Darwin Plus: Overseas Territories Environment and Climate Fund Annual Report

Darwin Plus Project Information

Project reference	DPLUS155
Project title	Securing Montserrat's threatened endemic species and natural capital through community-action
Territory(ies)	Montserrat
Lead partner	UK Overseas Territories Conservation Forum (UKOTCF)
Project partner(s)	Montserrat National Trust (MNT), 664 Connect (664), Species Recovery Trust (SRT)
Darwin Plus grant value	£293,447
Start/end dates of project	October 2021- September 2024
Reporting period (e.g. Apr 2021-Mar 2022) and number (e.g. Annual Report 1, 2)	April 2022 to March 2023, Annual Report 2
Project Leader name	Dr Mike Pienkowski & Catherine Wensink
Project website/blog/social media	https://www.ukotcf.org.uk/key-projects/adoptahomeforwildlife/ Twitter: @ukotcf; Facebook: @ukotcf @montserratnationaltrust Instagram montserratnationaltrust
Report author(s) and date	Mrs Catherine Wensink & Dr Mike Pienkowski with input from Project Team members, Mrs Delmaude Ryan and Ms Vicky Wilkins; March& April 2023

1. Project summary

The project takes place on Montserrat, a UK Overseas Territory and one of the Leeward Islands in the eastern Caribbean. (Figure 1). It lies 43 km SW of Antigua and 64 km NW of Guadeloupe at 16°45'N, 62°12'W. The volcanic island, about 17 km by 11 km, is mountainous, with streams (locally termed the English-based "ghauts") and waterfalls amongst dense tropical forest and a rugged coastline. Its pyroclastic volcano erupted from 1995 to 2010, meaning about 2/3 of the island cannot be used and causing great damage to the remainder. Despite the continuing challenge, the global biodiversity importance of the island remains immense. For invertebrates alone, Montserrat has approximately 117 single island endemics and 300 regional endemics. The Government of Montserrat's targets for food production on island, will be stalled without healthy pollinators and native plants populations providing multiple benefits e.g. pollination, soil stability and productivity. Preliminary attitudes surveys (conducted in 2022 showed some general negative attitudes towards insects in general, but also to invasive plant species n=41).

Pressures on the natural environment in the inhabited areas is incredibly high, with biodiversity and ecosystem service loss; with the benefits of the land to local communities are also lost. The project enables Montserratians to undertake informed decisions and actions to improve the biodiversity value of the land they manage, via training, advice and action, so Montserrat's unique wildlife and ecosystems thrive. Known locally as *Adopt a Home for Wildlife* (AHW), it demonstrates wildlife-rich sites (WH) and promotes livelihoods, based on sustainable-use of natural resources (e.g. food-security, low-impact ecotourism, small enterprise). Across the island, the project is building a network of community-led managed conservation areas. The high-level objectives of the project are to safeguard biodiversity by addressing some of the most pressing issues which threaten it (e.g. invasive plants displacing native species), but also to stimulate

action and engagement among the Montserratian community, ensuring that resource and capacity issues of the islands main non-government organisation (MNT) are also addressed.

The aim was to establish at least 10 sites in the project period. Due to the popularity of the initiative, a phased approach has been introduced whereby the sites included at first in the project are Phase 1. These, and later phases, will become the legacy and the added value of the project. In year 1 the Phase 1 sites were surveyed using robust, but non-technical survey methods. This ensures that surveys can be replicated by persons with only limited training. We believe this to be an important part of the project as the level of citizen-science opportunities on island have been limited, but now have a foundation on which to flourish.



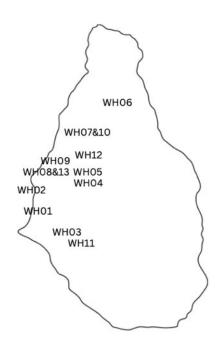




Figure 1: (Top Left) Satellite image of Montserrat (© Google Earth; accessed March 2023); (Top Right) rough sketch of where Wildlife Sites are located: Note: Site WH09 has been withdrawn by the Governor's Office: (Bottom left) Montserrat Hazard Level System Zones last official updating of map in 2014. Note that Zones A and B are fully accessible. Zones C and F are accessible during daytime only. Zone V is fully restricted except for essential workers. Zones E and W are maritime zones, respectively with restricted access to essential workers and daytime access. Source: Montserrat Volcano <u>Dis</u>aster Observatory and Management Coordination Agency (2014)

Following the surveys on the WH sites, and informed by discussions with the local "Adopter", a management plan has been developed between the "Adopter", the land-owner (if different), the Montserrat National Trust (MNT) and UKOTCF – see Annex 4.2 for an example management plan. In year 2, the management plans are being implemented jointly by the project team and the Adopters with added opportunities being explored for improved livelihoods and well-being for owners and the community. Progress in year 2 will be monitored using report cards, which outline activities undertaken under management plan objectives. Sites are representative of

habitat types on the island with diverse groups/individuals responsible for them e.g. school, community group, private land-owner, lease holder etc.

2. Project stakeholders/partners

Main Partnerships

MNT, the lead local partner of the project on Montserrat originally worked with UKOTCF to develop the project and is now the key implementation partner on island and plans takes decisions, M&Es and delivers the project activities. MNT was established by statute in 1970. It leads on preserving and conserving natural, cultural, historic and archaeological heritage. Its objectives are to: conserve/enhance Montserrat's beauty; preserve/rehabilitate historical sites, including buildings, monuments, documents etc; preserve Montserrat's wildlife; make the public aware of the value and beauty of Montserrat's heritage; pursue a policy of preservation and act as advisor; acquire property for the benefit of Montserrat; attract funds for effective carrying-out of objectives; to compile photographic and architectural records of the above.

All members of MNT team are based on Montserrat and have extensive skills and experience, including organisational management, wildlife surveying skills, biosecurity and invasive species control. MNT is best-placed to encourage and engage with the community; a continuous exercise facilitated by a year-round events programme (flower show, St Patrick's (the national holiday), Christmas lights show, etc. Other events linked to the project are now being implemented to add to this (e.g. a pilot Higher Education Evening – see elsewhere).

The Project Officers within the Project Team meet regularly with Adopters. Each Officer (Ms Delmaude Ryan, Ms Ajhermae White and Mr Elvis Gerard) decided between themselves in year 1 who would lead with each Adopter and "Wildlife Home", with the expertise of the other POs on call. This has been challenging with a range of officers working across the sites and led to some delivery challenges, but coordination and management by MNT and its senior staff has led to teamworking and division of tasks. This capacity has enabled key relationships to be established and strengthened into year 2. It also allows each Adopter to have a focal person to liaise with and build a relationship with.

MNT and UKOTCF are, and have been for several decades, in constant dialogue about priority needs for conservation on the island. Since a pilot study in 2016-2017, which first developed and then tested the *Adopt a Home for Wildlife* initiative, MNT and UKOTCF have planned to roll this out operationally in order to work directly with the community on empowering their conservation action. MNT's partnership with UKOTCF through DPLUS155, has enabled it to spend most of its time engaging directly with the community, whereas the role it asks UKOTCF to do is to focus on technical aspects, including designing surveys and the conservation approach, training, organising outside technical support for this (mainly voluntary) and financial and administrative tasks, as well as some high-level interactions. UKOTCF has also used this opportunity to help with capacity building at MNT, through engaging MNT with all technical and management aspects of the project. Mrs Sarita Francis, Executive Director of the Trust, in reviewing the 2022/23 year said: "On behalf of the Montserrat National Trust, I say huge thank you to the UKOTCF [and the Hidden Histories Teams] for a dynamic year of activities that we worked on. I am delighted especially for the knowledge and skills that are being transferred to the youths on Montserrat."

UKOTCF itself is a UK charity, which has had, for over 35 years, a close and continuing relationship with UKOTs, including Montserrat. It is the only organisation solely devoted to conservation, sustainability and related education and research across all UK Overseas Territories (UKOTs) and Crown Dependencies (CDs). It does not have a separate agenda, other than that determined in consultation with the territories, with which it always works in partnership. This and other projects developed out of this relationship. Meetings between the core project team, consisting of MNT and UKOTCF take place via Zoom. In year 2 the team decided this would move from fortnightly to monthly meetings (key decisions and actions points are documented in a record of the meeting, which is circulated to partners), with an informal Project Officer report about midway between meetings. Advanced notice of meetings are shared with the Project Team to plan ahead. Monthly meetings alternating between early for Montserrat and late for UK partners. This has helped overcome some challenges in late-night UK working.

The Project Team meetings are seen as the hub of the project where discussions take place and decisions are made (e.g. discussion on native bee species and honey production warranted a Darw n P us Annua Report 2023 3

background document, which was written by Vicky Wilkins advisor to the project see Annex 4.14). Now in year 2, as envisaged, meetings have become less frequent as the project progresses. In addition to those tools used already mentioned, we are now using a project management tool, (www.monday.com) as a central hub for monitoring progress and a means for the Project Team to access this information. A not-for-profit account has been secured (through UKOTCF's UK registered charity status) which has some additional functions.

Partnerships with Adopters and others on island

Adopters are those local people or groups who volunteer and are accepted to manage an area of land (*Wildlife Home;* WH) within the project. POs visit Adopters at practicable times and keep in contact with them via WhatsApp if there is a particular non-trivial but interesting point to discuss, share images for identification etc.

The list of sites is shown in Annex 4.1. It demonstrates that the Wildlife Homes (given codes WH01, WH02 etc... NB: temporary codes (WHP...) are given to sites under offer and investigation until accepted) are found in a mixture of habitats and locations. Several sites are connected - see map in Figure 1 above and comments to reviewer in section 8 (comment 4).

It is important to note that $2/3^{rd}$ of Montserrat is now uninhabited (due to the earlier volcanic activity) and only very limited activities can take place in the exclusion zone of the whole of this area of the south of the island. Previous work identified some excellent opportunities in the south of the island (DPLUS049); however, it has not been possible to take these forward at this time meaning that the area available for WHs has a limit.

By way of documenting these partnerships, video material, including interviews of Adopters, were recorded for almost all Wildlife Homes in December 2022. The first 13 videos, on the first 4 WHs plus one on the nursery propagation, were published by end of FY on UKOTCF's YouTube channel (and links provided at https://www.ukotcf.org.uk/key-projects/adoptahomeforwildlife/), with editing continuing on others.

Adopters have taken part in events, training sessions and other activities throughout the year as outlined below.

At the launch of several booklets on traditional use of medicinal plants (see *Hidden Histories* project), several Montserratian small-business persons attended to meet with community and sell some locally sourced and made produced, e.g. soaps, oils, seasonings made from plants. Following this, they appeared on the Montserrat National Trust Heritage Show. These relationships will form an important part of year 2 as we look for wider application of the *Adopt a Home for Wildlife* Initiative, particularly in linking with small enterprise on island.

Vernaire Bass, of 664 Connect, has been an important partner and her involvement on communications and outreach has led to greater involvement with the Trust generally. This role has developed throughout the project and this year has included the re-establishment of Monty's Messengers kid's club, the MNT Heritage Radio Show, a dynamic and engaging Facebook Page, which is very popular locally and internationally and an Instagram account aimed at younger Montserratians. Vernaire ensured uptake of the questionnaire on attitudes & perceptions on biodiversity, ecosystem services and natural capital.

As indicated previously, the Ministry of Agriculture, Lands, Housing & Environment, continues to be directly engaged with the project through the part-time Project Officer roles of Elvis Gerald of Agriculture and Ajhermae White from the Department of the Environment, working outside office hours, but with timing flexibility by the Departments. This has strengthened the links among environment partners, locally. The Minister has attended several events including in the field.

In addition, the Director of Environment identified a suitable work-experience senior student, Antwone Sinclair, to work (outside college lessons) on the project, covered by the budget, and recognises this valuable contribution. Similarly, the part-time nature of the shared project-officer role has allowed also funding of a nursery assistant, Samantha Paul. During the year, plant nursery propagation focal points, Antwone and Samantha, have made valuable contributions to the work, with Antwone contributing also to wider conservation initiatives on island. He has, amongst other things: attended the BirdsCaribbean bird monitoring training in St Vincent, oral histories training from the Oral Histories Society (see Hidden Histories project elsewhere); he

continues to co-lead Monty's Messengers events and appeared on ZJB radio station numerous times representing MNT. See later sections for examples of his contribution.

Partnerships with others

Vicky Wilkins, at the Species Recovery Trust (who works across the UKOTs on invertebrates), provided invertebrate conservation knowledge, including interpreting the results of invertebrate surveys and adding invertebrate requirements into management plans. She has also collated endemic invertebrate information for delivery on sites, focusing on endemic pollinators. Some Adopters were keen to start beekeeping with the endemic stingless bee species. After researching experience for Guadeloupe which is already using the species, it was clear this is a difficult activity with many aspects to consider e.g. limited success and potential harm to the endemic species; and so the focus is now on providing suitable habitat e.g. ensuring vegetation with both resin and nectar. She has provided invertebrate identifications via photographs and on iNaturalist to support the results of the site insect survey. This partnership has also provided links with several invertebrate specialists globally and she has supported M&E on the project. She has extended this role she to developing the capacity and tools, such as invertebrate species list, for the St Helena National Trust to allow integration of their rich invertebrate fauna into their conservation programmes. Through SRT a connection was made with a Pollinator project BES-Net TT that is being run on Trinidad and Tobago by the local government and the two projects have been exchange information and ideas.

The first coordinated visit of technical specialists took place in July 2022. David Clements, a highly experienced entomologist, joined the Project Team for planned activities including the first ever island bioblitz, and undertook training, which included several Adopters and DoE staff. He extended his stay, which allowed him to continue collecting and working with Project Officers. As a result, together with Ajhermae White, they have developed a key for butterflies and moths of the island (see Annex 4.11). He is exploring links with collections around the world, including Montana State University, to ensure invertebrate data is accessible on Montserrat. Samples collected at the Adopt a Home Sites (under permit) will be housed at NHM London (and potentially Cardiff). It may also be possible to develop this on island with the development of facilitates to house a Herbarium (grant awarded end of 2022). Annex 4.3 SOS Montserrat newsletter article PP gives an impression of the visit: https://www.ukotcf.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/SOSnatureNewsletter13.pdf.

In January 2023, the project arranged for an experience entomologist, Wolfgang Rabitsch of Austria (currently working on several DPLUS projects in St Helena and British Indian Ocean Territory), to visit on an unpaid basis, and Vicky has liaised with him on collections of invertebrates (this has been particularly helpful to UK's FERA in terms of collecting samples of scale insects, ants and other invertebrates). He visited WH sites, accompanied by Project Officers and other team members. Samples were taken under permit obtained from the DoE.

Montana State University is a key knowledge partner as it provides the best source of biological records on Montserrat's invertebrate fauna, resulting partly from an earlier project with UKOTCF/MNT and others. David Clements, working with Vicky Wilkins (with the SRT) continues to act as a bridge between the knowledge there, on Montserrat, and building future programmes.

One important aspect of the project has been the wider connections beyond the core Project Team, which has not only benefited the Adopters but also the wider community, e.g. the complementary work which has taken place under a grant from the UK Research Institute). This allowed for two project partners, UKOTCF and MNT to benefit from a £12,500 grant to implement a 15-month grant (January 2022-March 2023) from the UK Research Councils; the Arts and Humanities Council (AHRC) and the Natural Environmental Council (NERC). This work stemmed from UKOTCF's large network of conservation practitioners and, indeed, the conference it held in 2021 and the work already underway under DPLUS155. While duplication was avoided from the outset of the design of the project, there were multiple mutual benefits.

In terms of wider links across the UKOTs, UKOTCF held a webinar on invasive species in March 2023. There were 100+ registered participants across UKOTs/CD and internationally. A presentation was included on *Adopt a Home for Wildlife*, as well as on several others on Darwin Plus projects: *DPLUS107*, *DPLUS114*, *DPLUS135*, *DPLUS 151*, *DPLUS155*, *DPLUS175 and others*. See: https://www.ukotcf.org.uk/other-territory-support/seminars-training/webinar-invasive-species

In January 2023, several members of the team, 3 Adopters and two additional interested persons, attended the online webinar which focused on stingless bees. Montserrat's stingless bees produce honey, but little is known about their population, habitat requirements and potential for honey production. The team wanted to find out more. The webinar was organised by the Trinidad and Tobago Government as part of a UN-funded project. The webinars can all be found here: BES-Net TT - YouTube. Links are being made with this regional partner to explore further.

3. Project progress

In reporting progress, we should note that targets relate to planning years. However, because of the delays in UK Government approving this particular round of project applications for UKOTs eligible for ODA (and temporarily transferred to Darwin Main from Darwin Plus, before being restored to Darwin Plus after the decision was made), the project started about 6 months after originally envisaged (October 2021) and 3 months later than later revised. Accordingly, only 18 months of the project have taken place before this "annual" report required under Darwin procedures. Although we cannot report against a full year 2 of the project, we are able nonetheless to demonstrate below major progress in the first 6 months of year 2.

3.1 Progress in carrying out project Activities

UNDER OUTPUT 1

- 1.1 Reported on in Annual Report 1
- 1.2 As indicated, the number of Adopters that could be reasonability managed, within the resources available, had been achieved in year 1. As outlined, a phased approach is being used with Phase 1 full. For Phase 2, contact information is collected and stored safely.
- 1.3 Plans for the first phase sites have been drafted, with 12 working documents created Annex 4.2 for an example. Video material, including interviews of Adopters, recorded for almost all Wildlife Homes in December 2022. The first 13 videos, on the first 4 WHs plus one on the nursery propagation, published by end of FY (Project Updates in https://www.ukotcf.org.uk/key-projects/adoptahomeforwildlife/), with editing continuing on others.
- 1.4 Baseline surveys complete Annex 4.2 management plan shows example of information collated; with this a draft Master List of plants found across all sites has been created.
- 1.5 Ongoing in year 2, POs visit Adopters using report cards developed to update on visits, activities etc. See also videos at 1.3.
- 1.6 Maps of sites were produced when surveys were undertaken. UKOTCF website has some pages under development including map of site locations (based on the one in Figure 1) across island and summary tables for some of the surveys- these are in draft and will be developed further during year 2 and 3: https://www.ukotcf.org.uk/key-projects/adoptahomeforwildlife/overview/.
- 1.7 See information above on Antwone Sinclair and Samantha Paul. In addition, a pilot Higher Education Evening was held. Included a variety of persons from different fields and included regional and international figures to outline routes into roles in the environmental sector. Resulted in several internships created on island and one person applying for an MSc in Island Conservation and Biodiversity at Jersey International Centre for Advanced Studies (JICAS) and a Darwin Fellowship. "Monty's Messengers" (environmental activity primary-school-age children's club) revived for the first time since the volcanic emergency in the years from 1997; events took place throughout the year. These sessions have been regularly attended by 20+children and 20+ adults. (See social media posts in Annex 4.5)
- 1.8 Under Communications plan and (1.8.1) Newsletter Saving Our Special Nature of Montserrat issues 12, 13 & 14 see Annex 4.3, with coverage also in UKOTCF's main newsletter Forum News issues 56 & 57 (July & November 2022) and UKOTCF's 2022-23 Annual Report (all available also on ukotcf.org.uk). See also videos at 1.3.
- 1.8.2 See Annex 4.3, and also videos at 1.3 above on social media presence used to promote the project on Montserrat and beyond.
- 1.9.1 Organic compost being produced using robust equipment purchased under project. In July 2022 a demonstration was given at the garden.
- 1.9.2 Labelling system being developed with QR code system being trialled.
- 1.9.3 Facility is under development
- 1.9.4 Forty 5 gallon bags (approx. 19kg) of organic fertiliser produced (6 supplied to Adopters; 34 sold at \$20ECD (£6)) to public. See part of the fertiliser process in Antwone's plant nursery video: https://youtu.be/gSPRZyI3w00

1.10 Plans/improvements to demonstration Wildlife-Homes (including native plants, food securing plants and pollinators) are being developed.

There was a set back in that the incoming Governor withdrew the future Governor's residence from the programme (WH009). The previous Governor had included this as a potential good model of incorporating nature conservation in the planning and implementation of a built development and an example of best practice by UK Government. It would have been a demonstration site. The potential for the adjacent WH08, WH13 and adjoining MNT land, as well as WH05 (EcoPlay), is being explored. WH04 Pipers Lot was identified early on as an area to seek further resources to create an outdoor space for young persons and visitors. Funding has been achieved (April 2023 under Darwin Plus Local) and will enable this site to be a demonstration area in terms of invasive species management, sustainable farming practices, important biodiversity area etc.

- 1.11 Project team meetings take place monthly (more than originally envisaged as quarterly) to report on progress and any other aspects of M&E.
- 1.12 Held a meeting in December 2022 to feedback and discuss with Adopters. This was Informal, rather than formal, to fit in with the preference of steering group members.1.13 Reports submitted as per grant requirements.

UNDER OUTPUT 2

2.1 This is a continual exercise, but summary training plans developed and circulated to Project team (December 2022 and March 2023). In July 2022, training in herbarium creation and collection was provided to 2 Adopters, 3 MNT officers and 2 Department of Environment officers). Online training in use of iNaturalist for MNT staff was provided in May 2022. This was followed up with visiting specialists July 2022. Uptake by those receiving training online or in person is found in Annex 4.4. Specialist entomologist also provided some training at the botanic garden in field techniques and basic id. It was attended by MNT staff and DoE staff. In July 2022 a wrap up meeting was organised at the MNT. Feedback from Adopters, MNT staff and DoE were noted by UKOTCF. One Adopter (WH04, WH05) said: "I think the whole thing [week of activities] was fantastic. Lots of new things we learnt" and "It was pretty packed but very useful for us. Most importantly for the Montserrat Community to know what is happening with [Hidden Histories], Adopt a Home for Wildlife and at the Trust" and "I learned a lot about plants and insects". Another Adopter (WH013) said: "Wonderful. It has been a phenomenal experience for me. I really enjoyed the presence of the professionals leading us in terms of getting an appreciation of the insects and plants. For me, sharing my garden and my concepts as to what I feel about doing from an ecological stand point, it was good to have professionals on board to reenforce some of the concepts and to see opportunities. He indicated he was pleased that some surveys were being undertaken to understand the biodiversity. He said "lots of things that I can do and sharing this information. I would like to see more apps used to get children from the schools involved."

2.2 MNT has used Facebook live for recording and broadcasting events such as Monty's Messengers (with permissions from parents received see Annex 4.5 for most popular posts). Invasive species workshop presentations and recordings were circulated to participants.
2.3 Report cards have been developed and are designed to help POs monitor progress on sites against the management plans. This simple card linked to management plan outcomes can be found in the Project Google drive:

- 2.4 Technical specialists to facilitate knowledge exchange are reported under partnerships above: visits from invertebrate specialists are included; also connections make through the Hidden Histories project.
- 2.5 Regular gardening tips linked to Adopt a Home for Wildlife from Antwone Sinclair see Annex 4.6 for an example; Adopter and WH profile videos (see 1.3)
- 2.6 Improvements to both UKOTCF and MNT's website under development, but see first Adopter and WH profile videos (see 1.3)

2.7 As 1.12 & 1.13

UNDER OUTPUT 3

3.1 iNaturalist – page set up (should note that formed part of a project noted earlier HH; funds provided to MNT and UKOTCF through that grant; a fraction of the time spent on the project and the setting up of the iNaturalist can be considered matched-funding) now in place and was

very much a suggestion of the team to use as it was already available was vastly underused with little buy in locally. In fact, this enabled the project to benefit from highly experienced ecologists and data scientists and enabled training in iNaturalist ahead of the first and pilot 'bioblitz' in July 2022. This has worked really well - see Annex 4.4. At the start around 200 records from only a few recorders had been entered on iNaturalist for Montserrat. As of April 2023, there are over 3100 records. We intend to build on this and enhance these records. After several verifications which agree with the identification, the records are then labelled as "Research Grade" and are then uploaded to the Global Biodiversity Information Facility/GBIF, where they can be accessed by anyone.

- 3.2 Training events are planned for year 2 with one-to-one sessions with Adopters on grafting and horticulture and iNaturalist. A Training plan based on needs identified under discsussion.
- 3.3 See Monty's Messengers under reviewer's comments in section 8 (comment 5).
- 3.4 As above in 1.10
- 3.5 Planned for Year 3, but celebration of first year held December 2022.
- 3.6 Other public events: In 9th July 2022 first bioblitz held attended by at least 23 persons (12 Geneal public and 11 Adopters (MNT team); afternoon Monty's 'bioblitz' 20+ young children plus 10+ adults (presentations on this as well as HH; items on Montserrat National Radio ZJB in July 22 (see MAHLE Vibes recording:

Dec 22, Jan 23. [Recordings on ZJB Wordpress account:

https://montserratradioecho.wordpress.com but shared on MNT's Facebook page]
Video material, including interviews of Adopters, recorded for almost all Wildlife Homes in December. The first 13 videos, on the first 4 WHs plus one on the nursery propagation, published by end of FY on YouTube and promoted locally through social media (links at Project Updates in https://www.ukotcf.org.uk/key-projects/adoptahomeforwildlife/), with editing continuing on others. January 2023, launch of medicinal booklets at Montserrat National Museum (UKRI funded project with cross over; (first UKOT project where funds went to UKOT NGO as joint research partner?); Attended by 2 Adopters; others invited. Copy of booklet provided to Adopters (https://www.ukotcf.org.uk/key-projects/blue-iguanas-to-blue-vervain/wp1-knowledge-of-the-human-environment-interplay-on-the-ukots/wp1-3-montserrat/montserrat-education-materials/)

3.7 Online and face-face surveys of local community conducted supported by the MNT Outreach Officer. Results collated in September 2022 and analysed. All schools on Montserrat were included and the questionnaire was made available online, social media, public Library, at the Trust. 125 responses from school children and 41 other responses were received. The information gathered as part of this exercise will feed into plans in Year 2. Repeat surveys will take place in Year 3 at the school and those wishing to be contacted again. The Outreach Officer has access to contact information and permission to contact respondents, whereas the co-Project Leader at UKOTCF analyses the results to ensure GDPR procedures are followed. 3.8 Newsletter Saving Our Special Nature of Montserrat issues 12, 13 & 14 with coverage also in UKOTCF's main newsletter Forum News issues 56 & 57 (July & November 2022) and UKOTCF's 2022-23 Annual Report (all available also on ukotcf.org.uk. Video material, including interviews of Adopters, recorded for almost all Wildlife Homes in December. The first 13 videos, on the first 4 WHs plus one on the nursery propagation, published by end of FY on YouTube and promoted locally through social media (links at Project Updates in https://www.ukotcf.org.uk/key-projects/adoptahomeforwildlife/), with editing continuing on others.

3.9 See 3.8, and Annex 4.3 and 4.5 for social media and newsletters. Linktree account links to all MNT projects including Adopt a Home for Wildlife with MNT branding. See:

Regularly engaging with over 3,000 persons – in Montserrat and internationally. Top 12 social media posts during March 2022 to March 2023 were (with Post-reach in brackets): Monty's hike (5463); Monty's Session 4: How to Plant your own food (4267); Launch of Hidden Histories Booklet; attended by several Adopters (4127); Monty's Easter fun day (3595); Monty's Messengers made some really outstanding sea sculptures (3504); Invertebrate training (3192); Pilot Higher education evening (3041); Update from Belham Valley site (3006); Monty's Messengers got crafty yesterday by making turtle bookmarks (2980); Monty's Freshwater

Invertebrate Sampling (2811); Monty's Messengers Bird Watching Session was a success (2741) Distributing herbal medicine colouring books to Look Out Primary School (2707). It should be noted that Antwone's gardening tip posts are regularly reaching over 1000 impressions. The Adopt a Home event post in December 2022 reached over 1200 impressions. Clearly the posts concerning Monty's are very popular and should be utilized. 3.10. Extensive radio coverage. Project Team members have featured on the revived MNT Heritage Show (taking place weekly), MAHLE Vibes (on a Thursday; the show from the Ministry of Agriculture, Lands, Housing & Environment) and ZJB's Saturday morning Culture Show with Rose Willock in July 22, December 22, January 23; recordings are available here: https://montserratradioecho.wordpress.com.

- 3.11 MNT Intern also becoming a regular broadcaster with gardening tips. Future potential Adopters have visited the Trust offices after hearing the radio shows.
- 3.12 A Plan for database to store information created as part of the project is under development.
- 3.13 As above 1.12&1.13

3.2 Progress towards project Outputs

Output 1. Baseline: At project start (October 2021) we had two Adopters from the pilot and one other expressing an interest in partnering with MNT/UKOTCF. There were no invertebrate or vegetation data collected or published in these areas. Zero saplings, organic fertilizer, equipment, dedicated advice or materials were available to Adopters.

Change recorded to date: Since project start (October 2021), the project now covers 12 sites (Indicator 1.1), this has extended the area of area of important habitats under community management (in addition to the islands statutory protected area; such as tropical dry forest and wetland). Including the 3 Adopters from the pilot phase we have 12 Adopters regularly working with us (this equates to an estimate of 210 individuals; WH01=2; WH02=1; WH03=at least 7; WH04=17; WH05=same grouping as in WH04 so no double counting; WH06=175; WH07=1; WH08=2; WH10=1; WH11=1; WH12=2; WH13=1) (Indicator 1.3). See Annex 4.1 for age, gender information of Adopters. Visits to sites and surveys for vegetation and insects have been developed and conducted on all sites (Indicator 1.2 and 1.4) (tables of results can be seen at:

Plants have been identified to species level where possible. A category has been assigned using Royal Botanic Kew's Plants of the World (https://powo.science.kew.org) and CABI's Compendium on Invasive Species (https://www.cabidigitallibrary.org/product/qi); where both data sources were unable to provide information on a species or species was unknown – the category assigned is "unknown". POs are adding information on plant species specific to Montserrat based on their findings. A basic analysis is made of percentage cover of ground, shrub and canopy layers, which will provide a baseline for measuring indicator (Indicator 1.5) A master list of plants found across all sites is in draft. Once complete, a version which lists all plants found in the surveys will be openly available online (via UKOTCF's website); using this list we expect to be able to have a record of each on iNaturalist before project end. For invertebrates we classify them to groups of insects and functional groups e.g herbivores, predators, pollinators. Our invertebrate specialist, Vicky, has been able to take this information and provide appropriate advice which has been fed into the management plans, for example, creation of microhabitats to encourage more of one type of invertebrate group.

Management plans for the sites with complete surveys in draft and being agreed with Adopters with activities being undertaken (Indicator 1.4). Saplings propagated (Annex 4.7). High-quality shredder (with replacement blades and safety equipment) and strimmer arrived on island for use by Adopters and is producing organic fertiliser for Adopters and for sale at the Trust. **Source of evidence** Table of records of *Adopters*, site extent, ownership, GPS coordinates, type of habitat – see Annex 4.1. This document is updated periodically.

Google sheets with Adopters details filled in example here: Annex 3.1

Google sheets used for inputting survey records example here: Annex 3.2 and 3.3

Annex 4.3 sections of vegetation and plant surveys in management plan links to all here:

Output 2 Baseline: Little information or advice freely available on how individuals or groups could make improvements to areas or identify species in an accessible way.

Change recorded to date: Data sources so far:

In relation to indicator 2.1 and 2.4 Target 10 management plans finalised and being signed-off with Adopters with activities already commencing where discussed with POs, the remaining 2 plans (exceeding target) are currently being finalised and will be active by end of 2023.

- -Webpage developed as a source of information. Started inputting in FAQs to provide online knowledge of the project which can be widely accessed and sign-posted.
- -Social media posts on MNT site visits gaining lots of interest see under activities 3.9.
- For Indicator 2.2 and 2.3 Adopters events held showing survey methods and some results (December 2022).
- -iNaturalist records and recorders training sessions, herbarium creation and insect id- see figures given above.

Source of evidence:

https://www.facebook.com/MontserratNationalTrust/?locale=en_GB . Under insights we are able to see level of engagement- see under activity 3.9 above for top 12 posts. Facebook posts of July 2022 Meise Botanic Garden sessions on herbarium and bioblitz in advance of first bioblitz on island and article in SOS newsletter (September 2022; https://www.ukotcf.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/SOSnatureNewsletter13.pdf)

Output 3 Baseline Records on iNaturalist, the system we are trialling with POs, was approximately 200.

Change recorded to date: For Indicator 3.1

- Posts on social media regularly exceed 1000+ views on MNT Facebook on sites.
- For Indicator 3.2 and establishing demonstration sites, under review
- establishment of community biodiversity-recording system iNaturalist training provided to Project Officers in May 2022 and June at in person bioblitz event.

Source of evidence: Livestream recording available on MNT's Facebook page Zoom call training on iNaturalist in May 2022.

Indicator 3.4 iNaturalist platform used as the community biodiversity report system. A project "Biodiversity of Montserrat" was created in May/June ahead of bioblitz in July see: https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/biodiversity-of-montserrat-d74f33fd-6145-4b47-aa12-ae6870d80113 197 observations as of March 2022 and 3081 observations by April 2023. iNaturalist training May 2022 with Montserrat National Trust and Cayman Islands National Trust. This was recorded in quarterly report to UKRI funders under Hidden Histories project Facebook analytics see Annex 3.8 on visits to new sites e.g. Friths plot. 13% more records since the start of the project as we do some trialling of this.

Should note that MNT has been awarded a grant to purchase a cabinet to establish a herbarium on island. Links have been made between MNT, Meise Botanic Gardens and Royal Botanic Kew to coordinate this. Grant award documents show additional capacity raised for collections on island.

3.3 Progress towards the project Outcome

1. The areas community-managed, number of sites ("Wildlife-Homes"), and number of individual 'Adopters' (or community managers & assistants). The target is 10 sites with 100 individuals involved by 2024.

This target is likely to be exceeded by the end of funding with more than 10 sites included (12 at present, likely to be more like 15 before project end; although time for surveys and showing regeneration/recovery unlikely by 2024). Number of individuals involved exceeds 100 and will be added to site list for final report as evidence that indicator has been met and exceeded. See activities section for figures which are conservative estimates. (100% more than target)

Videos created in December 2022 and being released over time, show Adopters on their sites and gives them the opportunity to talk about the project in their own words.

2. The regeneration and growth of native plants occurring over time at Wildlife-Homes. The target is achieved at least 100 ha at a minimum of 10 sites showing biodiversity-improvement. So far the project is working on 12 sites. Following further experience in implementing the initiative, and discussions between partners, we consider that a rebalancing the two elements

of this indicator will be beneficial to project legacy and long-term continuing legacy. With there being greater benefits to wildlife and communities of engaging a high number of site but covering a smaller area (over 1500 plant species recorded; with approx. 150 native plants found) – also the sites that the community own are in the inhabited area if the island where space is limited. Accordingly, and after considerable discussions with the Project Team, a formal modification proposal is in preparation and will be submitted early in the new financial year. In short, the reason for this is that the target which aims to achieve at least 100 ha will not, we believe, have any further biodiversity or livelihood benefits. The project will achieve near to half of this total area and in doing so provide habitat for close to 150 native plant species and their associated invertebrate species (not to mention other species such as reptiles, amphibians and birds). Were the project to focuses on this larger area as defined in this indicator (which could be possible, e.g. the whole area under Cork Hill in the south covers more than 100ha itself) then this may risk other, better, indicators not being achieved (or achieved less well), a consequently less benefit to Montserrat's biodiversity or the community. This is a carefully considered measure by the Project Team in light of the results of surveys. discussions with Adopters and has taken some time for a conclusion to be reached.

- 3. Demonstration Wildlife-Homes created; target: two created by 2024. Although this suffered a setback when the new Governor withdrew a site included by their predecessor after plant and insect surveys were complete (see above), plans are well advanced to use other sites (and represent the project's foresight to include more than the target). Demonstration areas are defined as: sites with public access, where the project has enabled areas of land to be managed in a way which showcases ecosystem services and natural capital and beneficial to the island's native biodiversity. Current plans are EcoPlay (WH05) and Pipers Lot (WH04). The former will be underway shortly. The latter is expected to be complete by July 2024.
- 4. 'Adopt-a-Home-for-Wildlife' increases awareness of the opportunities to engage in restoration/conservation efforts with human-benefits. Target is to increase community-awareness reaching >60% of Montserratian, via activities throughout. There are approximately 5000 people on Montserrat and the project aims to reach roughly 3000 of them. The communications during the project via the Montserrat National Trust's Facebook page have been targeted to ensure that a wide range of information is provided. These regularly get many thousands of views from the community on Montserrat, and diaspora in UK and US. The top 12 posts are mostly associated with Monty's Messengers and so the project uses this as a tool to educate all age groups, capturing interest. For example, some topics included and linked to Adopt a Home for Wildlife are:UN World Days, e.g World Water Day etc; discussion on ecosystem services and natural capital; soil health and importance of locally produced food (including a radio programme with Farmers Association); gardening tips from Project Intern, Antwone Sinclair.

An Instagram page has been created during the year, which targets younger users, while Monty's Messengers targets primary ages children with more in person events- see above.

Found during attitudes questionnaires complete in September 2022 (125 responses from primary schools 41 from adults surveyed); some areas which will be important to tackle during sessions (e.g. healthy eating, importance of nature for well-being, ways to help biodiversity).

3.4 Monitoring of assumptions

Assumption 1: No volcanic activity experienced during reporting period to disrupt project. See reports from the Montserrat Volcano Observatory www.mvo.ms for the period. True so far, and likely to continue insofar as MVO (the world-leading expert institution in this subject) can predict, given current geomorphological knowledge.

Assumption 2: Interest in *Adopt a Home for Wildlife* has remained high. True, from many measures, including that more people want to join than project resources allow; this is being addressed as much as possible.

Assumption 3: The supply of plants has been adequate for the level needed thus far. Additional plants have been propagated based on the needs arising from discussions with Adopters which have fed into the management plans, additionally some supplies have been provided to the general community who are interested in beautifying to attract wildlife; especially humming birds. See plant records in Annex 4.7.

Assumption 4: The pandemic has had limited impact in the first half of year 2.

There was some impact in summer 2022, but these have been overcome by additional activities at other times. We see Covid-19 as having little impact going forward. If there were to be issues, there is a balance of personnel on Montserrat and UK to overcome challenges.

Assumption 5: Suitably qualified and experienced project officer recruited from near the start of the project. Done in Year 1.

Assumption 6: Key community members remain engaged throughout the project. True – see 2. **Assumption 7:** Site-surveys conducted pre- and post-work on Wildlife Homes. True: pre-work surveys done; post-work not yet due.

Assumption 8: PO builds up good relationships with community participants, ensuring 'Adopters' and wider community have support, and progress can be monitored effectively. True; phase 2 list of future potential adopters. Team is already thinking about how the initiative will continue beyond project end.

Assumption 9: Adopters take up available land-management advice. True see videos.

Assumption 10: Forms of communication are varied to capture all groups e.g. radio, social media, website, newsletters.

Assumption 11: Good level of uptake by community-groups in Adopt a Home. True – see 2. **Assumption 12:** Newsletters are receiving wide readership. True: frequently referred to in communications from island residents. Over 200 interested persons. FaceBook pages where directed most efforts as regularly viewed and engaged with.

Assumption 13: High quality training materials. *Ad hoc* opportunities for training have been undertaken (visiting botanists and invertebrate specialists). The Project Team has a draft plan for additional training and this is under discussion.

Assumption 14: Restoration of ecosystems takes time but interim measures will lead to good outcomes for biodiversity. True - one of the most important aspects of the project is to galvanise community support and empower them to act on land they are responsible for or land around them.

4. Project support to environmental and/or climate outcomes in the UKOTs

Support to the UKOTs to achieve strategic long-term outcomes for the natural environment.

The project supports the fund objectives in the following ways:

- Adopt a Home for Wildlife aims to protect important habitats across the island. Annex 4.1
 lists sites which include a range of habitats (e.g coastal areas, freshwater forest ghauts, wet
 and dry forest). By working with Adopters to manage these sites, e.g. ensuring clear of
 rubbish, vegetation which prevents effective flow/drainage, and potentially to expand into
 additional similar or adjacent sites, multiple pressures which could lead to freshwater
 habitats decline can be addressed.
- 2. POs (also Department of Agriculture officials) have knowledge of pest species and methods to remove and deal with them that are not harmful to local wildlife. They are using this knowledge to help *Adopters* understand how food production, livelihoods can be compatible with reducing biodiversity loss and building resilience to climate change.
- 3. POs working with *Adopters* are promoting the responsible stewardship of natural assets and sharing this information online (via popular social media channels).
- 4. Communications materials will promote the sharing of the benefits arising from the use of biodiversity.
- 5. Management of *Wildlife Homes* through the coming year will contribute towards reversing the increase in threats of extinction to the world's flora and fauna site survey results demonstrate the number of native species found.

Meeting Montserrat's obligations under multi-lateral agreements extended to the UKOTs, particularly those on biodiversity and climate change

Montserrat has not yet had the UK's ratification of the Convention on Biological Diversity extended to it. However, it does have the Conservation and Environment Management Act, which sets out its aspirations and goals under international convention-objectives:

CBD: (Aichi Targets numbers):

1. people aware of biodiversity-value and their potential steps to conserve/use it sustainably: Being achieved direct advice provided to Adopters on site-management options by the well-

qualified Project Team member and communication materials developed (Facebook post on UN World Days; pollinators; radio programmes; In addition to Facebook an Instagram account set up; 264 followers).

5. halving natural-habitat loss-rate; degradation/fragmentation reduced: by communities restoring natural capital on land they manage - through the Adopt a Home for Wildlife initiative. This will be demonstrated via the management plans and results of repeat site surveys. Through surveys (see:

identified difficult or problematic plant species and identified gaps in knowledge e.g. grasses).

7. agriculture/forestry areas ensuring biodiversity-conservation: One PO has extensive experience in this as an extension officer of the Agriculture Dept. Working with the other POs and especially the officer from the Environment Dept, providing advice (see management plans:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/158z50XH34etO9j_qYeGskMFafPF3GpD1?usp=sharing); 8. pollution to non-detrimental levels: Already working with farmers on-island and surveying to provide information and best-practice. (Antwone's gardening tips via social media channels) 9. invasive alien species controlled: Sites now surveyed and already identifying invasive species to target either for control or removal/replacement (updates from POs; videos produced with Adopters see: being shared on Facebook page periodically.

- 11. terrestrial/coastal/marine areas conserved and integrated into wider landscapes: network of sites through community protected-areas network links both see table Annex 4.1.
- 12. threatened-species-extinction prevented: by this network, and building community-appreciation, including through community information-recording system; endemic and Critically Endangered pribby Rondeletia buxifolia see propagation list; video of native nursery https://youtu.be/gSPRZyI3w00);
- 14. ecosystem-services restored/safeguarded especially for women, local communities, poor and vulnerable: this includes the site-network itself and management plans of sites; 15. ecosystem-resilience and carbon-stocks-contribution enhanced: through degraded-ecosystem restoration via removal and replacement of invasive species initial surveys have identified and recorded many invasive species now being managed as per management plans (Google forms hold data tables and management plans).
- 19. knowledge widely shared: through outreach activities and activities in our communications plan (see social media posts see Annex 4).

Specifically, on CBD Aichi target 11, the 2019 IUCN-published report from World Commission on Protected Areas Task Force on "other effective area-based conservation measures" (OECMs) acknowledges the contribution that many areas not legally designated as protected areas can contribute to effective conservation, and that OECMs are likely to play a significant role post-2020 Aichi targets. Sites managed under this project can act as a model for how potential OECMs can contribute towards target 11, reducing biodiversity-loss as well as contribute towards improved livelihoods.

Ramsar Convention on Wetlands

Montserrat's only proposed terrestrial Ramsar Site is UK46002 (Centre Hills & forested ghauts). Ghauts, steep stream-valleys linking the hills to other native habitats, are vulnerable because they cut through settlement areas. The local community has already proposed parts of these and the hills as *Wildlife Homes*, achievable only with a local advisory officer supported by UKOTCF's wider network of voluntary specialists.

The project contributes to SDGs (as noted in application):

3. Ensure healthy lives and well-being - as areas managed through the project are productive, pleasant and clean areas to live, visit and exercise in, contributing towards Montserratians' well-being. Livelihoods protected and improved, e.g. reduction in over-reliance on imported food (largely as a result of the major volcanic activity from 1995-2010, currently most goods are imported to the island, despite rich soil and traditions), and improved health with more fresh and nutritious produce; Well-being has been considered in the questionnaire launched in

September 2022; results of this are being used to inform activities (Survey results yet to be published but report in Annex 4.13)

- 4. Ensure inclusive education and lifelong learning through training and outreach available online and via the newsletter (SOS Nature of Montserrat continues as link between projects in island), Kids Club Monty's Messengers set-up and being run, and community-meetings at MNT; pilot Higher Education evening (August 2023).
- 8. Promote sustainable economic growth productive work restored through small local enterprises, improvements at MNT's Botanic Garden and encouraged low-impact tourism, (MNT attended Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) tourism meeting and International National Trust's conference presenting on MNTs work in this reporting year)
- 10. Reduce inequality by encouraging small enterprises, *e.g.* low-impact eco-tourism particularly focused on UK diaspora, small-scale food production, medicinal-plant-selling and other products at MNT's Botanic Garden (social media posts on food available- see kid's club activities and feedback and Antwone's tips with post reach regularly over 1000):
- 11. Make human-settlements sustainable -aims of project; over-subscribed initiative- now with Phase 2 Adopters ready to become involved (about 5 on waiting list but approaches made regularly; MNT not having to find new potential sites);
- 15. Promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems reverse land-degradation and, where appropriate, natural regeneration through the development of site management-plans for the *Wildlife Homes* which are implemented (see Aichi 5);
- 17. Strengthen implementation ... for sustainable development through a grassroots-movement (*Adopt a Home for Wildlife*) encouraging and helping the community to act; targeting all levels of community: from school age (club) to retirees (radio interview and discussion) and in between (online and social media posts). One landowner in the community (who is not an Adopter) has replaced their hedge with an endemic pribby, *Rondeletia buxifolia*, hedge starting with 75 plants propagated by MNT Nursery)

Contribution the project is making to key Government of Montserrat priorities and themes

National biodiversity strategies

The Conservation and Environment Management Act (2014) sets out the intention to produce a National Strategy for the Conservation of Biological Diversity. In development.

Environmental action plans

Montserrat has several species action plans, including for mountain chicken *Leptodactylus fallax* and galliwasp *Diploglossus montisserrati*). The project supports these by creating land management with *Adopters* which encompasses suitable habitat for these species (e.g. tropical dry forest at site in Garibaldi Hill; ghaut habitat at Runaway Ghaut). iNaturalist serves as a way to document rare sightings.

Environmental Charters

The project contributes towards meeting all guiding principles in the following ways:

team and consultations (MNT took part in consultations on new planning plans).

- 1. The well-being and livelihood opportunities of *Adopters* is being recorded over time via surveys see survey results to be repeated over time.
- 2. The project aims to document how reducing biodiversity loss and protection of natural resources can be achieved with community endeavour. All generations included- see above. 3 & 4. Project results are being fed into the physical planning policy development via the MNT
- 5. Some *Wildlife Homes* are precisely where development is taking place and so the project aims to work with land-owners and developers to put forward solutions (e.g. in buffer zones WH07 and WH10).
- 6. Montserrat has globally important biodiversity. The plant species being propagated in the Botanic Garden include endemic and Critically Endangered species. (see native garden walk through video: https://youtu.be/gSPRZyI3w00 (filmed December 2022). Exploring ways to enhance invertebrate fauna with technical specialists identifying microhabitats and

opportunities to learn more about habitat requirement, *e.g. Melipona* bee attendance at Trinidad webinar

- 7. The site surveys conducted are identifying plant invasive species which are being targeted for removal and replacement so that restoration of habitat can be achieved.
- 9. Pollution is being controlled through public messaging and working with *Adopters*. This has been building throughout the year. Alternatives to traditionally used pesticides are being discussed (see Antowne's posts).
- 10. *Monty's Messengers* children's club, which will continue beyond project end as part of MNT's core activities, has been set up deliberately to meet the target of celebrating Montserrat's natural heritage as well as other (attended by 20+ children and adults- see Facebook posts; note parent permission are always provided in advance of sharing information online).

5. Gender equality and social inclusion

Please quantify the proportion of women on the Project Board.	73%
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.	60%

Our original application was considered under Darwin Main guidelines and so our logframe included indicators on gender and livelihoods. We will continue to include these in our project even though these could now be considered optional (given that the project was moved to Darwin Plus at a late stage).

It is our belief that a more equal world will lead to better outcomes for biodiversity and people.

Montserrat is considered an equitable society in terms of gender. Females have, historically and to the present day, held the very highest offices in the country. Our MNT female leading team, held the previous role: former Permanent Secretary and Deputy Governor and former Deputy Premier and Minister of Health & Education.

Our Project Team consists of the following ratio (Mike, Catherine, Ann, Sarita, Delmaude, Ajhermae, Elvis, Antwone, Vernaire, Vicky, Samantha) so 3 males to 8 females. Our lead *Adopters* at present consist of the following ratio (Tim & Vibeke, Dwayne, Mark & Kathryn, Cherise, Veta, Javon, Carol, Norman (5 males to 5 females) – excluding community groups which are mixed and have been largely estimated in Annex 4.1 (Cork Hill, MNT, Lookout School (head, who leads on the project, is female). In wider society, we are making the project as flexible as it can be.

We have two indicators in our logframe relating to gender quality. 2.3 Between 2021-2024, information on Wildlife-Home management shared via well-interpreted information systems made available online in the first instance, but with alternative ways to access it for those that cannot attend training events at certain times. Linking both websites to social media accounts, with public radio and other news media mentions, will provide a basis for providing information to Adopters. These are set-up and are starting to be used. See gender ratios in Annex 4.

Capacity building and Gender equality:

3.1 By 2024, wider public engagement takes place on habitat restoration/ natural regeneration, at Wildlife Homes. 3 training events held, with >25 members from a range of community-groups attending, supplemented by remote means; plus. 6 community-gatherings, 6 radio interview sessions and 20 social media posts with high engagement rates. Profiles of at least 10 Adopters' published during Y1 & Y2, with updates and results in Y3.

As noted in our logframe under output 3, we are making arrangements for training events to be available online in order for those unable to attend in person can have access. Also, they are able to provide feedback and comments via the website.

Kids Club ensuring young people involved and our paid Project Assistant, Antwone Sinclair. Records are being kept by MNT on gender of those participating and can be provided to show indicator being met. Questionnaire involved in Annex 4.13 showed great support from teachers to receive 125 responses. Analysis of results of school survey in 4.13 does include gender, but can be reported in year 3 to show indicator has been achieved.

Gender equality: 3.3 In Y3, Adopt-a-Home ambassadors selected and celebrated (across all sections of society) through a public event organised, in conjunction with the Governor's Office, by MNT and other partners; with wider promotion (60% or 3,000 of population of Montserrat) of the initiative, to ensure project-legacy and continuation beyond project-end. Qualities in the Ambassador roles include: gender balance, strong advocate of the project and importance of a range of societal benefits. See Annex 4.8 for Facebook analytics of gender ratio which indicates a greater number of females subscribed to the page. 57% Female to 43% Male.

6. Monitoring and evaluation

The steering group, or Project Team meets monthly. This group reviews progress, as well as solving problems and innovating to ensure the efficient delivery of the project and its outcomes. Minutes of meetings include action points circulated. These are available to view on request.

In addition, the project has been using an online tool, www.Monday.com as a virtual way to monitor progress on project activities. An NGO account has been secured. All team members have access to it. Additionally, the outcomes and outputs are review verbally at Project Team meetings to ensure activities and progress are driving towards their delivery.

Project Stakeholder group (to include more of the Adopters), as we are calling it, has met once in the reporting period at an informal event (December 2022). We expect this to be a model used as we go forward, but in practice we may meet more frequently than this as need arises. We are finding that these meetings will be necessary to inform stakeholders and exchange views/ideas outside of the Project Team, but not necessarily to drive progress in meeting the project targets. This is because the large Project Team is doing this successfully, has mechanisms in place and is meeting its targets, in some ways exceeding them.

We have found that continuous dialogue with *Adopters* informally and formally (in our training sessions, events and regular site visits) and the make-up of the Project Team covers the role of the Stakeholder group adequately. We continue to believe that this set-up is facilitating accurate annual reporting and means we are able to highlight and address rapidly any problems in achieving outputs and the outcomes. We think also it allows for adaptive management, inclusion and voices to be heard.

7. Lessons learnt

The following aspects worked particularly well:

- Direct input from Government of Montserrat with two officers (one each from Departments of Environment and Agriculture joining the Project Team outside of regular hours; allowing flexibility)
- Ministerial support from outset including visits to sites to discuss work and support in additional funding for these (e.g. for WH04 Pipers Lot)
- Effective local Project Officer role as a small team rather than one person, so that gaps could be covered, knowledge and experience pooled and capacity building maximised.
- Active public support is essential, creates a buzz and facilitates enthusiasm amongst the community.
- A 'door is always open' approach to having discussions with the community, but managing expectation e.g. phase 1 is full, but we could add you to phase 2 in due course.
- Using additional and complementary projects to full advantage (e.g UKRI funded project which ran January 2022-March 2023)
- Major contributions of unpaid time by main partners and making use of a pool of supportive organisations and institutions should be acknowledged throughout.
- Commitment of partners and enthusiasm for learning and cooperative working.
- Best use of training opportunities which link with the project
- Methods developed for non-technical persons but adapted to local situation
- Use of free-online tools used elsewhere which can contribute to legacy of the project as they prevent on-going costs as a burden to project partners.
- Commitment from project partners e.g. MNT and UKOTCF to continue beyond the project end

- Consultation with local community is the key to this sort of project; MNT is very well
 respected and trusted on Montserrat (as is UKOTCF) and as such is the key to driving
 the success of the project. Any similar project would need this kind of local leader.
- Free online resources (and NGOs accounts) can be a good way to fill gaps (e.g. Canva)

The following aspects worked less well:

- Addressing Adopt a Home being over-subscribed, but overcome by managing expectations
- In the first report, some periods of drought impacting plant propagation being managed; overcome with improvements to irrigation systems in Botanic Garden. This was cured by this reporting year.
- In the first report, some damage by rats during one month of propagation. The damage was limited to two plant species and resulted from necessary disruption while the nursery was upgraded. These conditions are not expected to recur. This was cured by this reporting year.
- The new Governor withdrew the future Government House from the project without prior consultation and no adequate justification. There seems to be no way in which the project can address this. Sadly, the land which the POs surveyed was rich in biodiversity, medicinal plants (and invasive species) and the advice prepared by POs as part of a management plan are now to be unused and most likely overlooked/ignored.

Similar projects would benefit from the following recommendations:

- Hiring qualified persons can be difficult as the population in Montserrat (and several other UKOTs) is limited and cost of living high; so alternatives, such as splitting roles, can be explored.
- Volunteer opportunities can supplement and drive projects forward and should be encouraged.
- Training offered to local students as part of the second year of the project will allow the Trust and others to identify suitable future environment officers.
- Connections with other similar bodies through webinars etc can pool resources and provide insights into shared challenges.

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

The feedback on Annual Report 1 included:

"The project has responded suitably and in some detail to comments and issues raised in the award letter. For example, it addresses issues of site selection, and explains its emphasis on working with local people to select sites, rather than adopting a prescriptive approach to the way sites are selected to benefit particular threatened species. The project comments on areabased conservation measures and the relevance of its Adopt a Home for Wildlife sites (the nature of which are also explained). The project also comments on building a network of sites, but does not discuss in any detail how these sites are related to one another, and to what extent they are considering connectivity. The project does not accept the final recommendation, that it's Logframe be reviewed, to make it more concise and more specific, providing clear and well-argued reasons for this." AR1 Score of 2 "Likely to be largely achieved" There is good progress towards Outcome completion and most Outputs have been achieved, particularly the most important.

The Project Team response:

- 1. No response was needed.
- 2. "The project indicates that initial surveys are being conducted by project team members, but in the longer term, it expects Adopters and/or other members of the community to undertake them. The Report suggests (Indicator 0.4) that methods will be shared online, but the botanical survey in particular may require more intensive face-to-face training, particularly in the identification of more difficult plant species. The Report also mentions organised recording events at the Botanic Garden, but it is not clear if all individuals likely to undertake surveys would attend these."

A: The Project Team has found that having accurate and openly accessible id information is one of the largest barriers to members of the public being able to conduct citizen science

initiatives (particularly groups >50 years). This lack of id skills both for plants and animals is being overcome by the promotion and use of iNaturalist. The first island bioblitz was an opportunity to explore the use of iNaturalist. While the reviewer was correct that we cannot compel Adopters to attend these sessions, we are making one-on-one sessions and will encourage the use of it as part of our training in year 2.

3. "The invertebrate survey includes an instruction to brush or sweep plants with a stick or dustpan and brush; the reviewer wondered whether a commercial brush (from a dustpan and brush set) may be too stiff, and risk harming insects."

A: Methods were developed during the first 6 months of the project and modified during the first few surveys. Although this particular instruction was part of the original OPAL citizen science project (https://www.imperial.ac.uk/opal/) used in the UK, which was used as a basis for the baseline surveys, the Project Team decided this particular instruction was unnecessary (despite it still being in the Annex of the report). The Team did not want to handle or disturb significantly any of the invertebrates surveyed. Specialist visiting entomologists have taken some samples using sweep nets and other widely-used techniques (using best-practical protocols under permit from the Department of Environment). However, these serve a different purpose in so far as they are to identify potential new or rare species at some of the Adopt a Home for Wildlife Sites.

4. "It would be interesting to learn more about how Wildlife Homes will support connectivity and buffer zones in the wider landscape."

A: As the number of sites settled during this year so that we could manage them within our resources, we ensured that they covered most habitat types. This is important, as the network of sites aims to be a model for others particularly those with complex mosaics and a variety of habitats. There are clusters of sites which in part address the connectivity of sites across the island mentioned in the Darwin reviewer's assessment last year.

For example, WH07 & WH08 are situated at the edge of the Centre Hills boundary in the wet forest area. They are adjacent to each other. A consequence of dialogue and interest of the two Adopters. This expands the area providing a safe space for wildlife close to the Protected Area boundary. The national bird the vulnerable Montserrat oriole *Icterus oberi*, is a regular visitor to these sites. By engaging with the Adopters, a buffer zone is created. Their influence locally by sharing experiences could create an even large buffer zone beyond project end.

Several other sites (WH08, WH13 and MNT land adjacent (yet to be given a site name)) offer similar connectivity in coastal and riverine vegetation on the sheltered side of island. This connectivity provides a rich number of species.

5. "More information on the valuable work that the project is doing with schools and children would be useful in the next annual report."

A: Monty's Messengers: One of the most rewarding parts of this year has been the number of outings and activities achieved through this group.

Before the volcanic disruption of the 1990s/2000s and subsequent challenges, Montserrat National Trust had a section for primary- school-age children, "Monty's Messengers". "Monty" is a popular name for the national bird, the Montserrat oriole, which occurs nowhere else than Montserrat.

MNT has now reinstated Monty's Messengers through the Adopt a Home for Wildlife.

The idea behind this grouping is to provide a basis for future of environmental science and conservation in Montserrat. To have children experience the outdoors in a safe way. Related to this is the work MNT is doing in terms of safeguarding and first aid training.

In addition, the joint initiative of this project and the Hidden Histories one in July provided extra opportunities for the young people to work alongside international scientists. This was, in part, as a junior 'bioblitz' on 6th July. An article on this can be found here:

https://www.ukotcf.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/SOSnatureNewsletter13.pdf; we have also provided an article for Darwin (see section 15).

WH06 Look Out School recorded a video on their involvement shared on MNT's Facebook page. Part 1: https://fb.watch/k0OD4Ljasp/ Part 2: https://fb.watch/k0OgwsgRca/.

The attituded and perceptions questionnaire had excellent participation from all three primary schools on island namely: Brades, Look Out and St Augustine's. An assembly was held to introduce the survey. 125 responses were received. The Project Team has not made a decision on whether these should be published until a repeat survey is done in Year 3 to show attitudes have shifted based on the work done by MNT as part of Monty's and school engagement.

9. Risk Management

One risk identified by the Project Officers, in consultation with the botanic nursery staff, is the health of the plants in the nursery. This is because it would be counterproductive to be providing plants to Adopters which were not in good condition or were carrying pests (e.g. scale insects). To address this, a review of practices will be conducted on an unpaid basis in May 2023 with visiting horticulturalist (Leigh Morris, CEO if the Manx Wildlife Trust and UKOTCF Trustee https://www.linkedin.com/in/leigh-morris-a522a59/).

10. Other comments on progress not covered elsewhere

Project Officers often open up new dialogue with community members because they are so visible and approachable. For example, a chance meeting when visiting Cork Hill site (WH03) lead to an invitation to take a bag of white mangos. These were subsequently taken to the native nursery and thus contributing towards heritage of the island historic food production. These opportunities are difficult to document, but should be noted.

11. Sustainability and legacy

The young persons being exposed to a variety of projects (as outlined above Antwone Sinclair but including other 'cadets') and especially with this project are continuing to gain experience and have indicated their wish to continue working with the Trust beyond project end. MNT and UKOTCF will foster this relationship providing opportunities to remain involved as well as providing further opportunities for young people on Montserrat.

Following the Higher Education Evening piloted in May, Project Officer Ajhermae White is exploring the possibility of studying for an MSc (and aimed to apply for a Darwin Fellowship). This will be encouraged.

It is highly likely that the use of iNaturalist on island will continue beyond project end to enhance open access knowledge on island.

12. Darwin Plus identity

We note that the Darwin Plus logo has changed during this year. It would have been beneficial to have been advised of the new logo, and the changes from the previous guidelines for using the Darwin logo, as per the original agreement (note we see that this has been some way addressed in a recent circulation, April 2023). One member of the team discovered it quite by accident and from that moment we have been unsure as to which logo to use, therefore have continued with the old logo as this was in the terms and agreement signed for this project.

During the UKOTCF- organised webinar on invasive species held in early March 2023, also advertised on UKOTCF's Twitter page (@UKOTCF; with >2k followers), we included Darwin Plus as a contributor given that a presentation was given on this project DPLUS155 (as well as several others listed above in previous section). See: https://www.ukotcf.org.uk/other-territory-support/seminars-training/webinar-invasive-species/

When making radio appearances on Montserrat, the Project Team has highlighted the Darwin Plus contribution to the project.

13. Safeguarding

Has your Safeguarding Policy been updated in the past 12 months?	No; MNT have conducted training on island
Have any concerns been investigated in the past 12 months	No

Does your project have a Safeguarding focal point?	Yes As named in application	n Mrs Ann Pienkowski	
Has the focal point attended any formal training in the last 12 months?	No		
What proportion (and number) of project staff training on Safeguarding?	have received formal	Past: 27% [3 out of 11]	
Has there been any lessons learnt or challenges on Safeguarding in the past 12 months?. No			
Does the project have any developments or a coming 12 months? If so please specify. MNT are working with Social Services on a sa	·		

14. Project expenditure

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

Project spend (indicative) in this financial year	2022/23 D+ Grant (£)	2022/23 Total actual D+ Costs (£)	Variance %	Comments (please explain significant variances)
Staff costs				
Consultancy costs				
Overhead Costs				
Travel and subsistence				
Operating Costs				
Capital items				
Others (Please specify)				
TOTAL	90157	90157		

Table 2: Project mobilising of matched funding during the reporting period (1 April 2022 – 31 March 2023)

	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.

Any photos posted on Montserrat National Trust's Facebook site about the bioblitz and Monty's Messengers have had preapproval from parents and participants.

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)
Monty's Messenger logo	Access to Dropbox link below table	Winning design for logo for Monty's Messengers. Credit Montserrat National Trust	@montserratnationaltrust on Facebook @UKOTCF on Twitter	Yes
Tataki zomé on Montserrat	Access to Dropbox link below table	4- to 7-year-olds make patterned cloths by pounding with flat stone leaves between 2 layers – the traditional Japanese tataki zomé (= hammer dye). Credit Montserrat National Trust	@montserratnationaltrust on Facebook @UKOTCF on Twitter	Yes
Inverts in EcoPlay	Access to Dropbox link below table	Monty's Messengers work with entomologists to search for insects Credit UKOTCF	@montserratnationaltrust on Facebook @UKOTCF on Twitter	Yes
Microscope	Access to Dropbox link below table	Viewing insects under a microscope, which were later released back where they had been found. Credit UKOTCF	@montserratnationaltrust on Facebook @UKOTCF on Twitter	Yes
Having a go at herbarium	Access to Dropbox link below table	Monty's Messengers bioblitz also included an activity where the children to collect a specimen from the garden as a herbarium record	@montserratnationaltrust on Facebook @UKOTCF on Twitter	Yes /

Montserrat is a British overseas territory located in the Eastern Caribbean. Before the volcanic disruption of the 1990s/2000s and subsequent challenges on Montserrat, the Montserrat National Trust (the islands' community conservation body) had a section for primary- school-

age children called "Monty's Messengers". "Monty" is a popular name for the national bird, the Montserrat oriole. *Icterus oberi.* which occurs nowhere else than Montserrat.

The Montserrat National Trust (as part of Darwin Plus project DLUS155 Adopt a Home for Wildlife: https://www.ukotcf.org.uk/key-projects/adoptahomeforwildlife/) reinstated Monty's Messengers in 2022.

There have been many highlights during the first year of activities. One event combined with another initiative (a UK Research Institute funded project Hidden Histories: *Blue Iguana to Blue Vervain* see: https://www.ukotcf.org.uk/key-projects/blue-iguanas-to-blue-vervain/). It provided opportunities for the young persons to work alongside international scientists. This was, in part, as a junior 'bioblitz' on 6th July 2022. The first island 'bioblitz' took place earlier in the day at the botanic garden. This was widely publicised on local radio station ZJB and on social media. In order to document what was species were found, an online platform called iNaturalist was used. The number of records created since the event has been phenomenal. Initially in early 2022, when plans were discussed, there were only around 200 records for Montserrat. As of March 2023, there are over 3000.

The enthusiasm shown by the junior scientists was inspiring. The work of MNT's teenage interns and cadets should be commended for their great help to the visiting scientists and MNT staff in guiding, helping and encouraging the Monty's Messengers.

On the day, prizes were awarded for the design of the new Monty's logo, which incorporated several designs. Monty's now has an identity; a lasting legacy from the project.

Activities during the 'bioblitz' included collecting specimens for a herbarium (funding for a cabinet on island has now been secured and will enable an on-island herbarium to be established in the longer term); a search for insects which were then viewed under MNT's newly acquired microscope; one child created a dance for the cricket she has caught (later carefully released) combing many of her interests/loves. The younger groups (4- to 7-year-olds) made patterned cloths by pounding with flat stone leaves between 2 layers – the traditional Japanese tataki zomé (= hammer dye). The results were remarkable and perfect for little hands.

Definitely, the future of environmental science and conservation in Montserrat looks very promising!

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

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2022 - March 2023	Actions required/planned for next period
via decreasing invasive plants, throenhance biodiversity close-alongside	cortant endemic/native plants and invertebrates, bugh community-led site-restoration; this will de people (overcoming volcano-caused able small- enterprise opportunities and	Propagation of endemic species (e.g. pribby) in native plant nursery. Baseline plant surveys providing insight into prevalence of invasive species and which to target. Mix of Wildlife Homes demonstrates many difference ways in which people could benefit; ecotourism etc. Native plants being propagation at the MNT nursery and being recorded in wild on iNaturalist.	
Outcome By 2024, Montserrat's protected areas increased by 10% (100 ha), by community-managed "Wildlife-Homes" with site-specific plans delivered by site- "Adopters;" and increased recognition/use of livelihood- opportunities, while safeguarding globally important native/endemic biodiversity.	0.1 By 2024, as part of the 'Adopt a Home for Wildlife' initiative expanded in the project, a minimum of 10 sites ("Wildlife-Homes") with at least 100 individual 'Adopters' (Wildlife-Home managers & assistants) 0.2 By 2024, regeneration and restoration demonstrated in at least 100 ha within the 10 Wildlife- Homes in the globally threatened tropical dry forest/wetland mosaic, with before and after assessments demonstrating a decline in invasive plants and 10% increase in native/endemic ones.	0.1 Already 10 Wildlife Homes (with some in reserves). Number of individuals estimated at already at least 210 0.2 Plant surveys have identified native, introduced, invasive species which has been fed into management plan and native plant nursery's plant propagation. 0.3 These continue to be explored.	0.1 Management plans implemented and where possible additional sites under phase 2 added. Darwin Local project to be implemented in 2023 at site WH04 Piper Lots as funding secured by MNT. 0.2 Exploring workshops to being in small enterprise for making use of invasive species removed from land. 0.3 Will start to publicise
	0.3 By 2024, at least 2 demonstration Wildlife- Homes created as models for new 'Adopters',	0.4 This is being done in a variety of ways. Engagement has been focused on social	and plan for possible open events.

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2022 - March 2023	Actions required/planned for next period
	beyond the life of the project, demonstrating restoration techniques and benefits. 0.4 By 2024, the project has demonstrated that at least 60% or 3,000 people of total population of Montserrat have an increased awareness of the opportunities to engage in restoration/conservation efforts) via 'Adopt a Home for Wildlife'	media but understanding that different groups use this in different ways. An Instgram account has been created to engage young people. On Facebook Post reach has been consistently above 1000 which most posts relating to kid's club receiving over 3000-see Annex 4.5.	0.4 Expect this to continue in Y3
Output 1. By 2024, a network of Wildlife-Homes, with a target of 10% (100 ha) increase in protected areas across the island, are being managed actively for conservation while providing human- benefits, with 'Adopters' recruited; community-run restoration and protection of these Wildlife-Homes in place, and baseline plant and invertebrate data gathered and published.	Biodiversity: 1.1 By 2024, there are at least 10 Wildlife-Homes, extending protected areas in the tropical dry forest/wetland complex by 10%, the start of a community-led island-wide network of protected areas across globally important ecosystems including tropical dry forest and wetlands. Biodiversity and Livelihoods: 1.2 In Y1, we demonstrate discussion and plans for wildlife and human-benefit, as well as recruiting a PO, hold team meeting and steering group meetings, start recruitment of sites and conduct first survey visits to 5 Wildlife-Homes. In Y2, we demonstrate activities are underway, hold annual meetings, recruit 10 Wildlife- Homes and conducted first or second surveys at all 10. By end Y3 we are able to demonstrate results covering all above. Gender equality: 1.3 By 2024, at least 100 individuals 'Adopters' (or community managers & assistants) (facilitated by PO and local team at	Overall, the Project Team believ indicators are adequate and enathe output. The Project Team distributed in the Project Team distributed in the Project Team distributed in Order to achieve the section 3.3.2. This will be followed reasoned, throughout rationale at the surveys and development of overall project management. 1.1 List of Wildlife Homes provide videos filmed in December 2022 https://www.ukotcf.org.uk/key-projects/adoptahomeforwildlife/. appropriateness. 1.2 all for Y1 achieved and excellists. All survey results have bee Google drive: gathered in what species are prehas been used to develop mana of plants for Adopt a Home sites are being recorded on iNaturalis	abling good progress towards scussions have continued e effectiveness of indicators he impact- see above in ed up appropriately with well-and evidence gained through management plants and led in Annex 4.1 and Youtube and available here: See main text at 3.3.2 for seeded- see Annex 4.1 for site en analysed Evidence in The information esent and in what quantities agement plans. A master list is being produced. Species

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2022 - March 2023	Actions required/planned for next period
	MNT), actively encouraging a diverse socio- economic, gender and age-range to support management of each of these Wildlife-Homes, so that beyond project end, all groups are represented in what has been achieved. By end Y1, at least 30 recruited, and at least 70 by end Y3. Biodiversity: 1.4 By 2024, the composition of native non- invasive botanical and invertebrate within Wildlife-Homes is documented, and celebrated through outreach (see output 3), to ensure good representation of Montserrat's endemic wildlife across the island's tropical-dry-forest and wetland areas. By mid-Y2, 10 site reports demonstrate base-line with initial results. By end of Y3 clear link between community actions and benefits for wildlife and people documented. Biodiversity: 1.5 By 2024, active regeneration demonstrated at the ten Wildlife-Homes covering an area of at least 100 ha. By the end of Y1, demonstrate plans on how to achieve this; end of Y2, actions toward it; and end of Y3, results of progress made with plans on how to maintain this beyond project end. Biodiversity and Livelihoods: 1.6 By 2024, at least 2000 individual saplings grown at the MNT's botanic garden, labelled and supplied to "Adopters". (Y1, improvements to irrigation developed and at least 600 saplings grown and supplied; Y2 700 saplings	and id them (https://www.inatura of-montserrat-d74f33fd-6145-4b Report card entries will show we implement the management plan and are being finalised. 1.3 Gender equality is being morequirement for the project as not Darwin Main as in application). In modified so that it doesn't single however, we see no specific real included figures for number of A Annex 4.1). We can also provide Messengers kid's club. The top Montserrat's iNaturalist page are These are two Montserratians, of two Europeans. The top recorder Montserratian. (Evidence see Ar 1.4 Achieved for site surveys (see results as in 1.2; Google drive of publicly available until sign off (yr 1.5 Management Plans show mashow some work commencing. (1.6 In Y1, this was achieved. Ye to October 2023 so plant list give part-way through year 1 into year 2022-October 2023. 1635 plants native plant nursery exceeding to deaths. 591 plants have been suthrough Year 2 (April 2023 is halt target likely to be achieved. The are 1402 plants available which all of Y3. Evidence in Annex 4.7	dist.org/projects/biodiversity-47-aa12-ae6870d80113). ork undertaken during 2 to as which has been produced initored (despite not now a low Darwin Plus rules not This indicator could be a out gender equality, son to amend now. We have dopters by gender, age (see at this for the Monty's 5 recorders (observers) on a 3 females and 2 male. One living on Montserrat and or is female and annex 4.4) See Google drive for survey of Management targets. Videos (Evidence as in 1.1). For ar 2 runs from October 2022 on in Annex 4.7 runs from October 3 have been added to the larget. There have been 131 upplied up until part way of way through Y2). This reason for this is that there will be remainder of Y2 and
	grown and supplied; Y3 700 grown and		

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2022 - March 2023	Actions required/planned for next period
	supplied) Organic fertiliser will also be provided and information packs to accompany these.		
Activity 1.1 Project Officer recruited a supplementary training needed arrangintroductory meeting via Zoom.	t Montserrat National Trust, and any ged, and other project team members have an	Yes	MNT has secured a three- year post for a Conservation Officer. They will join in May 2023. They will provide support for all MNT projects including this one.
outlining project and welcoming new	e for Wildlife designed and distributed on-island, sites and 'Adopters,' as well as reinstating ocal partners use also word of mouth, radio and	Achieved	Continued dialogue with Adopters to ensure fully engaged and management plans are being implemented. Phase 2 has additional sites interested in joining subject to additional resources being available.
in person and via remote means (dep	intacts and begin working with 'Adopters,' both bending on any Covid restrictions), to formulate management agreements and plan for action.	Yes	As 1.2
1.4 PO site-visits to record informatio	n and to survey Wildlife-Homes in areas already rovide baselines, e.g. at Cork Hill, other small	Surveys complete and fed into management plans	Site visits continue and report cards show progress against management plans.
	nes at times convenient to 'Adopters,' to uous monitoring of the Wildlife- Homes.	Yes	As 1.4
1.6 Maps produced to ensure coverage areas meet 10% target across the island	ge of these community-managed protected and	Maps of sites are stored in Dropbox with sample points. UKOTCF website has some pages under development including map of site locations across island and summary	New Maps developed for new Adopters based on resources. Discussions on what graphics needed/wanted will take place

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2022 - March 2023	Actions required/planned for next period
		tables for some of the surveys- these are in draft and will be developed further during year 2 and 3: https://www.ukotcf.org.uk/key- projects/adoptahomeforwildlife/ov erview/.	
1.7 Student and traineeship possibilit undertaken, to facilitate capacity-build involved with the project and gain exp	ling and opportunities for young people to be	See information above on Antwone Sinclair and Samantha Paul. In addition, a pilot Higher Education Evening was organised. Included a variety of persons from different fields and included regional and international figures to outline routes into roles in the environmental sector. Resulted in several internships created on island and one person applying for an MSc in Island Conservation and Biodiversity at Jersey International Centre for Advanced Studies (JICAS) and a Darwin Fellowship. "Monty's Messengers" (environmental activity primary-school-age children's club) revived for the first time since the volcanic emergency in the years from 1997; events taken place throughout the year. These sessions have been regularly	Continuing to explore further activities and opportunities but also continuing with the kid's club. Safeguarding and first aid continue. Safety equipment review undertaken.

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2022 - March 2023	Actions required/planned for next period
		attended by 20+ children and 20+ adults.	
1.8 Communications plan developed and implemented. This includes: 1.8.1 newsletters (built on wide circulation achieved in pilot-work) published every quarter by UKOTCF, with articles from other team members, and which outline progress and facilitate M&E 1.8.2 Social-media posts produced to outline project; profiles of 'Adopters' produced and published. These will be carried out by a Montserratian marketing group, 664 Connect, to undertake a variety of communications across all sections of society onisland and with Montserratian diaspora in UK, US (and elsewhere).		Under Communications plan and (1.8.1) Newsletter Saving Our Special Nature of Montserrat issues 12, 13 & 14 - see Annex 4.3, with coverage also in UKOTCF's main newsletter Forum News issues 56 & 57 (July & November 2022) and UKOTCF's 2022-23 Annual Report (all available also on ukotcf.org.uk. See also videos at 1.3. 1.8.2 See Annex 4.3, and also videos at 1.3 above on social media presence used to promote the project on Montserrat and beyond. Instagram created.	Continue with communications in all mediums.
1.9 New works begin at the native-pla botanic garden. This includes:	ant nursery at the Montserrat National Trust		
1.9.1 Equipment and materials needed for the native plant nursery acquired.		Yes	Regular visits from UK help with items easier to source in UK. Now have shipper based in UK (through MNT) that can provide assistance. Will be used if small items are more economical to source in UK.
1.9.2 Labelling system developed		Ideas discussed and being researched	System agreed and being used.

Project summary SMART Indicators		Progress and Achievements April 2022 - March 2023	Actions required/planned for next period
1.9.3 Facility to record information on up	1.9.3 Facility to record information on plants given to 'Adopters' (and for sale) is set up		System developed and agreed.
1.9.4 Organic fertilisers produced and made available to 'Adopters' (and for sale)		Equipment being used with Forty 5 gallon bags (approx. 19kg) of organic fertilizer produced (6 supplied to Adopters; 34 sold at \$20ECD (£6)) to public.	Stories about plants being supplied and thriving should be documented.
1.10 Plans/improvements to demonstration Wildlife-Homes (including native plants, food securing plants and pollinators) developed and implemented.		Suggestions put forward for site: <i>EcoPlay</i> , next to the Montserrat Botanic Garden a definite possibility. Others being explored.	Plans for the demonstration sites developed.
1.11 Quarterly project team meeting to report on progress and any other aspects of M&E.		Project team meeting monthly as M&E.	Continue to meet monthly until reviewed. Darwin Plan put together for Darwin reviewers to visit Montserrat and project sites (June 2023).
1.12 Annual stakeholder steering group meets at least one month in advance of year-end reporting, with specific updates on M&E and success stories from each year.		Yes met in December 2022	Will meet (possibly December 2023).
1.13 Half-year, first, second and third year reports produced and finalised by administration team with support from all team members particularly those involved in M&E		All deadlines met	Yes as per T&Cs
Output 2. By 2024, increased ability and confidence of 'Adopters' Biodiversity & Livelihoods 2.1 By end of Y1, plans with initial Adopters in		(Report against the indicators on progress towards achieving the Output)	
(1) to experiment and monitor Wildlife-Home quality in relation to the islands' unique and native biodiversity; (2) to make choices which benefit native plant and place and being implemented. By end of year 2, subsequent 'Adopters' make use of best practice on new Wildlife- Homes. By Y3, information systems in place and being used widely. Between 2021-2024 continuing work		2.1 Plans with initial <i>Adopters</i> in implemented. Information systemused widely evidence in Annex 4 see above).	ns are in place and are being

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2022 - March 2023	Actions required/planned for next period
pollinator species, leading to protecting and enhancing the wildlife (important also to the economy), despite the increased housing-density close to wildlife habitats due to volcanic displacement of the human population, and also providing food-security, as well as contributing towards well-being.	with 'Adopters' develops techniques for implementing and monitoring success of removal and (natural or assisted) replacement of native plants (and subsequent encouragement of native pollinators), and informs management techniques used in other Wildlife-Homes. Capacity Building: 2.2 Training and guidance on sitemanagement techniques provided to at least 25 community members as part of the Adopt a Home for Wildlife. This will include a mixture of on-site training and workshops held at MNT's conference centre, possibly supplemented by remote communications. Gender equality 2.3 Between 2021-2024, information on Wildlife-Home management shared via well-interpreted information systems made available online in the first instance, but with alternative ways to access it for those that cannot attend training events at certain times. Biodiversity: 2.4 An evidence base established so that, by 2024, site-management Wildlife-Homes has demonstrated an increase in biodiversity and decrease in invasive species. In year 1, plans are discussed with stakeholders and refined. By Year 2, tested and modified. By end of Year 3, system is functioning and in use.	Sources of information such as a community radio shows see Ann 2.2 & 2.3 See above training see participants in <i>Adopt a Home</i> . 2.4. Google drive holds docume	nex 4.5. ssions and number of
Activity 2.1 PO identifies with 'Adopters' if training (conservation and survey techniques and monitoring particularly in changes over time) is required for themselves or for others, based on their experience, either at Wildlife-Homes or as		The following training/information sharing	Training to take place in May 2023 on botanic garden management (Manx

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2022 - March 2023	Actions required/planned for next period
part of workshops organised by the M their conference centre	Montserrat National Trust and taking place at	sessions took place this year- see main text for numbers:	Wildlife Trust CEO, Leigh Morris to visit).
		Herbarium training iNaturalist Invertebrate training Invasive webinar	Ant and Biosecurity workshop (April 2023)
Activity 2.2 Training reports, survey reparticipants, and published online.	esults and feedback produced, circulated to	Facebook posts document attendance, but records kept.	More development of training pages on UKOTCF's website with infographics etc.
Wildlife-Home in collaboration with th appropriate for 'Adopter', as most will	by PO annually to document activities at each e 'Adopters'. These will be conducted at times have jobs and/or family or other commitments. anced food-security, income and well-being	This simple card linked to management plan outcomes can be found in the Project Google drive:	Report cards filled in
site visits to conduct M&E and facilita	wider UKOTCF team) undertake periodically te further complementary work (e.g. on native f the project; maintained advice to related National Trust and to the Governor).	Technical specialists to facilitate knowledge exchange are reported under partnerships above: visits from invertebrate specialists are included; also connections make through the Hidden Histories project.	Visits of plant specialists planned for May 2023.
	ool of knowledge and evidence developed and ndemic and native species, invasive species, itc)	Regular gardening tips linked to Adopt a Home for Wildlife from Antwone Sinclair – see Annex 4.6 for an example;	Continue this in Year 2 and year 3.

SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2022 - March 2023	Actions required/planned for next period
	Adopter and WH profile videos (see 1.3)	
nd MNT's website (and other partners as ation and data and recording systems	Yes	Yes in Y2
	As 1.12 & 1.13	As 1.12 & 1.13
Capacity building and Gender equality: 3.1 By 2024, wider public engagement takes place on habitat restoration/ natural regeneration, at Wildlife- Homes. 3 training events held, with >25 members from a range of community-groups attending, supplemented by remote means; plus. 6 community-gatherings, 6 radio interview sessions and 20 social media posts with high engagement rates. Profiles of at least 10 'Adopters' published during Y1 & Y2, with updates and results in Y3. Biodiversity & Livelihoods: 3.2 By end Y1, 2 demonstration Wildlife-Homes are identified, and plans in place to implement them. By end Y2, these sites launched and are being visited. By end Y3, plans in place to expand these demonstration Wildlife-Homes, showing effective ways to conserve the island's unique biodiversity, by a range of ecological and entrepreneurial opportunities available in Wildlife-Homes.	3.1 Training events likely to exceed target as already year and 4 in second year. This indicator is a good one as it is quantitative. We to exceed this. 3.2 In Y1, the target for Y1 is highly likely to have be achieved. See Outcome 0.3 Activity 1.10 and to 3, ation by a 3.3. Target for Y3.	
a CS Frech Os r Fr LS Hill FV Or o	Capacity building and Gender equality: 3.1 By 2024, wider public engagement takes place on habitat restoration/ natural regeneration, at Wildlife- Homes. 3 training events held, with >25 members from a range of community-groups attending, supplemented by remote means; plus. 6 community-gatherings, 6 radio interview sessions and 20 social media posts with high engagement rates. Profiles of at least 10 'Adopters' published during Y1 & Y2, with updates and results in Y3. Biodiversity & Livelihoods: 3.2 By end Y1, 2 demonstration Wildlife-Homes are identified, and plans in place to mplement them. By end Y2, these sites aunched and are being visited. By end Y3, plans in place to expand these demonstration Wildlife-Homes, showing effective ways to conserve the island's unique biodiversity, by a range of ecological and entrepreneurial	Adopter and WH profile videos (see 1.3) Yes As 1.12 & 1.13 Capacity building and Gender equality: 3.1 By 2024, wider public engagement takes place on habitat restoration/ natural regeneration, at Wildlife- Homes. 3 training events held, with >25 members from a range of community-gatherings, 6 radio interview sessions and 20 social media posts with high engagement rates. Profiles of at least 10 'Adopters' published during Y1 & Y2, with updates and results in Y3. Biodiversity & Livelihoods: 3.2 By end Y1, 2 demonstration Wildlife-Homes are identified, and plans in place to expand these demonstration Wildlife-Homes, showing effective ways to conserve the island's unique biodiversity, by a range of ecological and entrepreneurial apportunities available in Wildlife-Homes. These are recorded, and are widely promoted

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2022 - March 2023	Actions required/planned for next period
	3.3 In Y3, Adopt-a-Home ambassadors selected and celebrated (across all sections of society) through a public event organised, in conjunction with the Governor's Office, by MNT and other partners; with wider promotion (60% or 3,000 of population of Montserrat) of the initiative, to ensure project-legacy and continuation beyond project-end. Qualities in the Ambassador roles include: gender balance, strong advocate of the project and importance of a range of societal benefits. <i>Biodiversity:</i> 3.4 Between 2021 and 2024, a community biodiversity reporting system established, to report information about biodiversity at Wildlife-Homes and elsewhere which may otherwise be missed in ecological surveys. Community-members able (or trained) to record/ report and, where possible, recognise rare endemic wildlife (e.g. the critically endangered and little-known galliwasp lizard), both enabling further study and drawing additional community members into the project, By the end Y1, system planned; by end Y2, being used; by end Y3, information obtained through the system published. 3.5 By 2024, community support demonstrated towards native ecosystems and their associated plant/s invertebrates, and MNT embedded in continuing this community-driven project, particularly in how to manage land for increased security, good for Montserrat's unique native biodiversity, including that having to live closely alongside	3.4 Highly likely to have been addiscussed and received training this is successful as we launche We will track progress of its use 3.5 Y3 we will be able to demon	on. Summer 2022, showed d campaign to use it widely. until Y3. See Annex 4.4.

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2022 - March 2023	Actions required/planned for next period
	the increased human density resulting from volcano-caused displacement.		

Activity 3.1 The reporting system set up in order for 'Adopters' or other members of the community to report or upload sightings and other information on rarely seen species and other key biodiversity information, in their own time, allowing flexibility especially for those unable to participate during fixed hours.	Yes and training on its use provided to POs	Continue to report on increased number of observation and research grade records (which are then sent to GBIF).
3.2 Training events planned and undertaken on habitat restoration and or natural regeneration at the MNT or on the Wildlife-Homes. Meeting reports/training notes are published online.	Training events are planned for year 2 with one- to-one sessions with Adopters on grafting and horticulture and iNaturalist. A Training plan is under development.	Will be developed in Y2&Y3
3.3 Plans developed to expand offerings at the botanic garden are developed and initiated, e.g. ecotourism, kids' holiday clubs	Monty's Messengers- a success of the project. See article and social media post Annex 4.5	Ongoing throughout Y2&Y3.
3.4 Demonstration Wildlife-Homes showcasing good practice and multiple benefits to nature and livelihoods (e.g. pollinator-friendly) planned and initiated with accessibility to community	Discussions held between Project Team and Adopters.	Working even more closely with these Adopters in Y2&Y3
3.5 Public event organised and held to celebrate 'Adopters' and to facilitate continuation of the initiative beyond projectend.	Discussions held between Project Team and Adopters.	Will be planned in Y3.
3.6 Other public events organised to highlight project and opportunities (including Rotary and similar groups, kids' clubs, school-visits, online materials, possibly village competitions)	Kid's club now set up and is holding activities, school assemblies have been held, visits to botanic garden by school groups (see posts on MNT's Facebook account)	These will continue in Y2&Y3.
3.7 Project team members (including some facilitated by young persons) undertake online and face-face surveys of local community, across all sections of the community	Complete see Annex 4.13	Results to be used to inform actions and activities.

providing a baseline of attitudes towards the projects aims in Year 1, which is then replicated at the end of the project in Y3 in order to confirm whether community protected areas (Wildlife-Homes) have been effective on island.		
3.8 Profiles produced of 'Adopter' success stories and published in newsletters	Yes – see videos and newsletters in Annex 4.3	To continue throughout.
3.9 Communications plan implemented, with newsletters produced with articles written by 'Adopters' and/or materials gathered from 'Adopters' or from the existing UKOTCF/MNT book and videos on Montserrat wildlife, particularly success stories and shared widely on social-media posts; links with Tourism. Community surveys conducted (as in Activity 3.7) before and after communications strategy is implemented will allow us to demonstrate that Output 3 (Indicator 3.5 has been achieved).	Yes being implemented. Linktree account includes key information about the project with MNT branding:	Implemented throughout Y2&Y3
3.10. Radio-interviews, panel-discussions and other broadcasts take place on Montserrat (within project constraints and where possible, podcasts developed), and made available to regional and international media.3.11 Radio-interviews, panel-discussions and other broadcasts take place on Montserrat (within project constraints and where possible, podcasts developed), and made available to regional and international media.	Radio interviews June 2022-February 2023: 1. June 2022 MAHLE Vibes; Mrs Sarita Francis 2. July 2022 MAHLE Vibes; ZJB Radio; David Clements, Mrs Sarita Francis, Ms Vernaire Bass, Ms Ajhermae White (show recording: 3. July 2022 Culture Show with Rose Willock; Delmaude Ryan Catherine Wensink & Mike Pienkowski 4. December 2022 MNT Heritage Show: Vernaire Bass and Sarita Francis 5. December 2022 Culture Show with Rose Willock; Delmaude Ryan and Mike Pienkowski 6. December 2022 MNT Heritage Show: Vernaire Bass and Mike Pienkowski 7. January 2023 Culture Show with Rose Willock: Jo-Diaz Tye, Delmaude Ryan Catherine Wensink 8. January 2023: MNT Heritage Show Vernaire Bass and Catherine Wensink	Will continue in Y2. Both the MNT Heritage Show and Culture Show with Rose Willock.

	9. February 2023 MNT Heritage Show: Vernaire Bass and Sarita Francis	
3.11 Plan for database produced and implemented to store information created as part of the project	Still being considered MNT Sharing information on all key projects through Linktree:	Will continue in Y2 &Y3
3.12 As 1.12 & 1.13	As 1.12 & 1.13	As 1.12 & 1.13

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: Increasing Montserrat's globally important endemic/native plants and invertebrates, via decreasing invasive plants, through community-led site-restoration; this will enhance biodiversity close-alongside people (overcoming volcano-caused increased human-density), sustainable small- enterprise opportunities and community-wellbeing .				
Outcome: By 2024, Montserrat's protected areas increased by 10% (100 ha), by community-managed "Wildlife-Homes" with site-specific plans delivered by site- "Adopters;" and increased recognition/use of livelihood- opportunities, while safeguarding globally important native/endemic biodiversity.	0.1 By 2024, as part of the 'Adopt a Home for Wildlife' initiative expanded in the project, a minimum of 10 sites ("Wildlife-Homes") with at least 100 individual 'Adopters' (Wildlife-Home managers & assistants) 0.2 By 2024, regeneration and restoration demonstrated in at least 100 ha within the 10 Wildlife-Homes in the globally threatened tropical dry forest/wetland mosaic, with before and after assessments	0.1 By project end, ten reports documenting the site and progress from initial site visit in year 1, 2 or 3. 0.2 By project end, presence of invasive species, native flora and fauna before-and-after site surveys showing % change, providing evidence that project activities, via communities' actions have led to a positive outcome for biodiversity. (pilot- project covered, at peak, 30 ha; the baseline is the part of this still active)	Volcanic or hurricane action does not impede work; this cannot be guaranteed re volcano but, after 10 years of stability, leading to reopening of some restricted access areas. Former unlikely, and is monitored continuously by Montserrat Volcano Observatory. Hurricanes may occur, but local precautions are good, and experience demonstrates that only slight delays are likely, unless there is a direct hit from a superhurricane. (If this were considered	

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions			
	demonstrating a decline in invasive plants and 10% increase in native/endemic ones. 0.3 By 2024, at least 2 demonstration Wildlife-Homes created as models for new 'Adopters', beyond the life of the project, demonstrating restoration techniques and benefits. 0.4 By 2024, the project has demonstrated that at least 60% or 3,000 people of total population of Montserrat have an increased awareness of the opportunities to engage in restoration/conservation efforts) via 'Adopt a Home for Wildlife'	0.3 Elements of 0.2 demonstrating improvements in habitats and some pilot-work to provide sites with forage-plants (tree, herbs, shrubs) and nesting- sites, creating resilient landscapes for endemic invertebrates (including key pollinators), and human-benefit surveys/ feedback forms. Project newsletter articles and web- pages with sites mentioned and approaches promoted. 0.4 Feedback received from survey results from community members in Y1, Y2 and Y3; attendance records at workshops, courses and community gatherings and feedback forms published, social media posts (including remote ones; records of reactions to newsletters and broadcasts, including of call-ins; social media analytics records).	blocking, no conservation work would be resourced in the Caribbean.) Community groups and sympathetic/engaged businesses and land- managers continue to be ready to volunteer to Adopt Wildlife-Homes. Likely, given commitments already shown and maintained in the pilot and continuing effort. Adequate supply of saplings to replace invasive species with non-invasive and native species (where these do not grow from the natural seed-bank), are propagated through the MNT native-plant nursery at the botanic gardens. Pandemic-related measures do not prevent activities. Montserrat has very successful quarantining and self-distancing arrangements. These, supplemented by remote communications as necessary,			
Output 1	Biodiversity:	1.1 Database and map of Wildlife- Homes, with report explaining	challenges in this regard. Suitably qualified and experienced project officer recruited from near			
By 2024, a network of Wildlife- Homes, with a target of 10% (100	1.1 By 2024, there are at least 10 Wildlife-Homes, extending protected	known site-information	the start of the project enables community work to be driven on-			
ha) increase in protected areas across the island, are being managed actively for conservation	areas in the tropical dry forest/wetland complex by 10%, the start of a community-led island-wide	1.2 Wildlife-Home initial reports in Y1; management-plans and	island throughout the project. A detailed job description and criteria have been drafted by UKOTCF &			

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
while providing human- benefits, with 'Adopters' recruited; community-run restoration and protection of these Wildlife-Homes in place, and baseline plant and invertebrate data gathered and published.	network of protected areas across globally important ecosystems including tropical dry forest and wetlands. Biodiversity and Livelihoods: 1.2 In Y1, we demonstrate discussion and plans for wildlife and human-benefit, as well as recruiting a PO, hold team meeting and steering group meetings, start recruitment of sites and conduct first survey visits to 5 Wildlife-Homes. In Y2, we demonstrate activities are underway, hold annual meetings, recruit 10 Wildlife- Homes and conducted first or second surveys at all 10. By end Y3 we are able to demonstrate results covering all above. Gender equality: 1.3 By 2024, at least 100 individuals 'Adopters' (or community managers & assistants) (facilitated by PO and local team at MNT), actively encouraging a diverse socioeconomic, gender and age-range to support management of each of these Wildlife-Homes, so that beyond project end, all groups are represented in what has been	summary of activities in; Y2 final site reports in Y3. 1.3 List of guardians and profiles in newsletters and web-site published online throughout the project. 1.4 Ecological survey field-sheets, fixed-point images, Wildlife-Home site-reports, and human-benefit surveys/ feedback forms – initially in Y1 and throughout Y2-Y3. 1.5 Report including data on area and plant species cleared, extend of native regeneration encouraged and number of natives planted; project newsletter articles outlining plots and activities; progress reports 1.6 Records of supply of plants and fertiliser from the native plant nursery to community partners, and tags supplied with plants that provide information (also available in digital form). Infographics can be used on social media and in newsletters. The number of information packs downloaded or printed by 'Adopters' or the public.	MNT to ensure that the candidate is suitably qualified and has the key qualities needed for the kind of community engagement which is crucial to the project. Flexible working hours and conditions will be available to remove barriers for suitable candidates (home- working, part-time hours etc). Measures are incorporated to manage in the interim if there is a delay in recruitment. Key community members remain engaged throughout the project. Pilot-work indicates this to be likely, with very low drop-out.

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
r Toject Summary	achieved. By end Y1, at least 30 recruited, and at least 70 by end Y3. Biodiversity: 1.4 By 2024, the composition of native non-invasive botanical and invertebrate within Wildlife-Homes is documented, and celebrated through outreach (see output 3), to ensure good representation of Montserrat's endemic wildlife across the island's tropical-dry-forest and wetland areas. By mid-Y2, 10 site reports demonstrate base-line with initial results. By end of Y3 clear link between community actions and benefits for wildlife and people documented. Biodiversity: 1.5 By 2024, active regeneration demonstrated at the ten Wildlife-Homes covering an area of at least 100 ha. By the end of Y1, demonstrate plans on how to achieve this; end of Y2, actions toward it; and end of Y3, results of progress made with plans on how to maintain this beyond project end. Biodiversity and Livelihoods:		important Assumptions

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
Output 2	1.6 By 2024, at least 2000 individual saplings grown at the MNT's botanic garden, labelled and supplied to "Adopters". (Y1, improvements to irrigation developed and at least 600 saplings grown and supplied; Y2 700 saplings grown and supplied; Y3 700 grown and supplied) Organic fertiliser will also be provided and information packs to accompany these.		
By 2024, increased ability and confidence of 'Adopters' (1) to experiment and monitor Wildlife-Home quality in relation to the islands' unique and native biodiversity; (2) to make choices which benefit native plant and pollinator species, leading to protecting and enhancing the wildlife (important also to the economy), despite the increased housing-density close to wildlife habitats due	Biodiversity & Livelihoods 2.1 By end of Y1, plans with initial Adopters in place and being implemented. By end of year 2, subsequent 'Adopters' make use of best practice on new Wildlife-Homes. By Y3, information systems in place and being used widely. Between 2021-2024 continuing work with 'Adopters' develops techniques for implementing and monitoring success of removal and (natural or assisted) replacement of native	2.1 Monitoring materials produced and made available, with ability to track when information material is being accessed online, including ecological benefits but also humanbenefit surveys/ feedback forms. 2.2 Before-and-after training surveys and feedback forms made available in hard-copy, so as to be as inclusive as possible, and online. 2.3 Database records and online materials	Site-surveys conducted pre- and post-work on Wildlife- Homes. This will be facilitated by an easy-to-use assessment methods developed in UK and US and adapted for use on Montserrat. PO builds up good relationships with community participants, ensuring 'Adopters' and wider community have support, and progress can be monitored effectively. This will be cemented by the partners long based on the island already.
to volcanic displacement of the human population, and also providing food-security, as well as contributing towards well-being.	plants (and subsequent encouragement of native pollinators), and informs management techniques used in other Wildlife-Homes. Capacity Building:	2.4 As in 2.3, but including site management reports and feedback surveys from 'Adopters'	Adopters take up available land-management advice/. Our pilot work demonstrated this to be so. MNT/UKOTCF hosted lectures (one on insects including >1% of island population present & others later via radio), and open days with high engagement, and regular supporters

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
	2.2 Training and guidance on site- management techniques provided to at least 25 community members as part of the Adopt a Home for Wildlife. This will include a mixture of on-site training and workshops held at MNT's conference centre, possibly supplemented by remote communications.		in habitat management. Training will be tweaked to match skills and need. 68% of island-households have internet connection (Labour Force Census and Intercensal Count 2018), so we will ensure alternative ways to access information.
	Gender equality 2.3 Between 2021-2024, information on Wildlife-Home management shared via well-interpreted information systems made available online in the first instance, but with alternative ways to access it for those that cannot attend training events at certain times.		Good level of uptake by community-groups in Adopt-a- Home. Consultation with community-groups, shows keen interest. Good design of site report-cards (visitation rates, indicator species hover-flies, bees etc) will enable basic level of monitoring which can be carried out by local community participants.
	Biodiversity: 2.4 An evidence base established so that, by 2024, site-management Wildlife-Homes has demonstrated an increase in biodiversity and decrease in invasive species. In year 1, plans are discussed with stakeholders and refined. By Year 2, tested and modified. By end of Year 3, system is functioning and in use.		
Output 3	Capacity building and Gender equality:	3.1 Training and workshop reports, before-and-after training evaluation surveys and feedback	Newsletters are receiving wide readership. Likely because of enthusiastic receipt of those of

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
3. By 2024, opportunities for all sections of Montserrat's community to contribute to, and express, a greater understanding of how a network of community-protected sites leads to both conservation benefits and improved livelihoods – demonstrated particularly by food-security, tourism opportunities, wellbeing, and safeguarding of, and reducing pressure on, Montserrat's unique biodiversity (including endemic species) and globally threatened habitats (e.g. tropical dry forest and wetlands) within areas of volcano-caused increased human density.	3.1 By 2024, wider public engagement takes place on habitat restoration/ natural regeneration, at Wildlife- Homes. 3 training events held, with >25 members from a range of community-groups attending, supplemented by remote means; plus. 6 community-gatherings, 6 radio interview sessions and 20 social media posts with high engagement rates. Profiles of at least 10 'Adopters' published during Y1 & Y2, with updates and results in Y3. Biodiversity & Livelihoods: 3.2 By end Y1, 2 demonstration Wildlife-Homes are identified, and plans in place to implement them. By end Y2, these sites launched and are being visited. By end Y3, plans in place to expand these demonstration Wildlife-Homes, showing effective ways to conserve the island's unique biodiversity, by a range of ecological and entrepreneurial opportunities available in Wildlife- Homes. These are recorded, and are widely promoted in a variety of media, enabling all sections of society to be included.	questionnaires (a combination of online and face-to-face). Information (via leaflets, radio broadcasts, newsletter, web-sites etc.) provided to including a profile of each 'Adopter' and show benefits of site management including: relationship with crop fertilisation and other benefits, how maintenance costs can be reduced, services provided by native pollinators and what opportunities are available 3.2 Demonstration Wildlife- Homes themselves and visitor records. Promotion of all project materials via websites e.g. UKOTCF, MNT, local marketing and communications company (and others), posters, videos, podcasts, radio broadcasts. 3.3 Public event communications, including social media posts showing level of engagement, online news reports, videos. 3.4 The reporting system itself available online with potential to add records in other ways, e.g. record cards, so as not to exclude any sections of society; and guidance notes, project newsletters and reports.	recent earlier and continuing work – and social media channels will be used to broaden spread of publications (previous social media have had high levels of engagement (for example, one had the equivalent of the total population of Montserrat). High quality training materials. MNT has run engagement projects for many years on island and knows how to design materials that inspire action. Because of the long period required to restore ecosystems, develop small enterprises and demonstrate income and employment outcomes, the interim measures which have to be used here reflect the longer- term outcomes. Likely on the basis both of the views of experienced local entrepreneurs and experience elsewhere through UKOTCFs 30+ years of experience working across many UK territories, including Montserrat.

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
Project summary	Gender equality: 3.3 In Y3, Adopt-a-Home ambassadors selected and celebrated (across all sections of society) through a public event organised, in conjunction with the Governor's Office, by MNT and other partners; with wider promotion (60% or 3,000 of population of Montserrat) of the initiative, to ensure project-legacy and continuation beyond project-end. Qualities in the Ambassador roles include: gender balance, strong advocate of the project and importance of a range of societal benefits. Biodiversity: 3.4 Between 2021 and 2024, a community biodiversity reporting system established, to report information about biodiversity at Wildlife-Homes and elsewhere which may otherwise be missed in ecological surveys. Community-	Means of verification 3.5 Results of questionnaires analysis, newsletters, records of public and stakeholder meetings, radio-broadcasts and social media posts with detailed analytics. These are entered into the reporting system (as in 3.3) which holds records and information.	Important Assumptions
	members able (or trained) to record/ report and, where possible, recognise rare endemic wildlife (e.g. the critically endangered and little- known galliwasp lizard), both enabling further study and drawing		

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
	additional community members into the project, By the end Y1, system planned; by end Y2, being used; by end Y3, information obtained through the system published.		
	3.5 By 2024, community support demonstrated towards native ecosystems and their associated plant/s invertebrates, and MNT embedded in continuing this community-driven project, particularly in how to manage land for increased security, good for Montserrat's unique native		
	biodiversity, including that having to live closely alongside the increased human density resulting from volcano-caused displacement.		

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)

Output 1. By 2024, a network of Wildlife-Homes, with a target of 10% (100 ha) increase in protected areas across the island, are being managed actively for conservation, with 'Adopters' recruited; community-run restoration and protection of these Wildlife-Homes in place, under guidance of ecologists (through the PO at MNT and the PL's wider network of specialists; UKOTCF retains highly-qualified botanists in its wider team), with physical removal of invasive plants, encouraging of native ones supplemented by planting of those native species not self- regenerating from the seed- bank, using local stock grown at the botanic garden; and baseline plant and invertebrate data gathered and published.

- 1.1 Project Officer recruited at Montserrat National Trust, and any supplementary training needed arranged, and other project team members have an introductory meeting via Zoom.
- 1.2 Adverts for Adopt a Home for Wildlife designed and distributed on-island, outlining project and welcoming new sites and 'Adopters,' as well as reinstating advice to those in the pilot; PO and local partners use also word of mouth, radio and social media.
- 1.3 PO and other members gather contacts and begin working with 'Adopters,' both in person and via remote means (depending on any Covid restrictions), to formulate site-plans, assistance required, joint management agreements and plan for action.

Project summary SMART Indicators Means of v	verification Important Assumptions
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- 1.4 PO site-visits to record information and to survey Wildlife-Homes in areas already pre-identified as areas for action to provide baselines, e.g. at Cork Hill, other small enterprises identified with an interest, e.g. Tina Banana.
- 1.5 PO continues to visit Wildlife-Homes at times convenient to 'Adopters,' to facilitate activities and carry on continuous monitoring of the Wildlife-Homes.
- 1.6 Maps produced to ensure coverage of these community-managed protected areas meet 10% target across the island
- 1.7 Student and traineeship possibilities explored and, where appropriate, undertaken, to facilitate capacity-building and opportunities for young people to be involved with the project and gain experience.
- 1.8 Communications plan developed and implemented. This includes:
- 1.8.1 newsletters (built on wide circulation achieved in pilot-work) published every quarter by UKOTCF, with articles from other team members, and which outline progress and facilitate M&E
- 1.8.2 Social-media posts produced to outline project; profiles of 'Adopters' produced and published. These will be carried out by a Montserratian marketing group, 664 Connect, to undertake a variety of communications across all sections of society on-island and with Montserratian diaspora in UK, US (and elsewhere).
- 1.9 New works begin at the native-plant nursery at the Montserrat National Trust botanic garden. This includes:
- 1.9.1 Equipment and materials needed for the native plant nursery acquired.
- 1.9.2 Labelling system developed
- 1.9.3 Facility to record information on plants given to 'Adopters' (and for sale) is set up
- 1.9.4 Organic fertilisers produced and made available to 'Adopters' (and for sale)
- 1.10 Plans/improvements to demonstration Wildlife-Homes (including native plants, food securing plants and pollinators) developed and implemented.
- 1.11 Quarterly project team meeting to report on progress and any other aspects of M&E.
- 1.12 Annual stakeholder steering group meets at least one month in advance of year-end reporting, with specific updates on M&E and success stories from each year.
- 1.13 Half-year, first, second and third year reports produced and finalised by administration team with support from all team members particularly those involved in M&E
- **Output 2.** By 2024, ability and confidence of 'Adopters' to experiment and monitor Wildlife-Home quality in relation to the islands' unique and native biodiversity increased and make choices which benefit native plant and pollinator species, leading to good outcomes for biodiversity, but also providing some food-security, as well as contributing towards well-being, and protecting and enhancing the wildlife (important also to the economy), despite the increased housing-density close to wildlife habitats due to volcanic displacement of the human population.
- 2.1 PO identifies with 'Adopters' if training (conservation and survey techniques and monitoring particularly in changes over time) is required for themselves or for others, based on their experience, either at Wildlife-Homes or as part of workshops organised by the Montserrat National Trust and taking place at their conference centre
- 2.2 Training reports, survey results and feedback produced, circulated to participants, and published online.
- 2.3 Report cards designed and used by PO annually to document activities at each Wildlife-Home in collaboration with the 'Adopters'. These will be conducted at times appropriate for 'Adopter', as most will have jobs and/or family or other commitments. They will be used to also record enhanced food-security, income and well-being benefits.

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
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- 2.4 Technical specialists (part of the wider UKOTCF team) undertake periodically site visits to conduct M&E and facilitate further complementary work (e.g. on native pollinators not within the resources of the project; maintained advice to related conservation projects, to Montserrat National Trust and to the Governor).
- 2.5 Materials to facilitate this wider pool of knowledge and evidence developed and produced (including information on endemic and native species, invasive species, crops including cucumber, pumpkin etc)
- 2.6 Improvements to both UKOTCF and MNT's website (and other partners as applicable) making best use of information and data and recording systems

2.7 As 1.12 & 1.13

- **Output 3.** By 2024, opportunities for all sections of Montserrat's community to contribute to and express a greater understanding of how a network of 'community-protected sites' leads to both conservation benefits and improved livelihoods demonstrated particularly by food-security, tourism opportunities, well-being, and safeguarding of and reducing pressure on Montserrat's unique biodiversity (including endemic species) and globally threatened habitats (e.g. tropical dry forest and wetlands) within areas of volcano-caused increased human density.
- 3.1 The reporting system set up in order for 'Adopters' or other members of the community to report or upload sightings and other information on rarely seen species and other key biodiversity information, in their own time, allowing flexibility especially for those unable to participate during fixed hours. 3.2 Training events planned and undertaken on habitat restoration and or natural regeneration at the MNT or on the Wildlife-Homes. Meeting reports/training notes are published online.
- 3.3 Plans developed to expand offerings at the botanic garden are developed and initiated, e.g. ecotourism, kids' holiday clubs
- 3.4 Demonstration Wildlife-Homes showcasing good practice and multiple benefits to nature and livelihoods (e.g. pollinator-friendly) planned and initiated with accessibility to community
- 3.5 Public event organised and held to celebrate 'Adopters' and to facilitate continuation of the initiative beyond project-end.
- 3.6 Other public events organised to highlight project and opportunities (including Rotary and similar groups, kids' clubs, school-visits, online materials, possibly village competitions)
- 3.7 Project team members (including some facilitated by young persons) undertake online and face-face surveys of local community, across all sections of the community providing a baseline of attitudes towards the projects aims in Year 1, which is then replicated at the end of the project in Y3 in order to confirm whether community protected areas (Wildlife-Homes) have been effective on island.
- 3.8 Profiles produced of 'Adopter' success stories and published in newsletters
- 3.9 Communications plan implemented, with newsletters produced with articles written by 'Adopters' and/or materials gathered from 'Adopters' or from the existing UKOTCF/MNT book and videos on Montserrat wildlife, particularly success stories and shared widely on social-media posts; links with Tourism. Community surveys conducted (as in Activity 3.7) before and after communications strategy is implemented will allow us to demonstrate that Output 3 (Indicator 3.5 has been achieved).
- 3.10. Radio-interviews, panel-discussions and other broadcasts take place on Montserrat (within project constraints and where possible, podcasts developed), and made available to regional and international media.3.11 Radio-interviews, panel-discussions and other broadcasts take place on

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
 ` .	and where possible, podcasts develope implemented to store information creat	ed), and made available to regional and ed as part of the project	international media.

Annex 3: Standard Indicators

Table 1 Project Standard Indicators

DPLUS Indicator number	Name of indicator using original wording	Name of Indicator after adjusting wording to align with DPLUS Standard Indicators	Units	Disaggregation	Year 1 Total	Year 2 Total	Year 3 Total	Total to date	Total planned during the project
DPLUS- A02	In Y1, we demonstrate d scuss on and p ans for w d fe and humanbeneft, as we as recrut ng a PO, ho d team meet ng and steer ng group meet ngs, start recrutment of s tes and conduct f rst survey v s ts to 5 W d fe-Homes. In Y2, we demonstrate act v t es are underway, ho d annua meet ngs, recrut 10 W d fe- Homes and conducted f rst or second surveys at a 10. By end Y3 we are ab e to demonstrate resuts cover ng a above.	Number of secondments or p acements comp eted by nd v dua s of key oca and nat ona stakeho ders.	Peop e	None- one ma e and one fema e seconded from M n stry of Agr cu ture Land, Hous ng and Env ronment. PO ro e sp t nto 3 w th 1 MNT off cer	2	2	1/2	2	2
DPLUS- A03	No nd cator but re evant to DPLUS nd cators	Number of oca /nat ona organ sat ons w th mproved capab ty and capac ty as a resu t of project.	Number of organ sat on s	1 NGO 1 M n stry	2	2	2	2	2
DPLUS -B03	By end of Y1, p ans w th n t a Adopters n p ace and be ng mp emented. By end of year 2, subsequent Adopters make use of best pract ce on new W d fe- Homes. By Y3, nformat on systems n p ace and be ng used w de y. Between	Number of new/ mproved commun ty management p ans ava ab e and endorsed.	Number	At east 10	0	At east 10	12-13	At east 10	12-13

DPLUS Indicator number	Name of indicator using original wording	Name of Indicator after adjusting wording to align with DPLUS Standard Indicators	Units	Disaggregation	Year 1 Total	Year 2 Total	Year 3 Total	Total to date	Total planned during the project
	2021-2024 cont nu ng work w th Adopters deve ops techn ques for mp ement ng and mon tor ng success of remova and (natura or ass sted) rep acement of nat ve p ants (and subsequent encouragement of nat ve po nators), and nforms management techn ques used n other W d fe-Homes.								
DPLUS-C09	By 2024, the compost on of nat ve non-nvas ve botan ca and nvertebrate with n W dife-Homes s documented, and ce ebrated through outreach (see output 3), to ensure good representation of Montserratis endemic wide fe across the sign and sitropical-dry-forest and wet and areas. By mid-Y2, 10 site reports demonstrate base-ne with nit a results. By end of Y3 clear ink between community actions and benefits for wide features.	Spec es reference co ect ons made (known to sc ence, new to sc ence).	Number	Taxa (F ora/Fauna/Fung)	1	1	2	2	2
DPLUS-C12	By end Y1, 2 demonstrat on W d fe-Homes are dent f ed, and p ans n p ace to mp ement them. By end Y2, these s tes aunched and are be ng v s ted. By end Y3, p ans n p ace to expand these demonstrat on W d fe-Homes, show ng effect ve ways to conserve the s and s un que b od vers ty, by a range of eco og ca and entrepreneur a opportun t es ava ab e n W d fe-Homes. These are recorded, and are w de y promoted n a var ety of med a, enab ng a sect ons of soc ety to be nc uded.	Soc a Med a presence.	Number	By month/year. P atform MNT Facebook & Instagram Metr c post reach	3000+	3000 +	3000+	3000+	3000+

DPLUS Indicator number	Name of indicator using original wording	Name of Indicator after adjusting wording to align with DPLUS Standard Indicators	Units	Disaggregation	Year 1 Total	Year 2 Total	Year 3 Total	Total to date	Total planned during the project
DPLUS-C15	In Y3, Adopt-a-Home ambassadors se ected and ce ebrated (across a sect ons of soc ety) through a pub c event organ sed, n conjunct on w th the Governor s Off ce, by MNT and other partners; w th w der promot on (60% or 3,000 of popu at on of Montserrat) of the nt at ve, to ensure project- egacy and cont nuat on beyond project-end. Qua tes n the Ambassador ro es nc ude: gender ba ance, strong advocate of the project and mportance of a range of soc eta benef ts.	Number of Med a re ated act v t es.	Number	Internet/Pr nt/Rad o/ Te ev s on, and sub- nat ona /nat ona / nt ernat ona	6	9	6	15	<20
DPLUS-C16	Between 2021 and 2024, a commun ty b od vers ty report ng system estab shed, to report nformat on about b od vers ty at W d fe-Homes and e sewhere wh ch may otherw se be m ssed n eco og ca surveys. Commun tymembers ab e (or tra ned) to record/report and, where poss b e, recogn se rare endem c w d fe (e.g. the crt ca y endangered and tt e-known ga wasp zard), both enab ng further study and draw ng add t ona commun ty members nto the project, By the end Y1, system p anned; by end Y2, be ng used; by end Y3, nformat on obta ned through the system pub shed.	Number of records added to access b e databases.	Number	B od vers ty (Spec es occurrence, Ut sat on); Soc o- econom c (susta nab e enterpr ses, commun ty benef ts products), database.	200	3000	Subject of another new project so no doub e count n g	3000	3000 (w be more but subject of new project so no doub e count ng
DPLUS -D01	By 2024, there are at east 10 W d fe-Homes, extend ng protected areas n the trop ca dry forest/wet and comp ex by 10%, the start of a commun ty- ed s and-w de network of protected areas across	Hectares of hab tat under susta nab e management pract ces	Area, hectares or km2	Protected areas/non-protected areas, B ome/Ecosystem/H ab tat, commun ty contro ed or non-	tbc	tbc	tbc	tbc	tbc

DPLUS Indicator number	Name of indicator using original wording	Name of Indicator after adjusting wording to align with DPLUS Standard Indicators	Units	Disaggregation	Year 1 Total	Year 2 Total	Year 3 Total	Total to date	Total planned during the project
	g oba y mportant ecosystems nc ud ng trop ca dry forest and wet ands.			commun ty contro ed. Extent of hab tat d saggregated by pre-project and post project susta nab y managed area, and other.					

Table 2 Publications

Title	Туре	Detail	Gender of	Nationality of	Publishers	Available from
	(e.g. journals, manual, CDs)	(authors, year)	uthors, year) Lead Author Lead Author		(name, city)	(e.g. weblink or publisher if not available online)
Saving Our Special Nature of Montserrat (*)	Newsletter 12	UKOTCF, May 2022	Male & Female	UK	UKOTCF	https://www.ukotcf.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/SOSnatureNewsletter12.pdf
Saving Our Special Nature of Montserrat (*)	Newsletter 13	UKOTCF, September 2022	Male & Female	UK	UKOTCF	https://www.ukotcf.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/SOSnatureNewsletter13.pdf
Saving Our Special Nature of Montserrat (*)	Newsletter 14	UKOTCF, March 2023	Male & Female	UK	UKOTCF	https://www.ukotcf.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/SOSnatureNewsletter14.pdf

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.	No: Report excluding Annex 4 is less than 10MB. This has been emails to NIRAS with Annex 4 as a link
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.	Yes – Annex 4 (48MB can be accessed on Dropbox- link below*) NIRAS have been notified.
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.	Yes
If you are submitting photos for publicity purposes, do these meet the outlined requirements (see section 15)?	Yes
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.	