

Darwin Plus: Overseas Territories Environment and Climate Fund Annual Report

To be completed with reference to the “Writing a Darwin/IWT Report” Information Note: (<https://dplus.darwininitiative.org.uk/resources/reporting-forms-change-request-forms-and-terms-and-conditions/>). It is expected that this report will be a maximum of 20 pages in length, excluding annexes)

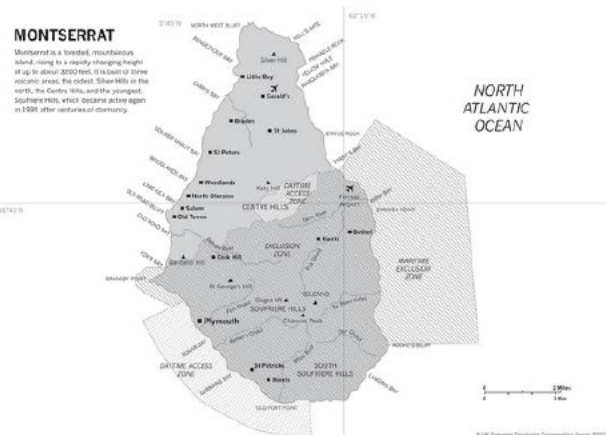
Submission Deadline: 30th April 2021

Darwin Plus Project Information

Project reference	DPLUS106
Project title	A Marine Turtle Action Plan for Montserrat
Territory(ies)	Montserrat (and outputs will be relevant to other Caribbean UKOTs)
Lead organisation	University of Exeter (UoE) Government of Montserrat (GoM) Fisheries and Ocean Governance Unit
Partner institutions	Marine Conservation Society (MCS)
Grant value	£243,489
Start/end dates of project	01 July 2020 – 31 March 2023
Reporting period (e.g. Apr 2020-Mar 2021) and number (e.g. Annual Report 1, 2)	Annual Report 1 July 2020 – March 2021
Project Leader name	Dr Nicola Weber
Project website/blog/social media	Currently via organisation and personal accounts: @ExeterMarine @mcsuk
Report author(s) and date	Compiled by N Weber with input from all project partners

1. Project summary

LOCATIONS OF UK OVERSEAS TERRITORIES
AND CROWN DEPENDENCIES



Small, yet regionally important nesting populations of hawksbill and green turtles occur in Montserrat, and there is occasional nesting by leatherback and loggerhead turtles. The island's waters support sea turtle foraging, although the extent to which this occurs is largely unquantified. Work is about to commence on improvements to Montserrat's port facilities as part of a drive to enhance revenue from tourism, which in itself may have implications for

adjacent turtle nesting beaches. Additionally, anecdotal evidence of a significant reduction in the use of sea turtles as an extractive resource by the local community suggests that now is an opportune time to implement an evidence-based review of the status and management of these flagship species.

Montserrat has been heavily impacted by natural disasters from extreme weather events to prolonged volcanic activities, all of which may have affected beach profiles, nesting distributions and productivity of marine turtles in as yet unquantified ways. Precautionary management to safeguard turtle nests during the hurricane season is being exercised on an *ad hoc* basis with some clutches being transplanted to a man-made hatchery. This practice has been implemented with no formal training or evaluation of its effectiveness and is in urgent need of review.

In addition to training provided as part of this project, a Marine Turtle Action Plan will be developed with key stakeholders to ensure that the programme is more evidence-based and transparent moving forward, while being suitable for the island's needs. Legislation relating to Montserrat's marine turtles is recognised by the GoM as being outdated and offers little practical protection. With no mention of offences relating to the disturbance of turtles and no upper size limit for legal take. It is prudent that this is reviewed as a matter of urgency and that this is done with the extensive engagement of Montserratians which will be done through the innovative Community Voice Method alongside a community outreach programme.

2. Project stakeholders/partners

The GoM, Fisheries and Ocean Governance Unit are primary stakeholders, responsible for sea turtle monitoring, management and conservation. The project team and proposal were put together after being approached by their Chief Fisheries Officer, a well-respected individual both within the government and the local community including fishers (**See GoM Press Release: Appendix 3.1**). The GoM team make and implement all day-to-day decisions about the local project activities and the local lead, Mr Alwyn Ponteen consults the UoE team remotely for advice as-and-when it is required via email or Whatsapp. This informal method of communication is what meets local requirements and is also supplemented by more formal whole team meetings every Quarter between GoM, UoE and MCS, for which Minutes are taken and Actions to be Implemented are noted.

The Montserratian community are key stakeholders and with a number of marine management and conservation initiatives currently underway on-island, this project provides an opportunity to use charismatic marine species to further engage the local community on the sustainable use of marine biodiversity, including expanding its eco-tourism draw to contribute to livelihoods and self-sufficiency. Due to local lockdown restrictions and then social distancing requirements on Montserrat during the 2020 turtle nesting season, the outreach elements of the project were not able to be initiated in full. However, *ad hoc* opportunities, were taken whenever possible including engagement with some of the school children (**See Appendix 3.4**) and a radio appearance by all project partners (**See Appendix 3.2**). This will be built upon and expanded in Y2 and Y3 of the project.

The two UK-based partners (UoE as co-lead and MCS) have an on-going investment in the conservation of biodiversity in the UKOTs both professionally and personally and while they have unfortunately not been able to make visits to Montserrat yet to offer expertise and training, they have offered advice remotely whenever needed and led the Change Requests, reporting and accounting (at the request of the GoM team) so as to enable the on-island team to progress with their day-to-day environmental monitoring and conservation work.

3. Project progress

3.1 Progress in carrying out project Activities

Output 1:

- 1.1: A local Project Officer – Mr John Jeffers, a former employee of the Department of the Environment for the Government of Montserrat – was contracted by the Government

of Montserrat to carry out turtle monitoring July – September 2020, alongside their permanent Fisheries Data Collectors. It is anticipated that Mr Jeffers will also be contracted by GoM for the turtle monitoring in both the 2021 and 2022 turtle nesting seasons, alongside an additional local trainee Data Collector. A Change Request has been approved to extend the project into a third year (2022/2023) at no additional cost. All of the partner institutions have also agreed to reprofile or increase their original match funding commitments to enable work to extend into a third year). This will ensure that there are two turtle nesting seasons (June – November) during which UK-based project partners are able to visit Montserrat and work with GoM to deliver project outputs, as originally planned. The Research Assistant post, originally concentrated in Y2 will be split across Y2 and Y3 to ensure local capacity for monitoring and research in both years and in line with when we expect to be able to safely access the island.

- 1.2: A Microsoft Access database to house all data collected pertaining to Montserrat's marine turtles was created and sent to the local GoM Project Leader in Y1Q2. 2 formal training sessions have been provided via Skype and *ad hoc* questions answered via email/ Skype as required. Some data from the 2020 season have been entered (**See Appendix 3.3**), but consolidation training is required and it is likely that this will need to be face-to-face to be most effective in Y2Q2 when it is anticipated that the UoE will be able to visit Montserrat for 6-12 weeks (including 2 weeks in quarantine) to instigate planned turtle research.
- 1.3: The GoM Project Lead has supervised his team to ensure that data collection has taken place during the 2020 field season. This is currently being digitised from the field notebooks and entered into the Access database. When done, the UoE team will review this to inform monitoring and training plans for the 2021 nesting season to further advance the systematic collection of the data. The Project Officer, Mr Jeffers, has provided on the job training to the local Data Collectors from the Fisheries and Ocean Governance Unit who have assisted him with the surveys and the collection of some nests that were moved into the hatchery and then released after hatching. Evaluation of the use of the hatchery will be carried out in Y2 when the overseas team can also input (**See Appendix 3.5**).
- Work progresses towards Outputs 1.4 – 1.9 that will be carried out during the 2021 turtle nesting season in Y2, including the ordering of equipment and developing of logistical plans, including to accommodate any developments and residual impacts with regard to restrictions imposed by COVID-19. All capital equipment has been ordered and received either in the UK or directly in Montserrat. Given that travel disruption and local quarantine restrictions on Montserrat are anticipated to extend into the first half of Y2, the UoE team are planning to undertake a focussed visit during the Y2 turtle nesting season (July-August 2021; Q2 Y2) in order to deploy telemetry tags on turtles and provide initial training on marine turtle monitoring, research and data management techniques for GoM staff (both originally planned for Y1). This will then be followed up by a more extensive visit by the UoE team in the 2022 turtle nesting season. Project outputs originally planned for Y2 that are less time sensitive and/or involve more extensive international travel and community interaction on Montserrat (including postgraduate research projects, aerial mapping of nesting beaches and local/international stakeholder workshops) have been moved to Y3 (Change Request approved) based on the assumption that COVID-related restrictions will have eased and planned activities can be delivered more safely and efficiently.

Output 2: All activities are planned for Y2 and Y3.

Output 3: Activities to take place once international travel to Montserrat is permitted. Although community engagement meetings and semi-structured interviews were originally planned for Y1Q3/Q4, this has been postponed until Y2 due to the ongoing impacts of COVID-19 (Change Request approved). This output needs to take place within Y2 to allow sufficient time to analyse and compile the Community Voice Method video footage but will be postponed until Q3 when we assume that the MCS team and local population of Montserrat will have been vaccinated

and can interact more safely, while also satisfying Montserrat/UK Covid measures. MCS are currently exploring with the local Project Leader the potential to develop an online 'Turtle Quiz'. The quiz is designed to collect baseline data on local knowledge and attitudes towards turtles and their conservation and will be used to inform subsequent on-island work. This would be similar to the one successfully used in the British Virgin Islands (DPLUS111), but the local lead has some hesitancy as to how well it would be engaged with on Montserrat, and so it is still in consultation and whether it can be adapted to better fit the Montserratian context.

Output 4:

- 4.1: The creation and erecting of the signage boards is underway.
- 4.2: Activities planned for Y2 and Y3.
- 4.3: At the invitation of the UK Representative for the Government of Montserrat, Janice Panton, representatives from the GoM, UoE and MCS teams joined a virtual meeting of the Montserrat Diaspora Group (21/07/2020) to raise awareness of the project. Additionally, representatives from the GoM, UoE and MCS teams all joined a popular radio show – The Cultural Show on Montserrat Radio Echo (23/08/2020: **See Appendix 3.3**) where they discussed the project and Montserrat's turtles more generally. The discussions lasted for 1 hour 30 mins and there were a number of calls in from members of the public on Montserrat and the Montserratian diaspora asking questions and sharing local knowledge. Visits to two primary schools on Montserrat took place in August and September by the local Project Officer who brought turtle hatchlings in from the hatchery and talked about Montserrat's turtles in general (**See Appendix 3.5**). An awareness raising campaign is currently being planned to encourage engagement with the quiz described in Output 3 (if it goes ahead).

3.2 Progress towards project Outputs

Output 1: An updated, island-wide status assessment of marine turtle nesting activity on Montserrat over 3 years

Work towards this output is progressing in accordance with the revised timeframe. We had originally planned to carry out a full turtle nesting survey and associated research work in Y1 of the project, however movement restrictions because of the COVID-19 prevented this. Some monitoring data have been collected by GoM in Y1 with remote support from UK-based partners. We have extended the project into a third year (2022/2023) at no additional cost (Change Approved). This will ensure that there are two turtle nesting seasons (June – November) during which UK-based project partners are able to visit Montserrat and work with GoM to deliver project outputs, as originally planned. The Research Assistant post, originally concentrated in Y1, will be split across Y2 and Y3 to ensure local capacity for monitoring and research in both years and in line with when we expect to be able to safely access the island. Given that travel disruption and local quarantine restrictions on Montserrat are anticipated to extend into the first half of Y2, the UoE team are planning to undertake a focused visit during the Y2 turtle nesting season (July-August 2021; Q2 Y2) in order to deploy telemetry tags on turtles and provide initial training on marine turtle monitoring, research and data management techniques for GoM staff (both originally planned for Y1). This will then be followed up by further monitoring, research and training in Y3. The previously revised indicators for this Output remain the most appropriate.

Output 2: An updated sea turtle monitoring and management action plan

The majority of research outputs (in Output 1) are still in their early (and delayed) stages and thus it is too premature to be considering the drafting of Montserrat's marine turtle Species Action Plan. The project team have made some refinements to the turtle monitoring and data collection methods carried out by the GoM team in Y1 via remote meetings and there is an improved appreciation of the need for reliable data collection and storage. The data collected,

however, are incomplete and as acknowledged by the local Project Leader, in order for new survey methodology and data management protocols to be fully embedded it is necessary for the overseas team to have a physical presence on the island. With the approved extension in the project timeline, we still expect to achieve this Output in full by the end of the project and the previously revised indicators remain the most appropriate.

Output 3: Review and make recommendations to update the current legislation concerning the protection of marine turtles

All aspects of this Output are currently planned for Y2 (moved from Y1) so it is not possible to report on progress here. However, the MCS partners have been very engaged with the project and attended all meetings with the local Project Lead, which has served to further strengthen their already established working relationship. Additionally, conversations about the most appropriate (and now with the additional COVID-safe consideration) methods for engaging with the community have been discussed and so when the team does manage to visit Montserrat, then they will be able to 'hit the ground running'. While it is difficult to comment on progress at the moment, we will still expect to achieve this Output by the end of the project and the previously revised indicators remain the most appropriate.

Output 4: Update signage at beaches relating to the disturbance of nesting turtles and methods of best practice for viewing turtles and launch a public outreach campaign to improve public understanding and appreciation of the programme.

Design and creation of the signs is now being carried out on Montserrat so that the signs created are in keeping with those recently erected at some major nesting beaches (funded by the Governor of Montserrat's office while this grant was being considered). This will mean that all beaches with turtle nesting activity have a sign up to educate about the turtles and responsible viewing practices. Radio appearances and school visits were undertaken in an *ad hoc* manner in Y1 (influenced by COVID-19 movement restrictions), but very well received. This will be built on in Y2 and Y3 to tie in with the research activities in Output 1 (e.g. 'Name the Tagged Turtle') and the community consultation activities in Output 3. Some progress has been made towards this output and with the revised indicators for this Output which remain the most appropriate, we still expect to achieve it in full by the end of the project.

3.3 Progress towards the project Outcome

At this stage of the project and heavily confounded by restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic, it is difficult to quantify how much progress has been made towards the intended outcome of the development and implementation of an evidence-based Marine Turtle Species Action Plan (SAP) for Montserrat to ensure that management, monitoring and conservation actions align with international best practice.

Indicators proposed for monitoring progress against the intended Outcome are based on the collection and collation of the biological and social aspects data, which is now all planned for Y2 and Y3 (the 2021 and 2022 turtle nesting seasons) due to restrictions on international travel this year. As little data has been collected in Y1, it is difficult to directly measure progress towards the Outcome as this stage. Nevertheless, the Output level indicators are adequate for monitoring the progress of individual workstreams that will ultimately contribute to this Outcome and as evidenced above, despite the profound challenges of this year, some progress has still been achieved.

With the assumption that the international teams can access Montserrat in 2021, then we remain confident that the Outcome can be achieved by the end of funding, which following an approved no-cost Change Request, has been extended to March 2023 rather than March 2022 to incorporate two turtle nesting seasons and provide the additional time needed to carry out all activities.

3.4 Monitoring of assumptions

As detailed in the individual assumptions, the project relies on a good working relationship being fostered with the GoM team to facilitate data collection and the design and implementation of a suitable Marine Turtle SAP for Montserrat, as well as buy-in and engagement from the local community to make the project a success. The methods being used, have been proven to be effective in similar circumstances in the past, the partners all have an established working relationship and the project is being driven by the Territory and its needs so we are confident that the outputs will be achieved. Despite the timeline changes due to the impacts of restricted travel and movement (detailed above and in Section 12), all identified risks and assumptions still hold true.

Assumptions 1.1 – 1.8 (detailed in Annex 2) relate firstly to whether suitable candidates will apply and be selected for the local and overseas positions. The team were fortunate enough to be able to contract a former employee of the Department of the Environment for the Government of Montserrat (now retired) who has had extensive involvement in turtle monitoring in the past, to carry out some activities in Y1 and trial data recording methods for Y2 and into the future. It is anticipated that the same local PO will be contracted in Y2 and Y3 alongside an additional one or two local data collectors. We still anticipate to be able to recruit a capable DF for Y2 and Y3 data collection (alongside the PLs who will also visit for 4-6 weeks). Secondly, we rely on GoM staff engaging with the use of the database and more evidence-based data collection methods, which they have done to some extent in Y1 with remote training, but in order to fully embed this, some face-to-face training is necessary. With the research work for Output 1, there is now the added assumption that international travel and access to Montserrat will resume within the next 6 months. If this doesn't happen, then some reduction in the intended outcome of the projects is inevitable. However, we continue to work on the assumption that as the vaccination rollout continues, then responsible travel that adheres to the COVID-19 guidelines of the destination will be permitted.

The workstream for Output 2 has yet to begin, but subject to travel restrictions being lifted by 2022/23 which we have to assume will happen, then the workshop will go ahead as originally planned. We have to assume that the GoM will adopt the final SAP and take it forward. As all elements of this project have been designed at the request of the GoM team and designed to foster local ownership of the project throughout then we still find it highly unlikely that they will not engage with making the recommended adjustments.

The activities for Output 3 have yet to begin as they require a physical presence on Island. We are still discussing having some online survey elements to this, but either way, some face-to-face work is required. The assumptions still hold true, that in order for this to be effective, local stakeholders need to agree to participate – MCS will be working with GoM partners to benefit from on-island social networks, and their experience and expertise developed in the Turks and Caicos Islands with CVM in 2010, and since then in the UK, will aid in facilitating local participation. As with Output 2, we assume that the GoM will act on the recommendations as they have expressed a need for reformed fisheries legislation and support a participatory democracy approach to developing new regulations.

Finally, with Output 4, we still assume that information signs will be well received at local marine beauty spots and that residents and visitors read them to find out more and that those working in the tourism industry will engage with the project. PLs and project partners have worked with some of these individuals before and have experienced their passion for Montserrat's natural history and its preservation so are confident that they will engage. Montserratians are resilient people who are still feeling the effects of the island's volcanic activity but are working hard to secure their livelihoods.

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

The project is currently at too early a stage, largely due to delays imposed by restrictions because of the COVID-19 pandemic to demonstrate tangible contributions to the strategic

outcomes for the natural environment on Montserrat. This objective, however, is of paramount importance to this project and by next reporting period we anticipate having made more progress.

Senior decision makers within the GoM will benefit from the availability of robust data collected during the next turtle nesting season to inform decisions relating to e.g. the planned port construction for which an Environmental Impact Assessment has identified turtles as a species that may be significantly impacted, and to strengthen marine-resource legislation to bring it in-line with internationally recognised standards and meet their obligations under Multilateral Agreements (MLA). This has been highlighted recently in a peer-reviewed publication with no affiliation to this current project (Claire Saladin [2020] International Environmental Law and Sea Turtles: Anatomy of the Legal Framework and Trade of Sea Turtles in the Lesser Antilles, *Journal of International Wildlife Law & Policy*, 23:4, 301-333) that identified several limitations with Montserrat's legislation relating to the take and protection of marine turtles in line with what has been committed under MLAs ratified by the UK and extended to some of the UKOTs.

The people of Montserrat will gain by engaging in a democratic process that acknowledges and enables their opinions to shape draft legislative recommendations; the GoM and marine stakeholders will also benefit more broadly through exposure to the Community Voice Method, a transferable approach that may be used to tackle Montserrat's other priority environmental issues. Locals and visitors to Montserrat will benefit from having more 'turtle tour' options available to them to witness this inspiring and charismatic marine species.

5. OPTIONAL: Consideration of gender equality issues

The community engagement elements have yet to be carried out for this project and so we don't currently have any data to provide further insights into this area than the original considerations presented in the Stage 2 Application. However, we are still committed to ensuring our community engagement aspects are gender-balanced and address barriers to participation as much as possible.

6. Monitoring and evaluation

The M&E plan remains unchanged, involving at least quarterly formal meetings between project partners to monitor progress, identify milestones that have been missed (or are likely to be missed) and adapt accordingly. These are also supplemented by informal contacts between the GoM lead and UoE and/ or MCS depending on the work package, as-and-when needed to help facilitate continual progress. The effectiveness of this approach was tested during Y1 in responding to major disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and has resulted in a revised implementation timetable and budget following two approved Change Requests that should allow the project to deliver all planned outputs and activities provided that international travel can resume in 2021. M&E during Y1 has focussed on monitoring progress against individual Outputs as the contribution of each of these to achieving the overall Outcome is explicit in the project design. In Y1 there has been significantly less progress than the team would have liked due to all of the current restrictions, however the working partnerships have been maintained and strengthened during this period, and following physical visits and face-to-face training and engagement we anticipated a more substantial M&E to be carried out in Y2.

7. Lessons learnt

There are no specific lessons that have been learned over the first nine months of the project, which has made as much progress as it can given the unprecedented, global impact of the COVID-19 pandemic that has prevented the overseas team from having any physical presence on Montserrat and so delaying the majority of the activities. The project has benefited from having a local co-Project Lead, which has meant that along with the locally recruited Project Officer, as much local monitoring as practically possible during the 2020 turtle nesting season mid-pandemic has been carried out. Additionally, it should be noted that during this time, all members of the project team have kept in regular contact and the mix of both informal and

formal meetings currently suits the needs of all project partners. There was a delay in getting partner agreements signed between those in authority at the UoE and GoM and the transfer of the funds, but now that the paperwork is in place, we don't anticipate future delays during the lifetime of this project or any subsequent joint projects.

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

Not Applicable – this is the first Annual Report.

9. Other comments on progress not covered elsewhere

Not Applicable.

10. Sustainability and legacy

The GoM team continue to carry out turtle monitoring as they have done in the past and will in the future as part of their commitments in the local Fisheries and Oceans Resources Management Plan. However, many elements of this work are based on locally perceived needs and best practice, some of which stem from training provided over a decade ago and are not aligned with international standards of data collection and management for evidence-based decision making. Through remote meetings between all partners there is an awareness of the need for data collection and management alongside the invaluable practical conservation work currently taking place on the Island. This was also explored during a remote appearance on a local radio show, The Culture Show (**Appendix 3.2**) when many interested locals phoned in to provide their turtle sightings over the years and the team explained how it is important to have a way of documenting this to assess any changes in turtle numbers. However, as acknowledged by the local Project Leader, in order for new survey methodology and data management protocols to be fully embedded it is necessary for the overseas team to have a physical presence on the island. Similarly, the legislative changes that the project aims to set in motion informed by public engagement through the Community Voice Method requires a physical presence on Montserrat for it to be most effective. The team has suggested some engagement through an online survey or quiz, but the local project lead from his intimate knowledge of the island and community is unsure if this will provide the desired level of public engagement, and some adaptation to the quiz model may be required.

Thus, the exit strategy remains the same; the creation of a self-sustaining monitoring protocol to facilitate the long-term continuation of the project. However, its effectiveness is dependent on international travel resuming to help provide an injection of capacity and energy into marine turtle monitoring and evidence-based conservation on Montserrat.

11. Darwin identity

All tangible outputs from the project clearly state the source of the funding – see those in **Appendix 3** – from press releases, social media posts, radio appearances to the Darwin logo being displayed on capital equipment where possible e.g. the beach signs (**Appendix 3**), leaflets (in preparation) and Community Voice Film (pending). The newly launched MCS website also has a [bespoke webpage](#) for this project, highlighting information regarding the Darwin Initiative and associated logo. There is generally a good understanding on Montserrat of the Darwin Initiative as there are currently 3 projects running on the island relating to waste management, the Mountain Chicken frog and this marine turtle project, which all have a number of elements of public engagement, as well other projects within the Wider Caribbean.

12. Impact of COVID-19 on project delivery

The COVID-19 pandemic, which has affected the entire first year of the project, has had wide-ranging and unforeseen impacts on our ability to deliver many of our planned activities and

outputs (detailed above and in Annex 1). In particular, restrictions on international travel that have prevented UK-based partners from travelling to Montserrat have severely limited progress in many areas. While the UoE and MCS teams have endeavoured to support GoM colleagues remotely wherever possible, outputs involving community engagement, applied research and capacity building can only be meaningfully achieved through on-the-ground visits. The very fluid nature of the situation, both locally on Montserrat and in the UK, has made forward planning extremely challenging. However, as greater clarity on the likely duration of current travel and quarantine restrictions emerged in early 2021, including timetables for vaccination rollouts, we submitted a Change Request that proposed a series of changes to hopefully enable us to safely deliver all of our original objectives within the original budget. The Logframe in Annex 2 reflects these approved changes and meeting the revised Outputs now hinges on the UK-based UoE team being able to visit Montserrat during the turtle nesting season in July/ August 2021 for the marine turtle research work with the local GoM team and then the MCS team later in 2021 for further community engagement work alongside the GoM team.

13. Safeguarding

Please tick this box if any safeguarding violations have occurred during this financial year.

If you have ticked the box, please ensure these are reported to ODA.safeguarding@defra.gov.uk as indicated in the T&Cs.

14. Project expenditure

Table 1: Project expenditure during the reporting period (1 April 2020 – 31 March 2021)

Project spend (indicative) in this financial year	2020/21 D+ Grant (£)	2020/21 Total actual D+ Costs (£)	Variance %	Comments (please explain significant variances)
Staff costs				
Consultancy costs				
Overhead Costs				
Travel and subsistence				
Operating Costs				
Capital items				
Others (Please specify)				
TOTAL				

Annex 1: Report of progress and achievements against Logical Framework for Financial Year 2020-2021 – if applicable

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2020 - March 2021	Actions required/planned for next period
<p>Impact</p> <p>The successful management and conservation of Montserrat's marine turtles is underpinned by a sound scientific evidence base, appropriately legislated, and valued by the local community and visitors to the island.</p>		<p>The local Montserratian community and its international Diaspora are aware of the project, it's aims and objectives, through appearances on local radio, <i>ad hoc</i> interactions during routine monitoring and hatchling releases during the 2020 nesting season, and school visits. The local GoM team are aware of the importance of reliable data collection and storage and have begun to engage with and input into the digital database. This progress, despite the unprecedented challenging circumstances of this year provide a sound basis on which to make more significant progress over the next two years of the project.</p>	
<p>Outcome The development and implementation of an evidence-based Marine Turtle Species Action Plan (SAP) for Montserrat to ensure that management, monitoring and conservation actions align with international best practice.</p>	<p>0.1 By 2023, Species Action Plan (SAP) for Montserrat's Marine Turtles has been developed and implemented (Outputs 1 and 2).</p> <p>0.2 By 2023, recommendation document submitted to Montserrat Legislative Council for amendments to CAP 12.06 Turtle Act (2002) (Output 3)</p> <p>0.3 At least n=20 people show 40% increase (using scored Likert scale) in opinions positive towards marine</p>	<p>It is difficult to quantify direct progress to the Outcomes at this stage of the project (but see progress made towards individual Outputs which are a better measure at this stage). The GoM team made some modifications to the way in which turtle monitoring data is collected and stored. This is an important first step in collecting the evidence base that is required for developing the SAP and will be built upon over the course of the next 2</p>	<p>The actions planned for the Outputs for the next period (detailed below) will allow facilitate progress towards achieving the Outcomes at the end of the project.</p>

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2020 - March 2021	Actions required/planned for next period
	<p>turtles and marine conservation through comparison between start and end-of-project attitudinal survey.</p> <p>0.4 Public outreach campaign to improve public understanding and appreciation of the programme (Output 4). By 2023 'Turtle Tours' have become a recognised way for locals and visitors to view nesting turtles.</p>	<p>years in order to meet this target. Additionally, public outreach work has begun and been welcomed, which is an important first step in building it up for the public participatory elements of the project.</p>	
<p>Output 1. An updated, island-wide status assessment of marine turtle nesting activity on Montserrat over two years</p>	<p>1.1 By end of Y2Q1, 1x DF appointed by UoE for 3-month 2021 nesting season. By the end of Y1Q2, 1x PO appointed by GoM for the 2020 nesting season. In Y2Q1 1x PO and 1x Assistant PO appointed by GoM for the 2021 nesting season. In Y3Q1 again 1 x DF appointed by UoE and 1 x PO and assistant PO by GoM for 3-month 2022 nesting season.</p> <p>1.2 By Y1Q3, a user-friendly Microsoft Access database is created to house all data collected pertaining to Montserrat's marine turtles. Training in use is provided to at least 5 x GoM personnel remotely by PL, with refresher/consolidation face-to-face training in Y2Q2. Database housed on GoM server.</p>	<p>1.1 GoM PO contracted (Mr John Jeffers) in 2020 and it is anticipated that the same PO will be contracted in 2021 and 2022 due to the prior knowledge and experience that he brings. Assistant PO and DF still to be appointed for 2021 (and then 2022).</p> <p>1.2 Database created (see Appendix 3.3), housed on GoM server, remote training provided and some data input in Y1 (2020). Use to be consolidated in Y2 with face-to-face training.</p>	

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2020 - March 2021	Actions required/planned for next period
	<p>1.3 Partial turtle nesting survey conducted by local Project Officer and GoM team (Y1&Y2; due to restrictions imposed by Covid-19 pandemic). Nocturnal and diurnal counts conducted daily on accessible beaches (n=7) throughout the nesting season.</p> <p>1.4 Full turtle nesting survey conducted (Y3). Counts of nesting turtles on each of Montserrat's beaches are conducted every night by DF and PO on accessible beaches (n=7) during the nesting season, and opportunistically on less accessible beaches (n=6), plus n=4 beaches previously un-surveyed in the Exclusion Zone (Y3Q2&Q3). Data inputted into turtle database.</p> <p>1.5 A representative sample (n=20) of nests followed through the nesting season in Y3 and excavated following hatching to gather baseline data on productivity and to evaluate threats to nests. Data inputted into turtle database. Assessments made of the 'hatchery' facility to evaluate its use in the future.</p> <p>1.6 All turtles encountered are individually marked with metal</p>	<p>1.3 Y1 (2020 turtle nesting season) partial nesting survey completed. Data are currently with the GoM team waiting to be fully inputted into the database.</p> <p>1.4 Anticipated to be carried out in Y3 during the 2022 turtle nesting season, informed by the partial surveys in Y1 and in particular Y2 when the UoE team will also be present.</p> <p>1.5 Anticipated to be carried out in Y3 during the 2022 turtle nesting season.</p>	

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2020 - March 2021	Actions required/planned for next period
	<p>flipper tags to enable longitudinal population studies in Y2. At least n=10 individuals fitted with GPS-tracking devices in Y2 to identify key inter-nesting habitat and regional migratory connectivity.</p> <p>1.7 Coastline survey carried out by UoE PDRA in Y3 using a drone to map nesting habitats and evaluate risks from inundation by tidal surges and coastal erosion.</p> <p>1.8 Following preliminary assessment in Y2, the mortality of turtle nests related to inundation, predation and potentially poaching, will be reduced by at least 50% in the 2022 nesting season following the implementation of protective measures. Such measures will be incorporated into the SAP for continuation (and potential further reduction in Y3) in the future.</p> <p>1.9 At least 8 local staff members trained in marine turtle research and monitoring methods through work shadowing in all years of the project.</p>	<p>1.6 Flipper tag recounters noted in Y1 by local PO. All flipper and PIT tagging equipment has been delivered to the Montserrat team (04/2021) so that it can be used in Y2 (2021 nesting season).</p> <p>1.7 To be carried out in Y3 (2022 nesting season).</p> <p>1.8 To be informed by monitoring work carried out in Y2 (2021 nesting season).</p> <p>1.9 2 x GoM Data Collectors accompanied the PO during some Y1 surveys with some <i>ad hoc</i> training. To be built upon in Y2 and Y3.</p> <p>All Measurable Indicators for this Output remain the same and appropriate.</p>	
Activity 1.1 Recruitment and successful appointment of DF (Y2&Y3), PO (Y1,2&3) and Assistant PO (Y2&3)		PO appointed.	DF and Assistant PO to be appointed in Y2.
Activity 1.2 Montserrat Turtle Monitoring Database created from existing template to fit local needs and local training provided for use to all relevant		Database created, sent to GoM and remote training on use provided.	Further training needed for GoM – one remote session when

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2020 - March 2021	Actions required/planned for next period
GoM staff and volunteers remotely in Y2 and then during the Y2&3 field seasons (for use into the future).		Some data for the 2020 turtle nesting season entered. See Appendix 3.3	monitoring starts in June 2021 and then further comprehensive face-to-face sessions in August 2021. UoE staff will also assist GoM team with a review of their paper records and input into database.
Activity 1.3 Turtle nesting counts undertaken on key beaches (Y1&Y2) and all beaches throughout the nesting season (Y3) following internationally recognised standard protocol and then subsequently as per targets in the SAP.		Partial nesting survey in Y1.	Partial nesting survey again to be carried out in Y2 to then inform methodology for the full survey in Y3.
Activity 1.4 Turtle nest productivity assessment undertaken across all nesting beaches (nests marked at the start of the season & then followed through the season and excavated following (un)successful hatching.		NA	A subsample of nests marked & excavated in Y2 to provide training and then to be fully carried out in Y3.
Activity 1.5 Turtle flipper and PIT tagging of all females encountered nesting (Y2&3) and satellite tag attachment during nesting (Y2) as per standard protocol		Tags numbers recorded of flipper tagged turtles encountered in Y1.	Refresher training to be provided for flipper and PIT tagging in Y2 so that it is done routinely. UoE and GoM to deploy satellite tags in Y2.
Activity 1.6 Coastline drone survey and creation of beach profiles for all major nesting beaches (as determined by the nest count survey).		NA	To be carried out in Y3.
Activity 1.7 Following assessment in Y2, the implementation of protective measures for turtle nests in Y3 (<i>in situ</i> and <i>ex situ</i> options considered according to the threats found).		NA	Consideration and consultation with the local team about this during field work in Y2.
Activity 1.8 Local staff training through work shadowing throughout the field season and any additional dedicated elements as deemed necessary.		Some <i>ad hoc</i> training provided in Y1.	To be furthered and more structured in Y2 and Y3.

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2020 - March 2021	Actions required/planned for next period
<p>Output 2. An updated sea turtle monitoring and management action plan.</p>	<p>2.1 International workshop held on Montserrat in Y3Q2/Q3, bringing together sea turtle experts and those working with sea turtles in the Caribbean region to critically evaluate threats and <i>in situ</i> and <i>ex situ</i> management actions for Montserrat's turtles based on data collected in 1 and additional local input.</p> <p>2.2 Based on 1 and outputs of 2.1, a robust population monitoring protocol is developed in Y2& refined in Y3 that is consistent with local capacity and management needs. Protocol is trialled by PO and local RA at the end of Y2 & during Y3 turtle nesting season and adjusted as necessary. Once on-the-ground, PLs and MCS will assess the potential for out-of-season landing record system for currently legal take harvest of adult turtles.</p> <p>2.3 All elements of the project feed into the creation and implementation of an evidence-based and SMART-aligned Marine Turtle SAP for Montserrat.</p>	<p>2.1 Planned for the end of the project (Y3) when it will be most useful.</p> <p>2.2 Some ideas have been discussed during remote meetings from on the ground information relayed. Evidence-based decisions to be made when all members of the project team are on the ground.</p> <p>2.3 There is an appreciation of the need for an evidence-based SAP and all elements of Output 1 and Output 2 will lead to this.</p> <p>All Measurable Indicators for this Output remain the same and appropriate.</p>	
<p>Activity 2.1. International workshop held on Montserrat for review of all available data, plan development and sharing of experiences between those in the Caribbean region.</p>		<p>NA</p>	<p>Planned for Y3.</p>

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2020 - March 2021	Actions required/planned for next period
Activity 2.2. Development and trial implementation of monitoring plan in Y2/Y3 nesting seasons (refinements made as necessary).		NA	Planned for Y2 and Y3.
Activity 2.3. Finalisation and publication of Marine Turtle Species Action Plan with endorsement from the Minister of Agriculture and the Environment.		NA	Planned for Y3.
Activity 2.4. Writing and submission on 2 scientific articles to peer-reviewed journals.		NA	Planned for Y3.
<p>Output 3. Review and make recommendations to update the current legislation concerning the protection of marine turtles.</p>	<p>3.1 In Y2Q2/3, at least 100 local community members attend 2 community engagement meetings explaining project need and aims (design to be adapted in line with the COVID-19 protocols at the time of visit).</p> <p>3.2 In Y2 Q2/3 face-to-face semi-structured interviews sensitively conducted with the local community to evaluate levels of current take of sea turtles, their eggs, socio-economic aspects, along with trends in nesting and in-water populations. Inclusion of attitudinal survey in interviews to determine opinions towards marine turtles and marine conservation. At least n=30 people interviewed ensuring gender balance. This will inform 3.3 Community Voice Method (CVM).</p> <p>3.3 Y2Q2/3, as part of Community Voice Method n=30 participants sensitively interviewed and filmed</p>	<p>This Output requires the MCS team to have a physical presence on Montserrat which has not yet been possible due to COVID-19 restrictions. Additionally, as there could be the perception that travellers from overseas pose a transmission risk to the community, which would result in reduced engagement in the activities by the local community, we want to wait until the most appropriate time in Y2 when the UK team have had both vaccinations and Montserrat is once again welcoming visitors.</p> <p>The MCS team have been engaged in all project meetings and are ready to 'hit the ground running' when the situation allows in Y2.</p> <p>All Measurable Indicators for this Output remain the same and appropriate.</p>	

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2020 - March 2021	Actions required/planned for next period
	<p>on their attitudes towards turtles and their conservation, ensuring gender balance. Resulting video recordings transcribed, analysed, and edited into a CVM film.</p> <p>3.4 Y2Q4, a public consultation campaign involving 10 island-wide screenings of the CVM film, with 5 screenings followed by structured workshops carried out with at least 100 participants to elicit responses on increasing protective measures afforded to marine turtles in the Turtle Act (2002)</p> <p>3.5 Y2Q4 - Face to face consultation with 25 selected stakeholders on recommended draft amendments to the Turtle Act (2002)</p> <p>3.6 Y2Q4 document presented to the Montserrat Legislative Council with recommendations for amendments to the CAP 12.06 Turtle Act (2002) to bring in line with internationally-recognised standards.</p> <p>3.7 Y3 – End-of-project attitudinal surveys with at least n=30 people from 3.1 to evaluate public perceptions of the project, and</p>		

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2020 - March 2021	Actions required/planned for next period
	<p>change in opinions towards marine turtles and marine conservation.</p> <p>3.8 Y1-Y3 – Monthly calls to enable shared learning and support on turtle conservation, CVM and policy development aspects between this project and DPLUS111 via MCS and UoE staff. Incorporated into community and CVM screening presentations.</p>		
<p>Activity 3.1. Implement at least 2 stakeholder engagement exercises introducing project need, aims and participatory mechanisms to fishing community and wider public</p> <p>3.1.1 Gather community feedback on project design</p> <p>3.1.2 Identify and contact appropriate community individuals for Activity 3.3</p>		NA	Planned for Y2
<p>Activity 3.2. Develop face-to-face semi-structured interview guide</p> <p>3.2.1 Pilot semi-structured interview guide with project staff (including women) to ensure locally appropriate and gender sensitive</p>		NA	Planned for Y2
<p>Activity 3.3. Implement semi-structured interviews with the local community to evaluate levels of current take of sea turtles and trends, and attitudinal survey to determine opinions towards marine turtles and marine conservation</p> <p>3.3.1 Analyse interview data and write report</p>		NA	Planned for Y2
<p>Activity 3.4. Draft interviewee list of stakeholders for CVM filmed interviews (aided by Activity 3.1.2 & 3.3)</p>		NA	Planned for Y2
<p>Activity 3.5. Develop CVM interview guide and consent form (aided by Activity 3.3.1)</p>		NA	Planned for Y2

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2020 - March 2021	Actions required/planned for next period
3.5.1 Pilot CVM interview guide with project staff (including women) to ensure locally appropriate and gender sensitive			
Activity 3.6. Finalise list of interviewees for CVM filming and arrange filmed interviews		NA	Planned for Y2
Activity 3.7. Implement CVM filmed interviews ensuring gender balance		NA	Planned for Y2
Activity 3.8. Transcribe and analyse filmed CVM interview data, and write analysis summary report		NA	Planned for Y2
Activity 3.9. Produce CVM film output		NA	Planned for Y2
Activity 3.10. Arrange and promote CVM film screening/workshops		NA	Planned for Y2 (or Y3 if required)
Activity 3.11. Hold 10 CVM screenings, including 5 workshops across the island		NA	Planned for Y2 (or Y3 if required)
Activity 3.12. Input and analyse CVM workshop proceedings to produce draft document with recommendations for amendments to Turtle Act (2002)		NA	Planned for Y2 (or Y3 if required)
Activity 3.13. Carry out consultations with selected stakeholders to gain feedback on recommended draft amendments to Turtle Act (2002)		NA	Planned for Y2 (or Y3 if required)
Activity 3.14. Present finalised recommended amendments to Minister for approval		NA	Planned for Y3
Activity 3.15. End-of-project attitudinal surveys with participants from 3.3 to evaluate public perceptions of the project, and change in opinions towards marine turtles and marine conservation in Montserrat.		NA	Planned for Y3
Output 4. Update signage at beaches relating to the disturbance of nesting turtles and methods of	4.1 By the end of Y2, n=3 informative and impactful weather-proof signage boards designed and		

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2020 - March 2021	Actions required/planned for next period
<p>best practice for viewing turtles and launch a public outreach campaign to improve public understanding and appreciation of the programme.</p>	<p>installed at the remaining beaches where they are not currently present with a marine conservation focus and advice about minimising disturbance to nesting turtles. Boards display agreed best practice guidelines from 4.2.</p> <p>4.2 Y3 Q2/Q3, a local marine user workshop held to bring together those interested in conducting turtle tours (at least n=10 people) for locals and visitors, to develop and agree on a set of guidelines aligned with best practice for viewing turtles. By Y3 nesting season, n=300 leaflets will have been created for dissemination to locals and visitors detailing these guidelines (as well as being available digitally on the GoM and Tourism Department Websites).</p> <p>4.3 At least n=4 school visits, n=4 radio-interviews, n=2 public meetings and social media campaign to make outputs of the project widely available and disseminate findings to the local community.</p>		
<p>Activity 4.1. Marine awareness signage boards for beaches designed, transported and installed to compliment those already in place.</p>		<p>Signs are currently being designed and manufactured on Montserrat in keeping with other environmental awareness signs already in place.</p>	<p>Signs to be erected and accompanying newspaper/ radio articles to highlight their purpose.</p>

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2020 - March 2021	Actions required/planned for next period
Activity 4.2. Turtle tour workshop held, guidelines for best practice agreed upon and the creation and distribution of information leaflets for locals and visitors.		NA	Planned for Y2.
Activity 4.3. School visits, radio interviews and social media campaign launched and carried out throughout the project to disseminate findings and engage and enthuse the local community and those further afield who may be interested in visiting Montserrat.		Activities initiated in Y1 (See main text and Appendix 3.3 & 3.5).	Continuation and expansion of activities during the 2022 nesting season.

Annex 2: Project’s full current logframe as presented in the application form (unless changes have been agreed) - if applicable

N.B. if your application’s logframe is presented in a different format in your application, please transpose into the below template. Please feel free to contact Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.uk if you have any questions regarding this.

Project Summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of Verification	Important Assumptions
<p>Impact:</p> <p>The successful management and conservation of Montserrat’s marine turtles is underpinned by a sound scientific evidence base, appropriately legislated, and valued by the local community and visitors to the island.</p>			
<p>Outcome:</p> <p>The development and implementation of an evidence-based Marine Turtle Species Action Plan (SAP) for Montserrat to ensure that management, monitoring and conservation actions align with international best practice.</p>	<p>0.1 By 2023, Species Action Plan for Montserrat’s Marine Turtles has been developed and implemented (Outputs 1 and 2).</p> <p>0.2 By 2023, recommendation document submitted to Montserrat Legislative Council for amendments to CAP 12.06 Turtle Act (2002) (Output 3)</p> <p>0.3 At least n=20 people show 40% increase (using scored Likert scale) in opinions positive towards marine turtles and marine conservation through comparison between start and end-of-project attitudinal survey.</p> <p>0.4 Public outreach campaign to improve public understanding and appreciation of the programme (Output 4).By 2023 ‘Turtle Tours’ have become a recognised way for locals and visitors to view nesting turtles.</p>	<p>0.1 Online publication of document and tracking of activities in a marine turtle database.</p> <p>0.2 Physical document and record of decision.</p> <p>0.3 Attitudinal survey transcripts, database, attitudinal report</p> <p>0.4 Online recordings of radio show appearances, newspaper and newsletter articles, social media and web pages. Community Voice Video.</p>	<p>As detailed in the assumptions of the Outputs, the project relies on a good working relationship being fostered with the GoM team to facilitate data collection and the design and implementation of a suitable Marine Turtle SAP for Montserrat, as well as buy-in and engagement from the local community to make the project a success. The methods being used, have been proven to be effective in similar circumstances in the past, the partners all have an established working relationship and the project is being driven by the Territory and its needs so we are confident that the outputs will be achieved.</p>

<p>Outputs:</p> <p>1. An updated, island-wide status assessment of marine turtle nesting activity on Montserrat over three years</p>	<p>1.1 By end of Y2Q1, 1x DF appointed by UoE for 3-month 2021 nesting season. By the end of Y1Q2, 1x PO appointed by GoM for the 2020 nesting season. In Y2Q1 1x PO and 1x Assistant PO appointed by GoM for the 2021 nesting season. In Y3Q1 again 1 x DF appointed by UoE and 1 xPO and assistant PO by GoM for 3-month 2022 nesting season.</p> <p>1.2 By Y1Q3, a user-friendly Microsoft Access database is created to house all data collected pertaining to Montserrat's marine turtles. Training in use is provided to at least 5 x GoM personnel remotely by PL, with refresher/ consolidation face-to-face training in Y2Q2. Database housed on GoM server.</p> <p>1.3 Partial turtle nesting survey conducted by local Project Officer and GoM team (Y1&Y2; due to restrictions imposed by Covid-19 pandemic). Nocturnal and diurnal counts conducted daily on accessible beaches (n=7) throughout the nesting season.</p> <p>1.4 Full turtle nesting survey conducted (Y3). Counts of nesting turtles on each of</p>	<p>1.1 UoE and GoM Employment records.</p> <p>1.2 Marine Turtle Nesting Database created, populated and housed within the Montserrat Data Gateway. Freely available on request.</p> <p>1.3 Database entries and project reports</p> <p>1.4 Database entries, project reports, published paper.</p>	<p>1.1 Suitable candidates apply and are selected for the positions. The Marine Turtle Research Group has a large network of collaborators and so advertisement reach and interest in the project will very likely facilitate the recruitment of a very capable DF. The training and suitable wage on offer for the local PO is also likely to facilitate interest for the position on Island and GoM has a thorough recruitment process.</p> <p>1.2 The database will be adapted from a one previously developed by the PLs for Ascension Island, so there is negligible risk of this not being implemented. We rely on GoM staff engaging with the use of the database but as they have expressed an interest in improved data storage, this risk is minimised.</p> <p>1.3 This assumes that a suitable PO can be recruited during the restrictive pandemic times. Also that no further curfews are enforced in relation to Covid-19 outbreaks and that the local officers can access the nesting beaches.</p>
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	<p>Montserrat's beaches are conducted every night by DF and PO on accessible beaches (n=7) during the nesting season, and opportunistically on less accessible beaches (n=6), plus n=4 beaches previously un-surveyed in the Exclusion Zone (Y3Q2&Q3). Data inputted into turtle database.</p> <p>1.5 A representative sample (n=20) of nests followed through the nesting season in Y3 and excavated following hatching to gather baseline data on productivity and to evaluate threats to nests. Data inputted into turtle database. Assessments made of the 'hatchery' facility to evaluate its use in Y2 & Y3.</p> <p>1.6 All turtles encountered are individually marked with metal flipper tags to enable longitudinal population studies in Y2. At least n=10 individuals fitted with GPS-tracking devices in Y2 to identify key inter-nesting habitat and regional migratory connectivity.</p> <p>1.7 Coastline survey carried out by UoE PDRA in Y3 using a drone to map nesting habitats and evaluate risks from</p>	<p>1.5 As 1.3.</p> <p>1.6 As 1.3 Also, maps of tracks disseminated through social public outreach (Output 4) and in peer-reviewed literature.</p> <p>1.7 As 1.3 and in peer-reviewed literature.</p> <p>1.8 As per 1.3</p>	<p>1.4 This is subject to the contracting of boats to survey the inaccessible beaches, and permissions being given to access the Exclusion Zone via boat. Initial discussions have implied that short periods of access will be possible, but if not then there is contingency for drone surveys.</p> <p>1.5-1.7 Negligible risk – if a suitably experienced DF is recruited then this is standard turtle nest monitoring and intervention procedure.</p>
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	<p>inundation by tidal surges and coastal erosion.</p> <p>1.8 Following preliminary assessment in Y2, the mortality of turtle nests related to inundation, predation and potentially poaching, will be reduced by at least 50% in the 2022 nesting season following the implementation of protective measures. Such measures will be incorporated into the SAP for continuation (and potential further reduction in Y3) in the future.</p> <p>1.9 At least 8 local staff members trained in marine turtle research and monitoring methods through work shadowing in all years of the project.</p>	<p>1.9 GoM employment and training records.</p>	<p>1.9 Local staff have initiated this project and have a desire to gain more training, so there is little risk here.</p>
<p>2. An updated sea turtle monitoring and management action plan.</p>	<p>2.1 International workshop held on Montserrat in Y3Q2/Q3, bringing together sea turtle experts and those working with sea turtles in the Caribbean region to critically evaluate threats and <i>in situ</i> and <i>ex situ</i> management actions for Montserrat's turtles based on data collected in 1 and additional local input.</p> <p>2.2 Based on 1 and outputs of 2.1, a robust population monitoring protocol is developed</p>	<p>2.1 Workshop report, media (local and social media) coverage.</p> <p>2.2 Publication of document and data from Y2 in turtle database.</p>	<p>2.1 Workshop is held in such a way that it engages those working on Montserrat so that any proposed changes to sea turtle monitoring programmes and conservation actions are realistic for the territory and readily and practically implemented (as will be detailed in the SAP). The GoM team is driving this project because of their desire to improve their marine turtle programme and so are likely to engage with insights from others. Experts will be</p>

	<p>in Y2& refined in Y3 that is consistent with local capacity and management needs. Protocol is trialled by PO and local RA at the end of Y2 & during Y3 turtle nesting season and adjusted as necessary. Once on-the-ground, PLs and MCS will assess the potential for out-of-season landing record system for currently legal take harvest of adult turtles.</p> <p>2.3 All elements of the project feed into the creation and implementation of an evidence-based and SMART-aligned Marine Turtle SAP for Montserrat.</p>	<p>2.3 Publication of the document – available through the Montserrat Data Gateway.</p>	<p>invited based on their relevant work and expertise and their desire to facilitate positive and meaningful change.</p> <p>2.2 & 2.3 This is dependent on the GoM adopting the SAP and taking it forward. As all elements of this project have been designed at the request of the GoM team and designed to foster local ownership of the project throughout it is highly unlikely that they will not engage with making the recommended adjusts.</p>
<p>3. Review and make recommendations to update the current legislation concerning the protection of marine turtles.</p>	<p>3.1 In Y2Q2/3, at least 100 local community members attend 2 community engagement meetings explaining project need and aims (design to be adapted in line with the COVID-19 protocols at the time of visit).</p> <p>3.2 In Y2 Q2/3 face-to-face semi-structured interviews sensitively conducted with the local community to evaluate levels of current take of sea turtles, their eggs, socio-economic aspects, along with trends in nesting and in-water populations. Inclusion of</p>	<p>3.1 Stakeholder engagement report, attendance register, photos</p> <p>3.2 Audio recordings, transcriptions, report.</p>	<p>3.1 - 3.5 Local stakeholders agree to participate – MCS will be working with GoM partners to benefit from on-island social networks, and their experience and expertise developed in the Turks and Caicos Islands with CVM in 2010, and since then in the UK, will aid in facilitating local participation. Initial semi-structured interviews will highlight potential CVM film interviewees.</p>

	<p>attitudinal survey in interviews to determine opinions towards marine turtles and marine conservation. At least n=30 people interviewed ensuring gender balance. This will inform 3.3 Community Voice Method (CVM).</p> <p>3.3 Y2Q2/3, as part of Community Voice Method n=30 participants sensitively interviewed and filmed on their attitudes towards turtles and their conservation, ensuring gender balance. Resulting video recordings transcribed, analysed, and edited into a CVM film.</p> <p>3.4 Y2Q4, a public consultation campaign involving 10 island-wide screenings of the CVM film, with 5 screenings followed by structured workshops carried out with at least 100 participants to elicit responses on increasing protective measures afforded to marine turtles in the Turtle Act (2002)</p> <p>3.5 Y2Q4 - Face to face consultation with 25 selected stakeholders on recommended draft amendments to the Turtle Act (2002)</p>	<p>3.3 Documents and transcripts on responses received, finalised CVM film, summary report.</p> <p>3.4 Workshop notes and photographs, participant register, social media posts.</p> <p>3.5 Audio record of consultation interviews, completed consultation questionnaire forms, database.</p> <p>3.6 Physical policy document</p>	<p>3.6 GoM will act on the recommendations – GoM have already expressed a need for reformed fisheries legislation and support a participatory</p>
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	<p>3.6 Y2Q4 document presented to the Montserrat Legislative Council with recommendations for amendments to the CAP 12.06 Turtle Act (2002) to bring in line with internationally-recognised standards.</p> <p>3.7 Y3 – End-of-project attitudinal surveys with at least n=30 people from 3.1 to evaluate public perceptions of the project, and change in opinions towards marine turtles and marine conservation.</p> <p>3.8 Y1-Y3 – Monthly calls to enable shared learning and support on turtle conservation, CVM and policy development aspects between this project and DPLUS111 via MCS and UoE staff. Incorporated into community and CVM screening presentations.</p>	<p>3.7 Audio recordings, transcriptions, final attitudinal report.</p> <p>3.8 Meeting notes, Whatsapp chat transcriptions, photographs. CVM screening presentations.</p>	<p>democracy approach to developing new regulations.</p> <p>3.8 Project partners from both this and DPLUS111 are already in touch, helped through Amdeep Sanghera’s current UKOT facilitation role at MCS. A bespoke Whatsapp group has been created between both project staff to encourage live-learning during project cycle and beyond.</p>
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<p>4. Update signage at beaches relating to the disturbance of nesting turtles and methods of best practice for viewing turtles and launch a public outreach campaign to improve public understanding and appreciation of the programme.</p>	<p>4.1 By the end of Y2, n=3 informative and impactful weather-proof signage boards designed and installed at the remaining beaches where they are not currently present with a marine conservation focus and advice about minimising disturbance to nesting turtles. Boards display agreed best practice guidelines from 4.2.</p> <p>4.2 Y3 Q2/Q3, a local marine user workshop held to bring together those interested in conducting turtle tours (at least n=10 people) for locals and visitors, to develop and agree on a set of guidelines aligned with best practice for viewing turtles. By Y3 nesting season, n=300 leaflets will have been created for dissemination to locals and visitors detailing these guidelines (as well as being available digitally on the GoM and Tourism Department Websites).</p> <p>4.3 At least n=4 school visits, n=4 radio-interviews, n=2 public meetings and social media campaign to make outputs of the project widely available and</p>	<p>4.1 Photos of signage in-situ.</p> <p>4.2 Workshop report and publication of leaflet.</p> <p>4.3 Online recordings of radio show appearances, newspaper and newsletter articles, social media.</p>	<p>4.1 We assume that signs will be well received at local marine beauty spots and that residents and visitors read them to find out more. Suppliers have been contacted who will provide all-weather boards made from sustainable materials and the team will work to make them as visually attractive and relevant as possible.</p> <p>4.2-4.3 We assume that those working in the tourism industry will engage with the project. PLs and project partners have worked with some of these individuals before and have experienced their passion for Montserrat's natural history and its preservation so are confident that they will engage. Montserratians are resilient people who are still feeling the effects of the island's volcanic activity but are working hard to secure their livelihoods.</p>

	disseminate findings to the local community.		
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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 should 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 need to submit with the report? If so, please make this clear in the covering email and ensure all material is marked with the project number. However, we would expect that most material will now be electronic.	
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.	