Darwin Plus Main (DPLUS196): 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 2025

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

Darwin Plus Project Information

Project reference	DPLUS196
Project title	Habitat Restoration of Great & Little Tobago National Parks (BVI)
Territory(ies)	British Virgin Islands
Lead Partner	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
Project partner(s)	National Parks Trust of the Virgin Islands, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, The Royal Virgin Islands Police Force
Darwin Plus grant value	£599,185.00
Start/end dates of project	1/04/2023 – 30/03/2026
Reporting period (e.g. Apr 2023-Mar 2024) and number (e.g. Annual Report 1, 2)	01/04/2024 – 31/03/2025 (Annual Report 2)
Project Leader name	Jack Whitelegg
Project website/blog/social media	
Report author(s) and date	Jack Whitelegg and Andrew Callender (April 2025)

1. Project summary

This project addresses the urgent environmental threat posed by invasive feral goats and plant species on Great Tobago and Little Tobago, two uninhabited National Park islands in the British Virgin Islands (BVI), owned and managed by the National Parks Trust of the Virgin Islands (NPTVI). Great Tobago (85ha) is internationally recognised for its biodiversity, supporting the Caribbean's largest colony of Magnificent Frigatebirds (Fregata magnificens) and globally threatened flora such as Agave missionum, earning its designation as both an Important Bird Area (IBA) and a Tropical Important Plant Area (TIPA). Little Tobago (22ha), while less studied, is also ecologically important, particularly for seabirds and potentially as a refuge for regional flora and reptiles.

The project aims to eradicate invasive feral goats and non-native plant species from both islands to enable ecosystem recovery. Goat grazing has prevented plant regeneration, caused severe erosion, and damaged critical seabird habitat. In 2014, a Kew-led vegetation monitoring report confirmed widespread grazing impacts and lack of seedling recruitment. Landslides, driven by habitat degradation, have already damaged frigatebird nesting trees, threatening the regionally important frigatebird colony. Additional invasive plant species further threaten native biodiversity.

In 2014, DEFRA-funded research analysed over 2,500 islands across all the UK Overseas Territories and concluded that the Tobagos were in the top 70 highest priority for invasive species eradications. An incomplete feral goat eradication attempt in the mid to late-2010s relied on limited local firearm capacity and was ultimately derailed by the catastrophic category 5 hurricane Irma in 2017. The goat populations are now believed to have fully recovered and at full capacity.

By removing invasive species, the project will enable native habitats to regenerate, reduce erosion and marine sedimentation, and protect threatened flora and fauna. It will also serve as a scalable model for invasive species management in other UK Overseas Territories and small island environments facing similar pressures from invasive mammals and plants.

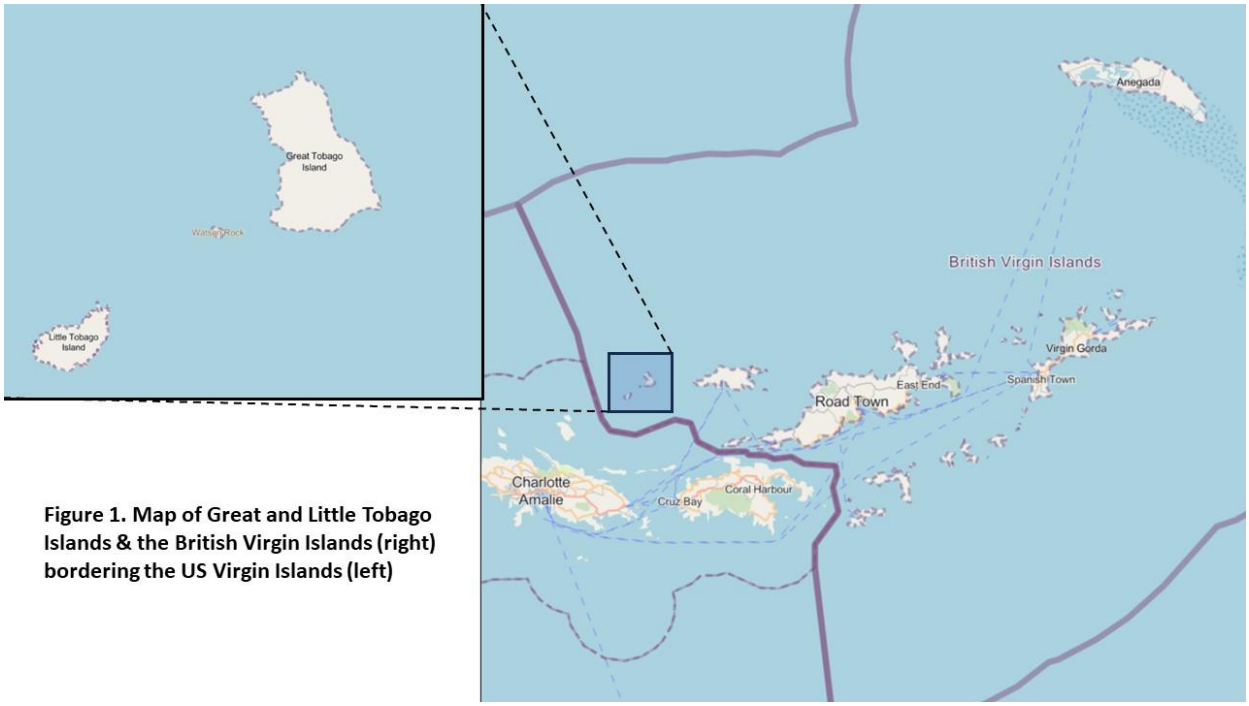

Figure 1. Map of Great and Little Tobago Islands & the British Virgin Islands (right) bordering the US Virgin Islands (left)

2. Project stakeholders/partners

The Darwin Project (PLUS196) was established given conservation urgency, and at the request of the National Parks Trust of the Virgin Islands (NPTVI) request, and is jointly led and coordinated by the project partners Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) and NPTVI. Technical input is provided by the project partners Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew (Kew), The Royal Virgin Islands Police Force (RVIPF) and the consultants Indigena Biosecurity International (Indigena), Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA). During Year 2 all project partners and consultants have been actively engaged in the project implementation and working collaboratively to deliver the Year 2 project outputs.

Partners and relevant stakeholders have been engaged throughout via the project steering committee, made up of project partners and supported by the relevant consultants. The two online project steering committee meetings took place Y2Q2 and Y2Q4, and were attended by a representative from each project partner and relevant contractors.

Engagement with local communities is limited due to the sensitive nature of the eradication work, however, engagement with local authorities has been essential to the project delivery. The Royal Virgin Islands Police Force (RVIPF) is involved throughout the project providing oversight and guidance on the use of firearms in the BVI. They support the project through the storage of firearms, overseeing the use of firearms on the Tobago Islands and ensuring the project is following local laws.

3. Project progress

3.1 Progress in carrying out project Activities

Activity 1.1 Carry out desk-based research and review of existing studies and grey literature

Activity completed in Year 1.

Activity 1.2 1-day refresher training for NPTVI staff in plant identification and survey techniques, led by Kew, plus follow-up 'learning by doing'

Activity completed in Year 1. This training was further reinforced in Year 2, when Kew and NPTVI staff visited Great and Little Tobago, allowing NPTVI staff to put into practice their plant identification and survey techniques under the supervision of Kew staff. Annex 6

Activity 1.3 Field surveys on Great and Little Tobago to collect key plant baseline data and set up ongoing monitoring

Activity completed. This activity for Great Tobago was completed in Year 1. After initial challenges around the safety of landing a helicopter on Little Tobago in both Year 1 and Year 2 due to dry soil conditions, the trip was able to go ahead in Y2Q3. This day visit to Little Tobago allowed Kew and NPTVI to collect key plant baseline data and set up ongoing monitoring plots. Annex 6

Activity 1.4 Kew to provide equipment and training to support gathering of photo footage

Activity completed – Camera traps were purchased, however, they will now be utilised to monitor goat population instead of vegetation density. This decision was made following the Y2Q2 steering meeting between NPTVI, RSPB, APHA and Kew. NPTVI staff had previously been trained on how to use digital cameras in the field during DPLUS183, which is running parallel to this project, with these skills transferable between projects. During this year's fieldwork, NPTVI staff took most of the photographic records for species identification and monitoring plots (Annex 6). Kew and NPTVI continue to gather photo footage during their trips to Great and Little Tobago to assess the vegetation distribution.

Activity 1.5 Nutshell captures pre-eradication film footage of Great and Little Tobagos plus NPTVI conservationists

Activity partially completed in Year 1 – The majority of pre-eradication film footage for Great Tobago was captured in Year 1. In Y2Q2, a local camera operator visited Little Tobago and obtained preliminary footage of the island. NPTVI and RSPB are currently working to coordinate the capture of the remaining footage both Great and Little Tobago, with film planned for Year 3.

Activity 2.1 Finalise arrangements for international transport of firearms and ammunition.

Activity completed in Year 1.

Activity 2.2 Six field visits to Great Tobago and Little Tobago to complete goat eradication work.

Activity partially completed for Year 2 – In Year 2, APHA planned three visits to the Tobago Islands, two as originally scheduled and a third to make up for the one missed in Year 1. Unfortunately, only the first trip in June (Y2Q2) wasn't impacted by weather. The field trip in August (Y2Q2) lost 7 days of field work due to Tropical Storm Ernesto and meant only 4 days out to Great Tobago and 1 days to Little Tobago were achieved. APHA's third visit in October (Y2Q3) had to be cancelled due to extreme weather. Extreme weather since the beginning of the project has resulted in only 2 full field visits being completed out of a planned 4 trips. Annex 7 and Annex 8.

Activity 2.3 Field surveys to continue vegetation monitoring on Great and Little Tobago.

Activity partially completed for Year 2. Kew successfully visited Great Tobago in June (Y2Q2) to continue the vegetation monitoring. Following this, Kew visited Little Tobago in November

(Y2Q3) to set up vegetation monitoring plots which will enable the continuation of vegetation monitoring on Little Tobago in Year 3. Annex 6

Activity 3.1 Source and arrange delivery of necessary plant management equipment (herbicides, sprayers etc)

Activity completed in Year 1.

Activity 3.2 Indigena deliver plant management training to NPTVI staff

Activity completed in Year 1 and final training will be delivered in Year 3.

Activity 3.3 NPTVI and Indigena co-develop emergent plant eradication strategy, workplan, spatial management database and biosecurity plan

Activity on going – The spatial management database was set up in Year 1. In Year 2 Indigena have been working on the emergent plant eradication strategy and biosecurity plan in collaboration with NPTVI and RSPB. A first draft was reviewed in Y2Q2. The strategy and biosecurity plan will be finalised and implemented during Indigena's trip to the BVI in Year 3.

Activity 3.4 NPTVI staff deliver plant eradication workplan with Indigena support

Activity completed in Year 2 – NPTVI staff were able to implement the training they had received from Indigena when they visited Great Tobago in Y2Q2 and removed invasive plant species identified. Annex 6

Activity 3.5 Field surveys to confirm absence of non-native plants on Great and Little Tobago

Activity to be delivered in Year 3.

Activity 3.6 Write long term seedbank control strategy and biosecurity plan

Activity completed for Year 2 – Indigena continue to write up the long-term seedbank control strategy and biosecurity plan for the Tobago Islands. First draft of the biosecurity plan was completed and reviewed by RSPB and NPTVI in Y2Q3. The documents are expected to be finalised early in Year 3 for implementation in Y3Q2.

3.2 Progress towards project Outputs

Output 1. Native plant baselines established, invasive plant surveys updated, and preeradication visual materials collected for a 'before/after' eradication communications package.

Output 1 is expected to be fully completed by the end of the project. By the end of Year 2, a native plant baseline had been established, and invasive plant surveys were updated for both Great and Little Tobago. The project is currently in the process of collating pre-eradication visual materials, with the expectation that all remaining content will be collected in Year 3. Annex 6.

Indicator 1.1 Pre-eradication baseline of endemic plants, plant diversity, vegetation coverage and invasive plants on Great Tobago reestablished by end of Yr 1.

This indicator was completed in Year 1 during Kew's visit to Great Tobago in Y1Q2.

Indicator 1.2 A first baseline of endemic plants, plant diversity and vegetation coverage is established for Little Tobago by end of Yr 1, along with confirmation of the suspected absence of invasive plants.

Kew and NPTVI were successful in accessing Little Tobago by helicopter in November (Y2Q3) and were able to conduct a baseline survey of endemic plants, plant diversity and vegetation. This was the first known organised botanical expedition to this island in the national park, giving the field teams an opportunity to build the first baseline data for plant diversity, including rare, endemic, endangered species and invasive plant species. Unfortunately, two invasive species, *Cleome viscosa* L. and *Abrus precatorius* L, were discovered. The distribution of these invasives species was limited and the distribution and location were recorded and shared with Indigena to help shape NPTVI's response. Annex 6

Indicator 1.3 Photographic and film footage (on-the-ground and aerial) secured of both islands' pre-eradication ecosystems and local conservationists in action in Year 1.
Tobago pre-eradication ecosystems will be measured through still and video images captured by NPTVI, Kew and filming consultants. It was planned for camera traps to be utilised to monitor the vegetation through fixed point time-lapse photography, however, following discussion with NPTVI, Kew and APHA, the camera traps will be better utilised to help monitor goat population size. The filming consultant successfully collated footage of Great Tobago in Year 1 with a few remaining shots left to capture. Following this, a local camera operator, who worked with the Year 1 consultant, obtained footage of Little Tobago during the Year 2 November trip. As goats remain on Great and Little Tobago, the project is looking to finalise collection of photographic and film footage of both islands' pre-eradication ecosystems in Y3Q2. The hard drive which contains a range of footage such as interviews, surveying activities, and landscape shots is held by NPTVI. Additionally, NPTVI and Kew continue to take photos of the landscape during their trips to both Great & Little Tobago to document the pre-eradication ecosystem.

Output 2. Great and Little Tobago National Parks become free from feral goats and the initial consequent impacts on native habitats are recorded.

The project originally aimed to have goat eradication on the Tobago Islands completed by the end of Year 2. However, significant challenges have impeded progress toward this objective, prompting a reassessment of both the delivery timeline and overall approach. Unseasonal and increasingly extreme weather events across the Caribbean have had a substantial impact on field operations. As a result, only 2.5 of the planned eradication trips could be completed by APHA across Years 1 and 2, with 21 of the scheduled 48 field days lost to adverse weather conditions.

Following the cancellation of APHA's October trip (Y2Q3) due to poor weather, concerns were raised whether the delivery of Output 2 could be achieved within the original timeframe and current approach. In response, RSPB, with the support of NPTVI and APHA, commissioned an independent review by a goat eradication specialist company, Orion Conservation Services Limited, to assess the current strategy and help identify an effective path forward for Year 3. This has been funded outside of this Darwin project.

The review was presented to the project partners in January 2025 and concluded (Annex 9) that the current project design is highly vulnerable to extreme weather and recommended that field teams spend extended periods in the British Virgin Islands to increase operational access to the Tobago Islands. As importantly, it highlighted some serious concerns regarding eradication methodology restrictions, specifically local firearms restrictions, prohibiting the use of long-range rifles, and restrictions regarding overnight camping, both of which significantly raise the risk of eradication failure on Great Tobago and reduce the likelihood of success on Little Tobago.

In response to the recommendations within the report, RSPB led a series of emergency meetings with project partners and APHA to review the recommendations and agree on the next steps. It was acknowledged that, although the firearms restrictions were originally considered manageable, the experience of the last two years has demonstrated that exemption of the firearms restriction and the lifting of the prohibition against overnight camping is now essential to maximise the likelihood of a successful eradication outcome, at least on Great Tobago.

It was agreed that the reassessment of the project's eradication strategy would continue, and that advocacy would be pursued for an agreement with The Royal Virgin Islands Police Force (RVIPF) to gain an exemption from firearms restrictions including those concerning overnight camping and the use of higher-calibre weapons. NPTVI is leadings these discussions with RVIPF. RSPB will continue the contracting of Orion Conservation Services Limited to lead a follow-up assessment to evaluate the most effective way forward for the goat eradication efforts; this assessment will include a site visit to the Tobago Islands in June 2025. This work remains funded outside of the Darwin grant.

Following the preliminary review (Annex 9), project partners have agreed to pause all eradication activities on Great Tobago until a follow-up site assessment is conducted by Orion Conservation Services Limited. The eradication effort will instead focus on Little Tobago: the island size at only 22ha, and less challenging terrain (especially lower, more accessible cliffs) means that eradication efforts stand a better chance of success so long as extended operating periods to the island can be achieved, coupled with the deployment of judas goats and camera traps. Even so, NPTVI and RVIPF are continuing their discussion around the approval of overnight camping with firearms on Little Tobago with the aim for an official decision to be made within the coming weeks as the lifting of these restrictions can only be to the benefit of the eradication effort.

To be clear, Output 2 is currently at risk of not being completed. The project team is working to prevent this result or, at the very least, minimise the extent to which it is not achieved. We expect to have greater clarity on the situation by the end of June (Y3Q2), and, depending on the advice received (from the follow-up expert review), a no-cost project extension request may be submitted. We will keep Darwin informed and provide updates as the project develops.

Indicator 2.1 Tobago Islands are completely free from invasive goats by the end of Q2 in Year 3.

At the beginning of the project, it was assumed that the feral goat populations on both Great and Little Tobago had reached full carrying capacity. However, current numbers are expected to be considerably higher than forecasted by the end of Year 2. This increase is primarily due to restrictions on firearms and severe weather, which disrupted APHA's planned visit in August (Y2Q2) and led to the cancellation of the October visit (Y2Q3). Additional information is available in Output 2. Unfortunately, NPTVI has been unable to fully utilise the thermal drone due to significantly high ground temperatures. The aim is to deploy camera traps in Year 3 to monitor population size and assess eradication success following APHA's eradication activities on Little Tobago.

Indicator 2.2 Vegetation monitoring survey reviews changes in fixed point photographs, vegetation monitoring plots and overall island vegetation by end of Yr 3.

Kew's aim is to conduct surveys on both Great and Little Tobago to understand how goat removal will impact island vegetation. For Great Tobago the indicator will be measured through fixed point photographs and vegetation monitoring plots. For Little Tobago, Kew intends to conduct a rapid botanic survey to compile a comprehensive inventory of the island's vegetation and set up vegetation monitoring plots. For Year 2, Kew visited Great Tobago and continued the vegetations surveys and they successfully landed on Little Tobago and completed a rapid botanic survey and set up the monitoring plots. However, without the successful eradication of goats from either island, it is expected that there will be little change in the vegetation composition.

Output 3. Eradication of all emergent invasive plants achieved and long-term capacity-built to implement biosecurity and seedbank strategies.

Output 3 will not be achieved due to the widespread presence of *Cleome viscosa L.* (previously referred to as *Arivela viscosa*) on Great Tobago (see 3.4), but the project is on track to establish long-term biosecurity and a seedbank response strategy.

3.1 Five NPTVI staff (3 male/ 2 female) receive training on safe agrochemical use, safe chainsaw use, biosecurity and use of a specialist weed management app by end of Q2 in Yr 1, plus refresher training in Yrs 2 and 3.

Six NPTVI staff received training from Indigena on safe agrochemical use, safe chainsaw use, biosecurity and use of a specialist weed management app in Y1Q3. No training was scheduled in Year 2 and follow up training will take place in Year 3.

3.2 Emergent plant eradication strategy, annual work plan, spatial management database and biosecurity plan developed by end of Q2 in Yr 1.

Spatial management database has been completed by Indigena in Year 1 and shared with NPTVI. Indigena has been working on the biosecurity plan, emergent plant eradication strategy in Year 2. A first draft of the biosecurity plan was shared with project partners and feedback was provided. It is expected to be finalised by Indigena's Y3Q2 trip to BVI.

3.3 Five NPTVI staff and at least three further BVI resident labourers receive 'training by doing' on plant eradication best practice through working alongside international experts for at least two weeks per year.

Six NPTVI staff have received 'training by doing' on plant eradication best practice whilst working alongside Indigena in Y1Q3 for two weeks. The NPTVI team utilised the skills developed by Indigena training whilst out in the field with Kew in Y2Q2 (Annex 6). Further in person training will take place in Year 3. NPTVI and Indigena have confirmed that NPTVI staff can carry out the invasive plant works plan without external assistance. As a result, no additional BVI resident labourers are needed for the project delivery. For further clarification on the distribution of invasive plants, please refer to section 3.4.

3.4 Invasive non-native plants no longer present on the Tobago Islands by end of project with population density of zero recorded.

Invasive plant species have been confirmed on Great Tobago, as documented in Kew's monitoring report. Their presence on Little Tobago was initially unknown, but a site visit by Kew in Y2Q2 confirmed two invasive species occurring at low densities. Annex 6.

All known invasive plants on Great Tobago have been removed, with the exception of C. viscosa, due to its widespread distribution. Based on Kew's assessment, Indigena has advised NPTVI that full eradication of *C. viscosa* is currently unfeasible. However, it is anticipated that with the cessation of goat grazing, native flora will eventually outcompete this species. Annex 6.

NPTVI is currently engaging with Indigena to determine an appropriate strategy for managing the two invasive species identified on Little Tobago. This management approach is expected to be finalised during Year 3.

3.5 Long-term seedbank control strategy and biosecurity plan developed by end of Yr3.

Both the seedbank control strategy and biosecurity plan are in the process of being developed and are expected to be finalised and implemented in Y3.

3.6 Biosecurity plan enhanced following consultation with BVI Government stakeholders by end of Yr3.

The expectation is for the consultation with the BVI Government stakeholders to take place in Year 3.

3.3 Progress towards the project Outcome

Outcome. Great & Little Tobago are free from feral goats and emergent non-native plants, and a long term biosecurity plan and invasive plant seedbank strategy is locally owned and enacted.

At project inception, feral goats were present on Great and Little Tobago, and non-native plants were confirmed on Great Tobago, though the status on Little Tobago was unknown. Both islands, managed by NPTVI, lacked a long-term biosecurity plan and invasive seedbank strategy. At the end of Year 2 the project is on the current trajectory the outcome to be partially achieved. A long-term biosecurity plan and invasive plant seedbank strategy is being finalised with the aim of being locally owned and enacted by end of Year 3. Goat eradication activity is being paused on Great Tobago with risk of goat removal not being delivered within the current project timeline from this island. Little Tobago eradication activity is continuing with effort to strengthen the likelihood of eradication success. Further detail information can be out under Output 2.

Indicator 0.1. By end of Yr3, the first ever successful removal of nonnative feral goats from a BVI National Park is documented, following a successful eradication attempt on Great and Little Tobagos.

As outlined in Output 2, the project has faced significant challenges in removing feral goats from the Tobago Islands, primarily due to extreme weather and firearms restrictions. As a result, full delivery of Indicator 0.1 is unlikely, with potential for complete failure.

To address this, an external specialist company, Orion Conservation Services Limited has been contracted to review the current approach and advise on the best way forward. NPTVI is working with the RVIPF and the Government of the BVI to resolve firearms limitations, with discussions currently focusing on gaining approval for overnight camping on Little Tobago in June (Y3Q2).

Eradication activities will continue and focus on Little Tobago, with the aim of successful completion by the end of the project. However, eradication success on Great Tobago is unlikely within the current timeframe. The team is exploring a no-cost extension and additional (non-Darwin) funding options, with next steps dependent on the outcome of the external review in June, following the visit to the BVI by Orion Conservation Services Limited.

Indicator 0.2 End of project surveys confirm the complete absence of non-native invasive plants by Yr3.

Good progress has been made toward this indicator. Baseline plant assessments were completed for both Great and Little Tobago, and in Year 1, Kew and Indigena provided NPTVI staff with training in plant identification, invasive species management, and weed control. This training was applied in the field on Great Tobago by NPTVI during Year 1 and Year 2 with all identified invasive plants removed accept *C. viscosa*. However, the indicator is unlikely to be fully met due to the extensive distribution of *C. viscosa* on Great Tobago, which makes complete removal unfeasible. While it is anticipated that native vegetation will gradually outcompete *C. viscosa* following goat removal, the delays associated with Indicator 0.1 have created uncertainty around when this natural recovery process will occur. Following the Little Tobago baseline vegetation survey conducted in November (Y2Q4), NPTVI are liaising with Indigena to determine a response to two invasive plant species identified.

Indicator 0.3 *A biosecurity plan and an invasive plant seedbank control strategy for Great and Little Tobago is formally adopted by the NPTVI, being implemented from end of project onwards.*

Before the setup of the project, there was no biosecurity plan nor an invasive plant seedbank control strategy specifically for the Tobago Islands. The biosecurity plan and an invasive plant seedbank control strategy are currently being developed by Indigena after their visit to BVI in Y1Q3. By the end of Year 2 the first draft of the biosecurity plan has been written and the project partners have provided their feedback. Both documents are expected to be finalised by Indigena's Y3Q2 trip to BVI for implementation.

Indicator 0.4 *Extent of vegetation cover in each National Park increases by at least 10% against a Yr1 baseline by end of project.*

Baseline vegetation surveys have been successfully completed for both Great and Little Tobago. Progress towards achieving a 10% increase in vegetation cover is contingent upon the successful eradication of goats. Should eradication be completed in Year 3, it is unlikely that sufficient time will remain within the project timeframe for vegetation to recover to a measurable extent. As such, a 10% increase in cover by the end of the project is likely not to be observed.

3.4 Monitoring of assumptions

Assumption 1: *Grazing pressure by hundreds of feral goats is a major driver of biodiversity loss and native plant community change, and at least some of these changes are reversible if the goats are removed.*

Assumption still holds true.

Assumption 2: *A goal of invasive plant eradication is not possible within the three-year timeframe of the project due to the unknown size, distribution and longevity of these species' seedbank in the soil. The primary objective is therefore to reduce and then maintain invasive plant populations at 'zero density', whereby all individuals capable of reproduction are removed and no further seed is added to the seedbank. Ultimately this will result in eradication but determining when exactly that has happened is very difficult.*

It has been noted by Kew in their vegetation survey of Great Tobago that the invasive species, *C. viscosa*, has a wide distribution across the islands and therefore poses a significant challenge to remove without damaging other island fauna and flora. Discussions between Kew, Indigena and NPTVI have led to the expectation that once native plant species recover after the goat removal, the *C. viscosa* will be outcompeted and result in reduction or complete expiration. This will only become apparent after the project end date; however, Indigena's training and weed management strategy will guide NPTVI's adaptive management approach for *C. viscosa* following the goat eradication.

Assumption 3: *The protocols for vegetation monitoring plots in Great Tobago National Park, developed under a 2015 EU BEST II partnership project between the RSPB, Kew and NPTVI, can be utilised.*

The assumption still holds true.

Assumption 4: *The vegetation change and recovery will be significant and a professionally made film showing before/after footage would be a showcase for NPTVI's National Park management and a significant inspiration to other island owners in the BVI who also have unmanaged feral goats*.

The assumption still holds true.

Assumption 5: *Adverse weather conditions do not affect sea conditions and prevent sharp shooters from accessing the island. This will be mitigated by operating May-August, when sea conditions are calmest, and avoiding the core hurricane season (Sept-Oct). Further mitigation by planning for 2 island visits per year over 3 years (double as many as previous attempt). Finally, by using a helicopter to access Little Tobago.*

While the project aimed to operate within the calmer May to August window, poor weather conditions have still disrupted activities, including during trips in August (Y2Q2). Additionally, the project attempted to operate at the end of the hurricane season in October for Years 1 and 2 to maximise eradication time; however, the Year 2 October trip had to be cancelled due to poor sea conditions. In response, the project is actively reviewing and adapting its operational approach. Further details on mitigation strategies and contingency planning are provided under Output 2.

Assumption 6: *Goats are missed by shooters; mitigated by use of thermal drone, judas goats, salt licks and expert shooters from APHA.*

The assumption still holds only partially true. The Tobago Island surface area is too hot for thermal drones to be utilised effectively. As part of ongoing monitoring efforts, camera traps will be deployed across the islands to confirm the absence of any goats that may have been overlooked during the eradication phase. Discussions are currently underway regarding the potential use of a Judas goat, which would remain on the island to aid in follow-up tracking and facilitate the detection of any remaining goats through social association.

Assumption 7: *Firearms cannot be accessed at the times needed for the shooting. Mitigated by pre-project via dialogue between APHA and the Royal Virgin Islands Police Force, plus the police joining the project as a formal partner.*

The assumption still holds partially true but has developed into a broader issue. Firearms have been made available when required, thanks to early coordination and a formal partnership with the Royal Virgin Islands Police Force. The police have remained engaged throughout the project, enabling smooth access to firearms. However, it has now been identified that restrictions around long-range rifles and overnight camping with firearms remaining on island are severely hindering the project. Further information can be found in the Output 2 section.

Assumption 8: *Trust staff are willing and able to participate in capacity strengthening opportunities.*

The assumption still holds true.

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

The Tobago Islands' resilience to climate impacts will remain poor without restoration and removal of the invasive non-native species. The project aim was to remove invasive plants and goats moving the Tobago Islands a step closer to improving the vegetation recovery, soil stabilisation and improved resilience to climate impacts such as drought and excessive rains.

These actions support UKOT Government priorities in DEFRA's UKOTs Biodiversity Strategy (2014) and the 25-Year Environment Plan (2018) to prevent species loss. They also align with UN Sustainable Development Goal 15.8 on invasive species. In the BVI, this work furthers long-standing NPTVI goals to preserve natural heritage and enhance understanding of ecosystems outlined in the BVI Protected Area System Plan (2007-2017) and is in line with National Environmental Action Plan objectives and the Environmental Charter's commitment to safeguarding native species and controlling invasives.

Although Year 2 faced challenges that limited the project's environmental and climate impact, the work remains aligned with both international and local priorities. Importantly, the project work and efforts to restore the delivery of the project outcomes in Year 3 reinforces the long-term commitment of project partners to achieving strategic outcomes for the natural environment.

5. Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI)

GESI Scale	Description	Put X where you think your project is on the scale
Not yet sensitive	The GESI context may have been considered but the project isn't quite meeting the requirements of a 'sensitive' approach	X
Sensitive	The GESI context has been considered and project activities take this into account in their	

	design and implementation. The project addresses basic needs and vulnerabilities of women and marginalised groups and the project will not contribute to or create further inequalities.	
Empowering	The project has all the characteristics of a 'sensitive' approach whilst also increasing equal access to assets, resources and capabilities for women and marginalised groups	
Transformative	The project has all the characteristics of an 'empowering' approach whilst also addressing unequal power relationships and seeking institutional and societal change	

The gender split between the core project team remains relatively even [2F/3M] with both the NPTVI and Kew project outputs being led by women. With the project requiring specific consultants and no longer needing local BVI residents to conduct labour-intensive work, the project is limited in how it can address Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI).

6. Monitoring and evaluation

Project monitoring and evaluation are guided by a robust M&E plan (Annex 10), implemented throughout the project and reviewed at each steering committee meeting. These meetings, hosted by the lead partner (RSPB), include representatives from each partner and relevant consultants. Minutes, comments, and actions are recorded.
Outputs and Activities are regularly reviewed during steering committee and 1:1 partner meetings to ensure alignment with the project Outcome. Using the logframe and implementation timetable, partners assess progress and planned delivery. Achievement indicators include trip and training reports, vegetation plot monitoring, training self-assessment surveys, and photo/video analysis.

M&E is led by RSPB and NPTVI, with input from partners and consultants. Information is shared through formal and informal meetings, and all M&E materials are accessible via a shared SharePoint page.

7. Lessons learnt

Several key lessons emerged from Year 2, particularly in relation to the challenges encountered in delivering Output 2 (see Output 2 section). One critical insight is the importance of regularly assessing whether the project's design and implementation remain aligned with its intended outcomes. When doubts arise about the feasibility of delivering these outcomes, it is essential to initiate a review process. In cases where concerns are significant, bringing in external expert perspectives can provide valuable objectivity and help guide necessary adjustments. This experience shows the value of building review mechanisms into project design from the outset, with clear criteria for when they should be activated.

The project is continuing its emergency review and is gathering feedback from the external reviewer and stakeholders to help shape the way forward in Year 3, aiming to avoid the barriers experienced in Years 1 and 2.

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

Comment 1: *The project indicates some concern over the high population of the invasive Arivela viscosa, which could pose a significant removal challenge. However, it believes that Arivela may be outcompeted once native species recover. The situation will be monitored, and the project will adaptively manage its approach if required, but it is not clear whether the project*

will be able to make such a judgement within the relatively short timeframe of the Darwin project.

The regeneration of native vegetation in the areas with Arivela viscosa is still dependent upon total goat eradication. This is still ongoing and there have been some challenges. However, Indigena is scheduled to return to the BVI in Year 3 to assess a range of management approaches for invasive plant species, and will assess the status of the *Cleome viscosa* L. (formally referred to as *Arivela viscosa*). Their training and weed management strategy will guide NPTVI's adaptive response to *C.viscosa* after the project end date.

Comment 2: *The project comments on tree-nesting seabirds, but does not appear to be establishing a baseline at the project outset, or monitoring the seabird population following the eradication of goats and hoped for stabilisation of slopes. Are there any plans to monitor this situation, perhaps outside the current project*

While this project does not include specific seabird monitoring, NPTVI monitors seabird populations on Great Tobago as part of its broader conservation remit. The most recent census was conducted in 2014 as part of a regional Caribbean-wide survey (link). NPTVI plans to carry out a new census in June 2025.

Comment 3: *The project notes that Kew does not have the expertise to land on the islands by boat, and therefore is relying on vegetation regrowth following a reduction in goat numbers to allow a helicopter to land. Does the project have a contingency plan if landing continues to be challenging should vegetation recovery be slower than expected?*

The restriction of Kew accessing Little Tobago National Park by boat has been addressed by shifting the fieldwork to later in the year when rainfall is greater and ground conditions are less dry and more favourable to helicopter landing and this has been successful, as Kew and NPTVI was able to land on Little Tobago in November (Y2Q3). The project team had explored several contingency plans including, guiding APHA, who are approved to land on Little Tobago, to take plant samples and vegetation photos. Additionally, NPTVI's drone can be utilised if needed to conduct arial vegetation surveys.

Comment 4: *In Year 2, the project will engage with local BVI residents to elicit support for invasive species removal, and at this stage, it will need to consider how it is ensuring individuals achieve equitable outcomes and engaging participants in a meaningful way, and how it addresses equality and social inclusion.*

The decision has been made at the beginning of Year 2 by the project partners that local BVI residents are no longer needed to support the invasive species removal and so addressing equality and social inclusion is no longer needed around this output. See Output 3.3. However, NPTVI still aims to educate BVI residents about invasive species and the impacts on native flora and fauna, which is purpose of the film documentary which will highlight the threats feral goats and rats place on seabirds and plant life.

9. Risk Management

The two key risks that have emerged at the end of Year 2 are the vulnerability of short operating trips to poor sea conditions and firearms restrictions which is limiting the delivery of the goat eradication. In response, the project has commissioned an external review, engaging with RVIPF on the firearms restrictions, adapting the eradication schedule for Year 3 and utilising GPS Goat Collars. The project team is actively working to mitigate these risks and will keep Darwin updated. Additional information can be found in Output 2 section.

10. Scalability and durability

If successful, this project will serve as a regional model for goat eradication. If the eradication output is not successfully delivered, it will provide valuable guidance and lessons learned, contributing to a broader understanding within the invasive species eradication field. The involvement of RVIPF and BVI Government stakeholders from the outset has ensured stronger buy-in and raised awareness of both the importance of eradication efforts and the logistical challenges involved. This early engagement strengthens the foundation for scaling up similar work across the region, increasing the likelihood of broader adoption.

The aim of this project is not only to restore a national park but to highlight the importance of invasive species eradication in protecting and preserving BVI native wildlife. The project is looking to collect footage for a film on the restoration of the national parks and raises awareness nationally of the importance of nature restoration work within the region. This film is part of a wider legacy plan for the project. The training of NPTVI staff, development of a seedbank strategy and biosecurity plan will enable the maintenance and continuation of restoration across BVI national parks including the Tobago Islands.

11. Darwin Plus identity

Social media posts from NPTVI:

- https://www.facebook.com/NPTVI/posts/pfbid02n5w8PGemjypL5sQQeELtGxk6RnmbLssNHZMEcikwVgaax5aGTar5e7EfxvKRTcdVl
- https://www.facebook.com/NPTVI/posts/pfbid0Y5dWZ3qFxnFwm3xRJVEcubLjWybbTEnsSGyUeczYixYZHU4PQ1YR6EaBAmCdButvl
- https://www.facebook.com/NPTVI/posts/pfbid02X3ZeYMq3vjEropzdXxyhGSm9hMpDVpqtWQt5mA6T6Uft9rs7VCm34Do8uFoQpJqPl
- https://www.facebook.com/NPTVI/posts/pfbid0tX76u1UqQrXKrGbpdEiy3tFZyfotmdQjfLbANMDbtoBkfzk4i3vHDUzGWELJW7gWl

The Darwin logo features on Kew's annual report on the vegetation monitoring of the Tobagos which has been shared with RPSB and Kew colleagues. Kew have post on their X profile during their visit to BVI. (Annex 6)

12. Safeguarding

[redacted]

13. Project expenditure

Table 1: Project expenditure during the reporting period (1 April 2024 – 31 March 2025)

Project spend (indicative) in this financial year	2024/25 D+ Grant (£)	2024/25 Total actual D+ Costs (£)	Variance %	Comments (please explain significant variances)
Staff costs	[redacted]			
Consultancy costs				
Overhead Costs				
Travel and subsistence				
Operating Costs				
Capital items				
Other Costs				
TOTAL	**114,904**	**110,894**		
	[redacted]			

Table 2: Project mobilised or matched funding during the reporting period (1 April 2024 – 31 March 2025)

	Secured to date	Expected by end of project	Sources
Matched funding leveraged by the partners to deliver the project (£)	[redacted]		- RSPB Staff time - RSPB Overheads - NPTVI Boat use
Total additional finance mobilised for new activities occurring outside of the project, building on evidence, best practices and the project (£)	[redacted]		Employment of Orion Conservation Services Limited by RSPB to conduct external review of goat eradication approach.

Annex 1: Report of progress and achievements against logframe for Financial Year 2024-2025

Project summary	Progress and Achievements April 2024 - March 2025	Actions required/planned for next period
Impact Natural habitats and endemic flora flourish in two National Parks in the absence of feral goats and invasive plants, providing a model for further habitat recovery operations throughout the BVI.	Successful mapping of invasive plants on Little Tobago, with continued removal efforts on Great Tobago. Recognition of limitations in the current goat eradication approach, with steps taken to identify a resolution for Year 3.	
Outcome Great & Little Tobago are free from feral goats and emergent non-native plants, and a long-term biosecurity plan and invasive plant seedbank strategy is locally owned and enacted.		
Outcome indicator 0.1 By end of Yr3, the first ever successful removal of nonnative feral goats from a BVI National Park is documented, following a successful eradication attempt on Great and Little Tobagos.	Currently unlikely to succeed in full. Challenges in progressing with the eradication of feral goats have led to a pause in eradication activities on Great Tobago and a re-evaluation of the approach on Little Tobago. Evidence provided in Section 3.3	External review of Great Tobago Eradication approach. Continuations of the development and application of invasive plant management strategy.
Outcome indicator 0.2 End of project surveys confirm the complete absence of non-native invasive plants by Yr3.	Baseline plant assessments and staff training have enabled invasive plant removal on Great Tobago, though C. viscosa remains widespread. NPTVI and Kew successfully landed and mapped the invasive species on Little Tobago and planning is underway to address to determine removal approach. Evidence provided in Section 3.3 and Annex 6	Indigena will be visiting BVI to continue their invasive plant management training. A strategy for invasive plant management on Little Tobago will be developed.
Outcome indicator 0.3 Biosecurity Plan and an Invasive Plant Seedbank Control Strategy for Great and Little Tobago is formally adopted by	The biosecurity plan and an invasive plant seedbank control strategy are currently being developed by Indigena after their visit to BVI in Y1Q3. By the end of Year 2 the first draft of the biosecurity plan has been written and the project partners have provided their feedback.	The biosecurity plan and an invasive plant seedbank control strategy for Great and Little Tobago will finalised and implemented in Year 3

the NPTVI, being implemented from end of project onwards.		
Outcome indicator 0.4 Extent of vegetation cover in each National Park increases by at least 10% against a Yr1 baseline by end of project.	It is expected that this indicator will not be achieved within the project timeline due to setbacks associated with goat eradication. If eradication is successful in Year 3 on either island, vegetation recovery is unlikely to occur until at least the following year.	
Output 1 Native plant baselines established, invasive plant surveys updated, and preeradication visual materials collected for a 'before/after' eradication communications package.		
Output indicator 1.1 Pre-eradication baseline of endemic plants, plant diversity, vegetation coverage and invasive plants on Great Tobago reestablished by end of Yr 1	This indicator was completed in Year 1 during Kew's visit to Great Tobago in Y1Q2.	
Output indicator 1.2 A first baseline of endemic plants, plant diversity and vegetation coverage is established for Little Tobago by end of Yr 1, along with confirmation of the suspected absence of invasive plants.	Kew and NPTVI successfully accessed Little Tobago by helicopter in November (Y2Q3) to conduct the island's first organised botanical survey, establishing baseline data on plant diversity. Two invasive species, *Cleome viscosa* and *Abrus precatorius*, were found in limited areas, with their locations recorded and shared with Indigena to inform NPTVI's response.	
Output indicator 1.3 Photographic and film footage (on-the-ground and aerial) secured of both islands' pre-eradication ecosystems and local conservationists in action in Year 1.	Pre-eradication ecosystems on Tobago are being documented through still images and video captured by NPTVI, Kew, and filming consultants. Most footage of Great Tobago was captured in Year 1, with additional filming of Little Tobago completed in Year 2.	Final pre-eradication footage is expected to be collected inY2Q2.
Output 2. Great and Little Tobago National Parks become free from feral goats and the initial consequent impacts on native habitats are recorded.		
Output indicator 2.1.	Year 2 has revealed significant challenges to achieving Indicator 2.1, resulting in a review of project delivery. This review identified firearms restrictions and limited	The external contractor will continue to provide independent oversight and

Tobago Islands are completely free from invasive goats by the end of Q2 in Year 3.	operating time as key challenges to achieving goat eradication on the islands. Steps are being taken to overcome these limitations. Evidence in Annex9	evaluation of goat eradication activities on the Tobago Islands. Engagement with relevant stakeholders to address firearms restrictions is ongoing.
Output indicator 2.2. Vegetation monitoring survey reviews changes in fixed point photographs, vegetation monitoring plots and overall island vegetation by end of Yr 3.	In Year 2, Kew continued surveys on Great Tobago and completed the botanical survey and plot setup on Little Tobago. However, without successful goat eradication, significant changes in vegetation composition are unlikely. Further info in Section 3.2.	Vegetation monitoring surveys will continue to take place on Great and Little Tobago.
Output 3. Eradication of all emergent invasive plants achieved and long-term capacity-built to implement biosecurity and seedbank strategies.		
Output indicator 3.1 Five NPTVI staff (3 male/ 2 female) receive training on safe agrochemical use, safe chainsaw use, biosecurity and use of a specialist weed management app by end of Q2 in Yr 1, plus refresher training in Yrs 2 and 3.	Indigena delivered training to NPTVI staff in Year 1 and trained was schedule in Year 2.	Indigena will be visiting BVI in Year 3 to continue the training of NPTVI staff.
Output indicator 3.2 Emergent plant eradication strategy, annual work plan, spatial management database and biosecurity plan developed by end of Q2 in Yr 1.	Indigena has been working on the biosecurity plan, emergent plant eradication strategy in Year 2. A first draft of the biosecurity plan was shared with project partners and feedback was provided.	
Output indicator 3.3 Five NPTVI staff and at least three further BVI resident labourers receive 'training by doing' on plant eradication best practice through working alongside international experts for at least two weeks per year.	Six NPTVI staff received hands-on training in plant eradication best practices from Indigena in Y1Q3 and applied these skills during fieldwork with Kew in Y2Q2 (Annex XXX). The project didn't require additional resident labourers.	Indigena will be visiting BVI in Year 3 to continue the training of NPTVI staff.

Output indicator 3.4 Invasive non-native plants no longer present on the Tobago Islands by end of project with population density of zero recorded.	All known invasives removed from Great Tobago except for C. viscosa, which is too widespread for safe eradication (Annex 6). Kew successfully visited Little Tobago and mapped out the invasive species abundance.	An invasive plant removal strategy is being developed for Little Tobago. Indigena will support NPTVI team in invasive species remove in Year 3.
Output indicator 3.5 Long-term seedbank control strategy and biosecurity plan developed by end of Yr3.	Indigena has been developing the seedbank control strategy and biosecurity plan throughout Year 2.	Finalisation and implementation of seedbank control strategy and biosecurity plan will take place in Year 3.
Output indicator 3.6 Biosecurity plan enhanced following consultation with BVI Government stakeholders by end of Yr3.	To be delivered in Year 3.	To take place in Year 3.

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

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
Impact: Natural habitats and endemic flora flourish in two National Parks in the absence of feral goats and invasive plants, providing a model for further habitat recovery operations throughout the BVI.			
Outcome: Great & Little Tobago are free from feral goats and emergent non-native plants, and a long term biosecurity plan and invasive plant seedbank strategy is locally owned and enacted.	0.1 By end of Yr3, the first ever successful removal of nonnative feral goats from a BVI National Park is documented, following a successful eradication attempt on Great and Little Tobagos 0.2 End of project surveys confirm the complete absence of non-native invasive plants by Yr3.	0.1 Feral goat post-eradication monitoring report; article in local newspaper documenting successful outcome. 0.2 Time-lapse photographs of the non-native plants taken in Yr1 and end of Yr 3; survey reports. 0.3 Copy of biosecurity plan and invasive plant seedbank control strategy.	Grazing pressure by hundreds of feral goats is a major driver of biodiversity loss and native plant community change, and at least some of these changes are reversible if the goats are removed. A goal of invasive plant eradication is not possible within the three-year timeframe of the project due to the unknown size, distribution and longevity of these species' seedbank in the soil.

	0.3 A Biosecurity Plan and an Invasive Plant Seedbank Control Strategy for Great and Little Tobago is formally adopted by the NPTVI, being implemented from end of project onwards. 0.4 Extent of vegetation cover in each National Park increases by at least 10% against a Yr1 baseline by end of project.	0.4 Vegetation monitoring reports; fixed point photographs; vegetation	The primary objective is therefore to reduce and then maintain invasive plant populations at 'zero density', whereby all individuals capable of reproduction are removed and no further seed is added to the seedbank. Ultimately this will result in eradication but determining when exactly that has happened is very difficult.
Output 1 Native plant baselines established, invasive plant surveys updated, and preeradication visual materials collected for a 'before/after' eradication communications package.	1.1 Pre-eradication baseline of endemic plants, plant diversity, vegetation coverage and invasive plants on Great Tobago reestablished by end of Yr 1 1.2 A first baseline of endemic plants, plant diversity and vegetation coverage is established for Little Tobago by end of Yr 1, along with confirmation of the suspected absence of invasive plants. 1.3 Photographic and film footage (on-the-ground and aerial) secured of both islands' pre-eradication ecosystems and local conservationists in action in Year 1.	1.1 Monitoring report, fixed point photographs, vegetation monitoring plots 1.2 Monitoring report, fixed point photographs, vegetation monitoring plots 1.3 Fixed point and time-lapse photography; hard drive with film footage and sound recordings.	The protocols for vegetation monitoring plots in Great Tobago National Park, developed under a 2015 EU BEST II partnership project between the RSPB, Kew and NPTVI, can be utilised. The vegetation change and recovery will be significant and a professionally made film showing before/after footage would be a showcase for NPTVI's National Park management and a significant inspiration to other island owners in the BVI who also have unmanaged feral goats.
Output 2 Great and Little Tobago National Parks become free from feral goats and the initial consequent impacts on native habitats are recorded.	2.1 Tobago Islands are completely free from invasive goats by the end of Q2 in Year 3 2.2 Vegetation monitoring survey reviews changes in fixed point photographs, vegetation monitoring plots and overall island vegetation by end of Yr 3.	2.1 APHA trip reports (x6), Yr 3 monitoring reports. 2.2 Fixed point photographs, Vegetation monitoring report.	Adverse weather conditions do not affect sea conditions and prevent sharp shooters from accessing the island. This will be mitigated by operating May-August, when sea conditions are calmest, and avoiding the core hurricane season (Sept-Oct). Further mitigation by planning for 2 island visits per year over 3 years (double as many as previous attempt). Finally, by using a helicopter to access Little Tobago.

			Goats are missed by shooters; mitigated by use of thermal drone, judas goats, salt licks and expert shooters from APHA. Firearms cannot be accessed at the times needed for the shooting. Mitigated by pre-project via dialogue between APHA and the Royal Virgin Islands Police Force, plus the police joining the project as a formal partner.
Output 3 Eradication of all emergent invasive plants achieved and long-term capacity-built to implement biosecurity and seedbank strategies.	3.1 Five NPTVI staff (3 male/ 2 female) receive training on safe agrochemical use, safe chainsaw use, biosecurity and use of a specialist weed management app by end of Q2 in Yr 1, plus refresher training in Yrs 2 and 3. 3.2 Emergent plant eradication strategy, annual work plan, spatial management database and biosecurity plan developed by end of Q2 in Yr 1. 3.3 Five NPTVI staff and at least three further BVI resident labourers receive 'training by doing' on plant eradication best practice through working alongside international experts for at least two weeks per year. 3.4 Invasive non-native plants no longer present on the Tobago Islands by end of project with population density of zero recorded. 3.5 Long-term seedbank control strategy and biosecurity plan developed by end of Yr3.	3.1 Training visit reports, staff pre-/post-training self assessment questionnaires. 3.2 Copy of eradication strategy, annual work plan, spatial database and biosecurity plan. 3.3. Staff self-assessment questionnaires. Training visit reports. 3.4 Vegetation monitoring report. 3.5 Copy of Seedbank control strategy and biosecurity plan. Photographic evidence of installed biosecurity signage. 3.6 BVI Government consultation Feedback.	Every invasive plant can be located and removed. This will be achieved as the project will bring in expert technical expertise to ensure target density zero of non-natives is achieved. Trust staff are willing and able to participate in capacity strengthening opportunities.

	3.6 Biosecurity plan enhanced following consultation with BVI Government stakeholders by end of Yr3.		

Activities (each activity is numbered according to the output that it will contribute towards, for example 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 are contributing to Output 1)

1.1 Carry out desk-based research and review of existing studies and grey literature
1.2 1-day refresher training for NPTVI staff in plant identification and survey techniques, led by Kew, plus follow-up 'learning by doing'
1.3 Field surveys on Great and Little Tobago to establish native, threatened plant baseline data and set up ongoing monitoring
1.4 Kew to provide equipment and training to NPTVI to support gathering of photo footage
1.5 Nutshell captures pre-eradication film footage of Great and Little Tobagos plus NPTVI conservationists

2.1 Finalise arrangements for international transport of firearms and ammunition
2.2 Six field visits to Great Tobago and Little Tobago to complete goat eradication work
2.3 Review fixed point photographs and survey data
2.4 Production of vegetation monitoring report

3.1. Source and arrange delivery of necessary plant management equipment (herbicides, sprayers etc)
3.2 Indigena deliver plant management training to NPTVI staff
3.3 NPTVI and Indigena co-develop emergent plant eradication strategy, workplan, spatial management database and biosecurity plan
3.4 NPTVI staff deliver plant eradication workplan with Indigena support
3.5 Field surveys to confirm absence of non-native plants on Great and Little Tobago
3.6 Write long term seedbank control strategy and biosecurity plan

Annex 3: Standard Indicators

Table 1 Project Standard Indicators

Please see the Standard Indicator guidance for more information on how to report in this section, including appropriate disaggregation.

DPLUS Indicator number	Name of indicator	Project Indicator	Units	Disaggregation	Year 1 Total	Year 2 Total	Year 3 Total	Total to date	Total planned during the project
DPLUS-C02	Number of new conservation or species stock assessments published.	1.2	Number	Great & Little Tobago Habitat assessment	1	1		2	2
DPLUS-B02	Number of new/improved habitat management plans available and endorsed.	0.3	Number	Weed management strategy	0	0		0	1
DPLUS-C01	Number of best practice guides and knowledge products published and endorsed.	3.6	Number	Biosecurity plan	0	0		0	1
DPLUS-A01	Number of people from key national and local stakeholders completing structured and relevant training	3.1	Number	NPTVI Staff	6		6	6	12
DPLUS-A04	Number of people reporting that they are applying new capabilities (skills and knowledge) 6 (or more) months after training.	3.1	Number	NPTVI Staff	6			6	6

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, scheme, type of report (i.e. Annual or Final), and year) and **deleted the blue guidance text** before submission?	X
Is the report less than 10MB? If so, please email to BCF-Reports@niras.com putting the project number in the Subject line.	X
Is your report more than 10MB? If so, please consider the best way to submit. One zipped file, or a download option, is recommended. We can work with most online options and will be in touch if we have a problem accessing material. If unsure, 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.	X
Have you provided an updated risk register? If you have an existing risk register you should provide an updated version alongside your report. If your project was funded prior to this being a requirement, you are encourage to develop a risk register.	NA – Project before requirement
If you are submitting photos for publicity purposes, do these meet the outlined requirements (see section 15)?	NA
Have you involved your partners in preparation of the report and named the main contributors	Yes
Have you completed the Project Expenditure table fully?	Yes – draft costs
Do not include claim forms or other communications with this report.	