
DIR29S2\1037

Sustainable Wetland Management in the Central Ayeyarwady River Basin

The Ayeyarwady River and associated wetlands represent the last natural unregulated, large river system of Southeast Asia, with outstanding biodiversity values, threatened and endemic species. Based on successful models of wetland management in the Indawgyi lake sub-basin, this project will upscale these models to the central Ayeyarwady river basin, assisting local communities and fisheries leasehold owners to develop a network of fisheries co-management areas, introducing organic farming to floodplain farmers and improving value chains for biodiversity-friendly agriculture and fisheries products.

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Section 1 - Contact Details

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Section 2 - Title, Ecosystems, Approaches & Summary

Q3. Title:

Sustainable Wetland Management in the Central Ayeyarwady River Basin

What was your Stage 1 reference number? e.g. DIR28S1\1123

DIR29S1\1153

Q4. Key Ecosystems, Approaches and Threats

Select up to 3 biomes that are of focus, up to 3 conservation actions that characterise your approach, and up to 3 threats to biodiversity you intend to address, from dropdown lists.

Biome 1

Palustrine wetlands (flooded forests, wetlands, marshes, floodplains)

Biome 2

Freshwater (streams, rivers and lakes)

Biome 3

No Response

Conservation Action 1

Land/water protection (area/resource/habitat)

Conservation Action 2

Education & awareness (incl. training)

Conservation Action 3

Livelihood, economic & other incentives (incl. conservation payments)

Threat 1

Agriculture & aquaculture (incl. plantations)

Threat 2

Biological resource use (hunting, gathering, logging, fishing)

Threat 3

Pollution (domestic, commercial, agricultural)

Q5. Summary of project

Please provide a brief summary of your project: the problem/need it is trying to address, its aims, and the key activities you plan on undertaking. Please note that if you are successful, this wording may be used by Defra in communications e.g. as a short description of the project on the website.

Please write this summary for a non-technical audience.

The Ayeyarwady River and associated wetlands represent the last natural unregulated, large river system of Southeast Asia, with outstanding biodiversity values, threatened and endemic species. Based on successful models of wetland management in the Indawgyi lake sub-basin, this project will upscale these models to the central Ayeyarwady river basin, assisting local communities and fisheries leasehold owners to develop a network of fisheries co-management areas, introducing organic farming to floodplain farmers and improving value chains for biodiversity-friendly agriculture and fisheries products.

Section 3 - Title, Dates & Budget Summary**Q6. Country(ies)**

Which eligible host country(ies) will your project be working in? Where there are more than 4 countries that your project will be working in, please add more boxes using the selection option below.

Country 1	Myanmar (Burma)	Country 2	No Response
Country 3	No Response	Country 4	No Response

Do you require more fields?

- Yes
- No

Q7. Project dates

Start date:	End date:	Duration (e.g. 2 years, 3 months):
01 April 2023	31 March 2026	3 years

Q8. Budget summary

Year:	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	Total request
Amount:	██████████	██████████	██████████	██████	██████████

Q9. Proportion of Darwin Initiative budget expected to be expended in eligible countries: %

████

Q10a. Do you have matched funding arrangements?

Yes

What matched funding arrangements are proposed?

Rainforest Trust has approved a proposal which includes matched funding for the Darwin Initiative award of ██████████

In-kind contributions will be provided by Manfred Hermsen Foundation in the form of technical expert contributions for the mid-winter waterbirds census.

Q10b. Total confirmed & unconfirmed matched funding (£)

██████████

Q10c. If you have a significant amount of unconfirmed matched funding, please clarify how will you fund the project if you don't manage to secure this?

No Response

Section 4 - Problem statement

Q11. Problem the project is trying to address

Please describe the problem your project is trying to address in terms of biodiversity and its relationship with poverty. What is the need, challenge or opportunity?

For example, what are the drivers of biodiversity loss that the project will attempt to address? Why are they relevant, for whom? How did you identify these problems? Please cite any evidence you are using to support your assessment of the problem (references can be listed in a separate attached PDF document).

The Ayeyarwady River is the last large, near-natural, free-flowing river ecosystem of mainland tropical/sub-tropical Asia, with approximately 1,000,000 acres of intact riverine habitat (un-converted, un-regulated, un-dammed). Its basin is one of the most diverse biological regions in the world, home to 1,400 mammal, bird, and reptile species, including over 100 globally threatened species. The central Ayeyarwady river sections hold 95% of Myanmar's freshwater population of Critically Endangered Irrawaddy dolphins. The only two nesting sites of the endemic and endangered Myanmar peacock softshell turtle known in the

Ayeyarwady basin are within project boundaries. The Ayeyarwady supports the greatest diversity of fish species in Myanmar, with 388 species, 50% endemic, 28 globally threatened. Multiple fish species are absolutely essential for local livelihoods.

The main threats to the Ayeyarwady River's ecosystems' integrity are illegal and unsustainable fishing practices by both local and migrant fishers, agricultural encroachment in flood plains, hunting/ trapping of water birds and turtles, pollution from settlements and agricultural run-off, potential dams for hydropower and channelisation for river transport. In Myanmar, fishing in freshwater systems is prohibited from June to August during the spawning season, but this is rarely monitored or enforced. As result, habitats, fisheries, fish stocks and threatened species are in decline [Ref.1,11,12].

Fisheries are managed through two systems: leasable and open fisheries. Each leasehold can employ up to 100 fishers. Open fisheries provide access to local and migrant fishers. Both fisheries are extremely important to local communities, in particular, those without agricultural land, as a source of food and income. The central Ayeyarwady section is in the dry zone, which is most vulnerable to climate change, and one of Myanmar's poorest regions, where 43% of rural people live below the poverty line. 40-50% have no agricultural land [Ref.12] and so work as labourers on others' farms and fish illegally to meet their protein needs.

To address poverty, support the sustainable use of wetlands, encourage sustainable fisheries and protect biodiversity, the project will pilot and upscale co-management systems including leasable fisheries and local fishing communities and facilitate community-led protection of key biodiversity areas, in particular the designation of fish/ dolphin aggregation sites such as deep pools, fish spawning areas, and bird and turtle nesting sites as no-take zones, designated as Fish Conservation Areas (FCAs), protected by community-based 'SMART' patrolling and monitoring, with seasonal restrictions in line with national law. To incentivise community-based conservation, the project will provide small grants for sustainable livelihood interventions that use wetlands wisely and reduce dependence on illegal fishing; organic farming to prevent agricultural run-off/pollution, especially in areas where pollution accrues such as ox-bow lakes, and support the development of biodiversity-friendly value chains for fisheries and agricultural products while mitigating any livelihood impacts during the transition to organic farming and sustainable fisheries.

Section 5 - Darwin Objectives and Conventions

Q12. Biodiversity Conventions, Treaties and Agreements

Q12a. Your project must support the commitments of one or more of the agreements listed below.

Please indicate which agreement(s) will be supported and describe which objectives your project will address.

- Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
- Ramsar Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar)
- Global Goals for Sustainable Development (SDGs)

Q12b. National and International Policy Alignment

Using evidence where available, please detail how your project will contribute to national policy (including NBSAPs, NDCs, NAP etc.) and in turn international biodiversity and development

conventions, treaties and agreements that the country is a signatory of.

The Myanmar NBSAP highlights the 'limited grass-roots support for conservation and undervaluation of ecosystem services and biodiversity'. As such a priority action of the NBSAP is 'outreach and awareness raising with a change in behaviour of selected groups' [Ref.13]. Communities in and around key biodiversity areas and the private sector are listed as key audiences for behaviour change projects. This project will enhance local fishing communities' and private sector fisheries leasehold owners' knowledge and awareness of wetland biodiversity values, its protection and sustainable use. This will be done through strengthening the capacity of local fisher associations, facilitating co-management agreements between leasable fisheries businesses and local fisher associations, and through conservation awareness and social media campaigns for an intact, free-flowing Ayeyarwady River and the wise use of its associated wetlands. The project will support the development of biodiversity-friendly value chains to increase revenues for businesses and local communities, while incentivising sustainable fisheries and organic farming practices.

These activities fit within the framework of the Myanmar NBSAP under:

- Action 1.4.1 'Increase number of annual discussions, outreach, and extension activities with local communities living in and around key biodiversity areas' and;
- 1.2.1 'Work with business associations in relevant sectors... to raise awareness of biodiversity' in support of Aichi targets 1.2 and 1.4.'

The project takes place in a cluster of proposed Ayeyarwady Ramsar sites and the Indawgyi Lake Ramsar site, so the project additionally supports the Myanmar NBSAP action 5.3.3 'Establish community-based participatory monitoring and protection in Ramsar sites and potential Ramsar wetlands' [Ref.8]

Sustainable rice cultivation is a particular area of focus for the CBD in Myanmar, recognising the threats and opportunities posed by the industry. Target 7.1 is that 'By 2020, SRI and other forms of environmentally friendly rice production have been implemented in 10% of rice paddy area' [Ref.8,9].

The project also contributes to SDG2.3, by increasing the productivity and incomes of small-scale farmers and fishers, including through secure and equal access to natural resources, grants for productive inputs, markets and value addition. Through this approach, the project also contributes to SDG10.1, supporting income growth of the bottom 40% of the population. The project will support the decoupling of economic growth from environmental degradation (SDG8.4) by sharing learning and experience on organic techniques in a new geographic area. It will also promote equitable, transparent and informed governance, through training and capacity building of CSOs and NGOs, with a particular focus on enabling women's full engagement, thereby contributing to SDG5.5 and 15.5.

Through these approaches, the project contributes to the overarching biodiversity goals of the Darwin Initiative, aligned particularly to SDG6.6, in protecting and restoring one of the world's most valuable wetland ecosystems; SDG15.1, by conserving and promoting sustainable use of an inland freshwater ecosystem, in line with the commitments made by the Government of Myanmar, as described above; and SDG15.5, by taking action to reduce the loss of biodiversity, particularly of freshwater species and wetland birds at risk from the degrading Ayeyarwady Basin.

Section 6 - Method, Change Expected, Gender & Exit Strategy

Q13. Methodology

Describe the methods and approach you will use to achieve your intended Outcome and contribute towards your Impact. Provide information on:

- how you have reflected on and incorporated **evidence and lessons learnt** from past and present similar activities and projects in the design of this project.
- the specific approach you are using, supported by **evidence** that it will be effective, and **justifying why you expect it will be successful** in this context.
- how you will undertake the work (activities, materials and methods)
- what will be the **main activities** and where will these take place.
- how you will manage the work (governance, roles and responsibilities, project management tools, risks etc.).

In 2017, FFI participated in the World Bank 'State of the Ayeyarwady Basin Assessment' focusing on fisheries and biodiversity [Ref.1,11,12], and in 2021 in the Indo-Burma wetland review [Ref.7]. Both generated scientific evidence and local stakeholder input and highlighted sustainable models of fisheries co-management systems and farming systems that reduce agricultural run-off and river pollution, which has informed project design.

During project preparation, FFI facilitated stakeholder consultations in all project target villages, with both fishers and farmers. We agreed that defining the boundaries of community-managed Fish Conservation Zones and/or Community Protected Areas will be done through participatory consultations, based on the principles of free, prior and informed consent.

The project will upscale successful organic farming models developed by FFI's Darwin Indawgyi project [Ref.4] and successful models of community-managed fish conservation zones developed by FFI in the upper Ayeyarwady basin [Ref.2,3].

Key activities of the project will include establishing all necessary baselines for the project, including Knowledge, Attitude and Behaviour, capacity analysis and organisational resilience checks of local NGO partners, farmers and fisheries associations, establishing landings data at project sites, recruitment and/or induction of project team. Activities under output 1 will focus on developing broad awareness among key stakeholder groups, including CSOs who will be facilitated to join a CSO network; those working in wetland health and research, through the Indawgyi Wetland Education Centre, communities involved in fisheries, and interested members of the public, who will be reached through a targeted awareness-raising campaign.

To achieve output 2, the project promotes a co-management approach. Capacities will first be developed among local partners and fisheries associations in organisational resilience, governance and technical skills. The project will support the development of co-management agreements between fisheries' leasehold owners and the fisheries associations, and support their implementation by collaboratively identifying and establishing Fish Conservation Areas (FCAs) considering fish spawning, fish/dolphin aggregation areas, and threatened freshwater turtle/waterbird nesting sites; and training and supporting patrols for the FCAs. FFI recognises that temporary closures of fishing groups may have detrimental impacts on fishers, and has identified that the most vulnerable to these impacts are landless fishers who have the fewest other livelihoods options available. The project, therefore, includes a small innovation grant facility, managed through the community fisheries to enable landless fishers to access alternative livelihoods (supported under output 3). Fisheries associations will benefit from training in gender, grant facility management, and catch monitoring, which will support quarterly fish catch monitoring to identify project impacts. This will be complemented by annual mid-winter waterbirds census, annual dolphin census, and breeding season monitoring of waterbird/turtle nesting sites.

Output 3 supports the development of organic agriculture in seasonally flooded wetlands. Key activities include establishing 5 local organic farmers associations; establishing farmer field schools for organic farming techniques based on FAO standards [Ref.5]; piloting key organic practices on-farm as demonstration and learning sites. The project will facilitate PGS organic certification [Ref-6] for participating farmers, and ensure their internal control systems meet the required standards. Product marketing and branding, and trademark registration, will support the organic products to access premium markets. The small grants facility will also be managed under output 3. Grant-making will follow best practice guidelines already in use by FFI in Myanmar. Grants will be targeted to fishers without agricultural land, who are most likely to be negatively affected by seasonal closures. Grants are typically used for poultry or livestock that can be reared at the fishers' homestead and provide an alternative source of protein. Grants will also be made to enable purchases of small-scale equipment for household enterprise development under Output 4, for example, a sewing machine or peanut roaster.

Output 4 will be achieved through Participatory Market System Development (PMSD), a market development tool based on multi-stakeholder collaboration for inclusive, biodiversity-friendly supply chains with long-term scalable impacts. Based on focus group discussions and stakeholder meetings, we will select local products together with local fisheries associations to develop improved value chains. The PMSD approach includes PMSD training for local fisheries association, market research and supply chain mapping for selected products, development of a strategic plan for market system development that integrates biodiversity conservation and sustainable livelihoods, facilitation of multi-stakeholder workshops to bring fisheries association, traders and companies together to share knowledge across supply chain actors, facilitate the development of a participatory action plan and bring buyers together with local fisher associations to establish improved market linkages. FFI adopted a similar PMSD approach in coastal communities in Tanzania, supported by the Darwin Initiative, with excellent results [Ref.10].

Q14. Capability and Capacity

How will you support the strengthening of capability and capacity in the project countries at organisational or individual levels, please provide details of what form this will take, who will benefit, and the post-project value to the country.

We will provide technical, organisational and grant/ finance management training to our NGO implementation partners Indawgyi Natural Farming Association (INFA), Marine Science Association Myanmar (MSAM), Friends of Wildlife (FoW), Inn Chit Thu and Shanni Literature and Culture Association.

The project will provide training, mentoring and develop peer-to-peer networks for at least 14 fisheries associations and 14 newly established local Fish Conservation Areas (FCA) and Community Protected Areas (CPA) Committees in planning, monitoring and patrolling seasonal closures, finance management, small grants management and reporting.

Local communities will be supported to submit FCA proposals to the Department of Fisheries (DoF) and CPA proposals to the Forest Department (FD) for legal designation. FoW will continue mentoring our 6 existing partner fisheries associations in Indawgyi Lake.

Together with the Indawgyi Natural Farming Association and technical experts from the Myanmar Organic Growers Association, we will train, mentor and facilitate peer-to-peer networks for organic farming and the development of internal control mechanisms for the Myanmar participatory group assurance based on IFOAM standards, directly benefitting 5 new organic farming association with membership of >200 farmers.

Capacity building of local CSOs, farming/ fisheries households and other market actors in participatory

markets system development will contribute to the development of local entrepreneurship and improved value chains for biodiversity-friendly products.

Overall, by developing the capacity of NGO partners, local CSOs and at least 600 farmer and fisher households, local communities will adopt more sustainable fisheries and farming methods in the riverine wetlands, while improving their well-being, contributing to the sustainability of project outputs.

Through the visitor education and training programs at the Indawgyi Wetland Education Centre, the establishment of the Ayeyarwady River CSO Network and the 'Living Ayeyarwady Campaign' using social media, we will be able to share knowledge and lesson learned with people throughout the Ayeyarwady basin and beyond.

Q15. Gender equality

All applicants must consider whether and how their project will contribute to reducing inequality between persons of different gender. Explain how your understanding of gender equality within the context your project, and how is it reflected in your plans. Please summarise how your project will contribute to reducing gender inequality. Applicants should, at a minimum, ensure proposals will not increase inequality and are encouraged to design interventions that proactively contribute to increased gender equality.

The gender distribution of fishers is 3:1 in favour of men. Women are under-represented in fisheries association governance. 40-50% of fishers do not have agricultural land and are reliant on seasonal employment as agricultural labourers, mainly in paddy fields, supplemented by fishing [Ref.12].

The project will actively increase the percentage of women and landless fishers represented in fishing associations, holding separate meetings for women and men to ensure increased participation of women. We aim to have at least 30% representation of women in both fisheries and farmers associations, as well as in the Fish Conservation Zone/ Community Protected Area committees.

The project will provide specific gender trainings for fisheries and farmers association. We will encourage equal participation of women in all trainings (organisational and technical). Activities with fishers and farmers will be undertaken at times, places and using materials and methods that are accessible to both women and men, taking into account the division of labour.

The project will support improved social equity and gender participation in market system operations and encourage female entrepreneurship. FFI will prepare a gender tracking tool for the project to identify and respond to gendered impacts. Project monitoring data will be sex-disaggregated to enable early identification of gender-differentiated impacts.

Q16. Awareness and understanding

How will you raise awareness and understanding of biodiversity-poverty issues in your stakeholders, including who your stakeholders are, what approaches/formats/products will you use, how you will ensure open and free access to all data, and how will you know that the messages are understood?

Technical training provided to both fishers and farmers, will improve knowledge and awareness of sustainable wetland management practices, introduce and support the adoption of best practices in sustainable fisheries and organic farming, contributing to improved livelihoods while maintaining ecosystem services and biodiversity.

Peer-to-peer learning between the fisheries/ farmers association, supported by our local NGO partners, will also enhance the adoption of sustainable farming and fishing practices, and improve local livelihoods.

Through the visitor education, training and conservation awareness programs at the Indawgyi Wetland Education Centre, we will reach more than 5000 visitors and trainees, including school and university students.

Through the Ayeyarwady River CSO Network and the 'Living Ayeyarwady Campaign' using social media, we will be able to provide free and open access to data, reports and lessons learned, sharing and increasing knowledge for the sustainable use of wetlands and biodiversity conservation, while advocating for a free-flowing Ayeyarwady River. The project will result in a substantial increase of public awareness, to be documented by social media likes, reposts, and/or followers.

Annual waterbird census data will be shared through relevant international (as they relate to flyways) and national working groups and organisations. Given the highly threatened nature of the peacock softshell turtle, specific information on e.g. nesting will be kept confidential.

Methods for tracking understanding will include the use of the Organisational Resilience assessment tool available on capacityforconservation.org, along with project Knowledge, Attitude and Behaviour surveys and pre- and post-training and awareness-raising assessments. These will provide insight both into changes in understanding since project start, but also into how (and whether) that increased knowledge and understanding translate into changed behaviour, enabling adaptive management if specific blockages to the application of knowledge are identified.

Q17. Change expected

Detail the expected changes to both biodiversity and poverty reduction, and links between them, this work will deliver. You should identify what will change and who will benefit a) in the short-term (i.e. during the life of the project) and b) in the long-term (after the project has ended) and the potential to scale the approach.

When talking about how people will benefit, please remember to give details of who will benefit, differences in benefits by gender or other layers of diversity within stakeholders, and the number of beneficiaries expected. The number of communities is insufficient detail – number of households should be the largest unit used.

Short-term:

20 CSOs (fisheries/ farmers associations) will have increased capacity in sustainable wetland use. At least 50% of local fishing and farming households in the 14 target villages (approximately 1400 households, c.7000 people) and at least 90% of the 600 direct beneficiary households, will have increased knowledge, changed attitude and behaviour to manage wetland resources sustainably. (Output 1)

>14 local fisheries associations, representing >600 households (c. 3,500 people), ensuring 30% increased women's participation, have co-management fisheries agreements with leasable fisheries owners to ensure sustainable fisheries.

Sarus cranes (VU), Myanmar Peacock softshell turtles, Black-bellied tern, White-rumped/ Slender-billed vultures (CR), Irrawaddy dolphin (CR), migratory water birds (species with >1% of flyway population) will benefit from management of fish conservation zones to protect aggregation and reproduction sites.

(Output 2)

5 new organic farming associations will be established, benefitting >300 farmers (of whom at least 30% are women) who will be trained in organic farming/ internal control systems. Of these, >200 farmers will achieve PGS-Myanmar organic certification, improving their access to markets for organic rice/pulses, and generating increased revenues as a result of lower input costs and/or improved value chains for organic products (Output 3).

Market systems will be developed for fisheries products benefitting local suppliers (fishers), who will benefit from more equitable relationships with private sector actors in the supply chain, and small grant incentives for development market innovations (Output 4).

By project end, key biodiversity areas will be more sustainably managed by leasable fisheries owners and local fisher associations through co-management agreements and fish conservation zones, protecting aggregation/reproduction sites of commercially important fish and globally threatened species. Local farmers who contribute to managing floodplain agriculture sustainably will benefit from increased income through biodiversity-friendly market systems (Outcome).

Long term:

Replenished/ increased fish stocks, and access to them, through exclusive access to the FCA's sustainable use zones and the fish spill-over from effectively managed no-take zones, which protect important fish spawning areas and fish aggregation sites.

The conversion to organic farming practices will lead to a decrease in agrochemical runoff, contributing to improved water quality with benefits for all freshwater species in the project area and downstream.

Effective protection of the FCAs/CPAs, species and habitat within them through ongoing community patrolling initiatives. Populations of Sarus cranes, Myanmar Peacock softshell turtles, Black-bellied tern, White-rumped/Slender-billed vultures, Irrawaddy dolphin and migratory water birds will be stable and the project will contribute to the recovery of populations by securing breeding, spawning and nesting grounds.

Models for sustainable fisheries and agriculture will be shared and up-scaled throughout the basin through the Living Ayeyarwady Campaign.

When the political situation permits, the strong evidence base generated through this project will inform policy development and change in Myanmar, and replication through government channels; in the interim, the evidence will be shared with peers and community-focused organisations, for replication through civil society channels.

Q18. Pathway to change

Please outline your project's expected pathway to change. This should be an overview of the overall project logic and outline why and how you expect your Outputs to contribute towards your overall Outcome and, longer term, your expected Impact.

IF local stakeholders have increased knowledge, support an intact, free-flowing Ayeyarwady River and practise sustainable use of wetlands through a comprehensive awareness and social media campaign;

IF fisheries co-management areas are established (including FCZs) and managed sustainably in KBAs throughout the central Ayeyarwady basin, effectively protected from illegal/unsustainable resource use by community-led patrols;

IF organic agricultural practices, especially for rice and pulses are piloted, adopted and upscaled throughout seasonally-flooded wetlands associated with fisheries co-management areas;

IF biodiversity-friendly market systems for fisheries and organic farming products are strengthened by promoting the participation of the private sector in co-management and improved social equity and gender participation;

THEN wetlands in the Ayeyarwady basin will be managed sustainably by local communities and private sector, resulting in replenished or increased fish stocks, reduced agricultural runoff, providing increased income for 700 fishing and 200 farming households.

The project will contribute to maintaining the central Ayeyarwady Basin's ecological integrity, stabilising or increasing populations of globally threatened species (Sarus cranes, Myanmar Peacock softshell turtle, Black-bellied tern, Hog deer, White-rumped/Slender-billed vultures, Irrawaddy dolphin, and waterbirds with >1% flyway population).

Through the CSO network and Living Ayeyarwady Campaign the project enables upscaling sustainable wetland management practices throughout the river basin.

Q19. Exit Strategy

How will the project reach a sustainable point and continue to deliver benefits post-funding?

How could post-project scaling of the approach (if proven) be delivered: through new finance or through uptake by stakeholders or other mechanisms? Are there any barriers to scaling and how will these be addressed?

How will the required knowledge and skills remain available to sustain the benefits?

The Darwin Initiative recognises the following types of scaling: 1. Landscape scaling: test an approach and then apply it more broadly; 2. Replication scaling: test an approach and apply it in another geography; 3. Systems change scaling: support system changes (e.g. legislation) that have impacts beyond their original scale. 4. Capacitation scaling: leaving a legacy of higher capacity to achieve change.

The situation in Myanmar at present means that approaches 2 and 4 are the most appropriate and will be pursued through this project, with a focus on dissemination of experience and learning through civil society networks. This project itself is an example of approach 1, in upscaling successful approaches developed in Indawgyi with support from a previous Darwin Initiative project (Ref 25-005).


Successful models of fishery and organic farming will be disseminated through the Indawgyi Wetland Education Centre, through peer-to-peer learning events and through the 'Living Ayeyarwady' social media campaign. All training materials, tool kits, reports and lesson learned will be uploaded to the IWEC website and available beyond project end.


This project will also support capacity scaling. By building the capacity of 14 fisheries associations, 14 new FCA/CPA committees and 5 new organic farming associations, the project will leave a legacy of higher CSO capacity to achieve change. Increased capacity of key individuals in the local communities will enable them to function as change agents beyond project end. Additionally, the widespread geographic cluster of villages from Bagan township in the South to Katha township in the North will allow for a wide geographic


uptake of successful project interventions.


Further post-project upscaling can be achieved by the wide dissemination of successful approaches and lessons learned through the CSO network, and their onward networks, creating the opportunity for a much larger replication throughout the entire Ayeyarwady basin.

If necessary, please provide supporting documentation e.g. maps, diagrams, references etc., as a PDF using the File Upload below:

 [R29 Darwin Myanmar Supporting Documents](#)

 12/12/2022

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 pdf 1.11 MB

Section 7 - Risk Management

Q20. Risk Management

Please outline the 6 key risks to achievement of your Project Outcome and how these risks will be managed and mitigated, referring to the [Risk Guidance](#). This should include at least one Fiduciary, one Safeguarding, and one Delivery Chain Risk.

Projects should also draft their initial risk register using the [Risk Assessment template](#) provided, and be prepared to submit this when requested if they are recommended for funding. Do not attach this to your application.

Risk Description	Impact	Prob.	Gross Risk	Mitigation Header	Residual Risk
Fiduciary A portion of project funding will be sub-granted to implementation partners to undertake activities. There is a risk that these funds could be intentionally (fraud) or unintentionally (e.g., through misunderstanding grant requirements) misused or misreported.	Moderate	Unlikely	Moderate	All project partners will be required to comply with safeguarding, reporting and financial management requirements as specified by the Darwin Initiative. In addition, appropriate safeguards will be incorporated within any contracts, MoUs or sub-grant agreements, as is standard for FFI.	Minor

Safeguarding

Project causes disruption to the rights of local communities and fishers, by directly addressing the use and harvesting of natural resources and the management of fisheries and Fish Conservation Areas/Zones.

Moderate

Possible

Moderate

FFI has a Policy and Procedure for addressing negative impacts on community rights, protecting access to natural resources. These include involving communities in PA planning, applying FPIC protocols, resource-use mapping, and creating village groups. A comprehensive grievance mechanism will be established to action appropriate responses to negative impacts.

Minor

Delivery Chain

The project has identified several partners that fit well with the goals and objectives. While FFI has taken care to identify partners with appropriate capacity/reputation for their role, the full due diligence process takes place after a grant is awarded, before funds are transferred.

Moderate

Unlikely

Moderate

FFI has an established Due Diligence process that will be applied to all new partners, collaborators and sub-grant recipients before committing to any formal relationships. FFI Myanmar has established relations with several of the proposed project partners and their capacity and integrity have been both tried and tested.

Minor

Risk 4

Inequitable outcomes for marginalised community members, particularly women. Working in remote, rural and often poor communities, FFI recognises that roles and opportunities can disadvantage women and other vulnerable and/or marginalised members of a community.

Major

Possible

Major

FFI has Policies and Procedures around impacts of gender-based inequities and, through these “we will ensure that gender is addressed, that women (and other marginalised community members) have equal access to project resources and information, equal participation in decision-making, and equal opportunities to benefit from FFI supported activities”.

Minor

Risk 5

Ongoing and occasionally armed conflicts between Government forces and opposition groups could impact programme activities in Yangon (FFI country office) and field sites. Villages in FFI project locations are generally safe, with no recent armed conflict in any of our project villages.

Major

Unlikely

Major

In Yangon, only military, police and government facilities are attacked; and these are avoided by FFI staff.

Village leaders are informed of planned conflict events and so FFI field teams actively seek information about the security situation, and report field activities to all concerned parties.

Minor

Risk 6

Local people do not understand why funds are being spent on environmental issues, over others. The project will work in remote areas where communities have multiple needs, including those outside the scope of this project (i.e. education, health).

Minor

Possible

Moderate

Project responds to needs raised by community members by holding information and consultation sessions with local people, with special consideration of vulnerable community members' needs, enabling their engagement. Attention will be drawn to links between healthy, well-managed environment, and human health and wellbeing (i.e. clean water, access to natural resources).

Minor

Section 8 - Implementation Timetable

Q21. Provide a project implementation timetable that shows the key milestones in project activities

Provide a project implementation timetable that shows the key milestones in project activities. Complete the Word template as appropriate to describe the intended workplan for your project.

[Implementation Timetable Template](#)

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

 [Myanmar-BCF-Implementation-Timetable-2022-23-FINAL](#)
 12/12/2022
 15:10:43
 pdf 154.82 KB

Section 9 - Monitoring and Evaluation

Q22. Monitoring and evaluation (M&E)

Describe how the progress of the project will be monitored and evaluated, making reference to who is responsible for the project's M&E.

Darwin Initiative projects are expected to be adaptive and you should detail how the monitoring and evaluation will feed into the delivery of the project including its management. M&E is expected to be built into the project and not an 'add' on. It is as important to measure for negative impacts as it is for positive impact. Additionally, please indicate an approximate budget and level of effort (person days) to be spent on M&E (see [Finance Guidance](#)).

This project will include monitoring and evaluation activities that fit into longer-term, established programmes of biomonitoring work so that the project contributes to a broader data set. This will be complemented by project-specific surveys for socio-economic monitoring.

FFI conducted a comprehensive survey of waterbirds in 2017 (Ayeyarwady state-of-the-basin assessment), which recorded more than 20,000 birds of 61 different species. FFI has undertaken annual mid-winter bird counts from 2018 to 2020 which documented the continuous presence of more than 20,000 waterbirds and/or globally threatened species. With support from this project, FFI will continue to undertake annual mid-winter counts using standard Wetlands International methods along the entire Central Ayeyarwady River section.

FFI undertook local stakeholder consultations in December 2021, documenting the presence of Myanmar peacock softshell turtle nesting sites. For each FCA/CPA site, we will facilitate the establishment of a community patrol group and train them in field monitoring techniques. They will conduct monthly SMART patrols and monitor key species, including waterbird and turtle nesting sites, and participate in mid-winter annual bird counts. Turtle/ bird breeding sites will be monitored continuously during the breeding/nesting season by local species guardians.

Data from SMART patrols will be analysed by FFI and used to inform the location, duration and timing of future patrols, ensuring that the project responds in real time to new and emerging threats.

Changes in fish stocks will be monitored through quarterly catch landings data, following the methodology developed under the previous Indawgyi Darwin grant, and will be conducted by trained patrol members, fishing associations, and NGO partners (FoW/MSAM).

Changes related to the transition from chemical fertilisers to organic farming will be evaluated annually using data from harvest and input cost monitoring data (rice and pulses) by INFA and newly established farming associations. It is expected that the change to organic methods may cause a decrease in harvest that will be partially offset in the short term by decreased inputs, and the provision of small grants funding to further offset negative impacts. This is expected to be fully offset once organic produce certification, branding and marketing are in place, commanding higher prices for premium products. This

transition will be closely monitored by the project team, supported by FFI's agriculture expert.

FFI and partners will use socio-economic tools including a Knowledge, Attitude and Behaviour survey at project start and end to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of project engagement and awareness-raising actions in the local area. Changes in the capacity of organisations (fishing associations, partners, CSO network) will be measured using the FFI Organisational Resilience Tool that assesses organisations in key areas such as strategy, governance, and financial management. This tool will be adapted for use in the Myanmar context.

Project data will be maintained and compiled by the Project Assistant under the direction of the Project Manager, and shared with partners and technical specialists for evaluation and to inform adaptive management. The project will evaluate progress each year, and also on an annual basis as part of FFI's internal reporting cycle.

Total project budget for M&E in GBP (this may include Staff, Travel and Subsistence costs)	██████████
Percentage of total project budget set aside for M&E (%)	█
Number of days planned for M&E	150

Section 10 - Logical Framework

Q23. Logical Framework (logframe)

Darwin Initiative projects will be required to monitor and report against their progress towards their Outputs and Outcome. This section sets out the expected Outputs and Outcome of your project, how you expect to measure progress against these and how we can verify this.

- [Stage 2 Logframe Template](#)

The **logframe template** (N.B. there is a different template for Stage 1 and Stage 2) needs to be downloaded from Flexi-Grant, completed and uploaded as a PDF within your Flexi-Grant application – **please do not edit the logframe template structure (other than adding additional Outputs if needed) as this may make your application ineligible.**

Please upload your logframe as a PDF document.

📎 [S2-Logical- Framework-FFI Myanmar](#)

📅 12/12/2022

🕒 15:11:07

📄 pdf 74.99 KB

Impact:

The Ayeyarwady River remains a free-flowing, ecologically intact river, with associated wetlands managed sustainably, supporting the livelihoods of local riverine communities, wetland ecosystems, ecological services and populations of globally-significant biodiversity.

Outcome:

Key wetlands in the Ayeyarwady basin are managed sustainably by > 20 local communities and their private sector partners, resulting in benefits for biodiversity and people

Project Outputs

Output 1:

Increased knowledge, attitude and behaviour of local stakeholders in support of a free-flowing Ayeyarwady River and the wise use of its associated wetlands

Output 2:

Fisheries co-management areas (including fish conservation zones/ FCZs) are established and managed sustainably in KBAs throughout the central Ayeyarwady basin

Output 3:

Organic agriculture developed and upscaled throughout seasonally flooded wetlands associated with fisheries co-management areas, contributing to biodiversity conservation and community well-being

Output 4:

Biodiversity-friendly market system of at least one fisheries product strengthened by promoting participation and collaboration of private sector in co-management, and improved social equity and gender

Output 5:

No Response

Do you require more Output fields?

It is advised to have fewer than 6 Outputs since this level of detail can be provided at the Activity level.

No

Activities

Each activity is numbered according to the Output that it will contribute towards, for example, 1.1, 1.2, 1.3 are contributing to Output 1.

Output 1. Increased knowledge, attitude and behaviour of local stakeholders in support of a free-flowing Ayeyarwady River and the wise use of its associated wetlands

1.1 Conduct Knowledge, Attitude and Behaviour survey at project start and end

1.2 Establish Ayeyarwady river CSO network; facilitate regular meetings, agree on vision and TOR for the group, develop a social media network platform (e.g., Facebook, Signal)

1.3 Upgrade the Indawgyi Wetland Education Centre (IWEC) facilities to include improved water and sanitation facilities

1.4 Conduct organisational resilience check at project start and end for local IWEC partners (Inn Chit Thu and Shanni Literature and Culture Association)

1.5 Provide organisational and technical training (incl. finance management, business planning, hospitality, visitor interpretation and education) for local IWEC partners

1.6 Support IWEC to deliver training/visitor programmes for wetland management, including training

modules/ materials

1.7 Research, develop and implement a 'Living Ayeyarwady Campaign' including village conservation awareness programmes and social media campaigns for the wise use of wetlands

Output 2. Fisheries co-management areas (including fish conservation zones/ FCZs) are established and managed sustainably in KBAs throughout the central Ayeyarwady basin

2.1 Conduct training/ capacity building of local partners/ fisheries association (organisational development, small grant management, empowerment of women/ vulnerable people, sustainable fisheries)

2.2 Conduct organisational resilience check at project start and end for the local fisheries associations

2.3 Facilitate development of fisheries co-management agreements between fisheries' leasehold owners and village fisheries associations

2.4 Establish Fish Conservation Zones (FCZs) for fish spawning, fish/ dolphin aggregation areas, threatened freshwater turtle/ waterbird nesting sites, based on local knowledge, scientific evidence, and participatory consultation process

2.5 Establish, train, and operate community-based patrols to monitor/ protect FCZs and waterbird/ turtle nesting sites

2.6 Establish small innovation grant facility for fisheries associations with an emphasis on benefitting vulnerable groups such as landless fishers, contributing to off-set any short-term negative impact of sustainable fisheries interventions

2.7 Provide gender training for fisheries associations

2.8 Support quarterly fish catch/ fish landing site monitoring of fisheries leasehold and 'open' community-fisheries

2.9 Undertake annual mid-winter waterbirds census, annual dolphin census, breeding season monitoring of waterbird/turtle nesting sites

Output 3. Organic agriculture developed and upscaled throughout seasonally flooded wetlands associated with fisheries co-management areas, contributing to biodiversity conservation and community well-being

3.1 Facilitate establishment of 5 local organic farmers associations

3.2 Conduct organisational resilience check at project start and end for the local farmers associations

3.3 Provide organisational development/ small grants management training for fisher/ farmer associations

3.4 Establish farmer field schools for organic farming techniques based on FAO standards [Ref.5]

3.5 Develop on-farm pilots to introduce bio-fertilisers, bio-pesticides, rice-fish farming and other innovative organic farming practices

3.6 Facilitate farmers' association's internal control systems, based on IFOAM participatory group certification standards

3.7 Facilitate PGS organic certification [Ref.6] by Myanmar's organic growers' association

3.8 Support logo design/ marketing campaign to develop product brand for biodiversity-friendly products; facilitate trademark registration

Output 4. Biodiversity-friendly market system of at least one fisheries product strengthened by promoting participation and collaboration of private sector in co-management, and improved social equity and gender participation in market system operations

4.1 Conduct training for local NGO partners (MSAM/ FoW) and local fisheries association in the target villages on PMSD approach

4.2 Facilitate fisheries product selection through local focus group discussion and stakeholder meetings

4.3 Conduct market research for and supply chain mapping for the selected products

4.4 Develop a strategic plan for market system development to integrate conservation and sustainable livelihoods

4.5 Arrange a multi-stakeholder workshop to bring fisheries associations, traders, and companies together to share knowledge across supply chain actors

4.6 Formulate and implement a participatory action plan for value chain improvements

4.7 Train fisheries association/ small-scale enterprises in bookkeeping/ enterprise management

4.8 Facilitate meetings with potential buyers to establish market linkage for selected products

Section 11 - Budget and Funding

Q24. Budget

Please complete the appropriate Excel spreadsheet, which provides the Budget for this application. Some of the questions earlier and below refer to the information in this spreadsheet. Note that all Darwin Main should be using the over £100,000 template. Please refer to the [Finance Guidance](#) for more information.

- [Budget form for projects over £100k](#)

Please ensure you include any co-financing figures in the Budget spreadsheet to clarify the full budget required to deliver this project.

N.B.: Please state all costs by financial year (1 April to 31 March) and in GBP. The Darwin Initiative cannot agree any increase in grants once awarded.

Please upload the Lead Partner's accounts at the certification page at the end of the application form.

 [Budget Template Myanmar Final](#)
 12/12/2022
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 xls 131 KB

Q25. Funding

Q25a. Is this a new initiative or does it build on existing work (delivered by anyone and funded through any source)?

- Development of existing work

Please provide details:

This project will build on the Darwin project implemented by FFI in the Indawgyi Biosphere Reserve (Ref 25-005) and upscale it to the new, expanded project area of the Central Ayeyarwady River landscape (replication). In Indawgyi, FFI developed successful models for sustainable fisheries, established conservation zones for fish spawning and nursery grounds, and developed organic farming models for the flood plain of the Indawgyi Lake Basin. Both models will be adapted, piloted and replicated in the larger Ayeyarwady riverine landscape.

FFI has also successfully developed and built the capacity of local civil society organisations in Indawgyi. FoW, INFA and Inn Chit Thu will share their organisational development experience and technical knowledge and build the capacity of new CSOs (fisheries association, organic farming association, FCA/CPA committees) in the Central Ayeyarwady landscape.

Q25b. Are you aware of any current or future plans for similar work to the proposed project?

No

Q26. Capital items

If you plan to purchase capital items with Darwin funding, please indicate what you anticipate will happen to the items following project end. If you are requesting more than 10% capital costs, please provide your justification here.

The following capital items/equipment will be procured:

4 laptops: 2 to remain with FFI after project end for the continuation of activities, 1 to remain with MSAM, 1 with FoW.

20 handsets for SMART patrol groups will remain with the FCA/CPA committees/patrol groups.

3 Motorbikes: 1 to remain with FFI, 1 with INFA, 1 with MSAM.

Budget is also requested for the construction of a new water and sanitation block to serve the Indawgyi Wetlands Education Centre, at a cost of [REDACTED], including maintenance for the three-year period.

The total value of capital costs requested from the Darwin Initiative is 4% of the total budget ([REDACTED]). FFI has secured [REDACTED] in match funding to complement this.

Q27. Value for Money

Please demonstrate why your project is good value for money in terms of impact and cost-effectiveness of each pound spend (economy, efficiency, effectiveness and equity). Please make sure you read the guidance documents, before answering this question.

The project will take the following measures to secure value for money:

Economy: Projected costs have been reviewed to ensure that funds are used in the most cost-effective manner possible, and this will be monitored throughout implementation. All procurement will comply with FFI's procurement policy or donor regulations, whichever is more stringent, to avoid conflict of interest and ensure value for money. Local partners are placed close to the working site to reduce travel expenses along the project. Local contractors and materials will be used for the small-scale construction of water and sanitation facilities, to maintain low capital costs.

The project draws upon FFI's in-house staff expertise - in biodiversity conservation, livelihoods and governance, monitoring and evaluation and finance, complemented by specialist consultants where required. Most project staff are Myanmar nationals, thus reducing translation costs and ensuring effective communications with target villages.

Efficiency: The project has been designed using evidence from Darwin Main (Ref 25-005) and will scale activities and approaches that we have demonstrated to be successful in a new project area. FFI has many years of work experience in Myanmar and has established relationships with local communities, partners, and can work safely here, enabling a rapid start-up.

Effectiveness and Equity: The project will use adaptive management throughout, to ensure that learning is applied to project activities, particularly SMART data to inform patrols, and fish catch and agricultural inputs/ outputs data to inform small grants and livelihoods actions so any potential negative impacts are identified and addressed promptly.

Section 12 - Safeguarding and Ethics

Q28. Safeguarding

Projects funded through the Darwin Initiative must fully protect vulnerable people all of the time, wherever they work. In order to provide assurance of this, projects are required to have appropriate safeguarding policies in place.

Please confirm the Lead Partner has the following policies in place and that these can be available on request:

Please upload the lead partner's Safeguarding Policy as a PDF on the certification page.

We have a safeguarding policy, which includes a statement of our commitment to safeguarding and a zero tolerance statement on bullying, harassment and sexual exploitation and abuse	Checked
We have attached a copy of our safeguarding policy to this application (file upload on certification page)	Checked
We keep a detailed register of safeguarding issues raised and how they were dealt with	Checked
We have clear investigation and disciplinary procedures to use when allegations and complaints are made, and have clear processes in place for when a disclosure is made	Checked
We share our safeguarding policy with all partners	Checked
We have a whistle-blowing policy which protects whistle blowers from reprisals and includes clear processes for dealing with concerns raised	Checked
We have a Code of Conduct for staff and volunteers that sets out clear expectations of behaviours - inside and outside the work place - and make clear what will happen in the event of non-compliance or breach of these standards	Checked

Please outline how you will implement and strengthen your safeguarding policies in practice and ensure that all partners apply the same standards as the Lead Partner. If any of the responses are “no”, please indicate how it is being addressed.

FFI has an internal Learning Management System, which enables online training in policies and procedures. All FFI staff are required to attend safeguarding training. FFI's Safeguarding Children and Adults at Risk Policy & Procedure forms part of contracts and agreements with third party contractors and sub-grantees. FFI will offer training and orientation to project partners to build shared understanding of safeguarding requirements. Notice boards with contact numbers to address any grievances will be placed

at fish conservation zones/ community protected areas and at public places such as local schools to ensure that we can respond to and resolve any grievances.

Q29. Ethics

Outline your approach to meeting the key principles of good ethical practice, as outlined in the guidance.

FFI seeks to ensure our activities do not disadvantage poor, vulnerable or marginalised, natural resource-dependent women and men, and wherever possible to conserve biodiversity in ways that enhance human wellbeing and social equity. FFI has committed to respecting human rights, promoting their protection and realisation within our conservation programmes, and supporting the governance systems that can secure those rights.

Community stakeholder engagement will follow FPIC principles including comprehensive documentation to evidence how the concerns, knowledge, rights and needs, particularly of vulnerable people, are addressed. We will support appropriate law enforcement agencies to manage conflict and apply legitimate regulations fairly. We will implement a locally appropriate, accessible and transparent Grievance Mechanism.

FFI has a suite of policies and procedures concerning core values and ethical behaviour, including safeguarding, anti-harassment and whistle-blowing, as well as an employee handbook. As appropriate, these will be shared downstream to consultants and partners as contractual obligations in subgrant and consultancy contracts.

Considering the political context in Myanmar following the military coup, FFI will not finance any government activities, and neither employ nor provide any financial incentives to government officers.

Section 13 - FCDO Notifications

Q30. FCDO Notifications

Please state whether there are sensitivities that the Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office will need to be aware of should they want to publicise the project's success in the Darwin Initiative in any country.

No

Please indicate whether you have contacted FCDO Embassy or High Commission to discuss the project and attach details of any advice you have received from them.

Yes (no written advice)

Section 14 - Project Staff

Q31. Project staff

Please identify the core staff (identified in the budget), their role and what % of their time they will be working on the project.

Please provide 1-page CVs or job description, further information on who is considered core staff can be found in the [Finance Guidance](#).

Name (First name, Surname)	Role	% time on project	1 page CV or job description attached?
Ngwe Lwin	Project Leader	17	Checked
Zau Lunn	Project Manager	23	Checked
Yain Khaw	Project officer and biologist	69	Checked
Nyein Chan	Project Coordinator	69	Checked

Do you require more fields?

Yes


Name (First name, Surname)	Role	% time on project	1 page CV or job description attached?
Zau Min Oo	Field Manager	69	Checked
Emma Scott	Sustainable/ Organic Agriculture Advisor	2	Checked
Frank Momberg	Technical Protected Area Management Advisor (OECMs)	1	Checked
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	0	Unchecked
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	0	Unchecked
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	0	Unchecked
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	0	Unchecked
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	0	Unchecked


Please provide 1 page CVs (or job description if yet to be recruited) for the project staff listed above as a combined PDF.

Ensure the file is named clearly, consistent with the named individual and role above.

 [R29 Myanmar CVs Combined](#)

 12/12/2022

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 pdf 639.31 KB

Have you attached all project staff CVs?

Yes

Section 15 - Project Partners

Q32. Project Partners

Please list all the Project Partners (including the Lead Partner - i.e. the partner who will administer the grant and coordinate the delivery of the project), clearly setting out their roles and responsibilities in the project including the extent of their engagement so far and planned.

This section should demonstrate the capability and capacity of the Project Partners to successfully deliver the project. Please provide Letters of Support for all project partners or explain why this has not been included.

The partners listed here should correspond to the Delivery Chain Risk Map (within the Risk Register template) which you will be asked to submit if your project is recommended for funding.

Lead partner name: Fauna & Flora International

Website address: fauna-flora.org

FFI has been working in Myanmar since 2007, supporting local civil society in sustainable natural resource management at project sites throughout Myanmar. FFI is operating under MoUs with the Forest Department and the Fisheries Department. FFI has been working in Kachin State since 2012 to strengthen the role of local civil society organisations in sustainable natural resource management and biodiversity conservation.

FFI has demonstrated institutional management capacity, having successfully managed large bilateral and multi-lateral grants in Myanmar.

Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):

FFI will lead on project design and implementation, oversee financial management, procurement, asset management, work planning, organisational/technical capacity building, monitoring, evaluation, donor reporting and partner liaison, including providing social equity and rights support to local partners. FFI will contract any external parties, and be legally responsible for the delivery of the project. In the field, the project will be led by specialists from our local team of over 60 conservation professionals.

This project builds on FFI's previous work building capacity for local village-based civil society organizations in Indawgyi, including forest user groups, fisheries groups, organic farming groups, village waste management groups and eco-tourism groups.

Allocated budget (proportion or value):



Represented on the Project Board

Yes

Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?

Yes

Have you provided a cover letter to address your Stage 1 feedback?

Yes

Do you have partners involved in the Project?

Yes

1. Partner Name:

Marine Science Association Myanmar (MSAM)

Website address:

N/A

Marine Science Association Myanmar (MSAM) is a national NGO facilitating the development of locally-managed marine/freshwater fisheries areas.

Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):

MSAM is the only national NGO in Myanmar undertaking biological research of marine and freshwater ecosystems.

MSAM will facilitate the development of co-management agreements between fisheries leasehold owners and fisher associations, including facilitating/up-scaling community-managed FCAs and supervising landing site fish counts.

Allocated budget: ██████████

Represented on the Project Board Yes

Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation? Yes

2. Partner Name: Friends of Wildlife (FoW)

Website address: <https://www.fowmyanmar.org/>

Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):

Friends of Wildlife (FoW) was established in 2007 with the aim of protecting Myanmar's wildlife through community-based biodiversity conservation and ecosystem management. FoW works with local communities, governments, non-governmental organisations and universities to undertake biodiversity conservation activities.

FoW is a long-term FFI partner for sustainable fisheries in Indawgyi. In this project, FoW will support local fisheries associations to protect fish conservation zones (FCZs) and monitor fish catch to measure effectiveness.

Allocated budget: ██████████

Represented on the Project Board Yes

Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation? Yes

3. Partner Name: Indawgyi Natural Farming Association (INFA)

Website address: N/A

Indawgyi Natural Farming Association (INFA) is a long-term FFI partner for promoting organic farming. INFA's vision is to promote organic farming practices throughout the Indawgyi Lake Basin and improve local livelihood while protecting the environment.

Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):

The members of the Indawgyi Natural Farming Association are all local farmers in the Indawgyi lake basin that are dedicated to adopting organic farming practices and supporting sustainable agriculture development in the lake basin. The Association has been established by farmers from 4 villages in February 2017 and has facilitated the dissemination of organic farming practices and the establishment of internal control mechanisms for organic certification. It has increased its membership ever since.

INFA will upscale organic farming interventions to the central Ayeyarwady basin, facilitating knowledge exchange and training in organic farming and internal control systems for organic farming group certification.

INFA will actively seek new members to upscale the adoption of organic farming.

Allocated budget:



Represented on the Project Board

Yes

Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?

Yes

4. Partner Name:

Inn Chit Thu (ICT)

Website address:

<https://www.facebook.com/Innchitthu.indawgyi>

Inn Chit Thu (ICT) is a long-term FFI partner for conservation awareness and community outreach in Indawgyi. ICT is the longest-established local CSO organisation in Indawgyi which was founded in 2013 with the purpose of developing community-based ecotourism. Operating from the Indawgyi Wetland Education Centre this not-for-profit organisation provides a wide range of eco-tourism services, such as cycling, kayaking, trekking, and birdwatching. The organisation also facilitates waste clean-ups in Lonton and supports an awareness programme for improved household sanitation.

Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):

ICT has already implemented waste management and sanitation awareness campaigns in the villages surrounding lake Indawgyi, increasing the uptake of household sanitation systems through social marketing and the provision of revolving funds and 'smart' incentives.

ICT will run the Ayeyarwady social media awareness campaign to share lessons learned and upscale the adoption of best practices in wetland management throughout the Ayeyarwady basin and promote an intact, free-flowing Ayeyarwady River.

Allocated budget:



Represented on the Project Board

Yes

Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?

Yes

5. Partner Name:

Shanni Literature and Culture Association (SLCA)

Website address:

N/A

Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):

Shanni Literature and Culture Association (SLCA) was founded in 1947 with the ultimate goal of representing Shan State through cultural preservation and promotion. SLCA is a long-term partner to FFI and manages the Indawgyi Wetland Education Centre Student Accommodation.

SLCA will manage the Indawgyi Wetland Education Centre and Student Accommodation to provide training and education visitor programs for the wise use of wetlands.

Allocated budget:



Represented on the Project Board Yes

Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation? Yes

6. Partner Name: *No Response*

Website address: *No Response*

Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): *No Response*

Allocated budget: £0.00

Represented on the Project Board Yes No

Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation? Yes No


If you require more space to enter details regarding Partners involved in the project, please use the text field below.


No Response

Please provide a cover letter responding to feedback received at Stage 1 if applicable and a combined PDF of all letters of support.


 [Cover letter FFI Myanmar](#)

 12/12/2022


 16:42:58

 pdf 254.56 KB

 [R29 Myanmar LoS Combined](#)

 09/12/2022

 16:29:10

 pdf 1.19 MB

Section 16 - Lead Partner Capability and Capacity

Q33. Lead Partner Capability and Capacity

Has your organisation been awarded Darwin Initiative, Darwin Plus or Illegal Wildlife Trade Challenge Fund funding before (for the purposes of this question, being a partner does not count)?

Yes

If yes, please provide details of the most recent awards (up to 6 examples).

Reference No	Project Leader	Title
DARNV010	Kiran Mohanan	Scaling evidence-based Inclusive Conservation Finance models in Uganda and Tanzania
DARNV003	Josh Kempinski	Locally-owned enterprise development for resilient communities and sustainable primate conservation
DARNV001	Hazel Akester	Incentivising responsible fisheries in Central America: testing novel intermediary models
DAREX005	Frank Momberg	Ridge to Reef Conservation in West Papua, Indonesia
29-008	Gurveena Ghataure	Community-led conservation and fisheries development in North coast, Kenya
29-002	Arief Hamidi	Conserving and restoring orangutan habitat and ecosystems, Gunung Palung, Indonesia

Have you provided the requested signed audited/independently examined accounts?

If yes, please upload these on the certification page. Note that this is not required from Government Agencies.

Yes

Section 17 - Certification

Certification

On behalf of the

Trustees

of

Fauna & Flora International





I apply for a grant of

I certify that, to the best of our knowledge and belief, the statements made by us in this application are true and the information provided is correct. I am aware that this application form will form the basis of the project schedule should this application be successful.


(This form should be signed by an individual authorised by the applicant institution to submit applications and sign contracts on their behalf.)

- I have enclosed CVs for project key project personnel, cover letter, letters of support, a budget, logframe, Safeguarding Policy and project implementation timetable (uploaded at appropriate points in application)
- Our last two sets of signed audited/independently verified accounts and annual report are also enclosed.





Checked

Name	Paul Hotham
Position in the organisation	Senior Conservation Director
Signature (please upload e-signature)	 PHotham signature  12/12/2022  15:43:13  jpg 12.42 KB
Date	12 December 2022

Please attach the requested signed audited/independently examined accounts.

 2020 Annual Report and Accounts	 4(a) Annual Report & Accounts 2021
 17/11/2022	 17/11/2022
 11:42:45	 11:42:13
 pdf 4.39 MB	 pdf 3.82 MB

Please upload the Lead Partner's Safeguarding Policy as a PDF

 Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults Policy & Procedure
 17/11/2022
 11:43:10
 pdf 243.43 KB

Section 18 - Submission Checklist

Checklist for submission

	Check
I have read the Guidance, including the "Darwin Initiative Guidance", "Monitoring Evaluation and Learning Guidance", "Risk Guidance" and "Financial Guidance".	Checked
I have read, and can meet, the current Terms and Conditions for this fund.	Checked
I have provided actual start and end dates for the project.	Checked
I have provided my budget based on UK government financial years i.e. 1 April – 31 March and in GBP.	Checked
I have checked that our budget is complete, correctly adds up and I have included the correct final total at the start of the application.	Checked
The application been signed by a suitably authorised individual (clear electronic or scanned signatures are acceptable).	Checked
I have attached the below documents to my application <ul style="list-style-type: none">• my completed logframe as a PDF using the template provided	Checked
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• my budget (which meets the requirements above)	Checked
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• my completed implementation timetable as a PDF using the template provided	Checked
I have included a 1 page CV or job description for all the Project Staff identified at Question 31, including the Project Leader, or provided an explanation of why not.	Checked
I have included a letter of support from the Lead Partner and partner(s) identified at Question 32, or an explanation of why not.	Checked
I have included a cover letter from the Lead Partner, outlining how any feedback received at Stage 1 has been addressed where relevant.	Checked
I have included a copy of the Lead Partner's safeguarding policy, which covers the criteria listed in Question 28.	Checked
I have been in contact with the FCDO in the project country/ies and have included any evidence of this. If not, I have provided an explanation of why not.	Checked
I have included a signed copy of the last 2 annual report and accounts for the Lead Partner, or provided an explanation if not.	Checked
I have checked the Darwin Initiative website immediately prior to submission to ensure there are no late updates.	Checked
I have read and understood the Privacy Notice on the Darwin Initiative website.	Checked

We would like to keep in touch!

Please check this box if you would be happy for the lead applicant (Flexi-Grant Account Holder) and project leader (if different) to be added to our mailing list. Through our mailing list we share updates on upcoming and current application rounds under the Darwin Initiative and our sister grant scheme, the IWT Challenge Fund. We also provide occasional updates on other UK Government activities related to biodiversity conservation and share our quarterly project newsletter. You are free to unsubscribe at any time.

Checked

Data protection and use of personal data

Information supplied in the application form, including personal data, will be used by Defra as set out in the **Privacy Notice**, available from the [Forms and Guidance Portal](#).

This **Privacy Notice must be provided to all individuals** whose personal data is supplied in the application form. Some information may be used when publicising the Darwin Initiative including project details (usually title, lead partner, project leader, location, and total grant value).

Implementation Timetable

	Activity	No. of months	Year 1 (23/24)				Year 2 (24/25)				Year 3 (25/26)				
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
Output 1	Increased knowledge, attitude and behaviour of local stakeholders in support of a free-flowing Ayeyarwady River and the wise use of its associated wetlands														
1.1	Conduct Knowledge, Attitude and Behaviour survey at project start and end	2													
1.2	Establish Ayeyarwady river CSO network; facilitate regular meetings, agree on vision and TOR for the group, develop a social media network platform (e.g., Facebook, Signal)	27													
1.3	Upgrade the Indawgyi Wetland Education Centre (IWECE) facilities to include improved water and sanitation facilities	6													
1.4	Conduct organisational resilience check at project start and end for local IWECE partners (Inn Chit Thu and Shanni Literature and Culture Association)	2													
1.5	Provide organisational and technical training (incl. finance management, business planning, hospitality, visitor interpretation and education) for local IWECE partners	9													
1.6	Support IWECE to deliver training/visitor programmes for wetland management, including training modules/ materials	33													
1.7	Research, develop and implement a 'Living Ayeyarwady Campaign' including village conservation awareness programmes and social media campaigns for the wise use of wetlands	33													

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	Activity	No. of months	Year 1 (23/24)				Year 2 (24/25)				Year 3 (25/26)			
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Output 2	Fisheries co-management areas (including fish conservation zones/ FCZs) are established and managed sustainably in KBAs throughout the central Ayeyarwady basin													
2.1	Conduct training/ capacity building of local partners/ fisheries association (organisational development, small grant management, empowerment of women/ vulnerable people, sustainable fisheries)	21												
2.2	Conduct organisational resilience check at project start and end for the local fisheries associations	6												
2.3	Facilitate development of fisheries co-management agreements between fisheries' leasehold owners and village fisheries associations	18												
2.4	Establish Fish Conservation Zones (FCZs) for fish spawning, fish/ dolphin aggregation areas, threatened freshwater turtle/ waterbird nesting sites, based on local knowledge, scientific evidence, and participatory consultation process	18												
2.5	Establish, train, and operate community-based patrols to monitor/ protect FCZs and waterbird/ turtle nesting sites	18												
2.6	Establish small innovation grant facility for fisheries associations with an emphasis on benefitting vulnerable groups such as landless fishers, contributing to off-set any short-term negative impact of sustainable fisheries interventions	15												
2.7	Provide gender training for fisheries associations	9												

	Activity	No. of months	Year 1 (23/24)				Year 2 (24/25)				Year 3 (25/26)			
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
2.8	Support quarterly fish catch/ fish landing site monitoring of fisheries leasehold and 'open' community-fisheries	30												
2.9	Undertake annual mid-winter waterbirds census, annual dolphin census, breeding season monitoring of waterbird/turtle nesting sites	18												
Output 3	Organic agriculture developed and upscaled throughout seasonally flooded wetlands associated with fisheries co-management areas, contributing to biodiversity conservation and community well-being													
3.1	Facilitate establishment of 5 local organic farmers associations	9												
3.2	Conduct organisational resilience check at project start and end for the local farmers associations	4												
3.3	Provide organisational development/ small grants management training for fisher/ farmer associations	6												
3.4	Establish farmer field schools for organic farming techniques based on FAO standards	6												
3.5	Develop on-farm pilots to introduce bio-fertilisers, bio-pesticides, rice-fish framing and other innovative organic farming practices	6												
3.6	Facilitate farmers' association's internal control systems, based on IFOAM participatory group certification standards	15												
3.7	Facilitate PGS organic certification [Ref.6] by Myanmar's organic growers' association	15												
3.8	Support logo design/ marketing campaign to develop product brand for biodiversity-friendly products; facilitate trademark registration	15												

	Activity	No. of months	Year 1 (23/24)				Year 2 (24/25)				Year 3 (25/26)			
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Output 4	Biodiversity-friendly market system of at least one fisheries product strengthened by promoting participation and collaboration of private sector in co-management, and improved social equity and gender participation in market system operations													
4.1	Conduct training for local NGO partners (MSAM/ FoW) and local fisheries association in the target villages on PMSD approach	21												
4.2	Facilitate fisheries product selection through local focus group discussion and stakeholder meetings	12												
4.3	Conduct market research for and supply chain mapping for the selected products	15												
4.4	Develop a strategic plan for market system development to integrate conservation and sustainable livelihoods	12												
4.5	Arrange a multi-stakeholder workshop to bring fisheries associations, traders, and companies together to share knowledge across supply chain actors	12												
4.6	Formulate and implement a participatory action plan for value chain improvements	12												
4.7	Train fisheries association/ small-scale enterprises in bookkeeping/ enterprise management	12												
4.8	Facilitate meetings with potential buyers to establish market linkage for selected products	24												

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Project Summary	SMART Indicators	Means of Verification	Important Assumptions
<p>Impact: The Ayeyarwady River remains a free-flowing, ecologically intact river, with associated wetlands managed sustainably, supporting the livelihoods of local riverine communities, wetland ecosystems, ecological services and populations of globally-significant biodiversity. (Max 30 words)</p>			
<p>Outcome: (Max 30 words) Key wetlands in the Ayeyarwady basin are managed sustainably by > 20 local communities and their private sector partners, resulting in benefits for biodiversity and people</p>	<p>0.1 By end of project (EoP), there is improved Knowledge, Attitude and Behaviour (KAB) of local stakeholders to maintain a free-flowing, intact Ayeyarwady River</p> <p>0.2 By EoP, the number, diversity and weight of fish landed is stable or increasing, compared to project baseline (to be established in Y1)</p> <p>0.3 By end of project, at least 90% of farmers in seasonally flooded wetlands involved in the project transition to organic farming practices, reporting no net negative impact from transition to organic methods, between project start and end</p> <p>0.4 Abundance and diversity of wetland bird species maintained/ increased over project period</p>	<p>0.1 KAB beginning/ end survey reports</p> <p>0.2 Fish landings data, following methodology established in Indawgyi with support from Darwin Initiative</p> <p>0.3 Harvest/ input cost monitoring data (rice and pulses); Well-being survey by project start/ end - technical report</p> <p>0.4 Annual mid-winter count water bird census data/ technical report, including an analysis of changes based on the Ayeyarwady State of the Basin Assessment (2017) and</p>	<p>Political situation in Myanmar enables the ongoing actions of civil society actors</p> <p>The area does not have restrictions related to local or global outbreaks of disease more significant than already experienced over the last 3 years</p> <p>There are no significant changes between the GBP and local currency that renders the project activities unaffordable</p> <p>Community members remain engaged in wetland conservation and improving sustainability of production activities</p> <p>Riverine seasonal flooded agricultural lands feature fertile soils, suitable for transition to organic farming practices.</p>

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	<p>0.5 Turtle hatching success rates are maintained between project start and end. Project baseline to be established in year 1</p> <p>0.6 By EoP, successful models for the wise use of wetlands introduced throughout the Central Ayeyarwady River basin.</p>	<p>subsequent FFI annual counts (2018/ 2019) as baseline</p> <p>0.5 Turtle nest monitoring technical report</p> <p>0.6 Final technical report</p>	
<p>Outputs:</p> <p>1. Increased knowledge, attitude and behaviour of local stakeholders in support of a free-flowing Ayeyarwady River and the wise use of its associated wetlands</p>	<p>1.1 By EoP, >600 members of the Ayeyarwady river CSO network are able to demonstrate and/ or articulate methods for sustainable wetland management, including sustainable fisheries/ farming practices</p> <p>1.2 By EOP, >5000 visitors have attended education, training or visitor programmes at the Indawgyi Lake Wetland Centre</p> <p>1.3 By end of Y1, Inn Chit Thu and Shan Cultural Association partners have increased institutional and technical capacity (e.g. business planning, finance management, hospitality, visitor education) to manage the Indawgyi Wetland Education</p>	<p>1.1 CSO network reports, training and capacity building reports, participant evaluations</p> <p>1.2 'Wise use of wetlands' training reports/ participant evaluation. Wetland Centre visitor numbers/ annual reports.</p> <p>1.3 Training reports/ participant evaluation, business plan</p>	<p>Social media can continue to be used at least with VPN (currently local users/ organisations use VPN under the current political circumstance)</p>

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	<p>Centre/ accommodation facilities sustainably</p> <p>1.4 By end of Y1, social media campaign for a free-flowing, intact river designed, and implemented in Y2-3 (Living Ayeyarwady Campaign)</p> <p>1.5 By EoP, the number of social media likes, reposts, and/or followers has increased by 100% from year 1 baseline</p>	<p>1.4 Campaign materials, technical reports, KAB report</p> <p>1.5 Google analytics data</p>	
<p>2. Fisheries co-management areas (including fish conservation zones/ FCZs) are established and managed sustainably in KBAs throughout the central Ayeyarwady basin</p>	<p>2.1 By end of Y2, local partner NGOs (MSAM/ FoW) have increased organisational capacity score >20% and improved knowledge, attitude and behaviour (KAB) in sustainable fisheries against baseline</p> <p>2.2 By Y2, at least 14 village fisheries association/ committees strengthened to manage fisheries resources sustainably in both leasehold and open fisheries areas</p> <p>2.3 By Y2, at least 14 sustainable fisheries co-management agreements established between village fisheries associations fisheries leasehold owners and/or village administrations</p>	<p>2.1 Organisational capacity assessment reports/ training reports/ participant evaluations/ KAB report</p> <p>2.2. Training reports/ participant evaluations</p> <p>2.3 Technical reports, fisheries co-management agreements</p>	<p>Private fisheries leasehold owners continue to support collaboration with local fishing communities (both were consulted and confirmed to collaborate prior to submitting stage 1)</p> <p>Local village communities and fisheries association continue to support community-managed fish conservation zones, and follow through on commitments already made to developing co-management agreements (both were consulted and confirmed to develop co-management agreements prior to submitting stage 1)</p>

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	<p>2.4 By Y2, at least 14 community managed FCZs identified through participatory resource mapping (considering gender), biodiversity surveys and participatory processes, and submitted by fisheries associations to township fisheries department for gazettelement</p> <p>2.5 By Y2, 20 fisheries association FCZ patrol groups (≥ 2 community members per group) established, trained and operating SMART patrols (including 6 previously established groups in Indawgyi)</p> <p>2.6 By EoP, 100% patrol efforts for threatened waterbird and nesting sites are informed by SMART data</p> <p>2.7 By Y2, > 200 fishers with no other assets (landless) have access to funds from a Small Grants Facility to improve their livelihoods opportunities, as safeguard to mitigate legally mandated seasonal fisheries closures and other potential negative impacts resulting from transition to sustainable fisheries</p>	<p>2.4 FCZ agreements, consultation reports, documented grievance mechanisms</p> <p>2.5 & 2.6 FCZ SMART training reports/ participant evaluation/ patrol reports</p> <p>2.7 Small grant reports</p>	
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	2.8 By EoP at least 30% representation of women in the governance of community fisheries associations and training programmes	2.8 Association profile/ statutes, training records	
3. Organic agriculture developed and upscaled throughout seasonally flooded wetlands associated with fisheries co-management areas, contributing to biodiversity conservation and community well-being	<p>3.1 By Y1, at least 5 new local, organic farming associations established, with >30% representation of women</p> <p>3.2 By Y2, at least 5 local farming associations have increased their organisational resilience score to >40% (from baseline of 0 as associations are not yet formed), and are able to demonstrate increased knowledge of organic farming practices and internal control systems for organic certification</p> <p>3.3. By Y2, at least 5 local farmers associations will have piloted the use of bio-fertilisers, biopesticides, rice-fish farming or other organic innovations to increase soil fertility and mitigate pests</p> <p>3.4. By Y2, at least 300 farmers (>30% women) trained in organic agricultural practices (organic farming practices, internal control</p>	<p>3.1 Association profile/ statutes</p> <p>3.2 Organisational resilience check, pre- and post-training survey</p> <p>3.3. Annual model farmer reports</p> <p>3.4 Training reports/ participant evaluation</p>	<p>Impacts on farmers resulting from transition to organic farming are equivalent to those experienced in similar project in Myanmar (local farmers in seasonal flooded wetlands have been consulted and expressed their interest to participate in transition to organic farming during stage 2 preparation)</p> <p>Project area remains free from extreme natural disasters such as very serious floods and droughts that cause complete harvest failure</p>

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	<p>systems for PGS Myanmar organic certification)</p> <p>3.5 By Y2, small farming innovation grant facility established for local farmers associations</p> <p>3.6 By EoP, >200 farmers (>30% women) in at least 20 target project villages achieve PGS Myanmar organic certification for at least two crops (wet season - rice/ dry season - pulses)</p> <p>3.7 By EoP, certified farmers will have improved access to organic product markets</p> <p>3.8 By EoP, sustainable product brand for biodiversity friendly agricultural/ agroforestry products (Indawgyi Biosphere Reserve Brand) adopted, resulting in premium prices for Indawgyi biodiversity-friendly branded products</p>	<p>3.5 Technical reports, Small grant reports, grant agreements</p> <p>3.6 Technical reports/ PGS certificates</p> <p>3.7 Technical report, farmers association annual reports</p> <p>3.8 Indawgyi geographic origin/ sustainable product brand registration, INFA technical report including farmers harvest, inputs and revenues</p>	
<p>4. Biodiversity-friendly market system of at least one fisheries product strengthened by promoting participation and collaboration of private sector in co-management, and improved social equity and gender</p>	<p>4.1 By EoP, a shared vision for sustainable fisheries that align to co-management agreement in project site developed and agreed in consultation with local communities, association leaders, private sector actors.</p>	<p>4.1 Workshop and meeting reports</p>	<p>Markets remain accessible, prices are relatively stable, and no new externalities or barriers disrupt demand for products.</p>

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<p>participation in market system operations.</p>	<p>4.2 By EoP, at least 200 households (represented by both women and men from the households) from the 20 target project villages reporting >10% increased income from the selected fisheries market system</p> <p>4.3 By EoP, at least 200 households (women and men) report increased knowledge of biodiversity-friendly market systems and are engaged in sustainable fisheries and co-management</p> <p>4.4 By EoP, at least three private sector partnerships established to improve fisheries co-management</p> <p>4.5 By EoP, at least 200 households (women and men) from the target project community trained and supported by the project small grants, adopting sustainable fisheries practices (related to the supply chain).</p>	<p>4.2 Socio-economic/ well-being assessments</p> <p>4.3 KAB survey of market actors</p> <p>4.4 Agreements/ written confirmation with private actors</p> <p>4.5 Training reports including participant evaluation; small grant reports</p>	<p>Market actors willing to collaborate, supported by local governments</p> <p>Health and safety issues do not interrupt supply chains</p>
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Activities

Output 1. Increased knowledge, attitude and behaviour of local stakeholders in support of a free-flowing Ayeyarwady River and the wise use of its associated wetlands

- 1.1 Conduct Knowledge, Attitude and Behaviour survey at project start and end
- 1.2 Establish Ayeyarwady river CSO network; facilitate regular meetings, agree on vision and TOR for the group, develop a social media network platform (e.g., Facebook, Signal)
- 1.3 Upgrade the Indawgyi Wetland Education Centre (IWEC) facilities to include improved water and sanitation facilities
- 1.4 Conduct organisational resilience check at project start and end for local IWEC partners (Inn Chit Thu and Shanni Literature and Culture Association)
- 1.5 Provide organisational and technical training (incl. finance management, business planning, hospitality, visitor interpretation and education) for local IWEC partners
- 1.6 Support IWEC to deliver training/visitor programmes for wetland management, including training modules/ materials
- 1.7 Research, develop and implement a 'Living Ayeyarwady Campaign' including village conservation awareness programmes and social media campaigns for the wise use of wetlands

Output 2. Fisheries co-management areas (including fish conservation zones/ FCZs) are established and managed sustainably in KBAs throughout the central Ayeyarwady basin

- 2.1 Conduct training/ capacity building of local partners/ fisheries association (organisational development, small grant management, empowerment of women/ vulnerable people, sustainable fisheries)
- 2.2 Conduct organisational resilience check at project start and end for the local fisheries associations
- 2.3 Facilitate development of fisheries co-management agreements between fisheries' leasehold owners and village fisheries associations
- 2.4 Establish Fish Conservation Zones (FCZs) for fish spawning, fish/ dolphin aggregation areas, threatened freshwater turtle/ waterbird nesting sites, based on local knowledge, scientific evidence, and participatory consultation process
- 2.5 Establish, train, and operate community-based patrols to monitor/ protect FCZs and waterbird/ turtle nesting sites
- 2.6 Establish small innovation grant facility for fisheries associations with an emphasis on benefitting vulnerable groups such as landless fishers, contributing to off-set any short-term negative impact of sustainable fisheries interventions
- 2.7 Provide gender training for fisheries associations
- 2.8 Support quarterly fish catch/ fish landing site monitoring of fisheries leasehold and 'open' community-fisheries
- 2.9 Undertake annual mid-winter waterbirds census, annual dolphin census, breeding season monitoring of waterbird/turtle nesting sites

Output 3. Organic agriculture developed and upscaled throughout seasonally flooded wetlands associated with fisheries co-management areas, contributing to biodiversity conservation and community well-being

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- 3.1 Facilitate establishment of 5 local organic farmers associations
- 3.2 Conduct organisational resilience check at project start and end for the local farmers associations
- 3.3 Provide organisational development/ small grants management training for fisher/ farmer associations
- 3.4 Establish farmer field schools for organic farming techniques based on FAO standards [Ref.5]
- 3.5 Develop on-farm pilots to introduce bio-fertilisers, bio-pesticides, rice-fish farming and other innovative organic farming practices
- 3.6 Facilitate farmers' association's internal control systems, based on IFOAM participatory group certification standards
- 3.7 Facilitate PGS organic certification [Ref.6] by Myanmar's organic growers' association
- 3.8 Support logo design/ marketing campaign to develop product brand for biodiversity-friendly products; facilitate trademark registration

Output 4. Biodiversity-friendly market system of at least one fisheries product strengthened by promoting participation and collaboration of private sector in co-management, and improved social equity and gender participation in market system operations

- 4.1 Conduct training for local NGO partners (MSAM/ FoW) and local fisheries association in the target villages on PMSD approach
- 4.2 Facilitate fisheries product selection through local focus group discussion and stakeholder meetings
- 4.3 Conduct market research for and supply chain mapping for the selected products
- 4.4 Develop a strategic plan for market system development to integrate conservation and sustainable livelihoods
- 4.5 Arrange a multi-stakeholder workshop to bring fisheries associations, traders, and companies together to share knowledge across supply chain actors
- 4.6 Formulate and implement a participatory action plan for value chain improvements
- 4.7 Train fisheries association/ small-scale enterprises in bookkeeping/ enterprise management
- 4.8 Facilitate meetings with potential buyers to establish market linkage for selected products