

Darwin Initiative Main: Annual Report

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

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

Submission Deadline: 30th April 2023

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

Darwin Initiative Project Information

Project reference	DARCC004
Project title	Upskilling Uganda Wildlife Authority staff to tackle human wildlife conflict
Country/ies	Uganda
Lead Partner	Space for Giants
Project partner(s)	Uganda Wildlife Authority & Uganda Wildlife Training Institute
Darwin Initiative grant value	£ 199,427.70
Start/end dates of project	Start 1 April 2022 - End 31 March 2024
Reporting period (e.g. Apr 2022 – Mar 2023) and number (e.g. Annual Report 1, 2, 3)	1 April 2022 - 31 March 2023 Annual Report 1
Project Leader name	Maurice Schutgens Managing Director of Conservation Space for Giants [REDACTED]
Project website/blog/social media	N/A
Report author(s) and date	Justus Tusubira Clarine Kigoli Samuel Githui Wellington Ndirangu Maurice Schutgens 30 April 2023

1. Project summary

Uganda’s conservation areas (CAs) network covers 16% of its land area and is vitally important for preserving key ecosystems and biodiversity. However, Uganda is one of Africa’s most densely populated countries and boundaries between human habitation, and wildlife areas are shifting and distinct. Since 2014 almost 12,000 Human-Wildlife Conflicts (HWCs) have been recorded, and have risen by 510% from 2014 to 2019, especially in areas with the most socially and economically deprived communities. Over 78% of HWC cases are due to elephant-based conflicts and are widespread in 5 out of 7 CAs. Crop raiding by wildlife drastically affects

community livelihoods, food security and well-being, undermining Uganda Wildlife Authority's (UWA) broader conservation goals and delivery of Uganda's SDG goals.

During the implementation of the electric fence pilot project in 2018, SFG noted gaps in the technical capacity required to address this scope of challenge. Examples include: In 2019, UWA established problem animal control units (PACs) at CA-level with a total of 52 staff. These had not been trained nor oriented to handle HWC cases and were poorly equipped. Over 800 community wildlife scouts (125 (QECA)+108 (BINP) +400 (MFCA) +250 (KVCA)) have been recruited and play a key role in the control of HWC in these areas. Besides awareness sessions, UWA did not have an in-house capacity to train the scouts. Additionally, the newly appointed staff and scouts required support and training to carry out their mandate effectively.

At UWA and CA headquarters, data collection is centralised; however, staff who require more support and equipment are not adequately trained and equipped, which results in their inability to collect data effectively. This results in poorly informed decision-making not based on data collected from the field. SFG conducted an assessment and developed an electric fencing strategy to target Human Elephant Conflict (HEC) hotspots around QENP and MFNP.

Additionally, SFG provided technical support to UWA in constructing over 100km of electric fence. The success has been impressive in that 98% of respondents reported no crop raiding, 90% reported increased crop yields, and land values have doubled. As part of a World Bank project, UWA plans to construct 160km of electric fence over the next six years. While this has significant potential to realise the long-term vision and transform Uganda's HWC management, UWA itself, however, has insufficient capacity to execute the projects at scale and ensure sustainability effectively.

Therefore, SFG identified capacity-building needs in collaboration with UWA, which included HWC strategic planning, management mentorship, technical skill development, accurate data recording, mapping/visualising HWC data, constructing fences, and adequate training for CWSs. The technical capacity support under this project aims to improve data collection to enable better decision-making.

By upskilling and mentoring staff in HWC techniques, the overall delivery of the HWC strategy will be more effective and systematic. Primarily through the deployment of electric fences (situated at hotspots) crop losses will be mitigated and relationships between UWA and local communities will improve. This will help improve CA governance.

The project is being implemented across seven distinct conservation areas in Uganda (these areas incorporate both national parks and wildlife reserves managed by UWA).

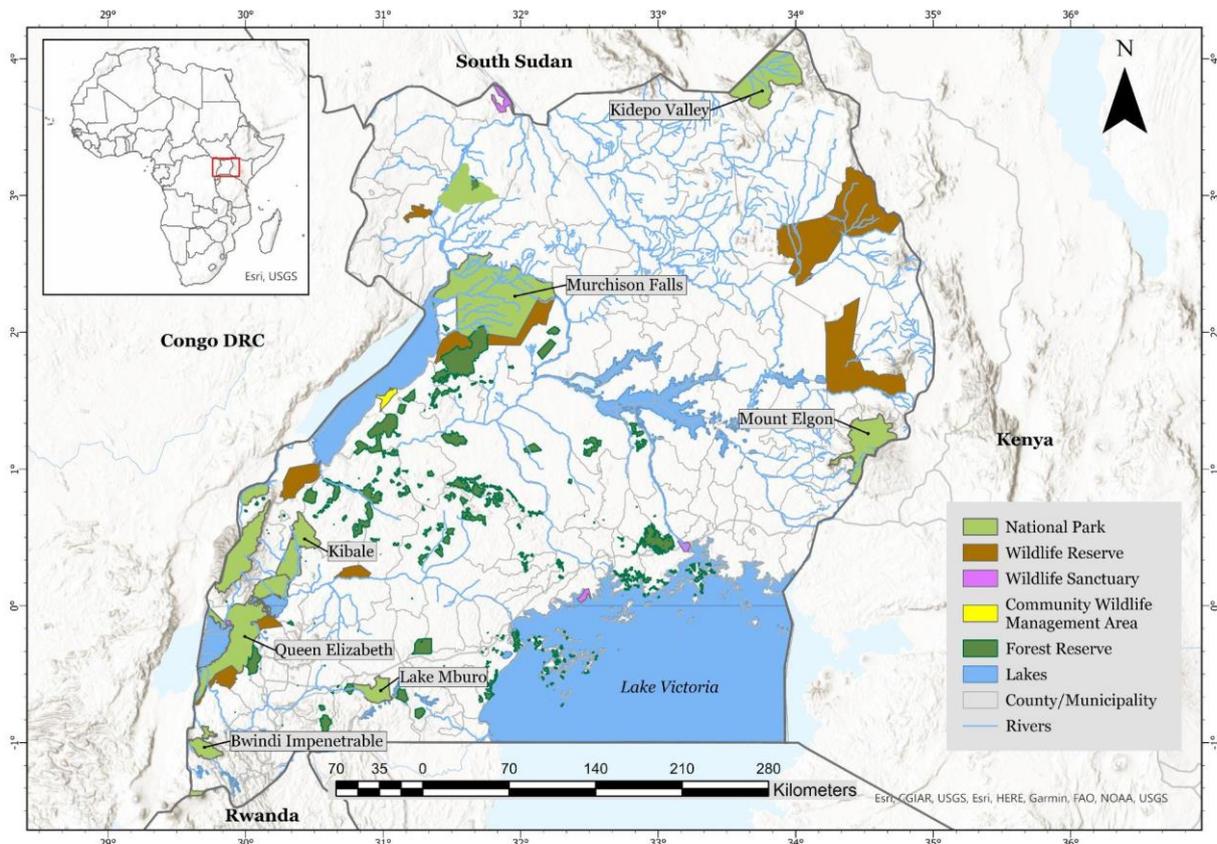


Figure 1: Project location map

2. Project stakeholders/ partners

While Space for Giants identified the opportunity for this project through the Darwin Initiative - once it was socialised with UWA there was a clear interest in participating on its application (including the content, targets and delivery mechanism of the capacity building activities). The project has been working collaboratively with two key partners, the Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA) and the Uganda Wildlife Research and Training Institute (UWRTI). These partners have played a critical role in supporting the project's successful implementation by helping deliver various activities. UWA provided extensive support for the project, including appointing a Project Coordinator and hosting and participating in the Darwin Executive Committee meetings. The committee, through quarterly meetings, served as the decision-making body in charge of project delivery and performance. In addition, UWA provided a site, mobilised casual staff and transported local materials to construct fence demos, making it easy for SFG to deliver training and impart skills to participants.

On the other hand, UWRTI hosted and provided the necessary conducive environment for learning at the training institute. Additionally, their lecturers supported and participated in the training. Given the role of the UWRTI in training and capacity building they were a natural fit for the project with an opportunity to ensure that project learnings will be adopted through the institute for future teachings.

As part of the project Space for Giants has brought in subject matter experts to deliver the best possible outputs for UWA staff and meet international best practice. This includes but is not limited to securing GIS training through ESRI (<https://www.esri.com/>), fence training through Instarect LTD (<https://instarect.com/>), data collection through Earthranger (<https://www.earthranger.com/>). The project has not offered opportunities or scope to engage with local communities at this stage (beyond the training of community scouts). Nor have we engaged the British High Commission in project delivery.

All UWA staff that have been identified for training has been the sole responsibility for UWA. Space for Giants has stressed the importance (wherever possible) of ensuring that women are included in all opportunities.

3. Project progress

3.1 Progress in carrying out project Activities

Output 1: Improved technical capacity of UWA staff to address HWC (through training and mentorship).

The delivery of activities planned under this output has been delivered as planned. Firstly, five consultants were identified and engaged in preparing course outlines and undertaking training. Contracts were signed with multiple organisations and independent consultants for training in various areas, including electric fence construction, GIS, First Aid, entrepreneurship, animal behaviour, and human-wildlife conflict modules, as part of the Community Wildlife Scouts Trainers course. Additionally, course outlines and schedules were developed for each of these courses. (**Annex 1- Course Outlines**)

A Darwin Project Implementation Executive Committee was established with representatives from SFG, UWA, and UWRTI. This committee was important in introducing, signing off, and ensuring the project was well-coordinated with the partners. Four meetings (1 per quarter) were held during this reporting period (**Annex 2 - Executive Committee Minutes**).

A site visit to UWRTI found the institute to have adequate facilities and a good environment for conducting the training sessions. Through consultations with UWA, it was agreed that the site for fence demo construction be changed to Queen Elizabeth Conservation Area (QECA) headquarters, where there was ease of logistics for construction, maintenance, and future use. A catalogue of different fence designs to be constructed was compiled. Materials were procured, and seventeen (17) different fence types were constructed at the demo site. QECA identified some of its staff who participated in constructing the fence demos. This ensured they gained adequate knowledge of the electric fence functionality and passed it onto others.

Four basic and advanced electric fence construction sessions were conducted between October 2022 and March 2023. 30 UWA staff (29 male, one female) attended this course, and each session lasted five days. This marks full delivery over 2 years of the project (we moved 2 of the training courses forward due to the need for more trained staff at project sites with active construction going on).

Two GIS sessions were conducted between the 3rd and 21st of October, 2022. Each session lasted seven days, and 14 UWA staff attended (12 males and two females). Additionally, a Community Wildlife Scouts Trainers' course was conducted from 20th February to 3rd March 2023, which lasted for ten days. After completing each of the above courses, mentorship began for the participants. UWA identified all the participants in consultation with SFG from the seven CA's (**Annex 3 - Training Reports**).

Earthranger training (initially SMART) was delayed due to planning complications discussed elsewhere (however - training was scheduled for April 2023).

Mentorship both in person and remotely has been conducted throughout the project period.

Output 2: Improved HWC data collection and reporting around CAs (through provision of equipment, standardised data collection and templates).

All activities under this output were undertaken efficiently. The procurement and handover of equipment to UWA were successfully completed. The equipment comprised 15 laptops, 168 smartphones along with 168 power banks, 20 GPS units, 14 First aid kits, and 300 each of

vuvuzela, gum boots, solar-powered torches, raincoats, and water bottles, as shown in **(Annex 4- Asset register & Handover letters)**. In addition SFG secured ArcGIS licences for all 14 staff for the full project duration. Moreover, SFG developed standardised data collection templates in EarthRanger, enabling digital or traditional pen-and-paper data collection. This standardisation of data collection templates will ensure data integrity and quality within UWA, enhancing data management practices. Once EarthRanger is deployed, continuous data collection using mobile devices will transform the entire data collection system and availability. EarthRanger will enable UWA to respond to HWC incidents in a timely manner, and SFG will play a crucial role in the quality control of UWA EarthRanger HWC databases.

Training of Earthranger will take place in Year 2.

Output 3: Better informed HWC responses by UWA and community engagement (through improved data availability, trend mapping, training by CWS etc.)

During this reporting period, SFG collated data received from UWA CA's (for those whose data was available) to establish accurate baselines and trends in HWC since April 2022 **(Annex 5 - Collated HWC data)**. Standardising data collection within UWA has been challenging, with different data collection tools used across the CA's (e.g. manual methods, SMART, ODK, Earthranger, etc.). However, the project is working towards addressing this issue by standardising templates. Additionally, participants who received GIS training have been mapping HWC incidents (hotspots) in their respective areas.

UWA staff trained as Community Scout Trainers have immediately used their skills to train others thereby improving community engagement in those respective areas. UWA have continued to work with SFG to prioritise the next areas in need of electric fencing based on available data.

3.2 Progress towards project Outputs

Output 1: Improved technical capacity of UWA staff to address HWC (through training and mentorship)

The aim of imparting specialised knowledge to UWA staff was dependent on the delivery of context specific training courses. These are captured below:

Indicator No.	Indicator	Baseline	Indicator change	Monitoring Method
1.1	14 Individuals trained on GIS/SMART/ER by the end of Year 2 (broken down by CA, Gender)	0	None	Training Report
1.2	14 Individuals trained on Community Scout Training Guidelines by the end of Year 2 (broken down by CA, Gender)	0	14 (trained on 1 out of 2 courses)	Training Report
1.3	30 Individuals trained on electric fence construction by the end of Year 2 (broken down by CA, Gender)	0	30 (trained on 4 out of 4 courses)	Training Report
1.4	50% self improvement scores for all trained individuals by the end of Year 2	0	On average increase of 30% at the end of year 1	Pre & Post Training evaluation questionnaires

1.5	Delivery of 14 training courses (4 x 5 day Electric Fence Courses (basic & advanced), 4 x 7 day SMART training courses, 4 x 7 day GIS Courses, 2 x 10 day Community Scout Training) by the end of Year 2	0	Total of 7 out of 14 courses delivered at end of year 1	Training Reports
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The staff who received GIS training can now develop human-wildlife conflict maps utilising the available data within their CAs. Furthermore, QECA electric trained staff constructed 200 metres of electric fence with minimal supervision from SFG staff. (**Annex 6 - GIS monthly mentoring reports**).

Output 2: Improved HWC data collection and reporting around CAs (through provision of equipment, standardised data collection and templates).

This output was partially achieved. SFG procured and handed critical equipment to UWA to collect HWC data and respond to incidents outlined in Output 2 activities.

Indicator No.	Indicator	Baseline	Indicator change	Monitoring Method
2.1	25% increase in data collected by Community Wildlife Scouts and UWA Staff around CAs by end of Year 2	3,561 cases	Training yet to be delivered on Earthranger	Monthly & Annual UWA Reports on HWC incidents
2.2	75% of CA's consistently produce monthly reports using agreed template by the end of Year 2	7 CAs	template not yet used	Copies of CA HWC reports
2.3	All equipment is handed over to UWA by the end of Year 1	Very limited equipment assigned to HWC management (baseline difficult to gauge)	15 laptops, 168 phones, 20 GPS, 300 pairs of community scout equipment, 14 ArcGIS licences	Copies of hand over of equipment to CAs

Output 3: Better informed HWC responses by UWA and community engagement (through improved data availability, trend mapping, training by CWS etc.)

The project impact is based to a degree on the assumption that by training UWA staff in key HWC skills, these individuals would be able to transfer these skills internally and externally where relevant. It was envisioned, for example, that 300 community scouts would benefit from skills transfer. In the first project year, two staff trained as trainers of community wildlife scouts were able to conduct training sessions for community wildlife scouts in Murchison (60) and Semliki National Parks (24). This indicates that the training sessions have enhanced the staff's technical

capacity and ability to pass on that knowledge to others. It is a positive outcome that will help to ensure the sustainability of UWA's conservation efforts in the long run.

Indicator No.	Indicator	Baseline	Indicator change	Monitoring Method
3.1	25% increase in HWC interventions conducted by UWA and Community Scouts by the end of Year 2	17%	template to capture harmonised consistent data to be implemented in year 2	UWA HWC intervention report log

3.3 Progress towards the project Outcome

Outcome: Improved HWC management by UWA in and around its conservation area estate

Indicator 1: 25% increase in no. of households benefiting from UWA HWC Interventions by the end of the project

For this particular indicator, it was more challenging to obtain a highly accurate baseline. This was because UWA did not have a consistent method of keeping records. However, we gathered baseline data for the electric fence construction in QECA and MFCA. Since 2018, SFG has been supporting UWA in this regard. With this data, we found that the number of households that benefited from the electric fence construction increased by 22%, from 14,551 to 17,881 in this reporting period. We will continue to work with UWA to improve their record-keeping processes and ensure that we have access to all necessary data for future evaluations.

Indicator 2: 50% increase in trained staff ability to perform tasks related to HWC management by the of the project

SFG and its partners feel that this indicator is still appropriate given that it is a capacity building grant. Current pre & post evaluations indicate a 30% increase at the end of year 1. We expect further increases by the end of year two following more training, mentorship and application of skills taught.

Achievability of Outcome

We are very confident that we will achieve the overall outcome of the project.

3.4 Monitoring of assumptions

Assumption 1: The Covid pandemic will not adversely affect the delivery of the project, including in-person training of participants and travelling into and within Uganda

Comment: The World Health trend recordings of Covid-19 in Uganda showed minimal cases, and by the time the training sessions began in August 2022, there were only a few cases. Nevertheless, the training participants were encouraged to continue practising hand washing as a significant preventive measure.

Evidence <https://covid19.who.int/region/afro/country/ug>

Assumption 2: Political stability and political support for national HEC strategy remain strong

Comment: The Government of Uganda, through the Ministry and UWA, remains committed to tackling HWC and improving livelihoods. UWA has raised the profile of the HWC management on numerous opportunities demonstrating its importance. (**Annex 7 - Wildlife Policy and National HWC Strategy**) .

Assumption 3: Trained UWA staff will not leave their employment with UWA during the next three years.

Comment: None of the trained UWA staff left the organisation during this reporting period.

Assumption 4: Training of UWA staff will improve their proactive management and application of skills at the CA level

Comment: Two of the staff, one from Murchison Falls and the other from Semliki, were able to train 60 and 24 community wildlife scouts, respectively after completion of a training session of trainers of community wildlife scouts (**Annex 8- Community wildlife scouts training picture**). Additionally, the staff trained in GIS have been mapping cases of HWC within their CA's monthly (**Refer to annex 6**).

Assumption 5: Improvements in CWS operations help to secure CAs in Uganda through improved research and monitoring and engagement with the community on HWC

Comment: It is still uncertain whether this assumption is accurate since the implementation of this component is scheduled for the second year.

Assumption 6: Data and analysis allows for understanding of HWC dynamics and helps inform management interventions.

Comment: UWA utilised the data and analysis of HWC in Queen Elizabeth and Murchison Conservation Areas to identify priority locations for electric fence construction under the World Bank project. (**Annex 9**)

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

The project *impact statement is* "Improved management of human-wildlife conflict through better understanding and interventions will enhance biodiversity conservation and secure livelihoods."

In terms of short term biodiversity benefits the project has positively impacted elephant conservation and reduced human elephant interactions (through the construction of electric fences by trained project staff). In time - with improved data of HWC hotspots, UWA will become more targeted in their interventions and this will help promote more positive attitudes towards wildlife and conservation as a whole.

In terms of poverty reduction, the project is well on track to positively impact livelihoods. This will take place through increased agricultural outputs through strategic HWC interventions (e.g. electric fences), increased responsiveness by UWA (due to having a better understanding of HWC hotspots and resources required) and possibility of scouts in UWA employment.

A recent Impact study has shown the impacts of electric fencing on well-being and livelihoods and this is why SFG is focusing so heavily on electric fence capacity building.

4. Project support to the Conventions, Treaties or Agreements

The project has made significant contributions to national policies, including the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species, Uganda Wildlife Policy, and Uganda National Strategy for Management of Human-Wildlife Conflicts. By building the capacity of the UWA to promote human-wildlife coexistence, the project has ensured the safety of migratory problem species and contributed to harmonious coexistence with wildlife, improved community livelihoods, and national development. Moreover, the project supports the Uganda government in implementing its obligations under the Convention on Biological Diversity, promoting biodiversity conservation and reducing threats. The project has also made strides in contributing to SDGs, including:

SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), through improving the protection of smallholder livelihoods. The communities affected by HWC in Uganda still heavily depend on smallholder agriculture for livelihood. Crop destruction, the major form of HWC, affects food security at the household level. An impact study conducted by SFG in Kasese district in November 2022 indicated that food

security, incomes and land values had significantly increased, improving people's well-being after the electric fence implementation in QENP.

SDG 4 (Quality Education) through access to information and improved skills transfer on HWC and CA management. The project increased the number of people with relevant technical skills by training UWA staff in GIS, electric fence construction, community wildlife scouts training in problem animal behaviour, human-wildlife conflict mitigation measures, first aid and entrepreneurial skills. The project is expected to have a wider impact by transferring knowledge and skills to others.

The project has not engaged in any interactions with host-country focal points for any of these conventions. It will endeavour to be more proactive in year 2.

5. Project support to poverty reduction

The expected beneficiaries of the project are the communities affected by HWC, particularly in the hot spot areas around the seven conservation areas. This project aims to help these communities by building the capacity of Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA) staff responsible for managing HWC. The UWA staff trained in fence construction will continue to construct more kilometres of fences, especially the 161 km funded under the World Bank project. The ones trained as community wildlife trainers' are expected to train at least 300 community wildlife scouts who will help prevent HWC occurrences in their communities using the provided equipment. The project will enable UWA management to implement HWC mitigation measures in affected communities based on consistent and reliable data analysis and possibly use the information to implement a compensation scheme. The proactive response to HWC cases will reduce cases and contribute to improved community livelihoods through food security and people's security, thus contributing to poverty alleviation.

The project is expected to have indirect poverty reduction impacts, mainly on the community wildlife scouts, who are members of communities affected by HWC. The equipment provided equipment such as raincoats, water bottles, solar torches, gum boots, and vuvuzelas will reduce the scouts' expenses on these items and help prevent injuries. Moreover, the entrepreneurial skills gained from the training sessions will enable the community wildlife scouts to benefit individually and as a community, contributing to poverty reduction. The entrepreneurship course will provide financial literacy skills, further reducing poverty. Additionally, over time, communities will benefit from informed measures taken by UWA to mitigate HWC and increase awareness of wildlife behaviour. These interventions are expected to be implemented in specific hotspots, such as installing electric fences in the Queen Elizabeth Protected Area, which has reduced HWC cases along the fence lines. The impact study conducted in the area in 2022 confirms the positive effects of these measures, including increased food security and income from the sale of surplus crops. **(Annex 10- Uganda HEC Impact Report)**

6. Gender equality and social inclusion

Please quantify the proportion of women on the Project Board ¹ .	The Darwin executive committee consists of two females against four men.
Please quantify the proportion of project partners that are led by women, or which have a senior leadership team consisting of at least 50% women ² .	Equal opportunities were given to male and female gender to participate in the training sessions; however, due male-dominated

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

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

	nature of UWA, 52 (90%) of males versus 6 (10%) of females attended the training.
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7. Monitoring and evaluation

A robust monitoring and evaluation system is in place for the project. Space for Giants is the primary organisation responsible for this activity but involves UWA and the UWRTI wherever possible. Space for Giants has taken the following steps:

1. Created an overall project implementation database (which includes the logframe, activities, delivery schedule, reports and metrics);
2. For each training activity, pre and post evaluation assessments are conducted to measure uptake of taught materials;
3. SFG has conducted regular remote mentorship training exercises - mentorship reports are a measure of continuous learning;
4. Monthly mapping tasks for those trained on GIS skills (submission of these reports) - indicator of willingness to develop further skills
5. Future impact will also be measured through SFG Impact studies in relevant protected areas;
6. In year 2, the deployment of Earthranger will enable real-time monitoring of HWC cases across the conservation area. All project reports are shared with UWA. One lesson learnt over this project year is that standardisation of data collection methods in an organisation is key.

There have not been any changes to the M&E plan thus far.

5. Lessons learnt

What worked well this past year?

- The training sessions were successful in both scheduling and the actual training.
- The project team ensured that the training sessions were participatory, allowing trainees to actively engage in the learning process.
- Before the training, the team sent out pre-training assessments to gather participant feedback, which helped tailor the training to their needs. This approach contributed to the effectiveness of the training and ensured that the trainees gained relevant knowledge and skills.

What didn't work well this past year?

- Gender equity was challenging due to the organisation's male-dominated workforce, making it difficult to meet the recommended ratio of females in the training program.
- In the courses, the participants felt that the training duration was short and more time needed to be scheduled for the practical courses.
- Online mentorship sessions have sometimes lacked high attendance numbers due to challenges with internet at PA's
- Collaboration with other NGOs involved in similar activities to achieve economies of scale.

If you had to do it again, what would you do differently?

- Increase the duration of training workshops

What recommendations would you make to others doing similar projects?

- Field work training elements are critical for adoption of best practice

How are you going to build this learning into the project and future plans?

- SFG intends to develop a document that outlines project successes and challenges for presentation at the next Committee meeting to try to improve delivery in year 2

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

Not applicable.

10. Risk Management

In this reporting period, Ebola emerged in Uganda in September. The Uganda government declared an outbreak after confirmation of a case in the Mubende district in central Uganda. However, the implementation of the project was not affected by this risk as the outbreak was contained within one district, and the Ugandan government implemented quarantine measures. **(Annexe 11- Risk register)**

11. Other comments on progress not covered elsewhere

[Redacted content]

12. Sustainability and legacy

The project employs various sustainability approaches, including constructing a fence demonstration at QECA headquarters. This initiative allowed three staff members to gain knowledge and skills in fence construction, and designated personnel were assigned to maintain the site continuously. Additionally, UWA staff trained in GIS were given laptops and mentored to develop monthly HWC occurrences in the CA's, improving their skills and making data relevant to management. The trainer model used for trainers of community scouts ensures that UWA has the skills to continuously train both existing and new scouts, as evidenced by two trainers who have trained 84 community wildlife scouts in less than a month. UWA has adopted electric fences as a key mitigation measure, with plans to construct another 161 km of electric fence in Murchison Falls and Queen Elizabeth Conservation Areas, using in-house acquired technical skills. This will improve the technical skills of the trained staff, prioritise areas for interventions, reduce human-wildlife conflict, and improve biodiversity conservation, including the community's attitudes. Additionally, all designs and training curricula will be shared with the UWRTI to allow them the opportunity to incorporate valuable learnings into their overall training curriculum.

Regarding economic sustainability, UWA has integrated the project into their systems. For example, a new staff was recruited to maintain the electric fence demo. The World Bank is constructing fences for UWA in two conservation areas, with UWA staff trained under this project undertaking the construction.

Space for Giants will identify a single technology champion within UWA (especially on Earthranger) to provide support to all Earthranger users (and play a linking role with the Earthranger support team to provide support as necessary).

Finally, Space for Giants has been active in Uganda since 2016, has been UWA’s preferred partner on all matters HWC (especially electric fences) and we continue to prioritise this programme in our annual planning (funded from discretionary sources).

UWA senior management is well aware of this project. In particular the handover of equipment to UWA Staff and the construction of the electric fence demo site at QECA have been very well received.

13. Darwin Initiative identity

SFG uses social media to publicise its work and its donors and includes Darwin logos where possible. All reports and training material produced feature the Darwin Initiative logo or credit. Darwin Initiative support is also mentioned in all local, national and international project meetings. Space for Giants has made every effort to highlight the importance of this work. All project beneficiaries are aware of the source of funding support - training certificates include the Darwin Initiative logo. See evidence in (**Annex 12 - Social media postings**).

14. Safeguarding

Has your Safeguarding Policy been updated in the past 12 months?	Yes
Have any concerns been investigated in the past 12 months	No
Does your project have a Safeguarding focal point?	Yes, Safeguarding Lead - Integrity Blue Consulting firm who is the SFG Corporate Governance Advisor Darren Davis [REDACTED]
Has the focal point attended any formal training in the last 12 months?	No
What proportion (and number) of project staff have received formal training on Safeguarding?	Past: 0 % [0] and number] Planned: 100% [71]
Has there been any lessons learnt or challenges on Safeguarding in the past 12 months? Please ensure no sensitive data is included within responses.	None
Does the project have any developments or activities planned around Safeguarding in the coming 12 months? If so please specify.	Yes, an all-staff and consultant training on the Safeguarding Children and Adults Vulnerable Policy is scheduled to be rolled out by May 2023.

15. Project expenditure

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

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

Project spend (indicative) since last Annual Report	2022/23 Grant (£)	2022/23 Total Darwin Costs (£)	Variance %	Comments (please explain significant variances)

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

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

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

File Type (Image / Video / Graphic)	File Name or File Location	Caption, country and credit	Online accounts to be tagged (leave blank if none)	Consent of subjects received (delete as necessary)
				Yes / No
				Yes / No
				Yes / No
				Yes / No
				Yes / No

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

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2022 - March 2023	Actions required/planned for next period
<p>Impact</p> <p>Biodiversity: Improved understanding of HWC, improved responsiveness and interventions to combat HWC will lead to improved tolerance towards and acceptance of wildlife</p> <p>Poverty reduction: Avoidance of crop damage leads to improved agricultural productivity and secure livelihoods</p>		Refer to 3.5	
<p>Outcome</p> <p>Improved HWC management by UWA in and around its conservation area estate</p>	<p>25% increase in no. of households benefiting from UWA HWC Interventions by the end of the project</p> <p>50% increase in trained staff ability to perform tasks related to HWC management by the of the project</p>	<p>The number of households benefiting from the construction of electric fences in QECA and MFCA increased by 22% from 14,551 to 17,881 during this reporting period.</p> <p>Additionally, there was an improvement in the knowledge and skills of staff members following the training we offered. Based on pre-and post-training assessments, there was a 40% increase in overall knowledge and skills, with a 20% improvement in community wildlife scout training and a 32% improvement in basic electric fence construction (Refer to Annex 3c)</p>	<p>Design a tool to collect data/information from all the conservations that enable the computation of households benefiting from the interventions.</p> <p>Continue implementing the mentoring sessions for all the courses to ensure the target of 50% is achieved</p>
<p>Output 1. Improved technical capacity of UWA staff to address HWC (through training and mentorship)</p>	<p>14 Individuals trained on GIS/SMART/ER by the end of Year 2 (broken down by CA, Gender).</p> <p>14 Individuals trained on Community Scout Training Guidelines by the end</p>	<p>30 UWA staff (1 Female, 29 Males) were trained in electric fence construction, in two different sessions. The first session (both basic and advanced) took place</p>	

	<p>of Year 2 (broken down by CA, Gender).</p> <p>30 Individuals trained on electric fence construction by the end of Year 2 (broken down by CA, Gender).</p> <p>50% self improvement scores for all trained individuals by the end of Year 2.</p> <p>Delivery of 14 training courses (4 x 5 day Electric Fence Courses (basic & advanced), 4 x 7 day SMART training courses, 4 x 7 day GIS Courses, 2 x 10 day Community Scout Training) by the end of Year 2.</p>	<p>between 24th October to 22nd November 2022 while the second session was between 28th February to 11th March 2023.</p> <p>On the other hand, 14 UWA ((1 Female, 13 Males) staff attended a GIS course between 3rd - 21st October 2022. Additionally 14 UWA staff (3 Females, 11 Males) were trained as trainers of community wildlife scouts between 20th February to 3rd March 2023.</p> <p>Mentoring sessions for both the electric fence construction and GIS groups began in December 2022. The GIS group participated in monthly mentoring sessions, with each participant expected to create a map related to human-wildlife conflict in their conservation area.</p>
Activity 1.0 Develop short courses for electric fence construction, GIS training and SMART Training		
Activity 1.1.1 Identify Consultants to develop training courses & Sign Contracts	Contracts were signed by 5 identified consultants	No action
Activity 1.1.2 Fence Construction Training Outline/Overview	The consultant (Instarect) developed training outline which was shared and accepted	No action
Activity 1.1.3 GIS Training Outline/Overview	The consultant (ESRI - East Africa) developed training outline which was shared and accepted	No action
Activity 1.1.4 SMART/Cybertracker/ER Training Outline	SFG developed training outline which was shared and accepted	Review and integrate new content where possible
Activity 1.1.5 Executive Committee Sign Off on all training content	Partners of the project (SFG, UWRTI, and UWA) formed an executive committee, which held a total of four meetings before the various phases of the project were implemented.	Continue to hold Executive meetings to review project progress and agree on the next steps
Activity 1.2 Construct electric fence demos at UWRTI		
Activity 1.2.1 Develop designs based on various needs for 15 - 20 types of demos	The designs of the different fence types to be constructed at the fence demonstration site were compiled	Track usage by establishing a register of visitors to the demo

Activity 1.2.2 Agree location for construction of 15 - 20 fence demos	After discussions between the Executive Committee and the top management of UWA, it was decided that the project site would be relocated from UWRTI to QECA headquarters. This decision was made to ensure that QECA staff, who play a leading role in demonstrating the use of the fences to users, would be available.	No action
Activity 1.2.3 Procure material & delivery to site	Materials for fence construction were procured both locally (for those which were available) and from Kenya.	No action
Activity 1.2.4 Construct demo fences	A fence demonstration site was established at Queen Elizabeth Conservation Area headquarters, where seventeen (17) different types of fences were constructed. This was handed over to QECA management for maintenance and demonstration to others.	Continue to provide technical support to UWA (QECA) staff to understand better the technical explanations of the different fence types. This will help the team to demonstrate to others very well during and after the project.
1.3 Identify and select target individuals from all of UWA's 7 CAs		
Activity 1.3.1 Identify 14 x Monitoring and Research Department Staff to be trained on GIS/SMART	14 UWA staff were identified by UWA with guidance from SFG. These included Ecological Monitoring and Research and Community Conservation staff as preferred by UWA management	No action
Activity 1.3.2 Identify 14 x Community Conservation Department Staff to be m on Scout Training Guidelines	14 Community Conservation staff were identified by UWA management with guidance from SFG.	No action
1.3.3 Identify 30 x UWA Staff to be trained on Electric Fence Construction	30 UWA staff were identified by UWA management with guidance from SFG.	No action
Activity 1.4 Understanding availability of training venues (UWRTI), Consultant availability and UWA Activities		
1.4.1 Understanding availability of training venues (UWRTI), Consultant availability and UWA Activities	A training schedule was developed in consultation with UWA (for the	No action

		availability of the staff) and UWRTI (for the availability of space during the training).	
Activity 1.5 Delivery of training courses			
Activity 1.5.1 Electric Fence Construction - Basic Course (15 pax) (2 x 5 day courses total)		14 UWA staff selected from 6 conservation Areas were trained for 10 days at UWRTI.	No action
Activity 1.5.2 Electric Fence Construction - Advanced Course (15 pax) (2 x 5 day courses total)		14 UWA staff selected from 6 conservation Areas were trained for 10 days at UWRTI.	No action
Activity 1.5.3 SMART/Cybertracker/ER Training Course (14 pax) (4 x 7 day courses total)		Training delayed to April 2023 (see explanation above for reason for delay)	Delivery of 4 x 7 day training sessions
Activity 1.5.4 ARCGIS Training Course (14 pax) (4 x 7 day courses total)		14 UWA staff selected from all the conservation areas were trained in 2 x 7 day periods at UWRTI.	Delivery of next 2 x 7 day training sessions
Activity 1.5.5 Community Conservation Scout Training Course (14 pax) (2 x 10 day courses total)		15 UWA staff from all the conservation areas were trained as trainers for 10 days at UWRTI.	Review and integrate new content where possible
1.6 Delivery of mentorship to all project participants			
1.6.1 Develop a mentorship template/format		The template was developed and shared with users	Continue implementing
1.6.2 Develop a mentorship schedule		The schedule was developed for ArcGIS, Fence construction and CWS trainers to take place monthly. However, the dates vary according to the availability of staff.	Implement for new courses e.g. EarthRanger
1.6.3 Delivery of ongoing mentorship		Mentorship in both GIS and Electric Fence construction started in December, 2022	To continue with mentorship of GIS and Electric fence. Start on mentorship of Community Wildlife trainers and Earthranger in Year 2.
Output 2. Improved HWC data collection and reporting around CAs (through provision of equipment, standardised data collection and templates)	25% increase in data collected by Community Wildlife Scouts and UWA Staff around CAs by end of Year 2	This will commence in year 2 (due to delay mentioned above) This will commence in year 2 (due to delay mentioned above)	

	<p>75% of CA's consistently produce monthly reports using agreed template by the end of Year 2</p> <p>All equipment is handed over to UWA by the end of Year 1</p>	<p>SFG purchased 15 laptops, 20 GPS units, and 168 smartphones with power banks. The 15 laptops are being utilized by UWA staff members who were trained in GIS for continuous learning during and after the training through the mentoring sessions. The smartphones were given to UWA for distribution to staff members who frequently report cases of human-wildlife conflict (HWC) and to active community scouts for collecting data related to HWC.</p> <p>Additionally, 300 raincoats, gumboots, water bottles, torches, and vuvuzelas were procured by SFG and handed over to UWA for distribution to active community wildlife scouts. 14 ArcGIS licenses were purchased for the full project year.</p>
Activity 2.1 Implement standardised data collection protocols, reporting templates, reporting mechanisms		
Activity 2.1.1 Develop and Trial Standardised methodology (both via SMART/Cybertracker & Paper Based)	Templates were developed and are to be used within 2 years of the project	Implement the templates
Activity 2.1.2. Developing Reporting Templates	Templates were developed and are to be used in 2 years of the project	Implement the reporting templates
Activity 2.1.3 Train staff in use of equipment and data collection software	to be done in the second year of the project	Train staff in the use of equipment
2.2 Equip all CAs with necessary tools & software		
2.2.1 Purchase CA Equipment (140 x smartphones, 70 x GPS Units, 14 x laptops)	<p>15 laptops were procured and handed over to UWA for use by UWA staff trained in GIS</p> <p>168 smartphones were procured and handed over to UWA for HWC data collection in CAs</p> <p>20 GPS units were procured and handed over to UWA</p> <p>*changes made to numbers of units were at the request of UWA who felt phones were more useful than GPS units.</p>	Follow up the use of the equipment during the project period
2.2.2 Purchase 4 x ARCGis Licences	14 licences were procured from ESRI and installed on laptops used by UWA staff trained in GIS. The licences will expire in March 2024.	the licence will continue to be used in 2nd year of the project

2.2.3 Purchase UWA Scouts Field Equipment	300 each of the following was procured and handed over to UWA - raincoats, water bottles, vuvuzela and torches.	SFG to follow up on the distribution of the equipment around the CAs
Output 3. Better informed HWC responses by UWA and community engagement (through improved data availability, trend mapping, training by CWS etc.)	UWA HWC intervention report log	Template has been developed to be used by UWA to standardise HWC data collection
3.1 Monitoring of activities conducted by UWA (including quality control of HWC databases etc.)	HWC data from the 7 CAs were accessed and collated	
3.1.1 Monthly compilation of data collection from CAs	Data from various CAs was collated. However, different formats were found to be used.	Implement the HWC template so that standardisation is achieved

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: Improved management of human-wildlife conflict through better understanding and interventions will enhance biodiversity conservation and secure livelihoods."			
Outcome: Improved HWC management by UWA in and around its conservation area estate	<p>25% increase in no. of households benefiting from UWA HWC Interventions by the end of the project</p> <p>50% increase in trained staff ability to perform tasks related to HWC management by the of the project</p>	<p>Monthly & Annual UWA Reports on HWC incidents</p> <p>Self Improvement Evaluations</p>	<p>The Covid pandemic will not adversely affect delivery of the project, including in-person training of participants and travelling into and within Uganda</p> <p>Political stability and political support for national HEC strategy remains strong</p>
Output 1: Improved technical capacity of UWA staff to address HWC (through training and mentorship)	<p>14 Individuals trained on GIS/SMART/ER by the end of Year 2 (broken down by CA, Gender)</p> <p>14 Individuals trained on Community Scout Training Guidelines by the end of Year 2 (broken down by CA, Gender)</p> <p>30 Individuals trained on electric fence construction by the end of Year 2 (broken down by CA, Gender)</p> <p>50% self improvement scores for all trained individuals by the end of Year 2</p> <p>Delivery of 14 training courses (4 x 5 day Electric Fence Courses (basic & advanced), 4 x 7 day SMART training courses, 4 x 7 day GIS Courses, 2 x 10 day Community Scout Training) by the end of Year 2</p>	<p>Training Reports with associated attendance sheets and photographs</p> <p>Self Improvement Evaluations post Training Courses</p>	<p>Trained UWA staff will not leave their employment with UWA during the next 3 years</p> <p>Training of UWA staff will improve their proactive management and application of skills at CA level</p>
Output 2 : Improved HWC data collection and reporting around CAs (through provision of equipment, standardised data collection and templates)	<p>25% increase in data collected by Community Wildlife Scouts and UWA Staff around CAs by end of Year 2</p> <p>75% of CA's consistently produce monthly reports using agreed template by the end of Year 2</p> <p>All equipment is handed over to UWA by the end of Year 1</p>	<p>Monthly & Annual UWA Reports on HWC incidents</p> <p>Copies of CA HWC reports</p> <p>Copies of hand over of equipment to CAs</p>	<p>Improvements in CWS operations helps to secure CAs in Uganda through improved research and monitoring and engagement with community on HWC</p> <p>Data and analysis allows for understanding of HWC dynamics and helps inform management interventions</p>

Output 3 : Better informed HWC responses by UWA and better monitoring by community scouts (through improved data availability, trend mapping, training CWS etc.)	UWA HWC intervention report log	UWA HWC intervention report log	
Activities (each activity is numbered according to the output that it will contribute towards, for example 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 are contributing to Output 1)			

Annex 3: Standard Indicators

Table 1 Project Standard Indicators

DI Indicator number	Name of indicator using original wording	Name of Indicator after adjusting wording to align with DI Standard Indicators	Units	Disaggregation	Year 1 Total	Year 2 Total	Year 3 Total	Total to date	Total planned during the project
DI-A01	people from key national and local stakeholders completing structured and relevant training	number of UWA staff who attended GIS, Electric fence and trainers of Community Wildlife scouts	people	Gender Age group	6 female and 52 male			58	58
DI-A03	national organisations with improved capacity and capability as a result of the project	number national organisations with improved capacity and capability as a result of the project	number	organisation type	1			1	1
DI-A04	people reporting that they are applying new capabilities (skills and knowledge) 6 (or more) months after training.	number of UWA trained staff reporting that they applied the new capabilities (skills and knowledge) 6 (or more months) after the training	people	Gender by course type GIS CWS Electric Fence construction	2 Female, , 13 Male 6 2 7			15 6 2 7	58 14 14 30
DI-A05	trainers reporting to have delivered further training by the end of the project.	number of UWA staff trained as trainers reporting that they have delivered further training	people,	Gender	1 female, 1 male			2	10
DI-B05.	people with increased participation in local communities / local management organisations (i.e., participation in Governance/citizen engagement	number of community wildlife scouts participants in HWC interventions	people	CA	3			3	7
DI-D02	people whose disaster/climate resilience has been improved.	number of households benefiting from active HWC interventions	people	CA	17,881			17,881	18,188

DI Indicator number	Name of indicator using original wording	Name of Indicator after adjusting wording to align with DI Standard Indicators	Units	Disaggregation	Year 1 Total	Year 2 Total	Year 3 Total	Total to date	Total planned during the project

In addition to reporting any information on publications under relevant standard indicators, in Table 2, provide full details of all publications and material produced over the last year that can be publicly accessed, e.g. title, name of publisher, contact details, cost. Mark with an asterisk (*) all publications and other material that you have included with this report.

Table 2 Publications - Not applicable

Title	Type (e.g. journals, manual, CDs)	Detail (authors, year)	Gender of Lead Author	Nationality of Lead Author	Publishers (name, city)	Available from (e.g. weblink or publisher if not available online)

Checklist for submission

	Check
Different reporting templates have different questions, and it is important you use the correct one. Have you checked you have used the correct template (checking fund, type of report (i.e. Annual or Final), and year) and deleted the blue guidance text before submission?	Yes
Is the report less than 10MB? If so, please email to BCF-Reports@niras.com putting the project number in the Subject line.	Yes
Is your report more than 10MB? If so, please discuss with BCF-Reports@niras.com about the best way to deliver the report, putting the project number in the Subject line.	No
Have you included means of verification? You should not submit every project document, but the main outputs and a selection of the others would strengthen the report.	Yes
Do you have hard copies of material you need to submit with the report? If so, please make this clear in the covering email and ensure all material is marked with the project number. However, we would expect that most material will now be electronic.	No
If you are submitting photos for publicity purposes, do these meet the outlined requirements (see section 16)?	No
Have you involved your partners in preparation of the report and named the main contributors	Yes
Have you completed the Project Expenditure table fully?	Yes
Do not include claim forms or other communications with this report.	