

Darwin Initiative Innovation 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

Project reference	DARNV021
Project title	Certifying Sustainable Frankincense through a Global Value Chains Approach
Country/ies	Somalia, Kenya
Lead Organisation	FairWild Foundation
Project partner(s)	ProFound – Advisers in Development; African Wildlife Economy Institute at Stellenbosch University (AWEI); TRAFFIC; FairSource Botanicals; Wildlife Friendly Enterprise Network (WFEN); Nagaad Gums and Resins
Darwin Initiative grant value	£70,000
Start/end dates of project	01/04/24 - 31/03/26
Reporting period (e.g. Apr 2024 – Mar 2025) and number (e.g. Annual Report 1, 2, 3)	Apr 2024 – Mar 2025 Annual Report 1
Project Leader name	Deborah Vorhies
Project website/blog/social media	https://www.fairwild.org/fairwild-projects/frankincense
Report author(s) and date	Jamal Rowe-Habbari and Deborah Vorhies, 29.04.2025

1. Project summary

Collection of frankincense resin is a crucial source of income for thousands of people in the Horn of Africa, one of the poorest regions globally. Traditional stewardship has preserved individual trees and groves across landscapes ravaged by drought and conflict. However, a recent dramatic increase in global demand for frankincense (which is likely to continue), used in cosmetics, perfume, personal care, and wellbeing products, will likely lead to over-tapping of trees. Conservation concerns have been raised regarding the most harvested and traded *Boswellia* species. In 2019, CITES Decisions 18.205-208 called for a review to understand which species, if any, require listing to control their trade. The 2022 TRAFFIC/FAO/IUCN report 'WildCheck' (1) found that in addition to overexploitation, *Boswellia* are threatened by overgrazing, firewood collection and habitat conversion to farmland. Protection and restoration of groves would support livelihoods, protect associated species and landscapes, and help to prevent desertification. The report also highlights threats to workers' rights, including risk of forced and child labour in the sector, due to weak governance. The areas concerned suffer from persistent poverty, and resin is often collected by impoverished families, vulnerable to price fluctuations and exploitation. Gender roles vary across the range states, but overall, poor economic conditions and poverty is endemic. Traceability in supply chains is lacking (2). In addition to the environmental and social

conditions under which harvesting takes place, challenges in the Frankincense sector are present throughout the global value chain. A lack of transparency in supply chains can exacerbate social inequities and hinder efforts to ensure sustainability of harvesting methods. Competition for limited resources exacerbates this further and results in a lack of cooperation between industry actors on issues of wider concern, such as environmental and social sustainability. Low awareness of consumers of the social and environmental factors associated with Frankincense ingredients, and limited options to purchase more sustainable alternatives, leads to a lack of pressure on the industry to change practices. Weak governance in the region provides obstacles to increasing sustainability through regulating the international trade. While CITES Secretariat's review (3) found that sustainability concerns do exist for *Boswellia* species – including from overharvesting – the report authors recommended that listing these species in CITES appendices should be undertaken only with great care, due to the potential for unanticipated negative consequences. Due to lack of reporting, a trade suspension for all CITES-listed species for Somalia has been in effect since 2004. Thus, a listing of *Boswellia* species in Appendix II for Somalia may result in a de facto ban in legal trade of these ingredients, including for the autonomous regions of Somaliland and Puntland. Existing trade – sustainable and unsustainable alike – would be disrupted and incentives to manage landscapes for *Boswellia* production reduced, resulting in even more damaging practices, e.g. landscape conversion for livestock. The report instead recommended securing buy-in of key stakeholders to sustainable practices, noting that “in fragile states, positive outcomes are more likely from voluntary approaches by ethical companies than by punitive trade suspensions”.

2. Project stakeholders/partners

FairWild Foundation:

As project lead, FairWild coordinated activities of other partners and is responsible for all MEL, subject to frequent meetings with partners. This included responding to partner and stakeholder feedback by implementing the change request, which reclassified FairSource and ProFound as Contractors rather than implementing partners. The Change Request was approved and both organisations remain committed to the project's principles. The Change Request also included a switch from face-to-face training to a hand holding approach implemented through remote training. FairWild was also agile in responding to the situation of a certified frankincense operator, Ihsan Resins, where it was agreed that they needed intensive support to successfully access international markets. The support was carried out by Bert-Jan Ottens (ProFound) to assist Ihsan Resins with its particular challenges. FairWild has been attentive to the needs of target groups in this way. FairWild has played a role in delivering core project activities, working with AWEI to produce the Baseline report, a large report which contains details of the target area and wildlife economy opportunities, as well as the value chain report and mapping. FairWild's Senior Technical Advisor, Dr. Valdon Smith, delivered training to operators in Somalia alongside FairSource, elaborated below.

African Wildlife Economy Institute (AWEI):

As reported in the interim report, engagement of AWEI in this project was delayed due to difficulties in finalising the sub-grant agreement with Stellenbosch University (of which AWEI is a part). Once this was resolved, AWEI and FairWild collaborated in the creation of the baseline report, with AWEI taking a leading role in the wildlife economy-related sections. Luke Heller from FairWild worked closely with Dr. Wiseman Ndlovu and Prof Francis Vorhies from AWEI to compile the report.

ProFound - Advisors in Development:

ProFound was responsible for enterprise support activities in Y1, working 1-2-1 with frankincense operator Ihsan Resins to create a detailed roadmap to financially sustainable export of frankincense for FairWild-certified operators. The decision to provide in-depth enterprise support to Ihsan Resins at the end of Y1 was made during discussions between FairWild, ProFound, and Ihsan Resins, accounting for Ihsan Resins' needs and ProFound's significant expertise in this field. They decided to undertake this role as a contractor, changing from an implementing partner as per the approved change request.

FairSource Botanicals

FairSource also decided to change from an implementing partner to a contractor as per the approved change request. FairSource provided 1-2-1 coaching in place of traditional workshop-based training of operators (approved via a change request). This new approach was decided on because the operators in Somalia proved to have considerably different needs. FairSource and FairWild provided one operator with training materials and guidance which operator staff delivered to their harvesters. Other operators were also assisted by FairSource and FairWild when writing their management plans. This flexible approach, focussing on the needs of each enterprise, achieved the desired outcomes of the originally planned workshop-based training while presenting significant benefits, such as improved safety of trainers.

TRAFFIC

As FairWild Secretariat through arrangement made under a partnership agreement between TRAFFIC and FairWild Foundation, TRAFFIC has played a key role through Bryony Morgan, the Programme manager who coordinated project activities and lead on MEL although the project coordination role was taken over by Jamal Rowe-Habbari, TRAFFIC continues to provide expertise support from staff based in based UK headquarters as well as in East Africa region. In Year TRAFFIC support including support towards project launch as well as reviewing and providing inputs to the Baseline report. (Staff change supported by the approved change request).

Wildlife Friendly Enterprise Network (WFEN)

WFEN gave input to the Baseline report, especially the sections concerning wildlife economy opportunities and value chain research. As WFEN was not allocated a budget for this project, this input took the form of a review of materials.

Nagaad Gums and Resins

Nagaad will be engaged in Y2 in this project and has not yet been substantially involved.

3. Project progress

3.1 Progress in carrying out project Activities

Section 3.2 contains most of the implementation details. Section 3.1 has been used to give a brief activity-level status update. Annexes cited in text refer to supporting documents.

1.1 Design the methodological approach to global value chain and market analysis and share with project partners. The methodological approach has been designed and shared with project partners (Annex 15).

1.2 Map the global value chain for Boswellia from Somalia and Kenya, identifying current and potential market opportunities, and opportunities and constraints for improving sustainability outcomes. The value chain was mapped and market opportunities were identified by FairWild and AWEI (Annex 5).

1.3 Conduct stakeholder mapping exercise through desk studies and interviews. Stakeholder mapping is complete and has identified the key actors in the target system (Annex 11).

1.4 Conduct interviews with economic actors and other stakeholders to provide input to global value chain analysis. Seven interviews took place in Y1 (Annex 7).

1.5 Review findings and prepare comprehensive global value chain sustainability opportunities and challenges report. Value chain analysis is included in the larger Baseline report document and is detailed in the standalone value chain report (Annexes 11 and 14).

1.6 Prepare list of potential certification candidates and collection areas. Certification is underway earlier than expected, with three operators having been audited successfully in Y1. Further certification candidates (two) have already been identified for Y2 (Annex 2).

2. Landscape analysis and identification of wildlife economy opportunities in the project target areas.

2.1 Undertake desk-based review of information on the landscape within the proposed target areas, including Boswellia collection, population demographics, and other economic activities currently underway. The target area has been researched thoroughly by AWEI and FairWild (with inputs and comments by TRAFFIC), with results included in the Baseline report document (Annex 11).

2.2 Interview stakeholders to validate the desk study and identify other sustainable wildlife economy opportunities in the target regions. Stakeholders have been interviewed remotely as part of the research contributing to the Baseline report and value chain report (Annex 7).

2.3 Production of reports on current economic activity in the landscape and wildlife economy opportunities. Findings from research into the landscape and wildlife economy opportunities can be accessed in the Baseline report (Annex 11).

2.4 Convene discussion with stakeholders on the wildlife economy opportunities identified. During interviews with stakeholders, wildlife economy opportunities were discussed. In Y2 of the project, there are preliminary plans for an event held in a round table format where sustainable frankincense and other wildlife economy opportunities in the region will be discussed.

3. Provision of support to harvester groups and enterprises to implement the FairWild Standard and certification system in project target areas.

3.1 Prepare guidance for implementation of the FairWild Standard and certification requirements, adapted to local context. FairWild and FairSource produced guidance materials for frankincense operators (Annex 1).

3.2 Deliver training to collection operations and harvesters (150 beneficiaries) and other stakeholders (civil society, local experts) to enable sustainable harvesting methods and traceability to certification standards. 213 beneficiaries have been trained in Somalia as part of project activities. The change request meant that this activity now does not include workshop-based training but instead a tailored approach to each operator using a variety of methods. This involved the creation and provision of training materials and online discussions with senior operator staff (Annex 1).

3.3 Support collection operations and harvesters to implement FairWild-compliant harvesting practices, prepare for audit and to effectively engage in international value chains. Three operators, Derman Oils, KTC Myrrh and Frankincense, and Allamagan Trading Company, have become FairWild certified as part of this project so far following 1-2-1 support (Annexes 2 and 6).

3.4 Provide training and support to at least 2 auditors for undertaking FairWild audits of value chains proposed for certification. Four auditors in the region have been trained to audit against the FairWild Standard.

3.5 Certification audits undertaken at each project site by accredited certification bodies. Three operators have been audited with another planned for early Y2, and one more is in an earlier stage of preparation for audit (Annex 2).

4. Sustainability embedded across global value chains to ensure traceability and responsible business for Boswellia from Somalia and Kenya.

4.1 Engage with value chain actors (transformers, traders, exporters) to complete supply chain sustainability assurance through FairWild registration or certification. FairWild has actively engaged four international brands in the fragrances and personal care sectors that use frankincense, especially in essential oil form, about enhanced supply chain assurance.

4.2 Secure purchase arrangements for FairWild certified ingredients from international buyers. In Q3 of Y1, FairWild worked to support the engagement of one certified operator (Derman Oils) in finding and working with an external market expert to support them in preparing product for market. This activity is ongoing. Throughout Q4 of Y1, FairWild facilitated the participation of two certified operators (Derman Oils and Ihsan Resins) in the annual In Cosmetics fragrances and cosmetics industry fair in Amsterdam in April. These operators shared a stand with FairWild. Their attendance and meetings with potential buyers take them closer to securing purchase agreements. As the fair itself happened in early Y2 of the project, it will be reported on in the Y2 half-year report in depth.

4.3 Support roll-out of new traceability systems for Boswellia ingredients. ProFound is currently working with Ihsan Resins to produce a feasible but traceable supply chain plan which, combined with value chain mapping already conducted by AWEI and FairWild, will enable this activity to move forward in Y2 (Annex 6). FairWild has assisted operators with general improvements to their traceability systems as part of preparing them for audit. The FairWild Standard requires a robust traceability system for operators to qualify for certification.

5. Empower consumers to make sustainable purchasing decisions for Frankincense ingredients.

5.1 Share information on Frankincense and the benefits of purchasing FairWild certified sustainable ingredients through FairWild and partner websites, newsletters and social media

posts. FairWild has published one web page, one report, six newsletters, and eleven social media posts promoting sustainable frankincense (Annex 17).

5.2 Publish at least one article on Frankincense in the general media with broad consumer reach. This is a Y2 activity.

5.3 Engage with brand and retail companies to ensure information about FairWild certification status of products will be disseminated through product marketing and/or corporate sustainability statements. This is a Y2 activity.

3.2 Progress towards project Outputs

Output 1.

Activities 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, and 2.4 began later than planned due to bureaucratic difficulties finalising the sub-grant agreement with AWEI. These activities took place as part of one large integrated work package, meaning that the delay with the sub-grant agreement impacted them all. Despite this, all activities were underway after this delay and are now complete. The lesson learned is that we underestimated the length of the administrative processes that may be required when working with a large academic partner. However, the issue has now been resolved, and we do not expect any overall delays to this project or change of budget as a result of this.

The value chain has been mapped (1.2) (Annex 5) according to the methodological approach to value chain analysis (1.1) (Annex 15) and a report written (Annex 14). The researchers (FairWild and AWEI staff) were informed by interviews with economic actors (1.4) and desk research, including interview questions pertaining to the role of women in the value chain. Opportunities and constraints for improving sustainability outcomes were detailed in the Baseline report (Annex 11). Stakeholder mapping was also completed through desk studies and interviews as part of the Baseline report (1.3). These resources have informed, and will continue to inform, decisions made by the project team with regards to other activities. For instance, the complexity of the value chain has meant that Activity 4.2 has been designed to also support a frankincense operator which was struggling with this complexity. The Baseline report and the comprehensive global value chain sustainability opportunities and challenges report (1.5) aggregated the findings of Activities 1.2 and 1.3. Three certification candidates (Allamagan (mandated by the Compton Group), KTC Myrrh and Frankincense, and Derman Oils) approached FairWild and were certified significantly ahead of schedule (this was a Y2 activity according to the logframe) (Annex 2, Annex 3). One candidate is still working towards certification at the time of writing (1.6).

Output 2.

AWEI, in collaboration with FairWild, produced the report on the target landscape, which is included within the Baseline report document (sections 0, 1, 2, and 3). This includes a detailed review of *Boswellia* collection practices, population demographics, and the broader economic landscape (2.1). It also includes a survey of wildlife economy opportunities (2.3) such as an evaluation of the potential for commercial hunting and non-frankincense plant resin export in Somalia and a broader survey of economic activity in the target landscape. As part of the report-writing process, AWEI and FairWild carried out interviews with seven frankincense sector actors to validate the results of the desk-based research (2.2), discussing with economic actors the valuable plant species beyond *Boswellia* and *Commiphora* (Annex 7, Annex 16). They also discussed frankincense traceability with interviewees, scoping the needs of stakeholders for

traceability and the roadblocks they face in improving this; in Y2, these findings will inform the development of a traceability system suited to the frankincense value chain (4.3).

Output 3.

Activities for this output are progressing well; however, there has been a change to the methodological approach. Demand for FairWild-certified frankincense has been stronger than expected, with the result that several Frankincense operations have already approached FairWild Foundation to become certified. This has provided the opportunity to deliver training (3.2) and support operations to become certified (3.3) sooner than expected.

Training was originally planned to take place in Y1 Q4, as in-person training delivered via a workshop (20 participants, including representatives of at least 6 collection operations), the likely venue being in Nairobi, Kenya. Over the first six months of the project, FairWild Foundation instead tested an alternative approach to training. This focused on provision of 1-2-1 remote coaching support to two applicant companies in Somaliland, including provision of guidance materials (3.1) and support to the companies to deliver their own training programmes to harvesters and other stakeholders. This approach proved successful, and thus the FairWild Foundation continued with this as the primarily method of delivering training to wild harvest operations, supporting one more operator this way in Y1. A change request has been approved to reallocate the funding from the training workshop to provision of online 1-2-1 training and coaching support. The funds for participant travel and subsistence are hence reallocated to staff and consultant resources. The change in delivery mode has the benefit of reducing the security risk of travel, and reducing the carbon impact of this project, as well as making some cost-savings that can be used to increase the human resources available for the project implementation.

Training materials were produced by Dr. Valdon Smith (FairWild's Senior Technical Adviser) and FairSource Botanicals (3.2) including guidance materials (3.1) (Annex 1) and these were distributed to three operators seeking certification as needed. Activities supporting the wild collection operations to become certified (3.3) have also been co-financed through FairWild's Operator Support Fund. The three companies which trained harvesters as part of the project were successfully audited against the FairWild Standard (3.5) (Annexes 10, 15, and 4). All of these companies passed their first audit and became FairWild certified. Four auditors willing and able to work in the challenging conditions of the project area were trained to perform FairWild audits by Dr. Valdon Smith in Y1 Q3 (3.4). The names of these individuals are not provided here but are available to auditors on request.

Output 4.

FairWild has reached out to four international brands that use frankincense, especially in essential oil form, about supply chain assurance (4.1). These brands are kept anonymous here for confidentiality reasons because FairWild currently is negotiating or has in place contracts with these organisations pertaining to frankincense supply chain assurance. Further information will be available to auditors upon request. Once underway, these services will see the supply chains of these large companies move towards more sustainable practices in line with the FairWild standard. Further, ProFound has been contracted to provide 1-2-1 support to Ihsan Resins, a FairWild-certified frankincense operator (Annex 6). This will include mapping out an economically sustainable supply chain for Ihsan Resins, with the expectation that this will serve as a blueprint for other FairWild certified frankincense operators. ProFound will engage with value chain actors (transformers, traders, and exporters), enabling the transition to value chain-level assurance in the form of registration or certification (4.1). Currently-certified operators

have emphasised to FairWild that because of the complex and unstable geopolitical situation in Somalia, the logistical challenge of transporting resin to a distillery and then to buyers can be considerable, especially when complying with FairWild requirements for traceability. By mapping out and creating a traceable supply chain, the project team is enhancing traceability in the certified frankincense market (4.3). This traceable supply chain with costs accounted for at each stage will make purchase agreements more attractive to international buyers (4.2). As part of preparation for certification, operators are assisted with improving traceability (4.3_ – different operators have different needs and systems in place, so there is no singular traceability system that is mandated across all operators. Finally, Derman Oils has been working with Fair Venture Consulting to improve the efficiency their internal operations and to help them to market their sustainable frankincense and secure purchase agreements – this has been supported using matched funding.

Output 5.

FairWild produced a website page explaining this project, the benefits that it is expected to deliver to communities on the ground, and the benefits of FairWild certification in this context (5.1) (Annex 8). FairWild also produced and published (on the FairWild website) a report detailing the importance of sustainable and ethically responsible sourcing in the fragrances sector (Annex 9). This report included a four-page explanation of the challenges and opportunities that sustainable frankincense represents and quotes from key actors in the target region. A summary of frankincense-relevant communications from the project partners can be found in Annex 17. FairWild promoted sustainably sourced frankincense in presentations delivered at the IFEAT essential oils trade fair 2024, Bangkok (Annex 10, Annex 13), and at the Conservation Optimism Summit 2024, Oxford (Annex 12). FairWild has also published a series of social media posts promoting certified frankincense. Promoting certified frankincense to international buyers, an operator certified as part of this project – Derman Oils – will be attending the In-Cosmetics fragrances and cosmetics industry trade fair in early April 2025, as well as Ihsan Resins which was certified before this project began. FairWild staff will similarly attend and promote sustainable frankincense at this fair.

3.3 Progress towards the project Outcome

Outcome: Sustainability outcomes, including biodiversity conservation and dignified livelihoods, are ensured across value chains for Boswellia species through sustainability certifications and landscape conservation approaches.

The project is progressing well towards the project Outcome, with some indicators being achieved significantly ahead of schedule and others behind schedule. The reports described in the means of verification for indicators 1.1, 1.2, 2.1, and 2.2 were successfully finalised in project Y1, though behind schedule (in Q4) due to difficulties with the AWEI sub-grant agreement as explained above.

Significant progress towards indicator 3.3 was achieved in Y1, with three operators becoming certified and one operator working towards certification. Indicator 3.4 was also achieved in Y1 ahead of schedule, with four auditors being trained to carry out FairWild audits by FairWild Senior Technical Advisor Dr. Valdon Smith. This is a significant achievement for this project as there is a dearth of auditors who are willing to work in Somalia for safety reasons.

The indicators overall are adequate in that the actions and activities needed to achieve them in Y2 are clear to project partners. Project Y2 will see a focus on securing purchase agreements between FairWild certified operators and international buyers with all the communications activities that this entails. As certification was achieved for three operators earlier than expected, the project team will have more time than originally planned to achieve this.

3.4 Monitoring of assumptions

Outcome Assumption 1: Environmental and/or geopolitical threats do not inhibit the implementation of this project.

Comments: The Horn of Africa is a geopolitically unstable region. Partially in reaction to the security situation, the project team decided to alter activity 3.2 as explained above, with 1-2-1 intensive online support taking the place of the workshop-style training originally planned. This allowed information to be disseminated as desired without placing trainers unnecessarily at risk.

Outcome Assumption 2: Stakeholders perceive the integral value of this project in terms of poverty alleviation and biodiversity conservation.

Comments: The greater-than-expected enthusiasm among operators for FairWild certification, with operators becoming certified earlier than scheduled, is evidence that this stakeholder group perceives the value of this project and wishes to amplify its impact. FairWild's efforts to work with international frankincense buyers to certify their suppliers and provide enhanced assurance have been engaged with, but it remains to be seen how many of these discussions will lead to action at present. This will become clear in Q1 of project Y2 as discussions with buyers are completed.

Outcome Assumption 3: Consumer and corporate demand for sustainably sourced wild harvested ingredients will continue to grow and sustain incentives for certification beyond this project.

Comments: This is difficult to predict at this stage, but the interest that international frankincense buyers have shown in working with FairWild beyond the immediate scope of this project (as above) implies that demand for certified frankincense, especially at the corporate level, is growing.

Outcome Assumption 4: Large international buyers will maintain interest in developing sustainability in supply chains and be motivated to purchase from certified companies.

Comments: This is difficult to predict at this stage, but the interest that international frankincense buyers have shown in working with FairWild beyond the immediate scope of this project (as above) implies that demand for certified frankincense is growing.

Outcome Assumption 5: Consumers respond to assurance of sustainability by choosing to buy certified products.

Comments: Those frankincense operators which became FairWild certified in the years leading up to project inception maintain their certifications, implying that they see a benefit to their sales. There is particular concern about social risk, and an appreciation that certification can provide effective assurance against social as well as environmental risks.

Output 1 Assumption: Key actors in Boswellia supply chains are willing to share information on their roles in the supply chain and sourcing information.

Comments: The research that Output 1 entailed, including interviews, did take place as planned, with actors sharing the necessary information.

Output 2 Assumption: Target landscapes afford other feasible wildlife economy opportunities.

Comments: The landscape report (embedded within the larger Baseline report as described above) found a number of wildlife economy opportunities, including Gum Arabic, Myrrh, and Moringa.

Output 3 Assumption 1: Local collectors and traders are willing and motivated to participate in training and understand the benefits to participating in this project.

Comments: Collectors have been trained, demonstrating their willingness.

Output 3 Assumption 2: Training activities will lead to change in behaviour by participants.

Comments: Training took place at the three new operators before they were certified, and that they passed the audit demonstrates that behaviour was appropriate. Behaviour will be monitored annually in future audits.

Output 3 Assumption 3: The economic and social gains to be enjoyed by joining the FairWild scheme provide sufficient incentive for collection operations.

Comments: Three operators have become FairWild certified with one operator in the process of becoming certified, showing that there is sufficient incentive to engage with certification.

Output 3 Assumption 4; Certification bodies are able to recruit a sufficient number of prospective auditors for training.

Comments: This was successful, four auditors attended the training.

Output 4 Assumption 1: Collection operations and trading partners are willing to engage in discussions on improving the sustainability of supply chains.

Comments: Collection operators did become certified showing their willingness to improve supply chain sustainability. Ihsan Resins is working with ProFound at time of report writing to improve their supply chain sustainability and traceability.

Output 4 Assumption 2: International corporate purchasers of frankincense have sufficient corporate commitment to supply chain sustainability.

Comments: Given the discussions that FairWild has had with international frankincense buyers about enhanced assurance and certification beyond the scope of this project, interest in sustainability in this sector appears high.

Output 4 Assumption 3: Buyers will see wild harvest specific certification as an effective way to provide assurance of sustainability.

Comments: Certified frankincense operators are selling successfully, and FairWild's discussions with major market players about providing assurance in their supply chains implies that the industry view of certification is positive.

Output 4 Assumption 4: Buyers will have confidence in the feasibility of sourcing certified frankincense and the ability of producers to meet their additional needs in terms of communications, quality etc.

Comments: Operators which have been certified for a substantial amount of time (i.e., since before project inception) are successfully selling overseas, as are some operators certified as part of this project.

Output 5 Assumption: Consumers remain engaged on sustainability topics amidst a volatile media environment and in the face of other priorities (cost-of-living, etc.).

Comments: The amount donated to charities by the British public is in fact [quite stable over time](#), with political events making only minor impacts. Though this source does not specify charities with goals relevant to this project (environmental sustainability and humanitarian development), it does show that interest in giving back to global society remains constant. Despite global economic events since project inception, interest in sustainable sourcing from companies remains unimpacted, implying that their respective customer bases demand sustainability just as before.

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

Impact: *Boswellia* species are managed sustainably, supporting landscape conservation and livelihoods of harvesting communities in Somalia and Kenya.

A goal of this project is that Boswellia populations are managed by FairWild-certified operators. FairWild certification requires sustainable management of wild plant resources, as per the FairWild Standard. This will support livelihoods in the target area because it will prevent Boswellia populations –a source of income to local communities- from being depleted. The FairWild Standard also requires fair pricing and fair compensation for harvesters, which should lead to improved household incomes. Somalia (including the breakaway states) is an LDC, so the export of frankincense is economically significant.

However, this project will not achieve the Impact alone. Only Boswellia populations managed by certified operators are protected. Although the number of certified operators is growing rapidly, they are a small minority of operators overall, meaning that unsustainable practices remain mainstream and widespread. This project is promoting ethically and sustainably harvested frankincense through published materials and in Y2 will also promote it at trade fairs. This awareness-raising, alongside the signing of sale agreements between international buyers and certified operators, should normalise sustainable and ethical standards in the industry. If consumers become aware of the significant ecological and humanitarian issues associated with this ingredient, and that responsible consumption is possible, brands may feel more pressured to improve practices in their existing supply chains. This could take the form of either external certifications (like FairWild) or through the development of internal standards.

4. Project support to the Conventions, Treaties or Agreements

CBD/NBSAPs:

Somalia specifically references the need to assess and improve the management of frankincense and other gum trees in the Golis range of Somaliland and Puntland, and the promotion of companies that can demonstrate the sustainable management of biodiversity products and services (1). The enterprise support that this project is supplying to Ihsan Resins and the promotion of FairWild certified frankincense operators (at trade fairs and through publications) contribute to this objective.

Global Biodiversity Framework:

This project contributes to the delivery against Targets 5 and 9 of the Global Biodiversity Framework to 2030. The certification of three frankincense operators ensures the sustainable use of this resource and FairWild premium pricing and Premium Fund secure economic benefits for communities.

CITES:

CITES CoP18 adopted Decisions 18.205 - 18.208 on Boswellia trees, collating evidence on sustainability of Frankincense trade to guide the considerations of Parties on meeting the CITES listing criteria. This project will generate evidence on sustainable harvest management approaches –such as through the success or lack thereof of the newly FairWild certified frankincense enterprises– to guide decision making on potential CITES Appendices listings.

Sustainable Development Goals:

This project has delivered on a range of Sustainable Development goals. SDGs 1 (Poverty) and 8 (Decent Work) have been contributed to by providing enhanced economic opportunities to rural communities in Somalia and Kenya through certification of enterprises. By ensuring that collection and processing of wild plant materials is done sustainably at certified enterprises, this project has facilitated progress against SDGs 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production) and 15 (Life on Land). As a multinational development effort, this project will be a Partnership for the Goals (SDG 17). This project has also contributed to other international efforts such as the Great Green Wall Initiative by promoting the protection of shrubs and trees in the Sahel.

Sources:

1. Ullah, Saleem and Gadain, Hussein 2016. National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) of Somalia, FAO-Somalia. <https://www.cbd.int/doc/world/so/so-nbsap-01-en.pdf>

5. Project support for multidimensional poverty reduction

The problem this project seeks to solve is the socially irresponsible and ecologically damaging harvest of frankincense and other resins. With the poor state capacity of countries in the Horn of Africa, compliance with legislation which should protect communities and the environment are not complied with. The target groups in question are rural Somali and Kenyan communities. Serious abuses of resin harvesters have been widely communicated by the international press. In the long term, overharvesting threatens to eliminate populations of *Boswellia* and other resin-bearing trees that communities rely on for income. FairWild certification means that frankincense operators are held to a high standard regarding their treatment of harvesters, protecting these communities from exploitation where they would not necessarily be without certification. FairWild premium pricing means that harvesters' incomes typically increase after certification. In addition, the FairWild Premium Fund ensures support to communities. Support given to operators seeking access to international markets, such as the ongoing bespoke support offered by ProFound to Ihsan Resins, should see revenue increases for these operators which would benefit harvesters. The households of harvesters who supply these operators could likewise see an increase in income. This project year, three companies became FairWild certified, with 213 harvesters from these companies trained on sustainable and ethical frankincense harvesting. For confidentiality reasons, the names of these harvesters have not been provided but are available to auditors on request.

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.	X
Empowering	The project has all the characteristics of a 'sensitive' approach whilst also increasing equal access to assets, resources and capabilities for women and marginalised groups	
Transformative	The project has all the characteristics of an 'empowering' approach whilst also addressing	

	unequal power relationships and seeking institutional and societal change	
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Rights:

FairWild certification mandates that all company practices are in accordance with the law including legislation concerning pay, women's rights, and worker's rights. Currently, operators are required to comply with the standards set by Somali law. In practice, in the mainstream uncertified market, legal requirements are not always followed or even clear given that Somalia has two breakaway de-facto states (Puntland and Somaliland), with jurisdiction being disputed across most of the country. This project researched the traditional clan-based system of justice, which is a primary source of justice in much of the target area, which is discussed in the Baseline report.

Practice, Roles, Resources, and Representation:

The Horn of Africa is one of the most deeply patriarchal cultural areas in the world. Men hold uncontested political, social, and economic power. Given this, while this project can monitor gender representation, it is not feasible to mandate it. For instance, frankincense harvesters are almost exclusively male. This is a cultural expectation in the project region, stemming from the danger that women would face in remote wild areas without male supervision. It is not something that this project could change, nor does it aim to. This project aims instead to ensure that gender-based abuses are not tolerated, with this being a requirement for FairWild certification. Class is another relevant social category. Wild plant harvesters are generally among the poorest in society. Income gains to harvesters are therefore equality-promoting. Class interacts with gender in that extra income earned by male harvesters will only improve the living standards of women and girls in the household in question if the harvester chooses (as the male head of each household decides how money is spent). Somali society is clan-based, with significant inter-clan conflict being endemic. This project has researched this over the course of Y1, compiling this information in the Baseline report. This clan politics will be accounted for during ProFound's support to Ihsan Resins, where it will need to be considered when planning the company's new supply chain for practical reasons.

Environment:

Somalia is an arid and drought-prone country. Access to potable water is limited. This project does not seek to ameliorate this issue as it is focussed on the wildlife economy. By focussing on boosting the sustainability and profitability of the wildlife economy, this project aims to create an economic incentive for preserving natural resources in Somalia. These resources provide rural communities with income and their preservation will secure this source of income into the future. This income could improve health and wellbeing in harvester families and communities. After certification has been achieved, the responsibility for maintaining environmental related activities lies with operators. Given that the operators benefit from these activities (such as preventing overharvesting of resins, mandating sustainable collection techniques) through the market access that certification provides, this is a fair distribution of effort.

7. Monitoring and evaluation

The Outcome is: Sustainability outcomes, including biodiversity conservation and dignified livelihoods, are ensured across value chains for *Boswellia* species through sustainability certifications and landscape conservation approaches.

The project team has used the logframe to monitor progress, plan activities, and evaluate completed activities. This has worked well so far as the logframe set out activities in a logical order – i.e., the outputs of one activity will be the inputs for another later activity. Project activities in Y1 involved working throughout the value chain (through value chain research, interviews, direct brand engagement, and bespoke value chain development) to ensure ethical and sustainable practices (through operator certification). The Outputs and Activities have Indicators that directly contribute to the project Outcome. For instance, the Indicator “3.3 By end of Y2, at least 2 collection operations from the target regions have achieved FairWild certification, and another 4 are actively pursuing” contributes to the project Outcome because certification requires that livelihood and biodiversity standards are met. M&E is the sole responsibility of FairWild, though partners are engaged for feedback on project progress in regular calls. An example of continuous monitoring and evaluation was the change of ProFound and FairSource Botanicals to contractors – the partners reached this decision following discussions between organisations. There were no changes made to the M&E plan in Y1.

8. Lessons learnt

This year, the plans to certify frankincense operators was more successful than expected. The time it took to finalise AWEI’s sub-grant agreement was longer than expected. If the year was repeated, the project team would not have organised so many of the Y1 activities as part of a single integrated work package (the Baseline report, value chain report, and associated research). The approach taken had significant advantages. Having one team working on all aspects of research into the target area allowed for the cross-pollination of ideas, with wildlife economy experts from AWEI working closely with ethical plant harvesting experts from FairWild. However, the delay in the AWEI sub-grant agreement then led to the report being finished later than planned (in Q4 Y1). In response, we will take an approach relying more on individual discrete assignments, such as ongoing direct support to Ihsan Resins.

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

10. Risk Management

There have been two changes to the risk register. These are: ‘Changes in project staff of lead or partners delay project implementation’ and ‘Limited prior experience with administration of Darwin grants delays sub-grants to partners’. The first risk partially came to pass, with Bryony Morgan leaving as Project Manager to be replaced by Jamal Rowe-Habbari, but project documentation was kept up to date and onboarding was thorough meaning that this did not delay project implementation. The second risk partially came to pass, as the AWEI sub-grant was delayed which did delay activities as explained above. However, the activities in question were completed in the correct project year and the material outputs of these Y1 activities involving AWEI (i.e., the Baseline report) will be used, as planned, in project Y2.

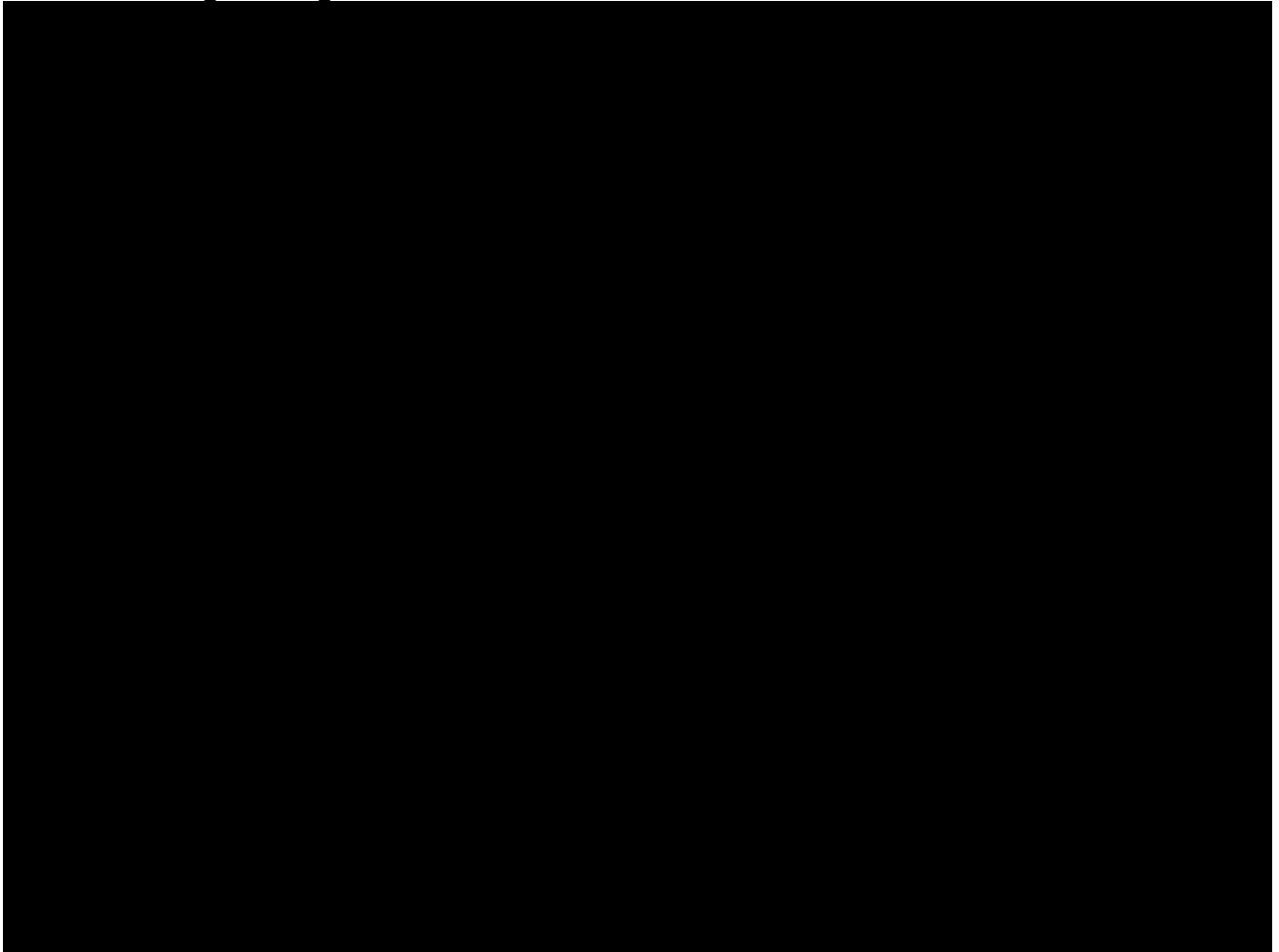
11. Scalability and durability

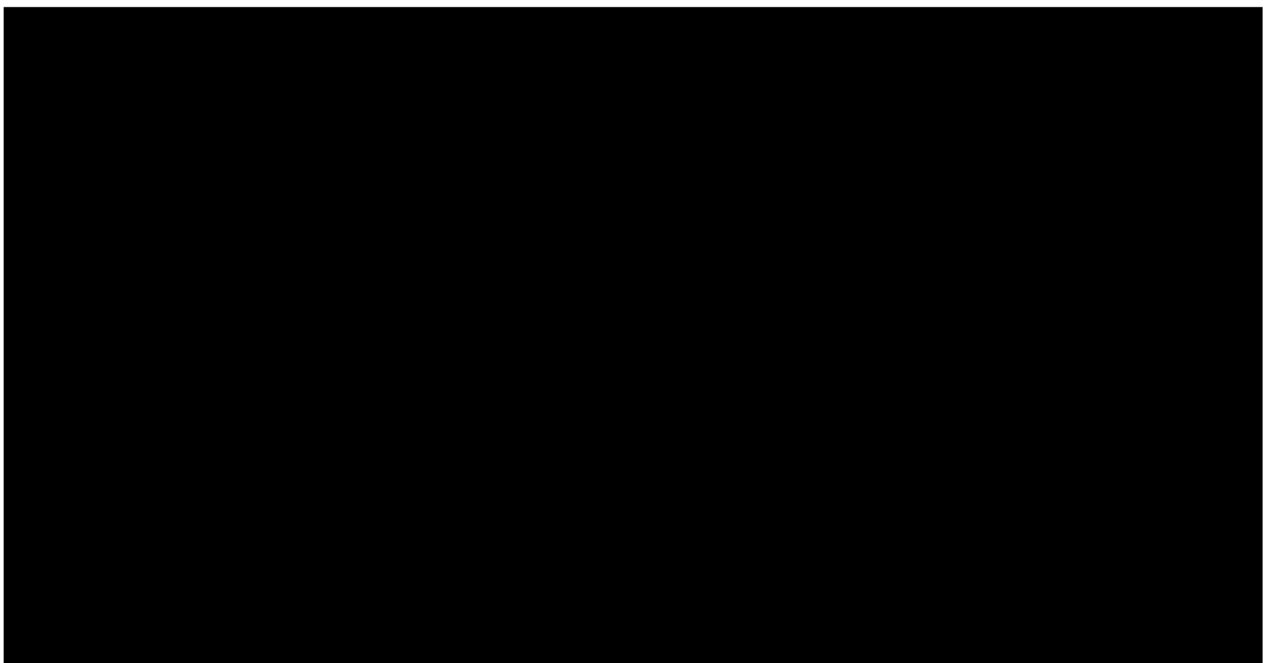
The FairWild Foundation plans to continue expanding frankincense certification in the target region beyond this project. FairWild already certified frankincense operators before this project with demand being sufficient to certify three operators early in the project and is currently in talks with large international brands to improve standards in their existing supply chains as detailed above. Frankincense certification aligns the interests of local communities and business and is therefore a popular intervention, as evidenced by the uptake of certification by businesses and associated training by harvesters from local communities. The project team is therefore confident that, following the end of the project period, there will be continued growth in the responsibly sourced frankincense sector.

12. Darwin Initiative identity

The Darwin Initiative is acknowledged as funder on this project's page on the FairWild website (Annex 8).

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 Initiative Costs (£)	Variance %	Comments (please explain significant variances)
Staff costs (see below)				
Consultancy costs				
Overhead Costs				
Travel and subsistence				
Operating Costs				
Capital items (see below)				
Others (see below)				
TOTAL	GBP35,000	GBP35,123		

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			FairWild, AWEI and FairSource Co-financing staff funding

partners to deliver the project (£)			
Total additional finance mobilised for new activities occurring outside of the project, building on evidence, best practices and the project (£)			FairWild Operator Supporter Fund (OSF) through various industry contributions

15. Other comments on progress not covered elsewhere

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 Boswellia species are managed sustainably, supporting landscape conservation and livelihoods of harvesting communities in Somalia and Kenya.	Three operators were FairWild certified in Y1, enhancing sustainable use of frankincense-bearing landscapes in East Africa.	
Outcome Sustainability outcomes, including biodiversity conservation and dignified livelihoods, are ensured across value chains for Boswellia species through sustainability certifications and landscape conservation approaches.		
Outcome indicator 0.1 By end of Y2, at least 75 additional tons of frankincense from the target regions in Somalia and Kenya are FairWild certified annually.	Three additional operators have been FairWild certified since project inception. In the months since certification, these operators have not yet collected any FairWild-certified frankincense.	FairWild plans to continue expanding the number of certified operators in the region in Y2.
Outcome indicator 0.2 By end of Y2, at least 150 additional harvesters from at least 75 households in the target communities in Somalia and Kenya have been trained, certified, and are receiving a fair income (price per kilo of harvested resin) as derived from collection and sale of frankincense, plus other benefits (e.g. predictable and fair income, premium fund contributions) as per the FairWild Standard.	213 harvesters have been trained. As per the change request, this project provided training support to operators (e.g., by providing materials) rather than by delivering the training itself. As certification was so recent, sales (and so fair income etc.) have not yet had time to happen.	FairWild plans to continue expanding the number of certified operators in the region in Y2.
Outcome indicator 0.3 By end of Y2, an additional 400 hectares Boswellia collection areas are under FairWild certification, compared to project baseline.	4,073 Ha total	FairWild plans to continue expanding the number of certified operators in the region in Y2.
Output 1 Research and analysis of the global value chain for Frankincense production originating in target areas, including stakeholder identification, mapping, identification of key opportunities and constraints, and engagement.		
Output indicator 1.1	The value chain analysis, market research and stakeholder mapping have been completed.	

By end of Y1 Q2, global value chain analysis, market research and stakeholder mapping completed, with key opportunities and constraints identified.		
Output indicator 1.2 By end of Y1 Q2, potential certification candidates and areas identified and confirmed through stakeholder engagement.	Certification has begun early and is underway with three operators so far.	FairWild plans to continue expanding the number of certified operators in the region in Y2.
Output 2. Landscape analysis and identification of wildlife economy opportunities in the project target areas		
Output indicator 2.1 By end of Y1 Q3, landscape review and analysis of current natural resource-based economic activity in the project areas completed.	The landscape and wildlife opportunities report is finished and available.	
Output indicator 2.2 Identification of wildlife economy opportunities available to stakeholders in the project areas.	The landscape and wildlife opportunities report is finished and available.	
Output 3. Provision of support to harvester groups and enterprises to implement the FairWild Standard and certification system in project target areas.		
3.1 By end of Y1, guideline documentation and training materials produced in paper and electronic format for dissemination to target groups.	Guideline documentation and training materials available for dissemination - only electronic copies have been produced because, after the change request, all support to operators has been remote.	As more operators decide to become FairWild certified, these materials will continue to be distributed.
3.2 By end of Y2 Q2, at least 6 collection operations in project target areas are trained in implementation of the FairWild Standard. Training in sustainable harvesting is onward disseminated to at least 150 people in total by end of Y2.	213 collectors trained from 3 operations.	As more operators decide to become FairWild certified, more collectors and others will be trained.
3.3 By end of Y2, at least 2 collection operations from the target regions have achieved FairWild certification, and another 4 are actively pursuing it.	Three operators have been certified with a fourth actively pursuing.	FairWild plans to continue expanding the number of certified operators in the region in Y2.
3.4 By end of Y2, at least 2 new auditors covering the two focal regions are trained and approved to audit against the FairWild standard.	Two auditors covering the local area were trained to audit against the FairWild Standard.	
Output 4. Sustainability embedded across global value chains to ensure traceability and responsible business for Boswellia from Somalia and Kenya.		
4.1 By end of Y2, at least 2 ingredient transformers and traders in FairWild certified supply chains from target project areas are registered and/or have had a pilot certification audit with FairWild.	There was no action towards this indicator in Y1. However, in Y1 the April 2025 FairWild's attendance of the In Cosmetics trade fair was organised. Signing up new companies for registration was a goal of this visit.	This is a priority for Y2.

4.2 By end of Y2, at least 2 buyers from international companies conclude procurement agreements to purchase FairWild certified frankincense from suppliers supported under the project.	There was no action towards this indicator in Y1. However, in Y1, FairWild's attendance of the April 2025 In Cosmetics trade fair was organised. Connecting buyers to certified suppliers was a goal of this visit.	This is a priority for Y2.
4.3 By end of Y2, support roll-out of new traceability systems for Boswellia ingredients.	During preparation for certification, FairWild assisted new operators with improving their existing systems of traceability.	This is a priority for Y2.
Output 5. Empower consumers to make sustainable purchasing decisions for Frankincense ingredients.		
5.1 By the end of Y2, at least 2,000 consumers have accessed information on sustainability challenges associated with Frankincense and the benefits of purchasing certified sources.	554 active engagements with relevant content.	
5.2 By the end of Y2, the FairWild certification status of products sourced from the target regions has been communicated to consumers through product marketing and/or corporate sustainability statements.	There was no action towards this indicator in Y1. Now that additional operators have been certified, actions can begin in Y2.	

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: Boswellia species are managed sustainably, supporting landscape conservation and livelihoods of harvesting communities in Somalia and Kenya.			
Outcome: Sustainability outcomes, including biodiversity conservation and dignified livelihoods, are ensured across value chains for Boswellia species through sustainability certifications and landscape conservation approaches.	<p>0.1 By end of Y2, at least 75 additional tons of frankincense from the target regions in Somalia and Kenya are FairWild certified annually. [DI-B08 – at least 75 additional tons of frankincense is traded sustainably, proven by FairWild certification]</p> <p>0.2 By end of Y2, at least 150 additional harvesters from at least 75 households in the target communities in Somalia and Kenya have been trained, certified, and are receiving a fair income (price per kilo of harvested resin) as derived from collection and sale of frankincense, plus other benefits (e.g. predictable and fair income, premium fund contributions) as per the FairWild Standard. [DI-D16 - At least 75 additional households and 150 people reporting improved livelihoods through fair trading arrangements for frankincense collection]</p> <p>0.3 By end of Y2, an additional 400 hectares Boswellia collection areas are under FairWild certification, compared to project baseline. [D1-D01 – At least 400 additional hectares managed sustainably,</p>	<p>0.1 Data from FairWild audits on harvest volumes</p> <p>0.2 Data from FairWild audits on contracted collectors, family helpers and employed workers</p> <p>0.3. Project reports, species and area management plans; data from FairWild audits on size of collection areas</p>	<p>Environmental and/or geopolitical threats do not inhibit the implementation of the project.</p> <p>Stakeholders perceive the integral value of the project in terms of poverty alleviation and biodiversity conservation.</p> <p>Consumer and corporate demand for sustainably sourced wild harvested ingredients will continue to grow and sustain incentives for certification beyond the project.</p> <p>Large international buyers will maintain interest in developing sustainability in supply chains and be motivated to purchase from certified companies.</p>

	demonstrated through FairWild certification		Consumers respond to assurance of sustainability by choosing to buy certified products
Output 1 Research and analysis of the global value chain for Frankincense production originating in target areas, including stakeholder identification, mapping, identification of key opportunities and constraints, and engagement.	1.1 By end of Y1 Q2, global value chain analysis, market research and stakeholder mapping completed, with key opportunities and constraints identified. 1.2 By end of Y1 Q2, potential certification candidates and areas identified and confirmed through stakeholder engagement.	1.1. Value chain analysis and markets report, including stakeholder identification, key opportunities and constraints. 1.2 List of potential certification candidates.	Key actors in Boswellia supply chains are willing to share information on their roles in the supply chain and sourcing information.
Output 2 Landscape analysis and identification of wildlife economy opportunities in the project target areas.	2.1 By end of Y1 Q3, landscape review and analysis of current natural resource-based economic activity in the project areas completed. 2.2 Identification of wildlife economy opportunities available to stakeholders in this project areas.	2.1 Landscape review reports. 2.2 Wildlife economy opportunity reports.	Target landscapes afford other feasible wildlife economy opportunities
Output 3 Provision of support to harvester groups and enterprises to implement the FairWild Standard and certification system in project target areas.	3.1 By end of Y1, guideline documentation and training materials produced in paper and electronic format for dissemination to target groups. [D1-C01 – At least one publication relating to sustainable harvesting of Boswellia]	3.1.i Copies of documentation and training materials, including video. 3.1.ii Downloads/views of e-training materials from FW and partner websites 3.2 Registration records of collection operators and other stakeholders (civil society, local resource people)	Local collectors and traders are willing and motivated to participate in training and understand the benefits to participating in this project. Training activities will lead to

	<p>3.2 By end of Y2 Q2, at least 6 collection operations in project target areas are trained in implementation of the FairWild Standard. Training in sustainable harvesting is onward disseminated to at least 150 people in total by end of Y2. [D1-A01 – at least 150 people complete structured and relevant training]</p> <p>3.3 By end of Y2, at least 2 collection operations from the target regions have achieved FairWild certification, and another 4 are actively pursuing it. [D1-B02 – Six new or improved Management plans in place and endorsed by FairWild] [D1-A03 – Six collection operations have improved capacity to manage Boswellia populations sustainably]</p> <p>3.4 By end of Y2, at least 2 new auditors covering the two focal regions are trained and approved to audit against the FairWild standard. [D1-A01 – structured and relevant training]</p>	<p>who complete FairWild training workshops.</p> <p>3.3 FairWild audit data and certificates.</p> <p>3.4 Registration records at training events; evidence of completed audits</p>	<p>change in behaviour by participants.</p> <p>The economic and social gains to be enjoyed by joining the FairWild scheme provide sufficient incentive for collection operations.</p> <p>Certification bodies are able to recruit a sufficient number of prospective auditors for training.</p>
<p>Output 4.</p> <p>Sustainability embedded across global value chains to ensure traceability and responsible business for</p>	<p>4.1 By end of Y2, at least 2 ingredient transformers and traders in FairWild certified supply chains from target project areas are registered and/or have had a pilot certification audit with FairWild.</p>	<p>4.1 FairWild data on trader registrations and audits.</p> <p>4.2i Purchase orders for FairWild certified products (prices may be redacted).</p>	<p>Collection operations and trading partners are willing to engage in discussions on improving the sustainability of supply chains.</p>

<p>Boswellia from Somalia and Kenya.</p>	<p>4.2 By end of Y2, at least 2 buyers from international companies conclude procurement agreements to purchase FairWild certified frankincense from suppliers supported under this project.</p> <p>4.3 By end of Y2, support roll-out of new traceability systems for Boswellia ingredients.</p>	<p>4.2ii Communications with buyers which evidences intent; commitments published as policy statements or on website.</p> <p>4.3 Company records and communications.</p>	<p>International corporate purchasers of frankincense have sufficient corporate commitment to supply chain sustainability.</p> <p>Buyers will see wild harvest specific certification as an effective way to provide assurance of sustainability.</p> <p>Buyers will have confidence in the feasibility of sourcing certified frankincense and the ability of producers to meet their additional needs in terms of communications, quality etc.</p>
<p>Output 5. Empower consumers to make sustainable purchasing decisions for Frankincense ingredients</p>	<p>5.1 By the end of Y2, at least 2,000 consumers have accessed information on sustainability challenges associated with Frankincense and the benefits of purchasing certified sources. [D1-C11 – Visitors to Frankincense web pages, plus D1-C12 – Social media users reached. Together, reaching 2,000 consumers]</p>	<p>5.1i Downloads/views of articles on Frankincense sustainability from FairWild and partner websites.</p> <p>5.1ii Estimated reach of consumers reading articles in the media about Frankincense.</p> <p>5.1iii Estimated reach of consumers reading information about Frankincense via social media and</p>	<p>Consumers remain engaged on sustainability topics amidst a volatile media environment and in the face of other priorities (cost-of-living, etc.).</p>

	5.2 By the end of Y2, the FairWild certification status of products sourced from the target regions has been communicated to consumers through product marketing and/or corporate sustainability statements.	<p>newsletters of FairWild and partners.</p> <p>5.2 Estimated reach of consumers accessing information about FairWild certification status of products through website, social media and newsletters of participating businesses.</p>	
<p>Activities (each activity is numbered according to the output that it will contribute towards, for example 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 are contributing to Output 1)</p> <p>1. Research and analysis of the global value chain for Frankincense production originating in target areas, including stakeholder identification, mapping, identification of key opportunities and constraints, and engagement.</p> <p>1.1 Design the methodological approach to global value chain and market analysis and share with project partners.</p> <p>1.2 Map the global value chain for Boswellia from Somalia and Kenya, identifying current and potential market opportunities, and opportunities and constraints for improving sustainability outcomes. 1.3 Conduct stakeholder mapping exercise through desk studies and interviews.</p> <p>1.4 Conduct interviews with economic actors and other stakeholders to provide input to global value chain analysis.</p> <p>1.5 Review findings and prepare comprehensive global value chain sustainability opportunities and challenges report.</p> <p>1.6 Prepare list of potential certification candidates and collection areas.</p> <p>2. Landscape analysis and identification of wildlife economy opportunities in this project target areas.</p> <p>2.1 Undertake desk-based review of information on the landscape within the proposed target areas, including Boswellia collection, population demographics, and other economic activities currently underway.</p> <p>2.2 Interview stakeholders to validate the desk study and identify other sustainable wildlife economy opportunities in the target regions.</p> <p>2.3 Production of reports on current economic activity in the landscape and wildlife economy opportunities.</p>			

- 2.4 Convene discussion with stakeholders on the wildlife economy opportunities identified.
- 3. Provision of support to harvester groups and enterprises to implement the FairWild Standard and certification system in project target areas.
 - 3.1 Prepare guidance for implementation of the FairWild Standard and certification requirements, adapted to local context.
 - 3.2 Deliver training to collection operations and harvesters (150 beneficiaries) and other stakeholders (civil society, local experts) to enable sustainable harvesting methods and traceability to certification standards.
 - 3.3 Support collection operations and harvesters to implement FairWild-compliant harvesting practices, prepare for audit and to effectively engage in international value chains.
 - 3.4 Provide training and support to at least 2 auditors for undertaking FairWild audits of value chains proposed for certification.
 - 3.5 Certification audits undertaken at each project site by accredited certification bodies.
- 4. Sustainability embedded across global value chains to ensure traceability and responsible business for Boswellia from Somalia and Kenya.
 - 4.1 Engage with value chain actors (transformers, traders, exporters) to complete supply chain sustainability assurance through FairWild registration or certification.
 - 4.2 Secure purchase arrangements for FairWild certified ingredients from international buyers.
 - 4.3 Support roll-out of new traceability systems for Boswellia ingredients.
- 5. Empower consumers to make sustainable purchasing decisions for Frankincense ingredients.
 - 5.1 Share information on Frankincense and the benefits of purchasing FairWild certified sustainable ingredients through FairWild and partner websites, newsletters and social media.
 - 5.2 Publish at least one article on Frankincense in the general media with broad consumer reach.
 - 5.3 Engage with brand and retail companies to ensure information about FairWild certification status of products will be disseminated through product marketing and/or corporate sustainability statements.

Table 1 Project Standard Indicators

Please see the Standard Indicator guidance for more information on how to report in this section, including appropriate disaggregation.

DI Indicator number	Name of indicator	If this links directly to a project indicator(s), please note the indicator number here	Units	Disaggregation	Year 1 Total	Year 2 Total	Year 3 Total	Total to date	Total planned during the project
D1-D01a Area under Sustainable Management Practices	At least 400 additional hectares managed sustainably, demonstrated through FairWild certification	0.3	Ha	Country: All Somalia Biome: All Dry shrubland Management type: All FairWild-certified sustainable management	4,073			4,073	400
D1-A01 Number of people in eligible countries who have completed structured and relevant training	At least 150 people complete structured and relevant training	3.2	Number	Gender: All Male Country: All Somalia IPLC status: All Other	213			213	150
D1-B02 Number of new or improved habitat management plans	Six new or improved Management plans in place and endorsed by FairWild	3.3	Number	Country: All Somalia Type: All new	3			3	6

DI Indicator number	Name of indicator	If this links directly to a project indicator(s), please note the indicator number here	Units	Disaggregation	Year 1 Total	Year 2 Total	Year 3 Total	Total to date	Total planned during the project
available and endorsed									
D1-A03 Number of local or national organisations with enhanced capability and capacity	Six collection operations have improved capacity to manage Boswellia populations sustainably	3.3	Number	Country: All Somalia Type: All private	3			3	6

Table 2 Publications

Title	Type (e.g. journals, best practice manual, blog post, online videos, podcasts, 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)
1. Ethical Elegance: Exploring the world of wild-harvested cosmetics ingredients*	Article/report	Denis Faye, 2024	Man	French	FairWild Foundation, Zurich	https://www.fairwild.org/news/2024/9/25/ethical-elegance-exploring-the-world-of-wild-harvested-cosmetics-ingredients

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?	Done
Is the report less than 10MB? If so, please email to BCF-Reports@niras.com putting the project number in the Subject line.	
Is your report more than 10MB? If so, please consider the best way to submit. One zipped file, or a download option is recommended. We can work with most online options and will be in touch if we have a problem accessing material. If unsure, please discuss with BCF-Reports@niras.com about the best way to deliver the report, putting the project number in the Subject line.	
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.	Done
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.	Done
If you are submitting photos for publicity purposes, do these meet the outlined requirements (see section 16)?	Done
Have you involved your partners in preparation of the report and named the main contributors	Done
Have you completed the Project Expenditure table fully?	Done
Do not include claim forms or other communications with this report.	