

Darwin Initiative Main: Final Report

To be completed with reference to the "Project Reporting Information Note":
(<https://www.darwininitiative.org.uk/resources/information-notes/>).

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

Submission Deadline: no later than 3 months after agreed end date.

Submit to: BCF-Reports@niras.com including your project ref in the subject line.

Darwin Initiative Project Information

Project reference	28-014
Project title	Gibbon and biodiversity conservation through coffee-based agroforestry
Country(ies)	Myanmar
Lead Organisation	Fauna & Flora International (FFI)
Project partner(s)	Asho Chin Coffee Association (ACCA) Genius Coffee Myanmar Forest Department (MFD)
Darwin Initiative grant value	£368,461
Start/end dates of project	1 July 2021 – 31 December 2024
Project Leader name	Ngwe Lwin
Project website/blog/social media	N/A
Report author(s) and date	Pyae Sone Aung (FFI), Ngwe Lwin (FFI), Jonathan Moore (FFI)/ 31 st March 2025

1 Project Summary

The Arakan Mountain Range is a priority biodiversity corridor and contains Mann Wildlife Sanctuary (MWS), itself a key biodiversity site. The Mann Wildlife Sanctuary, along with its adjacent landscape, is located in Nga-phe Township, Magway, also known as the Rakhine Yoma Range conservation corridor and has been identified as part of the Nat-yekan Key Biodiversity Area (Myanmar KBA No. 51).

The MWS is highlighted in Myanmar's National Biodiversity Action Plan for its high levels of biodiversity and endemism and is an important watershed of the Ayeyarwady basin. In this respect, the MWS provides critical water to the country's dry zone, Myanmar's poorest region and most vulnerable to climate change. The area has a rich biodiversity and one of the highest densities of Western Hoolock Gibbons (*Hoolock hoolock*) in Myanmar. A total of 32 mammal species (including 11 globally threatened), 210 bird species (3 threatened), 372 species of plants (8 threatened) and 19 species of fish, have been recorded within the protected area. The biologically diverse MWS, and its adjacent areas, is globally important but under threat from unsustainable agriculture. With a private-sector partner, FFI was enabled farmers from 11 villages to develop gibbon-friendly agroforestry coffee, as an alternative to shifting agriculture, in exchange for gibbon protection measures. This will reduce dependency on forest clearance and shifting cultivation while strengthening livelihoods and will support the management objectives of the recently gazetted 12,423 ha of land that makes up the Mann Wildlife Sanctuary. This approach has great potential for replication within the Arakan mountains.

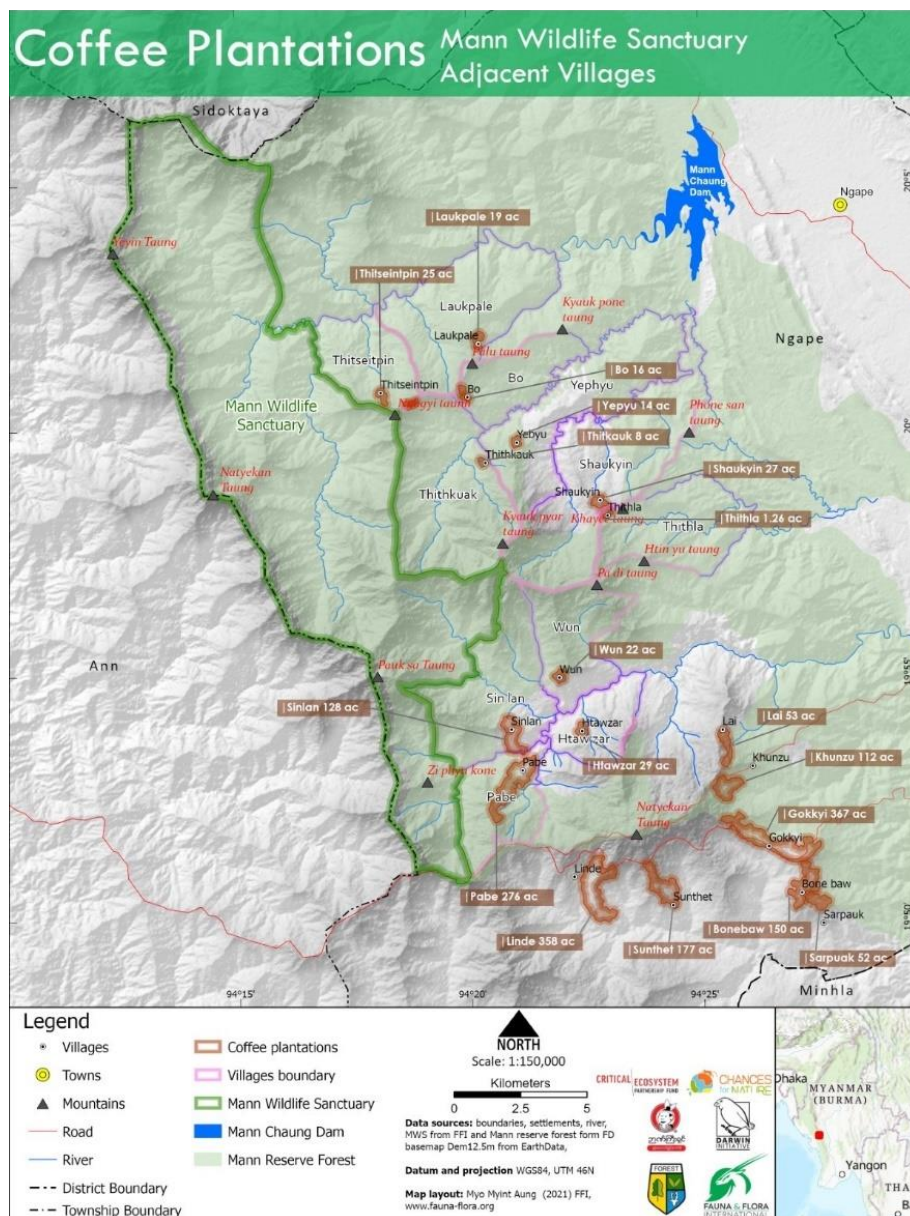


Figure 1: Project location map

2 Project Partnerships

Through the implementation of the Darwin Initiative project, we are working collaboratively with a range of people and groups in the Magwe Region including beneficiary communities, the Magway Regional government, international NGOs and local enterprises, as well as collaborating with international experts. Throughout the project period, all partners have actively supported project development, planning, implementation, monitoring, achievement and lessons learned.

Asho Chin Coffee Association (ACCA): ACCA plays an important role in the project by supporting coffee growers in the Ngape highland area to develop sustainable agriculture livelihoods. This includes the development of coffee-based agroforestry and other agroforestry products. ACCA also undertakes biodiversity monitoring and patrolling, contributes to the development of agroforestry in the buffer zone management plan, and assists with village land-use plans in the surrounding landscape. These activities build upon ACCA's experience in establishing collective enterprises that improve community-based conservation and livelihoods, based on climate-smart agriculture. In January 2022, FFI and ACCA entered into an agreement outlining ACCA's role in delivering specific project activities and outputs. This partnership has generally progressed well.

Genius Shan Highlands Coffee (a private company): Genius coffee provides technical support for ACCA coffee growers through field training and planning materials. They also undertake the

marketing of the project both locally and internationally, acting as the main, non-exclusionary buyer.

Chances for Nature (CFN): CFN is collaborating with FFI on the design and delivery of biodiversity and primate conservation awareness and community-based primate conservation in Puaksa. Specifically, they provide training to build capacity in the project team and Civil Society Organisation (CSO) partners in wildlife survey and monitoring techniques. They also provide co-financing to the project.

Myanmar Forest Department (MFD) is mandated to oversee forest and species protection and has been the main government partner for many years, under various memoranda. MFD will support the certification of coffee and coordinate with ACCA members on monitoring and spatial planning. They will ensure the project supports the implementation of project activities by providing travel permissions, facilitating, and participating in consultation meetings and field surveys. They are key partners for carrying out the designation process of Mann Wildlife Sanctuary.

3 Project Achievements

3.1 Outputs

Output 1: Technical standards for gibbon/wildlife-friendly coffee which meet the management goals of the proposed Mann Wildlife Sanctuary (to reduce deforestation, improve forest connectivity and secure resource use rights for buffer-zone communities).

Indicator 1.1 Participatory Guarantee System established in 50% of coffee-producing areas by March 2022

In collaboration with ACCA and the Myanmar Organic Growers and Producers Association (MOGPA), a total of 13 organic Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) trainings were organized for 796 coffee farmers (416 men, 380 women) out of 1,186 from 18 villages (see table 1 for the village names) during the project period. The training topics included initiating peer reviews, conducting internal system audits for PGS certification, implementing organic PGS standards, and maintaining organic farm profiles and records. Following the training courses, participating coffee farmers began implementing organic PGS practices at their own plantation areas. By the end of the project, 796 coffee farmers (67%) of total coffee farmers in the project area were practicing organic PGS farming. Organic PGS training reports and documentary of Organic PGS/ Wildlife friendly coffee agroforestry in Pauksa region in Annex 5 - No. 1 and Organic PGS based on national standards in No. 2.

Indicator 1.2 Training of Trainers course developed to ensure appropriate production methods by Dec 2021.

Training of Trainers (ToT) courses for coffee harvesting and post-harvest processing techniques were conducted four times in November 2021, January 2022, December 2022 and December 2023, focusing on coffee harvesting and post-harvest processing methods aimed at elevating the quality of coffee to meet the demands of the specialty coffee market. These sessions were attended by a total of 373 individuals (225 men and 148 women) from eight project villages (see table 1 for the village names). Moreover, the project facilitated the development of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for coffee harvesting and post-harvest processing methods in December 2024 to ensure coffee farmers are using appropriate production methods. Please see ToT courses for coffee harvesting and post-harvest processing report in Annex 5 – No. 3 and SOPs for coffee harvesting and post-harvest processing methods in Annex 5 – No. 3 (a)

Table 1. Project villages and their participation in Output and Outcome indicators

No.	Village Name	No. of Households	No. of People	Outputs indicators								Outcome indicators
				1.1	1.2	1.3	1.3	3.3	4.1	4.2		4
1	Pabe	69	337	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x
2	Sinlan	67	328	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x
3	Wun	39	151	x		x	x	x	x	x		x
4	Htawza	20	107	x		x	x	x	x	x		x
5	Shauk Yin	18	75	x		x		x				
6	Thit Hla	30	184	x		x		x				
7	Thitseintpin	18	85	x		x		x	x	x		x
8	Laukpale	49	250	x		x		x	x	x		x
9	Bo	24	115	x		x		x	x	x		x
10	Yebyu	37	159	x		x		x	x			x
11	Thitkhauk	7	33	x		x		x	x			x
12	Bombaw	101	489	x	x	x	x		x	x		x
13	Gokkyi	239	1020	x	x	x	x		x	x		x
14	Sarpauk	70	327	x	x	x	x		x	x		x
15	Suntet	85	410	x	x	x	x		x	x		x
16	Linde	123	641	x		x	x		x	x		x
17	Lai	168	880	x	x	x	x		x	x		x
18	Khunzu	22	100	x	x	x			x	x		x
	Total	1,186	5,691									

Indicator 1.3 100% of ACCA members is certified as organic.

In August 2023, ACCA, representing 100% of its members, awarded an Organic PGS certificate from Myanmar Organic Growers and Producers Association (MOGPA) specifically for coffee and Agro-forest trees. This certificate spans 1,800 Acres (728.46 Ha) of land spread across 18 villages (see table 1 for the village names) in Ngape Township, Magway Region. Additionally, a total of 282 individual farmers (207 men and 75 women) from 11 project villages received organic certificates under the Organic PGS (Participatory Guarantee System) programme. These certifications cover a range of crops including coffee, pepper, and avocado. Please see Organic certificate for ACCA in Annex 5 – No. 4, organic certificate for individual in No. 5 and Internal Control System report in No. 6.

Indicator 1.4 Standards for gibbon/wildlife-friendly coffee defined by March 2022.

The project conducted a series of meetings with ACCA, Genius, coffee farmers, and the Wildlife Friendly Enterprise Network (WFEN) to develop technical standards for gibbon- and wildlife-friendly coffee and Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) standards for coffee production as well. These standards for coffee production were finalized in March 2022. In March 2023, an application for Wildlife Friendly certification was submitted alongside the newly developed technical standards. As a result, ACCA received Wildlife Friendly certificate from WFEN in May 2023, recognizing their commitment to wildlife-friendly coffee production. Please see WFEN certification process documents including agreements, technical standards and Wildlife Friendly certificate in Annex 5 – No. 7.

Output 2: The ACCA is registered as a legal entity with robust internal systems, financing plans and policies, and members have the skills and knowledge to fully implement technical standards to achieve improved and sustainable agricultural practices.

Indicator 2.1 Gibbon Coffee Association legally registered, with by-laws and benefit-sharing defined by March 2022.

In May 2024, ACCA was officially registered as Asho Chin Coffee Factory Company Limited under Myanmar's Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA). In February 2025, ACCA also received the MSME certificate from the Ministry of Commerce, Myanmar. ACCA is now applying for an FDA License and Export/ Import License to expand international trade. These milestones demonstrate ACCA's formal establishment, legal recognition, and long-term sustainability beyond the project's scope. Please see registration process report, certificate of incorporation, company extract and MSME certificate in Annex 5 – No. 8.

Indicator 2.2 At least 50% of ACCA members (c.500 out of 1000 people) have received core competencies training by project end, of which at least half are women.

Throughout the project, a cumulative total of 796 individuals (80% of ACCA members), including 416 men and 380 women, participated in structured training programs designed to enhance their skills and knowledge across various aspects of sustainable coffee production, biodiversity monitoring and business development. These training sessions covered a wide range of essential topics, including Organic Participatory Guarantee System (PGS), best practices in coffee planting, harvesting, and post-harvest processing, as well as market development strategies. Additionally, participants received training in bookkeeping, biodiversity monitoring and patrolling, and business management to strengthen their financial literacy, environmental stewardship, and entrepreneurial capabilities. Equipping community members with these critical skills, the training programs aimed to foster long-term enterprise sustainability, improve livelihoods, and promote environmentally responsible coffee production. Please see technical training reports in Annex 5 – No. 9.

Indicator 2.3 Sustainable financing plan implemented for the ACCA by March 2023.

A key element of ACCA's sustainable financing strategy is securing premium price commitments from specialty coffee buyers. Two major buyers, Genius Coffee and Myauk Hlwe Kyaw Coffee, have committed to purchasing coffee parchment from ACCA and local farmers at above-market rates. This ensures that farmers receive fair compensation, making sustainable farming practices more economically attractive.

Additionally, the project has successfully assisted ACCA in establishing agreements with international buyers who are committed to conservation-linked purchasing. The Japan-based coffee company, Saka no Tochu, has committed an annual contribution of \$500 to ACCA to support conservation activities in Mann Wildlife Sanctuary. This financial commitment, establishes a precedent for future funding from international buyers.

In another significant development, the project facilitated to helping ACCA in securing a partnership with NoFilter, a specialty coffee company based in Singapore. NoFilter has agreed in principle to allocate approximately 10% of its profits from coffee sales to support biodiversity conservation and local farmers. This innovative revenue-sharing model directly links commercial success with environmental sustainability. Please see the Development of Sustainable Financing Plan for ACCA report in Annex 5 – No. 10.

Output 3: Zonation and management of Mann Wildlife Sanctuary, and village land-use plans in the surrounding landscape, are based on biodiversity science and community consultation, to ensure effective protected area management and habitat connectivity within the wider Mann River watershed.

Indicator 3.1 Detailed Forest cover/land cover mapping completed by end Y1

Baseline land cover and forest cover maps of the project area, including forest changes in and around the MWS from 2001 to 2019, were prepared in 2019 using satellite imagery and ground

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truth data collected by the project team and village conservation groups. Follow-up land cover and forest cover maps were developed in December 2024 to analyse and compare changes in land and forest cover within the MWS and its surrounding areas. Please see Forest cover and Land cover maps in Annex 5 – No. 11 and Technical report on Forest cover and land cover analysis in Annex 5 – No. 26.

Indicator 3.2 Mann wildlife sanctuary draft management plan prepared in consultation with local stakeholders, by end Y1.

In August and October 2023, village-level stakeholder consultation workshops were conducted in project villages. These workshops aimed to facilitate discussions on developing a management plan for Mann Wildlife Sanctuary. Various topics were covered, including identifying potential additional threats and formulating strategies for establishing a buffer zone around the protected area. Following to these workshops, the initial draft of the management plan for Mann Wildlife Sanctuary was successfully prepared. Please see draft management plan for MWS (MM version) in Annex 5 – No. 12.

Indicator 3.3 Spatial planning in the new park buffer zone completed by end Y2.

Spatial agricultural land use planning for the adjacent area of Mann Wildlife Sanctuary focusing on the 11 project villages (see table 1 for the village names) were completed in 2022. These maps were developed following the principles of Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) within the buffer zone surrounding the Mann Wildlife Sanctuary. Please see agricultural land use plan maps in Annex 5 – No. 13.

Indicator 3.4 Behavioural and genetic studies of hoolock gibbons completed by end Y2.

In project Year 2, data collection on the feeding ecology and dispersal of gibbons was conducted across four forest blocks, each with different gibbon groups. The project team gathered data on gibbon faecal samples; however, the behavioural and genetic studies of hoolock gibbons could not be completed due to challenges in transporting the samples to the laboratory.

Indicator 3.5 By March 2022, detailed village land use plans based on defined gibbon habitat restoration and management criteria are signed off by stakeholders from at least seven villages.

Project facilitated participatory land use mapping for 11 villages (see table 1 for the village names) based on the Gibbon Habitat Restoration Plan and Buffer Zone Zonation Plan Six village land use plans were completed and endorsed by the respective village land committee in March 2023 and 5 village land use plans were in September 2023. Please see village land use plan endorsement records and photos in Annex 5 – No. 14.

Indicator 3.6 Mann Wildlife Sanctuary gazetted, and management planning completed.

Mann Wildlife Sanctuary, total 30,700 Acres (12,423 Hectares), was gazette in 31st December 2021 by the Union Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation (order number 173/2021). The management plan of the newly established MWS was drafted as described in indicator 3.2. Please see Mann Wildlife Sanctuary final gazettelement in Annex 5 – No. 15.

Output 4: Local growers and harvesters have improved technical skills, resources and capacity to access premium markets and improved value chains, to secure a reliable income source, contributing to more sustainable and resilient livelihoods.

Indicator 4.1 Improved coffee and agroforestry seedlings planted by at least 1,000 growers representing 1,000 households from 11 villages, by project end.

During the project period (July 2021 to December 2024), a total of 520,100 coffee seedlings have been planted by 1138 households across 16 villages (see table 1 for the village names). Moreover, the project supported to establish six nurseries capable of germinating 300,000 seedlings in Pauksa in December 2024 which will be ready to plant in 2025 coffee planting season.

Sr.	Years	No. of coffee seedling planted
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1	2021	58,100
2	2022	93,000
3	2023	125,000
4	2024	244,000
	Total	520,100

Please see Coffee seedlings distribution and nurseries establishment data sheet and coffee plantation photos in Annex 5 – No. 16.

Indicator 4.2 80% of growers reporting improved knowledge of post- harvest processing techniques.

Throughout the project period, a total of 373 coffee farmers (225 men and 148 women) from 14 project villages (see table 1 for the village names) successfully completed a series of training sessions on coffee cultivation, harvesting, post-harvest processing, production, and marketing. These trainings provided farmers with the essential knowledge and skills needed to manage their coffee farms more effectively. According to pre- and post-training assessment results, 95% of participating farmers demonstrated improved knowledge of coffee cultivation and processing techniques. These trained farmers also shared their knowledge with neighbouring farmers in their respective villages, further extending the impact of the program. During the 2023–2024 and 2024–2025 harvesting seasons, ACCA team and local coffee farmers independently managed post-harvest processing and engaged with coffee parchment buyers, with minimal support from FFI. Additionally, in 2024, the ACCA team launched the production of ground coffee with the brand name Asho Chin Coffee for the local market. Please see pre and post training assessment report in Annex 5 – No. 17 and Asho Chin coffee packaging design in Annex 5 – No. 18.

Indicator 4.3 Coffee cherry quality and bean selection and processing improved, so 80% of coffee beans meet Genius’s high-quality standard by March 2023

Coffee farmers in the Pauksa region have become increasingly aware of the high value of coffee beans, leading to greater income for both growers and producers. This heightened awareness has contributed to improved coffee quality, resulting in increasing prices and growing market demand. According to a report of a technical expert from Genius Coffee, approximately 80% of coffee farmers have engaged in group processing efforts, enhancing cooperation among individual farmers. These collaborative initiatives have significantly improved quality control and processing methods. Additionally, feedback from the quality control team at Sako No Tochu indicates that while the majority of green beans from the project area are of good quality, some immature beans are still present. Although improvements have been observed, the team strongly recommends training for sorting staff to maintain quality standards as production volumes increase. The cupping scores of ACCA coffee, assessed by Flavour Specialty Lab in 2024, were 83.25 for Honey beans and 82.5 for Fully Washed beans, both qualifying as specialty coffee. Please see Coffee cupping score assessment of ACCA’s coffee beans in Annex 5 – No. 19.

Indicator 4.4 Increase in market visibility of “Gibbon Coffee” by March 2024.

The project team, in collaboration with ACCA, provided Genius with essential information and materials to support their participation in high-profile coffee events. These included the Specialty Coffee Conference and Exhibition (2022) in Tokyo, Japan, the Gibbon Coffee Promotion Event (2024) in Mandalay, Myanmar, and the Specialty Coffee Expo (2024) in Chicago, United States. These events served as key platforms for showcasing and marketing coffee produced by ACCA, while also raising awareness about gibbon conservation through sustainable coffee agroforestry. Please see the activity photos of participation in international coffee trade fairs and events in Annex 5 – No. 20.

To further enhance promotional efforts, the project team facilitated the production of a short video clip featuring Gibbon Coffee, which was widely shared on social media platforms such as Facebook and YouTube. Please see gibbon coffee promotional video in Annex 3, Table 2.

In June 2024, the project supported in establishing a new coffee brand, Myauk Hlwe Kyaw Coffee (meaning "gibbon" in Burmese), to promote gibbon conservation through sustainable coffee agroforestry practices. Myauk Hlwe Kyaw coffee acted as main buyer of coffee produced by ACCA. Please see establishment of Myauk Hlwe Kyaw coffee brand in Annex 5 – No. 21.

Additionally, the project facilitated a strategic partnership between ACCA and NoFilter Coffee Company from Singapore, enabling the purchase of coffee parchment and green beans from ACCA in December 2024. This collaboration positioned ACCA's coffee as a responsible and ethical coffee product in the international market. Preparation for the partnership agreement between ACCA and NF is under progress. Please see Draft Partnership Agreement (ACCA/NF) in Annex 5 – No.22.

Furthermore, ACCA was invited to present at the National MSME Workshop, hosted by the Ministry of Commerce, where ACCA highlighted the status and potential of coffee agroforestry in the Pauksa region. This workshop provided a valuable opportunity to showcase Asho Chin Coffee, expanding its market visibility and fostering connections with key stakeholders.

As a result of these strategic efforts to enhance market visibility, commercial buyers have shown significant interest in ACCA's coffee, with willing to purchase as much as possible, leading to unlimited inquiries for ACCA's premium coffee products. Please see Coffee parchment and sale enquiries data sheet in Annex 5 – No. 23.

3.2 Outcome

Gibbon-friendly coffee agroforestry, along with the designation and collaborative management of MWS, are protecting approximately 30,000ha of primary forest. This protection benefits endangered gibbon populations and enhances the livelihoods of 1,000 ethnic Chin people.

1. Gibbon density (1.6 groups/ sq km) stable by project end and Hornbill population stable by project end from baseline established in Y1.

Population monitoring surveys were conducted in December 2021 and December 2023 to assess the Western hoolock gibbon population in Mann Wildlife Sanctuary (MWS) and its surrounding areas. Using the fixed-point auditory method, the survey successfully updated the gibbon density estimates, recording a population density of 2.32–3.39 groups per square kilometre in MWS and its adjacent areas. The estimated density in 2021 and 2023 showed that the gibbon density in this area is higher compared to the base line data.

Hornbills population surveys were conducted in November and December 2021 using viewpoint method. The initial survey recorded 194 Great Hornbill (*Buceros bicornis*), 53 Oriental Pied Hornbill (*Anthracoceros albirostris*) and 22 Rufous-necked Hornbill (*Aceros nipalensis*).

A follow-up survey in December 2023 using the same viewpoint method, recorded 182 Great Hornbill, 26 Oriental Pied Hornbill, and 25 Rufous-necked Hornbill. Comparing the result from 2021 and 2023, Great Hornbills counted 12 individuals less, Oriental Pied Hornbill by 27 individuals while Rufous-necked Hornbill counted 3 individuals more. No Hornbill hunting was recorded during the project period. Therefore, while the survey showed lower numbers of some species, this may be due to detection problems rather than an actual population decline. Overall, the Hornbills population in the project area appears to be stable. Please see Biodiversity survey in Mann Wildlife Sanctuary report in Annex 5 – No. 24 and Gibbon/ Hornbill population survey reports in Annex 5 – No. 25.

2. By March 2024, gibbon- habitat (ie, closed-canopy forest) extent increases in the core areas by 5% annually.

According to the land cover analysis in the village areas adjacent to Mann WS, 585.67 Ha of new tree cover emerged between 2019 and 2024. These new forested areas allowed to expand the habitat of gibbon living in the adjacent forest.

Please see Forest cover and Land cover change analysis report in Annex 5 – No. 26 and forest cover and land cover maps in Annex 5 – No. 11.

3. Combined local income from coffee doubles by March 2024 for at least 1000 members of the GCA (ACCA).

Before the start of the project, local coffee farmers had limited knowledge of proper cultivation, harvesting, and post-harvest processing techniques. They planted coffee without adequate spacing, used strip picking method (harvesting all cherries, ripe and unripe, from a branch at one time), and dried the cherries directly on the ground under the sunlight. These practices resulted low-quality coffee leading coffee farmers to receive low prices for their produces from local markets and buyers, who determined the prices. However, since the project's start, technical support from Genius, along with financial and technical backing from the project, has significantly enhanced the farmers' skills in cultivation (specific spacing such as 6ftx6ft or 8ftx8ft), harvesting (using selective picking-hand-picking only ripe cherries), and post-harvest processing methods (fully washed, dry natural, black and red honey), enabling them to produce coffee parchment that meets specialty quality standards.

Starting from 2022, ACCA coffee factory, with the support of the project and Genius, took responsibility for processing the coffee cherries from local farmers to produce high-quality coffee parchment. ACCA follows the production standards set by Genius, as well as Organic PGS and WFEN standards. The processed coffee parchment is then delivered to both local and international buyers, such as Genius, Mon Sai, TKKH, and Khun Thukha, Myauk Hlwe Kyaw, and NoFilter companies. Due to the premium quality of the coffee parchment, the production methods, and the promotion of gibbon and wildlife conservation, both the coffee parchment and the green coffee beans produced by ACCA are in high demand in both local and international markets.

Local coffee farmers who sell their coffee through ACCA receive a premium price, unlike those who sell directly to local buyers. Some farmers choose to sell their coffee cherries to local buyers for immediate income to meet their basic needs, but they receive a lower price compared to those who sell through ACCA.

According to the income survey and sales data, coffee farmers (members of ACCA) in the Pauksa area produced 9.41 tons of coffee parchment in the 2021-2022 coffee season, selling it to Genius and Khun Thukha companies at a price of 5,040 MMK per kg (approximately 0.97 GBP per kg). In the following season, 2022-2023, coffee farmers produced 16.76 tons of coffee parchment, which was sold to Genius, Mon Sai, TKKH, and Khun Thukha companies at a price of 9,450 MMK per kg (around 1.8 GBP per kg).

In the 2023-2024 coffee season, the farmers produced 15.43 tons of coffee parchment, selling it to Genius and Myauk Hlwe Kyaw companies at a significantly higher price of 13,860 MMK per kg (approximately 2.67 GBP per kg). However, in the 2024-2025 season, coffee parchment production decreased to 8.16 tons due to political instability. Despite the reduced yield, the coffee was sold to Genius, Myauk Hlwe Kyaw, and NoFilter companies at an even higher price of 22,680 MMK per kg (around 4.36 GBP per kg). According to the income survey and sale data, coffee farmers (members of ACCA) received more than double and sustainable incomes from the coffee production business. Please see coffee parchment and sale enquiries data sheet in Annex 5 – No. 23 baseline socioeconomic and KAP survey report in Annex 5 – No. 27 and endline socioeconomic and KAP survey reports in Annex 5 -No. 28.

4. At least 10,000 ha of buffer zone planted with coffee by March 2023.

A total of 1,138 households from 16 villages (see table 1 for the village names) adjacent to the Mann Wildlife Sanctuary (MWS) planted 520,100 coffee seedlings in the sanctuary's buffer zone, covering over 10,000 hectares during the project period. The coffee planting efforts were carried out over multiple seasons, with 58,100 seedlings planted in 2021, 93,000 in 2022, 125,000 in 2023, and 244,000 in 2024.

Additionally, the project facilitated the establishment of six nurseries in Pauksa through village development small grants, enhancing sustainable coffee production. These nurseries collectively have the capacity to germinate up to 300,000 seedlings, supporting

long-term coffee cultivation in the region. Please see Annual progress reports, financial claim reports and Impact report by ACCA in Annex 5 – No. 29 and Coffee seedlings and nurseries establishment data sheet in Annex 5 – No. 16.

5. There is a reduction in new incursions into primary forest for swidden farming between project baseline and end.

During the project period, a reduction in new incursions into primary forest for swidden farming was recorded. According to the forest loss analysis, there was a forest loss of 177.52 Ha between 2014 and 2018, and 153.74 Ha between 2019 and 2024, representing a 13.4% reduction in the forest loss rate within the Mann WS. Similarly, in the village areas adjacent to Mann WS, 1511.59 Ha were lost between 2014 and 2018, and 984.40 Ha between 2019 and 2024, indicating a 35% reduction in the forest loss rate.

Please see Forest cover and Land cover change analysis report in Annex 5 – No. 26 and forest cover and land cover maps in Annex 5 – No. 11.

3.3 Monitoring of assumptions

The project actively monitored assumptions at both the outcome and output levels. This included tracking coffee growers' engagement in gibbon-friendly coffee production, market demand, stakeholder support for the Mann Wildlife Sanctuary (MWS) gazettement, and external risks such as political stability and environmental factors.

Outcome Assumptions

1. Coffee growers remain interested in the further development of gibbon-friendly coffee together with Genius, to increase household incomes.

Surveys and interviews with coffee growers were conducted to ensure their continued interest in adopting gibbon-friendly practices. According to the results, coffee farmers are willing to expand their coffee plantations recognizing coffee agroforestry offers an increase and sustainable income.

2. Market demand for gibbon- friendly coffee at regional and national level is maintained at levels indicated in our test market research.

Gibbon-friendly coffee produced by ACCA and coffee farmers in the project area is of high quality, meets specialty grade standards, supports conservation goals, and holds both WFEN and organic certifications. As a result, and according to the sale enquiries data, there is strong demand for this coffee at regional, national, and international levels.

3. All stakeholders support the gazettement of a collaboratively managed Mann Wildlife Sanctuary.

Local and national government agencies especially Forest Department, CSOs and local communities were actively participated in the consultation meetings to support the gazettement of a collaboratively managed Mann Wildlife Sanctuary.

4. There are no external impacts that dramatically negatively impact gibbon populations (outbreak of disease, major illegal habitat destruction).

Environmental monitoring and collaboration with conservation partners helped track threats such as habitat destruction or disease outbreaks. During the project period, there are no disease outbreaks or major illegal habitat destruction occurred.

5. Myanmar continues to be largely unaffected by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Despite of some delays in project implementation at the start of the project as a result of COVID 19, the outbreak gradually declined year by year.

6. Military rule nonetheless allows NGOs to continue to operate. This should be mitigated by most of our project staff being based in-country. We consider this a fair assumption, since the FFI Myanmar programme was founded and operated under similar circumstances for several years.

With over 10 years of experience working in the project area, and most project staff based both in-country and locally, Fauna & Flora International's Myanmar Primate Conservation Programme is well-positioned to continue its activities effectively in the region.

Output 1 Assumptions

- 1.1 There are no major changes to external standards that require significant revision of project technical standards during the project period.

No major changes in external standards necessitated significant revisions. However, continuous engagement with stakeholders ensured the project remained aligned with evolving requirements.

- 1.2 Growers do not become dis-incentivised to implement organic and gibbon-friendly standards by other opportunities and remain engaged with this project.

To address concerns that farmers might shift away from organic and gibbon-friendly practices due to other opportunities, the project reinforced engagement through incentive mechanisms such as technical trainings and sustainable market access support.

Output 2 Assumptions

- 2.1 Coffee farmers are willing to work together to develop gibbon-friendly coffee for the national market.

According to the interview survey results, coffee farmers are willing to work together to develop gibbon-friendly coffee for the national market. The farmers followed new post-harvesting method to produce quality coffee parchment, and WFEN and organic PGS standards for premium market.

Output 3 Assumptions

- 3.1 National and local government agencies, as well as local communities, support the participatory gazettement and management planning of Mann Wildlife Sanctuary and village land use planning in surrounding landscape.

Continued backing from local and national authorities, as well as local communities, has enabled progress toward Mann Wildlife Sanctuary's gazettement and sustainable land-use planning in surrounding landscape. Project was able to support final gazettement of Mann Wildlife Sanctuary and develop 11 village land use plans.

Output 4 Assumptions

- 4.1 Growers and local conditions sufficient to produce improved quality cherry.

Conditions for coffee production remained favourable, and farmer engagement in quality improvement was evident through training participation and production outputs.

- 4.2 Successful marketing elevates consumer awareness in Myanmar, leading to an increased demand.

Marketing efforts contributed to increased awareness in Myanmar, as indicated by sales performance and media outreach impact assessments.

3.4 Impact

The impact of the project as stated in the application form was: The Mann Wildlife Sanctuary is supporting increasing gibbon populations as a result of extended habitat, improved connectivity, and excellent conservation management and agroforestry, enabled by resilient local livelihoods strategies.

As a result of the project's integrated interventions across conservation, sustainable agriculture, and community empowerment, the Mann Wildlife Sanctuary supports potential increase of gibbon populations. The successful gazettement and participatory development of a draft management

plan for the sanctuary, along with village-level land use planning and gibbon habitat restoration and management strategies, have created a foundation for long-term conservation. (Outcome indicator 1 and Output indicators 3.2, 3.3, 3.5 and 3.6 _ Annex 5 – No. 12, 13, 14, 15, 24 and 25)

Forest connectivity has been enhanced through coffee agroforestry expansion, with over 520,000 coffee seedlings planted by 1,138 households across 16 villages, contributing to both gibbon habitat restoration and buffer zone resilience. The project established detailed land-use plans and forest cover maps, ensuring community-led protection of biodiversity corridors essential for gibbon movement and ecosystem integrity. (Outcome indicators 2, 4 and 5 and Output indicators 3.1 and 4.1, Annex 5 – No. 11, 16 and 26)

The establishment of gibbon- and wildlife-friendly coffee production standards and the implementation of the Organic Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) across 67% of coffee farmers have created a sustainable model for balancing environmental protection and livelihoods, ensuring long-term benefits for both wildlife and communities. More than 80% of ACCA members has received technical trainings, enabled the coffee farmers use and maintained the best practices. (Output indicators 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4 and 2.2, Annex 5 – No. 1, 2, 3, 3 (a), 4, 5, 6, 7 and 9)

Additionally, the project supported local coffee farmers in developing and implementing a sustainable financing strategy, including international certifications, partnerships in specialty coffee, and brand development. This support has greatly improved sustainable coffee production. As a result, local livelihoods have become more resilient and aligned with conservation goals, shown by better post-harvest processing, higher specialty coffee ratings, and growing interest from premium buyers. (Outcome indicators 3 and Output indicators 2.3, 4.2, 4.3 and 4.4, Annex 5 – No. 10, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 27 and 28)

Overall, the project has established a replicable model of community-driven conservation and climate-resilient livelihoods, contributing to improved ecosystem and sustainable income for communities and laying a strong groundwork for the long-term recovery of hoolock gibbon populations in the Mann River watershed.

4 Contribution to Darwin Initiative Programme Objectives

4.1 Project support to the Conventions, Treaties or Agreements

The project has directly contributed to Myanmar's commitments under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), as outlined in the Myanmar National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (2015–2020). Key achievements aligned with CBD Strategic Goals include:

Strategic Goal C: To improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity

- Initiated systematic population monitoring of key species, including the endangered Western Hoolock Gibbon (*Hoolock hoolock*), and three hornbill species: Great Hornbill (*Buceros bicornis*), Oriental Pied Hornbill (*Anthracoceros albirostris*), and Rufous-necked Hornbill (*Aceros nipalensis*).
- Built the capacity of ACCA members to conduct species population monitoring, threat assessments, and community outreach for species conservation.
- Promoted awareness of species conservation among local communities and students through targeted education and engagement activities.

Strategic Goal B: To reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use, and Strategic Goal D: To enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services

- Introduced and promoted sustainable farming practices, including the Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) and Wildlife Friendly Enterprise Network (WFEN) standards.
- Supported the transition to environmentally friendly coffee production that reduces negative impacts on biodiversity and forest ecosystems.

- Delivered structured training programs to 796 individuals (80% of ACCA members), including 416 men and 380 women, enhancing skills in sustainable coffee farming, biodiversity monitoring, and small business development.
- Supported ACCA achieve certification under PGS and WFEN, improving market access for biodiversity-friendly coffee and strengthening the link between conservation and community livelihoods.

The project contributes to the implementation of Myanmar's National REDD+ Strategy (2018) and its NDCs under the UNFCCC through actions that reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation while promoting sustainable livelihoods and climate-resilient landscapes.

1. Increasing Protected Area Coverage:

The successful designation of Mann Wildlife Sanctuary—covering 30,700 acres (12,423 hectares)—on 31st December 2021 (Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, Order No. 173/2021), directly supports Myanmar's commitment to expand its protected area network under REDD+ and contributes to forest conservation and carbon sequestration goals.

2. Promoting Climate-Resilient Livelihoods and Ecosystem Restoration:

The project has strengthened the resilience of rural communities through community-based ecosystem restoration and sustainable agriculture. Over 520,000 coffee seedlings were planted by more than 1,100 households across 16 villages, and six coffee seedlings nurseries were established to support ongoing coffee agroforestry efforts. Farmers received training in coffee cultivation, processing, and marketing, leading to improved practices, higher-quality production, and better market access. The launch of the *Asho Chin Coffee* brand in 2024 further supports income diversification and rural economic resilience. These efforts contribute to sustainable land use, ecosystem restoration, and climate-smart livelihoods aligned with Myanmar's REDD+ strategy and climate adaptation goals.

4.2 Project support for multidimensional poverty reduction

The project contributed to poverty reduction by enhancing human development and community well-being through sustainable livelihood opportunities, ecosystem conservation, and capacity-building initiatives. A key intervention was the promotion of sustainable coffee farming as an alternative to swidden agriculture, which not only provided a stable income source for farmers but also reduced deforestation and land degradation. Over the project period, 1,138 households from 16 villages adjacent to the Mann Wildlife Sanctuary (MWS) planted 520,100 coffee seedlings in the buffer zone, covering over 10,000 hectares. This effort directly improved economic stability by integrating farmers into a sustainable value chain, reducing their reliance on forest-dependent activities. The establishment of six coffee nurseries in Pauksa, with a capacity of 300,000 seedlings, further ensured long-term income generation for these communities.

The project also improved community governance and environmental awareness, fostering long-term poverty reduction. Through education and training programs, community members gained knowledge about sustainable land management, agroforestry, and biodiversity conservation, helping them shift away from destructive farming practices. The decline in new incursions into primary forest for swidden farming, from 177.52 hectares (2014–2018) to 153.74 hectares (2019–2024), demonstrates the success of these awareness and governance initiatives. Additionally, deforestation in village areas declined by 35%, indicating that communities are adopting more sustainable land-use practices.

Notable achievements include the successful integration of coffee farming as a viable income source, the strengthening of community-led conservation efforts, and the improved economic resilience of participating households. Farmers benefited not only from increased income but also from access to better markets through partnerships with companies like Genius, Myauk Hlwe Kyaw, and NoFilter. In addition, the increase in coffee parchment prices from 5,040 MMK per kg in 2021–2022 to 22,680 MMK per kg in 2024–2025 demonstrates the economic potential of this shift.

While the full impact on poverty reduction will be realized over the long term, evidence suggests that improved ecosystem services, increased community participation in conservation, and strengthened governance structures will sustain these benefits. Moving forward, expanding market access, further improving value chains, and enhancing resilience to external challenges such as political instability will be crucial in maintaining and scaling the project's impact.

4.3 Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI)

Please quantify the proportion of women on the Project Board ¹ .	N/A.
Please quantify the proportion of project partners that are led by women, or which have a senior leadership team consisting of at least 50% women ² .	The project facilitated women to become members of the ACCA and 380 out of 796 (48%) ACCA members are women.

GESI Scale	Description	Put X where you think your project is on the scale
Not yet sensitive	The GESI context may have been considered but the project isn't quite meeting the requirements of a 'sensitive' approach	
Sensitive	The GESI context has been considered and project activities take this into account in their design and implementation. The project addresses basic needs and vulnerabilities of women and marginalised groups and the project will not contribute to or create further inequalities.	X
Empowering	The project has all the characteristics of a 'sensitive' approach whilst also increasing equal access to assets, resources and capabilities for women and marginalised groups	
Transformative	The project has all the characteristics of an 'empowering' approach whilst also addressing unequal power relationships and seeking institutional and societal change	

During the project, ACCA memberships was increased to 797 members including 416 men (52%) and 380 women (48%). Out of these, 282 individual farmers (207 men- 73% and 75 women- 27%) from 11 project villages received organic certificates under the Organic PGS (Participatory Guarantee System).

In 2024, ACCA was officially registered as Asho Chin Coffee Factory Company Limited with registration number 140967866, under Myanmar's Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA) leading by 7 Board of Directors including 3 women (43%). Moreover, ACCA coffee factory was operating with 15 staffs including 7 men (47%) and 8 women (53%) to produce high quality coffee.

Furthermore, throughout the project, 32 training sessions were organized, with a total of 1,390 participants, including 888 men (64%) and 502 women (36%). The training topics included the Organic Participatory Guarantee System (PGS), best practices in coffee planting, harvesting,

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.

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.

post-harvest processing, market development strategies, bookkeeping, biodiversity monitoring, patrolling, and business management. Although the project carefully planned the training sessions to ensure suitable timing and locations to facilitate women's participation, the overall number of women attendees was lower than that of men. The main reason for this discrepancy was that some specialized training sessions, such as biodiversity monitoring and SMART patrolling, were attended exclusively by men.

4.4 Transfer of knowledge

The project has actively facilitated knowledge transfer to practitioners and policymakers by establishing structured platforms for stakeholder engagement, knowledge dissemination, and policy influence. Project engaged with village conservation groups which provided a collaborative platform for knowledge sharing, project result dissemination, and joint problem-solving, ensuring practical conservation challenges were addressed through inclusive decision-making.

At the national level, FFI, under its MoU with the Forest Department, prepared monthly progress reports for all active projects, serving as a core communication channel to inform national stakeholders. In addition, FFI actively disseminated project results and lessons learned to a broader audience through established media channels, including its website, Facebook page and other social media.

ACCA had the opportunity to share its sustainable coffee agroforestry interventions with community-based conservation organizations from other States and Regions at the Myanmar Biodiversity Forum, organized by the Myanmar Biodiversity Coalition in 2023 and 2024. Each forum was attended by over 100 participants, representing at least 45 community-based conservation organizations.

A success story of sustainable coffee agroforestry practices was presented by FFI staff to the international primate conservation community at the International Primatological Symposium 2023 in Kuching, Malaysia.

Awareness-raising efforts were embedded throughout the project. The Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) process helped educate local communities on the value of biodiversity through participatory consultations. Additionally, the marketing and international promotion of Gibbon Coffee by Genius highlighted the potential for environmentally friendly, premium coffee, fostering greater recognition of sustainable agricultural practices among buyers and industry stakeholders. To assess and strengthen knowledge transfer, FFI conducted a baseline survey on knowledge, attitudes, and behaviour (KAB) at the project start, with data disaggregated by gender and participation status. This survey was repeated in the project's final year to measure the impact of knowledge dissemination efforts.

Through these integrated approaches, the project effectively bridged the gap between conservation science and practical application, ensuring that new knowledge generated by the Darwin Initiative was effectively transferred and applied to real-world conservation challenges.

4.5 Capacity building

ACCA members were invited to share their sustainable coffee agroforestry project at the Myanmar Biodiversity Forum, organized by the Myanmar Biodiversity Coalition in 2023 and 2024. Two ACCA members gave a PowerPoint presentation about their project. In 2024, ACCA was also invited to participate in the 'Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures' (OECMs) workshop, representing community-based conservation efforts in the Arakan Mountains of Magway Region. This workshop was also organized by the Myanmar Biodiversity Coalition Group (MBCG). During these events, ACCA members shared their knowledge and experiences in conservation.

Regarding their sustainable coffee production, ACCA was invited to the National Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) Workshop, hosted by the Ministry of Commerce in Naypyidaw—the capital of Myanmar—in January 2025. There, they presented the progress of coffee agroforestry in the Pauksa region. The workshop also provided an opportunity to showcase and promote Asho Chin Coffee, increasing its market visibility and creating new networking opportunities for local coffee producers.

5 Monitoring and evaluation

The project was monitored and evaluated internally based on the approved work plan and measurable indicators (Annexes 1 & 2). Regular tracking of progress ensured timely implementation, adaptive management, and alignment with project milestones and intended outcomes.

The project team maintained regular communication with implementing partners through online meetings and field monitoring visits. This enabled coordinated delivery, timely technical support, and flexible adjustments in response to changing local conditions. Monthly coordination meetings were held between the project team and ACCA members to review progress, prepare work plans, and identify technical support needs. Regular consultations were conducted with FFI's technical advisor and project manager to align on updates, work planning, and troubleshooting. The UK-based sustainable finance team provided support in areas such as certification for wildlife-friendly products and market assessments.

Monthly financial review meetings were held between the project leader and FFI Myanmar's country finance manager to review budgets and forecasts. The finance team also reviewed small grant disbursements to ACCA and village groups to ensure compliance with financial procedures and policies.

Following organic PGS training delivered by MOGPA, an internal control system was established and implemented through the Participatory Guarantee System (PGS). Annual certification processes verified compliance with organic production standards. Wildlife-friendly coffee production practices were monitored regularly by the project team to ensure alignment with certification requirements and biodiversity conservation goals.

FFI conducted biodiversity monitoring by assessing populations of key indicator species, including Gibbons and Hornbills, within the Mann Wildlife Sanctuary and its surrounding areas. Forest cover was monitored using remote sensing techniques to track avoided deforestation in primary forest areas, assess changes in agroforestry cover, and evaluate improvements in forest-agroforest connectivity over time. Environmental Knowledge, Attitudes, and Behaviour (KAB) surveys were conducted at both the start and end of the project to measure changes in community awareness and engagement in conservation.

In collaboration with the project team, Genius led the monitoring of coffee product visibility in the market to assess brand recognition and ensure sustainable economic benefits for farmers. ACCA and local stakeholders contributed to tracking livelihood outcomes, with increased attention to value chain improvements and market access.

6 Lessons learnt

- Coffee agroforestry provided an effective alternative to swidden farming, but future projects should enhance value chains, processing facilities, and long-term buyer connections for better economic sustainability.
- The introduction of coffee agroforestry as an alternative to swidden farming successfully reduced forest degradation while improving farmers' incomes. The engagement of 1,138 households in planting 520,100 coffee seedlings in the buffer zones of Mann Wildlife Sanctuary demonstrated the potential of conservation-linked economic incentives.
- The establishment of a stakeholder committee with government departments, local communities, and civil society organizations facilitated regular knowledge exchange, participatory decision-making, and problem resolution. This collaborative approach strengthened local ownership and long-term conservation commitments.
- The promotion of Gibbon Coffee to international buyers raised awareness of wildlife-friendly, specialty coffee and showcased how sustainable products can support both conservation and economic resilience.
- The project implemented remote sensing to track forest cover changes, conducted knowledge, attitudes, and behaviour (KAB) surveys, and monitored key biodiversity

species (e.g., Gibbons and Hornbills), providing robust data for measuring conservation impact.

- Participation in regional and national workshops helped integrate project findings into broader conservation and land-use planning efforts.
- While community-based conservation was encouraged, capacity-building efforts needed to be further strengthened, particularly in wildlife monitoring, cooperative governance, and enforcement of voluntary conservation agreements.
- While the project successfully promoted sustainable practices, some farmers facing economic hardship were hesitant to transition fully from traditional swidden farming. Providing short-term economic incentives (e.g., cash-for-conservation programs) alongside long-term livelihood solutions would improve adoption rates.
- Future projects should focus on improving value chains, enhancing processing infrastructure, and securing long-term buyers for sustainable products (e.g., wildlife-friendly coffee).
- Given the political instability in Myanmar, future initiatives should incorporate adaptive strategies that allow for remote management, decentralized decision-making, and alternative engagement approaches when government partnerships are disrupted.
- Strengthening community-based monitoring systems, local conservation leadership, and knowledge-sharing networks can help maintain conservation momentum even amid external challenges.

7 Actions taken in response to Annual Report reviews

No.	Comments	Response
1	Timeline inclusion for pending activities would assist the review process.	There are no pending activities in this final report.
2	The project states it has involvement with the CITES focal point. It would be useful if the project could provide more detail on these interactions.	Western hoolock gibbons are listed as endangered on the IUCN Red List and are included in the CITES species checklist for Myanmar, it is plausible that FFI's conservation activities align with CITES objectives and involve coordination with relevant authorities.
3	The project could strengthen MEL by clearly articulating the causal pathways between its interventions and the observed changes, and by considering potential external factors that may influence the outcomes and impact. Also clearly articulating how the selected indicators directly contribute to the desired outcomes and impact would be useful.	MEL section clearly reported in this final report.
4	Consider gender-disaggregated data across all activities.	Across all activities, gender disaggregation data are reported in this final report.

8 Sustainability and Legacy

Throughout the project, efforts were made to raise the profile of conservation and sustainable livelihoods within Myanmar by engaging government agencies, local communities, private sector actors, and international markets. The project facilitated ACCA to participate in national and regional workshops, including the Biodiversity Conservation Network Forum led by WWF, 'Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures' (OECMs) workshop led by MBCG, and the National MSME Workshop organized by the Ministry of Commerce, where ACCA showcased wildlife-friendly coffee and highlighted the role of agroforestry in conservation. These

engagements ensured that the project's objectives remained visible at policy, market, and community levels.

Several key achievements from the project are likely to endure beyond the funding cycle. The establishment of coffee agroforestry systems, which engaged over 1,138 households in planting 520,100 coffee seedlings, will continue providing economic benefits to local farmers while preventing further deforestation in the buffer zones of Mann Wildlife Sanctuary. The formation of multi-stakeholder committees, which included government agencies and community representatives has strengthened community-led conservation governance, ensuring ongoing protection and sustainable land management. Additionally, the organic and wildlife-friendly certification introduced during the project will enable farmers to maintain access to premium markets, enhancing economic sustainability.

With the completion of Darwin Initiative funding, project staff and resources have been integrated into existing local structures and partnerships to sustain conservation efforts. Community-based monitoring groups, which were trained in biodiversity monitoring, participatory forest management, and conservation-friendly agricultural practices, will continue their work under the guidance of ACCA and government agencies. Private sector partners, such as Genius Coffee, Myauk Hlwe Kyaw Coffee and NoFilter have committed to supporting coffee producers, ensuring the continuity of sustainable value chains. Additionally, FFI maintains an ongoing collaboration with community stakeholders and will continue to provide technical support and policy advocacy to sustain conservation momentum.

As part of the project's open access plan, knowledge and research findings have been made publicly available through social media and FFI's website. Key outputs, including biodiversity monitoring data, deforestation analysis, sustainable agroforestry practices, government submissions, research findings, training manuals, and reports, have been disseminated via stakeholder meetings to ensure broad accessibility. Regular village meetings, Mann Wildlife Sanctuary Stakeholder Committee meetings, and policy workshops have served as essential platforms for sharing project updates, discussing conservation strategies, and addressing community concerns.

The project has had a measurable impact on policy at multiple levels. The integration of wildlife-friendly coffee production into national discussions on sustainable agriculture and forest conservation has influenced regional land-use planning strategies. Engagement with government bodies, such as the Forest Department and the Ministry of Commerce, has contributed to increased recognition of sustainable agroforestry as a viable conservation strategy. Furthermore, the monitoring of forest cover changes and biodiversity trends has provided critical data that can be used to strengthen protected area management policies.

9 Darwin Initiative identity

Darwin Initiative funding was part of a larger conservation effort in Mann Wildlife Sanctuary, it was clearly recognized as a distinct project with specific objectives, activities, and measurable outcomes, particularly in linking sustainable agroforestry with biodiversity conservation. The funding played an important role in supporting sustainable livelihoods, capacity-building, and biodiversity monitoring, distinguishing it as a dedicated initiative within the broader conservation landscape.

The project highlighted the role and support of the Darwin Initiative in all meetings, training sessions, and stakeholder engagements. A total of 50 selective coffee harvesting awareness materials, 50 copies of the 12 principles of PGS rules and regulations and were distributed, each prominently featuring the Darwin Initiative logo to acknowledge the contribution and enhance visibility.

10 Risk Management

Despite the challenges posed by the Military Conscription Law announced in February 2024, all project activities were carried out according to the project logframe, with a strong emphasis on ensuring the safety of local communities, partners and project staffs. The project adhered to the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for field travel issued by FFI Myanmar programme, which helped mitigate risks and ensure continued implementation. As a result, no major modifications

to the project's original design were necessary, allowing the project to proceed effectively despite the challenging circumstances.

11 Safeguarding

12 Finance and administration

12.1 Project expenditure

Project spend (indicative) since last Annual Report	2023-2024 Grant (£)	2023-2024 Total actual Darwin Initiative Costs (£)	Variance %	Comments (please explain significant variances)
Staff costs (see below)				
Consultancy costs				
Overhead Costs				
Travel and subsistence				
Operating Costs				
Capital items (see below)				
Others (see below)				
Audit costs				
TOTAL				

Staff employed (Name and position)	Cost (£)
Pyae Sone Aung, Project Manager	
Kyaw Kyaw Naing, Project Officer	
Jeremy Parker, Technical oversight	
Hnin Pwint Aung, Finance Assistant	
Ngwe Lwin, Acting Country Director	
Wint War Tun, Financial oversight	
Thet Naing Tun, Driver	
Maung Kyauk, Village facilitator	
Mrunmayee Amarnath, Market Chain Development Advisor	
Selene Gutierrez, Market Chain Development Advisor	
TOTAL	

Capital items – description	Capital items – cost (£)

Motorbike	
Laptop computers	
Coffee processing equipment (nursery and processing facilities)	
TOTAL	

Other items – description	Other items – cost (£)
Consumables	
Phone/internet	
Bank fees	
Vehicle/ equipment maintenance	
Participation in trade fair (5 pax)	
Sub-grants to community coffee growers	
TOTAL	

12.2 Additional funds or in-kind contributions secured

Matched funding leveraged by the partners to deliver the project	Total (£)
Chance for Nature	
TOTAL	

Total additional finance mobilised for new activities occurring outside of the project, building on evidence, best practices and the project	Total (£)
None	0
TOTAL	0

12.3 Value for Money

The project represented good value for money as it builds on several years of operating in the project area, so the budget is based on experience of actual implementation costs. The project was also able to negotiate discounts from local suppliers, such as vehicle and room rental, and office space, due to our long-standing presence. The already have the staff and infrastructure in place to implement the project, avoiding any large capital expenditures or start-up costs. The project was also able to share costs such as rent, vehicle operations and support staff positions with other FFI's projects operating in parallel in the landscape.

The project adopted the following measures throughout the project to control costs and gain maximum value for money:

- All procurement at FFI complied with FFI's internal procurement policy, which currently requires three quotations for any purchase over £500. Donor regulations are however followed where they are more stringent.
- We worked with, and through, local partners, cutting overheads.
- The project builds on existing work, meaning the project have a short start-up time.

- The project largely drew on in-house technical expertise, meaning that external technical support is only required for certification.
- The project used public transport or existing FFI's vehicles except of some special cases.
- The project was used existing information, limiting the need for baseline research.
- The project partners also brought their own resources to the project, notably Genius Coffee.

13 Other comments on progress not covered elsewhere

Exit Strategy

The project seeks long-term protection of gibbons, forest and biodiversity, through the sustainable local livelihood benefits of a biodiversity-friendly cash crop. These will be achieved in three ways.

Firstly, the project will develop and institutionalise a local conservation constituency, to be led by the Gibbon Coffee Association. A sub-section of the local population will thereby have vested interests in the long-term protection of the local forest and biodiversity, on which the increased income from biodiversity- friendly coffee will depend.

Secondly, the establishment of a strong system of collaborative management for the Mann Wildlife Sanctuary will create a long-term sense of ownership by local stakeholders.

Thirdly, Genius Coffee has a long-term commitment to its growers and to the promotion of environmental and social goods. By supporting up-front investment and capacity costs it will demonstrate this commitment to local growers.

Currently, ACCA members are producing high-quality parchment coffee. The next step is transitioning to consistent production of specialty green beans, which offer higher market value, greater export potential, and better margins for farmers. The project will continue to support ACCA in this transition by:

- Strengthening their capacity to manage quality control, post-harvest processing, and direct buyer engagement.
- Building connections with a broader base of regular buyers who value sustainable agriculture, community empowerment, and biodiversity conservation.
- Enhancing ACCA's operational budgeting and financial planning to ensure they are independently capable of managing their operations and maintaining certification standards.

FFI expects to exit the project when the model is yielding evidenced social and biodiversity benefits. However, we have a long-term commitment to the landscape and will retain a role in supporting local capacity development, biodiversity monitoring and wildlife area management. Genius will share recurrent future costs beyond the initial investment from Darwin and will retain a long-term role as coffee experts.

14 OPTIONAL: Outstanding achievements of your project (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).

File Type (Image / Video / Graphic)	File Name or File Location	Caption, country and credit	Online accounts to be tagged (leave blank if none)	Consent of subjects received (delete as necessary)
Video		Documentary of Organic PGS and wildlife friendly coffee agroforestry in Pauksa region		Yes

Annex 1: Report of achievements against log frame for Project Year July 2021- December 2024

Project summary	Progress and achievements
<p>Impact</p> <p>The Mann Wildlife Sanctuary is supporting increasing gibbon populations as a result of extended habitat, improved connectivity, and excellent conservation management and agroforestry, enabled by resilient local livelihoods strategies</p>	<p>The successful gazettement and participatory development of a draft management plan for the sanctuary, along with village-level land use planning and gibbon habitat restoration and management strategies, have created a foundation for long-term conservation.</p> <p>Forest connectivity has been enhanced through coffee agroforestry expansion, with over 520,000 coffee seedlings planted by 1,138 households across 16 villages, contributing to both gibbon habitat restoration and buffer zone resilience.</p> <p>The project established detailed land-use plans and forest cover maps, ensuring community-led protection of biodiversity corridors essential for gibbon movement and ecosystem integrity.</p> <p>The establishment of gibbon- and wildlife-friendly coffee production standards and the implementation of the Organic Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) across 67% of coffee farmers have created a sustainable model for balancing environmental protection and livelihoods, ensuring long-term benefits for both wildlife and communities.</p> <p>More than 80% of ACCA members has received technical trainings, enabled the coffee farmers use and maintained the best practices. Additionally, the project supported local coffee farmers in developing and implementing a sustainable financing strategy, including international certifications, partnerships in specialty coffee, and brand development.</p> <p>This support has greatly improved sustainable coffee production. As a result, local livelihoods have become more resilient and aligned with conservation goals, shown by better post-harvest processing, higher specialty coffee ratings, and growing interest from premium buyers.</p>
<p>Outcome</p> <p>Gibbon-friendly coffee agroforestry, and designation and collaborative management of Mann Wildlife Sanctuary are protecting c.30,000ha of primary forest, benefiting endangered gibbon populations and livelihoods for 1,000 ethnic Chin people.</p>	
<p>Outcome indicator 0.1 Gibbon density (1.6 groups/ sq km) stable by project end and</p>	<p>The estimated density in 2021 and 2023 showed that the gibbon density in this area is higher compared to the base line data.</p>

<p>Hornbill population stable by project end from baseline established in Y1.</p>	<p>Comparing the result from 2021 and 2023, Great Hornbills counted 12 individuals less, Oriental Pied Hornbill by 27 individuals while Rufous-necked Hornbill counted 3 individuals more. No Hornbill hunting was recorded during the project period.</p> <p>Therefore, while the survey showed lower numbers of some species, this may be due to detection problems rather than an actual population decline. Overall, the Hornbills population in the project area appears to be stable.</p> <p>Annex 5 – No. 24 and Annex 5 – No. 25</p>
<p>Outcome indicator 0.2. By March 2024, gibbon- habitat (ie, closed-canopy forest) extent increases in the core areas by 5% annually</p>	<p>According to the land cover analysis in the village areas adjacent to Mann WS, 585.67 Ha of new tree cover emerged between 2019 and 2024. These new forested areas allowed to expand the habitat of gibbon living in the adjacent forest.</p> <p>Annex 5 – No. 26 and Annex 5 – No. 11.</p>
<p>Outcome indicator 0.3 Combined local income from coffee doubles by March 2024 for at least 1000 members of the GCA (ACCA).</p>	<p>Compared to the 2021-2022 season, where coffee was sold at 0.97 GBP/kg, prices steadily rose to 1.8 GBP/kg in 2022-2023 and 2.67 GBP/kg in 2023-2024,</p> <p>Coffee parchment and sale enquiries data sheet in Annex 5 – No. 23 baseline socioeconomic and KAP survey report in Annex 5 – No. 27 and endline socioeconomic and KAP survey reports in Annex 5 -No. 28.</p>
<p>Outcome indicator 0.4. At least 10,000 ha of buffer zone planted with coffee by March 2023.</p>	<p>Over 10,000 hectares of the Mann Wildlife Sanctuary buffer zone had been planted with coffee, benefiting 1,138 households from 16 villages. A total of 520,100 seedlings were planted during the project. Additionally, six nurseries with a 300,000-seedlings (ready to plant in 2025 rainy season) capacity were set up in Pauksa to support sustainable coffee production and long-term agroforestry expansion</p> <p>Annual progress reports, financial claim reports and Impact report by ACCA in Annex 5 – No. 29 and Coffee seedlings and nurseries establishment data sheet in Annex 5 – No. 16.</p>
<p>Outcome indicator 0.5. There is a reduction in new incursions into primary forest for swidden farming between project baseline and end</p>	<p>According to the forest loss analysis, there was a forest loss of 177.52 Ha between 2014 and 2018, and 153.74 Ha between 2019 and 2024, representing a 13.4% reduction in the forest loss rate within the Mann WS. Similarly, in the village areas adjacent to Mann WS, 1511.59 Ha were lost between 2014 and 2018, and 984.40 Ha between 2019 and 2024,</p>

	<p>indicating a 35% reduction in the forest loss rate.</p> <p>Forest cover and Land cover change analysis report in Annex 5 – No. 26 and forest cover and land cover maps in Annex 5 – No. 11.</p>
<p>Output 1 Technical standards for gibbon/wildlife-friendly coffee which meet the management goals of the proposed Mann Wildlife Sanctuary (to reduce deforestation, improve forest connectivity and secure resource use rights for buffer- zone communities).</p>	
<p>Output indicator 1.1 Participatory Guarantee System established in 50% of coffee-producing area by March 2022.</p>	<p>796 coffee farmers (416 men, 380 women) out of 1,186 from 18 villages, representing 67% of the total coffee farmers received training on the Organic PGS throughout the project. Following the trainings, participating coffee farmers established implementing organic PGS practices at their own plantation areas, approximately 67% of total coffee producing areas.</p> <p>Organic PGS training reports and documentary of Organic PGS/ Wildlife friendly coffee agroforestry in Pauksa region in Annex 5 - No. 1 and Organic PGS based on national standards in No. 2</p>
<p>Output indicator 1.2 Training of Trainers course developed to ensure appropriate production methods by Dec 2021.</p>	<p>Training of Trainers (ToT) courses on coffee harvesting and post-harvest processing techniques were conducted four times between November 2021 and December 2023, aimed at improving coffee quality for the specialty coffee market.</p> <p>ToT courses for coffee harvesting and post-harvest processing report in Annex 5 – No. 3 and SOPs for coffee harvesting and post-harvest processing methods in Annex 5 – No. 3 (a)</p>
<p>Output indicator 1.3 100% of GCA (ACCA) members are certified as organic.</p>	<p>In August 2023, ACCA received an Organic PGS certificate from the MOGPA for coffee and forest trees covering 728.46 ha across 18 villages. These certifications represent 100% of ACCA members being certified as organic.</p> <p>Organic certificate for ACCA in Annex 5 – No. 4, organic certificate for individual in No. 5 and Internal Control System report in No. 6.</p>
<p>Output indicator 1.4 Standards for gibbon/wildlife-friendly coffee defined by March 2022.</p>	<p>Technical standards for gibbon- and wildlife-friendly coffee and Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) standards for coffee production were finalized in March 2022. In May 2023, ACCA received Wildlife Friendly certification from WFEN recognizing their commitment to wildlife-friendly coffee production.</p>

	WFEN certification process documents including agreements, technical standards and Wildlife Friendly certificate in Annex 5 – No. 7
Output 2. The GCA (ACCA) is registered as a legal entity with robust internal systems, financing plans and policies, and members have the skills and knowledge to fully implement technical standards to achieve improved and sustainable agricultural practices.	
Output indicator 2.1. Gibbon Coffee Association legally registered, with by- laws and benefit-sharing defined by March 2022.	In May 2024, ACCA was officially registered as Asho Chin Coffee Factory Limited under Myanmar's Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA). By February 2025, ACCA also secured the MSME certificate from the Ministry of Commerce. certificate of incorporation, company extract and MSME certificate in Annex 5 – No. 8.
Output indicator 2.2. At least 50% of GCA (ACCA) members (c.500 out of 1000 people) have received core competencies training by project end, of which at least half are women.	A cumulative total of 796 individuals, 80% of ACCA members, (416 (52%) men, 380 (48%) women) received structured training in sustainable coffee production, market development, business management, and biodiversity monitoring. technical training reports in Annex 5 – No. 9.
Output indicator 2.3 Sustainable financing plan implemented for the GCA (ACCA) by March 2023	ACCA's sustainable financing strategy secures premium price commitments from specialty coffee buyers, including Genius Coffee and Myauk Hlwe Kyaw, ensuring fair compensation for farmers. The project also facilitated agreements with international buyers, such as Japan-based Saka no Tochu, which contributes to ACCA \$500 annually for conservation efforts, and Singapore-based NoFilter, which has committed 10% of its profits to biodiversity conservation and farmer support. Development of Sustainable Financing Plan for ACCA report in Annex 5 – No. 10
Output 3. Zonation and management of Mann wildlife sanctuary, and village land-use plans in the surrounding landscape, are based on biodiversity science and community consultation, to ensure effective protected area management and habitat connectivity within the wider Mann River watershed	
Output indicator 3.1 Detailed forest cover/land cover mapping completed by end Y1.	Baseline land cover and forest cover maps of the project area, including forest changes in and around the MWS from 2001 to 2019, were developed in 2021 using satellite imagery and ground truth data collected by the project team and village conservation groups. Forest cover and Land cover maps in Annex 5 – No. 11 and Technical report on Forest

	cover and land cover analysis in Annex 5 – No. 26.
Output indicator 3.2 Mann wildlife sanctuary draft management plan prepared in consultation with local stakeholders, by end Y1	<p>In October 2023, the initial draft of the management plan for Mann Wildlife Sanctuary was successfully prepared.</p> <p>Draft management plan for MWS (MM version) in Annex 5 – No. 12.</p>
Output indicator 3.3 Spatial planning in the new park buffer zone completed by end Y2	<p>Spatial agricultural land use planning for the adjacent area of Mann Wildlife Sanctuary focusing on the 11 project villages were completed in December 2022.</p> <p>Agricultural land use plan maps in Annex 5 – No. 13</p>
Output indicator 3.4 Behavioural and genetic studies of Hoolock Gibbons completed by end Y2.	In Year 2, data collection on the feeding ecology and faecal sample of gibbons was conducted across four forest blocks, each with different gibbon groups. However, the behavioural and genetic studies of hoolock gibbons could not be completed due to challenges in transporting the samples to the laboratory.
Output indicator 3.5 By March 2022, detailed village land use plans based on defined gibbon habitat restoration and management criteria are signed off by stakeholders from at least seven villages.	<p>Project facilitated participatory land use mapping for 11 villages based on the Gibbon Habitat Restoration Plan and Buffer Zone Zonation Plan Six village land use plans were completed and endorsed by the respective village land committee in March 2023 and 5 village land use plans were in September 2023.</p> <p>Village land use plan endorsement records and photos in Annex 5 – No. 14.</p>
Output indicator 3.6 Mann Wildlife Sanctuary gazettelement and management planning completed	<p>Mann Wildlife Sanctuary, total 30,700 Acres (12,423 Hectares), was gazette in 31st December 2021 by the Union Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation (order number 173/2021). The management plan of the newly established MWS was drafted in October 2023.</p> <p>Mann Wildlife Sanctuary final gazettelement in Annex 5 – No. 15</p>
Output 4. Local growers and harvesters have improved technical skills, resources and capacity to access premium markets and improved value chains, to secure a reliable income source, contributing to more sustainable and resilient livelihoods.	
Output indicator 4.1 Improved coffee and agroforest seedlings planted by at least 1,000 growers representing 1,000 households from 11 villages, by project end.	During the project period (July 2021 to December 2024), a total of 520,100 coffee seedlings have been planted by 1138 households across 16 villages. Moreover, the project supported to establish six nurseries capable of germinating 300,000 seedlings in

	<p>Pauksa in December 2024 which will be ready to plant in 2025 coffee planting season</p> <p>Coffee seedlings distribution and nurseries establishment data sheet and coffee plantation photos in Annex 5 – No. 16.</p>
Output indicator 4.2 80% of growers reporting improved knowledge of post-harvest processing techniques.	<p>95% of participants demonstrated improved knowledge, with many sharing their skills within their communities. By the 2023–2025 harvest seasons, ACCA and local farmers independently managed post-harvest processing and sales with minimal external support. In 2024, ACCA launched Asho Chin Coffee, introducing ground coffee to the local market.</p> <p>pre and post training assessment report in Annex 5 – No. 17 and Asho Chin coffee packaging design in Annex 5 – No. 18.</p>
Output indicator 4.3 Coffee cherry quality and bean selection and processing improved, so 80% of coffee beans meet Genius's high-quality standard by March 2023.	<p>Genius satisfied quality of coffee beans produced by ACCA and purchased coffee from ACCA with premium price during the project period.</p> <p>In addition, the cupping scores of ACCA coffee, assessed by Flavour Specialty Lab in 2024, were 83.25 for Honey beans and 82.5 for Fully Washed beans, both qualifying as specialty coffee.</p> <p>Coffee cupping score assessment of ACCA's coffee beans in Annex 5 – No. 19</p>
Output indicator 4.4 Increase in market visibility of "Gibbon Coffee" by March 2024.	<p>Commercial buyers have shown significant interest in ACCA's coffee, with willing to purchase as much as possible, leading to unlimited inquiries for ACCA's premium coffee products.</p> <p>Coffee parchment and sale enquiries data sheet in Annex 5 – No. 23.</p>

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

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
Impact: The Mann Wildlife Sanctuary is supporting increasing gibbon populations as a result of extended habitat, improved connectivity, and excellent conservation management and agroforestry, enabled by resilient local livelihoods strategies. (Max 30 words)			
Outcome: (Max 30 words) Gibbon-friendly coffee agroforestry, and designation and collaborative management of Mann Wildlife Sanctuary are protecting c.30,000ha of primary forest, benefiting endangered gibbon populations and livelihoods for 1,000 ethnic Chinpeople.	01. Gibbon density (1.6 groups/ sq km) stable by project end and Hornbill population stable by project end from baseline established in Y1. 02. By March 2024, gibbon-habitat (ie, closed-canopy forest) extent increases in the core areas by 5% annually 03. Combined local income from coffee doubles by March 2024 for at least 1000 members of the GCA. 04. At least 10,000 ha of buffer zone planted with coffee by March 2023. 05. There is a reduction in new incursions into primary forest for swidden farming between project baseline and end.	01. Gibbon/ Hornbill population survey reports. 02. Land cover map and forest inventory at sample sites. 03. Household surveys in random sample of members, year 1 baseline, and final year assessment. 04. Annual GCA and project progress reports. 0.5 Drone-based or other remote sensing vegetation analysis maps.	Coffee growers remain interested in the further development of gibbon-friendly coffee together with Genius, to increase household incomes. Market demand for gibbon-friendly coffee at regional and national level is maintained at levels indicated in our test market research. All stakeholders support the gazettement of a collaboratively managed Mann Wildlife Sanctuary. There are no external impacts that dramatically negatively impact gibbon populations (outbreak of disease, major illegal habitat destruction). Myanmar continues to be

			<p>largely unaffected by the Covid-19 pandemic.</p> <p>Military rule nonetheless allows NGOs to continue to operate. This should be mitigated by most of our project staff being based in-country. We consider this a fair assumption, since the FFI Myanmar programme was founded and operated under similar circumstances for several years</p>
<p>Output 1: Technical standards for gibbon/wildlife-friendly coffee which meet the management goals of the proposed Mann Wildlife Sanctuary (to reduce deforestation, improve forest connectivity and secure resource use rights for buffer-zone communities).</p>	<p>1.1 Participatory Guarantee System established in 50% of coffee-producing area by March 2022.</p> <p>1.2 Training of Trainers course developed to ensure appropriate production methods by Dec 2021.</p> <p>1.3 100% of GCA members are certified as organic.</p> <p>1.4 Standards for gibbon/wildlife-friendly coffee defined by March 2022.</p>	<p>1.1 Annual report of participatory guarantee system progress.</p> <p>1.2 Training reports on ToT for coffee planting and production including training evaluation assessment.</p> <p>1.3 Annual Internal Control System reports (one per project year) and organic certificate.</p> <p>1.4 Agreement with coffee farmers and stakeholders of gibbon/wildlife-friendly coffee standard.</p>	<p>There are no major changes to external standards that require significant revision of project technical standards during the project period.</p> <p>Growers do not become disincentivised to implement organic and gibbon-friendly standards by other opportunities and remain engaged with this project</p>

<p>Output 2: The GCA is registered as a legal entity with robust internal systems, financing plans and policies, and members have the skills and knowledge to fully implement technical standards to achieve improved and sustainable agricultural practices.</p>	<p>2.1 Gibbon Coffee Association legally registered, with by-laws and benefit-sharing defined by March 2022.</p> <p>2.2 At least 50% of GCA members (c.500 out of 1000 people) have received core competencies training by project end, of which at least half are women.</p> <p>2.3 Sustainable financing plan implemented for the GCA by March 2023.</p>	<p>2.1 Registration process reports and organization management document.</p> <p>2.2 Annual training reports, including pre- and post-training knowledge assessments/ training evaluation</p> <p>2.3 Annual progress reports of GCA on development of sustainable financing plan.</p>	<p>Coffee farmers are willing to work together to develop gibbon-friendly coffee for the national market.</p>
<p>Output 3: Zonation and management of Mann wildlife sanctuary, and village land-use plans in the surrounding landscape, are based on biodiversity science and community consultation, to ensure effective protected area management and habitat connectivity within the wider Mann river watershed</p>	<p>3.1 Detailed forest cover/land cover mapping completed by end Y1.</p> <p>3.2 Mann wildlife sanctuary draft management plan prepared in consultation with local stakeholders, by end Y1.</p> <p>3.3 Spatial planning in the new park buffer zone completed by end Y2.</p> <p>3.4 Behavioural and genetic studies of Hoolock Gibbons</p>	<p>3.1 Land cover mapping report with map.</p> <p>3.2 Management/zonation spatial planning report, including zonation maps.</p> <p>3.3 Agricultural land use plan for the landscape.</p> <p>3.4 Research reports/data.</p> <p>3.5 Village endorsement records, photos.</p> <p>3.6 Gazettement documents, management plans submitted to government for legal designation.</p>	<p>National and local government agencies, as well as local communities, support the participatory gazettement and management planning of Mann Wildlife Sanctuary and village land use planning in surrounding landscape.</p>

	<p>completed by end Y2.</p> <p>3.5 By March 2022, detailed village land use plans based on defined gibbon habitat restoration and management criteria are signed off by stakeholders from at least seven villages.</p> <p>3.6 Mann Wildlife Sanctuary gazettement and management planning completed.</p>		
<p>Output 4: Local growers and harvesters have improved technical skills, resources and capacity to access premium markets and improved value chains, to secure a reliable income source, contributing to more</p>	<p>4.1 Improved coffee and agroforest seedlings planted by at least 1,000 growers representing 1,000 households from 11 villages, by project end.</p> <p>4.2 80% of growers reporting improved knowledge of post-harvest processing techniques.</p> <p>4.3 Coffee cherry quality and bean selection and processing improved, so 80% of coffee beans meet Genius's high-quality standard by March 2023.</p>	<p>4.1 Fixed point photos (before and after planting).</p> <p>4.2 Pre- and post-training participant assessments report</p> <p>4.3 Coffee quality assessment report from Genius.</p>	<p>Growers and local conditions sufficient to produce improved quality cherry.</p> <p>Successful marketing elevates consumer awareness in Myanmar, leading to an increased demand.</p>

sustainable and resilient livelihoods.	4.4 Increase in market visibility of “Gibbon Coffee” by March 2024.		
		4.4 Number of sales enquiries from commercial buyers.	
<p>Activities (each activity is numbered according to the output that it will contribute towards, for example 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 are contributing to Output 1) NB. Each activity should start on a new line and be no more than approximately 25 words</p> <p>1.1 Define and implement standards for gibbon-friendly coffee based on a suitable international scheme, i.e. the Wildlife Friendly Enterprise Network.</p> <p>1.2 Fully implement the Participatory Guarantee System, with appropriate internal control system (with support from Myanmar Organic Growers and Producers Association (MOGPA) and Genius Coffee).</p> <p>1.3 Certify current coffee production under the MOGPA PGS organic standard and the EU organic standard as prerequisites for the WFEN Certified Wildlife Friendly™ global products program, and accessing markets in Europe.</p> <p>1.3 Develop training-of-trainers (ToT) scheme (including refresher training) with Genius Coffee to ensure dissemination of appropriate production methods (5 days per year).</p> <p>1.4 Routine documentation for ongoing organic/wildlife-friendly coffee certification assessments (2 days per month, per village).</p> <p>1.5 Develop training-of-trainers (ToT) scheme (including refresher training) with Genius Coffee to ensure dissemination of appropriate production methods (5 days per year).</p> <p>1.6 Routine documentation for ongoing organic/wildlife-friendly coffee certification assessments (2 days per month, per village).</p> <p>2.1 Formalise and legally register the Gibbon Coffee Association.</p> <p>2.2 Define terms of reference and by-laws for operation of the GCA.</p> <p>2.3 Define benefit-sharing mechanisms and obligations for GCA members, linked to the gibbon/wildlife-friendly coffee standard.</p> <p>2.4 Provide appropriate training (e.g. financial management, gender sensitivity, gibbon/habitat monitoring methods).</p> <p>2.5 Develop and implement a sustainable financing plan to cover operational expenses such as routine re-certification, monitoring and management costs.</p> <p>3.1 Finalise and agree guidelines for FPIC in the planning process.</p> <p>3.2 Conduct detailed forest cover/land cover mapping, combining remote sensing and field surveys for the wider Mann watershed.</p> <p>3.3 Prepare a baseline to monitor deforestation risk associated with promoting high-value</p>			

commodities, and inform and monitor village land use planning to ensure habitat connectivity.

3.4 Conduct behavioural and genetic studies of Hoolock Gibbons to determine feeding ecology and dispersal of gibbons through agroforest/forest corridors by applying modern high-throughput DNA sequencing methods.

3.5 Support village land use planning and agroforestry design (including tree species selection) based on the scientific results.

3.6 Prepare a management and zonation plan for Mann Wildlife Sanctuary, based on biodiversity science and public consultations, for government approval.

3.7 Provide scientific data to inform gibbon/wildlife-friendly certification of coffee and other agroforestry products.

3.8 Monitor the population of key indicator species (Gibbons and Hornbill) in the wildlife sanctuary and surrounding landscape, and changes in conservation knowledge, attitude and behaviour (KAB) through project start/end surveys.

3.9 Monitor forest cover through remote sensing at the beginning and end of the project to verify reduced deforestation of primary forest and improved agroforestry cover and forest/agroforest connectivity.

4.1 Provide improved coffee and agroforest seedlings, taking into account the ecology of wildlife indicator species.

4.2 Develop post-harvest processing capacity for an additional seven villages, widening impacts and making the supply chain commercially viable.

4.3 Provide training to improve the quality of coffee cherry and bean selection and processing, meeting speciality coffee market requirements.

4.4 Increase visibility of "Gibbon Coffee" through improved marketing by Genius.

4.5 Showcase the product at an international trade fair (one minimum) to gauge market/buyer interest (e.g. Biofach Fare).

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 BCF-Reports@niras.com putting the project number in the Subject line.	Yes
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. All supporting material should be submitted in a way that can be accessed and downloaded as one complete package.	No
If you are submitting photos for publicity purposes, do these meet the outlined requirements (see section 14)?	Yes
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
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.	