Darwin Plus Main: 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 2024

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
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)	01/04/2023 – 31/03/2024 (Annual Report 1)
Project Leader name	Charlie Butt
Project website/blog/social media	
Report author(s) and date	Jack Whitelegg and Charlie Butt (April 2024)

1. Project summary

Great Tobago & Little Tobago National Parks are two uninhabited islands owned and managed by the National Parks Trust of the Virgin Islands (NPTVI). Great Tobago (85ha) is very significant from a biodiversity perspective, especially for plants and birds. It is classified as an Important Bird Area (IBA) due to its globally important population of magnificent frigatebirds Fregata magnificens – the largest colony in the Caribbean - and the island is also a Tropical Important plant Area (TIPA), due to its significant population of globally threatened Agave missionum and other species of conservation importance. Neighbouring Little Tobago (22ha) is also a seabird nesting site and likely of floral and reptile significance, but is surrounded by steep cliffs so has received little research attention to date due to its limited accessibility.

Feral goats have been documented worldwide as having devastating impacts on native island flora and fauna (Campbell & Donlan, 2005). They are present on both islands, significantly threatening the biodiversity values and environmental condition of these National Parks, whose wildlife evolved in the absence of mammalian herbivores. A 2014 report 'Vegetation monitoring on Great Tobago, BVI; Kew baseline survey findings and recommendations', highlighted the severity of the issue, stating that "grazing damage was observed on many individuals and no seedling recruitment was observed suggesting that the goats are impacting species ability to reproduce sexually." Intense grazing pressure has also significantly exacerbated erosion, which is now very severe on the steeper slopes. On Great Tobago, the consequent landslides have

already destroyed some of the trees hosting the Magnificent Frigatebird colony, and the remaining trees are threatened, jeopardising the survival of the Caribbean's largest colony.

As well as the feral goats, at least four non-native invasive plant species are present and competing with native endemic flora on Great Tobago.

In 2014, DEFRA-funded research analysed over 2,500 islands across all the 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 to c.700+ individuals, found right across both these steep islands.

Eradicating the goats will allow the recovery/re-introduction of native plants, protect the forest for key colonies of tree-nesting seabirds, prevent erosion and reduce sedimentation in the marine environment. As removing the goats could enable the four known invasive plant species on Great Tobago to boom in the absence of grazing pressure, this project will also aim to eradicate all emergent individuals of these invasive species, plus any invasive plant species found on Little Tobago.

The native habitats will therefore be able to thrive free from competition, significantly restoring and improving the biodiversity value and environmental condition of these two National Park islands and providing the first successful example of a feral goat eradication from any BVI Protected Area.

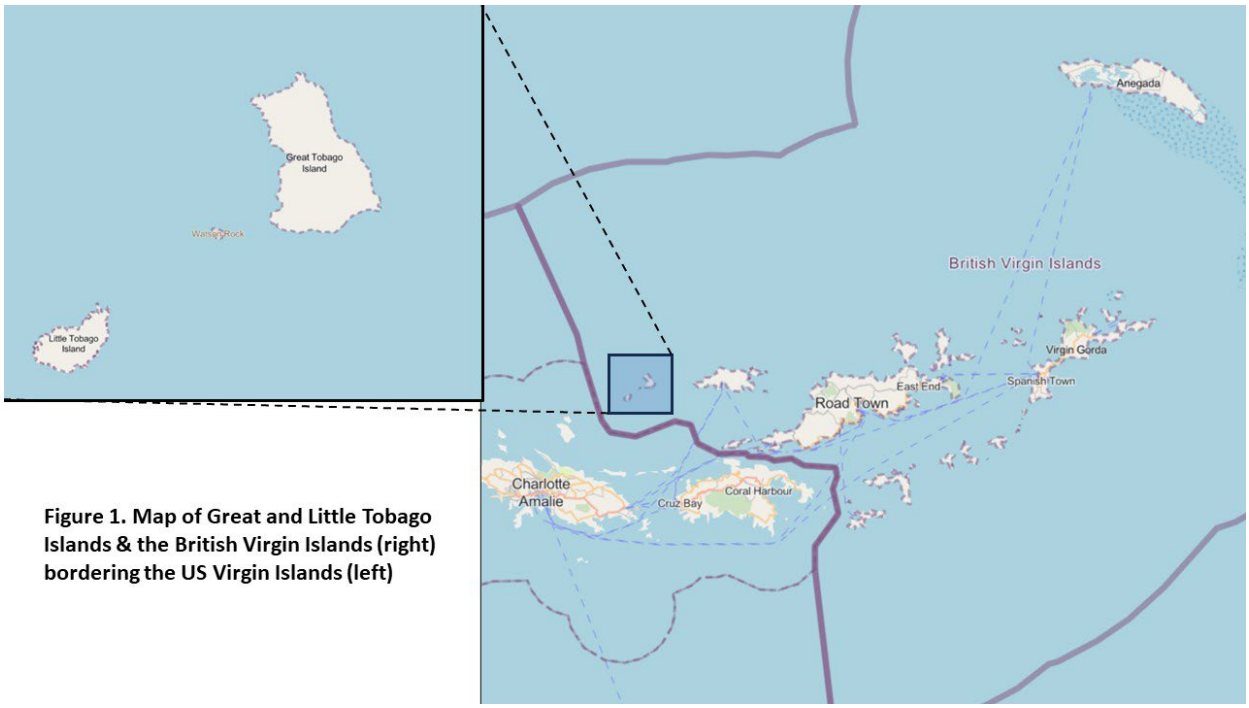

Figure 1. Map of Great and Little Tobago Islands & the British Virgin Islands (right) bordering the US Virgin Islands (left)

2. Project stakeholders/partners

The Darwin Project (PLUS196) was established in response to the National Parks Trust of the Virgin Islands (NPTVI) request and conservation urgency, and is jointly led and coordinated by the project partner Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) and NPTVI. Technical input is provided by the project partners Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew (Kew), and the consultants Indigena Biosecurity International (Indigena), Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) and Nutshell Productions (Nutshell). All partners and consultants have been involved throughout the project design, implementation, and coordination. During year 1 all project partners and consultants have been actively engaged in the project implementation and working collaboratively to deliver the Year 1 project outputs.

Partners and stakeholders have been engaged throughout via the project steering committee, made up of project partners and supported by the relevant consultants. The three online project steering committee meetings took place pre-project start date, Y1Q2 and Y1Q4, all successfully attended by a representative from each project partner and relevant contractors. Additionally, ad hoc meetings have taken place through year 1 to help guide the project and respond to any challenges. Both the steering and ad hoc meetings played an important role in keeping all relevant stakeholders updated with the project activities and enabled a clear project output trajectory to be established through year 1 and leading into year 2. Field trips to BVI have been coordinated by NPTVI with the aim of enabling the project stakeholders to visit over the same period when possible. This resulted in in-person collaboration and engagement of project stakeholders and contributed to the project's cohesion.

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 through 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. During year 1 the technical specialists, Indigena, provided expert support and training to NPTVI staff through two weeks of in-person practical training on the Safe and Effective Use of Agrichemicals for Invasive Species Management, chainsaw use, and weed management on the BVI. Following this, Indigena set up a direct communication channel via WhatsApp with NPTVI staff to continue to provide support around invasive plant species management. Additionally, Indigena is working with NPTVI to develop a plant eradication strategy, workplan, spatial management database and biosecurity plan for the Tobago Islands. Within year 1 Nutshell Productions visited BVI to provide technical skills associated with the filming of Great Tobago to acquire footage of a pre-eradication landscape on the Tobagos Islands (Indicator 1.5). Nutshell Production has worked with local filmmaker Dame Peters, Founder & Creative Director of Timeless Films & Media to help build up the local capacity of wildlife filming on BVI. Nutshell Production visited the BVI in Y1Q2 and Y1Q3 to deliver on these outputs and provide technical support.

A key challenge since the project began is the time zone differences (NZ, UK, BVI). We addressed this by coordinating project partners and consultants to visit the BVI at overlapping times to enable in-person engagement. Outside of trips, regular communication was maintained via email and video calls, whilst RSPB shared key project updates to relevant stakeholders.

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 - Literature review completed by Kew at the beginning of year 1; findings fed into Kew's year 1 technical report on *Monitoring invasive plant species on Great and Little Tobago National Parks, British Virgin Islands (BVI)* (Annex 4).

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 – Kew visited BVI in Y1Q1 and completed plant identification and survey training with 5 members of NPTVI staff, which was subsequently applied when Kew and NPTVI staff visited Great Tobago. Pictures of the training can be found in Kew's year 1 technical report (Annex 4).

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

Partially completed – Kew visited Great Tobago in Y1Q1 and successfully mapped out the existing invasive plant species, as well as reviewed the suitability of the existing permanent vegetation plots, to provide an effective post removal monitoring scheme.

Great Tobago field surveys identified the primary invasive plant species of concern, except *Leucaena leucocephala*. This invasive species was mapped and findings were shared with NPTVI and Indigena. The vegetation permanent plots, show a great concentration of plant diversity across the island, despite the setback from Hurricane Irma in 2017. Kew considers these to be an effective way to monitor the vegetation, therefore this monitoring approach will be maintained for the remainder of the project (Annex 4).

Unfortunately, the unforeseen dry weather conditions leading up to the trip in Y1Q1 meant that Kew was unable to visit Little Tobago. The island became unsafe for the helicopter to land due to high levels of dust caused by the extensive dry weather and grazing pressure of the feral goats. Following the change request approval, the expectation is for Kew to visit Little Tobago in year 2 once the grazing pressure is reduced from APHA activities on the island. This will enable Kew to complete a full botanical inventory of Little Tobago National Park, with activity1.3 being completed by the end of year 2.

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

Partially completed – Game cameras have been purchased by NPTVI and in June 24 (Y2Q1) for Kew and NPTVI will deploy the cameras on Great Tobago. These cameras will be used to measure vegetation abundance and for monitoring.

Activity 1.5 Nutshell captures preeradication film footage of Great and Little Tobagos plus NPTVI conservationists

Partially completed – The initial plan was for all filming to be completed in Y1Q2 (June), however, not all planned shots were achieved in the allotted time due to the combination of challenging terrain and very dry weather. A second trip was scheduled for Y1Q3 (October), however, Hurricane Tammy passed through the Caribbean between 18–29 October 2023 causing extreme sea and weather conditions, which prevented Nutshell from visiting the Tobago Islands and capturing the remaining footage. Throughout the filming process, Nutshell had support from local camera operators and provided in-person training on wildlife filmmaking. Plans are in development to support locally led capturing of footage in year 2, utilising unspent funds moved to year 2, following an approved change request. Find in Annex 5 pictures of Nutshells trip to BVI and the filming script in Annex 6. Additionally, NPTVI will use drone imagery to capture arial footage of the Tobago Islands before and after the goat eradication.

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

Activity completed – The project faced delays in arranging for the international transport of firearms and ammunition. Initially, a change in UK carrier policies meant the firearms needed to be sourced from the US rather than the UK. Firearms and ammunition successfully arrived in BVI in (Y1Q3) and subsequent steps were taken to mitigate the delay in arriving resulting in no project outputs being affected.

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

Activity completed – The delay in firearms and ammunition meant that the planned eradication trip in Y1Q2 could not take place. In response, a meeting between the relevant stakeholders (NPTVI, APHA and RSPB) was held and it was decided the first field visit would be condensed into one eradication trip in year 1. This eradication trip took place in Y1Q3 and was extended from 6 to 12 days on the Tobagos to make up for the time lost at the beginning of the year. Further details can be found in the Annex 7.

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

Please refer to activity 1.3 on field surveys in year 1. This action will be developed further in year 2 and 3.

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

Activity completed – Indigena successfully sourced and arranged for all necessary plant management equipment for the year activity to be delivered to BVI. The equipment was used by Indigena and NPTVI during Indigena's trip to BVI in Y1Q3. The equipment list can be found in the Annex 8.

Activity 3.2 Indigena deliver plant management training to NPTVI staff

Activity completed – Indigena visited BVI in Y1Q3 and successfully delivered the plant management training to 5 NPTVI staff. The training was made up of both practical and theoretical teaching covering the Safe and Effective Use of Agrichemicals for Invasive Species Management, chainsaw use, and weed management. At the end of the course, NPTVI staff were awarded certificates for completing the training and an interactive evaluation exercise was conducted.

Further information on the training including photos can be found in the Annex 8 and the results of the evaluation exercise can be found in the participation survey (Annex 9).

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

Partially completed – Following on from their trip to BVI in Y1Q3, Indigena are currently working on the first draft of the plant eradication strategy and workplan. The timeline for fully completion of the strategy and work plan is for Y2Q3 and implementation is expected to take place in Y3. The spatial management database has been set up and provided to NPTVI and their staff.

Activity 3.4 NPTVI staff deliver plant eradication workplan with Indigena support

This activity is expected to take place in year 2 and 3. The Indigena-led training (Y1Q3) and the subsequent adverse weather, which prevented boat trips to Great Tobago from occuring, meant this activity did not progress in year 1.

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.

Prior to this project, plant field surveys of Great Tobago had been undertaken by Kew and NPTVI between 2015 and 2019. These surveys identified 3 habitat types which should be monitored post goat eradication. They also identified the four invasive plant species with a high-risk potential to local biodiversity. In 2017, five permanent plots were established using a random stratified approach to cover each vegetation type.

Very few botanical studies have been done on Little Tobago, due to its limited accessibility. Therefore, its botanical richness is only estimated and remains largely unknown.

A pre-eradication baseline of endemic plants, plant diversity, vegetation coverage and invasive plants on Great Tobago (activity 1.1) has been achieved in Year 1, further details can be found in section 3.1 under activity 1.1. The Kew trip report (Annex 4) supports this output delivery.

Unfortunately, a first baseline of endemic plants, plant diversity and vegetation coverage for Little Tobago (activity 1.2) was not achieved in year 1. See activity 1.2 in section 3.1 for further information. However, a survey of Little Tobago is expected to take place in year 2 of the project.

The pre-eradication baseline will be measured by Kew, experts in plant identification and surveying, through the monitoring of vegetation plots across the Tobagos. For Great Tobago, Kew will monitor five existing permanent plots which were initially established in 2016. Kew trip in Y1Q2 confirmed that vegetation permanent plots show a great concentration of plant diversity across the island and therefore are an effective way to monitor vegetation whilst providing continuity with the surveys conducted between 2016 – 2018. Further details are found in Annex 4. For Little Tobago, the expectation is that once both eradication trips are conducted by APHA in Y2 the grazing pressure will be much reduced, and a helicopter will be able to land on Little Tobago. Therefore, Kew will be able to conduct the first ever vegetation survey on Little Tobago.

For Indicator 1.3, this will be measured through still and video images captured by NPTVI and Nutshell. Camera traps will be set up to monitor the vegetation through fixed point time-lapse photography. Filming footage will showcase the pre-eradication landscape resulting in a visual communication aid to showcase the before/after impact of the eradication. This footage has been collected in year 1 by Nutshell Production and currently NPTVI hold the hard drive which contains a range of footage such as interview, surveying activities, and landscape shots (Annex 10).

In conclusion, it is expected that Output 1 will be fully achieved by the end of the project.

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

The population of feral goats on Great and Little Tobago did not have a documented baseline prior to the project initiation, but the partnerships' understanding has always been that both islands were at carrying capacity at the project start. RSPB, NPTVI and APHA worked together on previous attempts to eradicate goats from the Tobago Islands. This current project design has learnt from the previous failed eradication attempts and created a far stronger implementation approach to maximise the chance of success.

Output 2 is on track and the expectation is for both indicators 2.1 and 2.2 to be achieved. After an initial delay in getting APHA to the BVI, they visited Great and Little Tobago in Y1Q3 and were successful in culling 137 feral goats. The trip enabled us to establish a further understanding of the level of goat presence and the logistics around the cull. Each eradication trip was supported by RVIPF who made sure the operation abided by local laws. For indicator 2.2, Kew has visited Great Tobago and confirmed that the vegetation monitoring plots can be used to successfully monitor the impact of the goat removal on the island's vegetation. Unfortunately, they were unable to visit Little Tobago to complete the same assessment, however, a trip to Little Tobago is expected to take place in Year 2.

For indicator 2.1, APHA records the successful culling whilst operating on the Tobago Islands and the number of feral goats removed can be found in their trip report (Annex 7). To monitor the numbers of goats remaining on the islands several different techniques will be used. NPTVI will deploy a thermal drone and use camera traps which will identify whether goats remain on the island and will provide guidance on the number of goats.

For indicator 2.2, as stated previously, Kew will 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, along with the collection of plant specimens for further identification. This activity will be supported by the NPTVI's staff training under activity 1.2.

Currently, we expect the project to successfully deliver output 2.

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

Invasive plants can be found on Great Tobago, which is supported by Kew's monitoring report (Annex 4), however, it is unknown whether Little Tobago contains invasive plants. Before the project both Great and Little Tobago didn't have a long-term strategy for implementing biosecurity and seedbank control approaches.

For Indicator 3.1 6 NPTVI staff have received training from Indigena on safe agrochemical use, safe chainsaw use, biosecurity and use of a specialist weed management app in Y1Q3. Additionally for Indicator 3.3, the 6 NPTVI staff have received 'training by doing' on plant eradication best practice whilst working alongside Indigena in Y1Q3 for two weeks. Within year 1 no additional BVI residents were trained in plant eradication best practise, however, this is expected to take place in year 2. The training is recorded through participant training feedback surveys and year 1 can be found in (Annex 11).

For indicators 3.2, 3.5 and 3.6, both the seedbank control strategy and biosecurity plan are in the process of being developed and are expected to be developed and implemented in Y3.

All indicators for Output 3 are expected to be achieved by the end of the project.

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 the start of the project, feral goats can be found on Great and Little Tobago islands and non-native plants are confirmed to be on Great Tobago, however, the status of invasive plant species distribution on Little Tobago is unknown. Both islands are owned and managed by NPTVI and at the time of project conception there is no long-term biosecurity plan and invasive seedbank strategy established for the islands.

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

The project is on track to meet the overall outcome. Efforts to remove feral goats by APHA took place in Y1Q3 resulting in the removal of 137 feral goats across both islands. The project is on track and Great & Little Tobago will likely be free from feral goats by the end of the project. Further to the two trips already scheduled to remove the feral goats APHA will complete an additional 2-week trip to the Tobago islands in year 2. A thermal drone, drone speaker system and radio collars will be deployed to further enable the team to identify and remove feral goats from the island. We believe that the increased effort, combined with the addition of state-of-the-art technology will significantly improve the chances of achieving a successful project outcome. The trip report can be found in Annex 12.

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

Good progress made so far towards achieving this outcome with a baseline plant assessment completed for Great Tobago. Little Tobago survey planned for year 2. This year, Kew conducted training of NPTVI staff to enable them to further develop their plant identification skills. Additionally, Indigena ran both practical and theory training sessions with NPTVI staff on Safe and Effective Use of Agrichemicals for Invasive Species Management, chainsaw use, and weed management. Supportive evidence can be found in the Annex 8 including photos and in the participation survey (Annex 9). Indicator 0.2 is adequate for measuring whether the Tobago Islands are free from emergent non-native plants. Two major challenges to achieving this outcome, firstly, the distribution of non-native plants on Little Tobago is unknown due to Kew not being able to access the Island in year 1. Once the vegetation survey is conducted in year

2, we will have a better understanding of non-native plant species and abundance on Little Tobago and whether eradication success can be achieved. Secondly, the invasive plant *Arivela viscosa* has been observed by Kew as being extensively distributed across Great Tobago and therefore this may pose a significant challenge to remove. Discussions between Kew, Indigena and NPTVI have led to the expectation that once native plant species recover after the goat removal, the *Arivela* will be out competed and result in reduction or complete removal. All parties will monitor *Arivela* population distribution over Great Tobago and will revaluate the current approach if needed (Annex 4).

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.

The Biosecurity Plan and an Invasive Plant Seedbank Control Strategy are currently being developed by Indigena after their successful visit to BVI in Y1Q3. Before the setup of the project, there was no Biosecurity Plan and an Invasive Plant Seedbank Control Strategy specifically for the Tobago Islands. Indigena is currently working on the first draft of the plan and strategy with the aim of the documents being finalised by Y2Q3. The development of these documents is supported by information collected from Kew's annual trips to the Tobagos Islands and regular communication between NPTVI and Indigena. Once completed, Indigena will visit the BVI in Y3Q2 to support the implementation of both the Biosecurity Plan and an Invasive Plant Seedbank Control Strategy. It is expected that the indicator is adequate for measuring the intended outcome. We expect the indicator to be achieved by the end of the project and therefore the outcome not to be affected.

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

Before the project, the vegetation on both Little and Great Tobago was severely degraded due to grazing pressure from feral goats. Built within the project are vegetation surveys to set up a baseline and monitor the increase in vegetation cover as the feral goats are removed. To date, Kew has successfully conducted a baseline survey of Great Tobago and are expecting to conduct a baseline survey of Little Tobago in year 2. So far, APHA has been successful in removing feral goats from both Little and Great Tobago, therefore, the project is on track to removing the grazing pressure. If achieved, this indicator is adequate for measuring the success of the project outcome. We expect the indicator to be achieved by the end of the project.

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 baseline vegetation survey (Annex 4) of Great Tobago that the invasive species, *Arivela viscosa*¸ has a high population distortion across the islands and

therefore this may pose a significant challenge to remove. Discussions between Kew, Indigena and NPTVI have led to the expectation that once native plant species recover after the goat removal, the Arivela will be outcompeted and result in reduction or complete removal. All parties will monitor Arivela population distribution over Great Tobago and we will adaptively manage our approach if required.

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.*

This assumption still partially holds true. In year 1 the shooters lost 3 days to bad weather as the trip needed to be scheduled in October (Y1Q3) See activity 2.2 for details. For year 2, both trips will be scheduled outside the core hurricane season, however, an additional trip is being considered which will take place on October 24.

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 true.

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.*

Initially, the project suffered from delays in the firearms reaching the BVI, therefore, preventing the shooters (APHA) from conducting their first trip in Y1Q2. To make up for the missed trip, APHA's trip in Y1Q3 was extended to take into account the scheduled days lost from the first trip.

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 would remain poor without restoration and removal of the invasive non-native species. This project, however, is making great progress towards tackling and removing these invasive species, improving the likelihood of vegetation

recovery, soil stabilisation and improved resilience to climate impacts such as drought and excessive rains.

Year 1 saw successful efforts to eradicate feral goats and remove non-native invasive plants from Tobago Island. These actions align with UKOT Government priorities outlined in DEFRA's UKOTs Biodiversity Strategy (2014) and contribute to the 25-Year Environment Plan (2018) to prevent species loss in England and UKOTs. Furthermore, they support UN Sustainable Development Goal 15, particularly Target 15.8, aimed at reducing the impact of invasive species. In the BVI, this work, a goal of the NPTVI for over two decades, aligns with 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.

5. Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI)

Please quantify the proportion of women on the Project Board[1].	40% - 2 of the 5 project steering committee are women.
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].	67% - RSPB and NPTVI are led by women.

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 [F2/3M] with both NPTVI and Kew being led by women. With the project focusing on eradication work and limited

[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.

community engagement, the project is not currently proactive in addressing Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI).

Going forward and taking note of the GESI, we will discuss with the project partners and look at ways to engage further with the GESI targets as far as the project framework permits. In year 2 the project will look to bring in local BVI residents to support the invasive species removal on the Tobagos and therefore this will offer opportunities to improve on the GESI scale.

6. Monitoring and evaluation

The project monitoring and evaluation is structured around a robust M&E plan (Annex 12) which was implemented throughout year 1 and reviewed at each steering committee meeting. The steering committee meetings are hosted by the lead partner (RSPB) and attended by one representative from each partner and relevant consultant. Each steering group meeting is minuted and comments and actions are logged.

Within the steering committee and 1:1 partner meetings, the Outputs and Activities are reviewed to make sure they align with the project Outcome. Following the structure of the logframe and implementation timetable, all project partner meetings review whether the Outputs and Activities have/will be achieved. The indicators of achievements are measured through trip and training reports (Annex 4,7,8,), quantitative assessments such as vegetation plot monitoring (Annex 4), training self-assessment surveys (Annex 9,11) and photographic/video analysis (Annex 10). Within year 1, 3 trip reports were completed, 1 vegetation monitoring report, 6 training self-assessment surveys and a collection of video and photographic records.

The M&E work is led by RSPB and NPTVI with regular input from project partners and consultants when relevant. Information is shared between the relevant project stakeholders through both steering and impromptu meetings. A SharePoint page means that partners can have access to all relevant M&E materials.

7. Lessons learnt

A key lesson learnt from year 1 is the importance of regular project stakeholder engagement enabling the strengthening of the relationship between the project partners and consultants. This is particularly important for this project as the project partners and consultants are based across 3 different countries and time zones (United Kingdom, British Virgin Islands and New Zealand). Important to provide clear consistent communication and make sure all stakeholders are aware of each other’s project activities.

Delays in procuring essential equipment resulted in the initial project schedule not being met, consequently causing a delay in APHA's visit to the BVI. Nonetheless, the project was designed to enable multiple visits by APHA throughout the year, to mitigate the risk should any challenges be encountered. We have taken on board the need to incorporate an extended period between the procurement of crucial equipment and its utilisation, ensuring smoother project execution and minimising the knock-on effect of delays.

Given the project site's location in the Caribbean, dealing with extreme weather is a significant factor in project planning. During the first year, it was only feasible for the project consultants to visit the BVI at the end of the hurricane season. The trips remained susceptible to weather-related disruptions. Consequently, several days of planned activities were lost due to extreme weather, and access to the Tobago Islands was limited. Despite these challenges, the consultants, APHA, Indigena and Nutshell, were able to adjust their plans with guidance from NPTVI, ensuring that they could still fulfil their project activities despite the adverse weather conditions. We would advise any proposed project in the Caribbean to take into account the

potential impact of the hurricane season and make sure the project is designed to mitigate the risks.

After the successful feral goat removal trip in year 1, it was observed that the goats grew wary of the shooters within a week or two. Subsequent project meetings among the relevant stakeholders led to the decision to space out goat removal trips more significantly in year 2. This approach aimed to minimize the goats' wariness of the shooters and maximise the amount of goats removed from the islands.

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

9. Risk Management

No significant new risks not previously identified have arisen. However, we had taken advice that the weapons and ammunition needed for the goat removal could be transported from UK suppliers on UK carriers to the BVI. This turned out not to be the case, so we needed to identify and source the requisite materials and equipment from the US. This entailed the need for an application for a licence and export permits from US Agencies further to BVI import permits. The RSPB and NPTVI worked hand in glove to coordinate with the US-supplier, keeping APHA appraised along the way, and the issue was overcome.

10. Sustainability and legacy

The project will leave a positive legacy for nature and the people of BVI by helping return the Tobagos to their natural ecological state and showcasing the impact of a successful invasive eradication project. At this stage, the profile of the project is limited in its reach within the BVI due to the sensitive nature of removing the feral goats. The expressed view of the NPTVI as the local experts, will steer the communication planning when we are close to eradicating the last feral goat. The project has been received well by relevant government stakeholders in the BVI and The Royal Virgin Islands Police Force.

A key element of the project is to increase local biosecurity capacity through the training of NPTVI staff and the implementation of a Biosecurity Plan and an Invasive Plant Seedbank Control Strategy for the Tobago Islands. Within year 1, 5 NPTVI staff were trained by Indigena in biosecurity and plant management techniques through both practical and theoretical teaching. Additionally, Indigena have been working in collaboration with NPTVI to develop a Biosecurity Plan and an Invasive Plant Seedbank Control Strategy with the expectation of implementation in year 3. Once implemented, it will provide a long-term approach for NPTVI to maintain good biosecurity for the Tobago Islands.

Kew International now have a Darwin-funded complimentary project focussed on the seedbank of the Tobagos and better-understanding geo-physical processes. The project has precipitated more interest from our partners. The new multi-partner RSPB-led Darwin Strategic funded biosecurity project will also further embed the work we are doing on Tobagos, serving to further reduce the risk of novel invasives to the British Virgin Islands.

Nutshell Productions has provided in-person training for a local camera operator in Y1Q2 and Y1Q3. This training on wildlife filmmaking has the aim to improve the local capacity in the BVI to film and produce wildlife documentaries. If successful, it would greatly improve the local capacity to promote and raise awareness of conservation and nature across the BVI.

Plan:

11. Darwin Plus identity

This Darwin project is recognised as a distinct project due to its specific focus on the Tobagos and the project partners acknowledge Darwin's contribution to enhancing wildlife and conservation efforts in the BVI.

The Darwin logo has been included in external communications associated with the project. The deputy director of NPTVI, Nancy Pascoe, presented at [redacted] in February 2024. Following the presentation on the conservation in BVI, Darwin was recognised for their support of conservation in BVI through the Tobago project. Additionally, the Darwin logo featured on a billboard in the BVI to promote all of NPTVI work across the BVI (Annex 13)

Social media posts from NPTVI:

- [redacted]

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 also posted on X several time bout the project:

- [redacted]

12. Safeguarding

Has your Safeguarding Policy been updated in the past 12 months?		~~Yes~~/No
Have any concerns been reported in the past 12 months		~~Yes~~/No
Does your project have a Safeguarding focal point?	Yes/~~No~~ [*If yes, please provide their name and email]* Charlie Butt [redacted]	
Has the focal point attended any formal training in the last 12 months?	Yes/~~No~~ [*If yes, please provide date and details of training*] Level 1 Safeguarding Training 28th April 2023	
What proportion (and number) of project staff have received formal training on Safeguarding?		Past: 0% [-0] Planned: 0% [0]
Has there been any lessons learnt or challenges on Safeguarding in the past 12 months? Please ensure no sensitive data is included within responses. There have been no safeguarding issues raised, and the nature of the work leads us to a view that safeguarding risks are very low. There is little to no safeguarding training capacity within the partners, and no budget lines dedicated to bringing in external expertise.		
Does the project have any developments or activities planned around Safeguarding in the coming 12 months? If so please specify. Not at present.		

Please describe any community sensitisation that has taken place over the past 12 months; include topics covered and number of participants. No community outreach planned or undertaken.
Have there been any concerns around Health, Safety and Security of your project over the past year? If yes, please outline how this was resolved. There are concerns around the way Little Tobago is accessed via boat onto difficult terrain. Our APHA practitioners are, however, very capable and experienced and have had their H&S risks identified and signed off by APHA and we are content that they have the level of experience, skill and competency needed to use the same method in Yr2, if needed. The expectation is with more goats removed from LT, vegetation will bounce back fairly quickly and so dust from the helicopter will lessen, enabling Kew to land and undertake field surveys. Kew staff do not have the sign-off nor staff have experience to accommodate the risk of landing from the boat.

13. Project expenditure

Table 1: Project expenditure during the reporting period (1 April 2023 – 31 March 2024)

Project spend (indicative) in this financial year	2023/24 D+ Grant (£)	2023/24 Total actual D+ Costs (£)	Variance %	Comments (please explain significant variances)
Staff costs	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	DRAFT FIGURES
Consultancy Costs				DRAFT FIGURES
Overhead Costs				DRAFT FIGURES
Travel and subsistence				DRAFT FIGURES
Operating Costs				DRAFT FIGURES
Capital items				DRAFT FIGURES
Other Costs				DRAFT FIGURES
TOTAL	**223,493**	**219,046**	**2**	DRAFT FIGURES

To confirm, the figures in the project expenditure table are draft figures and shouldn't be seen as the final actual figures. Secondly, the budget in the second column reflects the changes in budget agreed by Darwin on 09/01/2024 and 03/04/2024.

09/01/2024 – shifting of funding from Year 1 to Year 2.

03/04/2024 – APHA changed from a 'direct partner' to a 'service provider', resulting in their cost being reallocated to Consultancy Costs.

Table 2: Project mobilised or matched funding during the reporting period (1 April 2023 – 31 March 2024)

	Secured to date	Expected by end of project	Sources
Matched funding leveraged by the partners to deliver the project (£)			
Total additional finance mobilised for new activities occurring outside of the project, building on evidence, best practices and the project (£)			

14. Other comments on progress not covered elsewhere

No further comments.

Annex 1: Report of progress and achievements against logframe for Financial Year 2023-2024

Project summary	Progress and Achievements April 2023 - March 2024	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.	Invasive plants and goats have been successfully removed from the Tobago Islands. Local NPTVI staff have been trained on invasive plant management.	[redacted]
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.	(Report progress against indicators, and reference where evidence is provided e.g. Evidence provided in section 3.1 of report and Annex X). This should be a **condensed summary** of your reporting in section 3.3 of the report) A successful goat eradication trip took place in year 1 on both Great & Little Tobago where 137 goats were removed. Evidence is provided in Activity 2.2 and Annex 7.	(Highlight key actions relevant to this indicator planned for next period) In year 2, two further feral goat removal trips will take place.
Outcome indicator 0.2 End of project surveys confirm the complete absence of non-native invasive plants by Yr3.	Indigena visited BVI and trained NPTVI staff in invasive plant management (Activity 3.2 and Annex). The baseline survey was completed for Great Tobago and the distribution of non-native invasive plants was identified (Activity 1.3 and Annex 4). Little Tobago was unable to be surveyed due to weather conditions; it is expected it to be surveyed in Year 2.	NPTVI staff to implement their training and develop their knowledge through online training with Indigena.
Outcome indicator 0.3 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.	The Biosecurity Plan and an Invasive Plant Seedbank Control Strategy are being drafted by Indigena following their trip to BVI.	NPTVI and Indigena to finalise and complete the Biosecurity Plan and an Invasive Plant Seedbank Control Strategy.
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.	The baseline of vegetation completed on Great Tobago and a successful goat removal trip has been conducted in line with the outcome of removing grazing pressure.	Little Tobago baseline to be completed. Further goat removal trips are to take place.

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	(Report progress against indicators, and reference where evidence is provided e.g. Evidence provided in section 3.2 of report and Annex Y). This should be a **condensed summary** of your reporting in section 3.2 of the report) Indicator was achieved. Evidence can be found in Activity 3.1 and Annex 4.	
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.	Unable to be completed in year 1 due to weather. Further info in Activity 3.1.	It is expected that Kew will visit Little Tobago in Year 2.
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.	Nutshell production conducted filming on Great Tobago and photographic evidence was collected by Kew and NPTVI.	Further filming to be completed in year 2 and camera trap to be used to monitor vegetation.
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. Tobago Islands are completely free from invasive goats by the end of Q2 in Year 3.	The goat removal trip took place in year 1 and 137 goats were removed from the Tobago islands.	Two to three goat remove trips will be conducted in year 2.
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.	Existing vegetation monitoring plots on Great Tobago were confirmed as suitable measuring tools and the first survey was completed. (Activity 3.1 and Annex 4)	Further surveying of Great Tobago will be completed. Vegetation survey will be conducted on 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	Training completed with 6 NPTVI staff (1 female, 5 male) by Indigena. Evidence in Activity 3.2 and Annex 8)	Refresher training to take place in year 2 online.

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.		
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.	The Biosecurity Plan and an Invasive Plant Seedbank Control Strategy are being drafted by Indigena following their trip to BVI.	NPTVI and Indigena to finalise and complete the Biosecurity Plan and an Invasive Plant Seedbank Control Strategy.
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.	Training completed with 6 NPTVI staff (1 female, 5 male) by Indigena. Evidence in Activity 3.2 and Annex 8).	NPTVI to implement training and provide further training to BVI residents.
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.	Kew and NPTVI removed non-native species during their field visit to Great Tobago. (Activity 3.1 and Annex 4). NPTVI trained by Indigena to remove non-native species.	NPTVI to implement their training on invasive species removal.
Output indicator 3.5 Long-term seedbank control strategy and biosecurity plan developed by end of Yr3.	A long-term seed bank control strategy and biosecurity plan is being drafted by Indigena.	Long-term seed bank control strategy and biosecurity plan to be reviewed and completed by Indigena in collaboration with NPTVI.
Output indicator 3.6 Biosecurity plan enhanced following consultation with BVI Government stakeholders by end of Yr3.	A biosecurity plan is being drafted.	Activity for 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 longterm 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. 0.3 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.	0.1 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. 0.4 Vegetation monitoring reports; fixed point photographs; vegetation	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. 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.	1.1 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

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
	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.		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.	.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.	3.1 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	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.

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
	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. 3.6 Biosecurity plan enhanced following consultation with BVI Government stakeholders by end of Yr3.	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.	

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

Project summary	SMART Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
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

DPLUS Indicator number	Name of indicator	Units	Disaggregation	Year 1 Total	Year 2 Total	Year 3 Total	Total to date	Total planned during the project
DPLUS-B02	Number of new/improved habitat management plans available and endorsed.	Number	Languages (local/other); Typology of species management plans; (Harvest, Trade, Invasive species management, recovery, re-introduction, ex-situ).					2
DPLUS-D04	Stabilised/ improved species population (relative abundance/ distribution) within the project area.	% Increase	Languages (local/other); Typology of sustainable enterprises/ community benefits management plans.					10
DPLUS-C02	Number of new conservation or species stock assessments published.	Number	Taxa (Flora/Fauna/Fungi), RDL Category (global/regional), Assessment method.	1			1	5
DPLUS-B11	Area identified as important for biodiversity.	Area (hectare)	Biome/Ecosystem/ Habitat.					100
DPLUS-D12	Area of degraded or converted ecosystems that are under active restoration.	Area (hectares)	Biome/ecosystem/ habitat Active restoration activity typology (excludes planned/intended restoration).	210			210	310
DPLUS-A01	Number of people from key national and local stakeholders completing structured and relevant training	People Proportion	Gender; Age Group; Stakeholder group: Local Communities, Nationals, public sector, civil society, private sector; Training typology (biodiversity, sustainable development, finance, programme management, safeguarding, gender etc.)	6			6	6

DPLUS Indicator number	Name of indicator	Units	Disaggregation	Year 1 Total	Year 2 Total	Year 3 Total	Total to date	Total planned during the project
			Proportion of trained people employed by their host organisation at the end of the project.					
DPLUS-A04	Number of people reporting that they are applying new capabilities (skills and knowledge) 6 (or more) months after training.	People	Gender; Age Group Stakeholder group: Local Communities, Nationals, public sector, civil society, private sector; Training typology (biodiversity, sustainable development, finance, programme management, safeguarding, gender etc.).					6
DPLUS-C03	New assessments of habitat conservation action needs published.	Number, Area (hectare)	Biome/Ecosystem/ Habitat; Assessment method.					1

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

Annex no.	Document Title/Reference
Annex 4	Monitoring invasive plant species on Great and Little Tobago National Parks, British Virgin Islands
Annex 5	Photos of Nutshell filming
Annex 6	Film script
Annex 7	APHA trip report
Annex 8	Indigena trip report
Annex 9	Indigena participation report
Annex 10	Filming screenshots
Annex 11	Kew participation report
Annex 12	M&E plan
Annex 13	NPTVI Billboard

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?	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 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
If you are submitting photos for publicity purposes, do these meet the outlined requirements (see section 15)?	
Have you involved your partners in preparation of the report and named the main contributors	X
Have you completed the Project Expenditure table fully?	X
Do not include claim forms or other communications with this report.	