

Darwin Plus: Overseas Territories Environment and Climate Fund Annual Report

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

Submission Deadline: 30th April 2021

Darwin Plus Project Information

Project reference	DPLUS108
Project title	Caribbean Overseas Territories Natural Capital Accounting Programme
Territory(ies)	Anguilla, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Montserrat, Turks and Caicos Islands
Lead organisation	eftec
Partner institutions	JNCC
Grant value	£254,700
Start/end dates of project	01 June 2020 to 31 March 2022
Reporting period (e.g. Apr 2020-Mar 2021) and number (e.g. Annual Report 1, 2)	01 June 2020 to 31 March 2021
Project Leader name	Jake Kuyer
Project website/blog/social media	
Report author(s) and date	Rob Daniel; Jake Kuyer; Siegi Arndt; Ian Dickie. April 2021.

1. Project summary

The “Caribbean Overseas Territories Regional Natural Capital Accounting Programme” will establish a system of accounting for the benefits that the environment provides within five UK Caribbean OTs. It will complement and enhance other national statistics, providing robust evidence for environmental and economic policy and management. The project includes capacity building with relevant government departments, supported by a regional practitioner’s network with a dedicated coordinator. The work will act as an exemplar of the recently adopted United Nations statistical standard on ecosystem accounting in the region and for small island states.

2. Project stakeholders/partners

Project partner JNCC is leading on GIS analysis and outputs, drawing on its long history of working in the OTs, including initiation and continuation of Natural Capital approaches. Strong networks within the OTs and have been used as the project develops to engage with various stakeholders and identify and collect available data. These networks will be drawn on and expanded as the project moves to wider engagement activities. Regular communication between eftec and JNCC has ensured that the project benefits from not only the relative strength of both partners skillsets, but also the different experiences each have of working in the OTs.

The project also benefits from local partners on each of the 5 OTs:

- Anguilla - Department of Natural Resources
- British Virgin Islands - Ministry of Natural Resources, Labour and Immigration
- Cayman Islands - Department of Environment
- Montserrat - Ministry of Agriculture, Lands, Housing and Environment
- Turks and Caicos Islands - Department of Environment and Coastal Resources

The lead contact from each of these organisations has been involved with the project since its initial inception at proposal stage. From project initiation in June 2020, the OT partners have been involved in engagement, planning and data collection activities. They helped to: prioritise the most material ecosystem assets and ecosystem services for measurement in the ecosystem accounts; organise the virtual workshops; and identify contacts from different departments or organisations from whom to collect data. Other technical specialists from across government departments have also been included in discussions and workshops and will continue to be engaged with. There will continue to be additional outreach to other stakeholders, including the private sector, and general public.

3. Project progress

The project has made expected progress across all Phases of work as outlined below.

3.1 Progress in carrying out project Activities

Output 1: Develop consolidated Caribbean UKOTs Natural Capital Account

Activity 1.1: Support OT NCA updates

Target date – Q1&2 2021. Capacity building undertaken through producing the 5 OTs 2019 natural capital accounts and initial training workshops (see Activities 3.1, 3.2, 4.1, 4.2 and 4.3). Going forward, the statistic departments in each OT will take on a larger proportion of the accounting process for the national 2020 accounts (consolidated account to be produced by the project team – see Activity 1.2). Project budget has been earmarked for support and the accounting itself if required.

Activity 1.2: Consolidate regional NCAs

Target date – Q4 2021. Accounting issues arising from the consolidation of national accounts have been identified as part of the process of producing the 2019 accounts. Subsequent training of OT practitioners to ensure consistency between the accounts is expected to facilitate the development of the regional NCA.

Activity 1.2: Communicate results

Target date - Q4 2021 (after completion of the consolidated account). Outreach activities with relevant stakeholders (see Section 3.3) have already been undertaken to raise the profile of the programme and prime expectations of the consolidated account in Year 2. Further activities are planned around production of the consolidated account, including presenting the result to a joint workshop including representatives from all 5 OTs, as well as engagement via networks and contact in the international community to present the consolidated account as a case study for aggregation (which is an emerging area of interest around ecosystem accounting more generally).

Output 2: Develop Caribbean OTs regional Natural Capital Accounting practitioners' network

Activity 2.1: Hire regional coordinator

Regional coordinator hired in in Q1 2021 and started in April 2021. The chosen applicant is highly qualified and well connected with international organisations, meeting and/or exceeding all requirements in the job description.

Activity 2.2: Build practitioners network

Target date - Q2 2021. Progress has been made to identify and train practitioners from the OT Government departments. Interest and engagement from the practitioners in Year 1 of the programme has been strong with well attended workshops.

Activity 2.3: Practitioners workshop

Workshop to be held in Q1 2022. Participant list and workshop material are currently being produced.

Output 3: Update Natural Capital Accounts for Anguilla, Montserrat and Turks and Caicos Islands

Activity 3.1: Data collection

Completed in Q1 2021 working with OT practitioners to build capabilities.

Activity 3.2: Develop NCAs

2019 NCAs completed and quality assured in Q1 2021.

Output 4: Develop initial Natural Capital Accounts in British Virgin Islands and Cayman Islands

Activity 4.1: Data collection

Completed in Q1 2021 working with OT practitioners to build capabilities.

Activity 4.2: Develop training

As per the change request submitted in January 2021 (reference number: CR20-137) agreement with Darwin+, the in-depth training has been postponed to 2021. Initial training workshops held on 28th September 2020 for the British Virgin Islands with 8 attendees, and on the 16th September 2020 for the Cayman islands with 30 attendees. The workshops provided participants with an overview of the programme, a high-level understanding of how national natural capital accounts are constructed as well as advice on the data collation and management required to build them and their links to decision-making. The training was focused on providing practical guidance to the practitioners to allow them to develop the account in house in subsequent years, which will be supplemented with additional training and support throughout 2021.

Activity 4.3: Develop NCAs

2019 NCAs completed and quality assured in Q1 2021.

3.2 Progress towards project Outputs

The project has made good progress towards achieving the outputs set out in the logframe. In particular, Natural Capital Accounts have been produced for each of the OTs as well as initial training workshops held online for practitioners and wider stakeholders.

Output 1: Develop consolidated Caribbean UKOTs Natural Capital Account

Target date - Q3 2021. National and consolidated accounts to be developed in Year 2 of the programme and are on track to be completed on time. It is expected that the statistic departments in each OT will take on larger proportion of the accounting process compared to the 2019 accounts. Accounting issues arising from the consolidation of national accounts have been identified as part of the 2019 process. Subsequent training of OT practitioners to ensure consistency between the accounts is expected to facilitate the development of the regional NCA. The indicators for Output 1 remain appropriate.

Output 2: Develop Caribbean OTs regional Natural Capital Accounting practitioners' network

The regional coordinator was hired in in Q1 2021 and started in April 2021. The chosen applicant is highly qualified and well connected with international organisations, meeting and/or exceeding all requirements in the job description.

Part of this role will be to establish the NCA practitioners' network (target date – Q2 2021) and conduct the regional workshop (target date – Q1 2022). Progress has been made to identify and train practitioners from the OT Government departments. Interest and engagement from the practitioners in Year 1 of the programme has been strong with well attended workshops. The indicators for Output 2 remain appropriate.

Output 3: Update Natural Capital Accounts for Anguilla, Montserrat and Turks and Caicos Islands

This output has largely completed. National account (and accompanying reports) have been produced for all three OTs in March 2021, building on the previously developed accounts. Account summaries have also been produced to engage finance ministers, statistics departments and wider stakeholders. Initial on-line training workshop for practitioners and wider stakeholders held with high participation. The workshops provided participants with an overview of the programme, a high-level understanding of how national natural capital accounts are constructed as well as advice on the data collation and management required to build them and their links to decision-making. The training was focused on providing practical guidance to the practitioners to allow them to develop the account in house in subsequent years, which will be supplemented with additional training and support throughout 2021.

As agreed with Darwin+, the in-person training and engagement activities planned as part of this output have been postponed to Year 2 of the project due to travel restrictions. These are considered a very important aspect to the project and will be reported on in subsequent Annual Reports.

Output 4: Develop initial Natural Capital Accounts in British Virgin Islands and Cayman Islands

This output has been largely completed. National accounts (and accompanying reports) have been produced for both OTs in March 2021. Account summaries have also been produced to engage finance ministers, statistics departments and wider stakeholders. Initial on-line training workshop for practitioners and wider stakeholders held with high participation (see Annex 1).

As agreed with Darwin+, the in-person training and engagement activities planned as part of this output have been postponed to Year 2 of the project due to travel restrictions. These are considered a very important aspect to the project and will be reported on in subsequent Annual Reports.

3.3 Progress towards the project Outcome

Outcome: Caribbean UKOTs are able to value the benefits they receive from the environment through natural capital accounting, and this supplies evidence for better informed decision making.

The project has made good progress this year towards the project Outcome given the early stage in the project and the impact of COVID-19. The outcome is likely to be achieved through continued work on the accounts as well as the planned in-person training and stakeholder engagement activities.

Indicator 0.1: Engaged and capable Natural Capital Accounting practitioners – at least 2 from each OT (Q1-2022)

Baseline condition – no current NCA practitioners.

Progress – broad engagement with OTs through initial workshops and other communication has created a foundation of understanding of natural capital accounting (the UN ecosystem accounting method), and enthusiasm for its adoption. Year 2 will commence training and

support for capacity building of local practitioners to enable in house development of the accounts for future years.

Methodology for measuring achievement – an online survey or semi-structured interviews (if required) will be undertaken with NCA practitioners to assess the support and cooperation they received from the project and governments as well as an evaluation of their ability and enthusiasm to make ongoing use of natural capital accounting. In particular this will focus on whether they feel they have learnt from the project, are now able to talk comfortably about the UN ecosystem accounting method and can convey to decision makers in the OTs the value that the environment provides. The indicator continues to be deemed appropriate to measure achievement of the project outcome.

Indicator 0.2: Natural Capital Accounting evidence incorporated into decision making (i.e. additional to baseline decision making) – at least 3 of 5 OTs (Q1-2022)

Baseline condition – no official NCA evidence produced to incorporate into decision making.

Progress – Initial engagement with statistic department shows interest in the programme. The completed 2019 accounts will be used to engage decision makers and finance ministers of the role Natural Capital Accounting evidence can play in decision making.

Methodology for measuring achievement – an online survey or semi-structured interviews (if required) will be undertaken with practitioners and decision makers in the OTs for evidence of NCA data being used/considered by the OTs. The indicator continues to be deemed appropriate to measure achievement of the project outcome.

Indicator 0.3: Consolidated regional NCA engaged with at international level (Q1-2022)

Baseline condition – no current regional account.

Progress – Consolidated account to be produced in Q3 2021 (see Output 1 above). Communication strategy drafted. Outreach activities with relevant stakeholders have already been undertaken to raise the profile of the programme and prime expectations of the consolidated account in Year 2. In particular, the project team has engaged with the following organisations:

Organisation	Engagement
Caribbean Development Bank (Barbados)	Several meetings to discuss NCA work and Blue Economy work conducted by CDB. Assistance in circulation of NCA coordinator job post. Volunteer to support future activities as possible.
United Nations Environment Programme (Jamaica)	Several meetings to discuss NCA work and UNEP programme, in particular IWEco. Circulation of NCA coordinator job post.
Natural Capital Platform (Trinidad and Tobago)	Several meetings to discuss NCA work. Invitation to panel on the Dasgupta review. Exploration of future Caribbean NCA opportunities. Panel member on 'Dasgupta Review for the Caribbean' event.
World Bank - Wealth Accounting and the Valuation of Ecosystem Services (WAVES) department	Several meetings to discuss NCA work and WAVES Africa programme. Comparison of findings of working in these contexts. Discussion on application of UN SEEA-EA and in particular account aggregation.
University of the West Indies	Discussion of NCA work with Professor Agard, a prominent academic in the region.

UK Overseas Territories Conservation Forum (UKOTCF)	Presentation to members and participation in UKOTCF online conference for 2021. Presentation to joint meeting of the OTs Environment Ministers.
Island Finance Forum	Discussed project at virtual booth in networking sessions.
UKOT & Crown Dependencies Environment Ministers' Council	Presented to members as a panellist discussing NCA and the Darwin+ project.
Integrating Water, Land and Ecosystems Management in Caribbean Small Island Developing States (IWECS)	Presentation to national programmes and follow-up contact.
Cayman Islands Compass	Newspaper interview and article ¹ .

Methodology for measuring achievement – The development and implementation of a communication strategy to promote the regional NCA internationally will be checked along with evidence of support from international bodies (such as through publication or reference to the account, pledges of staff/resource support, initiation of NCAs in other territories or attendance of the regional NCA conference). The indicator continues to be deemed appropriate to measure achievement of the project outcome.

3.4 Monitoring of assumptions

Assumption 0.1: Continued support and cooperation from OTs Governments, retention of trained individuals, degree of self-sustainability of practitioner's network

Comment: Cooperation from OTs Governments for the 2019 accounts has been strong during Year 1 of the project. Further planned capacity building of local practitioners, as well as the placement of the regional coordinator is expected to enable in house development of the accounts for future years and sustain the network. The assumption is expected to hold going forward and will continue to be monitored. Engagement with OTs Government departments will continue into Year 2 to sustain support for the programme (see Annex 1).

Assumption 0.2: Continued political support for the Natural Capital Accounting process, willingness of a range of Government departments to engage with evidence and produce alongside national statistics

Comment: Ongoing engagement with OTs Governments through initial workshops and other communication has created support and enthusiasm for the programme. Further planned engagement is likely to strengthen this. The assumption is expected to hold going forward and will continue to be monitored. Engagement with OTs Government departments will continue into Year 2 to sustain support for the programme (see Annex 1).

Assumption 0.3: Continued interest in OTs NCA programme and outputs, from OT Governments, UK and international organisations.

Comment: There is evidence of strong support for the programme through interactions with the OTs Governments to date. Initial outreach to international organisations has also been positive with broad interest for the programme and outputs. The assumption is expected to hold going forward and will continue to be monitored. Engagement with wider stakeholders will continue into Year 2 to sustain interest in the programme (see Annex 1).

Assumption 1.1: Willingness of OTs Government practitioners to support and collaborate on process, availability of data for updates in a timely manner.

¹ <https://www.caymancompass.com/2020/10/27/putting-a-price-on-nature/>

Comment: Data collection and management processes developed for the 2019 accounts should allow for a smoother process for the 2020 accounts. To date there has been positive engagement with the environment departments on these processes. The assumption is expected to hold going forward and will continue to be monitored. Engagement OTs with Government practitioners will continue into Year 2 to sustain support for the programme (see Annex 1).

Assumption 1.2: Data required for 2020 updates is available and shared in a timely manner.

Comment: Data collection and management processes developed for the 2019 accounts should allow for a smoother process for the 2020 accounts. To date there has been positive engagement with the environment departments on these processes. The assumption is expected to hold going forward and will continue to be monitored. Engagement with OTs Government departments will continue into Year 2 to sustain support for the programme (see Annex 1).

Assumption 2.1: Recruitment and retention of a suitably qualified candidate. Recruitment unaffected by restrictions on visas and international travel during COVID19.

Comment: The regional coordinator has been hired without visa or travel issues. The chosen coordinator is located in the Caribbean allowing for site visits to the OTs when necessary. Retention of the candidate is expected to hold going forward given the candidate profile and will continue to be monitored.

Assumption 2.2: Practitioners from across OTs Government departments willing to engage, make connections, and share learning.

Comment: Ongoing engagement with OTs Government departments through initial workshops and other communication has created support and enthusiasm for the programme. Further planned capacity building of local practitioners as well as the creation of the practitioner's network is expected to facilitate networking and knowledge sharing. The assumption is expected to hold going forward and will continue to be monitored. Engagement with OTs Government departments will continue into Year 2 to sustain support for the programme (see Annex 1).

Assumption 2.3: Appropriate participants have capacity and willingness to attend. Effective networking takes place during a virtual workshop if necessary.

Comment: Ongoing engagement with OTs Government departments through the initial workshops and other communication as well as the creation of the practitioner's network is expected to encourage attendance and effective networking between practitioners. The assumption is expected to hold going forward and will continue to be monitored. Engagement with OTs practitioners will continue into Year 2 to sustain support for the programme (see Annex 1).

Assumption 3.1: Continued support and cooperation from Anguilla Department of Environment.

Comment: Support for the programme has been demonstrated by the high participation rate in the NCA workshop held in September 2020 (see Annex A for more details). Given the high enthusiasm and engagement noted by participants of the online workshop, the assumption is likely to hold for future training and support. Feedback from the workshop will be taken into account for future events.

Assumption 3.2: Continued support and cooperation from Montserrat Department of the Environment.

Comment: Support for the programme has been demonstrated by the high participation rate in the NCA workshop held in September 2020 (see Annex A for more details). Given the success

of the online workshop, the assumption is likely to hold for future training and support. Feedback from the workshop will be taken into account for future events.

Assumption 3.3: Continued support and cooperation from Turks and Caicos Islands Department for Environment and Coastal Resources.

Comment: Support for the programme has been demonstrated by the high participation rate in the NCA workshop held in September 2020 (see Annex A for more details). Given the success of the online workshop, the assumption is likely to hold for future training and support. Feedback from the workshop will be taken into account for future events.

Assumption 4.1: Continued support and cooperation from British Virgin Islands Ministry of Natural Resources & Labour. Ability to undertake effective training remotely if necessary.

Comment: Support for the programme has been demonstrated by the high participation rate in the NCA workshop held in September 2020 (see Annex A for more details). Given the success of the online workshop, the assumption is likely to hold for future training and support. Feedback from the workshop will be taken into account for future events.

Assumption 4.2: Continued support and cooperation from Cayman Islands Department of Environment. Ability to undertake effective training remotely if necessary

Comment: Support for the programme has been demonstrated by the high participation rate in the NCA workshop held in September 2020 (see Annex A for more details). Given the success of the online workshop, the assumption is likely to hold for future training and support. Feedback from the workshop will be taken into account for future events.

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

The project seeks to create an evidence base for policy and planning which allows for more environmentally inclusive decision making. This in turn supports long-term outcomes for the natural environment. By engaging with different government departments to share data and understanding, and decision makers, the media and other organisations to demonstrate the measurable benefit that the environment provides, the project has built awareness and cooperation amongst different stakeholder groups and will continue to build on this in year 2.

In the longer term this awareness of the value that the environment provides, as well as having the data to back it up, will facilitate sustainable management and decision making which benefits both the environment and the well-being and prosperity of the OTs. More specifically, progress has been made linking the accounting outputs to specific government policies, in particular their commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals. In year 1 this focused on BVI, and will be expanded to the other OTs in year 2 dependent on OT government priorities and domestic and international initiatives.

5. OPTIONAL: Consideration of gender equality issues

The project has explicitly considered gender and other aspects of social inclusion both in its operation and in the outcomes it is striving to achieve. In terms of operations, the project actively engages with a variety of different stakeholders and aims to consider the different perspectives and priorities for the application of NCA. In hiring the NCA coordinator, the role was designed to be flexible and open to a wide variety of skills and flexible working options. In fact, of the six applicants invited for interview, 5 were female, and all were based either in the OTs or other Caribbean states. The eventual appointee is a female from Jamaica.

Inherent to the project itself, is developing an understanding of how the environment benefits different groups, and therefore how environmental and economic management decisions may impact on different people. This was explored with the assistance of the New Economics Foundation who are experienced in developing an understanding of the gender and inequality impacts of various policies and initiatives. This work will be built on through the training and

engagement activities planned for year 2 as the focus shifts from developing NCA to applying them in decision making.

6. Monitoring and evaluation

A Monitoring and Evaluation plan has been set up for this project, and an internal M&E advisor has been identified within eftec to offer an independent review on the project processes and progress against the logframe. The M&E advisor operates separately to the main contract and is independent from project delivery. The purpose of these is to ensure that the outputs are completed in the targets set and contribute to the programme outcomes. The advisor is also responsible for assessing the quality of the outputs produced. M&E work undertaken is shared by the project manager to the partner organisations.

The logframe was revised in September 2020 removing the requirement for the NCAs to be published within national statistics as this is outside the control of the project (outcome 0.2). Instead, the focus on this indicator is with the awareness of the natural capital accounts and their use for decision-making. This is reflected in the logframe in Annex 2.

As per agreement with Darwin+, the in-depth NCA training with OT Governments has been postponed to 2021, with initial training workshop held in 2020. The Monitoring and Evaluation Plan has been amended to take this into account.

7. Lessons learnt

The project has successfully delivered on year 1 outputs; all five OTs have an ecosystem account and accompanying reports. This achievement is due to the hard work of the project team and engagement and support of OT partners. Lead partners and their colleagues on all 5 OTs have been enthusiastic and engaged with the project and topics covered.

It was largely expected that it would be difficult to maintain momentum with OTs due to the remote nature of the project, capacity issues within the OT governments, and the lingering effects of COVID-19 lockdowns and other disruptions. This caused delays to the project, and it may have been better to front load some activities to give more time and flexibility for their delivery.

As in some cases it can be difficult to arrange meetings with OT partners at key periods of the project, it might be beneficial to pre-schedule a series of meetings during critical phases of the project at semi-regular intervals.

In year two we are aiming to begin engagement activities with a wider range of stakeholders and are making it a priority to focus resources on maintaining connections and building momentum from the year 1 work. This will be greatly facilitated by the appointment of the NCA coordinator who will dedicate a large proportion of her project time to these activities.

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

Not applicable.

9. Other comments on progress not covered elsewhere

In general, year 1 has set the groundwork, and in year 2 the project will build on it to make real progress. Some specific points:

- We have reacted to development in the natural capital accounting field, including the launch of the Dasgupta review (participation in a Dasgupta Review for the Caribbean panel) and publication of UN SEEA-EA (adapting the project to the new international standard – as reflected in the use of SEEA-EA terminology around ‘ecosystem accounting’ rather than ‘natural capital accounting’).change in terminology (as reflected going forwards)

- Initial feedback from the engagement activities and accounting outputs has been positive across OTs, and is generating interest in year 2 of the programme. In particular, there is enthusiasm around practitioners' network, consolidated accounts, regional workshop – both within the OTs governments and in wider engagement.
- The project now has benefit of dedicated coordinator for year 2 and a basis to demonstrate ecosystem accounting (e.g. the completed ecosystem accounts and general awareness across all 5 OTs). This will allow for further engagement both within Government (e.g. policy and planning decision makers, statistics departments, finance/treasury), within OTs to different stakeholders (e.g. public, private, 3rd sector), and regionally across the Caribbean (e.g. international organisations, and other Caribbean states).
- As the foundational work (initial accounts) is now complete, the focus can move to linking accounts to policy to create higher level government buy-in and lead to real world impact through decision making (i.e. better evidence → influence for environmentally sound decision making).

10. Sustainability and legacy

The sustainability and legacy of the project is inherent to its design, as capacity building and development of tools and processes for ecosystem accounting is the purpose. Broad engagement with OTs has created a foundation of understanding of ecosystem accounting, and enthusiasm for its adoption. Year 2 will commence training and support for capacity building of local practitioners. The aim is that ecosystem accounts to be produced by OT statistical departments, and to become engrained in government decision making processes and the evidence they provide directly supports policy and planning development. Thus direct engagement with decision makers is also an important feature of the year 2 work.

Furthermore, the NCA Coordinator role will operate throughout year 2 and is explicitly focused on a sustainability and legacy mandate, conducting outreach to policy level government officials, making links with international organisations, and, importantly facilitating the development of the practitioners' network. The practitioner's network will link practitioners from across the OTs, and provide a mechanism for technical and professional support which otherwise not exist within individual OTs. This should also help with issue around turnover of key staff, as incoming government practitioners will have a ready network to join and receive support, aiding the legacy of the project.

11. Darwin identity

The project requires a high degree of engagement and promotional activities and the Darwin Plus funding is stated and the logo used. This has included:

- Communications with lead partners in all five OTs
- Broader engagement workshops with OTs practitioners and policy-makers
- Meetings with several international organisations active in the region
- Speaking engagement with UNEP
- Conference presentation with UKOTCF
- Interview for the Cayman Compass - <https://www.caymancompass.com/2020/10/27/putting-a-price-on-nature/>

Within the OT governments, the Darwin Initiative is well known and appreciated. Outside of it there is some recognition, but messages around 'funded by the UK Government' also make the funding source clear.

In year 2 the project will further promote the project and Darwin+ identity through distribution of initial outputs, engagement activities, training, outreach to additional organisations, and various media activities (e.g. social media posts, newsletters to stakeholders, etc.).

12. Impact of COVID-19 on project delivery

COVID-19 has impacted the project in a number of ways. Initially the delay of two months meant that the early stages of the project had to be condensed as it is not possible to extend the project due to the annual nature of the ecosystem accounts. The disrupted work patterns also affected our ability to connect the OTs partners on occasion, delaying communication.

On the OTs much of the regular economic activity, and accompanying data collection activities, were not able to go ahead, meaning there are gaps in the data for the that would not otherwise of been there. Perhaps most significantly, as travel was not possible, in-person training and engagement activities were not able to go ahead as planned. These are considered an important aspect to the project and so have been postponed until year two.

13. Safeguarding

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

eftec's shared its safeguarding policy with all its downstream project partners and the newly-appointed NC Co-ordinator based in the Caribbean. We conveyed to all our commitment to providing a safe and trusted environment for anyone that we have contact with, and our zero tolerance for any behaviour that does not conform to these principles. Safeguarding forms an integral part of our overarching human resources policy, which includes issues such as equality and diversity; countering bullying and harassment; and discipline and grievances. eftec also operates a Code of Conduct that all employees sign as part of their employment contract and which forms part of our induction process.

eftec also has in place a corporate social responsibility policy, which is publicly available and sets out our philosophies regarding sustainability; honest and ethical behaviour; whistle-blowing; conflicts of interest; and modern slavery.

All eftec policies, including our Code of Conduct, are reviewed at least annually, with updated versions being disseminated to all staff and – where applicable – associates, interns and volunteers.

To confirm, no safeguarding concerns have been raised during the project term. In any such instances, the main contact at eftec would complete our safeguarding incident report template, which sets out our reporting procedures, and update our safeguarding register.

In terms of mitigating future risks, our HR manager and NC Co-ordinator will undertake safeguarding training to ensure that we are up to date with best practice and guidance.

14. Project expenditure

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

Project spend (indicative) in this financial year	2020/21 D+ Grant (£)	2020/21 Total actual D+ Costs (£)	Variance %	Comments (please explain significant variances)
Staff costs				

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

Due to COVID-19, we were not able to travel to the OTs to carry out site visits and other associated tasks. Covid-permitting, site visits are planned to take place in the next financial year (1st April 2021 – 31st March 2022). With Defra’s consent, we therefore moved £ [REDACTED] (staff costs, associated overheads, travel and other) from Year 1 to Year 2 to cover these rescheduled costs. The overall Year 1 budget was reduced from £ [REDACTED] to £ [REDACTED]

Overall actual spend for Year 1 came in marginally above the budget total, but is capped to £ [REDACTED]

The Joint Nature Conservation Committee confirmed it’s in-kind contribution of £ [REDACTED] for Year 1.

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

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2019 - March 2020	Actions required/planned for next period
<p>Impact</p> <p>Better management of the UKOTs natural environment to improve environmental resilience and underpin sustainable and robust UKOTs economies and societal well-being.</p>		<p>See progress and achievements for the Outcomes and Outputs below.</p>	<p>See Year 2 outputs below.</p>
<p>Outcome</p> <p>Caribbean UKOTs are able to value the benefits they receive from the environment through natural capital accounting, and this supplies evidence for better informed decision making.</p>	<p>0.1 Engaged and capable Natural Capital Accounting practitioners – at least 2 from each OT (Q1-2022)</p> <p>0.2 Natural Capital Accounting evidence incorporated into decision making (i.e. additional to baseline decision making) – at least 3 of 5 OTs (Q1-2022)</p> <p>0.3 Consolidated regional NCA engaged with at international level (Q1-2022)</p>	<p>0.1 Broad engagement with OTs has created a foundation of understanding of ecosystem accounting, and enthusiasm for its adoption. Year 2 will commence training and support for capacity building of local practitioners to enable in house development of the accounts for future years.</p> <p>0.2 Initial engagement with statistic department shows interest in the programme. The completed 2019 accounts will be used to engage decision makers and finance ministers of the role Natural Capital Accounting evidence can play in decision making.</p> <p>0.3 Target date for consolidated account – Q4 2021. Outreach activities with relevant stakeholders have already been undertaken to raise the profile of the programme and prime expectations of the consolidated account in Year 2 (see Section 3.3).</p>	<p>Progress against the stated indicators to be made in Year 2.</p>

<p>Output 1: Develop consolidated Caribbean UKOTs Natural Capital Account</p>	<p>1.1 OTs Natural Capital Accounts updated for 2020 by OTs Government practitioners – 1 for each OT (Q3-2021)</p> <p>1.2 Regional Natural Capital Accounts for 2020 produced - 1 consolidated account (Q4-2021)</p>	<p>1.1 Target date - Q3 2021. Accounts on track to be completed on time. It is expected that the statistic departments in each OT will take on larger proportion of the accounting process.</p> <p>1.2 Target date – Q4 2021. Accounting issues arising from the consolidation of national accounts have been identified as part of the 2019 process. Subsequent training of OT practitioners to ensure consistency between the accounts will allow for a smooth process.</p>	
<p>Activity 1.1, Support NCA updates</p>		<p>It is expected that the statistic departments in each OT will take on larger proportion of the accounting process. Project budget has been earmarked for support and the accounting itself if required.</p>	<p>To be completed in Year 2.</p>
<p>Activity 1.2, Consolidate regional NCAs</p>		<p>Accounting issues arising from the consolidation of national accounts have been identified as part of the 2019 process. Subsequent training of OT practitioners to ensure consistency between the accounts is expected to facilitate the development of the regional NCA.</p>	<p>To be completed in Year 2.</p>
<p>Activity 1.2, Communicate results</p>		<p>Target date - Q4 2021 after completion of the consolidated account. Outreach activities with relevant stakeholders (see Section 3.3) have already been undertaken to raise the profile of the programme and prime expectations of the consolidated account in Year 2.</p>	<p>To be completed in Year 2.</p>
<p>Output 2: Develop Caribbean OTs regional Natural Capital Accounting practitioners' network</p>	<p>2.1 Natural Capital Accounting regional coordinator placed – 1 year-long placement assigned (Q1-2021)</p> <p>2.2 Natural Capital Accounting practitioners network established – at least 15 members from OT Government departments, representing each of 5 OTs (Q2-2021)</p>	<p>2.1 Regional coordinator hired in in Q1 2021 and started in April 2021. The chosen applicant is highly qualified and well connected with international organisations, meeting and/or exceeding all requirements in the job description.</p> <p>2.2 Target date - Q2 2021. Progress has been made to identify and train practitioners from the OT Government departments. Interest and engagement from the practitioners in Year 1 of the programme has been strong with well attended workshops.</p>	

	2.3 Natural Capital Accounting practitioners regional workshop conducted – at least 10 participants, representing each of the 5 OTs (Q1-2022)	2.3 Workshop to be held in Q1 2022. Participant list and workshop material are currently being produced.	
Activity 2.1. Hire regional coordinator		Regional coordinator hired in in Q1 2021 and started in April 2021. The chosen applicant is highly qualified and well connected with international organisations, meeting and/or exceeding all requirements in the job description.	Activity completed.
Activity 2.2. Build practitioners network		Target date - Q2 2021. Progress has been made to identify and train practitioners from the OT Government departments. Interest and engagement from the practitioners in Year 1 of the programme has been strong with well attended workshops.	To be completed in Year 2.
Activity 2.3. Practitioners workshop		Workshop to be held in Q1 2022. Participant list and workshop material are currently being produced.	To be completed in Year 2.
Output 3: Update Natural Capital Accounts for Anguilla, Montserrat and Turks and Caicos Islands	<p>3.1 Updated 2019 Anguilla Natural Capital Account – 1 national account (Q4-2020)</p> <p>3.2 Updated 2019 Montserrat Natural Capital Account – 1 national account (Q4-2020)</p> <p>3.3 Updated 2019 Turks and Caicos Islands Natural Capital Account – 1 national account (Q4-2020)</p>	<p>3.1 National account produced in March 2021, building on the previously developed account. Account summary produced to engage finance ministers, statistics departments and wider stakeholders. Initial training workshop held on 12th November 2020 with multiple stakeholders. The workshops provided participants with an overview of the programme, a high-level understanding of how national natural capital accounts are constructed as well as advice on the data collation and management required to build them and their links to decision-making. The training was focused on providing practical guidance to the practitioners to allow them to develop the account in house in subsequent years, which will be supplemented with additional training and support throughout 2021.</p> <p>3.2 National account produced in March 2021, building on the previously developed account. Account summary produced to engage finance ministers, statistics departments and wider stakeholders. Initial training workshop held on 29th September 2020 with 15 attendees. The workshops provided participants with an overview of the programme, a high-level understanding of how national</p>	

		<p>natural capital accounts are constructed as well as advice on the data collation and management required to build them and their links to decision-making. The training was focused on providing practical guidance to the practitioners to allow them to develop the account in house in subsequent years, which will be supplemented with additional training and support throughout 2021.</p> <p>3.3 National account produced in March 2021, building on the previously developed account. Account summary produced to engage finance ministers, statistics departments and wider stakeholders. Initial training workshop held on 27th August 2020 with 19 attendees. The workshops provided participants with an overview of the programme, a high-level understanding of how national natural capital accounts are constructed as well as advice on the data collation and management required to build them and their links to decision-making. The training was focused on providing practical guidance to the practitioners to allow them to develop the account in house in subsequent years, which will be supplemented with additional training and support throughout 2021.</p>	
Activity 3.1. Data collection		Completed.	Activity completed.
Activity 3.2. Develop NCAs		2019 NCAs completed and quality assured in Q1 2021.	Activity completed.
Output 4: Develop initial Natural Capital Accounts in British Virgin Islands and Cayman Islands	<p>4.1 Completed initial British Virgin Islands Natural Capital Accounting for 2019 – 1 national account (Q4-2020), including training of practitioners (target: 4 individuals)</p> <p>4.2 Completed initial Cayman Islands Natural Capital Accounting for 2019 – 1 national account (Q4-2020), including training of practitioners (target: 4 individuals)</p>	<p>4.1 National account produced in March 2021. Account summary produced to engage finance ministers, statistics departments and wider stakeholders. Training workshop held with 8 attendees.</p> <p>4.2 National account produced in March 2021. Account summary produced to engage finance ministers, statistics departments and wider stakeholders. Training workshop held with 30 attendees.</p>	
Activity 4.1. Data collection		Completed working with OT practitioners to build capabilities.	Activity completed.
Activity 4.2. Develop training		As per agreement with Darwin+, the in-depth training has been postponed to 2021. Initial training workshop held on 28 th September 2020 for the British Virgin Islands with 8 attendees and on	Initial training held. Additional training to be held in Year 2.

	<p>the 16th September 2020 for the Cayman islands with 30 attendees. The workshops provided participants with an overview of the programme, a high-level understanding of how national natural capital accounts are constructed as well as advice on the data collation and management required to build them and their links to decision-making. The training was focused on providing practical guidance to the practitioners to allow them to develop the account in house in subsequent years, which will be supplemented with additional training and support throughout 2021.</p>	
<p>Activity 4.3. Develop NCAs</p>	<p>2019 NCAs completed and quality assured in Q1 2021.</p>	<p>Activity completed.</p>

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

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
<p>Impact: Better management of the UKOTs natural environment to improve environmental resilience and underpin sustainable and robust UKOTs economies and societal well-being.</p>			
<p>Outcome: Caribbean UKOTs are able to value the benefits they receive from the environment through natural capital accounting, and this supplies evidence for better informed decision making.</p>	<p>0.1 Engaged and capable Natural Capital Accounting practitioners – at least 2 from each OT (Q1-2022)</p> <p>0.2 Natural Capital Accounting evidence incorporated into decision making (i.e. additional to baseline decision making) – at least 3 of 5 OTs (Q1-2022)</p> <p>0.3 Consolidated regional NCA engaged with at international level (Q1-2022)</p>	<p>0.1 OTs Government practitioner's authorship and sign-off of respective 2020 Natural Capital Accounts</p> <p>0.2 National statistics aware of the accounts as a data source with evidence from them used by range of decision-makers (e.g. in land use planning, marine and coastal protection and public engagement materials additional to what would otherwise have been applied in baseline)</p> <p>0.3 International bodies (e.g. IMF, World Bank) aware of project outputs, acknowledgement of consolidated Caribbean NCA by UK Government (e.g. Defra, ONS, JNCC publication) and Caribbean OTs Governments (publication by OTs Government departments).</p>	<p>0.1 Continued support and cooperation from OTs Governments, retention of trained individuals, degree of self-sustainability of practitioner's network</p> <p>0.2 Continued political support for the Natural Capital Accounting process, willingness of a range of Government departments to engage with evidence and produce alongside national statistics</p> <p>0.3 Continued interest in OTs NCA programme and outputs, from OT Governments, UK and international organisations.</p>
<p>Output 1: Develop consolidated Caribbean UKOTs Natural Capital Account</p>	<p>1.1 OTs Natural Capital Accounts updated for 2020 by OTs Government practitioners – 1 for each OT (Q3-2021)</p> <p>1.2 Regional Natural Capital Accounts for 2020 produced - 1 consolidated account (Q4-2021)</p>	<p>1.1 Existing Natural Capital Accounts updated with 2020 data for each OT in Excel workbook format and approved by governments</p> <p>1.2 Data from individual OTs 2020 Natural Capital Accounts consolidated in to one regional Natural Capital Account in Excel workbook format</p>	<p>1.1 Willingness of OTs Government practitioners to support and collaborate on process, availability of data for updates in a timely manner</p> <p>1.2 Data required for 2020 updates is available and shared in a timely manner</p>

<p>Output 2: Develop Caribbean OTs regional Natural Capital Accounting practitioners' network</p>	<p>2.1 Natural Capital Accounting regional coordinator placed – 1 year-long placement assigned (Q1-2021)</p> <p>2.2 Natural Capital Accounting practitioners network established – at least 15 members from OT Government departments, representing each of 5 OTs (Q2-2021)</p> <p>2.3 Natural Capital Accounting practitioners regional workshop conducted – at least 10 participants, representing each of the 5 OTs (Q1-2022)</p>	<p>2.1 Contract documents for regional coordinator</p> <p>2.2 Register of members, formal and informal communication channels (e.g. email list, WhatsApp group, data sharing process)</p> <p>2.3 Workshop materials including workshop briefing and invites, participants list, presentation, and exercises.</p>	<p>2.1 Recruitment and retention of a suitably qualified candidate. Recruitment unaffected by restrictions on visas and international travel during COVID19</p> <p>2.2 Practitioners from across OTs Government departments willing to engage, make connections, and share learning</p> <p>2.3 Appropriate participants have capacity and willingness to attend. Effective networking takes place during a virtual workshop if necessary</p>
<p>Output 3: Update Natural Capital Accounts for Anguilla, Montserrat and Turks and Caicos Islands</p>	<p>3.1 Updated 2019 Anguilla Natural Capital Account – 1 national account (Q4-2020)</p> <p>3.2 Updated 2019 Montserrat Natural Capital Account – 1 national account (Q4-2020)</p> <p>3.3 Updated 2019 Turks and Caicos Islands Natural Capital Account – 1 national account (Q4-2020)</p>	<p>3.1 Existing Natural Capital Accounts for Anguilla updated with 2019 data and approved by government</p> <p>3.2 Existing Natural Capital Accounts for Montserrat updated with 2019 data and approved by government</p> <p>3.3 Existing Natural Capital Accounts for Turks and Caicos Islands updated with 2019 data and approved by government</p>	<p>3.1 Continued support and cooperation from Anguilla Department of Environment</p> <p>3.2 Continued support and cooperation from Montserrat Department of the Environment</p> <p>3.3 Continued support and cooperation from Turks and Caicos Islands Department for Environment and Coastal Resources</p>
<p>Output 4: Develop initial Natural Capital Accounts in British Virgin Islands and Cayman Islands</p>	<p>4.1 Completed initial British Virgin Islands Natural Capital Accounting for 2019 – 1 national account (Q4-2020), including training of practitioners (target: 4 individuals)</p> <p>4.2 Completed initial Cayman Islands Natural Capital Accounting for 2019 – 1 national account (Q4-2020), including training of practitioners (target: 4 individuals)</p>	<p>4.1 Natural Capital Accounts in Excel workbook format for British Virgin Islands and approved by government; training participation records</p> <p>4.2 Natural Capital Accounts in Excel workbook format for Cayman Islands and approved by government; training participation records</p>	<p>4.1 Continued support and cooperation from British Virgin Islands Ministry of Natural Resources & Labour. Ability to undertake effective training remotely if necessary</p> <p>4.2 Continued support and cooperation from Cayman Islands Department of Environment. Ability to undertake effective training remotely if necessary</p>

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 Support NCA updates
- 1.2 Consolidate regional NCAs
- 1.3 Communicate results

- 2.1 Hire regional coordinator
- 2.2 Build practitioners network
- 2.3 Practitioners workshop

- 3.1 Data collection
- 3.2 Develop NCAs

- 4.1 Data collection
- 4.2 Deliver training
- 4.3 Develop NCAs

Annex 3 Onwards – supplementary material (optional but encouraged as evidence of project achievement)

This Annex presents the evidence of project achievement for each of the indicators in the logframe, as well as additional evidence. All evidence listed is available on request.

Project summary	Measurable indicators	Means of verification	Evidence of project achievement
Outcome: Caribbean UKOTs are able to value the benefits they receive from the environment through natural capital accounting, and this supplies evidence for better informed decision making.	0.1 Engaged and capable Natural Capital Accounting practitioners – at least 2 from each OT (Q1-2022)	0.1 OTs Government practitioner’s authorship and sign-off of respective 2020 Natural Capital Accounts	N/A - to be completed in Year 2.
	0.2 Natural Capital Accounting evidence incorporated into decision making (i.e. additional to baseline decision making) – at least 3 of 5 OTs (Q1-2022)	0.2 National statistics aware of the accounts as a data source with evidence from them used by range of decision-makers (e.g. in land use planning, marine and coastal protection and public engagement materials additional to what would otherwise have been applied in baseline)	N/A - to be completed in Year 2.
	0.3 Consolidated regional NCA engaged with at international level (Q1-2022)	0.3 International bodies (e.g. IMF, World Bank) aware of project outputs, acknowledgement of consolidated Caribbean NCA by UK Government (e.g. Defra, ONS, JNCC publication) and Caribbean OTs Governments (publication by OTs Government departments).	N/A - to be completed in Year 2.
Output 1: Develop consolidated Caribbean UKOTs Natural Capital Account	1.1 OTs Natural Capital Accounts updated for 2020 by OTs Government practitioners – 1 for each OT (Q3-2021)	1.1 Existing Natural Capital Accounts updated with 2020 data for each OT in Excel workbook format and approved by governments	N/A - to be completed in Year 2.
	1.2 Regional Natural Capital Accounts for 2020 produced - 1 consolidated account (Q4-2021)	1.2 Data from individual OTs 2020 Natural Capital Accounts consolidated in to one regional Natural Capital Account in Excel workbook format	N/A - to be completed in Year 2.
Output 2: Develop Caribbean OTs regional Natural Capital Accounting practitioners’ network	2.1 Natural Capital Accounting regional coordinator placed – 1 year-long placement assigned (Q1-2021)	2.1 Contract documents for regional coordinator	2.1 Contract documents available

	2.2 Natural Capital Accounting practitioners network established – at least 15 members from OT Government departments, representing each of 5 OTs (Q2-2021)	2.2 Register of members, formal and informal communication channels (e.g. email list, WhatsApp group, data sharing process)	N/A - to be completed in Year 2.
	2.3 Natural Capital Accounting practitioners regional workshop conducted – at least 10 participants, representing each of the 5 OTs (Q1-2022)	2.3 Workshop materials including workshop briefing and invites, participants list, presentation, and exercises.	N/A - to be completed in Year 2.
Output 3: Update Natural Capital Accounts for Anguilla, Montserrat and Turks and Caicos Islands	3.1 Updated 2019 Anguilla Natural Capital Account – 1 national account (Q4-2020)	3.1 Existing Natural Capital Accounts for Anguilla updated with 2019 data and approved by government	The following outputs are available for Anguilla: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 3.1a NCA Report - 3.1b Summary NCA Report - 3.1c NCA Excel workbook - 3.1d Workshop participation records
	3.2 Updated 2019 Montserrat Natural Capital Account – 1 national account (Q4-2020)	3.2 Existing Natural Capital Accounts for Montserrat updated with 2019 data and approved by government	The following outputs are available for Montserrat: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 3.2a NCA Report - 3.2b Summary NCA Report - 3.2c NCA Excel workbook - 3.1d Workshop participation records
	3.3 Updated 2019 Turks and Caicos Islands Natural Capital Account – 1 national account (Q4-2020)	3.3 Existing Natural Capital Accounts for Turks and Caicos Islands updated with 2019 data and approved by government	The following outputs are available for the Turks and Caicos Islands: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 3.3a NCA Report - 3.3b Summary NCA Report - 3.3c NCA Excel workbook - 3.3d Workshop participation records
	4.1 Completed initial British Virgin Islands Natural Capital Accounting for 2019 – 1 national account (Q4-2020),	4.1 Natural Capital Accounts in Excel workbook format for British Virgin	The following outputs are available for the British Virgin Islands:

Output 4: Develop initial Natural Capital Accounts in British Virgin Islands and Cayman Islands	including training of practitioners (target: 4 individuals)	Islands and approved by government; training participation records	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 4.1a NCA Report - 4.1b Summary NCA Report - 4.1c NCA Excel workbook - 4.1d Workshop participation records
	4.2 Completed initial Cayman Islands Natural Capital Accounting for 2019 – 1 national account (Q4-2020), including training of practitioners (target: 4 individuals)	4.2 Natural Capital Accounts in Excel workbook format for Cayman Islands and approved by government; training participation records	The following outputs are available for the Cayman Islands: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 4.2a NCA Report - 4.2b Summary NCA Report - 4.2c NCA Excel workbook - 4.2d Workshop participation records

Other available evidence includes:

- Recording of presentation to United Nations Environment Programme (<https://www.iweco.org/countries/saint-kitts-and-nevis>)
- Recording of presentation to UK Overseas Territories Conservation Forum conference
- Brochure for Island Finance Forum
- Published interview with Cayman Islands Compass (<https://www.caymancompass.com/2020/10/27/putting-a-price-on-nature/>)
- Project engagement brochure – OTs
- Project engagement brochure – non-OTs
- MOAs – 5 OTs

Checklist for submission

	Check
Is the report less than 10MB? If so, please email to Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.uk putting the project number in the Subject line.	Yes
Is your report more than 10MB? If so, please discuss with Darwin-Projects@ltsi.co.uk about the best way to deliver the report, putting the project number in the Subject line.	No
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.	Listed and all available on request
Do you have hard copies of material you need to submit with the report? If so, please make this clear in the covering email and ensure all material is marked with the project number. However, we would expect that most material will now be electronic.	No
Have you involved your partners in preparation of the report and named the main contributors	Prepared by eftec, contributors named
Have you completed the Project Expenditure table fully?	Yes
Do not include claim forms or other communications with this report.	