systems). The association has also participated in an environmental conservation project with local NGO "POSER-clima." The association will support engagement with and among local farmers, a key element of this project. As a well-established and known entity on the island, they will act as a point of contact for farmers, directly supporting Biflores' and FFI's project staff with activities under Output 1 and indirectly under Output 2.	As the Association was mostly driven by former projects and funding, it's become dormant; Biflores still has close relationships with individual members of the Association (the President of the Association is also the President of the Biflores Board). Once there are participatory planning workshops for the development of the pilot grazing management plan for Fajã d'Água, the group can be revived.
National Agricultural Research and Development Institute (INIDA)	Yes	Researchers from INIDA will provide technical and botanical expertise, and facilitate the participation of students in the project's research activities by liaising with the University of Cape Verde (UniCV) to include students for field work, trials, surveys and monitoring. FFI has already engaged with INIDA in the past, through a CEPF Small Grant funded project in Brava, focusing on conserving endangered plants.	Engagement with the National Agricultural Research and Development Institute (INIDA) has been limited, as multiple efforts from Biflores to contact INIDA have not been successful. Engagement to collaborate with INIDA would be under the remit of endemic plant research, which we have not yet started (planned for September 2022). Given the established relationship between INIDA researchers and the main conservation NGO in the neighbouring island – Projeto Vitó in Fogo, also an FFI partner – we will attempt to re-engage through them.

Herders of Brava			October 2021 workshop with 15 herders, organised by the CMB and MAA, to discuss problems and challenges faced by herders, particularly regarding grazing.
	Yes		Questionnaire on livestock production, grazing and husbandry to be conducted with all herders in Brava.
			The first two pilot plots have been identified in Fajã d'Água following productive discussions with supportive landowners and herders.
			A significant proportion (being quantified through questionnaires with herders/farmers) of landowners are not the herders that use the land, nor are they based in Brava.
Land owners Ye	Yes		Communication is done mostly remotely and through the herders/farmers who use the land. As we develop the pilot grazing management plan, we will ensure landowners are included and aware of intentions and that we get their buy-in.
			These landowners are also who owns the land where we intend to establish/implement fodder production
Projecto Agrofloresta – Santo Antão		Agrofloresta is a project based in Santo Antão, focusing on increasing agricultural productivity and resilience to climate change through the implementation of agroforestry systems on the island of Santo Antão, applying the principles of agroecology. This project is supported by ADPM, an NGO based in	As we weren't able to recruit an in-country agronomist (Change Requests 1 and 2), we reached out to entities and initiatives related to agronomy and/or grazing and/or agroecology.
	No		Whilst these entities acknowledged not having the expertise we required for our consultancy, we have agreed to collaborate and exchange lessons, as both projects try to address better agricultural productivity and fodder production.
			Agrofloresta have already provided advice on the best species for
Association for the Protection of Mertola Heritage (ADPM)	No	Portugal.	fodder production, and Agrofloresta and ADPM will be delivering a training on fodder production in June/July 2022, with participation from Biflores and Brava MAA. This training will be replicated to herders in Brava.
International Centre of Rural and	No	CERAI is a Spanish international non-government development organisation specialised in rural development and sustainable agriculture with a focus on Food	

Agriculture Studies (CERAI)		Sovereignty. CERAI aims to contribute to the development of rural communities improving the well-being of families and environment, defending farmers' interests to have equal access to means of productions, improving decision- making participation, raising awareness and respect values to the peasant culture and contributing to women empowerment in the rural society. They have an office based in São Vicente, in Cabo Verde.	As we weren't able to recruit an in-country agronomist, we reached ou to entities and initiatives related to agronomy and/or grazing and/or agroecology. The joint work delivered by CERAI AAN in other islands is very relevant/aligned with our project in Brava, and they have produced highly relevant documents and lessons from other islands. FFI met with CERAI and AAN in São Vicente in November 2021 to		
Friends of Nature Assocation (AAN)	No	AAN is a Cabo Verdean NGO focusing on reforestation, sanitation and livestock husbandry.	 introduce our project and discuss the scope of the consultancy. Whilst they would be the best placed to deliver the consultancy work, given knowledge of the country and areas of technical expertise, other work commitments weren't aligned with our timeframe, and we were not able to proceed. We do however hope to reengage with CERAI/AAN in the future for future collaboration or advice. 		
Veterinary Doctor Janice Silva	No	Veterinary based in Fogo, neighbouring island to Brava, who has worked with livestock and husbandry (and specifically goats). Role would be to, over the course of the project, provide a combination of direct in-person support, as well as remote advice (to help build local capacity to continue this work going forward), including build capacity of community members to address basic veterinary needs in the long- term.	Initial discussions about project needs and alignment with expertise were positive. In June 2022, we will meet in person, and invite the vet to attend the Agronomy Fair in Brava. If availability works out, this could be the first assessment of the livestock at our trial plots in Fajã D'Água.		

Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs **3.** Project Note: the project due to COVID-



progress

experienced delays 19: please see



Section 13 for more details.

3.1 Progress in carrying out project Activities

Output 1 Site-based sustainable grazing management delivering immediate conservation and wellbeing benefits and informing an island-wide grazing management plan

Activity 1.1 Early in Yr1, set up a steering group and regular partnership meeting to coordinate the project, including participative workshops with all stakeholders.

FFI and Biflores have coordinated project activities closely with all local stakeholders. This has involved particularly frequent communication and coordination with the Ministry of Agriculture and Environment (MAA) of Brava and the Municipality (CMB). Biflores presented on the project goals with both organisations in November 2021, allowing sharing of feedback and practical suggestions on implementation, and two further meetings and field site visits, attended by five technicians from MAA and CMB, have since taken place.

Activity 1.2 In Yr1, carry out workshops and develop an adaptive sustainable grazing management plan for Fajã d'Água with key stakeholders: community, experts and government.

The adaptive management plan for Fajã d'Água, pushed back due to the delayed project start, is now scheduled for completion in September 2022. In the first six months of the project, we have focussed on gathering local perceptions on grazing management through surveys (see 1.7 and Annex 4: Brava Livestock Survey Guidance) and through Biflores' participation in an October 2021 workshop with 15 herders, organised by the CMB and MAA, to discuss problems and challenges faced by herders, particularly regarding grazing (see Annex 5: Bons Amigos Report, section IV). We have also reviewed similar practices on other islands and contacted relevant local experts to input technically to the plan. The plan itself will be implemented in pilot areas, and we have already identified two suitable areas for implementation of trial activities. Agreements with the related landowners have been secured.

Activity 1.3 From Yr2, implement the plan from 1.2 as a pilot, and manage it adaptively, feeding lessons learned back into the plan.

Not applicable to this reporting period

Activity 1.4 From Yr2, monitor the implementation of the plan closely to allow for adaptive management: livestock and wellbeing indicators; vegetation cover and focal plant health.

Not applicable to this reporting period

Activity 1.5 Throughout the project, provide veterinary services in Fajã d'Água, to: incentivise project participation, build capacity in animal husbandry including sustainable grazing, and project monitoring.

A veterinarian with relevant expertise from the neighbouring island of Fogo has been identified, and initial discussions were positive. Over the course of the project, they will provide a combination of direct in-person support, as well as remote advice (to help build local capacity to continue this work going forward).

Activity 1.6 Throughout the project, build capacity of community members to address basic veterinary needs in the long-term.

Not applicable to this reporting period

Activity 1.7 Conduct a Participatory Impact Assessment with the community of Fajã d'Água at the end of Yr1.

FFI has designed surveys specifically on livestock ownership, husbandry and practice that are being implemented at the time of writing (See Annex 4: Brava Livestock Survey Guidance). In addition, an MSc student co-supervised by Biflores also collected data on livelihoods and current subsistence practices carried out by the three communities of in Fajã d'Água,

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contributing valuable baseline data on wellbeing of the project's target communities (Annex 6: MSc Field Interview Questions)

Activity 1.8 Conduct island-wide baseline outreach on endemic plants and overgrazing in Yr1, to sensitize communities to the project and help result dissemination

Biflores is carrying out regular outreach and awareness raising on endemic plants and they report improved knowledge among the communities. Different activities completed over the project period have included: two workshops, one in February with organisations from other islands and local institutions to discuss the proposal of a protected area in Brava, which is relevant to the issue of overgrazing, and one in March focused on women and plants with the participation of around 30 women (achieved through other funding raised by the project team - see Annex 7: Workshops Photos) schools activities in five schools with around 400 students; establishment of five botanical gardens; and numerous informal chats with people and herders during field travel.

Output 2 Scientific evidence available to inform decision-making for island-wide grazing management planning and conservation strategies.

Activity 2.1 Throughout the project, design and conduct field trials: place plots under different grazing regimes, testing endemics' regeneration and interactions between grazers, native and invasive plants.

The first two pilot plots have been identified in Fajã d'Água following productive discussions with supportive landowners and herders. Corrals will be developed to enable increased control of livestock movement in these plots, and thus regulate grazing intensity. The design of each corral has been defined (see Annex 8: Corral Designs). Fodder crops will be provided to livestock in these areas, and different options for fodder production have been also analysed.

Activity 2.2 In Yrs1-2, test endemic plant germination in a nursery. Plants will include our five focal species, as well as others, following INIDA recommendations.

Germination trials are underway for 4 of the 5 endemic species currently in the Biflores nursery, located in Nova Sintra. Biflores is in the process of signing an agreement with MAA to use part of their nursery for germination trials over the project period. The MAA nursery is located in Campo Baixo where the weather conditions are drier and warmer. This will help to scale up production of endemic species, but will also allow us to compare germination rates under different weather conditions.

Activity 2.3 In Yrs1-2, measure water run-off and soil loss during the rainy seasons (Aug-Dec) in correlation with vegetation cover and type

The project started in October 2021, just as the 2021 raining season finished. We will be able to measure the water run-off during the raining season of Yr2.

Activity 2.4 In Yrs1-2, place GPS collars on livestock to facilitate shepherding and improve grazing control; analyse the data to map animal movement and land use.

The project team contacted relevant experts on GPS collars through the WildLabs online community (<u>www.wildlabs.net</u>). This helped to identify both suitable collars and appropriate methods (see Annex 9: Excerpt WildLabs GPS collars). Collars will be deployed in Y2.

Activity 2.5 In Yrs1-2, conduct botany surveys in understudied areas (Mato-Campo das Fontes and Sarrado) to complement the existing data from the literature and previous FFI projects

We will start this activity towards the end of the raining season, anticipated September 2022.

Activity 2.6 In Yrs1-2, map, using GIS, the vegetation (cover, type) in understudied areas using a drone and cross-referencing with fieldwork described above and participatory mapping.

We secured recent high-resolution imagery of Brava to start mapping the island's vegetation cover, along with the associated modelling software. A drone has been purchased and will be used to complete vegetation surveys in June 2022.

Output 3 Brava-wide grazing management plan available and used to inform sustainable grazing management practices on other islands

Activity 3.1 In Yrs2-3, convene stakeholders (communities, government, experts) in workshops, on an island-wide scale, for a participatory planning process for sustainable grazing on Brava.

Not applicable to this reporting period

Activity 3.2 In Yrs2-3, draft an island-wide adaptive sustainable grazing management plan, based on Outputs 1 and 2 results and the participatory planning process in 3.1

Not applicable to this reporting period

Activity 3.3 In Yr3, Municipality of Brava and Ministry of Agriculture and Environment approve and disseminate the grazing management plan, to be implemented in a follow-up project.

Not applicable to this reporting period

Activity 3.4 Repeat Participatory Impact Assessment (logframe, 1.2) in Yr3 for Fajã d'Água and two additional communes (Mato-Campo das Fontes and Sarrado) of Brava.

Not applicable to this reporting period

Activity 3.5 Conduct end of project island-wide outreach on endemic plants and overgrazing, at the end of Yr3.

Not applicable to this reporting period

Activity 3.6 Organise exchanges with organisations on other islands, including FMB, FFI's local partner on Maio Island, to broadly disseminate results, in Yr3.

Not applicable to this reporting period

Activity 3.7 Engage government representatives from other islands, and at national level, to disseminate results and scope suitability and replicability of the plan, in Yr3.

Not applicable to this reporting period

3.2 Progress towards project Outputs

Output 1: Site-based sustainable grazing management plan developed and piloted in the commune and KBA of Fajã d'Água, delivering immediate conservation and wellbeing benefits and informing an island-wide grazing management plan.

First steps towards development of an adaptive management plan in Fajã d'Água (Indicator 1.1) are underway (e.g. participation in workshops with livestock owners, initiation of related social research and identification of farmers willing to take part in grazing trial plots), although a delay in the project start date means the full plan will not be elaborated until September 2022. While it is too early to detect an increased sense of livelihood and wellbeing benefits amongst livestock owners (indicator 1.2), two different questionnaires needed to collected baseline data have been developed, with one set of data collected across all communities around Fajã D'Água through a MSc thesis. Related activities to improve wellbeing through enhanced veterinary support have also started. It is also too early to detect changes in pasture cover or vegetation quality (indicator 1.3), although high-resolution images obtained by the project will contribute relevant baseline data. Increases in numbers for five endemic plants species are expected to be observed by end Y3 (indicator 1.4); baseline data on endemic plants in Fajã d'Água have been collected, with data from two other sites to be collected in Year 2. Four of these species are also growing in the Biflores nursery, meaning that material would be available to support ex situ conservation and/or reinforcement efforts.

Output 2: New, locally-relevant scientific evidence confirms appropriate grazing management strategies and is available to inform decision-making for island-wide grazing management planning and conservation strategies.

New scientific evidence on grazing, invasive species, regeneration and germination of endemic species (indicator 2.1) is being produced through surveys with local communities, field trials (underway through co-funding) and germination trials in two nurseries. Measures to monitor key water indicators (indicator 2.2) will be established in the project's first rainy season (July-October 2022) and animal movements and land-use patterns (indicator 2.3) will also be

established later in Y2, after suitable collars were identified and drones procured in Y1. Work to develop a spatial vegetation map (indicator 2.4) is also underway following procurement of satellite imagery and 3D modelling software. Baseline botanic surveys around two communities (indicator 2.5) will be completed in September 2022 towards the end of the rainy season, which will be the first opportunity to conduct these surveys since the project began.

Output 3: A Brava-wide temporal, spatial and financial grazing management plan, the first of its kind in Cape Verde, is developed to benefit ~6,000 people, 67 km2, and 21 endemic plant species, and will be available and used to inform sustainable grazing management practices on other islands.

Consultations are underway (indicator 3.1) through MSc led research in local communities around Fajã d'Água (Annex 6: MSc Field Interview Questions) and surveys on grazing management are currently underway across 12 communities (Annex 4: Brava Livestock Survey Guidance). Further roll-out and consultation is planned in Y2. In Y1, the first two of six planned government consultations took place (indicator 3.2). Development of an integrated management plan (indicator 3.3) is not expected until Y3, but related consultations and supporting fieldwork are underway. The project activities have been actively shared by the Project Lead with other organisations across Cabo Verde, with several local NGOs informally declaring strong interest in replicating this approach (indicator 3.4). We believe there will be strong interest in Maio, Santo Antão and Fogo to replicate this work

3.3 Progress towards the project Outcome

Outcome: Brava's 6,000 inhabitants, supported by government, implement sustainable and data-driven grazing and land management strategies that protect endemic species, improve livelihoods, and increase local resilience to climate change.

The project is producing a range of scientific data on grazing practice, invasive species prevalence, native plant abundance and regeneration, but it is too early to use these data to inform sustainable grazing management planning (indicator 0.1). New botanical data for Mato-Campo das Fontes and Sarrado (indicator 0.2) will be collected in September 2022 towards the end of the project's first rainy season. Work to engage communities in the project has started through social research and consultations completed in Y1 - and their close involvement in management planning workshops over Y2 will help to achieve improved confidence in planning and decision making (indicator 0.3). Government consultations are underway as first steps towards improving officials' ability to engage communities in decision making (indicator 0.4). Baseline data are being collected on community wellbeing and this will be used to measure anticipated improvements in 80% of women and men by project end (indicator 0.5). Satellite imagery has been obtained to contribute baseline data on vegetation (to be supplemented by drone surveys in Y2) and this will support measurement of improvements expected by project end. Baseline data on five endemic species has been collected from one site, with more data from two other sites to be collected in September 2022. This will allow the project to measure anticipated 5-10% increases in population size by project end.

3.4 Monitoring of assumptions

Outcome level assumptions:

Assumption 1: Climate and weather events do not impact fieldwork (e.g., if there is no rainy season, plants can be dormant):

Comments: To date, climate and weather events have not affected fieldwork. However, it is important to note the rainy season in 2021 was very erratic and short, resulting in less availability of fodder for livestock.

Assumption 2: Communities continue to be willing to engage to improve livestock and grazing management:

Comments: While the project is only 6-months in, initial meetings, interviews and workshops all suggest local people recognise that current levels of grazing are not sustainable, and we have identified volunteers for the grazing plot trials, fodder production and basic husbandry care provision.

Assumption 3: The impact and circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic allow us to implement all project activities on the island, but also wider national and internal travel: **Comments**: As described elsewhere, Covid-19 has had an impact on project delivery. It made national and international travel more difficult and expensive, reducing FFI's and our consultants' abilities to travel to the sites. We also noted that several partners, stakeholders and consultants had reduced availability to take part in initial project activities, as many of them were extremely busy catching up on prior commitments, following earlier Covid-19-related delays to their own activities.

Output level assumptions:

Assumption 4: Climate impacts do not adversely affect pasture indicators: Cape Verde is subject to droughts (currently the 3rd year of the latest drought), so it might be hard to observe plant recovery if the drought persists, since native plants will be dormant. **Comments**: There was again reduced waterfall and increased drought across Brava in 2021. It remains to be seen whether this will be repeated in 2022 and 2023 and whether this will strongly affect pasture indicators over Y2 and Y3.

Assumption 5: Local government continues to be supportive and actively engages in the project, as grazing was identified as a priority through past government-led activities. **Comments**: Positive relationships with local government on Brava continues and Biflores has a good relationship with local MAA and CMB. We have observed that the national level MAA have had lower than anticipated ability to engage in the project (in part due an extremely busy catch-up period post Covid-19 lockdowns). We are also aware of a potential new NGO law that will lead to greater monitoring and control over NGO-government collaboration. This may impact relationships or ability to implement project activities swiftly. However, to date, local government have been engaged and active in planning and decision-making in the project, as overgrazing is considered one of the threats to the environment and livelihoods across the country.

Assumption 6: Adequate size and health of endemic plant source population to allow natural regeneration. The removal of grazing could remove a pressure on invasive plants that had previously been holding them in check.

Comments: We still assume that endemic source populations are large enough to support natural regeneration, and are already growing 4 of the 5 project-focus endemic plant species in the project nursery, and plan to expand seedling production in the MAA's nursery in a different part of the island, to test response to different weather conditions. We are monitoring invasive plant populations through co-funding, and will closely evaluate how they respond to reduced grazing intensity.

Assumption 7: Data on water indicators is robust and indicative enough of seasonal and annual trends to be useful in future policy making and planning regarding the links between water and land uses.

Comments: Given the delayed project start, we have not been able to assess/collect data on water indicators. With the rainy season normally running from July to October, we will be able to do it for 2022 and 2023.

Assumption 8: Learning and lessons from Brava will have applicability on other islands in the archipelago, irrespective of their respective agroecological and climate diversity. **Comments:** While there will likely be large differences in specific lessons between Brava and other islands, the general lessons learned from how to address over-grazing will be highly relevant across the archipelago. We are already engaging with other organisations looking to address the issue of overgrazing on different islands.

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

The anticipated impact for our project is "Brava has thriving and self-sustaining endemic flora and livelihoods, which mitigate local climate change impacts, soil erosion and desertification, and create a model for sustainable management across Cape Verde". We are working towards a positive impact for biodiversity through developing evidence, capacity, management plans and actions to reduce the threat from grazing for at least five endemic plant species. Strong progress has been towards development of a Sustainable Grazing Management plan for a Key Biodiversity Area containing all five species, and two trial areas have already been identified to pilot measures to reduce grazing intensity in Y2. Measures to monitor and control invasive species (a second major threat to endemic plants) are also underway through co-funding. We anticipate reduced grazing intensity will not only enable population recovery, but will also support wider recovery of soil health and vegetation (needed to improve climate change adaptability), and over the first 6 months, we have started work to develop related baselines through securing high-resolution satellite imagery. Poverty impacts long-term will revolve around healthier livestock populations, supported through a recovery of native vegetation, and improved access to veterinary care. Work completed over the first six months has focussed on consultation and interviews to enhance our understanding on local barriers to improved livestock health and management. Work to engage national veterinarian experts in local capacity building has also started.

4. Project support to the Conventions, Treaties or Agreements

Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD);

The project will support Cape Verde to fulfil its obligations under the CBD, including the following articles:

CBD Article 6. General Measures for Conservation and Sustainable Use

Comments: First steps towards development of a sustainable grazing management plans are underway

CBD Article 7. Identification and Monitoring

Comments: Baseline and monitoring research on poorly known endemic plant species underway in Fajã D'Água KBA, with further research planned in two unexplored areas in Y2.

CBD Article 8. In-situ Conservation

Work is underway towards a sustainable grazing management plan in Fajã D'Água KBA and two trial plots have been identified to reduce threats from grazing pressure on five endemic plant species;

CBD Article 10. Sustainable Use of Components of Biological Diversity

Comments: Preparatory work to develop sustainable grazing management is including and supporting active involvement of communities, and we are in the process of carrying out interviews and consultations across 12 communities

CBD Article 13. Public Education and Awareness

Comments: Local partner Biflores has been actively carrying out awareness-raising activities including delivery of workshops on plant use with 30 women as well as school activities in 5 schools with around 400 students

It will also support:

Aichi Target 1

Comments: Local partner Biflores has been actively carrying out awareness-raising activities including delivery of workshops on plant use with 30 women as well as school activities in 5 schools with around 400 students

Aichi Target 5 and 7

Comments: First steps towards development of a sustainable grazing management plans are underway

Aichi Target 10

Comments: Work towards improved ecosystem resilience is underway following completion of first steps towards a sustainable grazing management plan for Fajã D'Água. When completed and under implementation, this will lead to healthier vegetation and reduced soil erosion and water run-off

Aichi Targets 12 and 14

Comments: First steps towards development of a sustainable grazing management plans are underway. This includes agreement of two 'trial zones' where fencing will allow vegetation regeneration in key zones.

Aichi Target 18

Comments: Interviews underway on livelihoods, livestock and grazing are in progress; data from these will help to collate traditional knowledge. This knowledge will be integrated into management plan workshops planned for Y2, where community participation will be prioritised.

Aichi Target 19

Comments: Baseline and monitoring research on poorly known endemic plant species underway in Fajã D'Água KBA, with further research planned in two unexplored areas in Y2.

The project is also supporting the CBD's Global Strategy for Plant Conservation by:

1/ undertaking fieldwork such that plant diversity is understood, documented and recognised (surveys complete in one KBA and scheduled for a further two areas in Year 2);

2/ effectively conserving plant diversity (first steps towards a grazing management plan complete); and

3/ conducting community consultations and outreach to raise local awareness about plant diversity, its role in sustainable livelihoods, and importance to all life on Earth (related research and consultations across 12 communities underway, as well as workshops with 30 women and more than 400 school children).

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

The project is supporting Cape Verde in pursuing adaptation contributions as specified in its Intended Nationally Determined Contribution to the UNFCCC. Work in Year 1 towards development of a sustainable grazing management plan will ultimately increase the adaptive capacities of agro-silvopastoral productions systems; prevent degradation and erosion; and improve data collection and modelling capacity associated with water and soil management.

Global Goals for Sustainable Development (SDGs)

The project contributes to multiple SDGs, including:

SDG 1. No Poverty

Comments: Research to understand local barriers to sustainable grazing management underway. This will feed into a local developed management plan that will ultimately improve vegetation recovery and health of livestock.

SDG 2. Zero Hunger

Comments: Work to develop a sustainable grazing management plan will support practices that increase productivity and help maintain ecosystems

SDG 5. Gender Equality

Comments: Work to understand gender roles and responsibilities related to livestock herding, grazing and husbandry is underway as part of socioeconomic research being carried out in 12 communities on Brava.

SDG 12. Responsible Consumption and Production

Darwin Initiative Annual Report Template 2022

Comments: Awareness raising work with herders (15), local women (30) and school children (>400) is underway, helping to ensure that Brava residents have the relevant information and awareness needed to pursue sustainable development.

SDG 13. Climate Action,

Comments: Initial work towards development of a sustainable grazing management plan, combined with improved mapping of vegetation, will inform action to strengthening Brava's ecosystems and thus the island's resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards, including soil erosion and desertification.

SDG 15. Life on Land

Comments: Work towards development and implementation of a sustainable grazing management plan will ultimately lead to: sustainable use of a terrestrial ecosystem and its services and also help to prevent biodiversity loss and protect threatened plant species (especially in the Fajã d'Água KBA).

5. Project support to poverty reduction

Project beneficiaries are local women and men in Brava who depend on livestock and livestock products for their livelihoods. Most specifically the project is targeting communities around Fajã d'Água KBA, although lessons learned will inform livestock management across Brava, and Cape Verde. Unsustainable grazing at the project sites, and across Brava, is leading to ongoing reduction in available vegetation which in turn impacts livestock health. This reduces material wellbeing (through reduced quality of livestock products over time) but also perceived wellbeing, as people observe increased uncertainty as the natural resource on which their livelihood depends degrades over time. Our project is working with both women and men involved in livestock management, husbandry and sale of livestock products to co-develop sustainable grazing plans and actions. This approach will ultimately enable recovery of native vegetation and, over time, improved health and nutrition of livestock. In addition, the project will directly improve animal welfare and health through capacity building of local volunteers by Vets based on other islands in Cape Verde.

While our project has only been active for six months, we have completed various foundational activities towards poverty reduction. New ideas and approaches developed over the reporting period include early work to evaluate feasibility of greater fodder crop production – which can both directly improve nutrition for livestock and reduce need to roam large distances to graze on native vegetation. Although not included as a specific activity at project start, we are also exploring whether invasive species could be harvested and sold to support local corrals and fences. Other relevant and foundational work includes consultation and interviews underway in 12 communities to enhance our understanding on local barriers to improved livestock health and management, participation in workshops with local grazers, preparation for development of the first sustainable grazing plan and designation of sustainable grazing trial sites. Work to engage national veterinarian experts in local capacity building has also started.

6. Consideration of gender equality issues

As this is very much a pioneering project for the island, there is no established baseline for gender roles and responsibilities when it comes to livestock herding, grazing and husbandry, as well as activities related to meat or dairy production. In order to ensure that our project addressed gender inequality and ensures fair representation and benefit sharing across men and women, we have included gender-specific questions in the holistic baseline questionnaire we have developed and are undertaking with all 150 herders across all communities of Brava (Annex 4: Brava Livestock Survey Guidance). With other funding raised by the project team, Biflores has also conducted a workshop attended by 30 women from Brava focusing on knowledge and use of plants, including but not limited to endemic plants (achieved through other funding raised by the project team, see photos in Annex 7: Workshops photos). These will inform further stakeholder engagement and planned project activities.

7. Monitoring and evaluation

FFI and Biflores are responsible for monitoring and adaptive management, in line with the project's Theory of Change, with both organisations assuming lead roles in coordinating M&E activities. The project's M&E plan is designed to capture evidence of change at key stages along the project's pathway of impact, based on project logframe and indicators, and defines responsibilities of project team members in data collection and analysis. The M&E plan, and associated data collection methods and tools, align with that envisaged in our project application.

In Y1, we have started the development of monitoring protocols to assess changes in vegetation cover, water run-off, livestock distribution, grazing habits and husbandry over the duration of the project. Baseline data is being collected on husbandry and grazing practices, and knowledge, attitudes and perceptions, to evaluate changes from baseline to end-of-project. All protocols and information generated are shared with and, when relevant, co-designed by project partners.

By the HYR in October 2022, we anticipate being able to present all baseline data, as well as a pilot grazing management plan.

8. Lessons learnt

Overgrazing is a well-known issue across the country, and something that government organisations and NGOs alike want addressed. While this is the first project attempting to address the issue of overgrazing in Brava, and the first - to our knowledge – in the country with the aim to develop a sustainable grazing management plan, these are not the first efforts to improve livestock husbandry, address soil erosion, drought, or even grazing of endemic species. From early on, we have been engaging with other projects, entities and islands to ensure exchange of knowledge and experience and collaboration. Whilst we did reach out to various experts during the project development phase, in hindsight, and assuming necessary resources and funding available to do so, we would have placed even greater emphasis preproject on gathering and collating rich knowledge and learning available on this topic from other NGOs working across Cabo Verde. We continue to benefit from learning exchange on this topic, and are building a list of contacts and historical (relevant) projects or initiatives for Cabo Verde to be passed on to any new staff at FFI, or in-country partners.

Associated to the point above, and in light of how difficult it has been to recruit key roles for the project, or even consultancies, we will adapt the project workplan and budget (with the approval of the Darwin Initiative) to build in greater and more formal collaboration with other projects and experts in-country, to ensure we don't duplicate efforts, but also to compensate for gaps in capacity, particularly at Biflores.

There is a risk of consultation and workshop 'fatigue' amongst communities and other stakeholders if we don't coordinate initiatives or align consultation or data collection efforts. For example, parallel to our project, there is an initiative addressing another important issue in Brava – stray dogs and cats – which also impact livestock, natural resources use, access to food and vegetation cover. While this is not strictly about grazing or endemic plants, there are overlapping activities and even stakeholders, and these should be coordinated or merged as much as possible. In response to this learning, the workshop jointly delivered by Bons Amigos (veterinarians working on animal sterilisation), the MAA, CMB and Biflores - report in Annex 5: Bons Amigos Report, section IV) merged two different projects, with different yet overlapping aims and audience, to ensure messages delivered and input collected wasn't duplicated.

Delaying our project start from July to October was sensible and unavoidable, but it also understandably reduced the timeframe we hope to have to collect data for the rainy season – botanical surveys, water run-off measurements – and other baseline data. Whilst we are catching up on all of these and they are all underway, the fact remains we will be collecting baseline data at the same time we monitor implementation of certain activities. Future projects shouldn't underestimate the scale and time needed just to design and collect baseline information.

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

This is our first annual report so we have not received reviewer feedback to consider. However, following our original application in 2020, we received the following suggestions from the reviewer and have incorporated them into our project design as follows:

It is disappointing that the three full time staff have yet to be recruited - in particular the agronomist, which is a key role. Please remember to submit a Change Request and CV to confirm Defra's approval of the individuals hired for Defra funded roles;

We share the frustration of the situation, but as this is the first project of its kind in Brava, we would only be able to proceed with recruitment once funding was confirmed and received. We also note that finding the expertise necessary in Brava, or from other islands (refer to section 2 for more detail) is challenging and often takes time to ensure effective recruitment. Delays in recruitment of some local staff meant that the FFI Project Lead and the Director of Biflores have taken far more active roles to ensure project delivery, and FFI was able to secure support from our in-house agronomist, providing regular and close support to the team in-country. We have also engaged with multiple agronomists in-country, but due to competing demands on their time (related to COVID-19 work backlogs), we have not yet been able to secure a consultant. We are still assessing the most feasible and effective approach to ensure successful delivery of activities that we originally assigned to the in-country agronomist and will submit a Change Request once we have agreed on this – likely end of June, after FFI team's visit to Brava.

It is not clear how animal husbandry benefits will be delivered/valued (please ensure that you address this in the first half year report - HYR);

Animal husbandry benefits will be delivered through improved access to veterinary services, which will in turn improve herder knowledge of good husbandry practices. In addition, through improved grazing management and increased capacity to sustainably manage grazing, livestock health will benefit (i.e through ensuring sustainable provision of food resources for animals, health will be ensured). Improvements in livestock health through improved grazing management and veterinary services and knowledge, will improve livestock value and productivity.

There is a risk that vet services will only be available at low cost during the project, then prove unaffordable post project (resulting in a reversion to over-stocking/over-grazing). Please comment on this in the HYR;

Part of the project includes the training of community members (likely herders) on basic veterinary and husbandry care to livestock. Once trained, they will be able to provide these services for a fee to herders across the island, or even from neighbouring islands.

Immediate and tangible benefits are few other than access to veterinary services. Consider whether there is any way to improve the livelihood benefits (HYR)

Whilst not immediate, we feel the benefits of access to veterinary services, leading to improved livestock value and productivity are quite tangible. More immediate however are the livelihood benefits of the potential new locally-led enterprises across Brava: livestock fodder production and sale; provision of basic vet and husbandry care services.

10. Other comments on progress not covered elsewhere

11. Sustainability and legacy

Although this reporting period only covers the first six months of the project, there are encouraging signs that interest and buy-in to sustain this work both across Brava and Cape Verde are high. On Brava, two key government agencies, the Ministry of Agriculture and

Environment (MAA) of Brava and the Municipality (CMB), have actively engaged in the project, and jointly led a workshop with grazers to explore issues around over-grazing. Interviews, consultations and informal interactions with local grazers also indicate high interest and willingness to address over-grazing and recover vegetation. Low-cost, local and sustainable solutions to these problems are being identified and will form core parts of a sustainable grazing management plan (e.g. supporting local production and markets for fodder crops and encouraging the use of local invasive species to establish corrals). Development of a grazing management plan will be highly participatory and will reach a large promotion of Brava's population (an achievable goal, given the islands low population size). This will be also be informed by data on local attitudes to grazing, currently under collection across 12 communities. Cabo Verde has a well-established network of NGOs and FFI, through other project funding, is supporting ongoing institutional capacity building of Biflores and several other organisations to contribute to a strong and sustainable civil society. At least three of these organisations have already voiced an interest in replicating the Brava project on other islands in Cabo Verde, and there is real potential for large scale roll-out of sustainable grazing management across the archipelago.

12. Darwin identity

As far as we're aware, our project is the first in Cabo Verde with an aim to develop a sustainable grazing management plan. This would not have been possible without Darwin Initiative funding and there is a strong association recognised by our project partners, stakeholders and collaborators of this being distinct piece of work supported by the UK Government. This message has been reinforced through all project meetings thus far. As the project is still in very early stages, there have been few opportunities to actively promote the Darwin Initiative's logo at events or on publications, but we will ensure this happens when major events, activities and publications are completed over Year 2. Recent field surveys and first piloting of drone surveys in June 2022 will generate more footage and stories for use in FFI's social media pages and support from the Darwin Initiative will be mentioned in posts planned over 2022/23. The Darwin Initiative is already known as an important supporter of biodiversity conservation in Cabo Verde through its support to recent conservation projects, including an earlier project led by FFI and another of our local partners Maio Biodiversity Foundation. The strong brand and credibility of the Darwin Initiative in Cabo Verde will significantly enhance our efforts to share and replicate work on Brava to other islands.

13. Impact of COVID-19 on project delivery

Covid-19 has had a major impact on project delivery, principally due to impacts on recruitment, but also on our ability to organise gatherings and carry out international and national travel. We detail below the most significant impacts and how we have and are responding to ensure the project remains on track.

The project was initially designed to run from July 2021 to June 2024 but we submitted a change request (approved) to delay the start date to October 2021. At that point Cabo Verde was still a red-list country and travel there and between islands was not possible or even safe for FFI or partner staff.

Extended impacts from Covid-19 after this point (including the emergence of a new variant) curtailed our ability to travel to Cabo Verde and support launch of technical activities. It also postponed necessary meetings needed to ensure registration of a local FFI office on Cabo Verde, and this has delayed recruitment of local staff. We expect office registration and recruitment of FFI roles in-country will now happen towards the end of 2022, and once this is in place our operations in country will be far more resilient to any future restrictions put in place on international travel. We have responded to the delay in recruitment by securing increased support and time for the project from Biflores's Director, FFI's Project Leader and from FFI's inhouse Agronomist located in Cambridge. We also worked to boost technical capacity during this time through hiring of consultants but note that Covid-19 has also had an impact on their

availability. We have found that many of best consultants we have talked to now have a large build-up of work and commitments (postponed during the lockdown period), although we anticipate this will ease over time.

While Covid-19 pandemic has led to an increased use of video conferencing to support effective communications with our partners, it also has reinforced the need for FFI to establish a small local in-county team, who would be able to support partners face-to-face on a more regular basis and whose involvement in supporting project delivery would not depend on international travel.

The project is catching up well after earlier Covid-19 delays and we hope that planned registration of a local office will strengthen resilience of our operations to any future travel bans.

14. Safeguarding

Please tick this box if any safeguarding or human rights violations have occurred \Box during this financial year.

If you have ticked the box, please ensure these are reported to <u>ODA.safeguarding@defra.gov.uk</u> as indicated in the T&Cs.

FFI's Safeguarding Children and Adults at Risk Policy & Procedure was developed in December 2014 and last updated in May 2022 (Annex 10: Revised Safeguarding Policy (May 2022)). The policy applies to Members of Council and its sub-committees, FFI employees, temporary staff provided through agencies, volunteers and interns, contractors, consultants, service providers and any third parties who carry out work on behalf of FFI, in partnership with FFI or in conjunction with FFI. The policy demonstrates the organisation's commitment to safeguarding children and adults at risk and to complying with the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child; confirms the arrangements and procedures in place to safeguard children and adults at risk, including FFI's code of conduct; and provides clear guidance on how to raise, and how FFI responds to, concerns and allegations regarding the maltreatment of children and adults at risk. The policy expressly states that FFI does not tolerate sexual exploitation and abuse of any kind.

FFI's Anti-bullying and Anti-harassment Policy was developed in March 2018. The policy applies to Members of Council and it sub committees, FFI employees, temporary staff provided through agencies, volunteers and interns, contractors, consultants and any other third parties who carry out work on FFI's behalf. The stated purpose of the policy is to ensure a safe, welcoming and inclusive working environment, which is free from intimidation, threats, discrimination, bullying or harassment; to communicate clearly FFI's zero-tolerance of any form of bullying or harassment; to define the terms 'bullying' and 'harassment' and provide examples, so that there is a clear understanding of the types of conduct that are prohibited; to communicate the importance of reporting incidents of bullying and harassment. The policy expressly states that bullying or harassment of any kind against a person or group of people, whether persistent or an isolated incident, will not be tolerated under any circumstances.

FFI's Whistleblowing Policy was developed in June 2013 and last updated in July 2021. The policy applies to FFI employees. The stated purpose of the policy is to encourage employees to report suspected wrongdoing in the organisation as soon as possible, in the knowledge that their concerns will be taken seriously and investigated as appropriate, and that their confidentiality will be respected. It provides guidance on how to raise those concerns and aims to reassure employees that they can raise genuine concerns in good faith without fear of reprisals, even if they turn out to be mistaken.

FFI's partner due diligence procedures include checking whether any safeguarding concerns have arisen with the partner concerned and the Safeguarding Children and Adults at Risk Policy & Procedure forms part of contracts and agreements with third party contractors and subgrantees. FFI began using an organisation wide LMS platform (Learning Management Systems) in 2021, which enables online training in policies & procedures for all staff. We monitor updates in Government and Charity Commission guidance and review our policies and procedures accordingly.

In terms of social safeguards, FFI has publicly available position papers on our approach to Livelihoods and Governance, Free, Prior and Informed Consent, Gender in Conservation, Displacement and Restrictions on Access to Resources and Conservation, and Rangers and Human Rights (links below). Our specialist Social Equity, Agriculture and Enterprise team (SAGE) team supports regional FFI staff and partners to take a holistic, people-centred approach to biodiversity conservation, and ensure project activities are strongly aligned with these principles.

https://cms.fauna-flora.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/FFI 2019 Position-on-free-prior-andinformed-consent.pdf

https://www.fauna-flora.org/approaches/livelihoods-governance/gender

https://cms.fauna-flora.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/FFI 2013 FFIs-position-and-approachto-conservation-livelihoods-and-governance.pdf

https://api.fauna-flora.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/FFI 2016 Displacement-andrestrictions-on-access-to-resources.pdf

https://cms.fauna-flora.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/FFI 2020 Position-on-rangers-andhuman-rights.pdf

15. **Project expenditure**

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

Project spend (indicative) since last Annual Report	2021/22 Grant (£)	2021/22 Total Darwin Costs (£)	Variance %	Comments (please explain significant variances)
Staff costs (see below)				
Consultancy costs				Due to the project start delay and their prior commitments, we were not able to engage with the agronomy consultan in Yr1
Overhead Costs				Reflection of the underspend across other direct project costs
Travel and subsistence				Travel aimed for Q1 of 2022 was delayed due to Covid-19 and medical issues limiteg staff's ability to travel, so trip had to be delayed to Q2 of 2022
Operating Costs				
Capital items (see below)				
Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E				M&E costs (estimated sec of the budget) are

Table 1: Project expenditure <u>during the reporting period</u> (1 April 2021 – 31 March 2022)

		included in budget for staff and consultancy costs
Others (see below)		There was an issue procuring the binoculars during the required timeframe
TOTAL		

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

16. OPTIONAL: Outstanding achievements of your project during the reporting period (300-400 words maximum). This section may be used for publicity purposes

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

In this section you have the chance to let us know about outstanding achievements of your project over the year that you consider worth highlighting to the Darwin Secretariat and sharing with the wider Biodiversity Challenge Fund community. This could relate to achievements already mentioned in this report, on which you would like to expand further, or achievements that were in addition to the ones planned and deserve particular attention e.g. in terms of best practice. We may use material from this section for various promotion and dissemination purposes, including for example, publication in the Defra Annual Report, Darwin Initiative promotion material, or on the Darwin Initiative website. As we will not always be able to ask projects on an individual basis for their consent to publish the content of this section, please note the above agreement clause.

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?	Yes
Is the report less than 10MB? If so, please email to <u>Darwin-Projects@Itsi.co.uk</u> putting the project number in the Subject line.	Yes
Is your report more than 10MB? If so, please discuss with <u>Darwin-</u> <u>Projects@Itsi.co.uk</u> about the best way to deliver the report, putting the project number in the Subject line.	NA
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.	Yes
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.	NA
Have you involved your partners in preparation of the report and named the main contributors	Yes
Have you completed the Project Expenditure table fully?	Yes
Do not include claim forms or other communications with this report.	1