

Darwin Plus: Overseas Territories Environment and Climate Fund Annual Report

To be completed with reference to the “Project Reporting Information Note”
(<https://darwinplus.org.uk/resources/information-notes>)

It is expected that this report will be a **maximum of 20 pages** in length, excluding annexes)

Submission Deadline: 30th April 2023

Submit to: BCF-Reports@niras.com including your project ref in the subject line

Darwin Plus Project Information

Project reference	DPLUS181
Project title	East Caicos Wilderness Area: Protecting the Caribbean's largest uninhabited island in the British West Indies
Territory(ies)	Turks & Caicos Islands
Lead Partner	RSPB
Project partner(s)	Turks & Caicos National Trust, Marine Conservation Society
Darwin Plus grant value	£584, 482
Start/end dates of project	01 July 2022 - 31 March 2025
Reporting period (e.g. Apr 2022-Mar 2023) and number (e.g. Annual Report 1, 2)	01 July 2022 – 31 March 2023, Annual report 1 AR1
Project Leader name	Simon Busuttil
Project website/blog/social media	N/A
Report author(s) and date	Simon Busuttil, Charlie Butt

1. Project summary

At 47 square kilometres, uninhabited East Caicos is the last, large-scale wilderness area in the Caribbean UKOTs . Its scale, mosaic of terrestrial and coastal habitats and relative intactness supports rare, threatened, endemic species. Only 18% of the island is protected. The project will create a locally driven participatory resource management plan for East Caicos, develop local livelihood opportunities, and strengthen local capacity for the island’s effective management. This will provide an alternate management model to insensitive development, protecting the island’s ecological and cultural heritage.

A key challenge to management, identified by on-island partners, is the absence of community direction, ownership, documented traditional knowledge and up-to-date wildlife data, which has prevented a successful locally led management planning process. East Caicos’ remoteness and inaccessibility have thus far protected it from major development schemes, but development pressures are increasing due to a perceived need for physical infrastructure to address local economic needs. There are plans to develop significant parts of East Caicos for significant industrial use – something which many on the islands believe is incompatible with the Country’s current economic status as a high-end tourism destination.

Whilst these plans lie dormant, they occasionally resurface as they did in 2015 with plans to create a deep-water marina, triggering RSPB to support a rapid assessment of East Caicos underpinning advocacy and site safeguard efforts. The appetite and perceived potential for

development means that buy-in for traditional government- and legislation backed Protected Area status for the entirety of East Caicos is politically hard to achieve.

Our project, with the groundswell of civil society backing it will generate, will make the ambition to legally protect the whole of East Caicos more likely to become reality. With the political challenges in mind, the project aims to establish a Community Conservation Area. To achieve this, the project will support a locally driven process to capture key biodiversity and other heritage values through the documentary film-based Community Voice Method. This enables local voices to democratically shape conservation outcomes, supported by on-island led field surveys, coupled with capacity to build and support management. The project will show vital proof-of-concept that alternative economic opportunities can be created without high density development, strengthening community-ties to and protection for the irreplaceable natural, cultural and historic heritage values of East Caicos.

2. Project stakeholders/partners

The formal partners working alongside RSPB are:

The Turks & Caicos National Trust (TCNT)

Responsible for:

- Recruitment of key positions for project delivery (Community Engagement Officer and Heritage Sites Support Officer), Lead on the engagement and facilitation of North, Middle and South Caicos community members in the conservation planning process, Support survey work and collation of information generated in the workshops

The Turks and Caicos National Trust is the local membership, non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of the natural, historical and cultural heritage of the Turks and Caicos Islands. The Trust has earned the trust of the citizens of the TCI since its creation in 1992.

Marine Conservation Society (MCS)

Responsible for:

- Lead on the Community Voice Method (CVM) including participant filming, footage transcription and data analysis, film editing and screening of the CVM, Lead turtle habitat survey aspects of the project

MCS has been active in the Caribbean UK Overseas territories for over 20 years and provided significant support to partners to improve management of their Marine Protected Areas. MCS has worked on partnership projects in the Turks and Caicos Islands (TCI) alongside the Government's Department of Environment and Coastal Resources (DECR) since 2002.

The RSPB has been working with the OTs for over 25 years. The underlying principle of our work is to establish enduring relationships with local partners to help support the development of sustainable and locally-lead conservation programmes. RSPB is established in the Turks and Caicos Islands. A successful EU BEST II project followed by two Darwin projects (DPLUS055 and DPLUS121) have given RSPB a long-term presence and deepened our relationship with local actors.

In addition, regional and TCI subcontractors will be engaged and contracted by RSPB to support project activities. These include:

- **Birds Caribbean** – will lead bird guide training workshops and engaging hoteliers to raise awareness about nature-based tourism opportunities.
- **SWA Environmental** – Will support TCNT and community members participation in bird/plant survey techniques and update/establish estimates of IBA trigger species and presence/absence of non-native species

- **Turks & Caicos Reef Fund** – Will establish extent of Stony Coral Loss Disease in East Caicos

In this reporting period partnership agreements have been established between the RSPB and MCS/TCNT and an initial project start-up meeting held in mid-2022 between partners and all but one of the below sub-contractors to the project. We have engaged subcontractors and are in the process of drafting contracts ahead of planned activities in year 2.

3. Project progress

3.1 Progress in carrying out project Activities

Output 1: Participatory resource management plan for East Caicos produced via facilitation incorporating local knowledge of priority cultural, historic and ecological heritage values

1.1 RSPB conduct desktop research to compile available information

Duplicate activity to be removed from Logframe. See Activity 3.1.

1.2 RSPB, supported by TCNT provide equipment and IT to support daily operations between Middle Caicos and South Caicos. (Vehicle, boat, tablet, external hard drive, tablet, stationary, etc.)

Equipment including laptops, tablets and audio recorders purchased and distributed to TCNT staff in preparation of community surveys/mapping in year 2.

1.3 RSPB conduct in-house training with current conservation staff in Middle Caicos and new conservation staff in South Caicos that will be recruited on island

TCNT staff have received training in biosecurity (supported by DPLUS121) and support re: site management with particular attention on Little Water Cay (iguana islands) a flagship national Trust site, which is improving the Heritage Site Officer's site management skills and experience in preparation of future activities on this project.

RSPB has provided ongoing support re: project management and monitoring whilst the Senior Conservation Scientist, is working closely with the TCNT Community Engagement Officer with the coordination of engagement activities.

1.6 TCNT Community Engagement Officer, supported by RSPB/MCS, pilots interview questionnaire with community members in South and Middle Caicos, including women and girls, to ensure gender appropriate.

Questionnaire in development with support of RSPB social scientist (**Annex 5**).

1.9 RSPB, supported by TCNT organise three excursions to East Caicos to conduct field walks and oral history interviews with selected knowledgeable elders and youth from the 4 inhabited islands. Field walks to visit and fix the location of as many of the mapped sites as possible using hand-held GPS units. Oral history interviews will document key traditional cultural knowledge about the different biologically and culturally significant sites, including the ethnohistory, traditional stories and songs, placenames, and the resource-use and management strategies associated with each area and its resources

Significant progress and focus on this activity. Community engagement is ongoing on South, North and Middle Caicos lead by TCNT project lead, Della Higgs and Community Engagement Officer Chaim Gellineau-Manswell. This has included community meetings on South and Middle Caicos, a presentation at the School for Field Studies, South Caicos and attendance at schools on North Caicos. A summary is provided in **Annex 6**.

TCNT/RSPB are working through an external stakeholder analysis for the project to inform future engagements and will be updated throughout the project (this will also support activities planned in Year 2 led by MCS). Workshop plan is drafted **Annex 7** and consent forms developed in preparation for future interviews **Annex 8**. An RSPB sabbatical has been enlisted to assist the project team with the community mapping workshops in May 2023.

We have identified that regular excursions to East Caicos with community members particularly elderly members, is a significant logistical challenge (see section 7) therefore we have contracted a young local filmmaker to develop short drone films that can be shown at the community workshops in year 2. These films will be developed in April 2022.

Activities 1.4, 1.5, 1.7, 1.8, 1.10 -1.18 not scheduled for this reporting period

Output 2: Sustainable, long-term, locally owned and designed small business and nature-based tourism plans developed for East Caicos.

2.1 TCNT invite Invest TCI and CED to facilitate workshops aimed to assist small business owners with grants (financial support) and 2.2 TCNT support cross-marketing of services/products including authentication stamp authorized by Dept. of Culture, Tourist Board, National Trust, DECR, and Dept of Agriculture) to be displayed by small business. (TCI Assured Authentication) and 2.3 TCNT ensure promotion of local products/services on social media/websites.

No progress regarding engagement with small business support stakeholders yet. We are reviewing the timeline for these activities. It is better to take place after the initial workshops with communities once we have established potential needs/opportunities for community members.

2.4 TCNT together with MCS engage Fishing Co-op (Mr. Talbot), and DECR to identify fisherman that have set skills and knowledge of historical trails, dive site, turtle watching, etc. and 2.5 TCNT draft and implement short curriculum to ensure fisherfolk provide accurate information to tour guests.

Engagement with island communities ongoing (see activity 1.9). Targeted engagement with fishing cooperative to follow. Development of curriculum to follow in year 2 building on Birds Caribbean workshops in October 2023.

2.8 TCNT set up group monthly meetings to follow-up on training and aptitude testing.

Not needed yet. To take place after trainings have been completed.

2.12 TCNT utilize Heritage & Discovery Clubs in the secondary schools (private & public) for students to be engaged and join educational activities

Heritage & discovery clubs not utilised yet but engagement with island communities has taken place in education settings (see activity 1.9).

Activities 2.6, 2.7, 2.9 - 2.11, 2.13 not scheduled for this reporting period

Output 3: Ecological, cultural and historic baseline established, and presence of non-native species determined and used to inform conservation management and community empowerment.

3.1 RSPB carries out desk-based research and review of existing studies and grey literature

Desk top analysis ongoing and to be finalised before end Y2 Q1. Activity has identified that a few key sources are referenced multiple times and MCS have provided additional data to support research. A compiled list of literature identified to inform this analysis is provided in **Annex 10**.

3.4 MCS identify index nesting sites using existing TCI Turtle Project (TCITP) nesting data and published literature and 3.5 MCS develop standardised Sea turtle nesting protocol using existing TCITP sampling protocols and 3.7 MCS implement sea turtle nesting surveys in Yr1 nesting season, repeated in Yr2 and Yr3.

MCS have developed the sea turtle nesting protocol for the project (**Annex 12**) and contracted a TCI local, Oshin Whyte to complete nesting surveys in Y1 Q3. Although Turks & Caicos was not significantly impacted by [hurricane Fiona](#), the impact on East Caicos' Atlantic shoreline resulted in significant erosion and debris deposits, limiting any turtles ability to successfully nest. No nests were found during survey effort. The year 2 survey is planned for April and May 2023. Reports for the initial surveys are provided in **Annex 11**. Oshin also produced an article about the turtle survey (see 4.3).

Activities 3.2, 3.3, 3.6, 3.8, 3.9 3.10 not scheduled for this reporting period

Output 4: Awareness and appreciation of the cultural, historic and ecological value of East Caicos is increased amongst communities, TCI citizens, the private sector and government stakeholders leading to strengthened support for protected status for E Caicos.

4.3 TCNT prepare and release media press releases with TC Weekly News, Sun News, PTV, and TCI E News

No press releases developed yet, however a turtle survey article was published in [Times of the Island](#). We plan to engage local media outlets further as community activities progress in year two. A communications plan is being developed and discussions have been held in TCNT to align project -team messaging via an internal project team briefing note developed.

4.4 Updates provided through Head of Department meetings (monthly) and progress reports to Cabinet (Governor/Ministers) quarterly.

Project Manager reports monthly to TCNT Director re: project progress. We expect more formal briefings directly to government/ministers via TCNT Director as activities pick-up in year two. Quarterly meetings with project team established to ensure regular communication on project progress with Project Manager.

4.5 RSPB contracts Nutshell productions to produce East Caicos heritage values film

Following discussions with TCNT it was decided that a tender process should be opened up to produce the film in order to allow local filmmakers in TCI-based companies the opportunity to develop this film. Nutshell productions have decided not to participate in the tender process and will no longer produce the film. We will open the call for tender in Q1 year 2.

Activities 4.1, 4.2 not scheduled for this reporting period

Output 5: Strengthened capacity of national project partners, TCI citizens and local communities to effectively manage and protect East Caicos wilderness area

5.1 TCNT, supported by RSPB, advertises and recruits for qualified individuals, (Heritage Sites Support Manager and Community Engagement Officer) building the technical skill capacity. TCNT to source employee internally at TCI level to interview for proposed positions

Significant attention and effort have been put on this activity. These posts are crucial to the success of the project and so considerable discussion and focus was put on recruiting from within TCI and in particular within South Caicos for the Community Engagement Officer. TCNT project lead, Della Higgs visited South Caicos in November 2022 to introduce the project to the community and discuss the community engagement job opportunity with those present, which proved successful with the post filled directly as a result of this effort.

Community Engagement Officer, Chaim Gellineau-Manswell is from South Caicos and embedded within the community and in addition the Heritage Sites Support Officer, Charmony Hislop, is from the so-called 'twin islands' of North/Middle Caicos which will assist in building connections with the island further. Copies of their CVs were provided with HYR1. This a significant achievement and the posts are already well embedded within the National Trust.

5.2 RSPB establishes an internal management and stewardship structure, so project staff understand their roles in relation to decision processes and the strategic plan, creating a workplan to link operational activities over the course of the project to meet strategic objectives for the establishment of the CCA.

A monitoring plan and project SharePoint has been set up and shared with partners (See section 6). Roles and responsibilities have been discussed with partners, in particular support to TCNT has been provided by the Project Manager, Simon Busutil and from RSPB visit in Jan 2023 where TCNT East Caicos project staff and RSPB made a visit to South and East Caicos and held a project planning meeting.

5.3 TCNT based Community Engagement Officer will lead on the preparation and facilitation of a governance framework detailing how decisions will be made, existing community governance

bodies and processes to support the CCA, identify and document traditional and natural resource management laws to support the CCA.

Community engagement ongoing (activity 1.9) with support of newly recruited Community Engagement Officer. Governance structure to be developed in collaboration with community following workshops in May 2022.

Activities 5.4, 5.5 not scheduled for this reporting period

3.2 Progress towards project Outputs

Output 1: Participatory resource management plan for East Caicos produced via facilitation incorporating local knowledge of priority cultural, historic and ecological heritage values

Baseline Condition: Aspirations of communities on the islands surrounding East Caicos (South, North, Middle) are unclear and no management plan is in place for the island. Local knowledge of cultural and natural heritage not captured, and areas of cultural significance are not mapped.

1.1 Three excursions/workshops with relevant local communities and stakeholder groups to carry out participatory GIS mapping, visioning exercises and focus group discussions, capturing the ecosystem services, heritage values and future aspirations for the management of East Caicos by end Y2

RSPB/TCNT trip established challenges with accessing East Caicos. Plans to identify participatory mapping exercises with support of drone films (rather than excursions) in May 2023. This indicator is no longer appropriate, and we will review and submit a change request in Year 2, however progress towards implementing workshops (community engagement, workshop planning) is on track.

Indicators 1.2 -1.6 Not planned for this reporting period

Output 2: Sustainable, long-term, locally owned and designed small business and nature-based tourism plans developed for East Caicos.

Baseline Condition: Local tour guides from hotels/independent local businesses with natural heritage knowledge of East Caicos and its ecological values are low/non-existent and understanding of knowledge amongst youth not quantified.

2.5 50 young people (aged 11- 18) attend at least 3 excursions and educational opportunities (inter-generational learning exchanges, nature-based activities, and interactions with scientists) with 50% demonstrating an improved knowledge of the ecological, cultural and historic values of East Caicos before end of project

Possibility of excursions to East Caicos limited due to access issues. To be reviewed for youth groups. Education engagements ongoing (see Activity 1.9)

Indicators 2.1 – 2.4 not planned for this reporting period

Output 3: Ecological, cultural and historic baseline established, and presence of non-native species determined and used to inform conservation management and community empowerment.

Baseline Condition: Ecological/cultural knowledge and importance of East Caicos limited/unknown. No formal assessments of non-native/native (and invasive species) available and areas of key habitat and population assessments (i.e of KBA species) unclear.

3.1 Desk-based gap analysis of available peer-reviewed research, studies and other research (including grey literature) done on East Caicos completed by Q4 Yr1, informing field study plans

Research compiled and report drafted/being finalised.

3.3 Quantification and monitoring of nesting sea turtle populations at 5 index sites around East Caicos, completed by end of Yr1, repeated in Yrs 2 and 3

Protocol and year 1 survey completed. (**Annex 11, 12**). No nests identified because of hurricane impacts on shoreline. Next surveys planned for April and May 2023.

3.6 Presence and potential impacts of non-native species assessed by end of Yr2

Presence of donkeys (already known) and rodents confirmed (tracks) during field visits in Jan 23 (as expected). Further assessments to be completed by SWA with support of TCNT.

Indicators 3.2, 3.4, 3.5 Not planned for this reporting period

Output 4: Awareness and appreciation of the cultural, historic and ecological value of East Caicos is increased amongst communities, TCI citizens, the private sector and government stakeholders leading to strengthened support for protected status for East Caicos.

Baseline Condition: Significance of East Caicos in TCI limited. Awareness of cultural, historic and ecological value of East Caicos within TCI unknown but likely low/limited to individuals with specific interest.

4.1 6 Podcasts and radio interviews “speak your mind TCI” and film reach 75% of registered TCI voters (c.7,732) citizens, by end of project

We are developing a communications plan for the project which will support us to achieve this indicator.

4.3 At least two media press releases shared with TCI media outlets per year and at least two articles in TCI news outlets by end of project, plus 12 social media posts per annum, detailing progress of project and community-led efforts to embed protection for East Caicos and create Community Conservation Area

East Caicos project article published in Times of the Island. Regular social media posts from TCNT and plans for East Caicos project channels to be established. TCNT social media /website consultant will be on board in the coming months to support TCNT communications/marketing.

4.5 Annual briefing for Senior TCI Government Ministers, Government Officials and Governor on project progress

No briefing to government/ministers yet held in yet. Updates provided form Project manager to TCNT Director as required. Planned from Y2 following further activity implementation.

Indicators 4.2, 4.4 not planned for this reporting period

Output 5: Strengthened capacity of national project partners, TCI citizens and local communities to effectively manage and protect East Caicos wilderness area

Baseline Condition: Capacity to engage project target communities limited and structures to effectively manage/protect East Caicos not in place.

5.1 Partner capacity increased by end of Yr1 through recruitment of a South Caicos-based Community Engagement and Outreach Officer and Heritage Support Officer to TCNT.

Indicator achieved. Two local TCI recruits in post from Jan 2023.

Indicators 5.2 – 5.4 not planned for this reporting period

3.3 Progress towards the project Outcome

Outcome: Participatory natural resource management, sustainable livelihoods, awareness and local capacity helps establish the future protection of the unique cultural, historic and natural heritage values of East Caicos.

Baseline condition: East Caicos protected only by its remote location and inaccessibility. No management plan in place and limited understanding of cultural, ecological values amongst in TCI and further afield to be able to warrant better protections.

0.2 East Caicos Community Conservation group comprised of ten people from representative communities established by end of project

Community engagement Officer recruited and community engagement ongoing to increase awareness of project and objectives. Governance structure to be developed year 2.

0.4 By end of project, the proportion of Turks and Caicos citizens interviewed that are supportive of maintaining East Caicos as a wilderness area, supporting local livelihoods development, increases by 50% from baseline determined in Yr1

Baseline to be established following engagement at workshops and interviews with community members in year 2.

0.5 At least fifteen areas of critical importance for heritage conservation mapped for future management and protection by end of Yr2

Preparations for mapping workshops underway and will be support by RSPB social scientist with additional capacity at workshops provided by RSPB sabbatical. Workshops planned for May 2023.

Indicators 0.1, 0.3 Not planned for this reporting period

3.4 Monitoring of assumptions

Assumption 1 *Covid19 does not prevent face to face workshops in Middle and South Caicos.*

Assumption 5 *Stakeholder engagement activities (CVM, GIS Mapping) adheres to TCI Covid measures (e.g. social gathering numbers, social distancing etc) to promote safe participation and minimise any disruption caused by ongoing pandemic.*

Held true. Covid-19 restrictions lifted in TCI.

Assumption 6 *International tourism picks up to pre Covid19 levels*

Not only has this held true but Turks & Caicos has an exceptionally fast growing tourism economy and has made a full recovery (<https://today.caricom.org/2022/05/30/tci-on-track-for-full-tourism-recovery-caricom-business/>)

Assumption 10 *Young people willing and able to attend event excursions.*

We assume the willingness to engage will remain, however the ability to visit East Caicos regularly is constrained by the practicalities of accessing the island and objectives can be achieved alternatively (See section 7).

Assumption 12 *Conditions allow sea turtle nesting monitoring; pandemic does not inhibit travel to East Caicos*

Held True. Pandemic not causing any travel issues in TCI.

Assumption 13 *Sufficient data generated to enable KBA criteria assessment Communities willing to share local knowledge around plants and wildlife and heritage sites within East Caicos Surveys able to detect presence of non-native species*

No change. Minimal effort required to detect invasive species during RSPB/TCNT visit to East Caicos. We expect future surveys will have no issues in detecting the presence of non-native species.

Assumption 16 *Project runs smoothly and to plan to enable Green List criteria to be met (Good Governance, Effective Management, Sound Design and Planning, successful conservation outcomes).*

Mostly held true. There were some delays in recruitment and adjustments to timelines have been made. This has no impact the project outcome and a change request has been submitted and approved in Dec 2022.

Assumption 17 *Press releases appeal to media outlets.*

Held true. One article published locally.

Assumption 18 *Recruitment able to attract sufficient quality candidates from within TCI or wider region.*

Held true. Both recruits are from TCI.

Assumption 19 *Community interested and willing to establish a Community Conservation Area for East Caicos.*

Held true. Communities participating in events/presentations provided so far.

There has been no change to the following assumptions:

Assumption 2 & 8 *Fisherfolk interested in and keen to diversify livelihoods, participate in training.*

Assumption 3 *Sufficient investment or loans are available to initiate start-up businesses.*

Assumption 4 *Stakeholders agree to participate in CVM process including filmed interviews, self-capture camera exercise, participatory workshops and face-to-face consultations.*

Assumption 7 *Participants able to agree on small business development opportunity priorities.*

Assumption 9 *Tour operators willing to accommodate and optimise East Caicos as part of their offering.*

Assumption 11 *Field survey timings optimised to determine quantitative assessment of priority globally threatened and IBA trigger species.*

Assumption 14 *People tune in in sufficient numbers to listen to podcasts and interviews*

Assumption 15 *WHSRN approve East Caicos nomination.*

Assumption 20 *Sufficient community participation, input and ownership of East Caicos management plan.*

Assumption 21 *An adequately gender- and age balanced governance system can be established.*

Assumption 22 *EFN funding mechanism for core capacity remains available in 2024-5.*

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

The eastern portion of the North, Middle & East Caicos Islands Ramsar (493) covers around 18% of East Caicos; the Ramsar wetlands are contiguous with the rest of the island. The project will deliver against recent Ramsar Resolutions, particularly XIII.15 of the 13th COP to the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands. Parties were encouraged to "...seek mechanisms that allow the conservation and transmission of traditional knowledge of indigenous peoples and local communities including in the sustainable use of natural resources, with scientific advice." (23) This aligns closely with the project goals. Furthermore, Contracting Parties were encouraged "to continue to promote cultural diversity and traditional knowledge systems and practices within wetlands as part of holistic approaches to planning..." (24) matching our proposed approach with the project.

Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD): This project will contribute to the post-2020 framework ambition of '30x30', as it will add a substantial area of high conservation value to TCI's PA network. As TCI already has circa 26% of land protected, and given East Caicos alone makes up 5% of TCI's land area, this project could achieve the 30x30 target for TCI, five years ahead of target.

No progress in this reporting period.

The project will contribute to **UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):**

- (1) No poverty, by creating and developing viable and long-term economic opportunities for local communities. Whilst there are no readily available statistics, anecdotal evidence from local partners indicates that the South Caicos community does not receive the same economic benefits as communities of Providenciales. This project seeks to change that.
- (8) Decent work and economic growth, particularly target 8.9 (implement policies to promote sustainable tourism that creates jobs and promotes local culture and products) by developing sensitive eco-tourism opportunities and local businesses selling traditional products.
- (11) Sustainable communities, particularly target 11.4 (strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world's cultural and natural heritage) by improving public understanding, appreciation, and willingness to steward the cultural, historic and environmental heritage values of East Caicos.

- (14) Life below water and (15) life on land, by increasing knowledge of island biodiversity to inform effective management and protecting loss of habitat from insensitive development through the creation of a Community Conservation Area.

CMS Article III: The project’s nesting turtle monitoring will contribute to conserving “habitats or species that are of importance in removing the species from danger of extinction”. The project will contribute to TCI Government’s Vision 2040 policy ‘NC3.1 Good ecosystems, marine and aquatic resource management’, (role of Protected Areas in the management of ecosystems) and contribute to the 2001 TCI Environment Charter (points 2 [protection of key habitats] 7 [update baseline data] 9 and 10 [education]). It will also meet Goal 15 of the People’s Plan for Empowerment and Inclusive Growth (TCIG Green Paper) to “Protect the Land and her Bounty” ... particularly the 40+ terrestrial habitats identified in the Turks and Caicos Islands, which range from dry forests to wetlands.

There has been some progress in compiling sea turtle nesting data on East Caicos (see activity 3.7)

5. Gender equality and social inclusion

Please quantify the proportion of women on the Project Board ¹ .	Two of the project steering committee (TCNT) and a significant proportion of project team identify as women (see Annex 10)
Please quantify the proportion of project partners that are led by women, or which have a senior leadership team consisting of at least 50% women ² .	All 3 partners. CEO of RSPB, MCS and Director of TCNT.

6. Monitoring and evaluation

A project monitoring plan is in place and is reviewed regularly (**Annex 10**). The RSPB team is meeting on a monthly basis whilst project partners meet quarterly to discuss project implementation and identify/mitigate and potential risks or issues. A project progress and risk log are maintained at meetings and minutes are completed and shared. A project SharePoint has been set-up and shared with project partners to support effective file management and collaborative working. The RSPB project manager is based in TCI and therefore has regular engagement with TCNT project lead and staff to guide implementation.

7. Lessons learnt

During RSPB’s visit with TCNT to East Caicos in January 2023 we discovered that access to East Caicos is not as easy as initially hoped (weather, terrain etc.) This is not an insurmountable hurdle and indeed East Caicos is regularly visited by explorer types and by academics, but it is a significant challenge to consider when planning activities especially in relation to elderly community members. It has given us pause as to the need to bring members of the communities to East Caicos to achieve our outcome and we have decided to reduce, and potentially stop entirely, the excursions for community members to East Caicos. We have instead opted to screen additional drone films on North, Middle and South Caicos of specific areas on East Caicos to encourage participation and knowledge gathering at community workshops. Ideally, this initial visit to East Caicos would’ve taken place during project development stage, however, Covid-19 restrictions made this impossible.

¹ A Project Board has overall authority for the project, is accountable for its success or failure, and supports the senior project manager to successfully deliver the project.

² Partners that have formal governance role in the project, and a formal relationship with the project that may involve staff costs and/or budget management responsibilities.

It cannot be understated how important the roles of a community engagement officer and heritage sites support officer are to the success of this project. Recruiting from within TCI for both roles, especially the community engagement officer from South Caicos, was a key project ambition, now realised thanks to fantastic efforts from the TCNT. Additional time to recruit in the workplan would've better facilitated this. Clearly, in-person recruitment drives, especially in isolated communities like that of South Caicos is an incredibly valuable method to attract the right candidates and is far superior to online job ads.

During project development we were not made aware of high-quality filmmakers operating within territory. As a result we approached an external organisation based in the UK to develop the film output of this project. We had felt it necessary to show in our application who exactly would produce the film and what it would cost, however this did not allow opportunity within territory for local filmmakers and our approach to achieving this now (i.e. via an open tender process) is far more transparent, cost-effective and in-keeping with the overall community involvement themes of the project.

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

N/A

9. Risk Management

Key risks identified in the logframe and reported above are considered at project meetings. As noted above, the challenges with access to East Caicos, although easily mitigated as to not impact the project outcome, poses a health & safety risk to project staff and in particular elderly community members. It is a remote uninhabited island that is challenging to access with some rough terrain and difficult landings, made more difficult by varying weather conditions and lack of a jetty or any obvious landing spots and requires help of a highly experienced boat captain.

We are in the process of finalising a risk register which will be updated regularly.

10. Other comments on progress not covered elsewhere

N/A

11. Sustainability and legacy

This is the first year of the project and the outcome of the project will be steered by the views of those communities engaged. The profile of the project within TCI is thus currently fairly localised to the communities engaged on North, South and Middle Caicos with whom initial engagement work has been done. As we progress, there will be a significant increase in engagement and awareness campaigning, targeting local media with a view to reaching all TCI citizens. Government officials and ministries necessary will be proactively engaged going forward; important if we are to secure the long-term protection of East Caicos. This is a project seeking to elevate support for East Caicos within and across the communities of the TCI. By recruiting relevant staff, understanding views (eg through internal staff workshops to develop arguments, development of FAQ sheets) and empowering the team to engage effectively with key audiences, we are building the foundations for the project to have a lasting legacy.

We expect the two positions recruited as part of this project will remain within TCNT in some form after the project ends. It is a strategic aim of the Trust to increase its capacity on and engagement with the island of South Caicos in particular – which this project achieves. TCNT is expanding their engagement in TCI with implementation of this project, and, with support of RSPB, they will look to secure further funding to maintain the progress achieved. Indeed, achieving funding beyond the lifespan of this project is a Year 3 output.

Additional funding has been secured for two posts within the Trust which play a role in sustaining the East Caicos project. A Marketing and Communications Manager has been recruited tasked with increasing and securing unrestricted revenue /income from the TCNT sites and fundraising activities. A Heritage Sites Operations Manager is being recruited. This will further strengthen the Trust's management of its Heritage Sites freeing up existing senior management to work on this important project.

The additional staffing within TCNT has allowed staff with important relevant skills (eg advocacy) to move into roles where these skills can be much better utilised. Whilst not an increase in “head-count” this is a significant additional benefit to the Trust.

12. Darwin Plus identity

At all engagements in TCI the project is promoting Darwin. Logos are included in presentations and project T-shirts have been printed by TCNT and distributed amongst community members to raise the project profile.

TCNT is bringing on board a communications consultant to manage social media and website development. A specific East Caicos social media channel will be created, in the meantime, [TCNT Instagram](#) has regularly posted about the project.

Darwin was referenced in the [Times of the Island](#) article by Oshin Whyte.

13. Safeguarding

Has your Safeguarding Policy been updated in the past 12 months?	No
Have any concerns been investigated in the past 12 months	No
Does your project have a Safeguarding focal point?	Yes Project Manager, [REDACTED] and Project Executive, [REDACTED]
Has the focal point attended any formal training in the last 12 months?	Yes All RSPB staff complete mandatory safeguarding training on an annual basis.
What proportion (and number) of project staff have received formal training on Safeguarding?	Past: 70%, 7 Planned:: 100%, 10
Has there been any lessons learnt or challenges on Safeguarding in the past 12 months? Please ensure no sensitive data is included within responses. No	
Does the project have any developments or activities planned around Safeguarding in the coming 12 months? If so please specify. Engagement with communities in South, North and Middle Caicos may potentially involve children/young adults. RSPB is encouraging and supporting TCNT with Safeguarding Resources e.g., The Resource and Support Hub and all RSPB staff involved in workshops will have completed Safeguarding training and will be able to support/advise TCNT staff as necessary.	

14. Project expenditure

We have not yet received all financial information from project partners, so a complete detail of expenditure will follow in the expense claim for the fourth quarter of the project.

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

Project spend (indicative) in this financial year	2022/23 D+ Grant (£)	2022/23 Total actual D+ Costs (£)	Variance %	Comments (please explain significant variances)

Staff costs				
Consultancy costs				
Overhead Costs				
Travel and subsistence				
Operating Costs				
Capital items				
Others (Please specify)				
TOTAL				

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

	Matched funding secured to date	Total matched funding expected by end of project
Matched funding leveraged by the partners to deliver the project.		
Total additional finance mobilised by new activities building on evidence, best practices and project (£)		

15. OPTIONAL: Outstanding achievements or progress of your project so far (300-400 words maximum). This section may be used for publicity purposes

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

N/A

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

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2022 - March 2023	Actions required/planned for next period
<p>Impact</p> <p>East Caicos, the last remaining wilderness area of the British West Indies is protected and managed for generations by Turks and Caicos Islanders as a treasured, irreplaceable ridge-to-reef complex.</p>		<p>As the first year of the project has been focused on establishing the resources needed for implementation (i.e. recruitment) there is limited progress towards the project impact. However, the project is now well underway with a well organised project team and communities on North, Middle and South Caicos are becoming aware of the project and their future role within it.</p>	
<p>Outcome</p> <p>Participatory natural resource management, sustainable livelihoods, awareness and local capacity helps establish the future protection of the unique cultural, historic and natural heritage values of East Caicos.</p>	<p>0.1 East Caicos management plan produced and adaptively managed, and registered as a Community Conservation Area with the IUCN by end of project</p> <p>0.2 East Caicos Community Conservation group comprised of ten people from representative communities established by end of project</p> <p>0.3 By end of project, East Caicos heritage values receive elevated support amongst 8 local businesses (5 local hotels and 3 tour operators), as measured by new livelihood opportunities (nature tours led by 5 newly trained guides).</p> <p>0.4 By end of project, the proportion of Turks and Caicos citizens interviewed that are supportive of maintaining East Caicos as a</p>	<p>0.1, 0.3, Not planned for this reporting period</p> <p>0.2 Community Engagement Officer recruited and community engagement ongoing to increase awareness of project and objectives.</p> <p>0.4 No baseline yet.</p>	<p>0.1 - 0.2 Community engagement and development of community governance structure (Activity 5.3)</p> <p>0.3 Engage small business support stakeholders e.g., TCI Invest</p> <p>0.4 Establish baseline following community workshops in year 2.</p>

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2022 - March 2023	Actions required/planned for next period
	<p>wilderness area, supporting local livelihoods development, increases by 50% from baseline determined in Yr1</p> <p>0.5 At least fifteen areas of critical importance for heritage conservation mapped for future management and protection by end of Yr2</p>	<p>0.5 planning and preparations for mapping workshops underway</p>	<p>0.5 Participatory mapping planned for May 2023</p>
<p>Output 1</p> <p>Participatory resource management plan for East Caicos produced via facilitation incorporating local knowledge of priority cultural, historic and ecological heritage values</p>	<p>1.1 Three excursions/workshops with relevant local communities and stakeholder groups to carry out participatory GIS mapping, visioning exercises and focus group discussions, capturing the ecosystem services, heritage values and future aspirations for the management of East Caicos by end Y2</p> <p>1.2 At least 30 filmed Community Voice Method (CVM) stakeholder interviews across four inhabited islands – Providenciales, North, Middle and South Caicos – analysed, with representative gender sampling in Yr2Q1; CVM.</p> <p>1.3 At least 10 young people equipped with cameras and self-capture views/aspirations towards TCI nature in Yr2 Q1</p> <p>1.4 Analysis of filmed interviews and self-captured footage, and one</p>	<p>1.1 Access to East Caicos identified as impractical. Indicator to be reviewed and change request submitted. Workshops going ahead support by drone films rather than excursions.</p> <p>1.2 -1.6 Not planned for this reporting period.</p>	

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2022 - March 2023	Actions required/planned for next period
	<p>Community Voice Method documentary film created and screened across four inhabited islands involving with at least 100 mixed-gender, age and background participants by Yr2 Q3</p> <p>1.5 Creation of digital story maps detailing ecosystem services and heritage values of East Caicos by end of Year 2 to be co-created then shared with communities and stakeholder groups.</p> <p>1.6 Community Voice Method and mapping outputs inform, via face-to-face consultation with at least 30 selected stakeholders across 4 inhabited islands, a final draft community-led and designed management plan for East Caicos by end of project</p>		
1.1 RSPB conduct desktop research to compile available information		See activity 3.1	NB: Duplicate of activity 3.1 to be removed from logframe
1.2 RSPB, supported by TCNT provide equipment and IT to support daily operations between Middle Caicos and South Caicos. (Vehicle, boat, tablet, external hard drive, tablet, stationary, etc.)		IT equipment purchased	Activity complete
1.3 RSPB conduct in-house training with current conservation staff in Middle Caicos and new conservation staff in South Caicos that will be recruited on island		<p>RSPB Project Manager provided biosecurity training and support Heritage Site Officer re: site management, management planning</p> <p>Project Management, monitoring sessions provided completed in Jan.</p>	Continue capacity training support to staff, including support to Community Engagement Officer re community survey

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2022 - March 2023	Actions required/planned for next period
		Ongoing support between RSPB Senior Social Scientist and TCNT Community Engagement Officer	
1.4 MCS, with support of RSPB and TCNT develop interviewee list of stakeholders for CVM filmed interviews and workshops		Not planned for this reporting period	MCS lead development of CVM interview list - building on TCNT/RSPB project stakeholder analysis (see activity
1.5 MCS and RSPB develop interview questionnaire, workshop protocols, and consent form		Not planned for this reporting period	MCS finalise CVM interview questionnaire Y2 Q1
1.6 TCNT Community Engagement Officer, supported by RSPB/MCS pilots interview questionnaire with community members in South and Middle Caicos, including women and girls, to ensure gender appropriate.		Questionnaire drafted	Pilot/complete workshops (activity 1.9)
1.7 MCS finalise list of participants for filming and workshop across 4 inhabited islands and arrange filmed interviews and workshops		Not planned for this reporting period	Final participant list to be developed Y2 Q1
1.8 MCS, with support of RSPB and TCNT, carry out filmed interviews and workshops across Providenciales North, Middle and South Caicos ensuring gender balance		Not planned for this reporting period	CVM filming planned for Y2 Q2
1.9 RSPB, supported by TCNT organise 3 excursions to East Caicos to conduct field walks and oral history interviews with selected knowledgeable elders and youth from the 4 inhabited islands. Field walks to visit and fix the location of as many of the mapped sites as possible using hand-held GPS units. Oral history interviews will document key traditional cultural knowledge about the different biologically and culturally significant sites, including the ethnohistory, traditional stories and songs, placenames, and the resource-use and management strategies associated with each area and its resources		Community engagement ongoing in South, Middle and North Caicos Project stakeholder analysis, workshop plan and consent forms drafted	Develop short drone film(s) and hold community workshops in May 2023.
1.10 RSPB carries out digitisation of ecosystem services and habitats offering nature-based solutions to climate change into GIS maps, analysis of ecosystem service hotspots, and qualitative transcripts from workshops, interviews and field excursions		Not planned for this reporting period	To be completed following community mapping workshops planned (Y2 Q1)

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2022 - March 2023	Actions required/planned for next period
1.11 RSPB Data Management Unit collates mapping outputs into a story map about East Caicos		Not planned for this reporting period	To be completed post May 2023 community participatory mapping workshops
1.12 MCS transcribes and analyses filmed interview data (in collaboration with RSPB) and produce analysis summary report		Not planned for this reporting period	MCS CVM activities planned for July 2023
1.13 MCS produce CVM film output		Not planned for this reporting period	To be developed post CVM activities.
1.14 MCS arrange and promote CVM film screening across four inhabited islands		Not planned for this reporting period	Complete once film developed (above)
1.15 MCS Hold 4 CVM screenings (including discussion and feedback) targeting communities across the 4 inhabited islands by the end of Year 2, Q1.		Not planned for this reporting period	Review timeline for activity. Screenings to follow film development
1.16 MCS input and analyse CVM screenings and feedback proceedings to produce report and recommended draft management plan (see 5.3)		Not planned for this reporting period	As above
1.17 RSPB/MCS with support of TCNT carry out consultations with selected stakeholders to gain feedback on recommended draft management plan (see 5.3)		Not planned for this reporting period	Progress community engagement/consultations
1.18 TCNT facilitated community-led production of East Caicos management plan		Not planned for this reporting period	As above
Output 2. Sustainable, long-term, locally owned and designed small business and nature-based tourism plans developed for East Caicos.	<p>2.1 By Q3Yr2, number of sustainable tourism-based business development plans (incorporating at least 3 social, economic, and environmental sustainability goals), prepared by Middle and South Caicos community workshop participants increases to 5 from 0 (pre project), with at least 3 plans implemented by end of Yr3</p> <p>2.2 By end of Yr2, 24 citizens including 5 fisherfolk trained by Birds Caribbean as TCI assured registration East Caicos heritage focussed guides from baseline of 0,</p>	<p>2.1- 2.4 not planned for this reporting period</p> <p>2.5 Excursions impractical. To be reviewed for youth groups.</p>	

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2022 - March 2023	Actions required/planned for next period
	<p>with at least 30 bookings made by end of Yr3</p> <p>2.3 10 hotels and eco-lodges that receive training and materials from project in Yr2, each provide 10 of their guests to the local businesses supported by the project from Yr3</p> <p>2.4 By end of Yr2, 5 TCI-based tour operators (from baseline of 1) publicly advertise nature based, cultural and historic tours of E Caicos led by 3 of 5 trained guides (baseline = 0) on VisitTCI.com, TCNT and Tourist Boards</p> <p>2.5 50 young people (aged 11- 18) attend at least 3 excursions and educational opportunities (inter-generational learning exchanges, nature-based activities, and interactions with scientists) with 50% demonstrating an improved knowledge of the ecological, cultural and historic values of East Caicos before end of project</p>		
2.1 TCNT invite Invest TCI and CED to facilitate workshops aimed to assist small business owners with grants (financial support)		No engagement with small business support stakeholders yet.	Review timeline to complete small business support
2.2 TCNT support cross-marketing of services/products including authentication stamp authorized by Dept. of Culture, Tourist Board, National Trust, DECR, and Dept of Agriculture) to be displayed by small business. (TCI Assured Authentication)		As above	As above
2.3 TCNT ensure promotion of local products/services on social media/websites.		As above	As above

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2022 - March 2023	Actions required/planned for next period
2.4 TCNT together with MCS engage Fishing Co-op (Mr. Talbot), and DECR to identify fisherman that have set skills and knowledge of historical trails, dive site, turtle watching, etc.		Engagement of community on South, North, Middle started. Specific fishing co-operative engagement to follow in Y2	Engage Fishing Co-operative and encourage participation in May 2023 community workshops where appropriate to gather insights.
2.5 TCNT draft and implement short curriculum to ensure fisherfolk provide accurate information to tour guests.		To be completed following fishing co-operative engagement	Develop curriculum – building on Birds Caribbean workshops Oct 2023
2.6 Birds Caribbean-led 5-day Caribbean Birding Trail (CBT) Interpretive Bird Guide Training Workshop for current and prospective guides from Providenciales, Grand Turk, Salt Cay and North, Middle and South Caicos. The Workshop will be carried out with support from local partners including the Turks and Caicos National Trust and SWA Environmental Consulting who will carry out activity 3.2 (see below).		Not planned for this reporting period	Workshop/trainings planned for Oct 2023.
2.7 Birds Caribbean hold a half-day workshop for hoteliers to inform them about how they can benefit from and cater to avi-tourists, including understanding the birding market, what birders need, how to get general adventure/ nature tourists into birding, and how to create bird-friendly gardens and hotel grounds through landscaping with native plants.		Not planned for this reporting period	As above
2.8 TCNT set up group monthly meetings to follow-up on training and aptitude testing.		Not needed yet. To take place after trainings.	Review timeline for activity and initiate once training started
2.9 TCNT supported by Birds Caribbean and RSPB provide hotel concierge and villas with service package as marketing tool to book tours.		Not planned for his reporting period	Birds Caribbean workshop planned for Oct 2023
2.10 TCNT establish an MoU with the Tourist Board, TCNT, and TCHTA to promote service package to tourists wanting an eco-tour experience.		Not planned for his reporting period	Review following tourism stakeholder engagement. Action expected in Y2
2.11 TCNT monitors website visitations and collects numbers from partners. (Data collection)		Not planned for his reporting period	Monitor websites once established

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2022 - March 2023	Actions required/planned for next period
2.12 TCNT utilize Heritage & Discovery Clubs in the secondary schools (private & public) for students to be engaged and join educational activities		Engagement started to familiarise communities on North, Middle & South with the project.	Engage with schools in Y2 to promote project/objectives
2.13 TCNT encourages youth/students to join quarterly expeditions to East Caicos and report on findings through the Youth Reports of the Environment initiative.		Not planned for his reporting period	Engage youth for potential expeditions (pending review of access issues – see indicator 2.5)
<p>Output 3. Ecological, cultural and historic baseline established, and presence of non-native species determined and used to inform conservation management and community empowerment.</p>	<p>3.1 Desk-based gap analysis of available peer-reviewed research, studies and other research (including grey literature) done on East Caicos completed by Q4 Yr1, informing field study plans</p> <p>3.2 Targeted population level assessments of IBA bird trigger species and other priority (globally threatened and endemic) species completed using robust, repeatable sampling methods completed by Q3Yr3. 4 TCNT conservation staff to participate in bird monitoring to build monitoring and data management capacity.</p> <p>3.3 Quantification and monitoring of nesting sea turtle populations at 5 index sites around East Caicos, completed by end of Yr1, repeated in Yrs 2 and 3</p> <p>3.4 Extent of Stony Coral Tissue Loss Disease (SCTLD) mapped and quantified once during Yr2 and once in Yr3 at 8 target sites</p>	<p>3.1 Multiple sources gathered for desktop review. Report to be finalised.</p> <p>3.2, 3.4, 3.5 Not planned for this reporting period</p> <p>3.3 Initial survey completed. No nesting sites identified</p> <p>3.6 Presence confirmed (donkeys, rodents) during RSPB/TCNT field visit. Further assessments to be completed by SWA with support of TCNT.</p>	

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2022 - March 2023	Actions required/planned for next period
	<p>3.5 Completed updated assessment of East Caicos against KBA criteria, informed by project field survey results, submitted to KBA Secretariat by end of Yr3</p> <p>3.6 Presence and potential impacts of non-native species assessed by end of Yr2</p>		
3.1 RSPB carries out desk-based research and review of existing studies and grey literature		Project Manager collecting and assessing existing literature to compile into report	Compile report before Y2 Q1 end
3.2 SWA delivers 1-day training of TCNT staff and North, South and Middle Caicos community members to identify bird and floral species of interest		Not planned for this reporting period	Training planned for Y2 Q3 (prior to below activity 3.3)
3.3 SWA, supported by TCNT, updates field studies with updated estimates of IBA trigger species (covering summer and winter migration) and maps key areas for plants (Nov-January after rainy season to ensure priority species are visible) and identifies potential invasive non-native species		Not planned for this reporting period	Field visit, with support of TCNT Staff, planned for Y2 Q3
3.4 MCS identify index nesting sites using existing TCI Turtle Project (TCITP) nesting data and published literature		See 3.7	Continue surveys
3.5 MCS develop standardised Sea turtle nesting protocol using existing TCITP sampling protocols		See 3.7	As above
3.6 MCS deliver capacity-building workshop for partners and key stakeholders such as DECR on sea turtle nesting monitoring		Not planned for this reporting period	MCS visit planned for July 2023
3.7 MCS implement sea turtle nesting surveys in Yr1 nesting season, repeated in Yr2 and Yr3.		Nesting survey completed by MCS contractor in Y1 Q3/Q4. No nests identified	Complete repeat surveys for Y2
3.8 MCS Analyse and produce report of nesting data		Not planned for this reporting period	Compile data from Y1 survey with Y2 survey data

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2022 - March 2023	Actions required/planned for next period
3.9 TCRF lead dive expeditions to assess extent of Stony Coral Loss Disease		Not planned for this reporting period	Planned for Y2 Q2
3.10 RSPB-led analysis of field survey results and traditional knowledge to inform KBA assessment of East Caicos		Not planned for this reporting period	Planned for Y2 Q4
<p>Output 4:</p> <p>Awareness and appreciation of the cultural, historic and ecological value of East Caicos is increased amongst communities, TCI citizens, the private sector and government stakeholders leading to strengthened support for protected status for E Caicos.</p>	<p>4.1 6 Podcasts and radio interviews “speak your mind TCI” and film reach 75% of registered TCI voters (c.7,732) citizens, by end of project</p> <p>4.2 East Caicos nominated as Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network site by end of Yr3</p> <p>4.3 At least two media press releases shared with TCI media outlets per year and at least two articles in TCI news outlets by end of project, plus 12 social media posts per annum, detailing progress of project and community-led efforts to embed protection for East Caicos and create Community Conservation Area</p> <p>4.4 >2,000 online views of E Caicos video produced, featuring narration by well-known TCI TV personality by end of Yr2</p> <p>4.5 Annual briefing for Senior TCI Government Ministers, Government Officials and Governor on project progress</p>	<p>4.1 Communications plan being developed to support this indicator</p> <p>4.3 East Caicos article published in Times of the Island. Regular social media posts from TCNT and East Caicos project channels to be established with support of consultant.</p> <p>4.5 No briefing to government/ministers yet. Planned from Y2.</p> <p>4.2, 4.4 Not planned for this reporting period</p>	
4.1 TCNT engage hosts from Uncut, Our TCI, TB Radio Show, Heritage Matters, and other local podcast/radio to promote cultural, historic and ecological value of East Caicos		Not planned for this reporting period	Develop/implement comms plan

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2022 - March 2023	Actions required/planned for next period
4.2 RSPB collates and submits WHSRN official nomination information to WHSRN		Not planned for this reporting period	Planned for Y3
4.3 TCNT prepare and release media press releases with TC Weekly News, Sun News, PTV, and TCI E News		Project article (focused on Turtle Surveys) published in Times of the Island	Engage local media outlets throughout Y2
4.4 Updates provided through Head of Department meetings (monthly) and progress reports to Cabinet (Governor/Ministers) quarterly.		Project Manager in regular communication with TCNT Director re: project progress. Quarterly meetings with partners initiated.	Establish project Exec/TCNT director (and subsequently Governor/minister) meetings/updates as further project implementation takes place in Y2
4.5 RSPB contracts Nutshell productions to produce East Caicos heritage values film		Tender being drafted	Open tender and contract filmmaker
Output 5: Strengthened capacity of national project partners, TCI citizens and local communities to effectively manage and protect East Caicos wilderness area	5.1 Partner capacity increased by end of Yr1 through recruitment of a South Caicos-based Community Engagement and Outreach Officer and Heritage Support Officer to TCNT. 5.2 Technical assistance from project team to on-island partners and 4 self-appointed leads from within South and Middle Caicos communities enables E Caicos Management plan to meet the IUCN-recognised Community Conservation Area (CCA) Traditional Management Plan standard, by end of project 5.3 Community-based East Caicos conservation area governance system in place with equal gender representation, supported by	5.1 Achieved. Recruits in place from Jan 2023. 5.2, 5.3, 5.4 Not planned for this reporting period	

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2022 - March 2023	Actions required/planned for next period
	<p>technical assistance from the project team in Y3.</p> <p>5.4 Environmental Funders Network bid (EFN) funding bid prepared and submitted in Yr3 to embed local capacity</p>		
5.1 TCNT, supported by RSPB, advertises and recruits for qualified individuals, (Heritage Sites Support Manager and Community Engagement Officer) building the technical skill capacity. TCNT to source employee internally at TCI level to interview for proposed positions.		Both Community Engagement Officer and Heritage Sites Support Officer successfully recruited from within TCI.	Activity complete
5.2 RSPB establishes an internal management and stewardship structure, so project staff understand their roles in relation to decision processes and the strategic plan, creating a workplan to link operational activities over the course of the project to meet strategic objectives for the establishment of the CCA.		<p>Roles & responsibilities of project team clearly outlined. Project SharePoint developed to support effective file management/sharing and collaboration.</p> <p>RSPB visit Jan 2023 to support management/stewardship structure</p>	Continue regular meeting schedule with partners and internal project team, updating progress log and M&E plan as necessary.
5.3 TCNT based Community Engagement Officer will lead on the preparation and facilitation of a governance framework detailing how decisions will be made, existing community governance bodies and processes to support the CCA, identify and document traditional and natural resource management laws to support the CCA.		No progress.	To be developed following workshops (activity 1.9) in Y2 Q1
5.4 TCNT supports community to develop a traditional land use management plan rooted in traditional laws and informed by science to guide resource use decisions.		Not planned for this reporting period	Develop communications plan and engage community during workshops (May 2023) and MCS CVM interviews/screenings to support drafting of plan
5.5 RSPB prepares and submits EFN funding bid		Not planned for this reporting period	Planned for Y3

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

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
<p>Impact: East Caicos, the last remaining wilderness area of the British West Indies is protected and managed for generations by Turks and Caicos Islanders as a treasured, irreplaceable ridge-to-reef complex.</p>			
<p>Outcome: Participatory natural resource management, sustainable livelihoods, awareness and local capacity helps establish the future protection of the unique cultural, historic and natural heritage values of East Caicos.</p>	<p>0.1 East Caicos management plan produced and adaptively managed, and registered as a Community Conservation Area with the IUCN by end of project</p> <p>0.2 East Caicos Community Conservation group comprised of ten people from representative communities established by end of project</p> <p>0.3 By end of project, East Caicos heritage values receive elevated support amongst 8 local businesses (5 local hotels and 3 tour operators), as measured by new livelihood opportunities (nature tours led by 5 newly trained guides).</p> <p>0.4 By end of project, the proportion of Turks and Caicos citizens interviewed that are supportive of maintaining East Caicos as a wilderness area, supporting local livelihoods development, increases by 50% from baseline determined in Yr1</p> <p>0.5 At least fifteen areas of critical importance for heritage</p>	<p>0.1 Management plan with vision, baseline informed by local knowledge and field survey results, and objectives for management: IUCN CCA registration submission.</p> <p>0.2 Meeting minutes, meeting attendance sheets, Community Conservation Area IUCN registration document</p> <p>0.3 New tour adverts advertised on TurksandCaicosTourism.com, concierge / hotel bookings sheets, Promotional materials for tour packages, booking confirmations, tour confirmations</p> <p>0.4 Questionnaire results from start and end of project, articles in Times of the Island and TCI, pre- and post-training feedback documents</p> <p>0.5 Field reports of population level estimates for the IBA trigger species, IBA update submission forms, maps with important foraging, roosting</p>	<p>Covid19 does not prevent face to face workshops in Middle and South Caicos. <i>This holds true because TCI Government is now at over 50% vaccination and meeting numbers will not exceed 30, within TCI guidelines for meetings.</i></p> <p>Fisherfolk interested in and keen to diversify livelihoods, participate in training. <i>This assumption holds true as partnership (involving MCS, Amanyara Resort, TCI Government) and two South Caicos fishers involved successfully taking Resort guests out on responsible turtle-tagging tourism trips for 5 years in Ramsar site through this tourism model (activity curtailed by Covid19).</i></p> <p>Sufficient investment or loans are available to initiate start-up businesses. <i>This holds true because TCNT will be engaging TCI Invest to invite them to make their small business grants available to support an initial</i></p>

	conservation mapped for future management and protection by end of Yr2	and breeding areas of IBA trigger species, maps of plant diversity / endemism, maps of turtle nesting sites, community workshop mapping exercise outputs	<i>number of small businesses get off the ground.</i>
<p>Outputs:</p> <p>Output 1:</p> <p>Participatory resource management plan for East Caicos produced via facilitation incorporating local knowledge of priority cultural, historic and ecological heritage values</p>	<p>1.1 Three excursions/workshops with relevant local communities and stakeholder groups to carry out participatory GIS mapping, visioning exercises and focus group discussions, capturing the ecosystem services, heritage values and future aspirations for the management of East Caicos by end Y2</p> <p>1.2 At least 30 filmed Community Voice Method (CVM) stakeholder interviews across four inhabited islands – Providenciales, North, Middle and South Caicos – analysed, with representative gender sampling in Yr2Q1; CVM.</p> <p>1.3 At least 10 young people equipped with cameras and self-capture views/aspirations towards TCI nature in Yr2 Q1</p> <p>1.4 Analysis of filmed interviews and self-captured footage, and one Community Voice Method documentary film created and screened across four inhabited islands involving with at least 100 mixed-gender, age and background participants by Yr2 Q3</p>	<p>1.1 Workshop sign-in forms, completed qualitative database, completed audio, photographic and written recordings of each workshop</p> <p>1.2 Digital footage of all interviews, consent forms</p> <p>1.3 Self-captured camera footage, consent forms</p> <p>1.4 Interview transcriptions, qualitative database, completed CVM documentary film, audio, photographic and written recordings of each workshop, participant registration sheet, Audio record of consultation interviews, completed consultation questionnaire forms.</p>	<p>Stakeholders agree to participate in CVM process including filmed interviews, self-capture camera exercise, participatory workshops and face-to-face consultations. <i>This is likely to hold true as MCS have successfully implemented a previous CVM project in TCI leading to policy change. Through local partnerships, MCS maintain existing and strong links with communities through existing TCI based work.</i></p> <p>Stakeholder engagement activities (CVM, GIS Mapping) adheres to TCI Covid measures (e.g. social gathering numbers, social distancing etc) to promote safe participation and minimise any disruption caused by ongoing pandemic. <i>Project partners have long-term and successful experience of developing / implementing environmental management plans in TCI and the region, providing high-level confidence in production of draft East Caicos Management Plan.</i></p>

	<p>1.5 Creation of digital story maps detailing ecosystem services and heritage values of East Caicos by end of Year 2 to be co-created then shared with communities and stakeholder groups.</p> <p>1.6 Community Voice Method and mapping outputs inform, via face-to-face consultation with at least 30 selected stakeholders across 4 inhabited islands, a final draft community-led and designed management plan for East Caicos by end of project</p>	<p>1.5 GIS map outputs and Web-based story maps produced by RSPB Data Management Unit, Database/report of no. of communities and stakeholder groups engaged and sharing feedback on visuals.</p> <p>1.6 Project report, with appendix detailing recommendations for the East Caicos management plan</p>	
<p>Output 2: Sustainable, long-term, locally owned and designed small business and nature-based tourism plans developed for East Caicos.</p>	<p>3.1 By Q3Yr2, number of sustainable tourism-based business development plans (incorporating at least 3 social, economic, and environmental sustainability goals), prepared by Middle and South Caicos community workshop participants increases to 5 from 0 (pre project), with at least 3 plans implemented by end of Yr3</p> <p>3.2 By end of Yr2, 24 citizens including 5 fisherfolk trained by Birds Caribbean as TCI assured registration East Caicos heritage focussed guides from baseline of 0, with at least 30 bookings made by end of Yr3</p>	<p>2.1 New business plans prepared covering retail, crafts, catering, or adventure tours, published accounts of 3 operational businesses, business advertisements</p> <p>2.2 Professional guide training certificates issued by trainer and approved by TCI Tourism, copies of tour bookings</p>	<p>International tourism picks up to pre Covid19 levels. <i>This holds true because TCI Government has been able to benefit from the UK's development of and access to the Covid19 vaccine, whilst measures are in place for testing and quarantine on arrival (see https://www.visittci.com/travel-info/tci-assured) . New opportunities will also arise through national tourism. TCNT will undertake promotion and outreach to TCI citizens around the heritage values, benefits and attractions available at East Caicos.</i></p> <p>Participants able to agree on small business development opportunity priorities. <i>This holds true because small</i></p>

	<p>3.3 10 hotels and eco-lodges that receive training and materials from project in Yr2, each provide 10 of their guests to the local businesses supported by the project from Yr3</p> <p>3.4 By end of Yr2, 5 TCI-based tour operators (from baseline of 1) publicly advertise nature based, cultural and historic tours of E Caicos led by 3 of 5 trained guides (baseline = 0) on VisitTCI.com, TCNT and Tourist Boards</p> <p>3.5 50 young people (aged 11- 18) attend at least 3 excursions and educational opportunities (inter-generational learning exchanges, nature-based activities, and interactions with scientists) with 50% demonstrating an improved knowledge of the ecological, cultural and historic values of East Caicos before end of project</p>	<p>2.3 Workshop sign-in sheet, event photos, workshop feedback forms</p> <p>2.4 Website ads for tours featuring trainees as lead guides from VisitTCI.com, Turks & Caicos Tourism.com, TCNT website and Tourist Boards.</p> <p>2.5 Feedback sheets from students, photos of event, signed registration/attendance sheets,</p>	<p><i>business options have already been identified through a TCRF-SWA small project and business development workshop held in a previous project</i></p> <p>Fisherfolk interested in and keen to diversify livelihoods, participate in training. <i>This assumption holds true as partnership (involving MCS, Amanyara Resort, TCI Government) and two South Caicos fishers involved successfully taking Resort guests out on responsible turtle tagging tourism trips for 5 years in Ramsar site through this tourism model (activity curtailed by Covid19).</i></p> <p>Tour operators willing to accommodate and optimise East Caicos as part of their offering. <i>This holds true because Turks and Caicos Tourism already advertises Snorkelling and Sport fishing tours on its website. The expectation is that diversifying the offering will prove attractive to TCI Government.</i></p> <p>Young people willing and able to event excursions. <i>We believe this holds true as feedback from our on-island appetite for such excursions and a lack of opportunities at present. Feedback also suggests there is a good deal of respect for elders by the younger generation.</i></p>
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<p>Output 3: Ecological, cultural and historic baseline established, and presence of non-native species determined and used to inform conservation management and community empowerment.</p>	<p>3.1 Desk-based gap analysis of available peer-reviewed research, studies and other research (including grey literature) done on East Caicos completed by Q4 Yr1, informing field study plans</p> <p>3.2 Targeted population level assessments of IBA bird trigger species and other priority (globally threatened and endemic) species completed using robust, repeatable sampling methods completed by Q3Yr3. 4 TCNT conservation staff to participate in bird monitoring to build monitoring and data management capacity.</p> <p>3.3 Quantification and monitoring of nesting sea turtle populations at 5 index sites around East Caicos, completed by end of Yr1, repeated in Yrs 2 and 3</p> <p>3.4 Extent of Stony Coral Tissue Loss Disease (SCTLD) mapped and quantified once during Yr2 and once in Yr3 at 8 target sites</p> <p>3.5 Completed updated assessment of East Caicos against KBA criteria, informed by project field survey results, submitted to KBA Secretariat by end of Yr3</p>	<p>3.1 Desk-top assessment and gap analysis report with recommendations informing field assessments</p> <p>3.2 Annual reports; technical report with quantitative data on IBA trigger species; plant diversity index maps; fieldwork reports and photographs of field activities, photographs of TCI citizen participation; TCNT staff feedback sheets</p> <p>3.3 Analytical report of turtle nesting distribution and density across index sites</p> <p>3.4 SCTLD maps; technical report</p> <p>3.5 KBA assessment produced; copy of submitted assessment to KBA secretariat</p>	<p>Field survey timings optimised to determine quantitative assessment of priority globally threatened and IBA trigger species. <i>Fieldwork will be led and managed by experienced expertise from within the project partnership and so timings will be carefully chosen to account for seasonality with careful consideration given to potential disruption and associated risks arising from adverse conditions.</i></p> <p>Conditions allow sea turtle nesting monitoring; pandemic does not inhibit travel to East Caicos. <i>This assumption holds true as project partner MCS has been part of local partnerships monitoring sea turtle nesting throughout pandemic.</i></p> <p>Sufficient data generated to enable KBA criteria assessment Communities willing to share local knowledge around plants and wildlife and heritage sites within East Caicos Surveys able to detect presence of non-native species. <i>Some of the reported non-native species being ungulates (donkeys, goats, cattle), should be relatively easy to detect during field surveys. Detection of these and other species (e.g. feral cats) should be possible with camera traps. Extreme weather has potential to disrupt field surveys. However, field surveys can be rescheduled if</i></p>
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	3.6 Presence and potential impacts of non-native species assessed by end of Yr2	3.6 list of presence / absence of invasive species, report on possible impacts of non-natives with input and feedback from DoA and communities;	<i>extreme weather (e.g. hurricanes) affect TCI during the project period.</i>
<p>Output 4:</p> <p>Awareness and appreciation of the cultural, historic and ecological value of East Caicos is increased amongst communities, TCI citizens, the private sector and government stakeholders leading to strengthened support for protected status for E Caicos.</p>	<p>4.1 6 Podcasts and radio interviews “speak your mind TCI” and film reach 75% of registered TCI voters (c.7,732) citizens, by end of project</p> <p>4.2 East Caicos nominated as Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network site by end of Yr3</p> <p>4.3 At least two media press releases shared with TCI media outlets per year and at least two articles in TCI news outlets by end of project, plus 12 social media posts per annum, detailing progress of project and community-led efforts to embed protection for East Caicos and create Community Conservation Area</p> <p>4.4 >2,000 online views of E Caicos video produced, featuring narration by well-known TCI TV personality by end of Yr2</p> <p>4.5 Annual briefing for Senior TCI Government Ministers, Government Officials and Governor on project progress</p>	<p>4.1 podcast and URL links; SoundCloud links to radio interviews; listening figure reports</p> <p>4.2 Copy of nomination document submitted to WHSRN</p> <p>4.3 Copies of news articles in TCI news outlets; social media posts</p> <p>4.4 newly produced video of E Caicos; screenshot of online view count of video shorts</p> <p>4.5 Project annual briefing document for officials</p>	<p>People tune in in sufficient numbers to listen to podcasts and interviews. <i>We understand that prior TCNT led podcasts, Facebook Live events and radio interviews were very well received and serve as a solid basis for follow-up outreach work through this project.</i></p> <p>WHSRN approve East Caicos nomination. <i>This holds true as there is an existing dialogue with WHSRN around nominating East Caicos as a WHSRN site.</i></p> <p>Project runs smoothly and to plan to enable Green List criteria to be met (Good Governance, Effective Management, Sound Design and Planning, successful conservation outcomes). <i>We are confident this holds true as significant new on island capacity will be recruited and trained on island, with dedicated remote and in-territory support provided by project partners.</i></p> <p>Press releases appeal to media outlets. <i>TC weekly news regularly highlights issues of environmental interest and Times of the Islands have previously published articles by specialists from DECR and</i></p>

			<i>elsewhere on a range of environmental issues.</i>
<p>Output 5:</p> <p>Strengthened capacity of national project partners, TCI citizens and local communities to effectively manage and protect East Caicos wilderness area</p>	<p>5.1 Partner capacity increased by end of Yr1 through recruitment of a South Caicos-based Community Engagement and Outreach Officer and Heritage Support Officer to TCNT.</p> <p>5.2 Technical assistance from project team to on-island partners and 4 self-appointed leads from within South and Middle Caicos communities enables E Caicos Management plan to meet the IUCN-recognised Community Conservation Area (CCA) Traditional Management Plan standard, by end of project</p> <p>5.3 Community-based East Caicos conservation area governance system in place with equal gender representation, supported by technical assistance from the project team in Y3.</p> <p>5.4 Environmental Funders Network bid (EFN) funding bid prepared and submitted in Yr3 to embed local capacity</p>	<p>5.1 Job advertisement; terms of reference; work plan; signed recruitment paperwork for both roles</p> <p>5.2 workshop report detailing priority areas for conservation; CCA signed agreement document; East Caicos management plan; draft submission to IUCN CCA Registry https://www.iccaregistry.org/ or https://www.protectedplanet.net/en/thematic-areas/indigenous-and-community-conserved-areas</p> <p>5.3 Signed governance document by relevant parties, images of signing, community forum established members list</p> <p>5.4 Copy of funding bid submitted to EFN, copy of acknowledgement of receipt from EFN</p>	<p>Recruitment able to attract sufficient quality candidates from within TCI or wider region. <i>The project team is already aware of a pool of promising young talent from within TCI and the wider region, indicating this assumption holds.</i></p> <p>Community interested and willing to establish a Community Conservation Area for East Caicos. <i>We believe this holds true due to interest in prior initiatives, though these lacked the resources needed to take East Caicos to required level in terms of community driven management and ownership.</i></p> <p>Sufficient community participation, input and ownership of East Caicos management plan. <i>We believe this holds true because the workshops held through Output 1, coupled with the CVM work in Output 3, will enable the community to define what is important and take ownership of East Caicos future.</i></p> <p>An adequately gender- and age balanced governance system can be established. <i>We believe this holds true because of the applied experience held in</i></p>

			<p><i>RSPB's inhouse conservation science team that will be brought to bear through this project.</i></p> <p>EFN funding mechanism for core capacity remains available in 2024-5.</p> <p><i>We believe this holds true because we understand significant work has been ongoing to establish and launch the fund in late 2021 and early uptake and interest suggest the fund will be a success.</i></p>
<p>Activities</p> <p>Output 1</p> <p>1.1 RSPB conduct desktop research to compile available information</p> <p>1.2 RSPB, supported by TCNT provide equipment and IT to support daily operations between Middle Caicos and South Caicos. (Vehicle, boat, tablet, external hard drive, tablet, stationary, etc.)</p> <p>1.3 RSPB conduct in-house training with current conservation staff in Middle Caicos and new conservation staff in South Caicos that will be recruited on island</p> <p>1.4 MCS, with support of RSPB and TCNT develop interviewee list of stakeholders for CVM filmed interviews and workshops</p> <p>1.5 MCS and RSPB develop interview questionnaire, workshop protocols, and consent form</p> <p>1.6 TCNT Community engagement officer, supported by RSPB/MCS pilots interview questionnaire with community members in South and Middle Caicos, including women and girls, to ensure gender appropriate.</p> <p>1.7 MCS finalise list of participants for filming and workshop across 4 inhabited islands and arrange filmed interviews and workshops</p> <p>1.8 MCS, with support of RSPB and TCNT, carry out filmed interviews and workshops across Providenciales North, Middle and South Caicos ensuring gender balance</p> <p>1.9 RSPB, supported by TCNT organise 3 excursions to East Caicos to conduct field walks and oral history interviews with selected knowledgeable elders and youth from the 4 inhabited islands. Field walks to visit and fix the location of as many of the mapped sites as possible using hand-held GPS units. Oral history interviews will document key traditional cultural knowledge about the different biologically and culturally significant sites, including the ethnohistory, traditional stories and songs, placenames, and the resource-use and management strategies associated with each area and its resources</p> <p>1.10 RSPB carries out digitisation of ecosystem services and habitats offering nature-based solutions to climate change into GIS maps, analysis of ecosystem service hotspots, and qualitative transcripts from workshops, interviews and field excursions</p> <p>1.11 RSPB Data Management Unit collates mapping outputs into a story map about East Caicos</p> <p>1.12 MCS transcribes and analyses filmed interview data (in collaboration with RSPB) and produce analysis summary report</p> <p>1.13 MCS produce CVM film output</p> <p>1.14 MCS arrange and promote CVM film screening across four inhabited islands</p> <p>1.15 MCS Hold 4 CVM screenings (including discussion and feedback) targeting communities across the 4 inhabited islands by the end of Year 2, Q1.</p> <p>1.16 MCS input and analyse CVM screenings and feedback proceedings to produce report and recommended draft management plan (see 5.3)</p>			

- 1.17 RSPB/MCS with support of TCNT carry out consultations with selected stakeholders to gain feedback on recommended draft management plan (see 5.3)
1.18 TCNT facilitated community-led production of East Caicos management plan

Output 2

- 2.1 TCNT invite Invest TCI and CED to facilitate workshops aimed to assist small business owners with grants (financial support)
2.2 TCNT support cross-marketing of services/products including authentication stamp authorized by Dept. of Culture, Tourist Board, National Trust, DECR, and Dept of Agriculture) to be displayed by small business. (TCI Assured Authentication)
2.3 TCNT ensure promotion of local products/services on social media/websites.
2.4 TCNT together with MCS engage Fishing Co-op (Mr. Talbot), and DECR to identify fisherman that have set skills and knowledge of historical trails, dive site, turtle watching, etc.
2.5 TCNT draft and implement short curriculum to ensure fisherfolk provide accurate information to tour guests.
2.6 Birds Caribbean-led 5-day Caribbean Birding Trail (CBT) Interpretive Bird Guide Training Workshop for current and prospective guides from Providenciales, Grand Turk, Salt Cay and North, Middle and South Caicos. The Workshop will be carried out with support from local partners including the Turks and Caicos National Trust and SWA Environmental Consulting who will carry out activity 3.2 (see below).
2.7 Birds Caribbean hold a half-day workshop for hoteliers to inform them about how they can benefit from and cater to avi-tourists, including understanding the birding market, what birders need, how to get general adventure/ nature tourists into birding, and how to create bird-friendly gardens and hotel grounds through landscaping with native plants.
2.8 TCNT set up group monthly meetings to follow-up on training and aptitude testing.
2.9 TCNT supported by Birds Caribbean and RSPB provide hotel concierge and villas with service package as marketing tool to book tours.
2.10 TCNT establish an MoU with the Tourist Board, TCNT, and TCHTA to promote service package to tourists wanting an eco-tour experience.
2.11 TCNT monitors website visitations and collects numbers from partners. (Data collection)
2.12 TCNT utilize Heritage & Discovery Clubs in the secondary schools (private & public) for students to be engaged and join educational activities
2.13 TCNT encourages youth/students to join quarterly expeditions to East Caicos and report on findings through the Youth Reports of the Environment initiative.

Output 3

- 3.1 RSPB carries out desk-based research and review of existing studies and grey literature
3.2 SWA delivers 1-day training of TCNT staff and North, South and Middle Caicos community members to identify bird and floral species of interest
3.3 SWA, supported by TCNT, updates field studies with updated estimates of IBA trigger species (covering summer and winter migration) and maps key areas for plants (Nov-January after rainy season to ensure priority species are visible) and identifies potential invasive non-native species
3.4 MCS identify index nesting sites using existing TCI Turtle Project (TCITP) nesting data and published literature
3.5 MCS develop standardised Sea turtle nesting protocol using existing TCITP sampling protocols
3.6 MCS deliver capacity-building workshop for partners and key stakeholders such as DECR on sea turtle nesting monitoring
3.7 MCS implement sea turtle nesting surveys in Yr1 nesting season, repeated in Yr2 and Yr3.
3.8 MCS Analyse and produce report of nesting data
3.9 TCRF lead dive expeditions to assess extent of Stony Coral Loss Disease
3.10 RSPB-led analysis of field survey results and traditional knowledge to inform KBA assessment of East Caicos

Output 4

- 4.1 TCNT engage hosts from Uncut, Our TCI, TB Radio Show, Heritage Matters, and other local podcast/radio to promote cultural, historic and ecological value of East Caicos

- 4.2 RSPB collates and submits WHSRN official nomination information to WHSRN
- 4.3 TCNT prepare and release media press releases with TC Weekly News, Sun News, PTV, and TCI E News
- 4.4 Updates provided through Head of Department meetings (monthly) and progress reports to Cabinet (Governor/Ministers) quarterly.
- 4.5 RSPB contracts Nutshell productions to produce East Caicos heritage values film

Output 5

- 5.1 TCNT, supported by RSPB, advertises and recruits for qualified individuals, (Heritage Sites Support Manager and Community Engagement Officer) building the technical skill capacity. TCNT to source employee internally at TCI level to interview for proposed positions.
- 5.2 RSPB establishes an internal management and stewardship structure so project staff understand their roles in relation to decision processes and the strategic plan, creating a workplan to link operational activities over the course of the project to meet strategic objectives for the establishment of the CCA.
- 5.3 TCNT based Community Engagement Officer will lead on the preparation and facilitation of a governance framework detailing how decisions will be made, existing community governance bodies and processes to support the CCA, identify and document traditional and natural resource management laws to support the CCA.
- 5.4 TCNT supports community to develop a traditional land use management plan rooted in traditional laws and informed by science to guide resource use decisions.
- 5.5 RSPB prepares and submits EFN funding bid

Annex 3: Standard Indicators

N/A We will look to incorporate the standard indicators the next time we review our logframe.

Table 1 Project Standard Indicators

DPLUS Indicator number	Name of indicator using original wording	Name of Indicator after adjusting wording to align with DPLUS Standard Indicators	Units	Disaggregation	Year 1 Total	Year 2 Total	Year 3 Total	Total to date	Total planned during the project
E.g. DPLUS-A01	E.g. People who attended training on CBD Reporting Standards	E.g. Number of officials from national Department of Environment who attended training on CBD Reporting Standards	People	Men	20			20	60
E.g. DPLUS-C17	E.g. Articles published by members of the project team	E.g. Number of unique papers published in peer reviewed journals	Number	None	1			1	4

Table 2 Publications

Title	Type (e.g. journals, manual, CDs)	Detail (authors, year)	Gender of Lead Author	Nationality of Lead Author	Publishers (name, city)	Available from (e.g. weblink or publisher if not available online)

Checklist for submission

	Check
Different reporting templates have different questions, and it is important you use the correct one. Have you checked you have used the correct template (checking fund, type of report (i.e. Annual or Final), and year) and deleted the blue guidance text before submission?	
Is the report less than 10MB? If so, please email to BCF-Reports@niras.com putting the project number in the Subject line.	
Is your report more than 10MB? If so, please discuss with BCF-Reports@niras.com about the best way to deliver the report, putting the project number in the Subject line.	
Have you included means of verification? You should not submit every project document, but the main outputs and a selection of the others would strengthen the report.	
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.	
If you are submitting photos for publicity purposes, do these meet the outlined requirements (see section 15)?	N/A
Have you involved your partners in preparation of the report and named the main contributors	
Have you completed the Project Expenditure table fully?	No
Do not include claim forms or other communications with this report.	