



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Darwin Initiative Annual Report

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Darwin Project Information

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Project Title	Implementing community-based landscape and resource monitoring to consolidate voluntary conservation
Host Country/ies	Mexico
Contract Holder Institution	Global Diversity Foundation
Partner institutions	Instituto de Ecología (INECOL), GDF-Mesoamerica (Investigación y Acción Biocultural, Anima Mundi), Oaxaca State Ministry of Agricultural, Forestry and Fisheries Development, Universidad de la Sierra Juarez and Centro de Investigaciones Tropicales - Universidad Veracruzana.
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Start/end dates of project	April 2012 – March 2014
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Project Leader name	Gary J. Martin
Project website	General updates on the project are available on GDF's UK website, http://www.global-diversity.org/mesoamerica/projects/community-monitoring-chinantla
Report author(s) and date	Claudia Camacho, Emily Caruso, Gary J. Martin. June 2014

2. Project Rationale

The project is developed in the cultural region known as the Chinantla, in the cloud forest highlands of the state of Oaxaca, Southern Mexico (Please refer to appendix I for an illustrative map). Here, we are working with three Chinantec indigenous communities (Santiago Tlatepusco, San Pedro Tlatepusco and Nopalera del Rosario) that are managing portions of their biodiversity-rich territories as state-certified Voluntary Conserved Areas (VCA), which are legally recognised Indigenous Peoples' and Community Conserved Territories and Areas (ICCAs). VCAs are certified by the National Commission on Protected Areas (CONANP), but are autonomously managed by their owners, in this case the communities through their general Assembly, who, complying with some requirements set by the CONANP, decide what can be done or not in the areas. Conservation activities carried out in the VCAs are varied, from setting aside the area and limiting its use, to receiving Payments for Environmental Services.

This Darwin post-project is built on a three-year Darwin Initiative-funded project – *Management Programme for Voluntary Conserved Areas in Oaxaca, Mexico (2009-2012)* – that was particularly successful in promoting community-based research and participatory elaboration of community-based territorial management plans. With these plans in hand and after eight years of experimenting with community conservation, members of these communities were keen to

consolidate their capacities by establishing a monitoring programme to measure the outcomes of their resource management actions and practices, and thus begin a process of adaptive management of their territories. With a view to implementing this community priority, GDF launched the present project in collaboration with community researchers and leaders. The project works to provide communities and community researchers with the skills, tools and support necessary to implement ecological (flora and fauna) and socio-economic monitoring activities for adaptive management.

Such a monitoring programme contributes to the human resources and capacities needed for long-term community management, and makes a contribution in conducting research on the VCAs' biological diversity, conservation potential and natural resource management. The project also meets the need to expand the initial community mapping and participatory GIS to elaborate detailed and professional maps that will be effective in communication with representatives of government agencies and non-governmental organizations. These maps will document local vegetation zones, plant and animal registers and socio-economic related elements. Finally, the project satisfies the communities' desire to evaluate the economic and social consequences of their conservation initiatives, through qualitative and quantitative methods of social research.

3. Project Partnerships

During the project's second year, GDF continued to work closely with a number of Mexican partners. The most direct partnership is with Investigación y Acción Biocultural, Anima Mundi, the organisation founded to implement GDF's regional programme in Mesoamerica, which we refer to herein as GDF-Mesoamerica. Staff of GDF-Mesoamerica has direct contact with the Chinantec community partners and implements all aspects of the project. Claudia Camacho, GDF-Mesoamerica's director, has taken on the role of project coordinator in Mexico, with Carlos del Campo as co-coordinator. Ronny Roma, our field coordinator, is in charge of most of the fieldwork connected to the project, and he works directly with two Chinantec field biologists, Ana Laura Terán and Elisa Santana, for the implementation of project activities. External collaborator David Jimenez stopped working with us, and instead Ángel David Flores Domínguez, joined the team from the Centre for Research in Environmental Geography of the National Autonomous University of Mexico (CIGA-UNAM). The relationship between GDF-UK and GDF-Mesoamerica is very strong, as we are in constant contact with each other about all aspects of project decision-making and implementation. We communicate primarily via email and Skype, and Emily Caruso, GDF's Regional Programmes Director, travelled to Xalapa and Oaxaca from 20 June 20 to 2 July 2013.

GDF's closest institutional partner in Mexico is the Xalapa-based Instituto de Ecología (INECOL). Senior researcher Dr. Luciana Porter-Bolland and PhD student Emma Villaseñor have guided the process of development of the fauna monitoring activities. Emma Villaseñor has extensive experience in animal monitoring. As INECOL staff and students involved in the project are all based in Xalapa, we are able to carry out regular face-to-face and phone meetings, which are essential for smooth implementation of project activities. GDF and INECOL have also designed together the course on methods and concepts of participatory monitoring, focused on collaborative research.

One project partnership that continued to be modest is with the Institute of Environmental Studies, University of Sierra Juarez, with Maria Delfina Luna Krauletz, who is an expert in zoology and fauna surveys and monitoring. Last year, Dr. Luna was promoted to administrator of all biology degrees within her department, meaning she is less able to dedicate the time necessary to the project. Nevertheless, we managed to have two work meetings with her on April and June 2013 when she helped us reviewing and commenting on the proposed fauna programme. Despite the restricted participation of Dr. Luna, the work with the INECOL team ensures that the fauna monitoring aspect of the project continues successfully. Further interaction with the Centre for Tropical Research at the University of Veracruz (CITRO) has not been possible during Y2, due to external commitments. Therefore, external consultant David Flores from CIGA-UNAM is developing advanced GIS training. We continue to maintain a good

working relationship with the Office of Regional Operations, Oaxaca State Ministry of Agricultural, Forestry and Fisheries Development, in particular with Irma Juan Carlos, who is its director.

Beyond these working partnerships established at the outset of the project, GDF-Mesoamerica continued developing new working relationships with other institutions and organisations relevant to our work. On September 2013, GDF-MA coordinators Claudia Camacho and Carlos del Campo were invited to give a lecture on ethnoclassification and cultural circles as part of the Course of Participatory Research Methods in the Education Research Institute of the University of Veracruz, at Xalapa. And in October 2013 Carlos del Campo, Claudia Camacho and Ronny Roma participated in the First International Meeting on Participatory Action Research, where they had the opportunity to meet other people working the same methodological area, exchange experiences and discuss approaches.

In relation to the community cross-visits, two other partnerships were developed: 1) one with the National Centre for Indigenous Missions (CENAMI) which organised an exchange summer workshop in which a community member participated; and 2) another with the Centre for Rural Mexico Studies (Centro de Estudios para el Campo Mexicano), which organised a Conference where community researchers participated.

Finally, an important partnership that has matured is one with the COMBIOSERVE consortium. COMBIOSERVE is a project financed by the Seventh Framework Programme of the European Commission, the broader goal of which is to assess the effectiveness of community-based management strategies for biocultural diversity conservation. COMBIOSERVE comprises research institutions and civil society organisations from Europe and Latin America, of which GDF forms part. We have developed a mutual learning relationship between this Darwin project and COMBIOSERVE. The latter has worked as a platform to interact with other partners, improve research methods, and allow for more community exchanges between Chinantec and other community researchers from Campeche, Mexico.

4. Project Progress

4.1. Progress in carrying out project activities

As proposed in our project timetable, we dedicated the second year of the project to five outputs: 1) Monitoring programme and advanced pGIS; 2) Training in participatory monitoring methods for VCA Chinantec personnel; 3) Adaptive management implementation through participatory research; 4) Advanced training for research centres and academic institutions; and 5) Sharing lessons, methods and results with different audiences. The last output includes two different kinds of activities: 5.1 Dissemination, and 5.2 Coordination, follow-up and evaluations. These activities have been developed in the three main recipient communities of the project: San Pedro Tlapeusco, Santiago Tlapeusco and Nopalera del Rosario.

In response to reviewer comments on our first report, we hope to present more perspectives for community members and researchers in our final report.

Output 1. Monitoring programme and advanced GIS for three Chinantec communities engaged in community conservation

Training on basic and intermediate pGIS (Activity 1.1) was carried out in the community of Santiago Tlapeusco, with the support GDF-MA consultant David Flores, during five work sessions: 29 April to 2 May; 30 July to 3 August; 28 August; 22, 23 and 25 February, and 17 to 22 March. A total of 10 community researchers, plus 50 community members selected by the community assembly, participated throughout the training. During these sessions a newly-formed team was trained on the main concepts and techniques to build thematic maps and to georeference territorial elements, emphasising the construction of maps of traditional land use and community conservation areas. The use of GPS and map elaboration was also covered,

including distance and areas calculation. All the sessions included a theoretical and hands-on approach. The training also allowed community authorities to be more actively integrated in the mapping process. In the community of Nopalera del Rosario three sessions of training on community mapping were held: 14 to 18 October, 13 February, and 31 March to 4 April. In these, a new mapping team was formed by five community members, to continue with the work previously done in Y1. During and between these training sessions, local maps were created and the base was set to start making maps of monitored species and habitats (Activity 1.2). In Santiago Tlatepusco, the trained team produced updated maps on the community territory, the official voluntary conserved area, a hydrologic map and a territorial 3D map. In Nopalera del Rosario, the research team produced maps of the community territory, and one of landslides within their boundaries.

Activity 1.3, Community workshops in advanced GIS, and Activity 1.4, Production of maps and analysis of local GIS, will be completed during the no-cost extension requested from April to September 2014. This will allow the team to integrate all the monitoring information generated to produce integrated GIS maps.

Activity 1.5, Production of monitoring programme documents, has continued with the design and writing of community-based monitoring protocols in the form of how-to guides about knowledge dialogues on local fauna, fauna monitoring, vegetation monitoring, socio-economic research and nutrition documentation.

Output 2. VCA personnel in 3 Chinantec communities trained in participatory monitoring methods

We continued training on participatory methods with workshops on creating and expanding animal registers (Activity 2.1), vegetation characterization and monitoring (Activity 2.2), animal species abundance and monitoring (Activity 2.3), assessment of socio-economic contributions and effects of conservation (Activity 2.4), and nutrition surveys (Activity 2.5). Activity 2.6 (Training on weather monitoring) was considered to be cancelled at the end of Y1, nevertheless the research team of Nopalera del Rosario decided to substitute weather monitoring with river monitoring, and the relevant training.

Training on expanded plant and animal registers (Activity 2.1) was carried out through 3 workshop sessions. On 1-2 May, a workshop on knowledge dialogue about local wildlife was held in San Pedro Tlatepusco; 3 community researchers participated and engaged in fauna ethnoclassification exercises to understand in a graphical way their own classification schema for wildlife, and foster a dialogue to generate baseline information basis for the following wildlife training activities. A second session of this workshop was carried out on 30 May, when 8 community researchers and hunters participated. It was also replicated in Nopalera del Rosario on 14 May, with the participation of the 5 community researchers who make up the fauna research team.

Training on floristic composition, vegetation characterisation and monitoring (Activity 2.2) was resumed in this period in Nopalera del Rosario through workshops on data analysis (5-7 December; 11 February), when the GDF team shared basic methods to analyse the sets of data collected last year with the local 5-member research team.

Fauna-related training (Activity 2.3) continued with four workshop sessions (24-25 June, 27 November, 12 and 14 February and 8-9 March) when the local 5-researcher team at Nopalera received training on fauna monitoring focused on three species of cultural and economic importance: Tepezcuintle (*Agouti paca*), Temazate Deer (*Mazama temama*) and Great Curassow (*Crax rubra*). The training also addressed monitoring of hunting practices; and monitoring using trap cameras. Likewise, fauna-related training started in Santiago Tlatepusco in February, with two sessions (23-24 February and 21-22 March), when the local research team received training on general hunting monitoring. 67 participants conform the expanded team that will work on fauna monitoring in Tlatepusco; all were present at the training.

Training to assess the socio-economic contributions and effects of conservation initiatives (Activity 2.4) was conducted during this year through 4 workshop sessions (24-25 June, 17 October, 5-6 December, 11 February), in Nopalera del Rosario, lead by UK expert Emily Caruso and field coordinator Ronny Roma. Training consisted of teaching community researchers basic social research techniques such as interviewing, ethnography and discussion-based workshops; defining research questions to link conservation initiatives and local socio-economic contributions; making a work calendar; and applying the research plan in the community. Four women and one young man conform the community research team for the socio-economic theme.

Training on the socio-economic impacts of conservation extended to documenting individual and household nutrition, including the contribution of bush meat to protein consumption and of gathered vegetables. For this purpose the community workshop on nutrition surveys (Activity 2.5) was held on 26, 28 and 29 November, on which a 5-woman research team was trained on how to conduct household nutrition surveys; define research questions; make a work calendar; and apply the research plan in the community.

Regarding Activity 2.6, in the first annual report (April 2013), we mentioned that the monthly weather monitoring had not started due to the lack of a meteorological station; that the training subject of weather monitoring techniques was no longer valid, and that we would request the cancellation of that activity. These assumptions are still valid, but further discussion with local research teams led us to reconsider the planned activity and replace it with training and research on river monitoring. Located in the Papaloapan river basin, local rivers form part of the daily life of Chinantec communities, and supply water, constructions material and food. Atypical weather phenomena, such as heavier rains out of season and associated landslides that might be attributed to climate change, affect rivers and their basins. For this reason, local researchers showed interest in learning how to monitor both the river fauna and their physical characteristics. During this period of work, two workshop sessions were held towards this purpose, in 7 December and 12 February. Three community members conform the research team on river monitoring.

Output 3. Adaptive management of VCAs implemented as an ongoing process in 3 Chinantec communities in support of community conservation management programme

During Y1 we had a general delay on community research that has been mostly corrected during Y2. We have nevertheless requested a 6-month no-cost extension that will allow the team to complete the field research, which in turn will inform the final output: adaptive management strategies for 3 communities.

In the period reported here, participatory research started right after the training workshops on the different themes (Activities 2.1 – 2.6). After each workshop's completion, a research strategy was set up and local research teams started conducting monitoring practices and research as follows. Inventories of locally recognised macrofauna (mammals, reptiles and birds) (Activity 3.2) were compiled during a workshop on knowledge dialogues about local wildlife (Activity 2.1) in San Pedro Tlatepusco and Nopalera del Rosario. Monitoring of abundance and distribution of selected species (Activity 3.2) started right after workshops on animal species abundance and monitoring (Activity 2.3) in Santiago Tlatepusco and Nopalera del Rosario. Research on local perceptions of conservation initiatives (Activity 3.4) and research on socio-economic contribution and effects of PES and other conservation subsidies (Activity 3.5) was completed in Nopalera during this period. Activity 3.5 (Household and livelihoods characterisation and analysis) was reported as not conducted in the first annual report. Nevertheless, this activity was indeed conducted in Nopalera del Rosario during the development of the Community Territorial Planning and *Plan de Vida* (Life plan, May-July 2012), which were the basis for the monitoring programme and the whole community participated.

The GDF-MA team has accompanied local research teams through several work sessions, during which further monitoring practices have been conducted and the methods, advances

and underlying issues have been evaluated and corrected if needed. The work sessions were held on April 14-17, May 27-30, June 19-20, August 12-16, September 2-5, and September 29 to October 3 for San Pedro Tlapeusco; and on September 9-14, September 22-26, October 14-18, and February 10 to 15 for Nopalera del Rosario. In addition, documentary research has been conducted to complement the expanded inventories of local fauna.

The information generated during all these research practices is providing empirical data that, after a joint analysis with the communities, will conform the body of information to take decisions and integrate them into the adaptive management strategy (Activity 3.8). As complement, on 14 and 18 October, the GDF-MA team conducted some meetings in the communities of Santiago and San Pedro Tlapeusco to review the political aspects of the adaptive management strategy, in particular its relation with communal statutes.

Output 4. Advanced training received by colleagues at research centres and academic institutions in Oaxaca and Veracruz

A 4-session advanced course on Biocultural Diversity and Conservation (Activity 4.1) has been postponed to the last 6 months of the project. Particularly, its first session will be held as a pre-congress workshop during the IX Mexican Congress of Ethnobiology, in San Cristóbal de las Casas, Chiapas, in April 2014, with subsequent sessions before September 2014. Despite the postponement, the course programme, content and readings have been already designed and produced jointly by GDF-MA and INECOL.

Additionally, during the reporting period, we guided the undergraduate thesis of intern Brenda Lira on Chinantec stories as indigenous literature related to biocultural diversity. Accompanying this project's context and process, Brenda learned the biocultural diversity approach, specific ethnographic and anthropological methods to gather information and ethical best practices for research with communities. The GDF-MA team has also contributed to the PhD thesis design of Emma Villaseñor (INECOL), by reviewing her proposal on the theme of methodological approaches for community research. Also, on September 10, GDF-MA coordinators Claudia Camacho and Carlos del Campo gave a lecture on ethnoclassification and cultural circles as part of the Course of Participatory Research Methods at the Education Research Institute of the University of Veracruz, at Xalapa.

Output 5. Lessons, methods and results shared with community members, government officials, civil society representatives and academic colleagues locally and internationally

5.1 Dissemination

Most dissemination activities were conducted in Y1 (Activity 5.1, 5.2) and will continue during the final 6 months of the project (Activity 5.3, 5.4). Nevertheless, during this period three community cross-visits (Activity 5.7) were carried out, as follows:

Community researcher Paula Manuel Martínez, along with GDF-MA field biologist Ana Laura Terán and GDF-MA coordinator Claudia Camacho, participated in a workshop from July 29 to August 2, held at the National Centre for Indigenous Missions (Centro Nacional de Ayuda a las Misiones Indígenas), on which the broad theme of community health systems was analysed in the light of traditional resource use and territorial management, among other themes. This workshop allowed the participants to share and exchange local experiences with attendees from about 15 other indigenous and rural communities.

The second community cross-visit was held in Mexico D.F. In November 2013, where three community members and project coordinator Carlos del Campo participated in a Conference on Environmental Policy and Indigenous Territories organised by the Study Centre for Rural Mexico (Centro de Estudios para el Campo Mexicano). This Conference aimed to provide a space for Mexican and Central American indigenous and rural communities to share and

exchange information on the new environmental strategies that are being implemented in their territories.

Finally, on 27 February to 6 March, Carlos del Campo accompanied 2 community researchers San Pedro Tlatepusco, 2 from Santiago Tlatepusco and 1 from Nopalera del Rosario to participate in an exchange of experiences on community conservation and community research with rural communities in Campeche, Mexico, within the framework of the COMBIOSERVE Project.

5.2 Coordination, follow-up and evaluations

Regarding Activity 5.5 (Project partners' meetings), from 20 June to 4 July, GDF Regional Programmes Director, Emily Caruso, made an annual visit to Mexico to work with GDF-MA team and evaluate local progress. She, along with GDF-MA field coordinator Ronny Roma, travelled to the community of Nopalera del Rosario to become familiar with the field site, and meet the community research team and the local authorities.

GDF-MA staff also participated in 7 regional and local community assemblies and work meetings with authorities of Corenchi (13 May), Santiago Tlatepusco (29 April to 2 May, 27-28 January, 22-27 February, and 17-22 March), Nopalera del Rosario and San Pedro (28 July - 3 August, and 29-30 January). We have also continued to coordinate with project partners through 3 work meetings with the INECOL's team Luciana Porter, Emma Villaseñor, Matthias Rös and Federico Escobar. In these meetings (15 April, 12 June), they have provided advice and support to design the monitoring methods, adapted to local conditions, on which the community researchers have been trained. In addition, we jointly designed the advanced course for research centres and academic institutions (13 March). Two further work meetings, with partner Delfina Luna from the University of Sierra Juárez, allowed her to review methods for wildlife monitoring (16 April, 5 June). A final partners' meeting, with the participation of all partners, is planned to occur during the final 6 months of the project.

With regards of community evaluations (Activity 5.6), formal work started through a process of participatory review of the motivations, achievements, problems and challenges of the community research teams, led by GDF-MA joint coordinator Carlos del Campo and field coordinator Ronny Roma. This process was conducted in some work sessions on 27 to 30 May and 27 to 31 August in San Pedro Tlatepusco, and 9 to 14 September and 4 to 8 December in Nopalera del Rosario. Additionally GDF and GDF-MA conduct periodic evaluations of the project's progress, appropriateness of methods, and coherence between the theoretical approaches and fieldwork.

The international external evaluation will be carried out at the end the requested extension period. (Activity 5.8)

4.2. Progress towards project outputs

Output 1. Monitoring programme and advanced GIS for three Chinantec communities engaged in community conservation.

The main output at the end of this project will be a document that integrates a monitoring programme with locally produced Geographic Information Systems for adaptive management of voluntary conserved areas in three Chinantec communities. During the second year, we continued making progress towards this output through the development of work guidelines and monitoring protocols to integrate the information generated during the monitoring process. Advanced GIS is on its way as the CR in two communities (San Pedro Tlatepusco and Nopalera del Rosario) have received training in basic and intermediate GIS techniques and are producing scale and thematic maps that will incorporate the monitoring information. These maps will, in turn, be transformed into integrated GIS files.

The indicator proposed was to measure the development of the monitoring programme and advanced GIS. The means to verify progress on this indicator are the actual writing of the monitoring protocols, the production of maps, workshop attendance, evaluation and assessment records, and the results of participatory field research. The indicator is still valid as we expect to have a high quality monitoring and GIS programme at the end of the project. The means of verification are also valid: we are producing a draft of the monitoring programme and monitoring methods protocols; maps are being produced and will be fed with field information produced during monitoring activities; the community workshops are being attended by a good number of community researchers in two communities (60 in Santiago Tlatepusco and 5 in Nopalera del Rosario). Simple community evaluations have been conducted after each workshop, with the community researchers; and general work has been evaluated during our community evaluations sessions. These evaluations have been positive to date, and we have responded to feedback provided.

The first assumption made at the beginning of the project was that we could count on adequate environmental and social conditions to gather and produce enough information to establish maps and protocols. This has been the case in Nopalera del Rosario during Y1 and Y2. The community of Santiago Tlatepusco, which did not participate in mapping activities in Y1, joined successfully this second year and will finish the mapping activities as planned. In San Pedro Tlatepusco, political conditions changed, and they have opted to end project-related mapping activities with the advances they made in Y1. The second assumption was that we could count on experts and students from partner research organisations available according to the established timetable, which has been the case, with important inputs from INECOL and external consultant Ángel David Flores.

Output 2. VCA personnel in 3 Chinantec communities trained in participatory monitoring methods

The process of creating a monitoring and advanced GIS programme for Chinantec communities (Output 1) consists of applying monitoring methodologies with a participatory and community approach. To do so, one of the first steps is consolidating local research teams and training them on monitoring methods that can be easily reproduced in the mid- and long-term.

The original indicator was having 12 community members trained through community workshops on plant and animal registers, vegetation and fauna characterization, abundance and monitoring, socio-economic aspects of the conservation initiatives, nutrition surveys and weather monitoring. Of these, substantial advances were made in Y1; we even added one workshop on the basic approaches and concepts of community research, as the baseline for the other training and research processes. We have made further progress in Y2, with a higher-than-expected participation, with the training of a core group of 5 community researchers in San Pedro Tlatepusco, 28 community researchers in Nopalera del Rosario and 10 in Santiago Tlatepusco in monitoring tools and research. An additional group of 60 community members selected by community assemblies have been trained in fauna monitoring concepts and tools (See output 2, in section 4.1). The indicator was to be verified through attendance, evaluation and assessment records of community workshops, forums and exchanges, and through field research results. These records have been positive.

The assumption considered to reach this output was that the community researchers would be recruited and available throughout the project period. This has been the case for the three communities in their respective research processes. The training subjects are still valid, except for the weather monitoring techniques, for which we substituted river monitoring (See output 2, in section 4.1).

Output 3. Adaptive management of VCAs implemented as an ongoing process in 3 Chinantec communities in support of community conservation management programme

The second main step in applying monitoring methodologies with a participatory and community approach is putting in practice the monitoring methodologies learnt during the training activities, in a way that addresses real community concerns. Therefore, Output 3 consists of practical monitoring research on fauna, vegetation zones and socio-economic concerns related to conservation initiatives. This output had a delay in Y1, which has been mostly corrected in Y2; at the end of this period about 80% of the planned research has been conducted in the thematic areas of plants and vegetation, fauna, local perceptions and socio-economic effects of conservation initiatives, nutrition surveys, household characterisation and river monitoring. The information that results from this community research and monitoring process comprises the basis for the adaptive management strategies. We have nevertheless requested a 6-month no-cost extension that will allow the team to complete field research.

The indicator proposed at the beginning of the project was having adaptive management strategies in 3 communities agreed upon by general assembly and authorities. This indicator can only be measured at the end of the project when all the research is integrated into a final document, with specific measures to be taken, community statutes modified if needed, and final GIS maps indicating boundaries and use zones.

The main assumption for this output is that the general assembly of each community will agree on changes in community conservation approach. We also expect that this adaptive management strategy will be supported by government agencies and NGOs that work in the region or on similar issues. These assumptions are still valid.

Output 4. Advanced training received by colleagues at research centres and academic institutions in Oaxaca and Veracruz

The methodological and field experience gained through the creation of the monitoring programme is to be shared with students, researchers and practitioners from research centres and academic institutions through a 4-session advanced course on Biocultural Diversity and Conservation. This course has been postponed to occur during the last 6 months of the project, in order to integrate all the information and lessons learnt during the project process. By the end of y2, the course syllabi and readers have been already designed and produced jointly by GDF-MA and INECOL.

The plan to conduct 4 seminars (which will make up a 4-session advanced course) continues, and will be able to be evaluated by the end of the project; it remains a good indicator. The means of verification are still valid, as the success of this activity will be measured through the existence and quality of participant attendance lists, evaluation and assessment records of advanced seminars; seminar syllabi and readers; and intranet content including readings and participant dialogues.

The assumption that postgraduate researchers, UK experts and Mexican counterparts will be interested in and available for these seminars still holds.

Output 5. Lessons, methods and results shared with community members, government officials, civil society representatives and academic colleagues locally and internationally

Dissemination of the project approaches and results to different audiences is an important component of the project, as a way to share our work and to obtain feedback from other researchers, practitioners and communities involved in the same kind of work or addressing similar concerns.

The indicators for this output were to complete one international conference presentation, two national conference presentations, one final advanced seminar, four articles submitted or published in international journals, informational website, participatory research protocols,

community evaluations, cross-visits and project partners meetings. Dissemination activities were conducted in Y2 and will be finished in the last 6 months of the project. During Y2, five partners' meetings were conducted, plus 7 work meetings with community authorities. Community representatives from Santiago Tlapeusco, San Pedro Tlapeusco and Nopalera del Rosario participated in three exchange meetings. Community research teams and GDF team conducted 4 community evaluation sessions. Therefore, all the dissemination activities are being carried out, some of them, as for the partners meetings and cross-visits, with more events than planned. Specific indicators that have not been fulfilled yet are set in our plans for the last 6 months of the project. The articles to be submitted or published in international journals will address the themes of methodology approaches and the team experience during the project process.

The means of verification for these activities are varied and are already available for the conducted activities attendance lists and memorandums of project partners' meetings, evaluations and cross-visits results.

Throughout this year we have witnessed international and national interest in our experiences of participatory monitoring and adaptive management of community conservation. Therefore our first assumption about external interest is still valid. Likewise, we continue to expect interest and availability of community members, researchers and students for the final activities.

4.3. Progress towards the project Purpose/Outcome

Good progress was made during the second year of the project towards finalizing the monitoring programme that will enable long-term adaptive management of Chinantec Voluntary Conserved Areas (VCAs). In Y1 the project had a delay due to local timing and availability of local researchers, this added to another delay in Y2 on monitoring activities due to heavier-than-usual rains. For these reasons, we requested a six-month, no-cost extension that will allow the team to finish the planned fieldwork and written material, and produce monitoring programme documents and adaptive management strategies by the end of the project, in September 2014.

Apart from the time delay, the project runs adequately, and to achieve our purpose we employ three different approaches: a) enhancing community researchers' capacities to acquire monitoring abilities and techniques; b) participatory research to produce new knowledge; and c) innovative learning processes focused on the concepts, methods and socio-political implications of these processes, through a collaborative research approach. With these approaches we will be able to develop the document that will guide the local monitoring of natural resources and long-term adaptive management of local territory.

Community researchers' capacities continued to be strengthened in Y2, as a core group of 15 local researchers plus 50 community members were trained in mapping techniques; and a core group of 43 local researchers plus 60 community members, distributed in different teams, were trained in fauna research, social research methods, nutrition surveys and river monitoring. New knowledge continues to be produced during Y2 on the theme of GIS for resource monitoring. Advanced GIS training will be completed in the last 6 months of the project, based on the scale and thematic maps already developed, into which we are incorporating the monitoring information. We expect that an integrated GIS database will be up and running to guide resource monitoring by the end of the project. The programme on floristic composition, vegetation characterization and species abundance in selected ethnoecological zones has concluded in Y2, as has research on socio-economic impacts and contributions of community conservation, including analysis of the field data. The programme on fauna monitoring and river monitoring (formerly weather monitoring) had a successful start in Y2 and will be finished by the end of the project. The innovative learning processes on community monitoring are reflected on the training activities and research processes, but their main outcomes are work guidelines and protocols that will meaningfully integrate the information generated during monitoring and will form part of the written resource monitoring programme.

The general assumptions to reach our purpose still hold true, as we have maintained the participation and commitment of the three communities involved in the project for the sustained implementation of participatory resource monitoring. We have sustained collaboration from local communities, and research institutes and project partners are committing sufficient staff time to project activities. We consider that participatory methodology is being adequately developed and acquired by community researchers, with considerable development of the theory and practice of a collaborative research approach. Finally, during Y2, the integration of this Darwin post project and our EU FP7 project has been very productive in terms of methodological development and partners' mutual learning.

4.4. Goal/ Impact: achievement of positive impact on biodiversity and poverty alleviation

In our original application form we included the goal of "Effective contribution in support of the implementation of the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Convention on Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), and the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species (CMS), as well as related targets set by countries rich in biodiversity but constrained in resources".

The project is contributing to the abovementioned goal by producing a long-term adaptive management strategy for Chinantec Voluntary Conserved Areas (VCAs) enhanced by building the capacity of community researchers to implement a monitoring programme that enables them to optimize management of their mosaic of cultural landscapes and natural protected areas (See Section 4.3). This means that the project is promoting long-term, in-situ conservation and maintenance of the cloud forest ecosystem, its biological components, ecosystem services, associated mosaic of anthropogenic landscapes, and sustainable use of its components, drawing on local ecological knowledge and practice.

Such outcomes can be assessed through the development of trained community researchers and members who will, by the end of the project, be capable of monitoring the impacts of conservation on biodiversity and livelihoods; as well as with the protocols of the written monitoring programme that follows an adaptive approach.

The contribution of the project towards human development (poverty alleviation) and welfare can be seen indirectly. The capacity-building of community researchers contributes to communities' human development, allowing them to be better prepared for future and actual conservation projects and jobs. Community researchers in the three involved communities, have received more community responsibilities and positions in recent years, thanks to the training that have received in the original Darwin project and this post-project. Likewise, the collaborative research approach we have followed for local learning processes about the concepts, methods and socio-political implications of these processes, helps researchers and community members to be better prepared for decision-making on many aspects of community life, from conservation activities to productive and organisational matters.

5. Project support to the Conventions (CBD, CMS and/or CITES)

The project contributes to the Mexican compliance of CBD objectives on conservation of biological diversity and sustainable use of its components. During this second year, we continued supporting the conservation of 13,550 hectares in three Chinantec communities (San Pedro Tlapeusco, Santiago Tlapeusco and Nopalera del Rosario), which include considerable expanses of Oaxacan cloud forest, a biodiversity-rich ecosystem endangered both in Mexico and globally. Although they comprise less than 1% of the national territory, Mexico's cloud forests contain 11% of the country's plant species – many of them endemic – and a higher number of rare and endangered animal species such as jaguar, tapir, spider monkey, toucans and other fauna. Only 50% of Mexico's cloud forest remains intact, and the Chinantla holds the largest contiguous area. The watersheds of these Chinantec communities provide important hydrological resources for lowland ecosystems, as well.

The project also supports local sustainable use of these ecosystems, by creating a monitoring programme that will enable the communities involved to optimize the management of their mosaic of bio-cultural landscapes. This monitoring programme aims to contribute to the long-term adaptive management of Chinantec Voluntary Conserved Areas (VCAs), enhancing it by building the capacity of community researchers. Community monitoring processes and research are already generating new information on plants, animals and landscapes that will contribute to better understandings, management and conservation decision-making. As in the original Darwin project we conducted, the process of community-based research promotes reflection on and appreciation of local resources and traditional ecological knowledge, which in the case of the Chinantec communities has assured the healthy state of the forests over many years. Related to this objective of sustainable use of local forests, the project helps to ensure CBD articles 8j and 10c.

The CBD poses appropriate transfer of relevant technologies as one of the means to comply with its objectives. Local capacity building is part of such technology transfer, as we share with local stakeholders the scientific techniques to monitor their conserved areas and resources, their use and socio-economic implications. In the case of mapping and fauna monitoring, local teams are being trained in GPS use, GIS and the related hardware, and trap cameras.

Dissemination of the project approach, methodologies and results also has multiple impacts. First, it ensures greater recognition of VCAs as a functioning form of Indigenous Peoples' and Community Conserved Area, perhaps encouraging other communities to explore this as a possible form of territorial management. Second, it highlights the importance of traditional systems of ecological knowledge in the management and conservation of biodiversity. Finally, it widely promotes collaborative research and community-led monitoring programmes as positive strategies for compliance with CBD obligations.

The project design and implementation follows the principles of the Ecosystem Approach, one of the main strategies to implement the objectives of the CBD to work in protected areas. The development of the project activities also contributes to the Aichi Targets, particularly target 2, at the local level, and targets 7, 11, 14, 18 and 19. And all the elements above also relate to and support the CBD programmes of work on Forest Biodiversity; Linking Biological and Cultural Diversity; Protected Areas; and Traditional Knowledge, Innovations and Practices - Article 8j.

6. Project support to poverty alleviation

Please see the last paragraph of section 4.4.

7. Monitoring, evaluation and lessons

The programme of work includes two formal community evaluations (Activity 5.6) and an international external evaluation (Activity 5.8). We had a delay on the community evaluation process in Y1 due to project and community dynamics. It has now been conducted in Y2 through two sessions in San Pedro Tlatepusco (27 to 30 May and 27 to 31 August) and two sessions in Nopalera del Rosario (9 to 14 September and 4 to 8 December), which allowed for feedback on the project progress and community researchers' development. Besides these more focused evaluations, after each workshop conducted during Y2 (Activities 1.1, 2.1 - 2.6) brief evaluations of the training were carried out with the community researcher teams to receive feedback and adjust methods, training approaches and logistical details; additionally internal written evaluations were conducted to assess the advantages and disadvantages of methods shared regarding local conditions, approaches followed, concepts and facilitation techniques. In response a reviewer's question for Output 1: Did you conduct baseline evaluation of training beneficiary's level of understanding prior to training?, our answer is that we consider that we already had in hand baseline information on training beneficiaries' level of understanding and training needs to tailor these evaluations, since many of the basics were established in the original Darwin project 17-018.

Meetings with partners (See section 5.2) have also provided a means for constant monitoring of the project, particularly concerning the methods used. The project leader, GDF's Regional Programmes Director and the GDF-MA team have frequent internal work meetings to evaluate whether the methodological approaches, outputs and outcomes are contributing positively to the overall objective of the project. The project field coordinator and field biologists monitor the progress of the work during every field visit, allowing us to register all the achievements and problems encountered, and helping us to refine our methodological approaches and tools.

The indicators for the achievements are the actual logical framework and timetable that allow us to check the completion of activities and the quality of these, against the original plan.

The main lessons learnt through this reporting period are related to: a) the importance of considering communities' wider contexts; b) the challenges in promoting the participation of minorities and other sectors of the community; c) important elements to consider in the organisation of project work. Regarding the consideration of the communities' context, we reaffirmed our conviction that any external team has to be conscious that changing socio-political contexts may affect local research in terms of community time available, researchers' attention and general participation. With regards to participation of minorities and other sectors of the communities, we focused our attention on the importance of including young people in the projects. This proved especially relevant in Santiago Tlatepusco and Nopalera del Rosario where young people form a significant portion of the population and they are in need of training and work opportunities. We also found it important to provide close accompaniment to the youth, as these are new matters for them, and they do not yet have other formal community responsibilities or positions, which create extra motivation to participate. Women make up the other group that requires attention. Chinantec communities have a very clear gender differentiation in terms of what a women can or cannot do. In Nopalera del Rosario they accepted the participation of women in research activities because of their agrarian rights and duties, but the external team has had to follow a more patient dynamic with them, as they are less accustomed than men to participate in trainings, discussions and mixed work groups, and they initially expected to contribute a lesser degree of input. In general, we work to promote the participation of the whole community in any way feasible, including as recipients of final results, in these kind of collaborative projects. Finally, regarding the organisation of our programme of work, we have discussed and adapted our work taking into consideration: 1) the distribution of field activities among community researchers in an optimal way to avoid a heavier workload for some people; 2) the importance of a continuous dialogue with the wider community to review goals, objectives and beneficiaries of the work, the role of community researchers, and the role the whole community has in this kind of project; 3) the importance to reserve a space in local assemblies for community researchers to present results; 4) the relevance of sharing more technical information with local research teams to complement training and provide continuous technical support; and 5) the higher level of organisation and commitment required, both for the external trainers and for the community, when the entire community wants to participate (the case of Santiago Tlatepusco and Nopalera del Rosario). Finally, we learnt about the importance of integrating our work plan with the weather calendar, building in leeway for unexpected events. This complemented our existing consideration of communities' schedule of seasonally dependent productive activities.

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

We have responded to issues raised in the review of our Y1 annual report. The recommendations of the reviewer were mainly regarding the report style and level of detail in some sections. With the restraint of the recommended report size, we have responded to most of the reviewer's comments by adding a map in Section 2, and some information about the function, structure and logistics of the VCAs and community conservation activities. Some other specific questions of the reviewer have been answered or considered as space permits throughout the report narrative.

9. Other comments on progress not covered elsewhere

With the addition of 6 months to the timeline to finish all the activities proposed in the project, general compliance with project outcomes has been flowing smoothly. There have been, however, difficulties and internal changes not considered at the original planning. During this year, one relevant change was the decision of the community of San Pedro Tlatepusco not to continue with further monitoring activities apart from mapping and floristic composition and vegetation. Political changes in the community limited community support for the project, and the local research team felt the planned workload to be excessively heavy, without the support of the rest of the community.

In a different situation, Santiago Tlatepusco, which did not participate in monitoring activities during Y1, has made an intense start with training and research activities on mapping and fauna monitoring, which will result in their completion of proposed goals by the end of the project.

A positive new element that adds to the project was the extra funding received from a small grant from the U.S.-based Conservation and Research Foundation (www.conservationresearch.wordpress.com), to purchase additional computer equipment to be used in the advanced GIS training, as well as camera traps for fauna monitoring.

10. Sustainability

The profile of the project in Mexico is largely defined by the relationships and partnerships we have established with a wide range of entities in the country: government institutions, academic and research centres, non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and community-based organizations (CBOs). Presentations at national events, community cross-visits, and participation in national networks allow for promotion of the work, including its methodology, approaches and preliminary results. For example, thanks to our work, GDF-MA team was invited to give a lecture on ethnoclassification and cultural circles as part of the Course of Participatory Research Methods in the Education Research Institute of the University of Veracruz, at Xalapa; and at the First International Meeting on Participatory Action Research, where they had the opportunity to meet other people working in the same methodological arena, exchange experiences and discuss approaches.

As mentioned in Y1 report, GDF is also participating in a multi-institutional, multi-country related project, "COMBIOSERVE, Assessing the effectiveness of community-based management strategies for biocultural diversity conservation," financed by the Seventh Framework Programme of the European Commission. Additionally, a process of community territorial planning (CTP) for the community of Nopalera del Rosario was conducted in Y1, in partnership with the Research Network on Ethnoecology and Biocultural Patrimony. These projects have allowed the work we are doing under the Darwin Initiative to be extended to other forums and working networks in Mexico, Latin America and Europe that tackle the theme of community-based management strategies.

In the last six months of the project, we have reviewed the incipient project closure with local research teams and communities. All the involved participants are aware that the Darwin Initiative-funded project will end when the integrated programme for community monitoring is finished and ready for implementation. This implies that the communities and their teams of community researchers will have expanded inventories of plants and animals in hand, will have information on the state of natural resources in their territories, and will have the skills to carry out continuous monitoring of flora and fauna. They will also have developed an advanced pGIS that will allow them to have graphical information on the state of natural resources. Community researchers are interested and already conducting part of the writing and compiling of all this information, with support of the GDF team and external specialists. After the end of the project, adaptive and sustainable management of landscapes and resources will be underway and the communities will have the skills and information needed to make more informed decisions on natural resources management and conservation projects. We are planning to make regular visits to the communities during the six months following the end of the project, to provide additional technical support as required.

11. Darwin Identity

The EIDPO042 project has been, since its outset, recognised as a distinct project with a clear identity, that continued the original Darwin funding for the 17_018 project. Darwin Initiative has been recognised throughout the activities implemented by including the Darwin logo in every training and dissemination material. All the participants of the project, both partners and indigenous communities, are aware who DEFRA and the Darwin Initiative are, their goals and funding mechanisms, because we have include this since the beginning, and as part of the process of Free, Prior, Informed Consent with the communities. Likewise, in every public dissemination activity, presentation, talk or course, we mention Darwin Initiative and their goals and credit them as our funding source.

We consider that the understanding of the Darwin Initiative within Mexico is largely limited to those academic or non-governmental institutions that have participated in Darwin funded projects, and to governmental offices that address biodiversity issues, such as the National Commission for the Knowledge and Use of Biodiversity (CONABIO).

12. Project Expenditure

Table 1 project expenditure during the reporting period (1 April 2013 – 31 March 2014)

Project spend since last annual report	2013/14 Grant (£)	2013/14 Total actual Darwin Costs (£)	Variance %	Comments (please explain significant variances)
Staff costs				N/A
Consultancy costs				Slight variance due to exchange rates
Overhead Costs				N/A
Travel and subsistence				Slight variance due in travel costs different than planned
Operating Costs				Variance due to costs different than the carry forward planning
Capital items				N/A
Others				N/A
TOTAL	72,042.00 (Please see N/B below)	72,056.00	- 0.02	N/A

N/B Please note that although the original budget for 2013-2014 grant was 80,556, we requested to carry forward 8,500 GBP to the 2014-2015 fiscal period. It was approved through an e-mail notification received on 25 February 2014, from Eilidh Young.

OPTIONAL: Outstanding achievements of your project during the reporting period (300-400 words maximum). This section may be used for publicity purposes

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

In this section you have the chance to let us know about outstanding achievements of your project over the year that you consider worth highlighting to the Darwin Secretariat. This could relate to achievements already mentioned in this report, on which you would like to expand further, or achievements that were in addition to the ones planned and deserve particular attention e.g. in terms of best practice. We may use material from this section for various promotion and dissemination purposes, including for example, publication in the Defra Annual Report, Darwin promotion material, or on the Darwin website. As we will not always be able to ask projects on an individual basis for their consent to publish the content of this section, please note the above agreement clause.

Annex 1: Report of progress and achievements against Logical Framework for Financial Year 2013-2014

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2013 - March 2014	Actions required/planned for next period
<p>Goal/Impact</p> <p>Goal: To draw on expertise relevant to biodiversity from within the United Kingdom to work with local partners in countries rich in biodiversity but constrained in resources to achieve</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The conservation of biological diversity, • The sustainable use of its components, and • The fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilisation of genetic resources • 		<p>Support for the conservation of 13,550 ha of cloud and tropical forests in Oaxaca, Mexico.</p> <p>Development of a monitoring programme that will enable the communities involved to optimize the management of their mosaic of bio-cultural landscapes.</p> <p>Development of local capacity to conduct natural resource monitoring and research.</p> <p>Generation of new information on plants, animals, landscapes and livelihoods that will contribute to improved decision-making for management and conservation.</p> <p>Dissemination of project approaches to wider audiences for promoting the importance of VCAs in biodiversity conservation, of traditional systems of ecological knowledge, and collaborative research and community-led monitoring programmes as positive strategies for compliance with CBD obligations.</p>	
<p>Purpose/Outcome</p> <p>Long-term adaptive management of Chinantec Voluntary Conserved Areas (VCAs) enhanced by building the capacity of community researchers trained in the original Darwin project to implement a monitoring programme that enables them to optimize management of their mosaic of cultural</p>	<p>New knowledge on participatory GIS techniques for resource monitoring by yr 1</p> <p>New knowledge on floristic composition, vegetation characterization and species abundance in selected ethnoecological zones by yr 1</p>	<p>Progress towards the monitoring programme has been achieved through: a) enhancing community researchers' capacities to acquire monitoring abilities and techniques; b) participatory research to produce new knowledge; and c) innovative learning processes about concepts, methods and socio-political implications of these</p>	<p>Actions planned for next period</p> <p>Community researchers will receive final training on advanced GIS and GIS produced maps will be developed, and copies printed and handed to community assemblies. Fauna and river monitoring will be finished, with the consequent production of new knowledge. Analysis of research results will be finished, too.</p>

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2013 - March 2014	Actions required/planned for next period
landscapes and natural protected areas.	<p>New techniques and tools for monitoring weather variability acquired by yr 1</p> <p>New knowledge on socio-economic impacts and contributions of community conservation and PES by yr 2</p> <p>Innovative learning about new concepts and methods in participatory monitoring by yr 2</p> <p>Participatory resource monitoring programme for VCAs implemented by yr 2</p>	<p>processes. Three core groups of community researchers (8 in San Pedro Tlatepusco, 20 in Santiago Tlatepusco and 33 in Nopalera del Rosario), plus 107 community members more, have been taught and trained in mapping floristic data analysis, fauna monitoring, local perceptions and socio-economic effects of conservation initiatives, nutrition surveys, household characterisation and river monitoring. Production of new knowledge was achieved on the elaboration of GIS databases for resource monitoring, vegetation, fauna and socio-economic features. Community researchers in two communities (Nopalera del Rosario and Santiago Tlatepusco) continued learning and are making scale and thematic maps that will incorporate the monitoring information and that will be transformed into integrated GIS files. Local teams are producing expanded fauna inventories, vegetation and socio-economic analysis results. Through the innovative GDF-led learning process on community monitoring, work guidelines and protocols are being produced.</p>	<p>All the information will be integrated into the monitoring programme that will help to achieve the long-term adaptive management of local territories and conserved areas.</p>
<p>Output 1. Monitoring programme and advanced GIS for three Chinantec communities engaged in community conservation</p>	<p>1. Development of monitoring programme and advanced GIS for adaptive management of voluntary conserved areas</p>	<p>Progress</p> <p>Progress on the monitoring programme has been achieved through the development of work guidelines and monitoring protocols to integrate the information generated during the monitoring process. 9 workshop sessions on GIS were conducted in two communities (Santiago Tlatepusco and Nopalera del Rosario) where 65 community researchers and community members continued leaning about GIS and produced more scale and thematic maps that will incorporate the monitoring information and that will be transformed into integrated</p>	

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2013 - March 2014	Actions required/planned for next period
		GIS files. Appropriateness of indicator The objective to complete a monitoring programme and an integrated advanced GIS for adaptive management at the end of the project is an adequate guide for its development.	
Activity 1.1. Community workshops in basic and intermediate GIS		Progress 8 community workshop sessions on basic and intermediate GIS: Santiago Tlatepusco for 60 community members (CM) (April, May, July and August 2013; February and March 2014) and Nopalera del Rosario for 5 people (October 2013; February and April 2014), conducted by GDF-MA consultant David Flores and GDF-MA field coordinator Ronny Roma. Basic and intermediate pGIS training completed.	
Activity 1.2. Production of local maps and pGIS of monitored species and habitats		Progress Scale maps produced during the 5 community workshops on basic and intermediate GIS at Santiago Tlatepusco (April, July 2013) and Nopalera del Rosario (April, July 2013, March 2014) Actions More resources maps to be produced during the last 6 months of the project, with ground-truthed information gathered in Y2.	
Activity 1.3. Community workshops in advanced GIS		Actions To be conducted in the 6-month extension requested, with monitoring information gathered in Y2.	
Activity 1.4. Production of maps and analysis of local GIS		Actions To be conducted in the 6-month extension requested, with monitoring information gathered in Y2.	
Activity 1.5. Production of monitoring programme documents		Progress Development of work guidelines and monitoring protocols on knowledge dialogue about local fauna, fauna monitoring, vegetation monitoring, socio-economic research and nutrition documenting. Actions Integration of field research information and methodologies during the last 6 months of the project	

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2013 - March 2014	Actions required/planned for next period
<p>Output 2. VCA personnel in 3 Chinantec communities trained in participatory monitoring methods</p>	<p>2. 12 community members trained in weather monitoring techniques , socio-economic methods, and enhanced floristic, fauna and vegetation analysis.</p>	<p>Progress</p> <p>13 people have been trained in knowledge dialogues about scientific and ethnoclassification of local wildlife; 5 in vegetation data analysis; 72 in fauna monitoring; 5 in socio-economic assessment techniques related to conservation initiatives; and 5 in nutrition surveys.</p> <p>Appropriateness of indicator</p> <p>A core group of 5 community researchers in San Pedro Tlatepusco, 28 community researchers in Nopalera del Rosario and 10 in Santiago Tlatepusco have been trained in monitoring tools and research. An additional group of 60 community members have been trained in fauna monitoring concepts and tools. Our original expectations of a core group of 12 community members have been surpassed. The training subjects are still valid, except for the weather monitoring techniques, which were replaced by river monitoring.</p>	
<p>Activity 2.1. Community workshop to create expanded plant and animal registers</p>		<p>Progress</p> <p>2 community workshop on knowledge dialogues about local wildlife: San Pedro Tlatepusco for 5 community researchers (CR) and 3 community members (CM) (May 2013), Nopalera del Rosario for 5 CR (May 2013).</p>	
<p>Activity 2.2. Community workshop on floristic composition, vegetation characterization and monitoring, according to local categories</p>		<p>Progress</p> <p>2 community workshops on data analysis to process the information gathered on floristic composition, vegetation characterization and monitoring: Nopalera del Rosario for 5 CR (December 2013; February 2014).</p>	
<p>Activity 2.3. Community workshop on animal species abundance and monitoring</p>		<p>Progress</p> <p>6 community workshops on fauna monitoring, hunting monitoring and trap camera monitoring: Nopalera del Rosario for 5 CR (June and November 2013; February and March 2014); Santiago Tlatepusco for 10 CR plus 57 CM (February and March 2014)</p> <p>Actions</p> <p>Continued workshops on fauna monitoring for Santiago Tlatepusco to be conducted during the last 6 months of the project.</p>	
<p>Activity 2.4. Community workshop on methodologies to assess the socio-economic contributions and effects of conservation initiatives</p>		<p>Progress</p> <p>4 community workshops on socio-economic assessment techniques to evaluate the contributions and effects of conservation initiatives: Nopalera del Rosario for 5 CR (June, October and December 2013; February 2014).</p>	

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2013 - March 2014	Actions required/planned for next period
Activity 2.5. Community workshop on nutrition surveys		<p>Progress</p> <p>1 community workshop on nutrition surveys: Nopalera del Rosario for 5 CR (November 2013)</p>	
Activity 2.6. Community workshop on basic weather monitoring		<p>Progress</p> <p>2 community workshop on river monitoring: Nopalera del Rosario for 5 CR (December 2013; February 2014)</p> <p>Actions</p> <p>Continued training on river monitoring during the last 6 months of the project.</p>	
<p>Output 3. Adaptive management of VCAs implemented as an ongoing process in 3 Chinantec communities in support of community conservation management programme</p>	<p>3. Adaptive management strategies in 3 communities agreed by general assembly and authorities</p>	<p>Progress</p> <p>At the end of Y2, about 80% of the planned research has been conducted in the thematic areas of plants and vegetation, fauna, local perceptions and socio-economic effects of conservation initiatives, nutrition surveys, household characterisation and river monitoring. The information that results from this community research and monitoring process comprises the basis for the adaptive management strategies.</p> <p>Appropriateness of indicator</p> <p>Adaptive management strategies will be compiled in a document to be finished once all the local research for the project is concluded, therefore the indicator continues to be appropriate for end-project measurement of project success.</p>	
Activity 3.1. Expanded inventories of useful plants		<p>Progress</p> <p>Information gathered during Y1 was integrated into existing community databases.</p>	
Activity 3.2. Expanded inventories of animals, their abundance and distribution in key zones		<p>Progress</p> <p>Inventories of locally recognised macrofauna (mammals, reptiles and birds) were compiled during workshops on knowledge dialogue about local wildlife (activity 2.1) in San Pedro Tlatepusco and Nopalera del Rosario. CR started the monitoring of abundance and distribution of selected species right after workshops on animal species abundance and monitoring (activity 2.3) in Santiago Tlatepusco and Nopalera del Rosario.</p> <p>Actions</p> <p>Monitoring of abundance and distribution of selected species, and analysis of results to be continued during the last 6 months of the project.</p>	

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2013 - March 2014	Actions required/planned for next period
Activity 3.3. Monthly weather monitoring		<p>Progress</p> <p>Research subject changed to “river monitoring”, which started right after workshop on river monitoring (Activity 2.6)</p> <p>Actions</p> <p>River monitoring and results analysis to be continued during the last 6 months of the project.</p>	
Activity 3.4. Research on local perceptions towards conservation initiatives		<p>Progress</p> <p>CR started research on perceptions of conservation initiatives, along with research on the socio-economic contribution and effects of PES (Activity 3.6), right after the socio-economic research workshop (Activity 2.4). Local team has conducted the analysis of the information produced.</p>	
Activity 3.5. Households and livelihoods characterisation and analysis		<p>Progress</p> <p>Community members at Nopalera del Rosario developed this activity during the 3-workshop module on Community Territorial Planning (May – July 2012). We failed to report this progress in the First Annual Report.</p>	
Activity 3.6. Research of socio-economic contribution and effects of PES and other conservation subsidies		<p>Progress</p> <p>CR started the research on socio-economic contribution and effects of PES, along with research on perceptions towards conservation initiatives (Activity 3.4), right after the socio-economic research workshop (Activity 2.4). Local team has conducted the analysis of the information produced.</p>	
Activity 3.7. Research on household nutrition related to local food resources		<p>Progress</p> <p>CR started research on household nutrition right after workshop on nutrition surveys (Activity 2.5) and developed it during the 2nd semester of Y2.</p> <p>Actions</p> <p>Household nutrition research and results analysis to be conducted during the last 6 months of the project.</p>	
Activity 3.8. Production of adaptive management strategies		<p>Actions</p> <p>Adaptive management strategies will be compiled in a document to be finished once all the local research is concluded and analysed.</p>	
Output 4. Advanced training received by colleagues at research centres and	4. Four seminars for 20 postgraduate researchers on methods and concepts	Progress	

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2013 - March 2014	Actions required/planned for next period
academic institutions in Oaxaca and Veracruz.	of participatory monitoring of resource abundance, weather variability, livelihoods and landscape change	<p>The course content has been designed and it is ready to be applied.</p> <p>Appropriateness of indicator</p> <p>The plan to conduct four seminars (which will integrate a 4-session advanced course on Biocultural Diversity and Conservation) continues and will be measurable by the end of the project.</p>	
Activity 4.1. 4-session advanced course on Biocultural Diversity and Conservation		<p>Progress</p> <p>GDF and INECOL's teams have designed the course content jointly during the second semester of Y2.</p> <p>Actions</p> <p>The course will be conducted during the last 6 months of the project. First session to be held at the IX Mexican Congress of Ethnobiology on April 2014.</p>	
Output 5. Lessons, methods and results shared with community members, government officials, civil society representatives and academic colleagues locally and internationally.	5. One international conference presentation, two national conference presentations, one final advanced seminar, four articles submitted or published in international journals, informational website, participatory research protocols, community evaluations, cross-visits and project partners meetings	<p>Progress</p> <p>5 partners' meetings were conducted, plus 7 work meetings with community authorities. Community representatives from Santiago Tlapeusco, San Pedro Tlapeusco and Nopalera del Rosario participated in three exchange meetings during FY2. Community research teams and the GDF team conducted 4 community evaluation sessions.</p> <p>Appropriateness of indicator</p> <p>Dissemination, coordination, follow-up and evaluation activities have been conducted as planned. Some of them, such as the partner meetings and cross-visits, incorporated more events than originally expected. The specific activities that have not been fulfilled yet are included in our plans for the last 6 months of the project.</p>	
Activity 5.1. Presenting project approaches and preliminary results at the VIII Mexican Congress of Ethnobiology, at Tabasco, Mexico		<p>Progress</p> <p>Conducted in Y1</p>	
Activity 5.2. Presenting project approaches and preliminary results at the 13th International Congress of Ethnobiology, at Montpellier, France		<p>Progress</p> <p>Conducted in Y1</p>	
Activity 5.3. Presenting project approaches and final results in a Mexican event		<p>Actions</p> <p>To be conducted during the last 6 months of the project.</p>	

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2013 - March 2014	Actions required/planned for next period
Activity 5.4. Final advanced seminar to share project approaches and results for postgraduate students, researchers and NGO colleagues		Actions To be conducted during the last 6 months of the project.	
Activity 5.5. Project partners meetings		Progress 3 work meetings with project partner INECOL (April, June 2013; March 2014). 2 work meetings with project partner Delfina Luna (University of Sierra Juarez) (April, June 2013) 7 work meetings with community authorities (April 2013 – March 2014). Actions A final partners meeting to be conducted during the final 6 months of the project	
Activity 5.6. Community evaluations		Progress 4 evaluation work sessions: San Pedro Tlapepusco (May and August 2013) and Nopalera del Rosario (September and December 2013) Actions Final community evaluations to be conducted during the final 6 months of the project.	
Activity 5.7. Community cross-visits		Progress Community representatives from San Pedro Tlapepusco, Santiago Tlapepusco and Nopalera del Rosario participated in: a) workshop on community health systems and traditional resource use and territorial management (August 2013); b) Conference on Environmental Policy and Indigenous Territories (November 2013); and c) exchange of experiences on community conservation and community research with rural communities in Campeche, Mexico (February-March 2014).	
Activity 5.8. International external evaluation		Actions To be conducted during the last 6 months of the project.	

Annex 2 Project's full current logframe

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
<p>Goal: Effective contribution in support of the implementation of the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Convention on Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), and the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species (CMS), as well as related targets set by countries rich in biodiversity but constrained in resources.</p>			
<p>Sub-Goal: Effective contribution to <i>in situ</i> conservation of cloud forest ecosystem and sustainable use of its components drawing on local ecological knowledge and practice</p>	<p>Long-term conservation and maintenance of the forest, its biological components, ecosystem services and associated mosaic of anthropogenic landscapes</p>	<p>Trained stakeholders capable of monitoring the impacts of conservation on biodiversity and livelihoods; adaptive management based on monitoring effective</p>	
<p>Purpose Long-term adaptive management of Chinantec Voluntary Conserved Areas (VCAs) enhanced by building the capacity of community researchers trained in the original Darwin project to implement a monitoring programme that enables them to optimize management of their mosaic of cultural landscapes and natural protected areas.</p>	<p>New knowledge on participatory GIS techniques for resource monitoring by yr 1 New knowledge on floristic composition, vegetation characterization and species abundance in selected ethnoecological zones by yr 1 New techniques and tools for monitoring weather variability acquired by yr 1 New knowledge on socio-economic impacts and contributions of community conservation and PES by yr 2 Innovative learning about new concepts and methods in participatory monitoring by yr 2 Participatory resource monitoring programme for VCAs implemented by yr 2</p>	<p>GIS database in use and new maps produced to guide resource monitoring Expanded botanical and zoological reference collections, patrol records and vegetation analysis results; Chinantec ethnoclassification of vegetation and landscape types Initial data on rainfall, temperature and other parameters recorded systematically over two years Synthesis of local perceptions of community conservation; analysed research results from livelihoods analysis & household nutrition survey Participatory research protocols and evaluation of Biocultural Diversity and Conservation course VCA Management Plans enhanced by incorporating participatory resource monitoring of critical subsistence activities; production of final GIS maps for communication with government agencies and NGOs</p>	<p>Communities committed to sustained implementation of participatory resource monitoring Local communities, research institutes and government agencies achieve sustained collaboration on adaptive management of cultural landscapes and conserved areas Project partners commit sufficient staff time to participate in and implement project activities Participatory methodology adequately developed and acquired by community researchers at outset of research phase Seamless integration of Darwin post project with EU FP7 project; effectiveness of community-based management strategies for biocultural diversity conservation</p>

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
Outputs: 1. Monitoring programme and advanced GIS for three Chinantec communities engaged in community conservation	1. Development of monitoring programme and advanced GIS for adaptive management of voluntary conserved areas	1. Monitoring programme; enhanced GIS maps; community workshop participant attendance, evaluation and assessment records; results of participatory field research	Environmental and social conditions adequate to gather and produce enough information; experts and students from partner research organisations available according to established timetable
2. VCA personnel in 3 Chinantec communities trained in participatory monitoring methods	2. 12 community members trained in weather monitoring techniques, socio-economic methods, and enhanced floristic, fauna and vegetation analysis	2. Attendance, evaluation and assessment records of community workshops, forums and exchanges; field research results	Community researchers personnel recruited and available throughout the project period
3. Adaptive management of VCAs implemented as an ongoing process in 3 Chinantec communities in support of community conservation management programme	3. Adaptive management strategies in 3 communities agreed by general assembly and authorities	3. Adaptive management document detailing specific measures to be taken; modified community statutes; final GIS maps indicating boundaries and use zones	General assembly of each community agrees on changes in community conservation approach; support by government agencies and NGOs of adaptive management strategy
4. Advanced training received by colleagues at research centres and academic institutions in Oaxaca and Veracruz	4. Four seminars for 20 postgraduate researchers on methods and concepts of participatory monitoring of resource abundance, weather variability, livelihoods and landscape change	4. Participant attendance, evaluation and assessment records of advanced seminars; seminar syllabuses and readers; intranet with readings and participant dialogues	Postgraduate researchers, UK experts and Mexican counterparts interested in and available for seminars
5. Lessons, methods and results shared with community members, government officials, civil society representatives and academic colleagues locally and internationally	5. One international conference presentation, two national conference presentations, one final advanced seminar, four articles submitted or published in international journals, informational website, participatory research protocols, community evaluations, cross-visits and project partners meetings	5. Participant attendance, evaluation and assessment records of advanced seminar; pdfs of conference papers and articles available online; participatory research protocols available online in interactive format; attendance lists and memorandums of project partners meeting, evaluations and cross-visits results	International interest in participatory monitoring and adaptive management of community conservation experiences Papers and sessions accepted at national and international conferences Community members, researchers and students interested and available to learn and participate

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
<p>Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1 Community workshops in basic and intermediate GIS 1.2 Production of local maps and pGIS of monitored species and habitats 1.3 Community workshops in advanced GIS 1.4 Production of maps and analysis of local GIS 1.5. Production of monitoring programme documents 2.1 Community workshop to create expanded plant and animal registers 2.2 Community workshop on floristic composition, vegetation characterization and monitoring, according to local categories 2.3 Community workshop on animal species abundance and monitoring 2.4 Community workshop on methodologies to assess the socio-economic contributions and effects of conservation initiatives 2.5 Community workshop on nutrition surveys 2.6 Community workshop on basic weather monitoring 3.1 Expanded inventories of useful plants 3.2 Expanded inventories of animals, their abundance and distribution in key zones 3.3 Monthly weather monitoring 3.4 Research on local perceptions towards conservation initiatives 3.5 Households and livelihoods characterisation and analysis 3.6 Research of socio-economic contribution and effects of PES and other conservation subsidies 3.7 Research on household nutrition related to local food resources 3.8. Production of adaptive management strategies 4.1 Four-session advanced course on Biocultural Diversity and Conservation 5.1 Presenting project approaches and preliminary results at the VIII Mexican Congress of Ethnobiology, at Tabasco, Mexico 5.2 Presenting project approaches and preliminary results at the 13th International Congress of Ethnobiology, at Montpellier, France 5.3 Presenting project approaches and final results in a Mexican event 5.4 Final advanced seminar to share project approaches and results for postgraduate students, researchers and NGO colleagues 5.5 Project partners meetings 5.6 Community evaluations 5.7 Community cross-visits 5.8 International external evaluation 			

Annex 3 Standard Measures

Table 1. Project Standard Output Measures

Code No.	Description	Year 1 Total	Year 2 Total	Number planned for reporting period	Total planned during the project
2	Number of people to attain Masters qualification (MSc, MPhil etc)	0	0	0	1
3	Number of people to attain other qualifications (ie. Not outputs 1 or 2 above)	0	0	0	1
4A	Number of undergraduate students to receive training	Mexican undergraduate student Brenda Lira had a short period of work experience in Chinantec communities and GDF-MA	Mexican undergraduate student Brenda Lira had a short period of work experience in Chinantec communities and GDF-MA	1	2
4B	Number of training weeks to be provided	2 training weeks provided to Mexican undergraduate student Brenda Lira.	2 training weeks provided to Mexican undergraduate student Brenda Lira.	1	3
4C	Number of postgraduate students to receive training	Mexican post-graduate student Emma Villaseñor had a short period of work experience in Chinantec communities.	Mexican post-graduate student Emma Villaseñor, regarding methodological approaches	1	2
4D	Number of training weeks to be provided	1 training week provided to Mexican postgraduate student Emma Villaseñor.	1 training week provided to Mexican postgraduate student Emma Villaseñor.	1	3
5	Number of people to receive at least one year of training (which does not fall into categories 1-4 above)	13. Research experience gained by 1 field coordinator, 2 field biologists, 10 community researchers, through continuous practice in the field sites.	46. Research experience gained by 1 field coordinator, 2 field biologists, 43 community researchers, through continuous practice in the field sites. (The 13 people of Y1 included here)	14	14
6A	Number of people to receive other forms of education/training (which does not fall into categories 1-5 above)	10 community researchers plus 42 community representatives, as follows: - Three-session workshop on Community Territorial Planning. (3 weeks, 35 participants) - Training workshop on basic and intermediate pGIS, San Pedro. (1 week, 11 participants) - Training workshop on basic and intermediate pGIS, Nopalera. (.60 week, 9 participants) - Training workshop on GPS use, San Pedro. (.60	58 community researchers plus 110 community representatives (the 52 of Y1 are included), as follows: - Training workshop on basic and intermediate pGIS, Santiago. (3.1 week, 60 participants) - Training workshop on basic and intermediate pGIS, Nopalera. (1.50 week, 5 participants) - Workshop to create expanded animal registers, San Pedro (0.5 week, 8 participants)	12	12

Code No.	Description	Year 1 Total	Year 2 Total	Number planned for reporting period	Total planned during the project
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> week, 7 participants) - Training workshop on GPS use, Nopalera. (.60 week, 35 participants) - Workshop in research basis, San Pedro. (.40 week, 7 participants) - Workshop in research basis, Santiago. (.40 week, 10 participants) - Workshop in research basis, Nopalera. (.40 week, 35 participants) - Workshop on plant collection, San Pedro. (.60 week, 5 participants) - Workshop on plant collection, Nopalera. (.20 week, 5 participants) - Workshop on floristic composition, vegetation characterization and monitoring, San Pedro. (.60 week, 5 participants) - Workshop on floristic composition, vegetation characterization and monitoring, Nopalera. (.60 week, 5 participants) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Workshop to create expanded animal registers, Nopalera (0.16 week, 5 participants) - Workshop on analysis of floristic and vegetation characterization data, Nopalera (1 week, 5 participants) - Workshop on animal species abundance and monitoring, Nopalera (1.16 week, 5 participants) - Workshop on animal species abundance and monitoring, Santiago (0.60 week, 67 participants) - Workshop on assessing socio-economic contributions and effects of conservation initiatives, Nopalera (1 week, 5 participants) - Workshop on nutrition surveys, Nopalera (0.5 week, 5 participants) - Workshop on river monitoring, Nopalera (0.3 week, 3 participants) 		
6B	Number of training weeks to be provided	9 weeks in total	10 weeks in total	10	20
7	Number of (ie different types - not volume - of material produced) training materials to be produced for use by host country	7 methods protocols to be used in the training workshops (Community Territorial Planning, basic and intermediate pGIS, GPS use, research basis, plant collection, floristic composition, vegetation characterization and monitoring)	4 methods protocols to be used in the training workshops (knowledge dialogue on local fauna, fauna monitoring, socio-economic research and nutrition documenting.)	3	7
8	Number of weeks to be spent by UK project staff on project work in the host country	2 weeks spent by GDF Regional Programmes Director Emily Caruso in Mexico.	2 weeks spent by GDF Regional Programmes Director Emily Caruso in Mexico.	3	6
10	Number of individual field guides/manuals to be produced to assist work related to species identification, classification and recording	0	0	0	1

Code No.	Description	Year 1 Total	Year 2 Total	Number planned for reporting period	Total planned during the project
11A	Number of papers to be published in peer reviewed journals	0	0	2	2
11B	Number of papers to be submitted to peer reviewed journals	0	0	2	2
12B	Number of computer based databases to be enhanced	2 computer based floristic and faunal databases created by San Pedro Tlatepusco that will remain in their possession, but specific data may be shared with local partner institutions as free, prior informed consent and biodiversity transfer protocols are established.	0	3	6
13B	Number of species reference collections to be enhanced	2 floristic and faunal reference collections established by the communities that will remain in their possession, but some duplicates may be deposited in local partner institutions as free, prior informed consent and biodiversity transfer protocols are established.	0	3	6
14A	Number of conferences/seminars/workshops to be organised to present/disseminate findings	0	0	5	5
14B	Number of conferences/seminars/workshops attended at which findings from Darwin project work will be presented/ disseminated.	9 Conferences, seminars & workshops attended to present project approaches : 1) VIII Mexican Congress of Ethnobiology. 2) 13th International Congress of Ethnobiology. 3) Society of Ethnobiology Annual Meeting. 4) Pre-congress workshop Montpellier. 5) XI Mexican Congress of Mastozoology. 6) Exchange summer workshop "Agrarian and community territorial defense". 7) "Chinantec and Masehualmed knowledges encounter". 8) "Exchange of Experiences on Territorial Defense". 9) Annual meeting of the CONACyT Research	0	1	3

Code No.	Description	Year 1 Total	Year 2 Total	Number planned for reporting period	Total planned during the project
		Network on Ethnoecology and Biocultural Patrimony.			
15B	Number of local press releases in host country(ies)	0	0	1	1
15D	Number of local press releases in UK	0	0	1	1
16A	Number of newsletters to be produced	2	0	4	8
16B	Estimated circulation of each newsletter in the host country(ies)	300	0	300	300
16C	Estimated circulation of each newsletter in the UK	1500	0	1500	1500
17A	Number of dissemination networks to be established	1 dissemination network Mexican North-South	0	0	1
17B	Number of dissemination networks to be enhanced/ extended	1 Previous mailing list of people interested in GDF activities	0	0	1
20	Estimated value (£'s) of physical assets to be handed over to host country(ies)	£633, 1 laptop	£ 4,003, 7 trap cámaras, 2 laptops, 2 printer, office furniture.	£2,822	£5,644
21	Number of permanent educational/training/research facilities or organisations to be established and then continued after Darwin funding has ceased	2 community research teams in San Pedro Tlatepusco, and Nopalera	1 community research team in Santiago Tlatepusco	0	0
23	Value of resources raised from other sources (ie in addition to Darwin funding) for project work				
New - Project specific measures	N/A				

Table 2 Publications

Not applicable at this stage of the project

Type (eg journals, manual, CDs)	Detail (title, author, year)	Publishers (name, city)	Available from (eg contact address, website)	Cost £

Annex 4 Onwards – supplementary material (optional but encouraged as evidence of project achievement)

Please see Appendices I - IV

Checklist for submission

	Check
Is the report less than 10MB? If so, please email to Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.uk putting the project number in the Subject line.	X
Is your report more than 10MB? If so, please discuss with Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.uk about the best way to deliver the report, putting the project number in the Subject line.	
Have you included means of verification? You need not submit every project document, but the main outputs and a selection of the others would strengthen the report.	X
Do you have hard copies of material you want 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.	
Have you involved your partners in preparation of the report and named the main contributors	X
Have you completed the Project Expenditure table fully?	X
Do not include claim forms or other communications with this report.	