Darwin Initiative Main & Extra Annual Report

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

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

Submission Deadline: 30th April 2025

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Darwin Initiative Project Information

Scheme (Main or Extra)	Main
Project reference	30-002
Project title	Sustainable Wetland Management in the Central Ayeyarwady River Basin
Country/ies	Myanmar
Lead Organisation	Fauna & Flora International (Fauna & Flora)
Project partner(s)	• Marine Science Association Myanmar (MSAM) • Friends of Wildlife (FoW) • Indawgyi Natural Farming Association (INFA) • Inn Chit Thu Social Development and Ecotourism Group (ICT) • Shanni Literature and Culture Association (SLCA)
Darwin Initiative grant value	£ 595,445.00
Start/end dates of project	01/04/2023 to 31/03/2026
Reporting period (e.g. Apr 2024 – Mar 2025) and number (e.g. Annual Report 1, 2, 3)	April 2024 – March 2025 Annual Report 2
Project Leader name	Ngwe Lwin
Project website/blog/social media	https://www.facebook.com/SaveFreshwaterTogether
Report author(s) and date	Zaw Min Oo and Nyein Chan, 15 May 2025

1. Project summary

The Ayeyarwady River and associated wetlands represent the last natural unregulated, large river system of Southeast Asia, with outstanding biodiversity values, including threatened and endemic species.

The Ayeyarwady supports the greatest diversity of fish species in Myanmar, with 388 species, 50% endemic, and 28 globally threatened, including 2 Critically Endangered (CR) species, 6 Endangered (EN) species, and 20 Vulnerable (VU) species. The project is located in the central sections of the Ayeyarwady River, which is home to 95% of Myanmar's freshwater population of Critically Endangered Irrawaddy Dolphins (*Orcaella brevirostris*). The project boundaries contain the only two known nesting sites of the endemic and Critically Endangered Burmese Peacock Softshell Turtle (*Nilssonia formosa*) in the Ayeyarwady Basin. The Yellow-breasted Bunting (*Emberiza aureola*) (CR), White-bellied Heron (*Ardea insignis*) (CR), Black-bellied Tern (*Sterna*

acuticauda) (EN), Steppe Eagle (*Aquila nipalensis*) (EN), Greater Spotted Eagle (*Clanga clanga*) (VU), Burmese Narrow-Headed Softshell Turtle (*Chitra vandijki*) (CR), and Asiatic Softshell Turtle (*Amyda cartilaginea*) (VU) are species that inhabit the central Ayeyarwady River basin.

Economically important fish species for fishers, such as Hilsa shad (*Tenualosa ilisha*), Pangas catfish (*Pangasius* spp.), and several fish species migrate along the Ayeyarwady River system for spawning and feeding. Fisheries resources are a vital nutritional source for Myanmar people after rice. Therefore, the sustainability of these resources is essential for nutritional security and subsistence livelihood opportunities of the local people, especially the marginalized population. The sustainable management of the Ayeyarwady riverine wetland ecosystem would also benefit the conservation of endangered species.

Several threats both human-initiated and natural, pose a risk to the existence of riverine biodiversity along the Ayeyarwady River. Examples of human-initiated threats include habitat deterioration and destruction due to agricultural encroachment onto the floodplains, illegal and unsustainable fishing practices such as electrofishing, poisonous fishing, and using small-mesh size fishing nets. Pollution from settlements and agricultural runoff, potential hydropower dams, and channelization for river transport also pose significant threats. Additionally, the hunting and trapping of water birds and turtles, non-compliance with standing fisheries rules and regulations, and weak law enforcement contribute to the challenges faced by the riverine biodiversity along the Ayeyarwady River. The central Ayeyarwady River basin faces natural challenges due to its location in a dry zone, which makes it is prone to climate change. Another challenge is the poverty of the residents. Approximately 43% of them live below the poverty line, and between 40% to 50% are landless. These individuals often work as laborers and resort to illegal fishing to meet their nutrition needs. This situation has led to a considerable decline in habitats, fisheries, fish stocks, and threatened species.

To address poverty, support the sustainable use of wetlands, promote sustainable fisheries, and protect biodiversity, the project will pilot and upscale co-management systems. These systems include leasable fisheries and local fishing communities.

Since the project's inception, significant progress has been made toward piloting and scaling up co-management systems for sustainable fisheries and wetland conservation in the central Ayeyarwady River basin. The project has established collaborative mechanisms between local fishing communities and relevant government authorities to support the sustainable management of leasable fisheries.

Capacity-building trainings and community consultations have been conducted across 12 targeted communities, resulting in increased awareness of fisheries regulations, biodiversity values, and sustainable practices.

Fishers/farmers associations have been formed and strengthened in targeted villages. In 11 Fish Conservation Zones (FCZs) in Ayeyarwady River, local fishers have agreed to adopt seasonal fishing bans during critical spawning periods and to designate community-based fish conservation zones.

To reduce dependence on unsustainable fishing, the project has supported the diversification by working with 10 village development groups and 8 organic farming groups. Initiatives include the promotion of alternative income-generating activities such as value-added fish products and sustainable agriculture. A total of 554 households from project villages received small grants to encourage the adoption of sustainable fisheries practices with women comprising 50% of grant recipients.

Biodiversity monitoring programs have been initiated in partnership with local communities and technical experts. Activities such as annual bird censuses, Irrawaddy dolphin surveys, fish migration studies, and monitoring of turtle nesting sites have been carried out. These efforts have helped improve understanding of key species populations, such as Irrawaddy dolphins, Burmese Peacock Softshell Turtles, and threatened and commercial fish species. Data from the monitoring efforts are being used to inform adaptive management strategies and advocate for stronger policy and legal support for co-management.

Environmental education programs have been actively implemented, with 32 awareness events conducted in Year 2, focusing on the conservation of fish, freshwater softshell turtles, and wetland

ecosystems. These events reached 2,774 participants (1,319 male and 1,455 female), including fishers, farmers, and students.

In the next phase, the project will focus on institutionalizing co-management frameworks at the project villages, enhancing market access for sustainably harvested fish products, and expanding conservation efforts to additional priority sites along the river. Strengthening the legal basis for co-management and advocating for policy reform will be key to ensuring long-term sustainability and resilience of the Ayeyarwady riverine ecosystem and its dependent communities.

The locations of the project are shown in Figure 1.

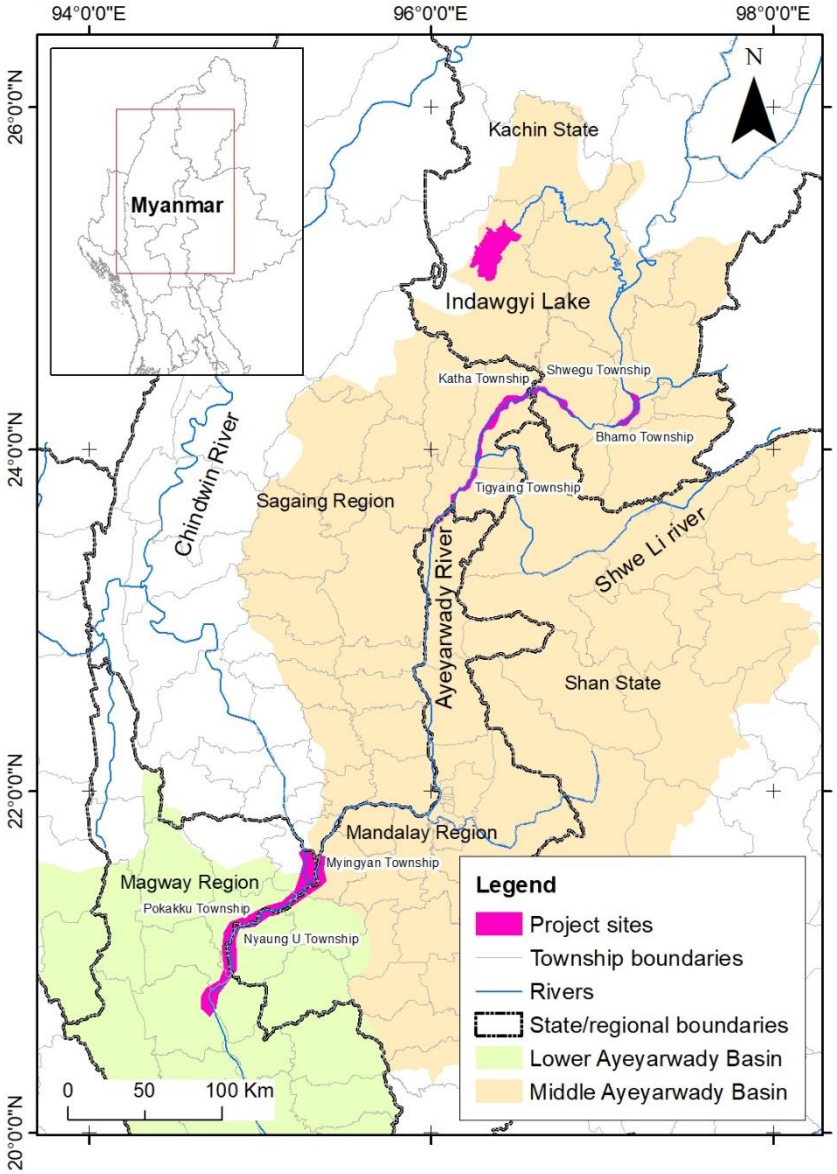

Figure 1. Map of project area

2. Project stakeholders/ partners

Fauna & Flora collaborates with many local partner organizations on the Sustainable Wetland Management in the Central Ayeyarwady River Basin project. All partners and stakeholders have actively participated and cooperated in the implementation of project activities. This collaborative effort has earned the trust of the communities involved in the project and has successfully achieved the project's objectives.

Marine Science Association Myanmar (MSAM)

The Marine Science Association Myanmar (MSAM) is a national NGO with experience in facilitating Locally Managed Marine Areas (LMMA), assessing gender involvement in the fishery sector, conducting fisheries surveys, and carrying out community outreach for sustainable marine and freshwater fishery management. MSAM has undertaken the initial assessment of socio-

economic surveys in potential project villages and conducted fish landing Catch Per Unit Effort (CPUE) survey every two months in the project villages. MSAM has also been working with project communities to establish community-led Fish Conservation Areas (FCAs) in 11 locations (Annex 6, Figure 1 to 9) along the Ayeyarwady River Basin.

Friends of Wildlife (FoW)

Friends of Wildlife (FoW), a local conservation organization, has 15 years of experience working with local fisher communities. They have been involved in sustainable fishery management in 3 protected areas: Kye-in Lake of Chatthin Wildlife Sanctuary, Inle, and Indawgyi Lakes. FoW is collaborated with Fishery Development Associations (FDAs) in Indawgyi and promoting sustainable fishery management through activities such as monthly fish landing site survey in seven villages, community patrol in 13 Indawgyi FCZ and community engagement. At the beginning of the project, FoW was conducted Knowledge, Attitude, and Behavior Survey (KAB) survey across fisher communities in 13 target villages. Total 416 fishers were involved in survey and the survey indicated that 75% are aware of the location of 10 Fish Conservation Zones (FCZ), 76% were familiar with Fish Closed Season, 73% were known about restricted fishing gear types announced by Department of Fishery (DoF) and male fishers have more knowledge on fish breeding season than female.

Indawgyi Natural Farming Association (INFA)

The Indawgyi Natural Farming Association (INFA) is a local civil society organization based in Indawgyi, founded in 2017. In 2018, INFA initiated the promotion of organic farming practices in collaboration with Myanmar Organic Grower and Producer Association (MOGPA) throughout the Indawgyi Lake basin. More than 200 farmers, and members of INFA, are following the internal control system according to the Participatory Grantee System (PGS) guidelines to obtain the PGS organic certificate. INFA is facilitating the formation of new organic farmer groups and maintaining existing farmer groups in the project, following awareness talks with local communities about organic farming initiations (Annex 6, Figure 10).

From March to April 2024, organic farming awareness meetings were organized in 8 villages, led by INFA committee members and project staff and 465 farmers joined the meetings. After the meeting, registration was opened for farmers who would like to follow the PGS organic system. Then, INFA supported organic farmers with an internal control system throughout the growing season.

By the end of the harvesting season in 2024, 258 farmers representing 878.95 ac of agricultural land were certified as PGS organic. (Table 1 and 2)

Table 1. Number of farmers in Indawgyi certified as PGS Organic in December 2024

Crop Type	PGS	Conversion	Total farmers
Paddy	143	56	199
Orchard	28	10	38
Tea	14	0	14
Home Garden	7	0	7
Total	192	66	258

Table 2. Farm areas in Indawgyi certified as PGS Organic in December 2024

Crop Type	PGS	Conversion	Total area (acre)
Paddy	500.78	161.62	662.4
Orchard	146.85	15.7	162.55
Tea	45	0	45
Home Garden	9	0	**9**
Total	**701.63**	**177.32**	**878.95**

Inn Chit Thu (ICT)

Inn Chit Thu (ICT), a social development and ecotourism group, is a local civil society organization based in Indawgyi. It was founded in 2013 to develop community-based ecotourism and raise awareness on the wise use of wetlands, including waste management and household sanitation. ICT is participating in awareness-raising activities to share lessons learned, upscale the adoption of best practices in wetland management throughout the Ayeyarwady basin, and promote an intact, free-flowing Ayeyarwady River. The ICT team led the awareness activities at Indawgyi Wetlands Education Centre (IWEC). The team also raises wetlands conservation awareness activities both in schools and villages.

Shanni Literature and Culture Association (SLCA)

The Shanni Literature and Culture Association (SLCA) is a long-term partner of FFI and manages the Indawgyi Wetland Education Centre/ Student Accommodation in Indawgyi. SLCA is implementing the management of the Indawgyi Wetland Education Centre and Student Accommodation, providing training and education programs for visitors on the wise use of wetlands. SLCA primarily conducted the upgrading of sanitation facilities for IWEC and delivered awareness activities in cooperation with ICT.

Engagement with Local Stakeholders and Private Sector

The project also fosters collaboration beyond formal partners, involving local communities, public institutions, and technical specialists through regular consultations and joint activities. British embassies have been informed and engaged through periodic briefings.

To support sustainable livelihoods and market access, the project formalized partnerships with two wholesalers: Pi Htan Taw local product shop in Bagan, and Ma Myint grocery shop in Salay town and two hotel owners in Bagan: Bagan View Hotel and Umbra Hotel. One wholesaler: Ma Myint grocery shop has signed a distribution agreement to market biodiversity-friendly products, including fruit-based wines produced under the project's value-added product initiatives.

Stakeholders, including local communities, have been engaged through diverse formats such as workshops, community consultations, training, surveys, and educational events tailored to different audiences.

3. Project progress

3.1 Progress in carrying out project 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

The survey will be repeated in Q3 Y3.

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)

In Year 2, the project facilitated the establishment of a village fisher group network and an organic farmer group network. Communication channels, including Viber and phone lines, were established to share data collection on turtle sightings, nesting sites, fish species, and conservation efforts.

On 21 December 2024, a workshop on the establishment of a Fish Conservation Zone (FCZ) and developing a Management Plan was organized with participants from group networks, and other relevant stakeholders from the project sites. A total of 84 representatives (55 Male and 29 Female) from 12 groups participated in the workshop (Annex 6, Figure 11). The participants including partners' CSO including such as MSAM and FoW, shared their experiences about community-based patrolling, future expectations of the FCZ establishment, organic farming

practices and results, value-added products, and future market development expectations and weaknesses for their products.

Moreover, the Facebook page "Save Freshwater Together" (https://fb.com/SaveFreshwaterTogether) was developed in Year 1 (Annex 6, Figure 12) and shared among the project communities. The page posted regular updates about the project activities in Year 2.

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

This activity is completed in Y1.

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

The organizational Resilience Check (ORC) for the IWEC partner, Shanni Literature and Culture Association, was completed in Y1. ORC for Inn Chit Thu was conducted in May of Y2 and the results show in Table 3. The ORC for all two groups is planned to be repeated in Q4 Y3.

Table 3. ORC result of Inn Chit Thu Social Development and Ecotourism Group

No.	Theme	Average
1	Organisational Planning and Management	40%
2	Organizational Resilience	25%
3	Leadership and Management	40%
4	Governance	37%
5	Human Resources and Volunteer Management	55%
6	Internal Communications	20%
7	Funding	42%
8	Finance Management	40%
9	Project Lifecycle	45%
10	Organisational Learning	13%
11	External Communications	31%
12	Partnerships and Networks	53%

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

To develop Inn Chit Thu's organizational planning and management, a 6-day Project Cycle Management and Community-Based Organizational Development training was conducted for 6 Inn Chit Thu members (1 Male and 5 Female) from 3 to 8 December 2024. (Annex 6, Figure 13)

1.6 Support IWEC to deliver training/visitor programs for wetland management, including training modules/ materials

The Indawgyi Wetlands Education Centre (IWEC) operates to raise wetlands awareness among local and regional visitors. The center was usually open daily from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. It was co-managed by Inn Chit Thu, FFI, and Indawgyi Wildlife Sanctuary, with at least 2 staff from each organization assigned to the center operations. The center not only provides a space for visitor education but also hosts local students for organizing ecosystem classes. Due to political instability, the center has been temporarily closed since 21 June 2024. Before the closure, it received 490 visitors between April 2024 and June 2024. In addition, IWEC organized a weekly student class during May and June 2024. Each week, at least 15 local students participated in these classes which covered modules such as bird watching, studying fish species, village waste management, and an introduction to ecotourism. Moreover, the center hosted several event days, including World Earth Day (25 April 2024, 50 participants), World Migratory Birds Day (11 May 2024, 29 participants), International Day for Biological Diversity (22 May 2024, 63 participants), World Environment Day (5 June 2024, 70 participants), World Oceans Day (8 June 2024, 20 participants) and World Wetlands Day (2 February 2025, 102 participants).

Although the center was temporarily closed, wetlands awareness activities continued to be carried out at primary schools and villages by the Inn Chit Thu and Shanni Association.

During the reporting period, a total of 14 awareness events were organized at 7 primary schools and 4 villages, attended by 1,172 students and 250 people. At school, awareness events, and topics such as Wetlands values, migratory birds, and ecosystem services were presented. The school awareness activity also included practical classes related to ecosystem services such as water filtration tests and photosynthesis tests. Village awareness focused on waste separation and plastic waste management. (Annex 6, Figure 14, 15)

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

In Year 2, the project conducted 32 awareness events, reaching a total of 2,774 local participants—including fishers, farmers, and students—with a focus on the conservation of fish, freshwater softshell turtles, and wetland ecosystems (Annex 5, Table 1). These included 15 events in villages, engaging 755 community members (420 male, 335 female), and 14 school-based events, reaching 1,761 students (780 male, 981 female).

As part of these efforts, 3 events were held to mark international environmental days—World Fish Migration Day 2024, World Turtle Day 2024, and World Wetlands Day 2025—which reached 258 participants (119 male, 139 female), and were included in the total participant count.

The project's Facebook page "Save Freshwater Together" (https://fb.com/SaveFreshwaterTogether), created in Y1 now reached to 676 followers. Project activity, images and video files, conservation efforts, and community involvement were shared on this page. During the reporting period, the project posted activities related to the following topics with the public access;

1) Collaborative co-managed FCAs results and outcomes
2) Awareness talks about the conservation of Fish, freshwater softshell turtles, and wetland ecosystems
3) The importance of FCAs and floodplains in sustaining fish stocks
4) Monitoring and patrolling the Burmese Peacock Softshell turtle nesting site within the FCAs
5) Community-led efforts to release Burmese Peacock Softshell turtles back into nature
6) Communities' participatory FCA boundary demarcation process meeting
7) Sharing updates on organic pilot farming practices that reduce chemical use near the fish conservation areas
8) Capacity-building training for local stakeholders
9) Establishment of a Fish Conservation Area/ Zone (FCA/CPA) and development of a Management Plan workshop

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 (organizational development, small grant management, empowerment of women/ vulnerable people, sustainable fisheries)

In order to increase the capacity of local partners and fisheries associations in collaborative co-management of FCZs, total of 29 training sessions for 8 different topics were conducted across 11 FCAs in Year 2 (Annex 6, Figure 16, 17, 18, 19). The training involved 665 participants (416 Male and 249 Female) and details were as follows:

1. Organic Farming Training (2 times): 3-days training was conducted for local farmers to raise awareness of organic practices and their importance for protecting the valuable environment of the Ayeyarwady River and its associated wetlands at Sar Lel and May Nu Kyun villages in August 2024. The main topics included in the training are the production of organic fertilizers, insecticides, and fungicides by using agricultural waste from their farms and surrounding areas (bio-recycling). A total of 85 participants (45 Male and 40 Female) attended the training. Annex 4, report no.

2. Organic Farming Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) Training (5 times) : The training introduced the PGS framework and principles to support organic certification and ensure quality standards for organic products for the farmers in the Ayeyarwady River and associated wetlands region. A total of 176 farmers (124 Male and 52 Female) participated in the training.
3. Agro-Based Value-Added Foodstuffs Production Training (1 time): The training was organized over seven days to deliver the scope of fruit processing on Jam, juice, syrup, wine, bristle, pickles, flakes, and add value to agricultural products, enhancing marketability and income generation in Sar Sel village in July 2024. A total of 30 participants (1 Male and 29 Female) attended.
4. Freshwater Softshell Turtle Taxonomy and Conservation (1 time): 4-days training provided knowledge on species identification, ecological importance, and conservation practices to protect freshwater softshell turtles in Bagan in September 2024. A total of 31 participants (17 Male and 24 Female) attended.
5. Financial management and bookkeeping training (8 times): The training delivered the financial management for small grantees (Community Based Organization) to effectively carry out accounting and write financial reports. A total of 125 participants (73 Male and 52 Female) attended.
6. Gender Training (1 time): It was conducted over three days in Bagan from 19 to 21 June 2024, with a total of 38 participants (17 Male and 21 Female). The training aimed to reinforce the concepts of gender equality, women's empowerment, and a multifaceted approach to gender issues, enabling participants to apply these principles effectively in their work.
7. Organizational Development training (2 times): Each 3-days training was conducted in Magway from 17 to 19 February 2025 and in Bagan from 23 to 25 February 2025. The training aimed to enhance the capacity of fisher and farmer groups by strengthening their organizational structure, governance, and long-term sustainability. A total of 36 participants, comprising 17 male and 19 female participated in the training.
8. Patrolling and basic GPS Application training (9 times): The training was conducted primary for fisher communities to enable them manage FCA effectively. It took place in 9 villages during June 2024 and covered topics such as patrol preparation and observation data recording. A total of 144 participants (122 Male and 22 Female) attended the trainings.

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

The organizational resilience check for 8 local fisheries group were conducted in the beginning of Year 2. According to the organizational resilience check, the project supports capacity-building activities during the project, including training on small grant management, leadership, organizational development, Gender, Organic farming, fish and turtle identification conservation, and market system development. A follow-up organizational resilience check will be conducted at Q4 Y3.

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

The project facilitated the development of fisheries co-management agreements between leasehold fisheries owners and village fisheries associations in key habitats along the Ayeyarwady River Basin. This was achieved through a series of joint planning meetings and negotiation workshops organized by the project team. Technical assistance was provided to both leasehold owners and village associations to draft clear, mutually beneficial co-management agreements. As a result, a total of 9 co-management agreements were formally signed between fisheries leasehold owners and village fisheries associations (Annex 6, Figure 20). Key provisions of these agreements include:

- Leasehold owners agree to establish community-led fish conservation areas.
- The establishment of these conservation areas will strictly adhere to regional rules and regulations.
- Leasehold fisheries owners commit to actively participating in all project-implemented steps required to successfully establish community-led fish conservation areas.

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

In Year 1, the project team assessed 21 potential Fish Conservation Zones (FCZs) along the Ayeyarwady River and one in Indawgyi Lake for possible designation. This assessment was followed by village consultations to initiate the FCZ establishment process and determine FCZ boundaries. However, due to the political situation in some areas, the project was unable to proceed with the FCZ designation process at 10 sites (see Table 4). As a result, the project continued the process at 12 sites.

Following the consultation meetings, the project conducted socio-economic surveys and a Knowledge, Attitudes, and Behaviors (KAB) assessment. In accordance with Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) procedures, the project facilitated the formation of FCZ management committees in the 12 sites. FCZ rules and regulations were developed through additional consultation meetings in each of these communities.

In Year 2, the project supported the development of FCZ management plans, including zonation. A total of 44 village consultation meetings were conducted in 11 FCZs along the Ayeyarwady River, involving members of the respective FCZ management committees and members. As part of the designation process, agreements were secured from 13 village authorities and 9 leasable fishery owners.

The project then facilitated the submission of FCZ designation applications by 12 management committees to the Department of Fisheries (DoF), the government authority responsible for legal FCZ recognition. These applications covered approximately 1,929.09 hectares of critical habitat.

Also in Y2, the project continued assessing additional FCZs along the Ayeyarwady River. A total of 25 new locations were evaluated, and 7 sites were identified as suitable for potential FCZ designation. Village consultation meetings were held at these sites to initiate the designation process and discuss proposed FCZ boundaries. Locations of the FCZs are shown at Figure 2. (Annex 6, Figure 21)

Table 4. Status of Fish Conservation Zones

No.	Potential FCZs	Village names	State/ Region	Assessment in Y1	Assessment in Y2	Status
1	Ma Na Khaw, Indawgyi Lake	Ma Na Khaw	Kachin	X		Application submitted
2	Ta Law Gyi, Ayeyarwaddy River	Ta Law Gyi	Kachin	X		Suspended
3	Bhamo 1, Ayeyarwaddy River	Bhamo	Kachin	X		Suspended
4	Bhamo 2, Ayeyarwaddy River	Bhamo	Kachin	X		Suspended
5	Katha 1, Ayeyarwaddy River	Katha	Sagaing	X		Suspended
6	Katha 2, Ayeyarwaddy River	Inn Ywar	Sagaing	X		Suspended
7	Takaung, Ayeyarwaddy River	Takaung	Mandalay	X		Suspended
8	Chaung Ma Gyi, Ayeyarwaddy River	Chaung Ma Gyi	Sagaing	X		Suspended

No.	Potential FCZs	Village names	State/ Region	Assessment in Y1	Assessment in Y2	Status
9	Sin Kyun, Ayeyarwaddy River	Sin Kyun	Mandalay	X		Suspended
10	Wachat, Ayeyarwaddy River	Wachat	Sagaing	X		Suspended
11	Thint Thei, Ayeyarwaddy River	Thint Thei	Magway	X		Suspended
12	Tha Hpan Kone, Ayeyarwaddy River	Tha Hpan Kone	Mandalay	X		Application submitted
13	Bagan Kyun Inn/Koe Lone, Ayeyarwaddy River	Koe Lone	Mandalay	X		Application submitted
14	Myo Hla, Ayeyarwaddy River	Myo Hla	Mandalay	X		Application submitted
15	Kya Oh Kyun, Ayeyarwaddy River	Kya Oh Kyun	Mandalay	X		Application submitted
16	Sint Ku, Ayeyarwaddy River	Sint Ku	Mandalay	X		Application submitted
17	Let Pan Kyun (Zee Khon), Ayeyarwaddy River	Let Pan Kyun	Magway	X		Application submitted
18	Kyauk Ye, Ayeyarwaddy River	Kyauk Ye	Magway	X		Application submitted
19	Sar Lel, Ayeyarwaddy River	Sar Lel,	Magway	X		Application submitted
20	Chauk Pin Kyun, Ayeyarwaddy River	Chauk Pin Kyun	Magway	X		Application submitted
21	Hpaung Lin	Hpaung Lin	Magway		X	FCZ committee formation process
22	Myin Kun-Myay Nu Kyun, Ayeyarwaddy River	Myin Kun, Myay Nu Kyun	Magway	X		Application submitted
23	Tet Thit Kyun, Ayeyarwaddy River	Tet Thit Kyun	Bago	X		Application submitted
24	Thu Ye See, Ayeyarwaddy	Thu Ye See	Bago		X	FCZ committee formation process
25	The Yet Thone Pin	The Yet Thone Pin	Bago		X	FCZ committee formation process
26	Nyaung Kyoe (Ingapu)	Nyaung Kyoe	Ayeyar-waddy		X	FCZ committee formation process
27	Ka Wet Kin-Pa Laung Gyi	Ka Wet Kin, Pa Laung Gyi	Ayeyar-waddy		X	FCZ committee formation process
28	Tha Ywet Myaik	Tha Ywet Myaik	Ayeyar-waddy		X	FCZ committee formation process

No.	Potential FCZs	Village names	State/ Region	Assessment in Y1	Assessment in Y2	Status
29	Thabaung	Thabaung	Ayeyar-waddy		X	FCZ committee formation process

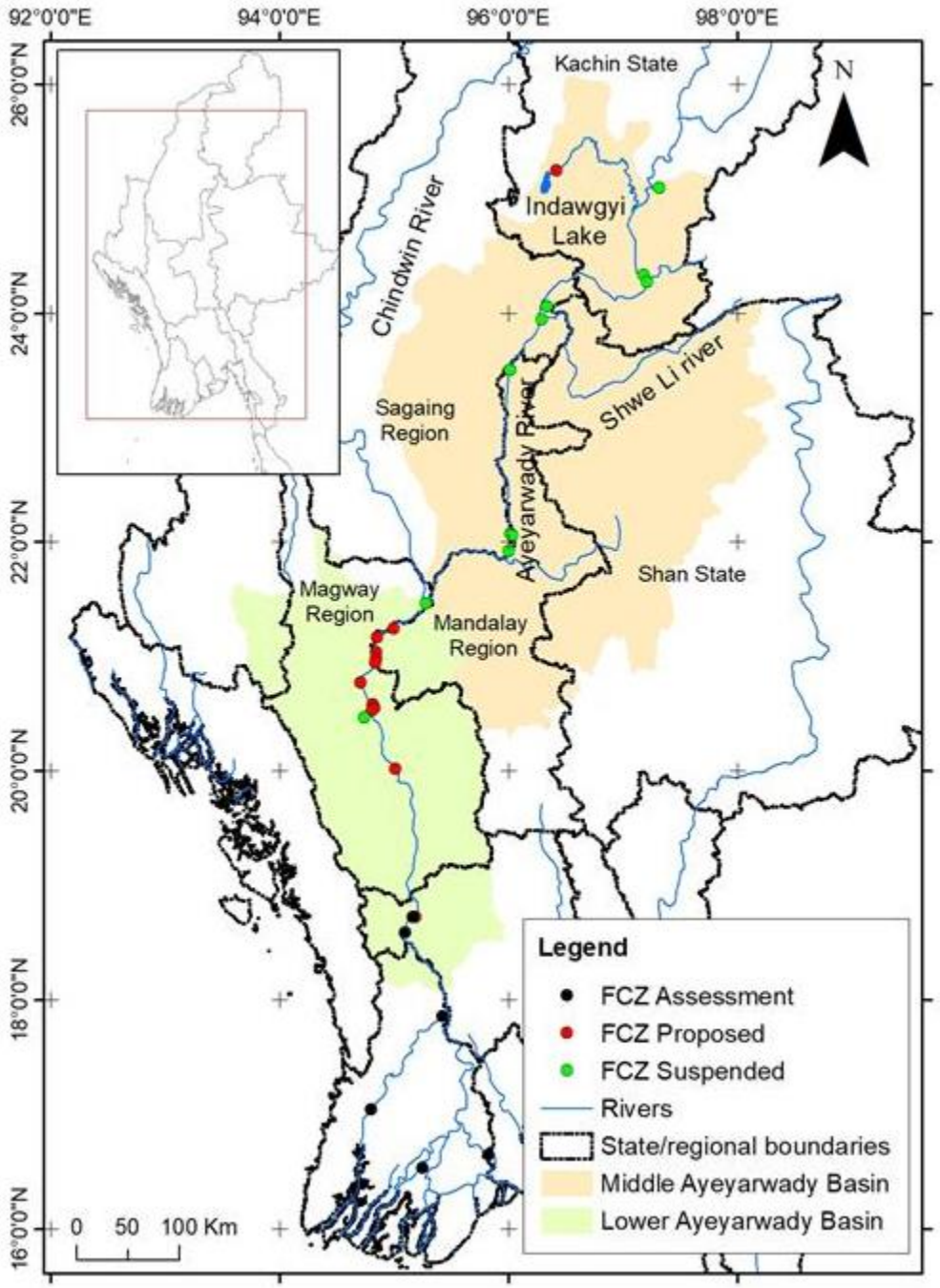

Figure 2. Map showing locations of FCZs and their status (Assessment= FCZ committee formation process, Proposed=Application submitted, Suspended=Suspended)

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

In June 2024, the project team conducted a training for FCZ members in the Ayeyarwady River region on patrolling Fish Conservation Zones (FCZs) and turtle conservation areas, as well as

basic GPS use. The training covered key topics such as patrol planning, observation techniques, and data recording. A total of 175 participants (139 men and 36 women) attended the training. Following the training, financial support was provided to 10 community-based patrol teams. These teams carried out patrols across 11 FCZs along the Ayeyarwady River over a 20-day period during June, July, and August 2024 (Annex 6, Figure 22).

Additionally, a partner organization, FoW, facilitated community-based patrolling for 2 days a week in 10 FCZs in Indawgyi during the fishing closed season from March to June 2024, to mitigate illegal fishing activities. The patrol operations revealed that most fishers preferred fishing traps over nets. The most significant threat is the use of illegal fishing gear, long fishing traps, the local name “Tar-Kaw-Hmyone”, which can trap any size of fish. As soon as the patrol team observed that, the team immediately acted by educating the intruding fishers about the regulation of FCZ. In addition, at the beginning of the project, fishers from 3 villages in Indawgyi (Nant Thaung Se, Nant Mee Laung and Nant Pa De) agreed not to use long fishing traps till to now.

Monitoring of Burmese Peacock Softshell Turtle nesting sites was conducted between August 2024 and July 2025 during key lunar phases—full moon, new moon, and midway phases. Monitoring took place three to four times per week and was carried out by two trained FCZ members, covering both Ma Na Khaw FCZ in Indawgyi Lake and Bagan Kyun/Koe Lone FCZ in the Ayeyarwady River. During the reporting period, a total of 10 nesting sites were recorded in the Indawgyi and 6 nesting sites in the Ayeyarwady River. In addition to monitoring efforts, the local community in Indawgyi actively contributed to conservation by protecting nesting sites with protective fencing. (Annex 6, Figure 23)

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

A total of 10 livelihoods small grants were provided in Year 2 to 10 communities groups (9 groups in Ayeyarwady and 1 groups in Indawgyi) through 8 FCZ sites for sustainable fishery and wetland management and promoting conservation stewardship. The grants are provided within the framework of community conservation stewardship agreements, encouraging the wise use of wetlands while improving community livelihoods. These grants benefited 258 families in Indawgyi and Ayeyarwady River. (Table 5 and Annex 6, Figure 24, 25, 26)

Table 5. Small grant support for livelihoods development

.No	FCZs	Group names	Villages	State/Region	Activities	House Holds	Male	Female	total beneficiaries
1	Ma Na Khaw, Indawgyi Lake	Kum Ah Thit Freshwater Conservation Group	Ma Na Khaw	Kachin	Micro-Credit Project	21	65	52	117
2	Tha Hpan Kone, Ayeyarwady River	Tha Hpan Kone group	Tha Hpan Kone	Manda-lay	Pig raising project	30	67	50	117
3	Bagan Kyun/Koe Lone, Ayeyarwady River	Bagan Kyun Inn/Koe Lone Freshwater Conservation Group	Koe Lone	Manda-lay	Fish-based value-added product-salted fish/dry fish	15	32	31	63

.No	FCZs	Group names	Villages	State/Region	Activities	House Holds	Male	Female	total beneficiaries
4	Sint Ku, Ayeyarwady River	Sin Ku freshwater conservation group	Sint Ku	Mandalay	Micro-Credit Project	15	36	30	66
5	Sint Ku, Ayeyarwady River	Sint Ku Fishery Group	Sint Ku		Micro-Credit Project	40	80	106	186
6	Let Pan Kyun (Zee Khon), Ayeyarwady River	Zee Khon freshwater conservation group	Let Pan Kyun	Magway	Fish-based value-added product-salted fish	24	62	52	114
7	Sar Lel, Ayeyarwady River	Toe Tet Aung pig raising group	Sar Lel,	Magway	Pig raising project	55	122	147	269
8	Sar Lel, Ayeyarwady River	Ayar Shwe Myay Organic fertilizer production group	Sar Lel,		Organic Fertilizer Production Project	9	22	21	43
9	Myin Kun-Myay Nu Kyun, Ayeyarwady River	Myay Nu Organic farming group	Myin Kun, Myay Nu Kyun	Magway	Pig raising project	28	53	52	105
10	Tet Thit Kyun, Ayeyarwady River	Tet Thit Kyun Fishery group	Tet Thit Kyun	Bago	Micro-Credit Project	21	40	37	77

2.7 Provide gender training for fisheries associations

Gender training was provided to members of fisher and farmer groups to strengthen their understanding of gender equality and promote inclusive participation in aquatic resource management and decision-making processes for fisheries and wetland conservation. A total of 38 participants (17 men and 21 women) attended the training, which was held in Bagan from 19 to 21 June 2024. The training covered a wide range of key topics, including understanding sex and gender; the differences between sex and gender; SOGIESC (Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Expression, and Sex Characteristics); gender-related issues; violence and harassment; gender-based violence (GBV) and its types; responding to GBV; gender stereotypes; gender equality and equity; leadership and management; personal leadership and proactivity; women in leadership and the benefits of women's leadership; self-empowerment and interpersonal communication; emotional intelligence; and effective decision-making. (Annex 6, Figure 27)

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

Fish catch and landing site monitoring surveys led by MSAM and local fisheries groups were conducted every two months in 8 FCZs along the Ayeyarwady River. The survey collects data on fish catches, Catch Per Unit Effort (CPUE), and the length-weight relationship of fish species. Surveys in Year 2 from April to December 2024 recorded 51 fish species caught by fishers. This data helps assess trends in fish populations and evaluate the impact of conservation measures. The economically important fish species recorded along the Ayeyarwady River included Hilsa shad, Pangas catfish, Wallago, and Ayer species. (Figure 3, Annex 5, Table 2 and Annex 6, Figure 28)

In Indawgyi Lake, monthly fish landing site survey was conducted by FoW from the beginning of the project in 7 villages; Lone Ton, Ma Mon Kaing, Lel Pon Lay, He par, Nant Pa De, Lone Sant and Nyaung Pin. However, survey in two villages (Lone Sant and Nyaung Pin) were suspended from May 2024 due to safety concern. FoW recorded 36 fish species from Indawgyi in Y2 (Figure 4 and Annex 5, Table 3 and Annex 6, Figure 29). The main species landed by the fishers in Indawgyi were Ayer, Bronze featherback, and Osteobrama. Survey also resulted that monthly occurrence of fish species in Indawgyi ranged from 6 to 28 while 9 species are under commercially important. Among commercially important species, 2 species (*Labeo rohita* (Nga-myit-chin) and *Sperata acivularis* (Nga-gyaung)) showed the highest yield, totaling caught 15.85 kg/fisher/day and 15.28 kg/fisher/day at Nant Pa De village for year-round.

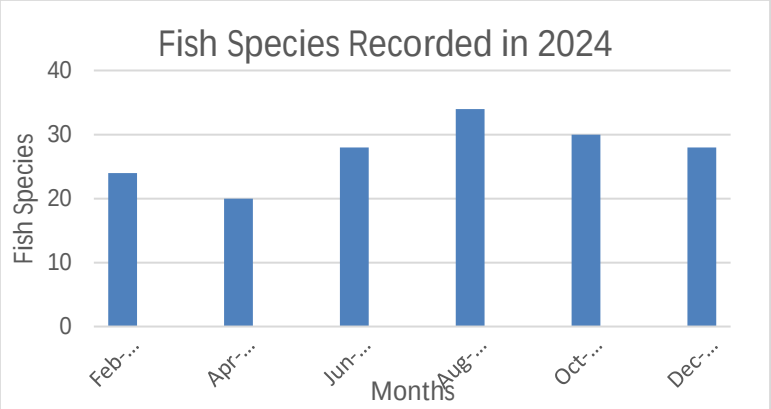

Figure 3. Number of fish species recorded in Ayeyarwady river basin

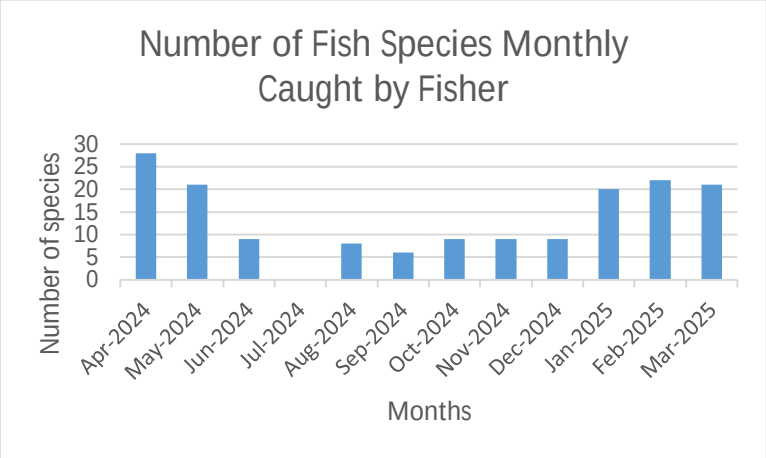

Figure 4. Number of fish species monthly caught by fisher in Indawgyi Lake

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

In Indawgyi, Asia Waterbirds Census for 2025 was conducted together with Indawgyi Wildlife Sanctuary and local partners on 6 January. It was recorded 20,207 individuals representing 46 bird species. Moreover, annual mid-winter waterbirds census was conducted at three localities: around Pyay, Magway and Bagan along Ayeyarwady River between January and February 2025. A total of 106 bird species were recorded across 9 sampling sites across three sruvey locations. Among them, the Critically Endangered Yellow-breasted Bunting (Emberiza aureola), one

globally threatened species—the Lesser Sand-plover (*Charadrius mongolus*), and one Near Threatened species—the Red-necked Stint (*Calidris ruficollis*)—were observed.

In February 2025, an Irrawaddy dolphin survey was conducted along the lower stretch of the Ayeyarwady River between Mandalay and Magway, Bago Region. Six Irrawaddy dolphins were recorded near Sin Kyun village. Additionally, one Irrawaddy dolphin was observed near Bagan Kyun/Koe Lone FCZ. Local communities continue to monitor Irrawaddy dolphins near these key sites and regularly share information to project staff.

Additionally, migratory fish species survey conducted over three seasons (winter, summer and rainy) recorded total 49 fish species, including six migratory species, Hilsa shad (*Tenualosa ilisha*), Silond catfish (*Silonia silondia*), Salween rita (*Rita sacerdotum*), Pangas catfish (*Pangasius pangasius, myanmar*) and Paradise fish *Polynemus* sp. (Annex 5, Table 4)

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

The project facilitated the establishment of 8 local organic farmers groups (Table 6), in 8 project villages in the Ayeyarwady River in Year 2 that formed through a participatory process that respected Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC), and engaging interested farmers, including women and marginalized community members. Initial efforts focused on raising awareness of the benefits of organic farming and identifying motivated farmer leaders. The project supports each organic farmer group such as financial management, organic farming practices and principles training, and linking with the market.

Table 6. Organic farmers group in Ayeyarwady river basin

No.	FCZs	Group names	Village names	State/ Region	Households	Male	Female	Total beneficiaries
1	Tha Hpan Kone, Ayeyarwaddy River	Thu Kaung Ti organic farming group	Thu Kaung Ti	Mandalay	5	9	13	22
2	Myo Hla, Ayeyarwaddy River	Myo Hla organic farming group	Myo Hla	Mandalay	10	20	22	42
3	Kya Oh Kyun, Ayeyarwaddy River	Kya Oh Kyun organic farming group	Kya Oh Kyun	Mandalay	9	23	24	47
4	Kyauk Ye, Ayeyarwaddy River	Sar Lel organic farming group 1	Kyauk Ye, Sar Lel	Magway	10	24	30	54
5	Chauk Pin Kyun, Ayeyarwaddy River	Chauk Pin Kyun organic farming group	Chauk Pin Kyun	Magway	10	20	20	40
6	Sar Lel, Ayeyarwaddy River	Sar Lel organic farming group 2	Sar Lel,	Magway	11	31	28	59

No.	FCZs	Group names	Village names	State/ Region	Households	Male	Female	Total beneficiaries
7	Myin Kun-Myay Nu Kyun, Ayeyarwaddy River	Myay Nu Kyun organic farming group	Myay Nu Kyun	Magway	23	40	51	91
8	Tet Thit Kyun, Ayeyarwaddy River	Tet Thit Kyun organic farming group	Tet Thit Kyun	Bago	26	44	57	101
					104	211	245	456

3.2 Conduct organizational resilience check at project start and end for the local farmer's associations.

Organizational resilience check for local farmer association will be conducted in Q1 Y3 and repeat in Q4 Y3.

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

Project organized financial management and bookkeeping training, and organizational development trainings for fisher/farmer groups. Please see detail in activity 2.1. (Annex 5, Table 5)

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

The project organized organic farming trainings in collaboration with MOGPA in Y2 (Please see detail in Activity 2.1). Following these trainings, project facilitated establishment of Farmer Field Schools (FFS) for organic farming techniques based on FAO standards. Each organic pilot farming village implemented the FFS model through collaboration between trainers and farmers, using participatory and experiential learning methods. A total of 116 participants (78 Male and 38 Female) organic farmers participated in the Farmer Field Schools activities (Annex 5, Table 6 and Annex 6, Figure 30). In FFS, trainers and farmers were sharing the following topics.

- The impact of pesticides and herbicides, and the benefits of mixed cropping,
- The role of beneficial microorganisms in soil for crops cultivation,
- Nature-based methods for pest control without the use of synthetic pesticides,
- Challenges and difficulties in implementing organic practices,
- Discussions among local farmers about organic methods they were already practicing,
- Practical training on the organic Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) method, conducted not only through written instruction but also through hands-on field demonstrations

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

With the provision of small grants to 8 farmer groups, the project developed and implemented on-farm pilot demonstrations to introduce a range of innovative organic farming practices. These included the use of bio-fertilizers and bio-pesticides, and context-appropriate methods such as crop rotation, composting, and intercropping. The pilot farms served as model farms within the project locations. A total of 87.27 acres of pilot farms were established by 103 farmers across the 7 project villages along the Ayeyarwady River basin. (Annex 5, Table 7)

In Indawgyi, INFA facilitated two organic famer groups to establish production of quality rice seeds.

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

The project facilitated forming of 8 organic farmer groups in 8 villages and then, delivered training of Internal Control Systems (ICS) in each village to be in line with IFOAM participatory group certification standards. The ICS process was highly participatory, building local ownership and preparing associations for group certification pathways. (Annex 6, Figure 31)

A total of 8 organic farmers' groups carried out internal control systems which included the following activities.

- Entering farmer details, such as farmer name, growing area, variety used, and date of fertilizer application.
- Conducting farmer-to-farmer peer reviews within each group.
- Carrying out inter-group farm assessments.
- Holding farmer-leader meetings to prepare the final certification list.

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

The project introduced Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) and facilitated for certification, in collaboration with Myanmar Organic Grower and Producer Association (MOGPA) [Ref.6]. A total of 8 farmers' groups were guided through the PGS processes, which involved:

- Capacity building on PGS principles, documentation, and peer review processes.
- Group practices with Myanmar PGS standards.
- Coordination with MOGA for site assessments, peer evaluations, and certification visits.

As a result, total 103 farmers (66 PGS organic and 37 Conversion) during the reporting period in 7 project villages. (Table 7 & 8 and Annex 6, Figure 32)

Table 7. Number of farmers managing land in Ayeyarwady river basin certified as PGS Organic in March 2025

Crop Types	PGS	Conversion	Total farmers
Field Crops	38	24	**62**
Horticultural Crops	19	9	**28**
Field and Horticultural Crops	9	4	**13**
Total	**66**	**37**	**103**

Table 8. Farm areas in Ayeyarwady reiver basin certified as PGS Organic in March 2025

Crop Types	PGS (ac)	Conversion (ac)	Total (acre)
Field Crops	34.40	20.40	**54.80**
Horticultural Crops	12.47	6.60	**19.07**
Field and Horticultural Crops	9.80	3.60	**13.40**
Total	**56.67**	**30.60**	**87.27**

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

To promote biodiversity-friendly products, the project was able to support a fruit-based value-added production group in Zee Kone village of Lat Pan Kyun FCZ to develop product logo and register as a small-scale enterprise with the name "Ayar Lover" at the Micro, Small & Medium Enterprise (MSME) Department (Annex 6, Figure 33). Moreover, the project also facilitated development of project brand for a local Organic Fertilizer Production Group in Sar Lel FCZ. The Organic Fertilizer Production Group is in the process of finalizing the branding logo through ongoing discussions.

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

In Year1, a one-day training workshop was conducted on the 15 of March 2024 in Bagan, Nyaung U township, to introduce the Participatory Market System Development (PMSD) to project partners and stakeholders. In 2024, the project provided two additional trainings for market development. First training was a 4-days Market System Development and Enterprise Management, and conducted in July 2024. Another training was Market Strategic and Planning Training and hold from 21-23 September 2024. These trainings supported the capacity building of our project partner MSAM (1 Male and 3 Female), FoW (2 Male and 2 Female) and another related partner.

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

Assessment for fisheries products and villages' resources was conducted at 9 villages in Y1. Four out of nine villages were identified to produce fish-based value-added products and fruit-based products, involving 20 respondents representing a mix of both female and male participants (Annex 5, Table 8). With the project's support, two village groups (Koe Lone village and Zee Khon village) produced salted fish, plum jam, and wine.

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

A market survey for fish and others product was conducted by the MSAM team from April 2024. The results indicated that fishermen in the project villages sell their catch not only directly to consumers, local markets, and local restaurants, but also to fish collectors who distribute the catch to other areas. (Figure 5)

For fruit-based products such as plums and citrus, they are sold as raw materials directly to village-level collectors and to business owners who produce value-added products, which are then transported to Yangon and Mandalay (Figure 6).

For field crops such as peanuts and sesame, local farmers sell to local traders as well as to edible oil producers (Figure 7).

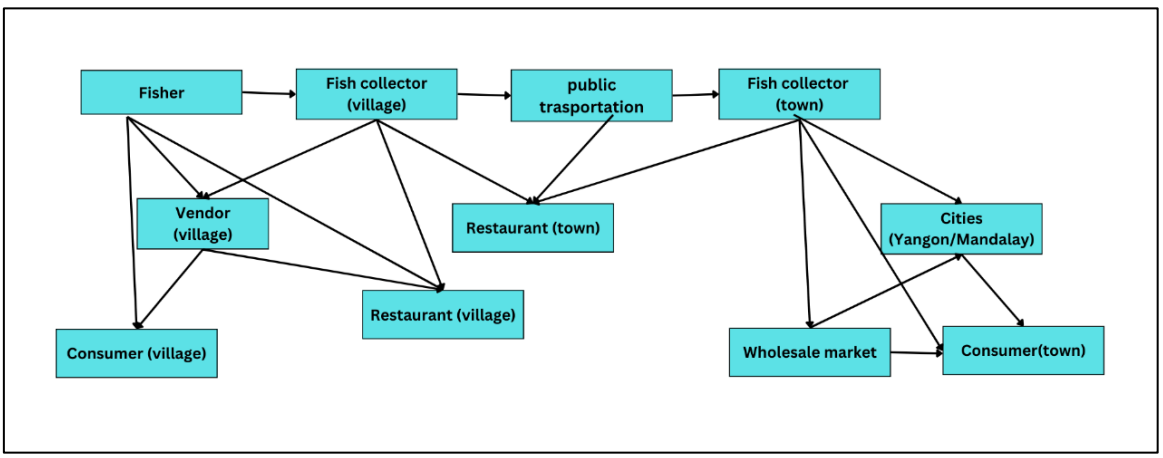

Figure 5. Fishery market chain in surveyed villages

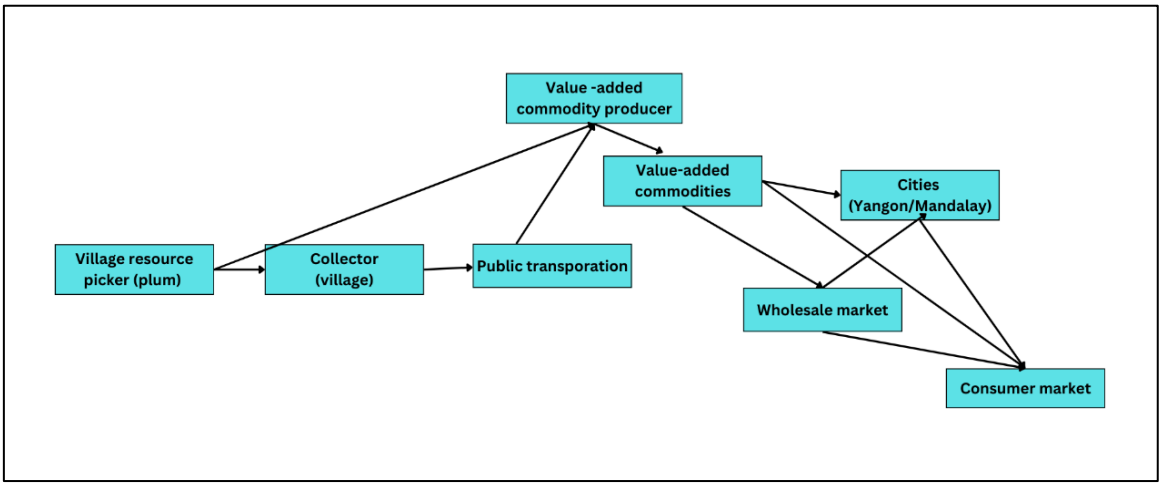

Figure 6. Fruit-based raw materials market chain in surveyed villages

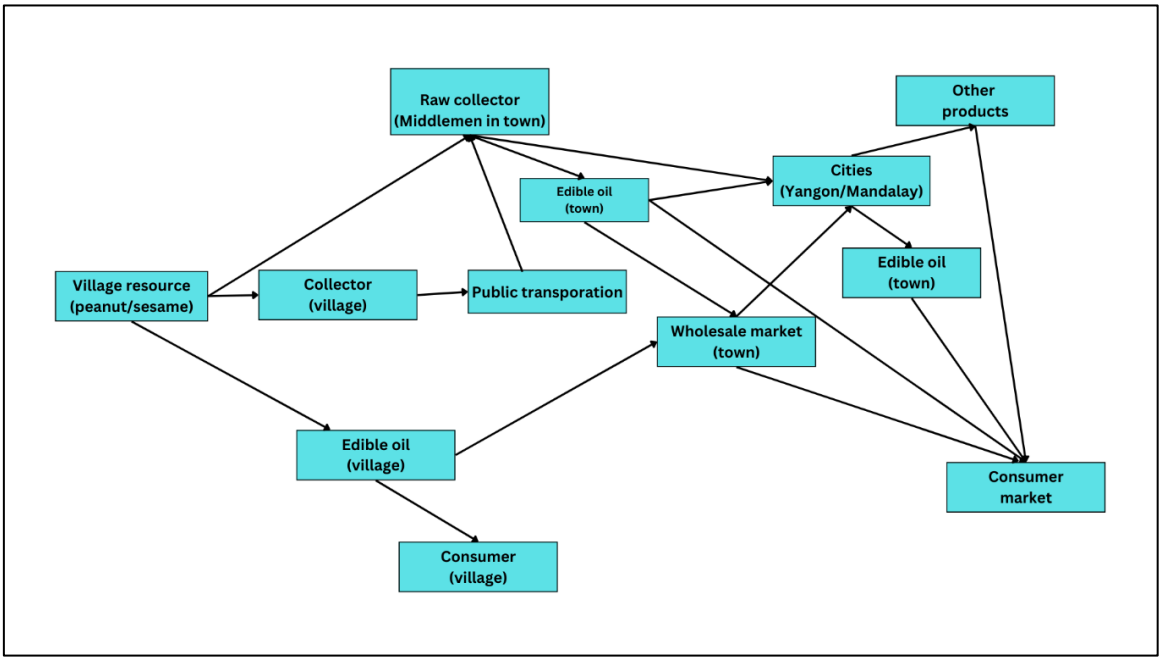

Figure 7. Field crops market chain in surveyed villages

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

In Year 2, project initiated facilitation of the development of strategic plans for two products: salted fish from Koe Lone village and bio-fertilizer from Sar Lel village. Community members from both villages participated in a series of meetings to identify market opportunities for their products. The activity is being supported by UK office based FFI technical specialist, enterprise.

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

This activity was implemented in Year 1.

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

In order to familiar with the supply chain and value chain, the project organized Agro-Based Value-Added Foodstuffs Production Training in Sar Le village for 30 participants (Please see activity 2.1). Then, the project supported value chain improvements for salted fish and bio-fertilizer products from Kone Lone and Sar Le village.

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

The project provided targeted training sessions for fisheries associations and small-scale enterprises on bookkeeping and financial management, to effectively carry out accounting and write financial reports, please refer activity 2.1. (Annex 5, Table 9)

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

The project team facilitated face-to-face meetings between buyers (Bagan View and Umbra hotel Bagan for fruit-based wine products, Pi Htan Taw local products selling shop in Bagan, Ma Myint grocery shop in Salay town) and producers. As a result of these meetings, one buyer signed an agreement to distribute products from the project villages to consumer markets (Annex 6, Figure 34). The project team arranges to continue facilitating follow-up meetings and negotiations between other buyers and producers.

3.2 Progress towards project Outputs

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

A total of 646 Fisher and Farmer Association members received trainings, and awareness sessions, and participated in field-based learning on sustainable wetland and fisheries management. Participants demonstrated improved understanding and applied practices such as regulated fishing seasons, Burmese Peacock Softshell turtle monitoring, organic fertilizer use in farming, and establishing fish conservation zones along the Ayeyarwady River basin (Indicator 1.1). More than 6,063 individuals—including students, teachers, researchers, and community members—participated in educational programs at the Indawgyi Lake Wetland Centre, contributing to broader awareness and appreciation of wetland values (Indicator 1.2). During Year 1, both Inn Chit Thu and the Shan Culture Association strengthened their capacities in business planning, visitor education, financial management, and hospitality services. They are now leading the sustainable management of the Indawgyi Wetland Education Centre and accommodation facilities (Indicator 1.3). As part of the "Living Ayeyarwady" campaign, the project established a social media presence through the Facebook page "Save Freshwater Together" (https://fb.com/SaveFreshwaterTogether), which reached over 676 followers. The platform continuously shared project updates, multimedia content, conservation efforts, and community involvement. However, due to the ban on Facebook in Myanmar, the platform experienced a decline in audience reach compared to Year 1 (Indicator 1.4). Despite this, the campaign achieved a 27% increase in total social media followers during the project period, based on the Year 1 baseline (Indicator 1.5).

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

MSAM and FoW improved their organizational development, PMSD, financial management, sustainable fisheries management concepts, and field coordination as activity like fish landing site survey and community consultation are led by them (Indicator 2.1). A total of 12 village fisheries committees received targeted training on organizational development, gender equality, financial management, the transition to organic farming practices, and technical coaching. This support enabled the committees to actively manage fishing seasons and enforce conservation rules in the Indawgyi and Ayeyarwady river basins (Indicator 2.2). Twelve fish conservation zones (FCZs) have been established in Indawgyi (1 FCZ) and the Ayeyarwady (11 FCZs). Of these, nine formal co-management agreements were successfully developed and signed between leasehold owners and village fisheries community groups. Three zones do not have a leasable fisheries owner. The agreements included commitments to establish fish conservation zones, adopt sustainable practices, and collaboratively monitor the FCZs (Indicator 2.3). All 12 FCZs were submitted to the township fisheries departments for official recognition and gazettement (indicator 2.4). Total 16 patrol groups, including 6 existing groups in Indawgyi and 10 groups along the Ayeyarwady river basin, were established and trained in SMART patrolling methods (indicator 2.5). Turtle nesting site monitoring was conducted by the community patrolling teams during key lunar phases — full moon, new moon, and midway between these phases. Additionally, surveys were carried out three to four times per week with the species guardian group in the Indawgyi Lake watershed and the central Ayeyarwady River Basin within FCA/CPA areas. To prevent illegal fishing, each patrol team in the central Ayeyarwady River Basin also conducted 10-day patrols in each FCA from July to the first week of August, covering a total of 11 FCZs (Indicator 2.6). A total of 330 landless fisher's households received support through the Small Grants Facility in Y1 and Y2. The funding enabled recipients to diversify their incomes through small businesses and alternative livelihoods, reducing their reliance on fishing during closed seasons (Indicator 2.7). Women now represent at least 30-35% of participants across all

12 fisheries associations and fisheries-related training programs, including gender training, organizational development training, alternative livelihoods grants, agro-based value-added foodstuffs production training, fish sauce and salted training, and organic farming training (Indicator 2.8).

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"

A total of 8 local organic farming groups were established in key wetland and floodplain villages, with women representing an average of 30% of membership roles in the Indawgyi and Ayeyarwady (Indicator 3.1). All 8 farmer groups demonstrated increased knowledge of PGS (Participatory Guarantee System) certification requirements, internal control systems (ICS), and seasonal planning through structured training and peer learning sessions in the Ayeyarwady River basin (Indicator 3.2). Each group successfully launched organic innovation pilots in the Indawgyi and Ayeyarwady river basins, including bio-fertilizers using composted fish and cow manure, agricultural foliage and waste, and community-led production of baccy and neem-based biopesticides. Farmers reported that they received normal crop yield and reduced pest damage due to these innovations (Indicator 3.3). A total of 377 farmers, 34% of whom were women, received training through structured modules and on-farm demonstrations. Training topics included composting, crop rotation, organic pest control, and internal control system (ICS) procedures aligned with Myanmar's PGS certification system (Indicator 3.4). The organic innovation grant facility was awarded to 10 groups (8 Ayeyarwady River Basin, 2 Indawgyi Lake), enabling support in home gardens, pilot farming, and organic input production (Indicator 3.5). As of the reporting period, a total of 103 farmers in the Ayeyarwady river basin received organic certificates, (66 PGS and 37 Conversion) for farmland which were growing rice, field crops, and horticultural crops across 7 villages. Additional certifications are expected in Year 3 as more farmers complete the transition requirements (Indicator 3.6). The project established market connections with regional organic buyers and eco-tourism hotels (Indicator 3.7). Due to ongoing conflict in the Indawgyi area, the Indawgyi Biosphere Reserve Brand has not achieved premium prices but continues to be produced organic products and sell in the regional market (Indicator 3.8).

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 operation"

A multistakeholder workshop was organized in Bagan in Y2, primary focused on establishment of FCZ and then 12 groups including DoF, partners, local communities and private sector actors are sharing their experiences (Indicator 4.1). A total of 67 households (HH) (Tagaung Town = 11 HH, Zee Khon village = 9 HH + 11 HH, Koe Lone village = 15 HH) have benefited from value chain improvements, with some villages now engaged in the production of fish-salted and fruit-based value-added products (Indicator 4.2). In Y1 and Y2, over 4,500 households (of which 48% were women) participated in awareness and training sessions on co-management and sustainable fishing practices (Indicator 4.3). The project established four formal partnerships with two wholesalers and two hotel owners, with one wholesaler signing a distribution agreement to market biodiversity-friendly products (Indicator 4.4). A total of 554 households from project villages received small grants to support the adoption of sustainable fisheries practices. 50% of grant recipients were women, reflecting efforts to promote gender inclusion (Indicator 4.5).

3.3 Progress towards the project Outcome

To improve local stakeholders' knowledge of the free flow of the Ayeyarwady River, both the MSAM and FoW teams collected KAB data from a total of 1,057 respondents, 641 from Ayeyarwady (420 male and 221 female) and 416 from Indawgyi during Year 1 (Y1). The survey will be repeated at the End of Project (EoP) to compare results (Indicator 1). To assess the number, diversity, and weight of fish landed, both MSAM and FoW are collecting monthly fish landing site and CPUE data in 8 villages in Ayeyarwady and 7 villages in Indawgyi (Indicator 2).A total of 103 local farmers from 7 villages in seasonally flooded wetlands were formed as 8 organic farming groups and following PGS organic standards (Indicator 3). For the status of abundance

and diversity of wetland bird species, annual waterbirds census and monitoring were conducted in Y1 and Y2 (Indicator 4). For the turtle hatching success rate, species guardian members from Ayeyarwady and Indawgyi were monitored the nesting site 4 times a month and maintained 16 sites (10 sites from Indawgyi and 6 sites from Ayeyarwady) (Indicator 5). For a successful models for the wise use of wetlands, the project identified 22 FCZs during Y1 and Y2. Among them 12 FCZs (Nant Palun Chaung Indawgyi, Tha Phan Kone, Koe Lone, Myo Hla, Kya O Kyun, Sint Ku, Let Pan Kyun, Tet Thit Kyun, Myin Kun, Sar Le-KyaukYe-Chauk Pin Kyun) are being in the process of officially designated. Additionally, to support sustainable management, nine formal co-management agreements between leasehold owners and village fisheries community groups were in place. These FCZs have contributed to conservation of crucial biodiversity indicator species, such as the Burmese Peacock Softshell Turtle and the Irrawaddy Dolphin, in the project areas. Moreover, 665 participants enhanced their capacities through 8 different trainings, and 386 family improved their local livelihoods through the sustainable management of FCZs. (Indicator 6)

3.4 Monitoring of assumptions

Assumption 1: The political situation in Myanmar enables the ongoing actions of civil society actors

Comments: The political situation in Myanmar has posed significant challenges to the ability of civil society actors to operate freely. Despite these obstacles, local NGOs and community groups remain active in wetland and fisheries conservation efforts. Project partners MSAM and FoW have continued to engage with local communities, conduct fisheries monitoring, and facilitate conservation initiatives. ICT and Shani have continued implementing conservation awareness activities in schools and villages. INFA has also maintained engagement with farmers for organic farming and the production of organic rice. However, their activities have been affected by movement restrictions, security concerns, and limited access to certain project areas.

Assumption 2: The area does not have restrictions related to local or global outbreaks of disease more significant than already experienced over the last 3 years

Comments: The project area has not experienced disease-related restrictions beyond those encountered over the last three years. There have been no significant local or global disease outbreaks that have directly impacted the ability to carry out project activities. Project implementation has proceeded as scheduled, with FCZ community engagement meetings, capacity-building sessions, and field monitoring visits taking place without major disruptions. Local partners have successfully conducted fish landing site and CPUE surveys, FCZ monitoring, organic farming, wetland conservation awereness and wetland management activities with fisheries associations and farmers.

Assumption 3: There are no significant changes between the GBP and local currency that renders the project activities unaffordable

Comments: There have been fluctuations in the GBP to MMK exchange rate, but they have not made project activities unaffordable. During this reporting period, the Kyat continued to fluctuate; however, the impact on project activities has been manageable. The team has prioritized local sourcing, and most of the project's core activities—including community training, monitoring, organic farming, biodiversity surveys, and small grants—have been implemented within the allocated budget.

Assumption 4: Community members remain engaged in wetland conservation and improving the sustainability of production activities

Comments: Community members remain actively engaged in wetland conservation and sustainable management activities. Throughout the reporting period, over 358 local community members from 11 villages have participated in wetland management activities, including establishing fish conservation areas, implementing seasonal fishing restrictions, conducting community-led patrols, engaging in livelihood intervention activities, and restoring wetland habitats through organic farming practices and Burmese Peacock Softshell turtle protection.

Assumption 5: Riverine seasonal flooded agricultural lands feature fertile soils, suitable for transition to organic farming practices.

Comments: The assumption that riverine seasonal flooded agricultural lands feature fertile soils suitable for transition to organic farming practices has largely held. Soils in the project's target areas, particularly in the Ayeyarwady basin, are rich in nutrients due to regular flooding, which deposits organic matter and silt, providing a natural foundation for organic farming.

3.5 Impact: achievement of positive impact on biodiversity and multidimensional poverty reduction

The intended impact of the project is to ensure that "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".

The project will contribute to the conservation of "Key wetlands in the Ayeyarwady basin are managed sustainably by more than 20 local communities and their private sector partners, resulting in benefits for biodiversity and people". This will be achieved through the establishment of Community-led Fish Conservation Areas in crucial habitats, based on key indicator species.

To achieve the intended impact, the project identified 22 locations for the establishment of FCZs. The project obtained community agreement signatures, FCZ boundaries and then the documents of 12 nominated areas are now submitted for the official FCZ designation process by the authorities. A workshop was organized with the participation of concerned stakeholders to designate the official FCZs. These stakeholders showed their willingness to establish the FCZs and agreed to designate them officially, adhering to standing rules and regulations for the benefit of the riverine wetland ecosystem, ecological services, threatened biodiversity, and people. Another significant positive impact of the project is the behavioral change of the communities towards biodiversity conservation. The project community regularly informed the project about the findings of crucial indicator species, such as Endangered Burmese Peacock Softshell Turtle BPST. The communities take pride in releasing the BPST back into nature. Some of these releasing activities were posted on the project's Facebook page.

4. Project support to the Conventions, Treaties or Agreements

The project provides support to multiple international conventions, treaties, and agreements through measurable actions and impacts. It directly contributes to the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands by strengthening conservation and wise use at the Indawgyi Lake Ramsar site and a cluster of proposed Ayeyarwady Ramsar sites, with 646 members of Fisher and Farmer Associations trained in sustainable wetland and fisheries management and over 6,063 individuals engaged in educational programs. In line with Myanmar's NBSAP Action 5.3.3 and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the project established 12 Fish Conservation Zones (FCZs) and facilitated 9 formal co-management agreements, enhancing biodiversity protection and community stewardship. It supports SDG 2.3 by improving the livelihoods of small-scale producers, including 330 landless fisher households and 377 farmers (34% women), and by issuing 103 organic certifications under the Participatory Guarantee System (PGS).

The project initiated engagement with the UK Embassy in Myanmar to explore collaboration on social media-based environmental conservation awareness campaigns. While no joint posts were uploaded during Year 2, discussions laid the groundwork for future cooperation. A collaborative awareness campaign is planned for Year 3, which will leverage the Embassy's outreach platforms to amplify key messages on wetland conservation, sustainable fisheries, and community-based environmental stewardship. This partnership aims to expand the reach of the project's "Living Ayeyarwady" campaign and enhance public visibility and international support for biodiversity efforts in Myanmar.

5. Project support for multidimensional poverty reduction

The project contributes to multidimensional poverty reduction by addressing interconnected aspects of economic vulnerability, environmental sustainability, and social inclusion in communities living in and around key biodiversity areas of the Ayeyarwady River Basin and Indawgyi Lake. Through targeted support to 330 landless fisher households and 554 households receiving small grants, the project enables income diversification and reduces dependency on overexploited natural resources. Training in organic agriculture benefited 377 farmers (34% women), while the establishment of eight local organic farming groups improved access to

sustainable farming inputs, market connections, and food security. The development of 12 fisheries co-management areas, including fish conservation zones (FCZs), empowers communities to manage their own resources sustainably, enhancing both ecological resilience and long-term livelihoods. Gender-inclusive programming ensured that 30–50% of participants across all training and development activities were women, promoting equitable access to skills, resources, and leadership opportunities. Additionally, capacity building in business planning, financial management, and value-added production (e.g., fish sauce, organic inputs) has strengthened local economies and resilience.

6. Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI)

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

In organic farming group committees, women made up 34% (22 out of 65 members) in the management committees. In 10 village development groups, 35 out of 106 management committee members were women (33%). These numbers show progress in women taking on leadership roles.

Training activities also had strong women participation. Out of 521 trainees across seven topics, 227 were women (44%). This shows women's growing interest in learning about farming, conservation, and livelihoods.

Awareness events reached 2,774 people, and 1,455 were women—about 52%. This suggests women are actively engaging in community learning.

However, women's participation is lower in fisheries co-management and outdoor work. Only 16% (21 of 130) of patrol group management committee members are women. In GPS and patrolling training, just 15% (22 of 144) were women. These activities are often seen as more suitable for men. However, women have played important support roles in planning, monitoring, and coordination. Their work, though less visible, is key to the success of these activities.

To promote gender equality, special gender training was given to fisher and farmer group members. A total of 38 people (21 women and 17 men) joined. The training helped raise awareness about equal roles in resource management and decision-making.

In summary, the project has made good progress in involving women. But more needs to be done to remove barriers and support their full participation.

7. Monitoring and evaluation

The project was internally monitored and evaluated based on the approved work plan and clearly defined measurable indicators (see Annexes 1 & 2). The project team maintained regular communication with partners through online meetings and field monitoring visits, facilitating coordinated delivery, timely technical assistance, and flexible adjustments in response to adapting local conditions.

Monthly coordination meetings were held with key partners including MSAM, FoW, ICT, Shani, and INFA to review progress, develop upcoming work plans, and identify technical support needs. Regular consultations with the FFI regional technical team ensured alignment on updates, work planning, and resolution of challenges. The UK-based cross-cutting team provided additional support in participatory market development system (PMSD), value-added product development, and market assessments.

Financial oversight was maintained through monthly budget and forecast reviews between the project leader and FFI Myanmar's country finance manager. The finance team also closely monitored small grant disbursements to fisheries and farmer groups to ensure strict compliance with financial procedures and policies.

Following organic farming training delivered by MOGPA, a robust internal control system was established and implemented through the Participatory Guarantee System (PGS), with annual certification processes verifying adherence to organic production standards.

FFI led biodiversity monitoring activities targeting fish, dolphins, migratory water birds, and turtles within Indawgyi Lake and fish conservation zones (FCZs) along the Ayeyarwady River. Regular fish landing site surveys and catch per unit effort (CPUE) assessments were conducted at nine FCZs to monitor seasonal fish stock trends, evaluate project impact from start to finish, and assess improvements in fishers' incomes.

8. Lessons learnt

During the implementation of the project, the communication platform played a vital role in sharing information between the community and project staff, as well as within communities. By setting up accessible communication channels such as a Viber group—commonly used by local people—local communities, such as farmer groups, were able to share their experiences and farming issues. The project also invited experts to join these groups, and the experts actively participated in problem-solving. Monthly meetings with local partners such as MSAM and FoW proved to be an effective way to track project progress and provided both technical and financial support to partners. Despite the ongoing conflict in Myanmar, maintaining regular contact with local communities was essential for safely conducting meetings and training sessions in villages. Moreover, training local people to act as species guardians for the conservation of the Burmese peacock softshell turtle has become a long-term and effective conservation strategy.

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

No.	Comment	Response
1	Little detail is provided on how partnerships are managed. Howwill partnerships work post-project?	The project builds partnerships through regular meetings, joint planning, and training sessions. These partnerships will continue with FCZ groups, village development groups, and organic farming groups. Ongoing training helps strengthen their skills so they can take charge of their own activities. Key partners—MSAM, FoW, ICT, Shanni, and INFA—stay involved throughout the project and show strong commitment to supporting the groups beyond the project period. They provide technical support and help connect the groups to local development programs. This support helps maintain progress, especially in natural resource management. The project also focuses on building local leadership, shared responsibility, and accountability. These efforts

		make sure that partnerships stay strong and can handle future challenges on their own.
2	The relationship between the project government and law enforcement agencies is not made clear. Given Myanmar's current turmoil, these relationships may be challenging, if possible. The project should clarify the basis upon which FCAs, and other co-managed initiatives, will be sustainable.	Due to Myanmar's current situation, working with government and law enforcement is challenging. The project focuses on local-level cooperation, mainly with village leaders, community groups, and township officials where possible. For Fish Conservation Areas/ Zones and other co-managed activities, sustainability depends on strong local ownership. The project trains and supports community groups to manage resources and follow local rules. By building local skills and leadership, the project ensures that co-management efforts can continue in a flexible and resilient way.
3	The project should be clearer on how access to information is made equitable across communities (especially among marginalised groups without access to appropriate technology), how this feeds into project monitoring, and what will be done to ensure the network continues to function after the project ends.	Information is distributed among communities through community meetings, leaflets, posters, social media, and Viber groups. For people without phones, internet access, or literacy, we use word-of-mouth through group leaders and members to ensure they stay informed and involved. The project team conducts regular visits to the villages and plans to meet with each member to hear their voices. We ensure that all relevant individuals participate in meetings and trainings. To keep the network active after the project ends, local groups are trained to manage communication and share updates via social media and Viber groups, as well as through word-of-mouth among members to reach all relevant community members.
4	For activity 2.1, training/ capacity building of local partners/ fisheries association, two communities, Loneton and Myot Hla, female representation was poor. Reasons should be clarified.	The training content focused on species-specific knowledge, fieldwork, and species protection, which are traditionally roles held by men in these communities. Therefore, women were less interested in participating in this type of training. The project recognizes these barriers and is working to improve women's participation by introducing gender-sensitive topics and engaging community leaders to promote equal involvement. Future training will aim to include content relevant to both men and women and ensure that women's roles in planning, monitoring, and local management are supported and valued.
5	Workshops were held to facilitate the development of fisheries co-management agreements between fisheries leasehold owners and village fisheries associations (activity 2.3), designed to reduce stakeholder conflict. What progress	At the workshop, we clarified the responsibilities, fishing rights, activities, and roles of leasehold owners and village fishers in fisheries management. The open discussions during the workshop improved communication and cooperation between the two stakeholder groups. In Year 2, the project successfully facilitated the development of fisheries co-management

	was made toward conflict mitigation?	agreements between leasehold fisheries owners and village fisheries associations in the targeted villages. Please see activity 2.3 for the detail agreement.
6	The project has successfully implemented its first-year activities, yet an important question is raised. Consider whether the numerous and diverse activities represent individual actions, or will they contribute holistically to Outcome, Outcome, and Impact? (See 4.4 below) Future reports must describe more fully how all activities are successfully combined to contribute to Outputs (and, from there, Outcome and Impact). The project runs the risk of having implemented numerous short-term activities without developing a sustainable legacy.	Year 1 focused on establishing all the foundational activities. Each activity was designed to contribute to the expected project outputs. We emphasized supporting local community groups in improving their skills in sustainable fisheries resource use and livelihood development, aiming to establish effective community-based conservation practices. Due to the current political situation in Myanmar, we did not engage in policy development or advocacy with relevant government departments.
7	The project states that it supports national policy on conservation targets and the Convention on Biodiversity internationally. More information could be provided on alignment with other related declarations.	In this Year 2 report, we provided detail on the Project support to the Conventions, Treaties or Agreements. Please see section 4.
8	The project considers itself GESI-empowering, yet the evidence supporting this assessment is unclear. The project is encouraged to be more detailed in its GESI assessment.	In this Year 2 report, we provide more detail on the GESI assessment. Please see Section 6..
9	The BCFs Safeguarding Manager will be in contact to discuss the projects safeguarding approach and to ensure that appropriate reporting procedures were followed.	We were contacted for the mid-term review and the Spot check. The mid-term review is planned to be conducted in early July 2025. We already provided the necessary documents for the Spot check in April.

10. Risk Management

During the reporting period, two significant risks emerged that were not fully anticipated in the original project design, prompting the team to adopt proactive mitigation strategies to ensure continuity and safety of operations.

In February 2024, the announcement and enforcement of Myanmar's Conscription Law introduced a major operational risk. The law mandates compulsory military service for men aged 18–35 and women aged 18–27 for a minimum of two years, extendable to five years during emergencies. Some project staff fall within the age criteria and thus face potential risk of conscription during travel. In response, the project implemented mitigation measures including monitoring of the recruitment situation and ensuring all eligible staff travel with caution. Staff are provided with official identification letters from Fauna & Flora, confirming their employment and project-related travel, to be presented at checkpoints if needed. This has helped maintain staff safety and project continuity despite a challenging political context.

In July 2024, a natural disaster event—including flooding and cyclone impacts—temporarily disrupted access to several project sites. To mitigate the impact, the project team maintained regular communication with FCZ committees and community groups to receive up-to-date field information. Field trips were postponed until conditions stabilized, and pre-trip risk assessments

were conducted to ensure the safety of staff and partners. These adaptive measures allowed the project to remain responsive while safeguarding personnel and assets.

While these risks did not necessitate a major redesign of the overall project structure, they led to operational adaptations, such as adjusted field schedules, enhanced risk assessments, and strengthened internal communication protocols.

11. Scalability and durability

The project targets key wetlands in the Ayeyarwady basin are managed sustainably by more than 20 local communities and their private sector partners. To achieve this objective, the project has organized capacity-building training, a series of awareness-raising events, and stakeholder consultation workshops. These efforts are aimed at establishing community-led Fish Conservation Areas (FCA) through the development of stakeholders agreed FCAs, which include the FCA management committee and management plan for each FCA. For the sustainability of funding for the FCAs, the project conducted value-added product training, value-added product production, participatory market system development for the value-added products, and revolving fund provision. To understand the impact of FCA establishment, the project conducted the Fish and Turtle Resources Conservation and Management Training (FTRCM), and a regular survey on the fish landing Catch Per Unit Effort (CPUE) in the project villages. These trainings and workshops intend to ensure a sustained legacy of the project outcomes.

The project has organized various capacity-building trainings, including the Fish and Turtle Resources Conservation and Management Training (FTRCM), basic training on backyard scale swamp eel culture, organic farming training, organic fertilizer production training and value-added product training. In addition, the project has conducted awareness-raising activities and talks, such as the World Turtle Day, World Wetland Day, and a series of awareness-raising talks in the project villages. Stakeholder consultation workshops have also been held, focusing on stakeholder engagement for the establishment of Community-led Fish Conservation Areas, the development of management plans for these areas, and the Participatory Market System Development workshop. This combination of community-led fish conservation and livelihood development will promote the sustainable conservation of fish resources.

12. Darwin Initiative identity

The Darwin Initiative logo was used in all awareness materials and training activities. As a result, project stakeholders including local communities and partner organizations are familiar with the Darwin Initiative. The project also developed a publicly accessible Facebook page titled *"Save Freshwater Together"* (https://fb.com/SaveFreshwaterTogether) and the logo was featured in project activities shared on the page. Additionally, the logo was used in several training events, workshops, and awareness-raising talks.

13. Safeguarding

14. Project expenditure

Table 1: Project expenditure during the reporting period (1 April 2024 – 31 March 2025)

Project spend (indicative) since last Annual Report	2024/25 Grant (£)	2024/25 Total Darwin Costs (£)	Variance %	Comments (please explain significant variances)
Staff costs (see below)				
Consultancy costs				
Overhead Costs				
Travel and subsistence				
Operating Costs				
Capital items (see below)				

Others (see below)				
TOTAL	**200,732.00**			

Table 2: Project mobilised or matched funding during the reporting period (1 April 2024 – 31 March 2025)

	Secured to date	Expected by end of project	Sources
Matched funding leveraged by the partners to deliver the project (£)			Rainforest Trust
Total additional finance mobilised for new activities occurring outside of the project, building on evidence, best practices and the project (£)			

15. Other comments on progress not covered elsewhere

None

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

None

Annex 1: Report of progress and achievements against logframe for Financial Year 2024-2025

Project summary	Progress and Achievements April 2024 - March 2025	Actions required/planned for next period
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.	Through the establishment of Fish Conservation Zones (FCZs), co-management agreements, and awareness campaigns, the project supported the protection of critical habitats during fish spawning seasons, helping to reduce illegal and unsustainable fishing practices. These efforts not only benefit biodiversity, including resident and migratory fish species, but also support the livelihoods of local communities who rely on healthy wetlands and fisheries. Training on sustainable livelihoods, such as organic farming and alternative income-generating activities, helped reduce pressure on natural resources, while also improving household income and food security.	
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		
Outcome indicator 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	In-person KAB baseline data were collected in Y1. A total of 1057 respondents from Ayeyarwady and Indawgyi participated in the surveys.	This activity will be undertaken again in Year 3 before the EOP to understand the behaviour change of the project stakeholders.
Outcome indicator 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)	Fish landing site and CPUE data are collected by partner organizations MSAM at 9 FCZs in Ayeyarwaddy River and Fow at 3 FCZs in Indawgyi lake in monthly basis.	This activity will be continued throughout the project.
Outcome indicator 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	The project has introduced pilot organic farming through awareness-raising talks, conducted capacity-building training and financial support and 103 farmers are following PGS organic standards.	The project will continue support the organic farmer groups and organic farming through small grants and monitor the progress to achieve the PGS certificate.

Outcome indicator 0.4 Abundance and diversity of wetland bird species maintained/ increased over project period	Annual bird counting were conducted in Indawgyi Lake and Ayeyarwady River.	Annual bird and dolphin census will be continued throughout the project period.
Outcome indicator 0.5 Turtle hatching success rates are maintained between project start and end. Project baseline to be established in year 1	Species guardian members, Fauna & Flora staff, and volunteers conducted monthly patrols to prevent from egg collectors and wild animals to increase turtle hatching rate.	Turtle eggs protection patrol continues throughout the project period.
Outcome indicator 0.6 By EoP, successful models for the wise use of wetlands introduced throughout the Central Ayeyarwady River basin.	For a successful model for the wise use of wetlands, community protected 12 FCZs are being in the process of official designation.	The project will continue implement with partners and local community to archive successful models for the wise of wetlands that well be introduced throughout the Central Ayeyarwady River basin.
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		
Indicator 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	In-person KAB base line assessment was completed in Year 1. The assessment was conducted with total 1,057 respondents (641 from Ayeyarwady river basin and 416 from Indawgyi). Next assessment will be undertaken again towards the end of Year 3. These two-assessment data will demonstrate that members of CSO are participation in sustainable wetlands management.	The assessment will be undertaken again in Year 3.
Indicator 1.2 By EOP, >5000 visitors have attended education, training or visitor programs at the Indawgyi Lake Wetland Centre	The visitor count is recorded regularly. In Year 1 and Year 2, IWEC received total 4,463 local visitors and hosted school classes for 1,600 students.	Although IWEC was closed from 21 June 2024, awareness raising continues in Primary school and villages
Indicator 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 Centre/ accommodation facilities sustainably	Inn Chit Thu and Shan Literature and Cultural Association partners improved capacity in management of IWEC. Most of awareness activities and school classes are led by Inn Chit Thu and Shanni Association.	In Year 3, IWEC continues co-manage by cooperation of Forest Department, Inn Chit Thu and FFI while the accommodation of the student was managed by Shanni Association. FFI will monitor all operations closely.
Indicator 1.4 By end of Y1, social media campaign for a free-flowing, intact river designed, and implemented in Y2-3 (Living Ayeyarwady Campaign)	Facebook page "Save Freshwater Together" https://fb.com/SaveFreshwaterTogether was developed in Year 1 for social media campaign to raise awareness for the	In Year 3, the page will continue posting awareness messages related to the crucial role of the

	free-flowing intact river system. The page is still in active and has over 676 followers towards the end of Year 2.	free-flowing rivers to the biodiversity, including threated species and nutritional security of the Myanmar people.
Indicator 1.5 By EoP, the number of social media likes, reposts, and/or followers has increased by 100% from year 1 baseline.	The project continues conduct awareness-raising events and share the project activities and educational knowledge through the Facebook in Year 2. As a result, the number of followers increased from 531 to 676 at the end of Year 2.	Conduct more awareness-raising talks among the project stakeholders and write blogs in the project Facebook regarding the crucial role of free-flowing rivers, including Ayeyarwady River and other rivers in Myanmar in Year 3.
Output 2: Fisheries co-management areas (including fish conservation zones/ FCZs) are established and managed sustainably in KBAs throughout the central Ayeyarwady basin		
Indicator 2.1 By end of Y2, local partner NGOs (MSAM/ FoW) have increased organisational capacity score >20% and improved knowledge, attitude and behavior (KAB) in sustainable fisheries against baseline	MSAM and FoW enhanced organsational capacity as most of the activities such as fish landing site survey and FCA consultation processes are led by them.	Final resilience check will be conducted in Year 3 and will be compared against Year 1.
Indicator 2.2 By Y2, at least 14 village fisheries association/ committees strengthened to manage fisheries resources sustainably in both leasehold and open fisheries areas	Total 11 fisheries committees (10 from Ayeyarwady and 1 from Indawgyi) were established and managed fisheries resources sustainably.	The project will seek potential FCA and establish new fisheries committees in Year 3 together with MSAM.
Indicator 2.3 By Y2, at least 14 sustainable fisheries co-management agreements established between village fisheries associations fisheries leasehold owners and/or village administrations	Local partner obtained agreement signatures and draft FCA boundaries from 12 FCA at the end of Year 2.	The project will seek new potential FCA together with MSAM.
Indicator 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 gazettement	Total 12 FCAs have been identified and required documents were submitted to DoF for official designation.	In potential FCAs, local partner MSAM will continue to consult with local communities for the resource use map including benefit for the gender equality.
Indicator 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)	Total 16 patrol groups (10 in Ayeyarwady and 6 in Indawgyi) received trainings and operated patrol in 21 FCZ (11 FCA in Ayeyarwady and 10 FCZ in Indawgyi).	CyberTracker training related to SMART will deliver in Year 3 and continue operate patrol.
Indicator 2.6 By EoP, 100% patrol efforts for threatened waterbird and nesting sites are informed by SMART data	Monitoring of softshell turtles habitat was conducted at least 4 time a month and fish patrols patrol were conducted primary during fishing closed season (May – July) by patrol team in Year 2.	CyberTracker training related to SMART will deliver in May Year 3 and continue operate patrol.

Indicator 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	A total of 330 landless fishers received support through the Small Grants Facility in Y1 and Y2.	To improve livelihoods opportunities of landless fisher, additional small grant provision will be conducted in Year 3.
Indicator 2.8 By EoP at least 30% representation of women in the governance of community fisheries associations and training programmes	The FCA management committees were involved of females. The livelihood small grants committees were also led by female members. In total, this represents 30-35% of women participation.	The project will monitor closely to ensure women participation in Year 3.
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		
Indicator 3.1 By Y1, at least 5 new local, organic farming associations established, with >30% representation of women	In the beginning of Year 2, 8 organic farming groups were formed along Ayeyarwady river basin and these groups were following PGS organic farming standards.	The project will continue to work closely with existing farmers to support sustainable fisheries management through organic farming.
Indicator 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	At the end of Year 2, all 8 farmer groups improved knowledge of organic farming practices and internal control system and following certification processes.	The project will assess the organizational resilience in Q1 Year 3 and Q4 Year 3.
Indicator 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	All 8 farmer groups received organic farming technical trainings including methos for production of compost and biopesticides, and applied in organic farming.	The project will deliver organic farming technical training in Year 3 and establish organic farming demonstration plot.
Indicator 3.4 By Y2, at least 300 farmers (>30% women) trained in organic agricultural practices (organic farming practices, internal control systems for PGS Myanmar organic certification)	At the end of Y2, total 377 farmers received trainings on technical organic farming and organic PGS. Among them, 130 (34%) are women.	The project will send training invitation to men and women separately to ensure participation of women.
Indicator 3.5 By Y2, small farming innovation grant facility established for local farmers associations	In Y2, small farming innovation grant were supported to 10 groups (8 in Ayeyarwady river and 2 in Indawgyi).	Small farming innovation grant will be supported in Year 3.
Indicator 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)	At the end of Y2, total 103 farmers certified as organic (66 PGS and 37 Conversion) in Ayeyarwady river basin.	The project will support organic farming development in Y3.
Indicator 3.7 By EoP, certified farmers will have improved access to organic product markets	By the end of Y2, the project facilitated regional market linkages for two organic products.	Market assessment and supply chain development will be conducted in Y3.

Indicator 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	Total 258 farmers in Indawgyi produced biodiversity friendly products by the end of Y2, however, the project is being promoted the products to get premium price.	The project will continues promote the products in Y3.
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.		
Indicator 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.	The project facilitated a multi-stakeholder workshop in Bagan for a shared vision for sustainable fisheries during Y2.	By EoP, a maul multi-stakeholder workshop will be conducted in Q4 Y3.
Indicator 4.2 By EoP, at least 200 households (represented by both women and men from the households) from the 20 target project villages reported>10% increased income from the selected fisheries market system	In Y 1 and 2, a total of 350 households benefit from value chain improvement through the production of fish-salted, fish sauce, and fruit-based value-added products.	The project will conduct socio-economic surveys in Q4 Y3
Indicator 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	In Y1 and Y 2, over 350 households (of which 48% were women) participated in awareness and training sessions on co-management and sustainable fishing practices.	The project will conduct KAB survey in Year 3.
Indicator 4.4 By EoP, at least three private sector partnerships established to improve fisheries co-management	The project established four formal partnerships with two wholesalers and two hotel owners, with one wholesaler signing a distribution agreement to market biodiversity-friendly products.	The project was planned to work closely with all relevant stakeholders to increase partnerships in Y3.
Indicator 4.5 By EoP, at least 200 households (women and men) from the target project community were trained and supported by the project's small grants, adopting sustainable fisheries practices (related to the supply chain).	A total of 554 households from project villages received small grants for sustainable fisheries practices	Additional small grants were planned to support in Year 3.

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

Project Summary	SMART Indicators	Means of Verification	Important Assumptions
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)			
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	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 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) 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 0.4 Abundance and diversity of wetland bird species maintained/ increased over project period 0.5 Turtle hatching success rates are maintained between project start and end. Project baseline to be established in year 1 0.6 By EoP, successful models for the wise use of wetlands introduced	0.1 KAB beginning/ end survey reports 0.2 Fish landings data, following methodology established in Indawgyi with support from Darwin Initiative 0.3 Harvest/ input cost monitoring data (rice and pulses); Well-being survey by project start/ end - technical report 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 subsequent FFI annual counts (2018/ 2019) as baseline 0.5 Turtle nest monitoring technical report 0.6 Final technical report	Political situation in Myanmar enables the ongoing actions of civil society actors The area does not have restrictions related to local or global outbreaks of disease more significant than already experienced over the last 3 years There are no significant changes between the GBP and local currency that renders the project activities unaffordable Community members remain engaged in wetland conservation and improving sustainability of production activities Riverine seasonal flooded agricultural lands feature fertile soils, suitable for transition to organic farming practices.

	throughout the Central Ayeyarwady River basin.		
Outputs: **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 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 1.2 By EOP, >5000 visitors have attended education, training or visitor programmes at the Indawgyi Lake Wetland Centre 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 Centre/ accommodation facilities sustainably 1.4 By end of Y1, social media campaign for a free-flowing, intact river designed, and implemented in Y2-3 (Living Ayeyarwady Campaign) 1.5 By EoP, the number of social media likes, reposts, and/or followers has increased by 100% from year 1 baseline	1.1 CSO network reports, training and capacity building reports, participant evaluations 1.2 'Wise use of wetlands' training reports/ participant evaluation. Wetland Centre visitor numbers/ annual reports. 1.3 Training reports/ participant evaluation, business plan 1.4 Campaign materials, technical reports, KAB report 1.5 Google analytics data	Social media can continue to be used at least with VPN (currently local users/ organisations use VPN under the current political circumstance)
2. Fisheries co-management areas (including fish conservation zones/ FCZs) are established and managed sustainably in KBAs throughout the central Ayeyarwady basin	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	2.1 Organisational capacity assessment reports/ training reports/ participant evaluations/ KAB report	Private fisheries leasehold owners continue to support collaboration with local fishing communities (both were consulted and confirmed to collaborate prior to submitting stage 1)

	2.2 By Y2, at least 14 village fisheries association/ committees strengthened to manage fisheries resources sustainably in both leasehold and open fisheries areas 2.3 By Y2, at least 14 sustainable fisheries co-management agreements established between village fisheries associations fisheries leasehold owners and/or village administrations 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 gazettement 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) 2.6 By EoP, 100% patrol efforts for threatened waterbird and nesting sites are informed by SMART data 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	2.2. Training reports/ participant evaluations 2.3 Technical reports, fisheries co-management agreements 2.4 FCZ agreements, consultation reports, documented grievance mechanisms 2.5 & 2.6 FCZ SMART training reports/ participant evaluation/ patrol reports 2.7 Small grant reports	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)

	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	3.1 By Y1, at least 5 new local, organic farming associations established, with >30% representation of women 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 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 3.4. By Y2, at least 300 farmers (>30% women) trained in organic agricultural practices (organic farming practices, internal control systems for PGS Myanmar organic certification) 3.5 By Y2, small farming innovation grant facility established for local farmers associations 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)	3.1 Association profile/ statutes 3.2 Organisational resilience check, pre- and post-training survey 3.3. Annual model farmer reports 3.4 Training reports/ participant evaluation 3.5 Technical reports, Small grant reports, grant agreements	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) Project area remains free from extreme natural disasters such as very serious floods and droughts that cause complete harvest failure

	3.7 By EoP, certified farmers will have improved access to organic product markets 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	3.6 Technical reports/ PGS certificates 3.7 Technical report, farmers association annual reports 3.8 Indawgyi geographic origin/ sustainable product brand registration, INFA technical report including farmers harvest, inputs and revenues	
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 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. 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 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 4.4 By EoP, at least three private sector partnerships established to improve fisheries co-management 4.5 By EoP, at least 200 households (women and men) from the target project community trained and	4.1 Workshop and meeting reports 4.2 Socio-economic/ well-being assessments 4.3 KAB survey of market actors 4.4 Agreements/ written confirmation with private actors	Markets remain accessible, prices are relatively stable, and no new externalities or barriers disrupt demand for products. Market actors willing to collaborate, supported by local governments Health and safety issues do not interrupt supply chains

	supported by the project small grants, adopting sustainable fisheries practices (related to the supply chain).	4.5 Training reports including participant evaluation; small grant reports	

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

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 framing 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

Checklist for submission

	Check
Different reporting templates have different questions, and it is important you use the correct one. Have you checked you have used the **correct template** (checking fund, scheme, type of report (i.e. Annual or Final), and year) and **deleted the blue guidance text** before submission?	X
Is the report less than 10MB? If so, please email to BCF-Reports@niras.com putting the project number in the Subject line.	X
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Have you included means of verification? You should not submit every project document, but the main outputs and a selection of the others would strengthen the report.	X
Have you provided an updated risk register? If you have an existing risk register you should provide an updated version alongside your report. If your project was funded prior to this being a requirement, you are encouraged to develop a risk register.	X
If you are submitting photos for publicity purposes, do these meet the outlined requirements (see Section 16)?	X
Have you involved your partners in preparation of the report and named the main contributors	X
Have you completed the Project Expenditure table fully?	X
Do not include claim forms or other communications with this report.	