

DPLR1\1085

Darwin Plus Local - Final Report (1)

Officer: Jessica Magnus

Section 1 - Darwin Plus Local Project Information (Essential)

Project Reference Number

DPL00045

Q1. Project Title

No Response

Overseas Territory(ies)

Turks and Caicos Islands (TCI)

Lead Organisation or Individual

FisherFolkFirst

Partner Organisation(s)

Integrated Marine Biosphere Research (IMBeR); TCI Gov Department of Fisheries and Marine Resources Management (DFMRM); TCI Gov Department of Environment and Coastal Resources (DECR).

Value of Darwin Plus Local Grant Award

██████████

Project Start Date

01 April 2023

Project End Date

31 March 2024

Project Leader Name

Marta Calosso

Project Website/Twitter/Blog etc.

<http://www.fisherfolkfirst.org/developing-biodiversity-stewardship-among-tci-fishers-through-outreach-and-education/>; <http://www.fisherfolkfirst.org/tci-fishing-regulations/>

Report Author(s)

Marta Calosso and John Claydon

Report Date

29 April 2024

Project Summary

No Response

Project Outcomes

Checked	Biodiversity: improving and conserving biodiversity, and slowing or reversing biodiversity loss and degradation;
Unchecked	Climate Change: responding to, mitigating and adapting to climate change and its effects on the natural environment and local communities;
Checked	Environmental quality: improving the condition and protection of the natural environment;
Checked	Capability and capacity building: enhancing the capacity within OTs, including through community engagement and awareness, to support the environment in the short- and long-term.

Section 2 - Project Outcomes (Essential)

On a scale of 1 (high – outcome substantially exceeded) to 5 (low – outcome substantially did not meet expectation), how successful do you think your project has been?

1 - Outcome substantially exceeded

Project outcomes and justification for rating above

i) Fisheries officers have resources to reference and distribute in 3 languages and catering to low levels of literacy to fishers and general public in the Turks and Caicos Islands - 3-fold brochure, website, posters, and videos in development.

ii) Indicators were not stated in the application, but outcomes have contributed to measures of success that were stated:

- Number of partner meetings and workshops held - 5
- Number of stakeholder/fishers meetings held - one-on-one meetings with >150 stakeholders
- Number of fishers and fish workers consulted - one-on-one meetings with >100 fishers and fish workers
- Number of leaflets developed and printed in 3 languages - 500
- Number of measuring gauges produced - 650 lobster gauges purchased and distributed to commercial fishers

and Department of Fisheries and Marine Resources Management offices

-Number of additional reference materials produced - pull-up banners at each Department of Fisheries and Marine Resources Management office, PVC poster at each seafood processing facility in the islands and other public areas (12), all materials with QR code linking to the regulations website produced in the project <https://www.fisherfolkfirst.org/tci-fishing-regulations/>

-Videos produced in 3 languages and made publicly available online - all footage recorded; narration in 3 languages recorded; final videos in development by FisherFolkFirst ready for start of 2024 fishing season.

Additional measures of success include that discussions have been initiated with local businesses for sponsorship to distribute materials more broadly and develop materials in an additional language – Tagalog – to cater to the Filipino community, many of whom fish for recreation and subsistence. In addition, a tentative invitation has been extended by the Department of Environment and Coastal Resources to collaborate on outreach and educational signage for Protected Area management.

iii) No recommended improvements were received in feedback letter

Supporting Evidence - file(s) upload

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Supporting Evidence - links to published document/online materials

<http://www.fisherfolkfirst.org/tci-fishing-regulations/>

<https://imber.info/news/developing-ocean-literacy-and-biodiversity-stewardship-among-small-scale-fishers/>

<https://darwinplus.org.uk/news/2024/01/14/gauging-sustainable-spiny-lobster-fisheries/>

Project Challenges

Local government – Attempting to wrap up the project in the last month of the financial year did not work well with local government as this was the period they focus on developing budgets and is an intense time with little availability.

Accommodation – It was hard to be responsive to changes when availability of accommodation is severely limited and too expensive during peak tourist seasons.

Time – The original estimate of 60 days' work proved to be too low. Fortunately, the project lead and lead partner were able to dedicate more days necessary to the project.

Availability of local services – While local technical services exist in the Turks and Caicos Islands (e.g. graphic artists, website design, videography, etc.) they are very expensive and largely could not cater for what was required by the project. FisherFolkFirst has developed skills in-house to cover these.

Covid19 – A trip to Grand Turk had to be repeated because of Covid19 infection.

Weather – The project suffered delays in filming commercial fishers at sea due to persistent bad weather. Being flexible with days when we could go out with fishers allowed this to take place.

Lessons Learned

i) What worked well

Specific outputs being determined through consultation with stakeholders. As the project developed some of the preconceptions about materials to be produced evolved through input.

Working with fisherfolk to assist with Spanish and Creole translation. Although government translators had to be used, working with fisherfolk added engagement and buy-in to the project.

Presenting materials to stakeholders individually, rather than in group settings allowed us to initiate in-depth discussions about the regulations and the ecology behind them, as well as addressing misconceptions.

ii) What did not work well?

Workshops were replaced by one-on-one meetings with stakeholders.

iii) What would we do differently?

Plan trips to additional small islands of North Caicos, Middle Caicos, and Salt Cay to engage with fisherfolk.

Although the project focus was on fisherfolk, there was a lot of interest in the materials from teachers, and therefore an element working with schools would be beneficial.

iv) Recommendations to others

Try to develop a better understanding of how long each step in the project will take, and what can be achieved during trips to islands.

Due to lack of human and financial resources of local government, it is not a reasonable expectation that they can dedicate extra resources to an external project. Therefore, when partnering with local government, costs of the project should be covered in the grant and should not be burdened on government.

Section 3 - Project Finance (Essential)

Project Expenditure

Project Spend (indicative) since last Annual Report	2023/24 Grant (£)	2023/24 Total actual Darwin Plus Costs (£)	Variance %	Comments (please explain significant variances)
Staff Costs	£0.00	£0.00	0	<i>No Response</i>
Consultancy Costs	██████	██████	██	<i>No Response</i>
Overhead Costs	£0.00	£0.00	0	<i>No Response</i>
Travel and Subsistence	██████	██████	██	<i>No Response</i>
Operating Costs	██████	██████	██	<i>No Response</i>
Capital Items	██████	██████	██	<i>No Response</i>
Others	£0.00	£0.00	0	<i>No Response</i>
Total	██████	██████	██	

Please provide a short narrative summary on project finances.

There were no significant differences between the planned and actual expenses covered by the Darwin Plus Local funding.

However, co-financing was provided by the Project Lead and project partner to cover additional days of accommodation not covered by the Darwin Plus grant while working with fisherfolk on the islands of Providenciales, South Caicos and Grand Turk.

Section 4 - Contribution of Project to Darwin Plus Programme Objectives

Please select up to **one** indicator that applies within **each group/indicator list (A, B, C, D)** and report your results for that indicator in the text box underneath. If you do not have relevant results to report for any of the indicators in a particular group, you can leave them blank.

Please also submit some form of evidence (above) to demonstrate any results you list below, where possible.

Group A: Capability and Capacity - Core Darwin Plus Standard Indicators (select one)

Unchecked **DPLUS-A01: Number of people from key national and local stakeholder groups completing structured and relevant training.**

Unchecked	DPLUS-A02: Number of secondments or placements completed by individuals of key local and national stakeholders.
Checked	DPLUS-A03: Number of local/national organisations with improved capability and capacity as a result of project.
Unchecked	DPLUS-A04: Number of people reporting that they are applying new capabilities (skills and knowledge) 6 (or more) months after training.
Unchecked	DPLUS-A05: Number of trainers trained reporting to have delivered further training by the end of the project.

Group A Indicator Results

All Dept. Fisheries Officers - While no formal training was provided, the materials produced are reference materials for Dept. Fisheries officers. This helps with enforcement and education and outreach. Materials will also assist during the process of licencing of fishers, and can become a mandatory part of the process (e.g.watchingtheregulationsvideo)

Group B: Policies, Practices and Management- Core Darwin Plus Standard Indicators (select one)

Unchecked	DPLUS-B01: Number of new/improved habitat management plans available and endorsed.
Unchecked	DPLUS-B02: Number of new/improved species management plans available and endorsed.
Unchecked	DPLUS-B03: Number of new/improved community management plans available and endorsed.
Unchecked	DPLUS-B04: Number of new/improved sustainable enterprises/ community benefits management plans available and endorsed.
Unchecked	DPLUS-B05: Number of people with increased participation in local communities / local management organisations (i.e., participation in Governance/citizen engagement).
Unchecked	DPLUS-B06: Number of Local Stakeholders and Local Communities (people) with strengthened (recognised/clarified) tenure and/or rights.

Group B Indicator Results

N/A

Group C: Evidence and Best Practices - Core Darwin Plus Standard Indicators (select one)

Unchecked **DPLUS-C01: Number of best practice guides and knowledge products published and endorsed.**

Unchecked **DPLUS-C02: Number of new conservation or species stock assessments published.**

Unchecked **DPLUS-C03: New assessments of habitat conservation action needs published.**

Unchecked **DPLUS-C04: New assessments of community use of biodiversity resources published.**

Unchecked **DPLUS-C05: Number of projects contributing data, insights, and case studies to national Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) related reporting processes and calls for evidence.**

Group C Indicator Results

N/A

Group D: Sustainable Benefits to People, Biodiversity and Climate - Core Darwin Plus Standard Indicators (select one)

Unchecked **DPLUS-D01 Hectares of habitat under sustainable management practices.**

Unchecked **DPLUS-D02: Number of people whose disaster/climate resilience has been improved.**

Unchecked **DPLUS-D03: Number of policies with biodiversity provisions that have been enacted or amended.**

Group D Indicator Results

N/A

Section 5 - Project Partnerships, Wider Impacts and Contributions

Project Partnerships

The TCI Government Department of Fisheries and Marine Resources Management was involved throughout the implementation of the project. Key decisions as to the format, appearance, content, and distribution of materials were made with the Department, and to where the materials concerned Protected Areas in consultation with the Department of Environment and Coastal Resources. The lobster gauges purchased were the model chosen by the Department of Fisheries.

Consultation with gov officers in leadership roles (i.e. Directors) as well as officers on the ground (i.e. enforcement, administrative and outreach staff) proved particularly valuable in order to maximize the impact of the project, and ensure that the focus addressed government priorities with regards to fisheries.

Working with fisherfolk, asking what sorts of materials would be useful, how they should be displayed, the text (in 3 languages) so that it would be accessible to all fisherfolk, proved particularly valuable. Working with Haitian fish workers was particularly rewarding.

Wider Impacts and Decision Making

The materials produced have, for the first time, presented an easy to understand summary of the fishing regulations and has thus started a conversation among fisherfolk about the regulations and whether amendments need to be made.

Sustainability and Legacy

All of the materials produced in the project are enduring legacies:

Posters

Brochures

Lobster gauges

Website

In the future, if substantial updates in the regulations need to be incorporated in new materials, we will work with local government to achieve this and seek additional funding if necessary.

Section 6 - Communications & Publicity

Exceptional Outcomes and Achievements

further information to be provided shortly. we are currently in the field.

Photo, video or graphic to be used for publicity and communications.

Please upload at least one relevant and engaging image, video or graphic that you consent to be used alongside the above text in Defra, JNCC or NIRAS communications material.

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Photo, video, and/or graphic captions and credits.

Credits and further pictures to be provided at later date. We are currently in the field.

I agree for the Biodiversity Challenge Funds Secretariat, Administrator, and/or JNCC to publish the content of this section.

Yes, I agree for the BCFs Secretariat and/or JNCC to publish the content of this section.

Please list any accounts that you would like tagged in online posts here. This can include project pages, partners' pages or individuals' accounts for any of the following platforms: LinkedIn, Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram.

we are opening new social media accounts and will provide shortly.

Section 7 - Darwin Plus Contacts

Please tick here to confirm that you have read and acknowledge the BCF's Privacy Notice on how contact details will be used and stored and that you have sought agreement from anyone that you are sharing personal details with us on their behalf.

I confirm I have read the Privacy Notice and have consent to share the following contact details

Project Contact Details

Project Contact Name	Marta Calosso
Role within Darwin Plus Project	Project Lead
Email	[REDACTED]
Phone	[REDACTED]
Do you need further sections to provide additional contact details?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No