



UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

Programme des Nations Unies pour l'environnement Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Medio Ambiente
Программа Организации Объединенных Наций по окружающей среде برنامج الأمم المتحدة للبيئة

联合国环境规划署



PROJECT DOCUMENT

SECTION 1: PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

1.1 Project title: Alliance for Zero Extinction (AZE): Conserving Earth's Most Irreplaceable Sites for Endangered Biodiversity

1.2 Project number: GEF ID 5201/ UNEP ID: 009309

1.3 Project type: MSP

1.4 Trust Fund: GEF

1.5 GEF Strategic objectives: BD1 BD2

1.6 UNEP priority: Ecosystem Management

The proposed project is consistent with the Ecosystem Programme of Work for 2014-2017. This project specifically addresses UNEP's expected accomplishment of "use of the ecosystem approach in countries to maintain ecosystem services and sustainable productivity of terrestrial and aquatic systems is increased" and "services and benefits derived from ecosystems are integrated with development planning and accounting, and the implementation of biodiversity and ecosystem related multilateral agreements" and will specifically contribute to output (a) (1) Methodologies, partnerships and tools to maintain or restore ecosystem services and integrate the ecosystem management approach with the conservation and management of ecosystems and output (c) (5) Synergies between tools, approaches and multilateral initiatives on biodiversity, ecosystem resilience, climate change adaptation and disaster prevention identified and integrated with development planning, poverty reduction measures, strategic investment partnerships along with the ecosystem approach and national obligations for biodiversity related MEAS.

1.7 Geographical scope: Global

1.8 Mode of execution: External

1.9 Project executing organization: Birdlife International, AZE Partnership and Secretariat (American Bird Conservancy - ABC), Ministerio del Medio Ambiente (Chile), Ministry of Environment, Ecology, Sea and Forests (Madagascar), Ministry of Environment (Brazil)

1.10 Duration of project: 36 months
Commencing: September 2015
Technical completion: August 2018

Validity of legal instrument: 42 months

1.11 Cost of project	US\$	%
Cost to the GEF Trust Fund	1,922,813	29%
Co-financing	4,797,171	71%
Cash		0%
BirdLife International	748,244	11%
American Bird Conservancy/AZE Secretariat	300,000	4%
Rio Tinto-QMM	300,000	4%
MMA Chile	93,040	1%
CONAF Chile	7,700	0%
<i>Sub-total</i>	1,448,984	22%
In-kind		0%

BirdLife International	645,187	10%
American Bird Conservancy/AZE Secretariat	1,200,000	18%
UNEP	200,000	3%
Rio Tinto - QMM	95,000	1%
Government of Brazil	300,000	4%
Government of Chile - MMA	112,560	2%
Government of Chile - CONAF	10,440	0%
Government of Madagascar	150,000	2%

1.12 Project summary

The Alliance for Zero Extinction (AZE) is a joint initiative of biodiversity conservation organizations around the world, aiming to prevent extinctions by identifying and safeguarding key sites, each one of which is the last remaining refuge of one or more Endangered or Critically Endangered species. These key sites are amongst the top priorities if global biodiversity loss is to be halted and reversed. The two main root causes of threat to these sites and species are habitat loss caused by small scale deforestation and the presence of invasive species. Of particular concern to AZE is that species with tiny global ranges are especially vulnerable to such external threats. In addressing these threats, the project will build on ongoing and planned national and international conservation efforts sustained by AZE member organizations as well as participating national governments and stakeholders at local, national and regional levels.

The project objective is to prevent species extinctions at priority sites identified through the AZE. It consists of two components, the first of which will result in the creation and improved management effectiveness of five demonstration sites in Brazil, Chile, and Madagascar that will result in the improved conservation status of at least 17 AZE species: a bird (Stresemann’s Bristlefront *Merulaxis stresemanni*); 9 frogs (2 *Eupsophus spp.*, *Insuetophrynus sp.*, 2 *Boophis spp.*, *Mantidactylus sp.*, *Gephyromantis sp.*, *Spinomantis sp.* and *Vatomantis sp.*); 3 lizards (*Brookesia sp.*, *Lygodactylus sp.* and *Phelsuma sp.*), 2 snakes (*Liophidium sp.* and *Liopholidophis sp.*) and 2 plants (*Ravenea musicalis* and *Micronychia bemangidiensis*), along with many other threatened species. This will then be scaled up globally at an additional 10 sites holding AZE species, covering a total of at least 160,000 ha.

The second component will result in two outcomes. First, the conservation of threatened species and the protection of AZE sites is mainstreamed into the safeguard policies of key International Financial Institutions (IFIs) such as Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs) and Equator Principles Financial Institutions (EPFI). Second, AZE site conservation is mainstreamed into National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans, Programme of Work on Protected Areas (PoWPA) Action Plans and other national conservation plans in support of CBD targets. The project will support the expansion and updating of global AZE species/site databases, upgrading of the AZE website to enable improved online access to information, capacity building and awareness raising for key target audiences at different levels, technical guidance documents, and strengthening of national AZE partnerships and stakeholder collaboration.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

SECTION 1: PROJECT IDENTIFICATION	1
ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS	4
SECTION 2: BACKGROUND AND SITUATION ANALYSIS (BASELINE COURSE OF ACTION)	6
2.1. Background and context	6
2.2. Global significance	7
2.3. Threats, Root Causes and Barrier Analysis	8
2.4. Institutional, sectoral and policy context	13
2.5. Stakeholder mapping and analysis	24
2.6. Baseline analysis and gaps	28
2.7. Linkages with other GEF and non-GEF Interventions	36
SECTION 3: INTERVENTION STRATEGY (ALTERNATIVE)	43
3.1. Project rationale, policy conformity and expected global environmental benefits.....	43
3.2. Project goal and objective.....	47
3.3. Project components and expected results.....	48
3.4. Intervention logic and key assumptions	62
3.5. Risk analysis and risk management measures.....	67
3.6. Consistency with national priorities or plans	71
3.7. Incremental cost reasoning.....	72
3.8. Sustainability	74
3.9. Replication	77
3.10. Public awareness, communications and mainstreaming strategy.....	79
3.11. Environmental and social safeguards.....	81
SECTION 4: INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK AND IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS.....	83
SECTION 5: STAKEHOLDER PARTICIPATION	86
SECTION 6: MONITORING AND EVALUATION PLAN.....	88
SECTION 7: PROJECT FINANCING AND BUDGET	89
7.1. Overall project budget	89
7.2. Project co-financing	89
7.3. Project cost-effectiveness	90
APPENDICES 92	
Appendix 1: Budget by project components and UNEP budget lines	separate document
Appendix 2: Co-financing.....	93
Appendix 3: Incremental cost analysis.....	94
Appendix 4: Results Framework	96
Appendix 5: Workplan and timetable	104
Appendix 6: Key deliverables and benchmarks	117
Appendix 7: Costed M&E plan.....	121
Appendix 8: Summary of reporting requirements and responsibilities	124
Appendix 9: Decision-making flowcharts and organizational charts.....	126
Appendix 10: Terms of Reference.....	130
Appendix 11: Co-financing commitment letters from project partners.....	separate document
Appendix 12: Endorsement letters of GEF National Focal Points	separate document
Appendix 13: BirdLife International procurement policies and procedures	132
Appendix 14: GEF BD1 and BD2 Tracking Tools	separate document
Appendix 15: Site Profiles	136
Appendix 16: Environmental and Social Checklists	160
Appendix 17: PPG Workshop Reports.....	separate document
Appendix 18: Supporting information on Protected Area Systems	176

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ABC	American Bird Conservancy
AMANE	Association for the Protection of the Northeastern Atlantic Forest (Brazil)
APR/PIR	Annual Project Review/ Project Implementation Reports
AZE	Alliance for Zero Extinction
BAZE	Brazilian National Alliance for Zero Extinction
SAVE Brasil	SAVE Brasil (National BirdLife Partner)
CAR	Rural Environmental Cadaster (Brazil)
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CI-Brasil	Conservation International - Brasil
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species
CN-RBMA	National Biosphere Reserve Council of Atlantic Forest (Brazil)
CODEFF	National Committee on Defense of Flora and Fauna (BirdLife Partner NGO in Chile)
CONAF	National Forest Corporation (Chile)
CSO	Civil Society Organization – used interchangeably with NGO
CVIDA	Center of Social and Ecological Realization Vida Northeast (Brazil)
DCBSAP	Department for Biodiversity Conservation and Protected Area System (Madagascar)
DGE	General Directorate of Environment (Madagascar)
DIDE	Directorate of Environmental Mainstreaming (Madagascar)
DVRF	Directorate of Promotion of Forest Resources (Madagascar)
DPPSE	Directorate of Planning, Programming and Monitoring (Madagascar)
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EO	Evaluation Office of UNEP
EPFI	Equator Principle Financial Institution, see: http://www.equator-principles.com/
EU-JRC	European Union – Joint Research Centre
GEF	Global Environment Facility
ha	Hectare
IADB	Inter-American Development Bank
IAS	Invasive Alien Species
IBA	Important Bird and Biodiversity Area
IBAT	Integrated Biodiversity Assessment Tool
ICMBio	Chico Mendes Institute
IFI	International financial institution
INDAP	National Institute of Agricultural Development, Chile
IPE	Institute for Ecological Research (Brazil)
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
IUCN-WCPA	International Union for the Conservation of Nature – World Commission on Protected Areas
IW	(Project) Inception Workshop
JBRJ	Botanical Garden of Rio de Janeiro
KBA	Key Biodiversity Area
LECA / UFRPE	Laboratory of Ecophysiology and Animal Behaviour UFRPE
KOMFITA	Forest Management Coordination Committee (Malagasy language)
Mater Natura	Mater Natura Institute for Environmental Studies (Brazil)
MDB	Multilateral Development Bank

MECIE	Investment Compatibility with the Environment (Madagascar)
MEEMF	Ministry of Environment, Ecology, Sea and Forests (Madagascar)
METT	Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool
MMA	Ministry of Environment (same for Chile and Brazil)
MMA-SBF	MMA Secretariat of Biodiversity and Forests (Brazil)
MZUSP	Zoology Museum of University Sao Paulo / Section of Birds
NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization (used interchangeably with CSO)
NTFP	Non Timber Forest Products
ONE	National Environment Office
PA	Protected Area
PIF	Project Identification Form (for GEF)
PoWPA	Programme of Work on Protected Areas (of CBD)
PPG	Project Preparation Grant (for GEF)
PRODESAL	Local Development Program, Chile
RPPN	Private Reserve of the Natural Heritage (Brazil)
SAG	Chilean Agricultural and Livestock Service
SAPM	Madagascar Protected Areas System
SAVE	SAVE Brasil (BirdLife Partner in Brazil)
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
SOS Mata Atlântica	SOS Atlantic Forest Foundation
SPVS	Society of Wildlife Research and Environmental Education (Brazil)
SRF	Strategic Results Framework
STAR	System for Transparent Allocation of Resources (GEF)
Terra Brasilis	Terra Brasilis Institute for Social and Environmental Development
TNC Brasil	The Nature Conservancy / Brasil
UACH	Austral University, Chile
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNEP-WCMC	UNEP – World Conservation Monitoring Centre
WBDB	World Bird Data Base
WDPA	World Database on Protected Areas
WHC	World Heritage Convention
WWF Brasil	World Wide Fund for Nature Brazil

SECTION 2: BACKGROUND AND SITUATION ANALYSIS (BASELINE COURSE OF ACTION)

2.1. Background and context

1. **The Alliance for Zero Extinction (AZE)**, a joint initiative of biodiversity conservation organizations from around the world, aims to prevent extinctions by identifying and safeguarding key sites, each one of which is the last remaining refuge of one or more Endangered or Critically Endangered species. These key sites are amongst the most important if global biodiversity loss is to be halted and reversed.
2. AZE uses the following criteria to identify priority sites (a site must meet all three to qualify):
 - a) **Endangerment.** An AZE site must contain at least one Endangered (EN) or Critically Endangered (CR) species, as listed on the IUCN Red List.
 - b) **Irreplaceability.** An AZE site should only be designated if it is the sole area where an EN or CR species occurs, contains the overwhelmingly significant known resident population (>95%) of the EN or CR species, or contains the overwhelmingly significant known population (>95%) for one life history segment (e.g. breeding or wintering) of the EN or CR species.
 - c) **Discreteness.** The area must have a definable boundary within which the character of habitats, biological communities, and/or management issues have more in common with each other than they do with those in adjacent areas.
3. AZE has so far identified 587 sites where 920 Endangered or Critically Endangered species are globally restricted to single locations (known as AZE sites). The protection of these sites will be essential to prevent the next predictable wave of global species extinctions. AZE has 93 member NGOs in 35 countries, five major national alliances (Brazil, Colombia, India, Mexico, and Peru) and is staffed through its Secretariat which is housed within and supported by American Bird Conservancy. The AZE global Steering Committee, which is comprised of representatives of international and national biodiversity conservation NGOs, acts as AZE’s governing body.
4. The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) through its “Aichi targets” (especially Targets 11 and 12) presents a unique opportunity to scale up protection for AZE sites, but the authors of the National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) and Program of Work on Protected Areas (PoWPA) Action Plans being finalized to help implement the convention currently lack access to data on these sites, hampering efforts to capitalize on this opportunity through the plans themselves and their implementation strategies. AZE has developed an MOU with CBD and is providing AZE information to signatory nations for inclusion in NBSAPs in partnership with CBD, IUCN and UNEP. If AZE is not adequately taken into account in these documents, and especially their implementation, we risk the irreversible loss of additional AZE species and sites, and thus could fail to meet at least one of the convention’s key targets.
5. **Brazil** is well documented as a nation with high biodiversity, and 27 AZE sites have been identified. The country has also notably been a leader globally as the first signatory of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the first nation to adopt AZE nationally as well as include AZE in its NBSAP. An initial national review of AZE sites suggests there are species that need to be added to the global AZE list. Furthermore, the publication of a new national red list of threatened species reveals the critical situation of numerous taxa and biomes previously not included by AZE due to a lack of information. Population declines continue due to increased threats to habitat. One bird species of particular interest, Stresemann’s Bristlefront, is nearly extinct due to the steep decline of the Atlantic Forest where it is found, and the recovery of this species is a focus of this project. Success with this species will

stimulate conservation action for a host of other AZE sites that will be integrated into NBSAPs, PoWPA action plans and other national planning.

6. **Chile** has identified a total of nine AZE sites. National plans do not currently address AZE site conservation as a whole, however several current initiatives take action to protect AZE species. Several amphibian species have only been found in one location, and show population declines due to preventable anthropogenic threats. Conservation actions at these sites will nurture a site-based approach to be employed at additional sites, and will inform national conservation plans, such as a national amphibian plan. A national review of AZE sites and their protection will be integrated into Chile’s NBSAP and PoWPA action plans.
7. The richness and uniqueness of the biodiversity of **Madagascar** is well known. Twenty one AZE sites have been identified for 28 species; it is clear that many other sites qualify, when more taxa are included and this will increase further when the many newly discovered but still undescribed species are assessed. Very many endemic species are restricted to very small areas, and it has also long been clear that the threats to biodiversity are very severe. Accordingly, large numbers of highly threatened species are restricted to single sites (particularly among terrestrial or non-flying fauna and flora), and, as such, many of these are AZE trigger species. The AZE concept thus has the potential to contribute greatly to conservation in Madagascar, by identifying AZE sites and promoting their sustainable management and conservation (with action at a demonstration site), and mainstreaming conservation of AZE sites and species into environmental policy. Yet the concept has not truly taken root in the country, in terms of either policy or action on the ground, and this indicates a very significant opportunity to support conservation of the rarest species and most irreplaceable sites.

2.2. Global significance

8. The 587 AZE sites so far identified globally contain almost the entire populations of at least 920 species of mammals, birds, amphibians, reptiles, conifers, and reef-building corals; the total number of species that these sites support is sure to be higher than this, as not all taxa have yet been taken into account. In addition, sites will be added when additional taxa have been comprehensively assessed.
9. AZE sites are not only important biodiversity conservation targets to slow extinction rates globally, but they also provide ecosystem service benefits for people disproportionate to their area. A recent study¹ reviewed potential and realized benefits which conserving these places would provide not just for species, but for human wellbeing. This showed that protecting habitats in these priority areas to halt the loss of biodiversity will yield multiple benefits to people in terms of ecosystem services such as climate change mitigation, freshwater, the future “option value” of biodiversity and cultural services. These benefits found in the global network of AZE sites significantly exceeded those from randomly selected networks of sites within the same countries and regions used for comparison. Their conservation would provide approximately three times more emission reduction than non-AZE sites because they tend to have a higher proportion of carbon-dense forest. They are important for providing clean freshwater due to their forest cover, their location in areas with more precipitation, at higher elevations, and with more people downstream. Their location in areas of high linguistic

¹ Larsen et al. (2012) *PLoS ONE* 7(5): e36971

diversity suggests a importance for the maintenance of cultural value, while they have a high potential for preserving unique evolutionary history.

10. **Chile’s** biological diversity is important due to: the existence of unique species, ecosystems and territories with a high global ecological value; the presence of global biodiversity hotspots; available environmental services; high biological productivity; and the important economic value of its natural resources as the basis of the country’s development (National Biodiversity Strategy 2003). The WWF classification identifies 26 ecological regions in Chile (11 terrestrial, 8 freshwater and 7 marine), of which 8 are classified as Global 200 WWF ecoregions (109 animal and 5,125 plant endemic species). Seven hundred and seventeen species have been classified as threatened nationally since 2011, including 166 vertebrates (fishes, amphibians, mammals, birds and reptiles), 46 invertebrates and 671 plants. Notably, 14% of amphibians are critically endangered and a further 11% are endangered. Significantly, four fifths of all amphibians found in Chile are endemic to the country. In another analysis, 35% of the 684 land-based vertebrate species assessed were found to be threatened in some way, with freshwater fish are the most affected group, all of the 44 species experiencing serious conservation problems. The Valdivian Temperate Rainforest is the only Neotropical coniferous forest ecoregion, and contains one of the AZE case study sites piloted in this project.
11. **Brazil** hosts between 15-20% of the world’s biological diversity, with the greatest number of endemic species on a global scale (CBD website 2015). Brazil has six major terrestrial biomes (Amazon, Atlantic Forest, Caatinga, Cerrado, Pampas, and Pantanal). There are two biodiversity hotspots – the Atlantic Forest and the Cerrado, six UNESCO biosphere reserves, and eighteen Global 200 ecoregions. The Atlantic Forest has the highest concentrations of AZE sites, sixteen, in the country, and is where the site of the critically endangered Stresemann’s Bristlefront is found. The catalogue of Brazil’s biodiversity continues to expand, with an average of 700 new animal species discovered each year, which underscores the vast challenge of balancing the protection of Brazil’s natural heritage from further losses in a growth economy. Around 40 concerned institutions in Brazil have created a national AZE (the Brazilian AZE, or BAZE) to promote the conservation of AZE sites nationally.
12. **Madagascar** has been isolated from other land-masses for 88 million years. It covers 587,000 km², making it the world’s fourth largest island, largely in the southern tropics at 12–25°S. Its long isolation, together with remarkable climatic variation (from arid to per-humid), is the cause of exceptional biological diversity and endemism in the fauna and flora unequalled by any comparably sized land mass. Endemicity reaches 98% or more in reptiles, amphibians and non-flying mammals, 80-90% in the flora (which is also highly species-rich) and 50% in birds; moreover, very many (even most) species are endemic to parts (often very small parts such as single mountains or catchments) of the island. There are also extensive freshwater wetlands with many endemic species, especially of fish. This biodiversity is highly threatened, placing Madagascar (together with associated oceanic archipelagoes) among the ‘hottest’ of the world’s biodiversity hotspots, which are identified by a combination of rich biodiversity and high level of threat. The eastern forests appear to hold the most species, and include World Heritage Sites. Madagascar has been divided into five Endemic Bird Areas (Western dry forest, Eastern rainforest, Southern spiny forest, Eastern wetlands and Western wetlands) and 6 ecoregions (Madagascar Dry Forests, Madagascar Forests and Shrublands, Madagascar Freshwater, Madagascar Mangroves, Madagascar Spiny Thicket, West Madagascar Marine).

2.3. Threats, Root Causes and Barrier Analysis

13. The two key root causes of threat to AZE sites and species worldwide are habitat loss caused by small scale deforestation, and the presence of invasive species. Of particular concern to AZE is that species with tiny global ranges are especially vulnerable to such external threats. *Barriers* to the accomplishment of project goals are presented below in the Project Rationale in Section 3.1.

Brazil

Habitat / land use change

14. Degradation and loss of habitat are the main threats to biodiversity, and particularly AZE species, in Brazil. Approximately 70% (5,942,065 km²) of the total territory maintains original vegetation ranging from intact to varying degrees of conservation or rehabilitation while nearly 30% of its territory is altered by agriculture, urban areas or other human use. Habitat loss is caused predominately by agricultural expansion and related deforestation using fire to clear land. Over the last three decades, Brazil experienced exceptional growth in agricultural production, leading globally in the production and export of coffee, sugar, orange juice, soybean, beef and chicken. Although technology has improved significantly, allowing increased production without necessarily increasing the production area, land conversion to pasture and crop lands remains an important factor of habitat modification, fragmentation, and loss.
15. The Atlantic Forest biome is by far the most altered (70.95%) of the terrestrial biomes (Fourth National Report, 2011). Human presence dates back to the early sixteenth century. Despite the overall 77% decrease in deforestation rates estimated in 2008 as compared to 2000 based on monitoring data reported in Brazil’s Fourth National Report to the CBD, the Atlantic Forest lost at least 15,880 km² in the last 20 years, which represents an area approximately the size of Belgium. Severe fragmentation of the Atlantic Forest has brought about the isolation of flora and fauna species, which helps explain the abundance of AZE species located in this biome. Many interior forest species do not travel across clearings, such as cattle pastures, and are restricted to forest fragments. This in turn, reduces opportunities for reproduction among the species and the species decline is more likely. The associated loss of exchange of genetic information can also result in increased susceptibility to disease. At the pilot project selected for this project (Mata do Passarinho Reserve), fire is frequently used to clear forested land for pasture or agriculture.

Climate change

16. Climate change may reduce the total area of the Amazon, Pantanal, Atlantic Forest, and Pampas biomes. A comparative analysis of the impacts of climate change by 2050 suggested that total rainfall reduction for the Amazon could reach 20%, and a drier, warmer climate, while the northeast region (mostly Caatinga and Atlantic Forest) may become warmer and more humid. More extreme weather events may reduce the resiliency of ecosystems, particularly in areas already fragmented and degraded by years of human encroachment, which may lead to further reduction in habitat. AZE species are, by definition, restricted to single sites, and therefore, continued fragmentation and loss of connectivity of habitat is a major issue. In this project, reforestation with native species in areas surrounding intact core habitat will stem the impact of habitat fragmentation and also provide further opportunity for natural vegetation to absorb and adapt over time to changes in local climate.

Invasive alien species

17. Although no freshwater taxa have been included in the global AZE dataset, we anticipate that Brazil will be able to assess these fishes using the recently published national red list. Invasive alien species will be a major threat for threatened species in freshwater habitats in Brazil. The

PROBIO study recorded 1,593 occurrences of alien species in freshwater habitats, representing 180 alien organisms. 116 fish, 19 microorganisms, 14 macrophytes, 6 crustaceans, 4 amphibians, 5 mollusks, 2 reptiles, and 1 leech. Terrestrial environments are also affected by invasive alien species. According to another study carried out in 2005 by the Brazilian Agricultural Research Company (EMBRAPA) under the PROBIO project, 50 alien invasive species affected agricultural, silvicultural and livestock production in the country, and 104 other alien insect, mite and pathogen species with potential to become invasive in the Brazilian production landscapes. The Pantanal is the least affected biome, followed by the Amazon and Caatinga biomes. As expected, the biomes where rural production is most intense and has occurred for a longer period (Atlantic Forest, Cerrado and Pampas) present higher numbers of identified alien invasive harmful species.

Chile

Habitat / land use change

18. Anthropogenic land use change is the main factor affecting natural terrestrial ecosystems in Chile. Land use change has been driven by the forest industry through logging irregular forest and plantation with exotic species, the agricultural industry through forest clearance for the establishment of pastures and crops, and urbanization. The forestry industry is an important threat to the conservation of native forests. Although the industrial extraction of native wood has declined, consumption of wood from native tree species has almost doubled over the last 20 years from four to about nine million solid cubic meters per year, becoming the main pressure on the native forest. Native forests in the south-central zone of the country have decreased due to a 40% increase in forestry plantations. Research in the area of temperate rain forests of southern Chile, showed that the progressive fragmentation product of logging and the replacement of forests, is associated with dramatic changes in the structure and composition of the temperate forests. Small fragments located on hillsides near rivers were degraded in the last several decades, such as the Mehuin AZE site in this project. Estimates indicate that fragments and proximity between them continue decreasing in size. If this fragmentation associated with logging and extraction of wood for fires continues, the capacity of remaining forests to maintain biodiversity and ecological processes will be reduced.
19. The agricultural sector represents one of the economic sectors that exerts the most pressure due to the need of water for production, covering 1.1 million ha and accounting for 73% of national water use. It is estimated that future water shortages and restrictions in northern and central parts of the country will be accelerated due to estimated future agricultural requirements as well as mining, the effects of drought and climate change. Furthermore, excessive application of fertilizers and pesticides and poor storage, handling and waste management, removal of beneficial insect pollinators, soil contamination and eutrophication produce negative effects on wildlife.
20. The variations in the native forest in the central region are due to fires. Fires can severely alter the stability of ecosystems, changing the structure and species composition, factors which together result in a loss of ecosystem functionality and makes restoration difficult. In the period 1964-2013, the annual average of acres burned with fire was 45,725 annually, with an annual average of 4,125 fires. Fires are frequently started by humans, often intentionally to clear native grassland or forest. The practice of agricultural burning damages soil and biodiversity present in the surrounding ecosystems.
21. The amphibian species targeted in this project have been directly impacted by unsustainable agricultural and timber harvesting practices. In addition, native forests have decreased in area

and quality from logging and extraction for fuel, which are threats that directly relate to the decline in habitat at both Isla Mocha and Mehuin amphibian sites.

Invasive Alien Species

22. Introduction and spread of invasive alien species (IAS) principally affects native species as introduced species compete for resources, spread disease, disrupt and fragment degraded ecosystems and ecosystem services important social and economic effects. Some species have also proliferated in vulnerable ecosystems such as oceanic islands; an example is the invasion of cats in the national Isla Mocha Reserve. Chile lacks inventory depth of invasive alien species, making it difficult to assess the degree and dispersion condition of invasiveness. However, evaluations of invasive species impact on native fauna have been conducted, such as a report on Isla Mocha Reserve (Hagen et al. 2013) – an AZE site selected for action under this project – that demonstrates the immediate impact to highly threatened native species and measures to ameliorate this threat.

Climate Change

23. Studies have modeled future behavior of species in Chile against scenarios of climate change, looking at 118 species in a variety of terrestrial ecosystems. The impact of climate change will largely depend on the ability of species to disperse as habitat alters. Species restricted to specific sites – precisely the case by definition with AZE species – will be disproportionately affected by climate change. Communities of vegetation already heavily fragmented will be less able to adapt and may further reduce in size. Poor dispersing species located in these fragments will be subsequently further limited in their ability to survive as a result. Both sites selected for this project represent sites that fit this context, three species of amphibians located in two relatively small areas of remaining habitat on Isla Mocha and Valdivian forest.

Pollution

24. Inland waters, such as those located in Mehuin, have experienced extensive point-source pollution and growing non-point pollution. The change in pH of streambeds that host AZE amphibian populations have altered due to the presence of exotic pine needles following felling of trees for harvest, for instance. This point-source pollution can be corrected with improved timber harvesting practices. Elsewhere in Chile, the problem also severely affects threatened freshwater fish.

Madagascar

Habitat / land use change

25. This is the main threat to biodiversity in Madagascar, taking the form of degradation of natural habitats, mainly forests and wetlands. Deforestation and forest degradation occurs for various reasons, notably conversion for crops, exploitation of timber and precious wood (such as rosewood and ebony), charcoal production and bush fires. Wetlands (swamps, marshes and lakes) are transformed into crop fields, often for rice. The annual rate of deforestation Madagascar halved between 1990 and 2010, from 0.8% to 0.4% annually (source: ONE, DGF, FTM & CI 2013. *Evolution de la couverture de Forêts naturelles à Madagascar 2005–2010*). Despite this decrease, the rate is still of great concern, and is locally much higher. The highest rates are in Boeny (NW) and Atsimo-andrefana (SW) Regions, with respectively 0.9% and 0.8%, but local rates of up to 3% are known in hotspots in these and other Regions.
26. The conversion of forests to crop areas by shifting cultivation (locally called *tavy*) is the main cause of deforestation in Madagascar. *Tavy* is a traditional method of cutting and burning a forest to produce farmland. Farmers use forests for agriculture because the soil is, initially, richer than already-cleared areas and they may be able to claim property rights over the

cultivated and cleared land afterwards. Often, the cleared area is cultivated for up to two years before being abandoned in favour of a new plot usually nearby. The method of cultivation is labour-intensive, and often considered wasteful and destructive, although entirely rational under widely prevalent socio-economic conditions.

27. The factors causing deforestation by *tavy* are lack of technical capacity, the financial means and the motivation to adopt more efficient and modern techniques. Technical advances may include improved water management and soil fertilization; lack of water control limits cultivation of rice fields in the lowlands, and farmers may take advantage of soil moisture in natural forests. Simple demonstrations are often not enough to convince people to use the most advanced farming techniques, as the consequences of adopting new practices, should they fail, may be severe.
28. The fragility of the state and its decentralized services during the national political crisis that took place between 2009 and 2014 caused an explosion of logging activity, with illegal export, in Madagascar. Although political stability may have been reached, the economic difficulties continue and support from the government to its decentralized services is still limited. There is no systematic monitoring system for forest resources and the communities that use or depend on them. Lacking the support of the state, local communities have become vulnerable to the effects of deforestation and to the actions of illegal loggers. Poverty was widespread in the rural regions, and the crisis worsened the situation; consequently, illegal exploitation of natural resources, especially timber (precious woods) extraction, has expanded greatly. The increase from 2009 is not adequately accounted for in deforestation figures for 2005-2010, but in many areas, for example in the SE (Tsitongambarika forest), grassroots communities present during the regional consultation for this project confirmed the increase, with forests near roads and access roads leading to the city of Taolagnaro the most affected.

Overexploitation

29. Overexploitation, through uncontrolled hunting, is another threat; and for a few species, such as certain large lemurs, the biggest threat. Small mammals (such as tenrecs), turtles, waterbirds and other large birds, fruit-bats, large amphibians and primates are the main targets. Commercial hunting is organised at regional or local level, while hunting for meat consumption is carried out only by the local population. Drivers include poverty and the need for animal protein, but locally also demand for rare species that are seen as delicacies: bushmeat consumption involving protected species such as lemurs increased near forests for local trade during the recent political crisis.

Invasive Alien Species

30. Threats from IAS are localised, and so far have limited impact in primary forest; most affect wetlands (fish and aquatic weeds) and anthropogenic habitats (a range of species, mostly not highly invasive in native ecosystems). The main threat is the possibility that the recently detected (in 2010) fungus *Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis* (*Bd*), which has been a significant driver of amphibian declines world-wide, is pathogenic to Malagasy frogs; if so, it poses an extreme risk to the c. 500 endemic species, but conceivably it is native and as such far less dangerous. Other invasives include the recently established (not yet widespread) Asian toad *Duttaphrynus melanostictus*, which may poison endemic frogs if it comes into contact with them. Drivers are highly varied.

Climate Change

31. Impacts in Madagascar are characterised by increased temperature, floods (in already humid areas), droughts (in already dry areas) and more severe cyclones. These will exacerbate soil

erosion and deforestation and ultimately lead to a reduction in food security, income, water quality and supply, and an increase in vulnerability. Livelihood options will be reduced, leading to livelihood conversion or migration, ultimately increasing pressures on natural resources and biodiversity including reduction of forest areas. Alongside mitigation measures, adaptation through sustainable livelihoods based on ecosystem services will be critical in ensuring Madagascar can cope with climate change.

2.4. Institutional, sectoral and policy context

Policy and legislation

Global

32. The key global policy areas for species and site conservation and sustainable management are included in the Convention on Biological Diversity, to which nearly all the world’s countries are contracting Parties. National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) are the principal instruments for planning the implementation of the Convention at the national level. The Convention requires (under Article 6) countries to prepare a national biodiversity strategy (or equivalent instrument) and to ensure that this strategy is mainstreamed into the planning and activities of all those sectors whose activities can have an impact (positive and negative) on biodiversity. To date, a total of 184 (95%) Parties have developed NBSAPs in line with of the CBD. Under Aichi Target 17, by 2015, each Party to the CBD was to develop, adopt as a policy instrument, and commence implementing an effective, participatory and updated national biodiversity strategy and action plan.
33. Protected areas are recognised by CBD as the cornerstone of biodiversity conservation. In February 2004, the CBD Parties adopted the Programme of Work on Protected Areas (PoWPA), enshrining development of participatory, ecologically representative and effectively managed national and regional systems of protected areas, where necessary stretching across national boundaries. From designation to management, the PoWPA can be considered as a defining framework or “blueprint” for protected areas for the coming decades. At national levels, countries are required to prepare national action plans to implement PoWPA in their territory; 108 of 193 Countries have officially submitted their PoWPA Action Plans. NBSAPs and PoWPA action plans are among the most important elements of national biodiversity conservation planning.
34. Following a resolution in support of AZE passed by the General Assembly at the 2012 World Conservation Congress, members of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) leadership (the Director General, Species Survival Commission, and World Commission on Protected Areas chairs) wrote to CBD focal points requesting that parties “Include a gap analysis of AZE sites in your National Biodiversity Strategic Action Plan to identify which sites fall within your existing protected area network and which need protection.” AZE will follow up on this through direct contact with focal points and NBSAP authors and implementers, by providing information on AZE sites to these contacts, by strengthening national AZE alliances/partnerships and putting them in contact with NBSAP authors and implementers, by developing and promulgating materials and GIS data on AZE, and by continuing to participate in relevant CBD fora including providing materials and resources through the aforementioned NBSAP Forum, through the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership, and by continuing to participate in regional training workshops arranged by the CBD.

35. The CBD LifeWeb Zero Extinction Campaign has been developed to help support AZE conservation, especially through the implementation of site-based projects at AZE sites. It has also been agreed that AZE will provide “assistance to CBD Parties with integrating the zero extinction target into national biodiversity strategies and action plans” through an MOU between AZE and CBD.
36. The Executive Secretary of CBD also recently volunteered to write to NBSAP authors with national dossiers that support of the inclusion of AZE sites in NBSAPs and to encourage the conservation of AZE sites. This is especially significant as it links AZE specifically to targets set out in CBD Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020: the ‘Aichi Targets’. AZE is already recognized as a formal indicator under both Aichi targets 11 and 12. Target 11 states “By 2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water areas and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well-connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscape and seascape”, and target 12 states “By 2020, the extinction of known threatened species has been prevented and their conservation status, particularly of those most in decline, has been improved and sustained”. AZE staff will follow up on the Executive Secretary’s letter to make direct contact with NBSAP authors and implementing agencies to provide the necessary information to facilitate the inclusion of AZE data into these plans and their implementation.

Brazil

37. The National Biodiversity Policy, the Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) together with the CBD National Targets for 2020, pursue the conservation of biological diversity. As earlier noted, Brazil’s NBSAP’s second objective is to promote the conservation of species diversity, which is further supported by goals that envision 100% of threatened species effectively conserved in Protected Areas and reducing by 25% the threatened species on the national list. Brazil’s 4th national report to the CBD on its NBSAP specifically references in their national biodiversity targets, a goal of 100% of threatened species effectively conserved in protected Areas and “all species officially recognized as threatened with extinction in Brazil the object of action plans and active advisory groups”.
38. Established by the Ordinance n°43, January 31st 2014, the National Program for the Conservation of Threatened Species (Pró-Espécies) aims to adopt actions for prevention, conservation and management to reduce the threats and risk of species extinction. The Pro-Espécies is coordinated by the Brazilian Ministry of Environment and defines the steps, methodology, criteria and actors involved in the assessment of Brazilian species conservation status, elaboration of the National Official List of Threatened Species, elaboration of National Action Plans for Threatened Species Conservation and for monitoring of biodiversity. Recently, because of this program, the new red lists of threatened species were established by the Ordinance n°444 and n° 445, December 17th 2014 (fauna red lists) and the Ordinance n°443, December 17th 2014 (flora red list).
39. The federal, state, and municipal protected areas are integrated into the National Protected Areas System (SNUC), created in 2000 by Law 9985 and regulated in 2002 by Decree 4340. The National Protected Areas Plan (PNAP), which serves as the mechanism to report to the CBD Program of Work on Protected Areas (POWPA), was instituted by Decree 5758 in 2006 and charts Brazil’s plan for expansion of protected areas; this plan notably incorporates over 500 indigenous lands covering one million square kilometers not formally recognized in

SNUC. Brazil published, in December 2008, a National Plan for Climate Change to promote the development and enhancement of climate mitigation actions to reduce the emission of greenhouse gases, and to create the conditions for adaptation to the impacts of climate change. This National Plan subsidized the creation of the law 12.187 in 2009 that establishes the National Policy on Climate Change (PNMC).

40. Two related initiatives in the Atlantic Forest biome and Murici area are relevant given the considerable density of AZE species found there. The Pact for the Restoration of the Atlantic Forest, created in 2004, joins non-governmental organizations, state governments and federal agencies to restore 15 million hectares of Atlantic Forest by 2050. The Pact’s mission is to coordinate public and private institutions, governments, businesses and land owners, to achieve its restoration objectives. Created by eight environmental organizations in 2004, many of which are AZE and Brazilian AZE members, this Pact aims at the integrated planning and implementation of conservation actions targeted at the Atlantic Forest of the North-eastern coast. The Pact resulted in the creation of a new NGO, the Association for the Protection of the North-eastern Atlantic Forest (AMANE) to implement the Pact and effect conservation in Murici, Pernambuco area, a critical area for AZE site protection.

41. There are several efforts to develop and implement state and municipal action plans, such as the São Paulo and Curitiba municipalities. Of the 5,561 Brazilian municipalities, 78% had some governmental structure for the environment (a 10% advancement in comparison to 2005). As of 2002, only 148 municipalities had earmarked a portion of their budget to the environment. Brazil’s initiative to decentralize the National Biodiversity Strategy are noteworthy, but efforts remains a challenge that will require stronger commitment from state and municipal governments and capacity building investments from the federal level. Involvement of states in regional mainstreaming workshops in this project would benefit this effort, particularly those with high density of AZE sites (eg Pernambuco) or those states where the pilot project will take place (Bahia and Minas Gerais).

Table 1. Summary of Brazilian Environmental Legislation

Regulations and Policies	Description
Law n° 5.197, January 3 rd , 1967	Rules on the fauna protection and on other subjects
Law n° 9.605, February 12 th , 1998	Rules on the criminal and administrative sanctions resulting from conduct and activities harmful to the environment, and other matters.
Law n° 12.651, May 25 th , 2012	Law on protection of native vegetation (also known as The Brazilian Forest Code – rules on the protection of forests and other vegetation formations).
Decree n° 4.339, August 22 nd , 2002	Instituted the principles and guidelines for the implementation of the National Biodiversity Policy
Ordinance n° 43, January 31 st 2014	Establishes the National Program for the Conservation of Threatened Species (Pró-Espécies)
Ordinance n° 444, December 17 th 2014	Establishes the Official National List of Threatened Species of Fauna (terrestrial species and aquatic mammals)
Ordinance n° 445, December 17 th 2014	Establishes the Official National List of Threatened Species of Fauna (fish and aquatic

	invertebrates)
Ordinance n°443, December 17 th 2014	Establishes the Official National List of Threatened Species of Flora
Law n° 9.985, July 18 th 2000	Establishes the National Protected Areas System (SNUC)
Decree n° 4.340, August 22 nd 2002	Regulates the National Protected Areas System (SNUC)
Decree n° 5.758, April 13 th 2006	Institutes the National Protected Areas Strategic Plan (PNAP)
Law n° 12.187, December 29 th , 2009	Establishes the National Policy on Climate Change (PNMC)
Law n° 11.428, December 22 nd , 2006	Rules on the utilization and protection of the native vegetation of the Atlantic Forest Biome (also known as the Atlantic Forest Law)

Chile

42. Chile’s Environmental Framework Law of 1994 sets out the requirement for impact assessments, public participation and management plans where environmental impacts may occur. MMA also implements Conservation Plans for Species of Interest to protect threatened species outside of protected areas. Subsequent laws cover hunting, cutting and zonation of uses of forests, and a regulation on soils, water and wetlands concerns management plans for forestry with the objective to protect soils, water sources, water bodies and wetlands declared priority areas for conservation by the National Commission on the Environment or under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands. Recent (since 2011) regulations cover species conservation status and the drafting of species action plans; see Table 2.
43. Chile’s NBSAP’s second objective calls for the preservation of species, and specifically to prioritize conservation efforts for endangered species. Chile’s 4th national report references the extinction of at least two species of vertebrates, and prioritizes the development of policies to protected species in danger of extinction and to promote actions to recuperate the most threatened species.

Table 2. Summary of Chilean Environmental Legislation

Regulation	Description
Chile’s Environmental Framework Law - Law N° 19.300, Title I, Article 2, 1994	Requires impact assessments, public participation and management plans.
Hunting Regulation - Law N° 4601, Ministry of Agriculture Decree N°5, 1998	Regulates hunting and capture of wildlife, including amphibians. The hunting of capture of treated species is prohibited.
Recovery and Promotion of Native Forest Law, N° 20.283	Corresponds to the law that establishes regulations for the cutting of forest in Chile. Determines zones for forestry use.
Regulation for soils, water and wetlands, Ministry of Agriculture Decree N° 82, 2010	A regulation of the Native Forest Law.
Regulation for the Classification of Species Conservation Status, Ministry of Environment Decree N° 29, 2011	Establishes national official process to classify native species according to their conservation status using the same criteria as IUCN.
Regulation for the Drafting of Plans for the Recovery, Conservation and Management of Species, Ministry of Environment, Decree N° 1, 2014	Establishes an official national process to draft recovery, conservation or management plan for a threatened species.

Madagascar

44. The scope of biodiversity conservation in Madagascar, long a global priority, greatly increased in 1990 with the launch of the first National Environmental Action Plan. Since then, three NEAPs, covering 1990–1995, 1995–2000 and 2000–2005 have been implemented, and some planned action for NEAP III still continues. These established the conservation system for the country, including new parastatal institutions such as a National Environment Office (ONE) and Protected Area Management Agency (ANGAP; now Madagascar National Parks), capacity-building at all levels of Government, and a range of new policies and directorates including one for Environmental Mainstreaming (within the Ministry of Environment, Ecology, Sea and Forests). Madagascar has ratified the main multilateral environmental agreements. Under the NEAP and other plans and programmes, conservation strategies, broadly, have targeted ecosystems. A range of systematic conservation planning exercises included the definition and identification of Important Bird Areas (IBAs) and more recently Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs). National Parks and other strict categories had been the mainstay of the Protected Areas network; this had already begun to change when, at the 2003 World Parks Congress, the Government announced a plan to treble its coverage using new governance systems to place management of natural ecosystems on a more sustainable footing, for the benefit of the country and its people as well as for global benefits. This new set of protected areas is in the process of creation, and indeed temporarily protected areas have now met the target. The management approach is based increasingly on landscape protection.
45. The **Environmental Charter**, basis of national environmental policy in Madagascar, was the subject of Laws 90-033 of 21 December 1990 and 97-012 of 6 June 1997. It defines the framework to implementation of this policy by prioritizing the mobilization and participation at all levels, with a particular focus on empowering local communities to support the protection and management of their land. Periodic national plans have made the environment and conservation an engine of sustainable development for the population, an approach recently reaffirmed by the President (at World Parks Congress 2014). Several objectives of this national policy apply to the sustainable management of natural resources. The environmental charter and the national strategy for the management of biodiversity (below) govern all laws on biodiversity.
46. **National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP)** - Madagascar’s NBSAP (2002) is referred to as its National Strategy for Sustainable Management of Biodiversity, and is a strategy for implementing plans and policies in accordance with environmental law. The three strategic axes of the NBSAP are those of the CBD itself: conservation of biological diversity, sustainable use of its components and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources. These objectives are based on the combination of conservation and restoration on one hand, and that of the ecology and the economy on the other hand to ensure management effectiveness.
47. The NBSAP process in Madagascar focuses on two levels: ecosystems and genetic resources. Conservation of genetic resources concerns firstly the conservation management of forest genetic resources and wild fauna, to maintain viable populations in and outside their natural habitat. The goal is to put in place management systems for the species on the Red List and CITES appendices. The first area of strategic focus – conservation of biodiversity – is relevant to AZE sites and species. Adopted in 2002 and therefore somewhat outdated, Madagascar’s NBSAP is currently being reformulated.

48. The **PoWPA Action Plan** for Madagascar prioritises actions for PA management between 2012 and 2020. The plan is focused on governance (management structure, management effectiveness with involvement of local communities), management (management plans, monitoring and evaluation, enforcement), promotion and economic development (income generating activities, ecotourism, hydrological and agricultural works etc.) as well as sustainable financing for sites.
49. **Protected Area** policy, including types, governance and management of Protected Areas, are defined by the Protected Areas Code (COAP). The COAP is a law that integrates the various provisions for protected areas. It establishes the Madagascar Protected Areas System (SAPM), which comprises the sites and ecosystems representative of Madagascar's biodiversity and natural heritage. The COAP has as a fundamental principle the conservation and promotion of natural and cultural heritage, education towards better recognition of the richness of this heritage and contribution to sustainable economic and social development. The previous COAP has been updated recently because of incompatibility with the inclusion of protected areas in IUCN categories III, V and VI. The design of the new law is based on three main principles:
- good governance which emphasizes modern management of protected areas;
 - promotion of sustainable use of natural resources for poverty reduction and development;
 - involvement of local communities and all stakeholders, including openness to new actors (local authorities and all relevant sectors), is required during all phases of protected area creation, towards management and conservation of natural resources.
- The bill to overhaul the former COAP, after confirmation by both houses of parliament in 2008, has received Notice of Compliance from the High Constitutional Court. A new COAP including IUCN category III, V et VI is now available. The remaining step is the enactment of the legislation; the application texts are currently being developed.
50. **The Protected Area Network Management Plan** (PlanGRAP) is developed by Madagascar National Parks. To prepare the first PlanGRAP, a series of workshops were organized to bring together scientists and experts from partner organizations to examine scientific evidence and identify areas to protect to ensure the representation of the natural heritage. PlanGRAP also defined the structure of the National Protected Area Network in terms of category I (Strict Nature Reserve), II (National Parks) and IV (Special Reserve) Protected Areas, but also proposed management strategies and priorities for every five year period since 2000 for all of MNP’s operational sectors, including conservation, research, support to local development, ecotourism, and environmental education.
51. **National Development Plan:** This plan is currently being finalised by the new administration, as a high-level document to steer national economic development. Details are not currently available but are expected to include the core principle outlined by the President in his World Parks Congress (Sydney) address in 2014, of placing the conservation of natural capital, always with the participation of local communities, at the heart of the national strategy for sustainable development (see 2.4).

Environmental Impact Assessment

52. MECIE (Development of Investment Compatibility with the Environment) is a decree with application provided for by tools including a General Guideline for conduct of environmental impact assessment, Environmental Assessment Guide, Compliance Guide, Environmental Audit Guide, Assessment Guide for ‘Sensitive Sites’ especially wetlands, Guides for Regional and Local Authorities and various sectoral guides including Protected Areas projects.

Elaboration of further tools continues. The inclusion of Protected Areas projects under MECIE makes it significant to AZE, indicating the need to include the National Environment Office in capacity development initiatives in relation to AZE.

Institutions

Global

53. **BirdLife International** is a global Partnership of 120 national conservation NGOs, one per country; Partner countries include Brazil, Chile and Madagascar. The BirdLife partnership has 6 Regional BirdLife Coordination Offices throughout the world and a Global Office in Cambridge, UK – together known as The BirdLife International Secretariat. The Secretariat, a UK-registered NGO, co-ordinates and facilitates BirdLife strategies, programmes and policies, and will be responsible for execution of this project. BirdLife is a founding member of the Alliance for Zero Extinction, and is represented on the AZE global steering committee. It also holds and manages the World Biodiversity Database, maintains the global Red List for birds, and manages, in partnership with CI, UNEP-WCMC and IUCN, the Integrated Biodiversity Assessment Tool (IBAT – see below). Both the World Biodiversity Database and IBAT recognise AZE sites.
54. The BirdLife Partnership’s structure may be described as ‘local to global’. One of its most distinctive approaches is to support the emergence and strengthening of organisations at the site or community level, that share BirdLife’s objectives, and are committed to site or species conservation. The 2000-plus Local Conservation Groups (LCGs) reflect the diversity of culture, history, legislation and social norms in different places. This results in appropriate and effective responses at the site level that would be very unlikely to be achieved solely through externally managed interventions.
55. The **American Bird Conservancy** is a founding member and current Chair of the global Secretariat for the Alliance for Zero Extinction (AZE). American Bird Conservancy is a not-for profit organization whose mission is to conserve native birds and their habitats throughout the Americas, and uses AZE as guiding principle to prioritize areas for conservation programs. As Chair of AZE, American Bird Conservancy staff are responsible for convening the AZE Steering Committee and communicating with AZE members, .
56. **International Financial Institutions** (IFIs), which include Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs), such as the World Bank, are the largest source of development finance in the world. These institutions are also a primary source of development and environment knowledge, particularly the World Bank, publishing research that frames the debate on conservation and sustainable use of the environment that leads to sustainable growth. Other donor and finance institutions often take their lead from the World Bank and other leading MDBs in adopting their safeguards during co-investment processes thus magnifying the impact of those institutions’ lending policies and approaches.
57. IFI investments and subsequent policy reforms in developing countries are intended to reduce poverty and encourage economic development. However, investments with poor or non-existent environmental safeguards have often caused widespread environmental damage including irreversible impacts on natural habitats. Due diligence is often carried out without the informed participation of affected people, NGOs, and in some cases, without following the legislative requirements of the Banks’ borrowing countries. Other financial institutions such as the **Equator Principle Financial Institutions** (EPFIs) have signed up to incorporate Environmental and Social risk in their investments and other publicly financed financial institutions and agencies have a great responsibility to integrate Environmental and Social risk

in their investments. Particularly if investments target developing countries and critical habitats it is crucial to incorporate environmental best practices, standards and guidelines in their project due diligence.

58. Leading public financial institutions such as MDBs are mandated to incorporate environmental impacts in project finance and therefore possess the means and incentive to finance internal capacity building and training programmes in the use of environmental data. However, other institutions including many in the private sector do not possess the same incentive or resources.
59. The **Integrated Biodiversity Assessment Tool (IBAT)**, developed by the IBAT Alliance provides up-to-date biodiversity information to decision-makers from the private and public sectors through a single, reliable web-resource. IBAT provides investors, companies, consultancies and government agencies with globally compiled spatial and tabular data drawn from established sources on protected areas (World Database on Protected Areas), sites of global conservation importance (Key Biodiversity Areas, including Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas and Alliance for Zero Extinction sites) and globally threatened species (the IUCN Red List). This data may be used for integrated planning and investor risk information.

Brazil

60. The main institutions related with biodiversity conservation, MMA (Ministry of Environment), ICMBio (Chico Mendes Institute for Biodiversity Conservation), MDA (Ministry of Rural Development), MDS (Ministry of Social Development), SFB (Brazilian Forest Service), OEMAS (Environmental State Organizations), ANATER (National Agency for Technical Support and Extension). The Ministry of Environment (MMA) promotes the adoption of principles and strategies for knowledge, protection and restoration of the environment, the sustainable use of natural resources, the enhancement of environmental services and the integration of sustainable development in the formulation and implementation of public policies, in a cross-cutting, participatory and democratic manner at all levels of government and society. The areas of responsibility of the MMA are: i) National environmental and water resources; ii) Preservation, conservation and sustainable use of ecosystems and biodiversity and forests; iii) Strategies, mechanisms and economic and social instruments to improve environmental quality and sustainable use of natural resources; iv) Policies for the integration of environment and production; v) Environmental policies and programs for the Legal Amazon, and vi) Ecological-economic zoning.
61. The mandate of the Chico Mendes Institute (ICMBio) is to protect the natural heritage and promote environmental development. It manages the Federal Conservation Units, promoting the environmental development of the communities in CUs under the sustainable use category, research and knowledge management (including the publication of the red list of threatened species), environmental education and promoting ecological management. Through its Social and Environmental Management Area, ICMBio supports communities in CUs to formulate and implement natural resource management projects.
62. The Brazilian Forest Service (SFB) has the mission to reconcile the use and conservation of forests, valuing them for the benefit of present and future generations, through the management of public forests, the construction of knowledge, capacity building and provision of specialized services. The SFB, through the National Center for Forest Management (CENAFLOR) seeks to improve the management, production, processing and commercialization of agro-extractive and forestry products and services. It provides training

for those involved in the management of NTFPs, especially to the Technical Assistance and Rural Extension Agency with emphasis on forestry activities.

63. State departments of agriculture and environment (OEMA) are charged with planning, promoting, organizing, directing, coordinating, implementing, regulating, monitoring and evaluating the sectoral actions in regards to promotion and development of agribusiness at state level. The themes covered by OEMA’s include family farming and agroforestry activities, use of renewable natural resources, sustainable development of the rural environment and quality management, transportation, storage, marketing and distribution of products. The project will cover six States, including Minas Gerais and Bahia, where the Mata do Passarihno Reserve is located.

Chile

64. The Ministry of Environment (MMA) has the primary responsibilities of designing, regulating, planning and applying the country's environmental policies and programs. It is also committed to protecting and preserving renewable natural resources, including local biodiversity and water resources, and promoting sustainable development in Chile. The Ministry was created in 2010, by Statute 20.417, thereby assuming the responsibilities of the national environmental authority Conama.
65. The Ministry of Agriculture is responsible for three key agencies, National Forest Corporation (CONAF), Livestock and Agriculture Service (SAG), and Agricultural Development Institute (INDAP). CONAF is a private, non-profit organization through which the Chilean state contributes to the development and sustainable management of the country's forest resources. The mission of CONAF is to contribute to the sustainable management of native forests, xerophytic formations and forest plantations through the advocacy, monitoring of forest and environmental legislation and the protection of vegetation resources and the conservation of biodiversity through the National System of Protected Wilderness Areas, for the benefit of society. The Livestock and Agriculture Service (SAG) is responsible for export certification of Chilean forestry and agricultural products, regulation and protecting the health of agricultural and forestry sectors, and is also responsible for applying the Hunting Law that restricts the capture and hunting of native species. The Agricultural Development Institute (INDAP) established by Law 18.910, and amended by Law 19,213 in May 1993, is mandated to promote economic, social and technological development of small farmers and peasants, in order to help increase their business, organizational and commercial capacity, integration and rural development process while optimizing the use of productive resources.
66. The Ministry of National Heritage is responsible for recognizing, administering and managing the fiscal patrimony of all Chileans, assigning tax on areas of importance for the conservation of species that occur on national public property (not private lands). It is the entity responsible for delegating administration in other agencies, such as CONAF in the case of protected areas of the state (National System of protected Wilderness areas).

Madagascar

67. The key Government agencies responsible for biodiversity conservation is the Ministry of Environment, Ecology, Sea and Forests, which includes the Directorate for Environmental Mainstreaming; the latter is the focal point for this project as designated by the GEF Operational Focal Point. Other relevant Directorates are the Directorate for Biodiversity Conservation and Protected Areas System, Directorate for Promotion of Natural Resources, and Directorate of Programming, Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation.

68. Two parastatal agencies will also be involved. First is the National Environmental Office (ONE). Its role is to assure the application of the MECIE decree (above) on EIA under the supervision of the Ministry of Environment, Ecology, Sea and Forests). ONE issues Certificates of Conformity with the environment in relation to investments.
69. The second parastatal is Madagascar National Parks (formerly Association Nationale de Gestion des Aires Protégées, ANGAP), the mission of which is to conserve and sustainably manage a national network of Parks and Reserves representative of the natural heritage of Madagascar. MNP was created during the first phase (1990-1995) of the National Environmental Action Plan. It promotes and manages protected areas in categories I, II and IV following the PlanGRAP (see above), but not categories III, V and VI, which were introduced more recently by the new Protected Areas Code (COAP, above).

Protected Area System Overview with respect to AZE Sites

70. The Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity has undertaken an initiative to support Aichi Target 11. The Secretariat, in collaboration with UNEP-WCMC, EU-JRC, Birdlife International, AZE, IUCN-WCPA, IUCN and UNDP, is preparing country dossiers identifying the gaps in each country in terms of coverage of IBAs, KBAs, AZEs, terrestrial and marine ecological regions, management effectiveness, governance, connectivity, etc. The dossiers are constructed from NBSAP, PoWPA Action Plans and GEF projects and invite attention to the priority actions for filling protected area gaps. Dossiers have been prepared for Uganda and India thus far.
71. A brief summary of the national protected area systems with respect to representation of AZE sites for each of the demonstration countries follows. See **Appendix 18** for supporting information including tables and maps indicating AZE representation in these national protected area systems.

Chile

72. Chile’s national protected area system covers over 30 million hectares. This vast area is contained in 157 protected areas classified in seven levels of protection, including national parks (35), reserves (49), natural monuments (16), nature sanctuary (42), marine park (2), marine reserve (5) and costal marine area (8). An additional 308 Private Conservation Areas have been identified covering 1.65 million hectares (UNDP-GEF project *Building a comprehensive National Protected Area System for Chile: a financial and operational framework*). Despite this large extent of coverage, still 40% of terrestrial ecosystems have some level of threat; of which 12% has no protection and 25% has less than 1% area under protection. An analysis of formal protection status of AZE sites is planned in this project. This gap analysis is likely to reveal that several species lie in poorly protected ecosystems given their highly threatened status. Areas for new protection or increased protection are planned; for instance, in this project Isla Mocha Reserve will be upgraded to a National Park, thereby offering increased protection to AZE amphibian species.

Brazil

73. An analysis reported in the Fourth National Report to the CBD documented 1,963 protected areas in Brazil, including federal, state, municipal as well as private areas (RPPN). These areas covered a total of 1,539,416 km², over 17% of the nation’s territory. Despite this vast area under formal protection, still only 6.8% of the Atlantic Forest biome (75,471 km²) fell within federal, state and municipal protected areas. As mentioned in section 2.7, a GEF project will inform efforts to increase the national protected area network in several critical biomes

that are under-represented in the national protected area system: Amazon, Caatinga and Cerrado. An unpublished gap analysis performed by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Alliance for Zero Extinction, reported the area of Brazil AZE sites to cover 46,325 km². Over half of AZE sites, 28,444 km² (61%), fell within existing protected areas based on a spatial analysis using the World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA). The Brazil Alliance for Zero Extinction conducted an analysis of the national AZE sites led by Fundacao Biodiversitas, concluding that 19 AZE sites have no protection, eight are partially protected and only five are protected by Integral Protection Conservation Units. The Atlantic Forest and the Cerrado, both Brazilian biodiversity hotspots, had the highest concentrations of AZE sites, with 16 sites in the Atlantic Forest, eight in the Cerrado, followed by three in the Caatinga, and two in the Amazon and Pampas, respectively.

74. The National System of Nature Conservation Units (SNUC) was launched in 2002, comprising the federal, state and municipal Conservation Units (CU). The SNUC consists of 12 CU categories with different protection and use objectives that vary from areas with integral protection to areas that can be sustainably used and conserved. The SNUC covers 17,4% (16,9% terrestrial and 1,5% coastal) of the country’s territory, of which 13,8% comprises CUs under the sustainable use categories, which are the home of traditional communities that depend on biodiversity for their livelihood. Traditional peoples and communities not inhabiting sustainable use reserves live in communal areas, rural settlements and private properties. The Environment National Council (CONAMA), MMA, ICMBIO and the Brazilian Environment Institute (IBAMA) are in charge of managing the SNUC.

Madagascar

75. Following the creation of the first Protected Areas during the colonial period, Madagascar significantly added to these through its 15-year National Environmental Action Plan. By 2002, after the first two phases of the NEAP (1990-2000), the Government had created a Protected Area network covering 1.8 million ha (3.1% of the country), mainly National Parks, Strict Nature Reserves and Special Reserves, managed largely on principles of strict exclusion and/or prohibition of resource use by local people (Categories I, II and IV). In 2003, at the World Parks Congress in Durban, the Malagasy Government committed to the establishment of new Protected Areas to bring the total up to 6.9 million ha.
76. The first inter-ministerial Decree post-Durban was published in 2004. Between 2004 and 2006, exploitation permits could not be issued in 7.7 million ha of “Zones reserved for conservation sites”, which were seen as potential area new protected areas. Based on new analysis, a second inter-ministerial Decree was issued in 2006, preventing the issuance of new forest and mining permits between 2006 and 2008. The third inter-ministerial Decree in 2008 temporarily protected an area of 6.4 million, closing it to new mining permits, with a view to the sites acquiring permanent protection status as long as certain criteria were met and agreed procedures followed. The new Protected Areas Code was issued in order to allow establishment of new protected areas in the previously unavailable categories III, V and VI, with increasing local community participation, which was a key deficiency in the earlier Protected Area models. Other new protected areas (NAPs) are currently being created to finalise achievement of the 2003 target.
77. Ministerial decree 9874/2013 of 6 May 2013 extended the period for maintaining temporary protection of new protected areas until May 2015, this becoming the deadline for meeting the criteria for permanent protection. The recently elected President recently (at the World Parks Congress, Sydney, 2014) affirmed his Government’s commitment to achieving the target by the same deadline. At the same time, the President committed to place the conservation of

natural capital, always with the participation of local communities, at the heart of the national strategy for sustainable development, with two additional promises: to triple the area of marine protected areas; and to eradicate trafficking of natural resources, including valuable timber such as rosewood.

2.5. Stakeholder mapping and analysis

78. The project will be implemented in line with established UNEP consultative procedures and those of the three national executing partner entities. During the PPG phase, the management, coordination and consultation mechanisms were defined, and a broader stakeholder mechanism, to involve representatives of the local communities or grassroots organizations or Community Based Organizations (CBOs) at the identified project sites, also established. This will ensure the broad participation in planning, consultation and lesson learning during project implementation.

Table 3. List of project stakeholders and their roles by country

Stakeholders	Mandate and role / interest in the project
GLOBAL	
Convention on Biological Diversity Secretariat	The project targets CBD mechanisms (see Institutions, in section 2.4 Institutional, sectoral and policy context), and so the CBD’s global secretariat will be a key stakeholder supporting the mainstreaming of AZE especially at national levels
International Financial Institutions	IFIs (especially Multilateral Development Banks and Equator Principle Banks) are key stakeholders; see <i>Institutions</i> , in section 2.4 Institutional, sectoral and policy context, for the priorities.
International conservation organisations	AZE and this project are of clear interest to biodiversity conservation organisations, shown in most cases by their existing membership of the alliance. All are regularly involved in discussion on AZE, with several represented on the AZE steering committee. All the largest international organisations (for example Conservation International, IUCN, The Nature Conservancy, WCS, WWF), as well smaller NGOs and national organisations with an international outlook, are already members of the Alliance for Zero Extinction. They are variously involved in policy mainstreaming, science and site/species conservation initiatives, in which areas any and all may engage with the project. IUCN works closely with BirdLife on the Red List and List of Key Biodiversity Areas and is expected to be represented, among others, on the project steering committee.
BRAZIL	
Ministry of Environment, Brazil	The Secretariat of Biodiversity and Forests, Department of Biodiversity Conservation will play a leadership role directing project activities. The Department of Protected Areas will help with protected area documentation and registration. In particular MMA will host AZE expert workshops and coordinate mainstreaming of AZE into national planning and mainstreaming into NBSAP and PoWPA action plans and their implementation.
Chico Mendes Institute for Biodiversity Conservation (ICMBio)	Federal institution responsible for creating and managing protected areas, and defining and implementing strategies for biodiversity conservation, particularly regarding threatened species, and sustainable use of biodiversity in protected areas of sustainable use.
Fundacao Biodiversitas	Civil society institution that owns and operates the Mata do Passarinho Reserve, an AZE site for Stresemann’s Bristlefront. Biodiversitas led the creation of BAZE, including production of a

Stakeholders	Mandate and role / interest in the project
	review and mapping of national AZE sites, as well as a website. Prior to the creation of ICMBio, Biodiversitas spearheaded the publication of a national red list for Brazil.
Conservation organisations: the Brazilian Alliance for Zero Extinction (BAZE)	Stakeholder conservation organisations are comprehensively included in this alliance and the next listed (AMANE, see below). BAZE is an Alliance of over 40 organizations and biodiversity experts committed to protection of AZE sites in Brazil. Leading conservation institutions supporting AZE site protection activities include SAVE Brazil (BirdLife in Brazil), SOS Mata Atlântica, Biodiversitas and Aquasis. SAVE Brazil will implement work at a replication site, lead consultations on AZE priorities in Pernambuco State, and participate actively in other national level activities. See Appendix 18 for the complete list of BAZE members.
Conservation organisations: Association for the Protection of the Northeastern Atlantic Forest (AMANE)	A group of eight NGOs focused on protection of Atlantic Forest in Murici, Pernambuco, including Centro de Pesquisas Ambientais do Nordeste – CEPAN, Sociedade Nordestina de Ecologia – SNE, Instituto Amigos da Reserva da Biosfera da Mata Atlântica – IA RBMA, Conservação Internacional (CI-Brasil), The Nature Conservancy – TNC, Birdlife International – BI through SAVE Brasil; WWF–Brasil and Fundação SOS Mata Atlântica – SOS.
State government, Bahia and Minas Gerais	State governments with authority over implementation of various environmental policies, including the protection of Atlantic Forest, the compliance of the Rural Environmental Cadaster (CAR), a fundamental tool for the environmental regularization process of rural properties and the creation of private reserves (RPPN). The Mata do Passarinho Reserve is located within both of these states.
Local communities and private landowners	Two impoverished communities, Ribeiro and Canada (230 people total), are located in the buffer area of Mata do Passarinho Reserve. They own small parcels of land for subsistence agriculture and several dozen individuals take part in the cooperative reforestation company established by this project. Additionally, two dozen large landowners own cattle ranches (>250 ha/farm) surrounding the reserve. These landowners are required under law (The Brazilian Forest Code and The Atlantic Forest Law), to protect Atlantic Forest and will engage in reforestation or legal protection of forested portions of their properties – for instance through establishing private reserves (RPPNs).
Private sector	Brazil’s private sector is actively supporting threatened species conservation. Boticario, a cosmetics company, has funded several of the civil society organizations involved in this project, including Aquasis and SAVE Brasil, and provides a platform for leadership within Brazil on endangered species work. The oil company Petrobras has invested in basic infrastructure at the Mata do Passarinho Reserve; community outreach through this earlier initiative has included establishing a sustainable, cooperative business model that employs impoverished communities in reforestation of the reserve and surrounding areas.
CHILE	
Ministry of Environment, Chile	Lead government agency for this project responsible for project management, coordinate research permitting, protected area documentation and registration. In particular MMA will host AZE expert workshops and coordinate mainstreaming of AZE into national planning and mainstreaming into NBSAP and PoWPA action plans and their implementation.

Corporación Nacional Forestal (CONAF), Región del Biobío.	Department of Agriculture agency responsible for Isla Mocha Reserve management. CONAF is the protected area decision-making authority and will be responsible for community outreach, research, and amphibian biosecurity measures.
Agricultural and Livestock Service (SAG)	SAG is a public entity in the Ministry of Agriculture that is responsible for export certification of Chilean forestry and agricultural products, regulation and protecting the health of agricultural and forestry sectors. It is also responsible for the implementation of the Hunting Act, and as such is the state agency that regulates hunting and capture of native wildlife in Chile.
National Institute of Agricultural Development (INDAP), Chile	INDAP is a public entity in the Ministry of Agriculture that supports the production and sustainable development of smallholder farms with an aim to promote technological development in this sector and improve its commercial, entrepreneurial and organizational performance. Coordination of outreach and best management practices with cattle ranchers and timber harvest.
Regional Government, Biobío Region and Lebu Municipality	Regional and local governments with local authority over land titling, natural resources, tourism, etc.
Consultative Committee Reserva Nacional Isla Mocha	Created with assistance from CONAF to strengthen management of the reserve through participatory process and can help advise on various project components and liaise with community associations and individuals.
Community groups on Isla Mocha.	Community-based Fishing Association has commercial interests associated with fisheries surrounding the island, and the parent Association at the local school will take part in community outreach program conducted at schools.
Conservation organisations	The Chilean conservatino organisation OIKONOS is currently implementing work on Isla Mocha to benefit Pink-footed Shearwater, including monitoring and research and community outreach. Island Conservation is involved in implementation of active GEF-funded project on removal of invasive species on the island. Expertise with other project elements such as biosecurity, technical support
National Committee on Defense of Flora and Fauna (CODEFF)	BirdLife Partner in Chile, engaged in related GEF projects and implementing related threatened species projects, and will engage with national outcomes in relation to CBD in this project.
Ministry of National Heritage	Recognizes, administers and manages the fiscal patrimony of all Chileans by assigning tax on areas of importance for the conservation of species that occur on public property.
Private sector	The forestry sector is of particular relevance to this project given the impact on AZE sites caused by logging. The Law for the Recovery of Native Forest and Forestry Promotion (2008) and a GEF project (ID 3951) ending in 2015, have enabled and engaged the private sector in sustainable forestry practices, including Forestry Stewardship Council certification. Several companies are actively supporting conservation programs, including Forestal Arauco, Forestal Minico and Pioneer.
MADAGASCAR	
Ministry of Environment, Ecology, Sea and Forests (MEEMF) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Directorate of Environment (DGE) • Directorate of Environmental Mainstreaming (DIDE) • Department for Biodiversity 	<p>The Ministry represents the Malagasy government for this project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The DGE is responsible for coordination (and the GEF OFP is the Director General of Environment) • DIDE is the project focal point responsible for the integration of AZE strategy into national policies. • DCBSAP is responsible for the implementation of the two national plans that are key to the project, NBSAP and PoWPA.

<p>Conservation and Protected Area System (DCBSAP)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Directorate of Promotion of Forest Resources (DVRF) • Directorate of Planning, Programming and Monitoring (DPPSE) • Regional Directorates of Environment, Ecology and Forests (DREEF) • District Forest Offices (‘Cantonnement Forestier’) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DVRF is responsible for national obligations under CITES, including some AZE trigger species. • DPPSE is responsible for monitoring and evaluation of environmental projects. • DREEF and the District Forest Offices are the representatives of the Ministry at subnational (Region and District) levels; the demonstration site is in Anosy Region, Tolagnaro District, and these two entities are directly involved in forest resource management and law enforcement.
<p>National Environment Office (ONE)</p>	<p>ONE, a parastatal attached to MEEMF, ensures the implementation of the MECIE decree – investment compatibility with the environment (effectively EIA), including impacts on species and sites, and new Protected Areas are subject to environment permits issued by ONE.</p>
<p>Madagascar Protected Areas System Commission (SAPM Commission)</p>	<p>An Government-Civil Society (national and international) commission hosted by MEEMF; responsible, through working groups, for technical and administrative support to implementation of the target to treble the Protected Areas coverage in Madagascar.</p>
<p>Regional, District and Commune Government</p>	<p>These represent the hierarchy of local administrative units below Province. In the SE, where the project’s demonstration site (Tsitongambarika Forest) is located, Anosy Region is member of the Steering and Monitoring Committee of new Protected Areas. Communes are responsible for coordination of regional planning at local (municipal) level. The demonstration site overlaps 15 Communes.</p>
<p>Private Sector</p>	<p>Ecotourism, mining and oil industries are those most concerned with conservation of highly threatened species. The exceptional character of AZE sites and species is of great interest to tourists, and thus also tour operators. Certain mining and oil companies, all subject to environmental and biodiversity safeguards (above), have taken strong action to maintain biodiversity through a hierarchy of mitigation actions, including in some cases biodiversity offsetting. One such is Rio Tinto QMM, a company owned by Rio Tinto and the Government of Madagascar, which operates the first large-scale ilmenite mining operation in Madagascar, close to Tolagnaro. The company has committed to achieving the goal of Net Positive Impact on biodiversity in relation to this operation, as the pilot of a policy it is rolling out world-wide, and has selected part of Tsitongambarika as part of its composite offset programme.</p>
<p>Conservation organisations</p>	<p>Asity Madagascar (BirdLife Partner in Madagascar), Madagasikara Voakajy, ONG Fanamby, WWF, Conservation International, Missouri Botanical Garden, Wildlife Conservation Society, Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust and The Peregrine Fund are the most active civil society organisations working on the conservation of highly endangered biodiversity in Madagascar; accordingly, these are also the most important organisations in identifying and maintaining information on AZE Sites and Species in Madagascar, as well as in implementing projects for their conservation. As such, they are likely (and enthusiastic) to form part of a national Alliance or partnership (see Appendix 17 re. project development workshop). Only the first three named are national organisations; the rest are international. A national alliance, called Alliance Voahary Gasy, has</p>

	also been created as a platform for good management of biodiversity, with membership of national organisations; Asity Madagascar, Madagasikara Voakajy and ONG Fanamby are all members.
Local NGOs and community-based organisations	A range of local organisations has been created in order to implement community-based conservation programmes. The example of Tsitongambarika, the main project site in Madagascar, is typical. KOMFITA, a platform, or forum, representing the local community, co-manages the site with Asity Madagascar. Grassroots Communities (Communautés locales de Base or CoBa) are the fundamental units of the community-based management structure (and, in the BirdLife model, the Local Conservation Groups, with support from the national Partner Asity Madagascar accordingly); they undertake management and conservation action on the ground, and are the focal point for capacity-building on natural resource management. Their representatives form KOMFITA. The project will work directly with village-based farmers to reduce deforestation at the site by providing locally preferred alternative farming and revenue generating techniques, accompanied by awareness-raising programmes.

2.6. Baseline analysis and gaps

Outcome 1.1. Creation and improved management effectiveness of protected areas covering at least 160,000 ha of AZE sites, with improved conservation status of at least 27 AZE species at a total of five demonstration sites in Brazil, Chile and Madagascar and at an additional 10 sites globally.

Brazil

79. The publication by MMA in 2015 of a new national list of threatened taxa identifies more than twice as many threatened species as in previous lists. This presents both an opportunity and a challenge to curb the loss of species, many of which are unique to Brazil. The current AZE sites identified for Brazil will require revision given the publication of the new national red list. During the project preparation workshop, ICMBio leadership acknowledged the challenge presented by the large number of species (or taxonomic groups) requiring Species Action Plans following the publication of the new national red list. The fourth national report to the CBD recognized the slow pace at which ICMBio has produced Species Action Plans, and that further support is needed although creating action plans for similar species has afforded increased efficiency. Many AZE sites harbour multiple species in Brazil, and ICMBio can author plans based on species whose entire remaining population occupy one site. Funding for this activity can be co-financed by the government. These Plans form a significant body of Government policy, with wide consultation with leading experts in the country; as such, they will orient future conservation and management action on the ground.

80. Despite substantial current investment to save the Stresemann’s Bristlefront, the situation is dire and requires further effort. The Stresemann’s Bristlefront *Merulaxis stresemanni* has an estimated global population of between 10 and 15 individuals. In order to curb the threats to the remaining population of fire, logging, and habitat clearance for pastures and agriculture, a private reserve was established in 2007 by Fundacao Biodiversitas, called the Mata do Passarinho Reserve. The extent of its known current habitat is 5,000 ha of partially fragmented forest, with 4,300 ha still unprotected. Presently, 654 ha are protected in the Mata do Passarinho Reserve. While the current reserve protects all known locations of the Stresemann’s Bristlefront, given the species larger historic range, it is possible the bird is

located in remaining fragments surrounding the reserve. Plans are in place to acquire additional properties, totalling 387 hectares, with project co-financing. Monitoring for the species is underway by forest guards employed by Fundacao Biodiversitas and this project aims to fund additional surveys in the northern section of the reserve as well as forest fragments surrounding the reserve. Little is known of the species habitat requirements or behaviour. The bird is quite distinct from other tapaculos, the taxonomic group it belongs to. Any effort to improve basic understanding of the bird needs to simultaneously seek to stabilize or improve the population. Little is known about this or other ground-nesting species and it is thought that nesting cavities may be a factor limiting population size. No nest have been found to date, and experimentation with nest cavities may reveal important characteristics of the species habits, and at best, may result in successful nests that produce offspring and increase the size of the population.

81. Ongoing management costs for the reserve are a challenge. A business plan for the reserve is being produced with support from American Bird Conservancy and Fundacao Biodiversitas. A draft business plan contains several elements to produce income for the reserve that will support future operation costs. Tourism is an important, nascent activity in the reserve. An ecolodge was recently constructed for tourism and research purposes with support from Petrobras and American Bird Conservancy; the lodge will start to receive visitors during the first semester of 2015. A visitor center will start to operate at the same time, for meetings, courses and an environmental education program. .
82. Minimizing pressures on the protected forests of the Mata do Passarinho Reserve is an ongoing challenge. With support from Petrobras and American Bird Conservancy, the reserve has expanded patrols with the addition of vital infrastructure and equipment. The reserve headquarters and two guard posts were built inside the reserve, one for each of the two entrances, and patrols operate weekly on existing trails. There is a four-wheel drive vehicle and horses to support management activities, and maintenance of this vehicle over three years is included in the project budget. In early 2015, Biodiversitas began constructing fencing and firebreaks surrounding the reserve, which will minimize encroaching fire from surrounding cattle ranches. In addition, Biodiversitas began a reforestation program by planting 60,000 native trees on 60 hectares to reduce the impacts of habitat fragmentation on the target species with prior support from Petrobras and American Bird Conservancy. The bird is a ground-dwelling species that is likely restricted to dense forest and does not cross open areas, such as cattle pasture. Of the 654-ha reserve, almost 200 ha still require reforestation. This project aims to continue this habitat restoration program by cultivating native tree seedlings in an existing nursery and then transplanting 40,000 saplings onto 40 ha within the. This project element has the additional benefit of employing local communities to conduct work in the tree nursery as well as planting in the reserve. By involving neighbouring communities in these activities, this project is building community ownership and pride in reforesting the reserve, which in turn may minimize future pressure to the forest. In conjunction with reforestation activities, the reserve will begin to produce cacao on a small plot of land already degraded by forest. This activity is developed further in the reserve business plan in draft and, together with tourism income, will provide vital financial sustainability to the reserve beyond this project.
83. Pressure from unprotected lands beyond the Mata do Passarinho Reserve needs to be addressed to ensure the long-term survival of the Stresemann’s Bristlefront. In order to downlist its threatened status from critically endangered over time, more habitat will be required beyond the relatively small reserve. In year one of this project, we will hire consultants to formulate protected area scenarios and provide recommendations regarding the creation of public or private areas. Fortunately, existing laws restrict the felling of Atlantic

Forest and this project aims to support the implementation of current regulations to enforce the Brazilian Forest Code, through compliance of the Rural Environmental Cadaster (CAR), a fundamental tool for applying an environmental standard process to rural properties and also for the restoration of degraded areas and creation of ecological corridors. Furthermore, the creation of private reserves (RPPN) may be a positive solution for landowners. The creation of a site conservation map and associated data sharing platform will allow stakeholders to visualize existing forest on private lands and opportunities to plan conservation measures. Outreach to strengthen landowners’ awareness of present regulations and conservation opportunities is planned in the project. For instance, some landowners may need to conduct reforestation to comply with Atlantic Forest laws. Others may have sufficient forest and wish to create a private reserve. This project aims to assist twenty landowners to comply with the Brazilian Forest Code, through the implementation of the Rural Environmental Cadaster (CAR) and other conservation actions, such as the creation of new private reserves, on their lands.

Chile

84. Amphibians are a highly threatened taxonomic group globally, and are trigger species for roughly half of all AZE sites. Scarce, small and furtive, many species are poorly studied even despite the urgent need for information that could guide conservation. Isla Mocha National Reserve is the only site for the Critically Endangered frog, *Eupsophus insularis*. There is no baseline population trend due to a paucity of records and a lack of repeated surveys. Key threats are habitat loss caused by wood collection and cattle ranching, although the impact and pace of these threats is unquantified. The species occurs within an existing reserve which is 2,368 ha in extent and covers 45% of the island, primarily in the higher forested areas. The reserve has two staff but resources to survey and protect the AZE trigger species are lacking. Additionally, two sites, Mehuin 1 and 2, total some 60,000 hectares and represent the only place on earth for two critically endangered frog species, *Eupsophus migueli* and *Insuetophrynus acarpicus*. Efforts are desperately needed to calculate remaining populations for these three species. Chile is presently developing a national Recovery and Conservation Plan for amphibians, which outlines actions such as establishing baseline population data for these species. This project engages expert biologists at national Universities who can conduct such work.
85. All three amphibian species are affected by encroaching human activities on remaining habitat. Two species are found on private lands that have no official protected status in Mehuin while one species is found within a protected area. Loss of habitat is mainly due to agricultural and logging that exhibit poor industry practice that decrease water quality and quantity and degrade vegetation along rivers and wetlands. Existing programs within the National Forest Corporation (CONAF), Livestock and Agriculture Service (SAG), and Agricultural Development Institute (INDAP) address such practices. Equipped with specific information on the location of amphibian populations in Isla Mocha and Mehuin these agencies have an opportunity to tailor programs to curb effects of productive activities from specific, small areas without affecting the bottom line. Planned activities such as signage to restrict access to frog breeding pools will reduce risk of transmission of diseases like chytrid fungus. Also construction of fencing along forested ravines will limit access to cattle and timber harvest and thereby safeguard fragile frog populations.
86. Efforts to control exotic invasive species on Isla Mocha are underway, but are yet unproven for threatened amphibians located on the island. Eradication of invasive predators measures show promise to recover threatened Pink-footed Shearwater populations. Under GEF Project 4330 on national frameworks for Invasive Alien Species (IAS) (Table 4), Isla Mocha was

identified as one of the islands on which to develop specific actions (replicas), including hiring consultants to control IAS on the island; a first study was developed to identify exotic plants in the buffer area of the National Reserve. The IAS Project will promote practices and possible legislation that allows mitigation and prevention of adverse effects of IAS on Isla Mocha, and thereby contribute to improving the protection status of the site. In the case of amphibians, it is estimated that the presence of cats and exotic rodents could be a major threat that has not yet been quantified. The products of the IAS GEF project, particularly those related to regulation and management, will have positive collateral impacts for the AZE frog species found at the protected area on Isla Mocha, but will not address all the threats nor does it aspire to improve overall management effectiveness of the protected area.

87. An important component driving the persistence of exotic invasive species is lack of community awareness of the problems they cause, leading to continued release and support of predators such as cats. Annual soccer matches, radio programs and printed materials have proven effective in current projects to minimize threats to the Pink-footed Shearwater. Amphibians share similar predators, particularly cats, so collateral benefits are anticipated from predator control.
88. Loss of forested habitat from harvest of fuel wood is not being addressed adequately and presents an opportunity for this project to have a positive impact. Presently, the Isla Mocha Reserve Advisory Council engages local communities through regular consultation. This project could gather information regarding the quantity, location and identity of community members who collect firewood within the reserve. Mapping of key amphibian sites within the reserve along with firewood harvesting areas would reveal potential locations that require further protection. This project will raise awareness among community members through dissemination of these findings and signage within the reserve to encourage use of alternative areas and methods of fuel for cooking, such as natural gas or improved wood-burning stoves.
89. Expenditure on conservation at Isla Mocha Reserve since 2005, based on annual operations costs alone, is \$300,000. No funds have been invested to date for conservation at Mehuin, which has no current protection.

Madagascar

90. Tsitongambarika covers around 60,000 ha of mainly lowland rainforest; the largest such expanse in southern Madagascar. Tsitongambarika has been identified as a Key Biodiversity Area and also Important Bird and Biodiversity Area, with fauna and flora exceptionally rich in local endemics among plants, reptiles and amphibians, with also several very rare mammals (including one Critical and three Endangered lemurs) and birds. Of over 220 species of fauna recorded, 17 are believed to be endemic to Tsitongambarika and neighbouring forests. Five species of reptile (in the lizard genera *Brookesia*, *Lygodactylus* and *Phelsuma*, and snake genera *Liophidium* and *Liopholidophis*) and six amphibians (in the frog genera *Boophis* [2 species], *Gephyromantis*, *Mantidactylus*, *Spinomantis* and *Vatomantis*) appear, based on the views of highly experienced herpetologists, to be new to science, undescribed, and recorded only at Tsitongambarika². Based on the small extent of Tsitongambarika, and the ongoing decline in both area and quality of forest, any forest species restricted to the site must be either Endangered or Critically Endangered; these 11 undescribed species are thus presumed to be AZE species. A total of 57 threatened or locally endemic plant species include 27 that are

² A large number of reptile and amphibian species in Madagascar are undescribed, as the lengthy and expensive process of formal description of new species has not kept pace with discoveries. The high total at Tsitongambarika is extreme but in keeping with the importance of the site for other groups.

provisionally described or undescribed and known only from the site; 2 Endangered or Critical species are known only from the site and are thus unambiguously AZE species: the palm *Ravenea musicalis* (CR) and Araliaceae *Micronychia bemangidiensis* (EN). In addition, three undescribed ant species are known only from Tsitongambarika (descriptions by California Academy of Sciences in preparation), along with 23 species of mollusc (7 assessed as Critical or Endangered and therefore qualify as AZE species, and 14 not yet threat-assessed). In total, 60 Red-listed species, plus 32 undescribed species, presumed threatened, are recorded from the site. However, in view of the difficulty of identifying and monitoring ants and molluscs, for this project we refer to the AZE species of Tsitongambarika as the two plants, five reptiles and six frogs.

91. The forest provides ecological goods and services to the surrounding population; it is a carbon store, and major catchment for the water of urban centres in SE Madagascar including the town of Tolagnaro. Conscious of its ecological and socio-economic importance, policy-makers in the Anosy Region mobilized to preserve this wealth by strongly endorsing its legal protection. Thus, Tsitongambarika is one of the New Protected Areas in the process of being created in Madagascar following the target to triple protected area coverage in Madagascar by 2015.
92. The current phase of conservation effort at Tsitongambarika began with surveys by BirdLife International and Asity Madagascar in 2005 which began to show its extraordinary biological importance as described above. These were followed by a series of community-based conservation initiatives from 2006, leading to the site being granted ‘temporary’ protection status in 2008; this required exhaustive consultations, planning and implementation pilots led by Asity Madagascar, and was supported and endorsed publicly by local communities as Government; further more in-depth consultations, including development of a Social and Environmental Safeguards Plan, Management Plan and Business Plan, should lead to permanent protection status being granted in 2015. Protected Area governance uses a co-management model, shared between the local communities (through Local Conservation Groups that form KOMFITA; see *Stakeholder mapping and analysis*) and Asity Madagascar, delegated by Government.
93. The Management Plan was approved at the local, regional and national levels. A zonation system was adopted by consensus, including a Controlled Occupation Zone, Sustainable Use Zone and a Conservation (‘Core’) Zone. Implementation is covered by a five-year work-plan. The Management Plan was developed following an ecosystem approach, rather than being species-based, and so it lacks strategies and specific actions for AZE species conservation. Additional actions needed include studies on the systematics and ecology of AZE species, and on the specific threats to their survival, followed by conservation actions to reduce anthropogenic pressures on AZE species.
94. Close to (but outside) the forest, the mining company Rio Tinto is extracting ilmenite (see 2.5), and has established a set of measures to mitigate its impacts on biodiversity including avoidance (foregoing some mineral deposits), minimisation of impacts, and restoration of areas being mined, together with biodiversity offsets to compensate for residual, inevitable biodiversity loss. The overall aim is to achieve Net Positive Impact on biodiversity through the operational period of the mine. The three biodiversity offset sites include a part, around 4,000 ha, of Tsitongambarika. Rio Tinto therefore commits to resource the conservation of these 4,000 ha for the full period of operation of the mine. This leaves the remaining area of Tsitongambarika still in need of financing, but offers an excellent basis for leverage of additional resources.

95. Rio Tinto has supported to work at Tsitongambarika since 2005, and in addition to grants provided to BirdLife or Asity Madagascar it has spent at least \$500,000 on the site.
96. For administrative purposes, the forest is treated as three units (called I, II and III) with narrow corridors linking them. Project activities on the ground will focus on the richest part – the northern ‘Tsitongambarika II and III’ units, covering 40,000 ha. The site management structure covers the whole forest, and so successful implementation in any part of it benefits the whole site.

Global

97. Despite the obvious and proven importance of the 587 AZE sites so far identified, for biodiversity conservation and ecosystem services, a recent review found only 22% to be fully protected, 27% partially protected and 51% unprotected. It may be assumed that AZE sites yet to be identified (as more data become available, and more taxonomic groups are analysed) are no better protected. Threats to AZE sites globally are broadly similar to those experienced in Brazil, Chile and Madagascar, taking into account national socio-economic, political, environmental and cultural conditions. Habitat loss caused by small scale deforestation, and the presence of invasive species are constantly recurring issues, while overexploitation, climate change and pollution are frequent problems. Clearly, there is a need, and opportunity through this project, to secure enhanced protection through additional (co-financed) projects, informed by progress at the demonstration sites in Brazil, Chile and Madagascar.

Outcome 2.1. The conservation of threatened species and the protection of AZE sites are mainstreamed into the safeguard policies of key financial institutions such as Equator Principles Financial Institutions and Multilateral Development Banks to minimize the impact of development projects on AZE sites.

Data and capacity

98. **Brazil:** The Brazilian Alliance for Zero Extinction (BAZE) was officially established by the Ministry of the Environment in 2006. It is comprised of 40 government and non-government institutions aimed at defining and implementing conservation strategies for species severely threatened with extinction. To date, 27 global AZE sites have been identified in Brazil. In total, 28 AZE trigger species occupy these sites (12 birds, 10 amphibians, 5 mammals, and one reptile). A further five AZE sites have been identified at the national level. Of these 32 sites, 19 have no protected status, eight are partially protected, and five are completely protected.
99. **Chile:** No national Alliance for Zero Extinction exists in Chile. Nine AZE sites have been identified, occupied by ten AZE trigger species (8 amphibians and two birds). Three of the nine sites are currently confirmed as having some protected status.
100. **Madagascar:** At least 7 AZE members, mostly international NGOs, are already working in Madagascar, but there is not yet an a national AZE alliance or ongoing national AZE program. Conservation actions are underway at several AZE sites, but in most cases these actions need to be scaled up to adequately address current threats to biodiversity. 21 AZE sites have been identified to date. However, given the richness of biodiversity, and number of very rare, locally endemic species in Madagascar, many other highly endangered species remain to be analyzed: the importance of the island in terms of AZE sites and species is certain to be far greater than currently recognised by the AZE site network. In short, the

current list is not yet fully representative of the sites where imminent extinctions are most likely: many other sites are certain to meet AZE criteria as they hold the only populations of Endangered or Critically Endangered plants, especially reptiles, freshwater fish and other taxa not yet taken into account by AZE. Clearly, conservation action for such species that meet the AZE definition must not await their inclusion in updated lists of AZE sites.

101. **Global:** AZE sites (587 sites for 920 species) have been identified world-wide, and data are available, for birds, mammals, some reptiles (turtles, tortoises, iguanas, crocodilians), amphibians, reef-building corals, and conifers; these groups were covered as all species world-wide have been assessed for the Red List. The results were released globally in 2010, but need to be updated to reflect the latest information and additional taxonomic groups assessed since then. This data is currently available via the Integrated Biodiversity Assessment Tool (IBAT³) and directly from AZE as a set of GIS polygons, but these polygons have insufficient associated data required for site evaluation and assessment purposes (e.g. to guide and inform project finance decisions and EIAs). Most AZE member institutions do not interact with financial institutions on a regular basis, and are not able to influence investor decision-making at the desired level due to lack of capacity and information. Staff at the World Bank, IFC, EIB and IADB are aware of AZEs but are either not aware of where to access AZE data or how to best use it to evaluate Environmental Assessments. Other development banks and EPFIs are generally unaware of AZE. A small number of synergistic projects have taken place thus far due to interactions between AZE partners and IADB/IFC including projects in Honduras and Colombia. AZE is well placed globally to take advantage of extending such opportunities but currently lacks the capacity and resources to follow through on these.

IFI Policy

102. **Brazil:** The International Finance Corporation (IFC) explicitly refers to AZE within their relevant project safeguard guidance notes. While the inclusion in IFC policy implies inclusion in the safeguard policies of 70 additional partner banks, AZE does not have information confirming the relevance of this to Brazil at the present time. Identifying banks operating in Brazil and engaging them in AZE will be an output of this project.
103. **Chile:** The same situation applies in Chile as it does in Brazil relative to IFIs and national lending institutions.
104. **Madagascar:** The same situation applies in Madagascar as it does in Brazil relative to IFIs and national lending institutions. The African Development Bank does not yet include AZE in its safeguard policy.

Outcome 2.2: AZE site conservation is mainstreamed into national biodiversity strategies, in support of CBD targets.

Global

105. Due to a lack of resources to date, with a few exceptions, insufficient interaction has yet taken place between the 93 national AZE members (in 35 countries) and alliances and CBD focal points regarding NBSAPs and PoWPA Action Plans, although some of the larger international AZE NGO members have been significantly engaged in CBD activities (e.g., American Bird Conservancy (ABC), BirdLife International, and Conservation International), and several national initiatives are underway (see below). For example, ABC/AZE facilitated

³ <https://www.ibatforbusiness.org>

a module on setting national targets and indicators within the CBD Global NBSAP workshop held in Nairobi from the 11th to the 15th of November 2013, BirdLife facilitated several sessions at the same event and contributed to CBD-led regional workshops in Africa and Asia, on guiding Parties in their NBSAP revision process, and ABC/AZE also presented at a CBD-led Latin American regional PoWPA workshop held in Bogotá, Colombia, from the 10-12 May, 2012.

106. In July 2013, CBD conducted an analysis of PoWPA Action Plans and NBSAPs to determine which already include AZE. It was determined that 35 PoWPA Action Plans already include text comparable to the AZE criteria or include at least one AZE site, while 11 more nations stated commitments to halting extinctions; and to date, two NBSAPs (Brazil and Philippines) and four PoWPA Action Plans explicitly mention AZE (Vietnam, Nauru, Indonesia, Philippines). While this is encouraging, AZE is not yet included sufficiently in NBSAPs globally.
107. A significant amount of effort has been undertaken to develop AZE national analyses in Brazil, Colombia, India, Mexico, and Peru, although there is not yet a complete AZE national strategy or financing plan included in the NBSAPs of these countries. Some national site maps have been produced, however (Brazil, Colombia, India), and three countries are poised to upgrade their commitments to AZE as evidenced by the STAR allocations to the current project (Brazil, Chile, and Madagascar).
108. Over the course of the project preparation period for this project, mailings were sent out to all NBSAP Coordinators urging them to initiate consideration of AZE in their NBSAP updating exercises. A minimal amount of guidance has been provided directly, with plans for more being uploaded into the NBSAP Forum website

Brazil

109. AZE is mentioned in Brazil’s NBSAP, but not yet in its PoWPA Action Plan. The Brazilian Alliance for Zero Extinction has worked with government agencies, including the Ministry of the Environment and the Chico Mendes Institute, to map Brazil’s AZE sites effectively completing the baseline work needed to support the updating of the PoWPA Action Plan to include AZE data. Brazil’s NBSAP’s second objective is to promote the conservation of species diversity, which is further supported by goals that envision 100% of threatened species effectively conserved in Protected Areas and reducing by 25% the threatened species on the national red list. Brazil’s 4th national report to the CBD on its NBSAP specifically references in their national biodiversity targets, a goal of 100% of threatened species effectively conserved in protected Areas and “all species officially recognized as threatened with extinction in Brazil the object of action plans and active advisory groups”.

Chile

110. Chile’s NBSAP’s second objective calls for the preservation of species, and specifically to prioritize conservation efforts for endangered species. Chile’s 4th national report references the extinction of at least two species of vertebrates, and prioritizes the development of policies to protect species in danger of extinction and to promote actions to recuperate the most threatened species. The NBSAP does not yet mention AZE explicitly, however. Neither is AZE yet mentioned in Chile’s PoWPA Action Plan.

Madagascar

111. AZE is not mentioned in any Government policy document or plan, including the NBSAP or PoWPA action plan. The most recent NBSAP dates to 2002. New initiatives have been added to this without the document itself being updated, taking account of orientations of the CBD in 2010 and of the overarching ‘Madagascar Action Plan’ for national development between 2002 and 2009. As part of the ‘biodiversity conservation’ strategic direction, the NBSAP includes, under the objective "Conservation of wild genetic resources", implementation of management systems tailored to the conservation of endangered species, with reference to CITES and the IUCN Red List; this includes all globally threatened species, but with no special attention given to AZE species. The purpose of the Madagascar Protected Area System (SAPM) is to conserve biodiversity while contributing to development and poverty reduction. The most recent (2012) PoWPA Action Plan includes the following actions (between 2012 and 2020) most relevant to the baseline: complete the representativeness of the national network of protected areas; protect species outside the current national network of protected areas; and maintain viable populations of key species (keystone species). Action plans foreseen during this period are mainly devoted to the management of protected areas according to these principles.

112. In the absence of a national AZE alliance, there is no formal inter-organisational partnership focused specifically on AZE conservation (or threatened species conservation more widely), although all of the organisations work together on individual programmes or projects, some at AZE sites. Where conservation actions have taken place at AZE sites, this has generally not been as a result of their being labelled as such.

2.7. Linkages with other GEF and non-GEF Interventions

113. Linkages and synergies will be sought through coordination with the GEF projects listed in **Table 4** below. In each country, the Ministry of Environment (in Madagascar, MEEMF) leads implementation of the relevant GEF and most non-GEF initiatives. Such coordination by the Ministry facilitates the integration of activities across projects and cultivate opportunities for collaboration across sectors and project partners.

114. UNEP ensures close collaboration and synergetic impact with other UNEP-led or – supported global and national initiatives, especially those offering opportunities for synergistic impacts such as its NBSAP programme, and the the NBSAP Forum.

Table 4. Coordination and collaboration with other GEF-financed interventions

GEF Financed Initiatives / Interventions	How collaboration with the project will be ensured
Brazil	
UNDP/GEF Project #5053 National Biodiversity Planning to Support the Implementation of the CBD 2011-2020 Strategic Plan. CEO Approved August 2012.	To update the Brazilian National Biodiversity Strategy in a participatory manner by defining national goals, targets, and associated capacity-building and financing strategies taking into account contributions from Government and civil society assessments of the threats that currently cause loss of biodiversity in Brazil and incorporating the global guidelines of the CBD Strategic Plan 2011-2020. NEA is Brazilian Ministry of Environment, as for the current AZE project. Coordination will be achieved through the Ministry of Environment and cross representation on national project committees.
UNDP/GEF Project #5091 Mainstreaming Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Use into NTFP and AFS	The biodiversity of Brazilian multiple-use forest landscapes of high conservation value is conserved through a strengthened sustainable use management framework for non-timber forest products (NTFP) and agro-forestry systems (AFS). The project’s objective is to ensure that the biodiversity

GEF Financed Initiatives / Interventions	How collaboration with the project will be ensured
<p>Production Practices in Multiple-Use Forest Landscapes of High Conservation Value. CEO Endorsed October 2014.</p>	<p>of Brazilian multiple-use forest landscapes of high conservation value is conserved through a strengthened sustainable use management framework for non-timber forest products (NTFP) and agro-forestry systems (AFS). It will support Brazil’s goal of promoting the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity while reducing poverty and increasing resilience in the rural areas, which are governmental objectives stated in public policies and programs. The project will conserve biodiversity in key forest landscapes - Amazon, Caatinga and Cerrado. The latter two biomes contain high levels of endemism and contain numerous threatened species and AZE sites that will benefit directly from project activities. NEA is EMBRAPA (Brazilian Agricultural Research Agency). The present project will coordinate with project 5091 and any followup through MMA.</p>
<p>World Bank/GEF # 2641 Project Title: Sustainable Cerrado Initiative. IA approved March 2010.</p>	<p>This project approved during the fourth GEF replenishment began execution in 2010. The Sustainable Cerrado Initiative is an umbrella Program which adopts two-phased approach with multi-project grants. The main objective is to promote the increase of the biodiversity conservation and improve the management of the natural resources of Cerrado biome by supporting appropriate policies and practices. The project is coordinated by the Brazilian Ministry of the Environment and is being executed together with the Secretary of the Environment and Water Resources of the State of Goiás, ICMBio, the Secretary of Water Resources, and Tocantins State. The project supported 17 studies targeted at the creation of 2,253,448 hectares of protected areas. The project helped create of three new federal protected areas, three state protected areas and 19 private protected areas in the Cerrado biome, covering an area of 483,151 hectares. Other activities included producing videos of the Cerrado biome’s riches, along with its traditional people and threatened species; the improvement of the mapping systems and the monitoring of the cover and biodiversity use of the biome; support events to share Cerrado foods and promote meetings of the traditional populations. The present project will coordinate with project 2641 and any followup through MMA.</p>
<p>IADB/GEF Project # 4859 Consolidation of the National System of Conservation Units and enhanced Flora and Fauna Protection. GEF Council approved June 2012.</p>	<p>This project developed under the National Program for Consolidation of Protected Areas (PNUC) is coordinated by the Department of Protected Areas of the Secretariat of Biodiversity and Forests, Brazilian Ministry of the Environment. At the moment, the project is in its final stage of negotiation with the GEF and the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB). The GEF-TER Project aims to implement the Protected Areas under the SNUC in the Caatinga, Pantanal and Pampa biomes, adding efforts to the LifeWeb project (Estruturação do Sistema Nacional de Unidades de Conservação). It was approved during the fifth GEF replenishment to support the conservation actions in this three biomes not yet covered by GEF supported projects. The project has the following components: i) Creation of new protected areas; ii) Implementation and management of 14 P.A.; iii) Restoration of deteriorated landscapes in priority areas– inside and surrounding P.A.; iv) Management of threatened species ; v) Integration and community relations. The present project will coordinate with project 4859 and any followup through MMA.</p>
<p>World Bank/GEF Project # 4085. Amazon Region Protected Areas Program – ARPA. IA approved February 2012.</p>	<p>This project is the second phase of the ARPA program. It will make a major contribution to protecting Amazon forest biodiversity through the definition of priority areas for protection followed by the creation, establishment, consolidation and long-term maintenance of protected areas. The creation and consolidation of protected areas has proved to be a viable strategy to reduce biodiversity loss in the Brazilian Amazon, as well to reduce deforestation. Protected areas are valuable tools for the protection of the long-term ecological integrity of biodiversity-rich areas, the containment of anthropogenic pressures and the promotion of the sustainable use of forests and other ecosystems’</p>

GEF Financed Initiatives / Interventions	How collaboration with the project will be ensured
	<p>natural resources. Although the Amazon region is not currently an area of high AZE site density like the Atlantic Forest Biome, the ARPA project is one of the most important experiences concerning protected area projects in Brazil and the lessons learned until now can be useful for the development of the AZE-GEF project activities. Tools used in the ARPA Project will be applicable and useful to the AZE-GEF project, such as the Rapid Assessment and Prioritization of Protected Area Management or Rapid Assessment and Prioritization of Protected Areas Management (RAPPAM).</p>
Chile	
<p>UNDP GEF Project 2772: Building a comprehensive National Protected Area System for Chile: a financial and operational framework. Completed.</p>	<p>Developed the legal, strategic and operational framework for the sustainable financing of a new integrated National System of Protected Areas; assessed and tested revenue generation mechanisms for increasing funding levels of new PAs; established new partnerships to share management costs with public funding entities and productive sectors. National executing partner was the National Commission for the Environment (CONAMA), with which the present project will also work, ensuring coordination with activities following up the earlier project.</p>
<p>UNDP/GEF Project (ID 4330) Strengthening National Frameworks for Invasive Alien Species (IAS) Governance - Piloting in Juan Fernandez Archipelago. IA Approved November 2012.</p>	<p>This project aims to build national frameworks and institutional capacities to control the introduction and spread of IAS through trade, travel and transportation. This is done through pilot surveillance and control measures project on the Juan Fernández Archipelago, an environment of high biodiversity threatened by IAS. One of the lines of action to implement this project is to "Develop and implement a regulatory, institutional and financial framework for combating major IAS affecting the conservation of biodiversity" for which it is proposed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop an Integrated National Programme for Control of Invasive Alien Species (PEEI) • Define legal and regulatory mechanisms to support the IAS management and allow the implementation of PEEI. • Strengthen the Operating Committee for the Control of Invasive Species (COCEI). • Strengthen the capacities of institutions and sectors related to the management of IAS. • Manage a plan of financing; mechanisms and resource mobilization for the implementation of PEEI. • Replicate the management of invasive alien species in other Chilean islands and protected areas <p>Among the actions of this GEF Project, Isla Mocha was identified as one of the islands on which to develop specific actions, and information on this is included in the baseline analysis.</p> <p>The Ministry of Environment is the NEA for both the AZE Project and this one, facilitating integration and collaborative discussion through national project committees.</p>
<p>FAO/GEF Project 5429 Mainstreaming the conservation, sustainable use and valuation of Critically Threatened species and endangered agricultural ecosystems into development-frontier production landscapes of the Arica and</p>	<p>The project will be carried out in two regions of Chile, Arica and Parinacota, and Biobío. Isla Mocha is in the Biobío Region. Although this project does not designate activities at the two sites outlined in the AZE-GEF project for Chile, work will be carried out to benefit several highly threatened species, including one species that may be added to the AZE list, the Chilean Woodstar <i>Eulidia yarrellii</i> (a Critically Endangered hummingbird).</p> <p>The Ministry of Environment is the NEA for both the AZE Project and this one, facilitating integration and collaborative discussion through national project committees.</p>

GEF Financed Initiatives / Interventions	How collaboration with the project will be ensured
Parinacota, and Biobío regions. PPG phase, submission expected April 2015	
Madagascar	
UNEP/GEF Project # 5351. Strengthening the Network of New Protected Areas in Madagascar Status: Council Approved	The objective is that the system of New Protected Areas (NPAs) is effective, it adequately represents marine/costal, freshwater and terrestrial ecosystems (including the previously under-represented mangrove ecosystems), and it supports good site management, the sustainable exploitation of site resources, improved lifestyles for people around sites, and the ability of economic actors to obtain sustainable benefits from sites. The DCBSAP of the MEEF is the executive partner of this project. As Tsitongambarika is a new protected area, DCBSAP is also among its stakeholders. The SAPM Commission will ensure information exchange and collaboration.
UNDP/GEF Project # 3687. Madagascar's Network of Managed Resource Protected Areas Status: Under Implementation	Aims to expand the PA system of Madagascar by developing a network of managed resource protected areas in underrepresented ecological landscapes, co-managed by local government and communities and integrated into the regional development framework. MEEMF is among the executive partners of the project. Asity Madagascar, Fanamby NGO, Missouri Botanical Garden, The Peregrine Fund and WWF are the main partners; all are likely national AZE partners in the future, and so experience of this project will facilitate the coordination and information sharing between the two projects. The Asity Madagascar site is located in a wetland complex in NW Madagascar, but its governance is similar to that being developed at theme is of direct relevance to Tsitongambarika.
UNEP/GEF Project # 5352. Conservation of Key Threatened Endemic and Economically Valuable species in Madagascar Status: Council Approved	The objective of this project is that key threatened, endemic and valuable flora and fauna species are conserved and sustainably utilized in the local socio-economy; generally a different set of species compared to AZE. The Executing Agency is again MEEMF and the main partners are The Peregrine Fund, Kew Gardens, WCS, Asity Madagascar, Conservation International, MBG, Madagascar Voakajy and Madagascar National Parks; again there is strong overlap in membership with the proposed AZE alliance, favoring collaboration and information-sharing between these two projects.
UNDP/GEF Project # 1929. Participatory Sustainable Land Management in the Grassland Plateaus of Western Madagascar Status: Project Completion	Aims to reverse land degradation and improve living conditions in the Bongolava Region of Western Madagascar through participatory sustainable management of the grasslands. The Executing Agency is the Ministry of Environment, Ecology and Forests. Information sharing, collaboration and coordination with other projects will be assured by the Ministry, although overlap with the AZE project is relatively limited.
UNDP/GEF Project #5486. A Landscape Approach to Conserving and Managing Threatened Biodiversity in Madagascar with a Focus on the Atsimo-Andrefana Spiny and Dry Forest Landscape Status: Council Approved	Aims to protect biodiversity in the Atsimo-Andrefana (arid SW) Landscape from current and emerging threats, and to use it sustainably, by developing collaborative governance framework for sectoral mainstreaming and devolved natural resource management. Executing partners are MEEMF, the Tany Meva Foundation and Environmental Management Support Service (SAGE). The Ministry will facilitate information sharing, lesson learning, coordination and communication with other projects including the AZE project of which it is also focal point.
Global	Coordination of the UNEP led initiatives below is coordinated through regular meetings of the UNEP GEF Biodiversity/Land Degradation/Biosafety team and its Portfolio Manager
UNEP/GEF Project #4513. Support to GEF Eligible Parties (LDCs & SIDs) for	See: http://www.thegef.org/gef/project_detail?projID=4513 The main objective of this project is to enable GEF eligible LDCs and SIDs to revise the National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) and to

GEF Financed Initiatives / Interventions	How collaboration with the project will be ensured
the Revision of the NBSAPs and Development of Fifth National Report to the CBD - Phase 1. IA Approved March 2012.	develop the Fifth National Report to the CBD.
UNEP/GEF Project #4623. Support to GEF Eligible Parties (LDCs & SIDs) for the Revision of the NBSAPs and Development of Fifth National Report to the CBD - Phase II. IA Approved March 2012.	See: http://www.thegef.org/gef/project_detail?projID=4623 With the overarching goal of integrating CBD Obligations into National Planning Processes through Enabling Activities, the main objective of this project is to enable GEF eligible LDCs and SIDs to revise the National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) and to develop the Fifth National Report to the CBD.
UNEP/GEF Project # 5730. Mainstreaming Biodiversity Information into the Heart of Government Decision Making. GEF Council approved May 2014.	See: http://www.thegef.org/gef/project_detail?projID=5730 The project aims to help governments to achieve sustainable development by bringing biodiversity to the heart of government decision-making using actionable environmental information. Decision makers clearly understand how biodiversity information can be used to inform key decision points or processes, and are able to access necessary information in a timely manner within formats and processes that are relevant to their priorities.

Coordination with other (non-GEF) initiatives:

Brazil

115. In partnership with ICMBio, WWF-Brazil has implemented the Management Effectiveness of Federal Protected Areas in Brazil. WWF developed a methodology called Rapid Assessment and Prioritization of Protected Area Management or Rapid Assessment and Prioritization of Protected Areas Management (RAPPAM)⁴ that identifies the major barriers to achieve better management of the national protected area system. The project went through an initial phase beginning in 2005, analyzing 246 federal conservation units in a partnership initiative between WWF-Brazil and the Brazilian Institute of Environment and Renewable Natural Resources (IBAMA & WWF-Brazil, 2007) and in 2010, ICMBio in a new partnership with WWF-Brazil, applied a second cycle of the method RAPPAM in 292 federal conservation units, covering about 95% from 312 UCs currently managed by the Institute. The degree to which AZE species are considered in management effectiveness criteria will be an important component of subsequent application of this method. ICMBio will be responsible for incorporating AZE sites into the ongoing methodology to assess protected area effectiveness.

116. The project, ‘Biodiversity and climate change in the Atlantic Forest’ is being carried out by the Brazilian MMA, 2013-2018, and supported by the German Federal Ministry for the Environment. The project focuses on measures aiming to promote ecosystem-based adaptation to the impacts of climate change and mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions in selected networks, or mosaics, of protected areas in the Atlantic forest. The project addresses uncertain climate change impacts to the region through the development of vulnerability analyses and market-based and governmental instruments and incentives, for example payment for ecosystem services. The program will also support ecosystem-based adaptation and mitigation strategies and public policies for biodiversity conservation, restoration and climate protection. Lessons learned will contribute to policy and programme approaches at the national level, and

⁴ http://wwf.panda.org/what_we_do/how_we_work/conservation/forests/tools/rappam/

there will be opportunities to showcase the successful implementation of the AZE pilot project for Stresemann’s Bristlefront, as an example of protection of the Atlantic Forest biome.

117. The project “Pro-Espécies” was established by the Ordinance n°43, January 31st 2014. This National Program for the Conservation of Threatened Species (Pró-Espécies) aims to adopt actions for prevention, conservation and management to reduce the threats and risk of species extinction. The Pro-Espécies is coordinated by the Brazilian Ministry of Environment and defines the steps, methodology, criteria and actors involved in the assessment of Brazilian species conservation status, elaboration of the National Official List of Threatened Species, elaboration of National Action Plans for Threatened Species Conservation and for monitoring of biodiversity.
118. The National Action Plans for the Conservation of Threatened Species are a management tool that aims to define, through a participatory process, strategies to enhance the conservation status of threatened species, establishing pacts with the various sectors of society for their implementation. The national strategy for restoring and conserving threatened species also has a component to assess the conservation status of other species that are not currently classified as threatened, with a view to identify and implement preventive actions to reduce pressures that may threaten their populations. The national Action Plans are now integrated in the National Program for the Conservation of Threatened Species (Pró-Espécies) and are coordinated by the Chico Mendes Institute for Biodiversity Conservation (ICMBio) and Rio de Janeiro Botanical Garden (JBRJ), for fauna and flora, respectively.
119. In 2010, ICMBio launched an “In Situ Biodiversity Monitoring Program” for federal terrestrial protected areas. Implementation was initiated in 2010 in three federal PAs in the Caatinga biome, expanding in 2014 to include seven PAs in the Amazon, six in the Cerrado and six in the Atlantic Forest. Additional PAs are gradually joining the program, which is still undergoing testing and adjustments. Monitoring results obtained to-date will be evaluated, and revised protocols and procedures will be applied at a larger scale, including all 95 PAs under the ARPA Program. The process of developing the biodiversity monitoring system includes the integration of biodiversity and climate change data from different information systems, and the provision of capacity building on biodiversity monitoring. It is expected that after completing its test phase, this monitoring system will allow the generation of cheap and accurate data on Brazilian biodiversity indicators to enhance protected area management, in addition to providing information required for PES/REDD+ projects. The biodiversity monitoring data can also inform and assist in the evaluation of public policies related to environmental protection and adaptation to climate change. The biodiversity monitoring program is supported by the National Biodiversity Mainstreaming and Institutional Consolidation Project – PROBIO II, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit – GIZ, and Fundo Clima.

Chile

120. On Isla Mocha, the non-governmental group Oikonos is conducting a monitoring project with the Pink-footed Shearwater to track predation. They also carry out an environmental education and awareness program with the community that has allowed them to work closely with the community, especially the school. Although the program concentrates on the protection of the shearwater, it could include content on *Eupsophus insularis*, such as problems and Conservation needs. The Ministry of Environment, together with CONAF and Oikonos, conduct a pet spay and neuter program that promotes responsible pet ownership as a way to minimize direct predation on the shearwater. This program could be further strengthened towards cats, principle amphibian predators on Isla Mocha.

Madagascar

121. The Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) invested in conservation in Madagascar from 2001 to 2006, followed by a period of consolidation from 2009 to 2012. A new CEPF profile and five-year investment strategy for the whole Madagascar and Indian Ocean Islands hotspot was approved by the CEPF donor council in July 2014 and CEPF funding will begin to flow in 2015. The profile prioritises certain ‘corridors’, largely excluding the Eastern rainforest on the basis that other actors were covering this region. Conservation targets were set using a bottom-up consultation process. Site targets were identified based on species-level targets, focusing on globally threatened (Red-Listed) species, so in effect species conservation is achieved through site protection; however, strong attention was also paid to devising a strategy by which landscapes or seascapes continue to provide essential environmental services. Asity Madagascar works with the Tany Meva Foundation, which manages the hotspot’s Regional Implementation Team, and despite the exclusion of rainforests from the profile priorities, there is much thematic overlap and importance to national capacity-building, ensuring that consulting will be valuable.
122. There are also local initiatives supported by national and international NGOs in the conservation of highly endangered species; some are listed AZE sites, others which appear to qualify but are not currently listed. Examples include (this is not an exhaustive list):
- for the frog *Mantella aurantiaca* in the New Protected Area of Mangabe, Madagasikara Voakajy carries out forest and marshland habitat conservation and a local community-based patrol system.
 - For the plant *Schizolaena tampoketsana* (known population 127 individuals threatened by fire) in Tampoketsa-Ankazobe, *in situ* and *ex situ* actions are carried out by local people with the support of Missouri Botanical Garden and Conservation International
 - For the bird *Aythya innotata* (Madagascar Pochard; around 20 individuals on small crater lakes at Bemanevika), The Peregrine Fund, Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust, Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust and Asity Madagascar are working on *in* and *ex situ* conservation with a view to introduction to another lake following its ecological rehabilitation
 - Local initiatives exist for the protection of endemic and threatened species of freshwater fish, for example the initiative of the Association of Andapa Fry Producers (APPA), supported by Conservation International, assists local associations to farm endemic *Paratilapia* fish species.
 - A range of formal species action plans, developed under the auspices of IUCN specialist groups, international conventions (such as CMS) and other organisations, include a Conservation Strategy for the Amphibians of Madagascar “Sahona Gasy 2006-2011”, Five-year strategy for conservation of Belalanda Chameleon (*Furcifer belalandaensis*) in 2011, Conservation Strategy for the Antanosy Gecko (*Phelsuma antanosy*) in 2012, a CMS/AEWA Action Plan for Conservation of Madagascar Pond Heron (*Ardeola idae*), and Revision of species status and development of a conservation strategy for lemurs, 2013–2016.
123. The UNEP Regional Offices for Africa (ROA) and Latin America and the Caribbean (ROLAC) will support the promotion and integration of the outcomes from this project in the Planning Processes and UNDAFs of target countries, as well as provide a platform for dissemination of results, and provision of technical support to countries (Table 5).

Table 5. Project contribution to relevant sections of the UNDAF

Country	Project Contribution to relevant sections of the UNDAF
Brazil	http://undg.org/home/country-teams/latin-america-the-caribbean/brazil/ The project is aligned with the Brazil UNDAF (2012-2015) Axis 2 relating to the Paradigm of Sustainable Development, Green Economy and Decent Work incorporated in an integrated System of Public Policies.
Chile	http://undg.org/home/country-teams/latin-america-the-caribbean/chile/ . The project is aligned with the Chile UNDAF (2015-2018) Outcome noting for development and action plans to take into consideration biodiversity
Madagascar	http://undg.org/home/country-teams/africa-eastern-southern/madagascar/ The project is aligned with the Madagascar UNDAF (2015-2019) which references protection of the environment in the short and medium term as well as the critical need to build capacity to strategically and operationally manage the environment.

SECTION 3: INTERVENTION STRATEGY (ALTERNATIVE)

3.1. Project rationale, policy conformity and expected global environmental benefits

Project Rationale

124. Recent human-induced extinction rates are 100-1,000 times the geological background rate and are predicted to increase another 10-fold⁵. In response, the 193 parties to the CBD committed to slowing global biodiversity loss through adopting the Aichi Targets in 2010, to be accomplished by 2020. The most recent assessment of progress towards Aichi Target 11 (on protected area coverage)⁶ found that just 41% of terrestrial and 32% of marine (coastal/nearshore) ecoregions have met target levels of coverage, while only one-fifth of IBAs and AZEs are completely covered by protected areas. Less than half of mammals, amphibians, marine bony fishes, cartilaginous fishes, lobsters and crayfish, mangroves and seagrasses have a sufficient proportion of their distributions covered by PAs to meet species-specific targets scaled by range size. Overall, although there has been substantial recent growth in PA coverage, in both absolute area and coverage of biodiversity features, this expansion has been inadequately targeted and considerable shortfall remains across the multiple elements of Target 11. In addition, 77% of countries are failing to achieve management effectiveness within existing PA networks⁷, with species populations and habitat extent and condition continuing to decline within PA boundaries.⁸

125. Over the long term, achieving this ambitious goal requires broadscale, proactive conservation to protect entire ecosystems before their component species become threatened. However, many species are already so endangered by human activities that they will likely disappear without immediate site-specific action. Preventing these extinctions must be part of any global strategy to reduce biodiversity loss⁹. Accordingly, the Alliance for Zero Extinction

⁵ Pimm SL, Russell GJ, Brooks TM (1995). *Science* 269: 347-350

⁶ Butchart et al 2015. Shortfalls and solutions for meeting national and global conservation area targets. *Conservation Letters*. doi: 10.1111/conl.12158

⁷ Coad, L., Leverington, F., Burgess, N.D. *et al.* (2013) Progress towards the CBD protected area management effectiveness targets. *Parks*, **19**, 13-24.

⁸ Geldmann, J., Barnes, M., Coad, L. *et al.* (2013) Effectiveness of terrestrial protected areas in reducing habitat loss and population declines. *Biol. Conserv.*, **161**, 230-238.

⁹ Ricketts et al (2005) Pinpointing and preventing imminent extinctions. *PNAS* 102 (51):18497-18501

(AZE), a joint initiative of biodiversity conservation organizations from around the world, aims to prevent extinctions by identifying and safeguarding key sites, each one of which is the last remaining refuge of one or more Endangered or Critically Endangered species. These key sites are amongst the most important if global biodiversity loss is to be halted and reversed – a critical subset of global conservation priorities, complementing other efforts by focusing on relatively small scales and short time horizons. The two key root causes of threat to these sites and species are habitat loss caused by small scale deforestation and the presence of invasive species. Of particular concern to AZE is that species with tiny global ranges are especially vulnerable to such external threats.

126. The following **barriers** to improving the status of AZE species have been identified, and will be addressed through the project intervention.

127. **Barrier 1: AZE sites are often poorly known, unprotected and receive little management support; this makes them highly vulnerable to threats related to their small size and weak protection.** National conservation efforts are primarily focused on ecosystems and large areas of habitat and may miss irreplaceable sites for highly unique, threatened species which often occupy relatively small areas. Consequently, AZE sites often have weak legal protection and little management support. For larger AZE sites, capacity may be inadequate to ensure full coverage or enforcement of conservation approaches. Both national and local natural resource managers often have insufficient knowledge of AZE species, and even if they know of them, capacity to conserve them is often lacking. Local communities are also frequently unaware of the global uniqueness and importance of the AZE species in their area, and may have few alternatives to their current land use practices that may threaten AZE species through habitat degradation, fragmentation and unsustainable resource exploitation. Site-specific threats to the existence of small AZE species populations such as the presence of invasive alien species may not receive attention as they may not result in other (e.g. socio-economic) impacts. Lack of examples of how such small site conservation can be tackled in a sustainable manner may constrain responses from national governments.

128. **Barrier 2: Investment strategies of lending institutions pay insufficient attention to globally irreplaceable sites for biodiversity conservation.** Current AZE databases are limited in their taxonomic scope to the following groups (birds, mammals, amphibians, reptiles [turtles & tortoises, iguanas and crocodylians only], reef-building corals and conifers) and were last updated in 2010. While this information is largely accessible through the AZE website, the presentation of this information can be significantly improved and awareness of its availability needs to be reinforced through key networks. This lack of awareness and limited availability of information on the distribution and status of AZE species hinders their consideration in investment decision-making, as well as in national conservation strategies. Existing investment strategies pay insufficient attention to AZE species and sites and safeguard policies fail to recognize them. Consequently, inadequate screening of the impacts of loans supporting development programmes (eg agriculture schemes, highways, dams and urban development) and resource management (eg forestry and oil palm plantations) is likely to contribute towards continued AZE site and species loss.

129. While major financial institutions generally have capacity for environmental assessment, technical guidance is required to assist them in incorporating safeguards for AZE sites into their investment strategies in a meaningful and effective manner. In addition, the existing limited level of engagement between financial institutions and biodiversity conservation organizations needs to be strengthened in order to facilitate capacity development and to raise awareness of AZE conservation needs. Opportunities to increase and

improve AZE site conservation in lending strategies (eg through avoidance, loan conditions) are poorly utilized due to weak partnership between financial institutions and AZE partners on strategic conservation issues.

130. **Barrier 3: National conservation priorities pay inadequate attention to irreplaceable sites for unique but sometimes obscure endangered species that are restricted to small areas, as current approaches are primarily focused on ecosystems, landscapes and charismatic species.** While NBSAPs and PoWPA Action Plans aim to achieve representation of all habitat types and globally threatened species within national PA systems and through related conservation efforts, these generally pay inadequate attention to AZE species/site conservation. The reasons for this may include lack of reliable scientific information on the status and distribution of AZE species, but also prioritization of limited national budgets for conservation is likely to place poorly known species occupying small sites at a disadvantage, unless such sites have additional values such as the presence of other threatened species or natural or cultural features that raise their profile. Thus sustainable financing of national PA systems that takes into account the needs of AZE sites is a long term strategic issue.
131. There is also often limited national technical expertise on less charismatic taxa (e.g. invertebrate groups, fish and small terrestrial vertebrates), as well as limited access to scientific information on the status, distribution and ecological requirements of AZE species, and the need for strategic guidance on their inclusion in national strategies and plans. Thus there is a capacity and knowledge barrier that indicates the need for technical guidance and strengthened national partnerships or collaborative arrangements at national level supported by capacity development and outreach programmes on AZE species conservation.
132. Finally, as the concept of AZE species is relatively recent and national approaches are still in a development stage, there is a need for models of national AZE conservation efforts that can be reviewed and then applied through CBD processes such as the NBSAP and PoWPA Action Plans and their implementation, as well as direct site conservation efforts.
133. The project will address these barriers through the two project components (three outcomes) described in detail in Section 3.3 below. The project components are as follows:
- **Component 1: Protected areas and AZE site-level management at globally important sites**
 - Outcome 1.1. Creation and improved management effectiveness of protected areas covering at least 160,000 ha of AZE sites, with improved conservation status of at least 27 AZE species at a total of five demonstration sites in Brazil, Chile and Madagascar and at an additional 10 sites globally.
 - **Component 2. Mainstreaming of AZE site conservation in national policy and regulatory frameworks, and into safeguard policies of financial institutions**
 - Outcome 2.1. The conservation of threatened species and the protection of AZE sites are mainstreamed into the safeguard policies of key financial institutions such as Equator Principles Financial Institutions and Multilateral Development Banks to minimize the impact of development projects on AZE sites.
 - Outcome 2.2: AZE site conservation is mainstreamed into national biodiversity strategies, in support of CBD targets.
134. This is the first GEF funded national/global effort to integrate AZE as a distinct priority into conservation planning at the national level, leveraging up through global

opportunities to do the same. It has potential to have a major long term impact on the reduction of global extinction rates, directly contributing towards CBD’s Aichi Targets 11 and 12.

Consistency with GEF Focal Area Strategy

135. The proposed project is fully consistent with both the overall goal of the BD Focal Area strategy and the Biodiversity Program's **Strategic Objective BD-1**, which aims to improve the sustainability of Protected Area Systems. Specifically, the project promotes objectives three and four of BD-1 through i) the enhancement of threatened species representation via the creation and effective management of new protected areas that extends the coverage of threatened species in protected area systems, while improving the coverage of their spatial range, and ii) improving the overall management effectiveness of existing protected areas, including across trans-boundary areas.
136. The project also supports **Strategic Objective BD-2: Mainstream Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Use into Production Landscapes, Seascapes and Sectors** and will contribute to the achievement of Outcome 2.2 “Measures to conserve and sustainably use biodiversity incorporated in policy and regulatory frameworks” through the development of policies and regulations (globally, regionally, and nationally – including governments and lending institutions) governing sectoral activities that integrate biodiversity conservation in the project target areas as recorded by the GEF tracking tool as a score.

Global Environmental Benefits

137. The project will generate global environmental benefits (GEBs) by directly contributing to the conservation of at least 17 AZE species (see 2.6 **Baseline analysis and gaps**) and increased management effectiveness of their habitats at five sites in Brazil, Chile and Madagascar, and leveraging these pilot projects at an additional 10 AZE sites globally, for a combined total of at least 160,000 ha (see **Table 6** for potential sites). These efforts will also directly benefit the conservation of a range of other globally threatened species at the same sites (see the site profiles in **Appendix 15**). Through the integration of AZE considerations into UN policies and the safeguard policies of multilateral development banks and private sector institutions, the potential leveraged impact to deliver GEBs through this project is huge and the effects will be long lasting. Furthermore the inclusion of AZE prioritization into NBSAPs will leverage prioritization and funding of AZE action in the entire portfolio of countries updating and finalizing their NBSAPs, again leveraging immense potential GEBs into the longer term. GEBs will also be delivered through the knock-on impacts of changed behaviour and increased actions, through increased awareness, capacity and access to online AZE databases and knowledge products. The protection of AZE species will be significant for biodiversity conservation not only for the three countries receiving direct interventions, but also globally through the integration of AZE in planning and prioritization processes.
138. A study documenting the co-benefits of AZE conservation for ecosystem services that was recently published in the journal PLoS ONE assessed more than 500 Alliance for Zero Extinction (AZE) sites around the world to review the potential and realized benefits which conserving these places would provide, not just for species, but also for human well-being. The researchers determined that protecting habitats in these priority areas to halt the loss of biodiversity will yield multiple benefits to people in terms of ecosystem services such as: climate change mitigation, freshwater, the future “option value” of biodiversity, and cultural services ([click to access the study](#)).

139. **Chile and Brazil site components** will result in the protection of at least four AZE species (3 frogs and 1 bird). In the Atlantic Forest of Brazil, the project will contribute to the protection of a further 18 globally threatened mammal and avian species, while at Isla Mocha in Chile a globally threatened seabird and a potentially extinct rodent will benefit from the project intervention (see site profiles in **Appendix 15**). Both projects will result in avoided deforestation through protection of existing forests, but also in Brazil, active reforestation will sequester carbon. Fencing along steep ravines in Chile will avoid erosion from felled timber and cattle, which in turn, will help to maintain water quality and the provision of water.
140. The updated AZE species database for **Madagascar** will contribute significantly to the conservation of globally threatened species by attracting donor attention to the most at-risk and irreplaceable sites. Site conservation actions at Tsitongambarika will contribute to the protection of lowland rainforest in Madagascar, one of the most biologically important forest types in the world, being both very rare and under-represented in the protected area network (compared to, for example, montane forest). Studies have shown that the (little remaining) lowland forest of southern Madagascar is very distinct in species composition from those of the north, despite their similar appearance, further increasing their irreplaceability. Carbon storage in eastern Madagascar rainforest, especially lowland forest, is very high, giving Tsitongambarika strong climate change mitigation importance. Tsitongambarika with its numerous undescribed and very rare species (see the site profile in **Appendix 15**) provides one of the clearest examples of the need to mobilize scientists in determining and describing such species, which risk extinction before this happens; this project will draw attention to and attempt to catalyse actions to meet this need.

3.2. Project goal and objective

141. The **Project Development Goal** is to contribute to the global achievement of CBD Aichi Target 12 by improving the conservation status of AZE listed species. The **Project Objective** is to prevent species extinctions at priority sites identified through the Alliance for Zero Extinction (AZE).
142. In order to achieve the above objective, and based on a barrier analysis (see Section I, Part I), which identified: (i) the problem being addressed by the project; (ii) its root causes; and (iii) the barriers that need to be overcome to actually address the problem and its root causes, the project’s intervention has been organised into two components and three outcomes (in line with the concept presented at PIF stage).
143. **Component 1 (Outcome 1.1)** will address the first barrier, that AZE sites remain highly vulnerable to multiple threats, and thus continue to be threatened with their AZE trigger species declining despite site protection measures, through a range of inputs that will strengthen the protection and management effectiveness of five demonstration AZE sites in three countries and replicate this at a further 10 sites globally; inputs will draw upon the executing organisations’ experience, and those of their national and local partners, including BirdLife’s Local Conservation Group approach (see Section 2.4 Institutions).
144. **Component 2 (Outcome 2.1)** will address the second barrier, that investment strategies of financial institutions pay insufficient attention to globally irreplaceable sites for biodiversity conservation due to a lack of awareness and access to AZE data. This will be done through increasing awareness of, and accessibility to, AZE data online for relevant decision-makers to facilitate mainstreaming, including updated global AZE site list and global site status assessment, providing related technical guidance documents, increasing the capacity

of AZE members to partner with lending institutions, training staff in select financial institutions in use of AZE tools and data, mainstreaming AZE site conservation opportunities into existing and planned donor/agency and private sector financing programs and improving avoidance strategies.

145. **Component 2 (Outcome 2.2)** will address the third barrier, that conservation efforts pay inadequate attention towards irreplaceable sites for highly unique, and often obscure endangered species that are restricted to small areas, as current approaches are primarily focused on ecosystems, large conservation landscapes and charismatic species. This will be accomplished through inputs including the development and mainstreaming of at least three pilot National AZE Strategies (Brazil, Chile, and Madagascar) into NBSAPs and PoWPA Action Plans and their implementation, technical guidance documents to support incorporation of AZE priorities in the development of further NBSAPs and PoWPA Action Plans and their implementation globally, consolidated and strengthened national AZE partnerships providing input to NBSAP and PoWPA processes and national CBD reporting, and facilitating at least a further five countries to take steps to enhance AZE site conservation.

3.3. Project components and expected results

(See **Appendix 5** for detailed activities and timetable for implementation)

Outcome 1.1. Creation and improved management effectiveness of protected areas covering at least 160,000 ha of AZE sites, with improved conservation status of at least 27 AZE species at a total of five demonstration sites in Brazil, Chile and Madagascar and at an additional 10 sites globally.

146. In **Brazil**, the project seeks to stabilize and increase the Stresemann’s Bristlefront population through increased site protection measures at the Mata do Passarinho Reserve and surrounding areas. Guard patrols and provision of artificial nests and supplementary food as well as ongoing avian monitoring will take place. Restoration with native tree species within and surrounding the Reserve will increase available habitat for the bird. Development of financial sustainability of the Stresemann’s Bristlefront Reserve, through a cacao farm and tourism, will ensure the continued presence of high quality habitat. Finally, the establishment of additional private reserves surrounding the Reserve will increase formal protection of the bird’s habitat.
147. In **Chile**, the project will seek to improve site level protection for three different endangered species of amphibians located at three sites: Isla Mocha National Reserve, Mehuin 1, and Mehuin 2. Work at both sites will start with baseline population surveys and mapping in order to focus the areas for project interventions. In Isla Mocha, predation from invasive species and loss of habitat due to timber and fuel wood extraction are the main threats to declining amphibian populations. The former threat is being addressed by a current GEF project, which this project will connect with for community outreach efforts for the Isla Mocha Ground Frog. The project will aim to improve timber and fuel wood extraction practices to remove threats to the AZE species within the Reserve. In the second site, Mehuin, amphibian habitat is affected by timber harvesting and cattle grazing, impacting water quality. By restricting access and improving timber and cattle management practices, threats to the amphibian species will be reduced.
148. In **Madagascar**, the site level intervention will test approaches to AZE species and site conservation in a fairly large site that was originally protected on the basis of an

ecosystem or corridor approach, while drawing together lessons from other (GEF and non-GEF) projects. The strategy involves first updating the site Management Plan to integrate actions for the conservation of AZE species. Immediate action to reduce threats on these AZE species will be implemented; key to this will be to strengthen the capacity of the KOMFITA management platform in the governance and management of natural resources with specific reference to AZE species. Support will also be provided to the authorities to strengthen controls on use of forest resources. Local communities will be trained to adopt more efficient and less destructive farming techniques. To reduce the dependence of populations on exploitation of natural resources, alternative income-generating activities will be initiated.

Output 1.1.1. Habitat conservation for *Merulaxis stresemanni* in Bandeiras, Brazil, strengthened through improved forest protection and restoration with community support to sustain long-term conservation.

149. The Brazil component of the project will commence with a national workshop to refine priorities and confirm which sites are to be the focal areas for the project. The primary focal site is expected to be Bandeiras, where habitat conservation for Stresemann’s Bristlefront *Merulaxis stresemanni* in Bandeiras, Brazil, will be strengthened through improved infrastructure and community support to sustain long-term conservation and forest protection.

150. Although the reserve already has a full-time guard presence, sustainability tools including birdwatching tourism will be developed to finance this presence in the longer-term to eliminate small scale logging and land clearance incursions. The reserve will be expanded to include additional forest areas, and fire prevention (buffer zone fire breaks) and control programs will be developed and implemented. Community outreach will also help to build more local support for conservation of the site. Climate change adaptation needs will be considered in site management planning and the design of individual activities.

151. Stresemann’s Bristlefront is so rare that measures to provide direct support to individual birds will be carefully implemented in this project by the addition of a dedicated forest guard and materials, paid for by this project. This staff person will search for food, worms and possibly insects, and will establish a feeding station. The goal is to habituate the birds to visit the feeding station and experiment with food items and observe the species behaviour to learn more about the bird’s preferences. This method is based on successful efforts conducted in Ecuador, Peru and Colombia with antpittas, another group of ground-dwelling birds. The forest guard will also be responsible for installing artificial nest cavities constructed of ceramic tubing.

Output 1.1.2. In Chile, at Isla Mocha Reserve in Chile, for *Eupsophus insularis* and at Mehuin 1 and Mehuin 2 for *Eupsophus migueli* and *Insuetophrynus acarpicus* respectively, habitat conservation enhanced through strengthened protection status and implementation of newly created or existing (Isla Mocha) management plans.

152. Baseline population surveys and mapping will provide targeted locations for project interventions designed to curb site level threats. In Isla Mocha, predation from invasive species and loss of habitat due to timber and fuel wood extraction are the main threats to declining amphibian populations. A current GEF project is addressing invasive species control, and this project will dovetail successful community outreach efforts for the globally Vulnerable Pink-footed Shearwater in order to raise awareness of the Isla Mocha Ground

Frog, adding an amphibian conservation messages rather than creating entirely new materials.

153. Species monitoring will reveal areas to target improved timber practices and fuel wood extraction in order to recover the species within the Reserve. In the second site, Mehuin, amphibian habitat is affected by timber harvesting and cattle grazing. Water quality, an essential element to amphibian habitat, declines due to sedimentation and altered pH from downed coniferous trees. Improved timber and cattle management practices as well as limited access to sensitive amphibian areas (eg breeding sites) will be targeted for the recovery of the species. Activities will include a threat assessment and mitigation strategy for the AZE trigger species, the development of education outreach and community engagement programs, and the See **Appendix 5** for detailed activities and timetable for implementation. Climate change adaptation needs will be considered in site management planning and the design of individual activities.

Output 1.1.3. At Tsitongambarika, Madagascar, habitat of two plant and 11 newly-discovered frog and reptile species is enhanced through a co-managed protected area and the implementation of a management and financing plan with a private sector partner.

154. The project will strengthen co-management between Asity Madagascar and KOMFITA, focusing particularly on KOMFITA, a new type of organisation in this area. A programme of capacity-building activities for management and governance will be designed and carried out, and support used to develop and implement joint implementation plans between Asity Madagascar and KOMFITA.
155. The Management Plan will be updated to include activities, previously missing, specific to AZE species, based on ecological and distributional studies, as well as considering climate change adaptation needs. Legal protection (whether temporary protection as granted in 2008, or permanent protection as expected in 2015) *per se* does not reduce the deforestation threat because enforcement resources and capacity in Government are inadequate and local people lack alternative sources of revenue or food. Therefore demonstration projects on the use of modern agricultural techniques will be provided by the project. These projects will be followed by wider extension activities. In view of ongoing challenges to law enforcement, the project will provide highly strategic, selective help to the forestry services to adequately perform their duties in the control of forest resource use until support from the government is back. It is understood that this support will decrease through the project period.
156. New contracts transferring natural resource management rights from Government to Community Associations (CoBas) will be established to revitalize the CoBas involved in community-based natural resource management. Close cooperation will be established between the Forest Services and the Associations, so that the results of monitoring by the Associations are passed to the authorities where laws appear to be being broken. The project will support the monitoring by the Associations, to ensure it is carried out regularly; this monitoring (externally validated) forms the basis of planning controls made by the administrative authorities, as well as the providing data on the status of AZE species. To reduce dependence of the population on natural resources for subsistence, and ultimately to dissuade people to cut forest for unsustainable agriculture, income-generating activities will be established to increase income sources. Villagers will be supported in setting up beekeeping, which has proven very profitable in recent trials by Asity Madagascar; short-cycle livestock (large animals or poultry) and new methods for rice cultivation will be tested. All these

activities will be accompanied by training and accompaniment from Asity Madagascar outreach staff. The ecological and socio-economic monitoring programmes carried out by the associations will again be important, this time in measuring the conservation impacts of the livelihood support elements.

Output 1.1.4. An additional 10 AZE sites covering a minimum of 120,000 ha will gain enhanced protection through additional projects, informed by progress at the three demonstration projects

157. An additional 10 AZE sites covering a minimum of 120,000 additional ha will gain enhanced protection through additional projects developed/implemented using the three demonstration projects as models. Both ABC and BirdLife have significant portfolios of site-based projects at AZE sites globally. See for example ABC’s Latin American Bird Reserve Network which includes 17 AZE sites; funds contributed to these projects are in the range of \$5,000,000 per annum depending on external donors. The precise sites will be selected as the project develops, but a list of potential existing projects for this output is presented below together with notes on how conservation management of these scaling-up sites will be funded in the longer term (**Table 6**). Apart from institutional funders and private donors, which may have limited sustainability, common approaches include ecotourism revenue, tapping local and national sources (often strategic, public-private partnerships), trust funds and biodiversity offsets. One particular area of leverage provided by the current project will be in linking government and NGO partners in enhancing the protection of these sites. Most of the work that has taken place thus far has been conducted by NGOs, and the opportunity to pilot collaborative NGO/government projects in three countries will provide model learning opportunities for the project proponents. For any site, CBD LifeWeb Zero Extinction Campaign may be an option for replication at AZE sites through Government-NGO Partnership, based on the strong interest of CBD in this project.
158. The importance of Brazil for AZE sites is clear (**Appendix 18**). This project intends to facilitate review of AZE sites in Brazil with funding for workshops with taxonomic experts, government agencies and conservation organizations, many of which form part of the national Brazil Alliance for Zero Extinction led by Fundacao Biodiversitas. National level activities will also focus on review of the coverage of protected areas to protect AZE species and mainstreaming of AZE into national plans and reporting. These topics will be covered in workshops and coordinated by the MMA and ICMBio. The latter agency will be responsible for carrying out the development of Species Action Plans
159. Due to the large size of Brazil and the wide geographic distribution of experts, this project proposes to conduct several regional workshops with stakeholders that will contribute more substantially to planning and implementation of conservation activities. For instance, in Pernambuco, the Murici region and AZE site, has experienced near total loss of the natural habitat. Efforts to organize relevant stakeholders has begun, most notably with the Association for the Protection of the Northeastern Atlantic Forest (AMANE), which involves leading conservation organizations active in the area, including SAVE Brasil. A report contracted by American Bird Conservancy is expected to be published at the completion of project planning phase. The results will aid formulation of next steps that will require broad consensus and financing from regional stakeholders and are anticipated to confirm that significant threats to the region persist, such as illegal hunting. A series of regional workshops, of which at least one will be funded by this project, will allow actors to meet together and plan key actions to reverse the critical status of species at this AZE site.

Table 6. Additional AZE sites that may gain enhanced protection through projects informed by progress at the three demonstration projects. Several of the sites are listed as top priorities for BirdLife and AZE/ABC institutional conservation programmes (BirdLife Preventing Extinctions and Forests of Hope Programmes; ABC/AZE site conservation and Oceans and Islands Programs); as such they are subject to long-term commitments to the site’s conservation, which includes finding the resources to fund their management; this is typically from private individuals or companies known to BirdLife and ABC/AZE, or from institutional funders, which cannot necessarily be predicted several years ahead.

AZE site name	Country	Area/ha (approx)	Funding prospects
Main project sites (outputs 1.1.1-3)			
Isla Mocha and Mehuin	Chile	2,368	ABC Oceans and Islands Program*, approaches to Patagonia Foundation
Bandeira / Macarani	Brazil	594	ABC/AZE Program; support to national partners to approach private sector (e.g. Petrobras) and foundations (e.g. Fundação Boticario)
Tsitongambarika	Madagascar	40,000	Biodiversity offsets, Madagascar Biodiversity Fund, Public-private partnership under discussion (German Government GIZ, Rio Tinto, BirdLife/Asity Madagascar), other institutional fundraising
Additional sites (output 1.1.4)			
Alto Mayo region	Peru	343,417	Amazon Headwaters Conservation Initiative, ABC/AZE Program; ecotourism revenue (already flowing)
Socorro Island	Mexico	13,200	ABC/AZE Program
Santa Marta	Colombia	700	World Land Trust, Rainforest Trust, ABC/AZE Program; ecotourism revenue (already flowing)
Bosques Secos del Valle del Río Chicamocha	Colombia	300,000	ABC/AZE Program, Robert Wilson Trust, Rainforest Trust
Osa Peninsula	Costa Rica	1,740	March Conservation Fund
Pradera de Tokio	Mexico	23,313	ABC/AZE Program*, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Sierra de Bahoruco	Dominican Republic	17,419	BirdLife Forests of Hope Programme*
Chapada do Araripe	Brazil	2,800	BirdLife Preventing Extinctions Programme*, partnership with private owners, new protected areas. ABC/AZE Program, March Conservation Fund.
Restinga de Maçambaba e Ilha de Cabo Frio	Brazil	26,000	BirdLife Preventing Extinctions Programme – protected area management
Fazenda Pindobas IV and Mata do Caetés	Brazil	3,100	BirdLife Preventing Extinctions Programme – protected area management and land acquisition
Serra do Baturité	Brazil	32,690	BirdLife Preventing Extinctions Programme – protected area development
Murici/Serra do Urubu	Brazil	6,116	BirdLife Forests of Hope Programme, Preventing Extinctions Programme, partnership with private owners, new protected areas, ABC/AZE Program, Mohammed bin Zayed

Bemanevika	Madagascar	37,041	Madagascar Biodiversity Fund, BirdLife Preventing Extinctions Programme
Mahavavy-Kinkony complex	Madagascar	302,000	Madagascar Biodiversity Fund, German Government partnerships (GIZ, BMZ BENG0 programme)
Sao Tome lowlands	São Tomé & Príncipe	10,000	BirdLife Preventing Extinctions and IBA Programmes: support to protected area, EU application
Taita Hills	Kenya	200	BirdLife Preventing Extinctions Programme, Land acquisition (achieved, more planned) with Nature Kenya (BirdLife in Kenya) and World Land Trust UK, funding through voluntary carbon offsetting and institutional funding
Liben Plains	Ethiopia	24,000	BirdLife Preventing Extinctions Programme, Darwin Initiative project, national rangeland management programmes
Total area		1,186,698	
Total area excluding sites >300,000 ha (likely only part-covered)		241,281	

160. While the details of project intervention will vary at each site, they will share the following common process: confirmation of site selection, METT baseline and target setting, development of site intervention goals, workplans and deliverables to be supported by this project, supervision of implementation (progress reports and any site visits), and final METT and reporting at project completion.

Outcome 2.1. The conservation of threatened species and the protection of AZE sites are mainstreamed into the safeguard policies of key financial institutions such as Equator Principles Financial Institutions and Multilateral Development Banks to minimize the impact of development projects on AZE sites

161. National: The project will work with national AZE alliances/partnerships and the leading partners in each country to identify and engage with national, regional and sub-regional lending institutions operating in the respective focal countries. With GEF support, the partners will provide training and capacity-building to national partners to more actively engage in productive dialogue with lending and financing institutions. The project will also ensure that the AZE global database is updated and that adequate outreach and data tools are made available to partners and banks to support decision-makers in AZE site-protection strategies. This will include improved awareness of and accessibility to AZE data online for relevant decision-makers, an updated global AZE site list and global site status assessment, technical guidance documents based on the AZE site list (including a map and GIS files), to inform and support the incorporation of AZE species and site considerations into Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) and Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEAs) and safeguard policies. The capacity of AZE members to partner with lending institutions will be strengthened and national AZE partnerships enhanced through outreach and training programs. Leading public financial institutions such as MDBs have the mandate, means and incentive to incorporate environmental impacts in project finance; AZE will therefore focus on carefully selected staff in the private sector that does not possess the same incentive or resources to be trained in the use of AZE tools and data will be adapted to fit their needs. This will ultimately lead to opportunities to find synergies between AZE site conservation needs and mitigation strategies of lenders to enhance site conservation through avoidance,

mitigation, and through compensation related to nearby project impacts (it is not likely feasible to offset direct AZE site impacts due to the uniqueness and irreplaceability of these sites).

162. Global: The global component of this work will follow a similar strategy to the national components but will be implemented primarily by BirdLife International in coordination with AZE. This component will also engage more directly with IUCN, and IBAT in advancing the focus on AZE sites in their work to engage financial institutions.. Project work will include direct outreach to IFIs such as the IFC and EIB on updating their references and improving their avoidance strategies, and EPFIs such as Citibank and HSBC. The project will also explore opportunities of working through UNEP Finance Initiative and Principles for Responsible Investment on inclusion of AZEs as Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) considerations in investment processes and with the UN Global Compact on business best practices. Presentation of AZE data and the need to include AZE sites in environmental standards and safeguards, will be delivered through a series of seminars, webinars, and one-on-one meetings with key staff in private financial institutions.

Output 2.1.1. Improved awareness of, and accessibility to, AZE data online for relevant decision-makers to facilitate mainstreaming, including updated global AZE site list and global site status assessment.

163. In the baseline scenario, AZE sites (and trigger species) have only been identified for birds, mammals, amphibians, some reptiles, reef-building corals and conifers. The data for these groups date to 2009-2010, and little information is available other than the site name, country, trigger species and digital boundaries. The data are stored in the WBDB, but with little functionality, and presented (simplistically) on a website (driven by a separate copy of the dataset).
164. In the GEF alternative scenario, the list of AZE sites and trigger species for these groups will be comprehensively updated to 2016. AZE sites will be identified for a suite of other taxonomic groups (chameleons, freshwater crabs, crayfish and shrimps, cycads, cacti and mangroves), and processes established to identify and integrate into the dataset AZE sites identify for non-comprehensively assessed taxonomic groups.
165. To achieve this, we will first develop the World Biodiversity Database (WBDB) to manage AZE data more effectively. AZE assessments will be updated for each of the six species groups that have been comprehensively assessed for the IUCN Red List and that are included in the current (2010) AZE dataset (birds, mammals, amphibians, reptiles [turtles & tortoises, iguanas and crocodilians only], reef-building corals and conifers). To add to these, we will identify and document AZE sites for species groups that have been comprehensively assessed for the IUCN Red List but are not included in the 2010 AZE dataset (chameleons, freshwater crabs, crayfish and shrimps, cycads, cacti and mangroves). A process will be developed to facilitate AZE site identification for species groups that have not yet been comprehensively assessed for the IUCN Red List (in other words, where some, but not all, taxa within the group have been assessed). The separate, dedicated AZE website will be developed to present lists of AZE sites and associated documentation (derived directly from World Biodiversity Database), improve user experience, accessibility, search functionality and display of spatial data for sites, and incorporate functionality to allow spatial dataset to be freely downloaded. Further details are in **Appendix 5**.

Output 2.1.2. Technical guidance documents based on 2.1.1, to inform and support the incorporation of AZE species and site considerations into EIA and safeguard policies.

166. A key approach in advancing AZE site conservation and the integration of broader biodiversity priorities is to integrate them in the safeguard policies of leading IFIs and other financial institutions. The project will ensure AZEs are addressed adequately in Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), where AZEs will be considered in the broader landscape that set the priorities for developers to consider integrated planning. The project will produce comprehensive and tailored guidance materials for use by development banks and financing institutions and for advocacy by AZE member organisations at national and regional levels. The guidance fact sheets and supporting reports will address the needs of AZE sites and species and be applicable in Environmental Assessment throughout the Project Cycle of key International Financial Institutions. Specifically they will address EIA and SEA processes; habitat definitions; and risk assessments at screening and scoping stage, implementation of impact assessments, and monitoring of mitigation actions. Leading IFIs have more comprehensive environmental standards and assessment frameworks in place which will enable an easier integration of AZEs compared to other financial institutions that lack these or have basic and less detailed risk and assessment frameworks in place. During co-investment process, the most robust environmental standards are used, these tend to be set as a precedence by leading IFIs for lenders decision making. All lenders involved in co-investment will be familiarized with AZEs during this process and the guidance will be made available on the AZE website and IBAT.
167. Site-level biodiversity priorities advocated by BirdLife and ABC/AZE include Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas, and Key Biodiversity Areas, of which AZE sites are a high-priority subset. This provides the opportunity for the project to promote wider conservation dialogue and broader integration of biodiversity priorities, beyond AZE sites, within safeguard policies through existing IBA and KBA frameworks, including associated training and advocacy.
168. The IFIs that have already incorporated AZEs in their safeguards will be approached independently with a separate strategy. IADB is aware of AZE but has not incorporated AZE designations in their safeguards and will therefore belong to the list of IFIs that require engagement on safeguard incorporation. IFC and EIB have included AZEs in their safeguards, but IFC references date back to 2011 and both IFC and EIB require updating to incorporate new information. This includes the AZE website and any new references recommended by this project and an introduction to the improved set of AZE data and IBAT use on AZEs. IFIs generally lack clear guidelines of the extent avoidance measures need to be demonstrated before moving on the other steps in the mitigation hierarchy, including demonstrating avoidance types in design, temporal, spatial, technology, and management systems. AZEs require a robust set of avoidance measure to ensure they are safeguarded at the onset of a project, emphasis on avoidance will be advocated in the engagement with IFC and EIB.
169. Both IFI staff and AZE member organizations need to contribute to better safeguard policies when they are up for review: IFI staff by producing robust drafts, and AZE members by providing robust comments. A scoping document will identify advocacy targets and review opportunities, and AZE member organisations will then undertake targeted advocacy to strengthen safeguard policies of IFIs in order to ensure that AZE sites and species are referenced.. AZE member organisations will work with relevant IFIs and EPFIs to ensure AZE information and guidance is best accessed and utilised to contribute to reviews of their

safeguard policies so that AZE sites and species are clearly and adequately referenced in their safeguard policies.

170. Project staff will engage with relevant financial institutions to ensure AZE species and site guidance is accessed and utilised to strengthen compliance with and implementation of safeguard policies and understanding of likely impacts, and AZE members will comment on safeguard policies posted online. The project will take account of where the financial institutions access their data, and consider making data generated in 2.1.1 available through IBAT or the AZE website.

Output 2.1.3. Capacity of AZE members to partner with lending institutions strengthened and national AZE networks enhanced through outreach and training programs.

171. Capacity development needs will be scoped with AZE member organisations, leading to a capacity development programme document addressing gaps in capacity and knowledge. This will be followed by workshops to train staff from AZE member organisations in safeguard policies covering EIA, SEA and decisions on the mitigation hierarchy; this will target the existing group structure e.g national groups in 3 priority countries, relevant existing BirdLife Partnership Working Groups. This will be reinforced with webinars for AZE member organisations in safeguard policies and guidance. Project staff will work with AZE member organisation staff to reach out to IFI staff at national, regional and global levels through bilateral meetings and key safeguard-related meetings to disseminate information on AZEs. Throughout this process, regular engagement of project staff will be ensured with bank staff in national and regional lending institutions, especially in the 3 focal countries.

Output 2.1.4. Staff in private financial institutions trained in use of AZE tools and data.

172. Project staff and AZE member staff will develop working relationships with key staff in private financial institutions such as EPFIs, based on a targeted plan for outreach, and build on these to scope the needs of staff in financial institutions to use tools, data and guidance to be integrated in their risk assessment frameworks and environmental policies. A webinar and seminars for bank staff will encourage consideration of AZE sites and species within safeguard reviews as well as compliance with and implementation of existing safeguard policies and understanding of likely impacts. When these steps have been completed, AZE member staff will be in a position to provide targeted support to financial institutions at times when bank safeguards are under review: the key to successful mainstreaming.

Output 2.1.5. Synergies identified and AZE site conservation opportunities mainstreamed with existing and planned donor/agency and private sector financing programs.

173. The first step will be a review to identify and review lessons learned in any cases where private sector financing programs reflect AZEs, for example CEPF (which is in fact funded from a combination of private, bilateral and multilateral sources including GEF). The project will also scope out opportunities through UNEP’s Finance Initiative, and UN-supported Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI) and UN Global Compact, and support IBAT to renew subscriptions or secure new subscription to IBAT, as this will be a key outlet for project outputs. IFIs will be supported or advised through bilateral meetings and seminars with key staff in lending institutions about use of AZE data (via IBAT) in project appraisals; for prospective projects, the project will promote use of AZE information in screening and scoping mitigation decisions to enhance site conservation through avoidance measures.

Outcome 2.2. AZE site conservation is mainstreamed into national biodiversity strategies, in support of CBD targets

174. The project will ensure the development and implementation of at least three pilot National AZE Strategies (Brazil, Chile, and Madagascar). These are then to be mainstreamed into the implementation of the respective national NBSAPs and PoWPA Action Plans relevant to long-term AZE site financing and sustainability. Based on the three national strategies developed for the project countries, AZE will then produce documentation to inform and support incorporation of AZE priorities into further NBSAPs and PoWPA Action Plan processes and their implementation globally, with at least two additional countries supported under the current project to prove scalability.
175. AZE will update the AZE global site data set and produce a new global “scorecard” that will track progress towards the protection of AZE sites. Through this effort, global awareness of the importance and conservation status of AZE site network will be enhanced to support improved conservation efforts at local, national, regional and global levels. A project communications strategy will define outreach and awareness interventions, including the following elements. The outreach and networking capacity of the global AZE network and national AZE alliances or partnerships in key countries will be significantly improved to support site conservation action at all levels. Promotional materials will be developed and success stories from model national projects will also be shared. At least five countries (including the project countries of Brazil, Chile, and Madagascar) will be encouraged to take steps to implement AZE site conservation projects including both national government and NGO partners, with support from donors such as LifeWeb contributors. AZE will also work to engage national AZE partnerships and other relevant experts to help them provide input to national NBSAP and PoWPA processes, and to assist national CBD reporting (such as through national AZE workshops and training courses). For example, AZE is working with national alliances in Colombia, India, Mexico, and Peru to include reference to AZE in NBSAPs for those countries, and is in discussion with CONABIO (National Commission for Knowledge and Use of Biodiversity, which operates the National Information System on Biodiversity) in Mexico regarding the forthcoming AZE data update and the verification of Mexican AZE sites.
176. The NBSAP Forum is a global partnership aiming to support NBSAP revisions. It is hosted by the Secretariat of Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) but managed by WCMC. The purpose of the NBSAP Forum web portal is to support countries in finding the information they need to develop and implement effective National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs). UNEP and WCMC will support countries in the integration of AZE priorities into NBSAPs through the NBSAP Forum and through the specific NBSAP revision projects for which UNEP currently serves as the GEF Implementing Agency.
177. UNEP is responsible for supporting NBSAP revisions in some 80 countries most of them Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States. Through the newly started global project entitled “Support to GEF Eligible Countries for achieving Aichi Biodiversity Target 17 through a globally guided NBSAPs update process” the UNEP (Division of Environmental Policy Implementation (DEPI), and Division of Environmental Law and Conventions) and UNEP-World Conservation Monitoring Center will work with countries to ensure that AZE issues are incorporated in the revised NBSAPs, as follows:

- Through the NBSAP Forum portal (www.nbsapforum.net) AZE data tools and relevant documentation will be uploaded into the portal and subsequently the NBSAP country focal points will be asked to ensure incorporation into the revised NBSAPs.
- AZE will be discussed in the global webinars which will be organized by WCMC through the project “Support to GEF Eligible Countries for achieving Aichi Biodiversity Target 17 through a globally guided NBSAPs update process”.

178. The current inclusion of AZE in a small number of NBSAPs and PoWPA Action Plans provides proof of concept, and the combined engagement of UNEP, the United Nations Development Program, CBD, and AZE partners in the project provides an excellent opportunity to scale the project up to include multiple NBSAPs and PoWPA action plans. By concentrating initially on the development of three model national AZE strategies that can be replicated elsewhere, the project will be able to showcase national pilot strategies in a variety of fora, such as CBD and IUCN meetings to encourage uptake and implementation by additional nations.

179. **In Brazil and Chile**, a review of AZE sites will be conducted in order to inform national conservation planning, such as NBSAPs and PoWPA Action Plans. Experts from a variety of taxonomic areas will be convened to update the delineation of AZE sites using the global and national red list of threatened species. Subsequent gap analyses will be performed to explore the extent of AZE sites that require increased protection. These findings will be incorporated into national planning documents, NBSAPs and PoWPA Action Plans, and also inform concurrent GEF and non-GEF projects underway.

180. **In Madagascar**, the national intervention strategy is first to update the information on AZE sites and species. To do so, national consultations with organizations working on potentially appropriate species and sites will be organized. Data will be gathered from organisations showing interest in establishing a national Alliance for Zero Extinction; this may (based on consultations during the PPG phase) catalyse the formal creation of such an alliance, but in any case (i.e. even if this is not formalised) the participating organisations will in turn underpin the development of the AZE site and species conservation strategy and the mainstreaming of this strategy into national policies for the conservation of biodiversity in Madagascar (in particular the NBSAP and PoWPA Action Planning processes). Meanwhile, national activities will be informed by the demonstration project at a site that appears to be among the richest in AZE species (Tsitongambarika).

Output 2.2.1. Development and implementation of at least three pilot AZE National Strategies (Brazil, Chile, and Madagascar) mainstreamed into NBSAPs and PoWPA Action Plans, and plans developed and adopted for long-term financing and sustainability.

181. Three pilot National AZE Strategies in Brazil, Chile, and Madagascar will be based on a national level review of current AZE sites using current global AZE sites, the most up-to-date national red list information, and through a series of workshops with taxonomic experts. The objective of the meetings will be to validate the designation and delineation of AZE sites with up-to-date biological information. An analysis will be performed to identify the overlap of national AZE sites with the existing protected area networks in each country. The resulting information will be used in the production of national AZE maps and gap analyses.

182. Adoption of National AZE Strategies will be made possible through inclusion of local, regional and national stakeholders integrated with existing national processes. For instance, in both Brazil and Chile, the recent publication of national Lists of Threatened Species will allow

experts to use updated information to accurately identify and delineate AZE sites, including potentially the addition of new taxonomic groups to AZE – such as freshwater fish (see Section 3.3, Output 2.1.1 Activity 5). Brazil’s updated national red list doubled the number of threatened species to over one thousand, which presents a challenge to government resources. As the subset of species most likely facing extinction, AZE species will be prioritized for the development of Species Action Plans by the Chico Mendes Institute. Chile will also benefit from the existing national Amphibian Recuperation, Conservation and Management Plan, which can be updated with additional information generated from the national AZE review. Brazil wants to expand its capacity to measure the effectiveness and representativeness of its national protected areas system, and AZE sites provide a tool to measure these important metrics. Madagascar has not developed national Red Lists, but the project will build on plans developed for high-level, species-rich taxa such as lemurs and frogs. Building AZE site protection into these existing national planning documents as well as explicitly including AZE in PoWPA Action Plans and NBSAPs (and subsequent implementation and reporting, potentially including National CBD Reports) help ensure long-term sustainability. The results of these initiatives can also feed into the global AZE data update. Climate change adaptation also requires consideration in national and site planning documents in terms of managing the risks associated with future impacts on AZE sites.

Output 2.2.2. Technical guidance documents (based on the strategies developed under 2.2.1) inform and support incorporation of AZE priorities in the development of further NBSAPs and PoWPA Action Plans globally.

183. Based on the AZE data update covered elsewhere in this document, and the national AZE strategies developed under 2.2.1, AZE will develop information tools and supporting documents to assist NBSAP and PoWPA Action Plan authors in including the conservation of AZE sites into updates of their respective national plan documents to support implementation of AZE site conservation nationally.
184. The work under outcome 2.1 will include updating the global AZE site polygons, and improving the AZE website; AZE site polygons will be made available to view, or to download in both Arc Geographic Information System and Google Earth compatible formats. This will make it easier for NBSAP and PoWPA Action Plan authors to access data on their national AZE sites and species. AZE will conduct a simple gap analysis to create a “scorecard” indicating what proportion of AZE sites have already been incorporated in national protected areas systems, and what gaps still exist. AZE will also develop communications that summarize the updated information and how it can be best used to enhance the respective national documents. The AZE site polygons will also be provided for use by the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) in the NBSAP Forum; to the managers of additional data platforms such as the Integrated Biodiversity Assessment Tool; and to other users of global biodiversity data such as the International Union for the Conservation of Nature, the World Bank, the International Finance Corporation, the Inter-American Development Bank, NatureServe, the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Center, and others (see **Outcome 2.1** on IFI safeguard policies also).
185. Case studies from the three participating countries will also be written up, and details provided on the AZE website so that other NBSAP and PoWPA Action Plan authors and implementing agencies can see how AZE conservation strategies were developed in Brazil, Chile, and Madagascar to inspire the development and implementation of similar strategies elsewhere (see Output 2.2.4). We will work with the CBD’s LifeWeb program, and potentially other donors, to seek opportunities to assist with the development and implementation of these

additional national strategies. The CBD LifeWeb Zero Extinction Campaign has been developed to help support AZE conservation, especially through the implementation of site-based projects at AZE sites. It has also been agreed that AZE will provide “assistance to CBD Parties with integrating the zero extinction target into national biodiversity strategies and action plans” through an MOU between AZE and CBD.

186. All of the documents and data tools will also be made widely available to AZE members to use in outreach as described under 2.2.3, and will be used by staff in direct outreach to plan authors.

187. To better facilitate the inclusion of AZE in NBSAPs and PoWPA Action Plans in a timely manner, initial outreach under 2.2.3 below will be conducted based on the existing AZE data set (2010 data). Document authors will be informed of the forthcoming AZE data update and gap analysis referred to here so they can incorporate it as soon as it is available.

Output 2.2.3. Consolidated and strengthened national AZE partnerships use project outputs to support NBSAP and PoWPA processes, national CBD reporting and enhanced AZE site conservation through targeted capacity development and outreach programs

188. AZE staff will work with NGO partners to help advance AZE site conservation in the five countries where formal AZE Alliances exist (Brazil, Colombia, India, Mexico, and Peru), and the two additional project countries (Chile and Madagascar). This output focuses on broadening the technical input to national AZE strategies and site inventories through the engagement of a wide constituency of taxonomic and regional experts who can help to strengthen and socialise the outputs to civil society and additional regional conservation and community organizations.

189. AZE will also work with the CBD Secretariat, UNEP, BirdLife and IUCN, to reach out directly to NBSAP and PoWPA Action Plan authors and implementing agencies in thirteen additional countries (total of 20 countries) with an emphasis on megadiverse countries. The AZE Secretariat is also in discussion with CBD regarding aspects of the new online reporting tool that could potentially include AZE sites. Members of the IUCN leadership recently wrote to CBD focal points requesting that parties “Include a gap analysis of AZE sites in your National Biodiversity Strategic Action Plan to identify which sites fall within your existing protected area network and which need protection.” The Executive Secretary of CBD also recently agreed to write to NBSAP authors in support of the inclusion of AZE sites in NBSAPs. AZE staff will follow up on these initiatives by making direct contact with 20 total focal points, and will seek to engage additional AZE NGO members in working to support the inclusion of AZE sites in the respective national documents. Mini-workshops will be held in the four most promising countries following the additional contacts, and full AZE strategy workshops will then be held in the three project countries (Brazil, Chile, and Madagascar) and the two most promising additional countries. AZE data products and gap analyses will provide training resources for these workshops.

190. AZE is working with UNEP to prepare a message to the 81 countries which UNEP is helping complete their NBSAP revisions, which provides guidance on including AZE. Particular emphasis will be placed on those 26 countries for which AZE sites have already been identified for globally assessed taxa. This will take the form of a message from UNEP staff supported by a fact sheet with recommended AZE text, plus information uploaded to the NBSAP forum for further reference. The project will follow up, in coordination with UNEP,

with 20 total countries directly to discuss the inclusion of AZE in NBSAPs and PoWPA Action Plans. This will (where possible involving existing national Alliances) lead to mini-workshops in the four most promising countries to introduce AZE and discuss ways to collaborate, followed by narrowing down to two countries for in-depth workshops and training on AZE to support inclusion in NBSAPs and PoWPA Action Plans and their implementation (in addition to the three project countries of Brazil, Chile, and Madagascar). Participation is summarised in Table 7.

191. Following the above workshops, the project will support the development of new funding and Protected Area proposals with Governments and other stakeholders, including under the CBD LifeWeb Zero Extinction campaign, to increase protection at AZE sites in (in addition to the three project countries) at least 5 additional countries among the 20 referred to in the previous paragraph. For example, Peru has also already conducted a national AZE workshop and is a strong candidate to be included since a LifeWeb proposal to implement conservation at identified Peruvian sites is already being developed. It is anticipated that additional potential countries will be identified during the course of the project from our outreach through existing alliances, and/or through contacts facilitated by CBD, IUCN, BirdLife or UNEP. We will place an emphasis on megadiverse countries and those with large numbers of AZE sites.

192. The project will result in complete national strategies for Brazil, Chile, and Madagascar, with field project implementation; identified prospects for implementation in additional countries with existing national alliances (Colombia, India, Mexico, and Peru); and additional countries to join the initiative based on outreach with partners and discussions with focal points.

Table 7. Summary of country outreach and workshops	
Countries already confirmed as participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three major in-depth AZE strategy workshops will be held in existing project countries (Brazil, Chile, Madagascar) supported by STAR allocations.
Countries to be confirmed as project participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Following the UNEP initiative on NBSAPs and AZE, the CBD Executive Secretary will reinforce this by writing to all focal points regarding the AZE data update and the inclusion of AZE in NBSAPs and PoWPA Action Plans. • AZE will conduct direct outreach by phone and e-mail to at least 20 focal points to gauge interest and set up meetings/discussions – with an emphasis on megadiverse countries and those with large numbers of AZE sites. • Four mini-workshops will be held in yet-to-be-selected countries – e.g., megadiverse countries and countries with large numbers of AZE sites – to introduce AZE and develop collaborations between national AZE alliances/members and NBSAP and PoWPA authors (e.g., potentially Colombia, India etc.) • Two additional major AZE strategy workshops in two additional countries to be identified during the performance period supported by GEF funds (potentially including Peru and Mexico). • Support to development of new funding and Protected Area proposals for AZE sites in 3 project countries plus 5 or more

	others.
--	---------

3.4. Intervention logic and key assumptions

193. The project strategy addresses the barriers identified earlier in **Section 3.1**. These include the following key issues:

- Conservation efforts and new Protected Area creation are primarily (and explicitly) focused on ecosystems and in most cases large areas of habitat. In some cases, they miss irreplaceable sites for highly unique, threatened species which often occupy relatively small areas; in others, highly threatened species occur at sites protected, but species-specific conservation management measures are not sufficiently implemented (e.g. prevention of illegal hunting and trapping in reserves where the management priority is avoiding deforestation).
- Local natural resource managers often have insufficient knowledge of AZE species, and even if they know of them, technical or operational capacity to develop and implement actions to conserve them is often lacking.
- Organisations working with AZE species have not formed formal national alliances (most cases) to ensure adequate promotion of conservation of AZE species and sites
- There is no specific intention to include AZE sites and species in the NBSAPs and PoWPA Action Plans
- Local communities are unaware of the global uniqueness and importance of the AZE species in their area, and have few if any alternatives to their current practices, particularly shifting agriculture, that threaten AZE species.
- Funding strategies of conservation donors do not always pay specific attention to globally irreplaceable sites for biodiversity conservation due a lack of access to AZE data.

194. The project intervention logic makes the following key assumptions in proposing the GEF intervention (see **Table 8**). An overarching assumption is that stakeholders (including local communities, governments, decision-makers and the private sector) will be willing to engage with the project, and adopt and use the recommended tools for AZE site and species conservation. Achievement of the project objective will required this political and social willingness to engage with the project’s initiatives, coupled with behavioral changes among local stakeholders at the demonstration sites, in order to secure effective conservation management at AZE sites.

Table 8. Assumptions at project outcomes level

Outcomes	Assumptions
<p>Outcome 1.1. Creation and improved management effectiveness of protected areas covering at least 160,000 ha of AZE sites, with improved conservation status of at least 27 AZE species at a total of five demonstration sites in Brazil, Chile and Madagascar and at an additional 10 sites globally.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • METT gives a true and complete assessment of management effectiveness related to the achievement of site conservation goals • Brazil: Interest among private landowners and local Governments in establishing RPPNs and complying with Forest Code is forthcoming. • Chile: Effective site management can precede lengthy process of formal declaration as protected area. • Madagascar: Government continues with confirmation of new PAs, following Promise of Sydney.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chile: AZE amphibian populations can be assessed, despite their scarcity, by viable field methodologies. • Madagascar: Amphibian fungus Bd, recently confirmed present in Madagascar, does not reach, and cause mortality to frogs in, Tsitongambarika • Lessons learned from demonstration sites can be applied to replication sites, and project duration is sufficient to achieve initial results at replication sites
<p>Outcome 2.1. The conservation of threatened species and the protection of AZE sites are mainstreamed into the safeguard policies of key financial institutions such as Equator Principles Financial Institutions and Multilateral Development Banks to minimize the impact of development projects on AZE sites.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specialist Groups and experts engage in process to identify and verify sites • AZE website visitors access and use the information presented • Opportunities to influence IFI policies occur during lifespan of project • IFIs are open to dialogue, uptake of guidance and information sharing
<p>Outcome 2.2: AZE site conservation is mainstreamed into national biodiversity strategies, in support of CBD targets.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Political support is sustained for the incorporation of AZE into national policies and plans by the implementing partner governments • NBSAP and PoWPA Action Plan updates or CBD National Reports are completed according to a schedule that allows AZE to be incorporated by end of project

195. General assumptions applying to project implementation are that:
- Baseline conditions (including threats, barriers to success, and responses) in the selected demonstration sites can be extrapolated with confidence to other AZE sites in the three demonstration countries of Brazil, Chile and Madagascar, and to some extent to AZE sites elsewhere (noting the great diversity of situations involved). Certain commonalities will apply in that site management will be geared specifically towards reducing key threats impacting the species in question, reducing overall vulnerabilities of the sites, and strengthening the scientific understanding of the species ecology and population status.
 - Increased awareness and capacity will lead to changes in behaviour with respect to the concerned issues - integration of AZE species conservation priorities into local land use policies and practices, national conservation plans and policies, and the safeguard policies of international finance institutions.
 - Effective management of sites supporting AZE species will increasingly become a national priority for the countries targeted by this project as knowledge and information are made available.

Introduction to the Project Sites

196. Component 1 will focus on strengthening management effectiveness at five demonstration AZE sites in three countries, Brazil, Chile and Madagascar. A range of activities will be implemented at each of these sites, described in **Appendix 5**, in order to address local threats and to develop site management capacity. A summary of the main

characteristics of each demonstration site is given in **Table 9** below. See the site profiles in **Appendix 15** for further information including site maps.

Table 9. Summary information on the five project demonstration sites

Protected Area Name (Administrative Unit)	Size (Ha) and Year of Gazettal	Current Management Situation	AZE Target Species and other Key Species	Local Threats	Opportunities for Project Intervention
Mata do Passarinho Reserve (Bahia and Minas Gerais, Brazil)	654 (2007)	Managed by NGO (Biodiversitas) Number of staff: 4 Annual Budget: US\$80,000	Stresemann's Bristlefront <i>Merulax stresemanni</i> (CR) Also: <i>Cebus xanthosternos</i> (CR) <i>Phylloscartes beckeri</i> (EN) <i>Amazona rhodocorytha</i> (EN) <i>Touit melanonotus</i> (EN) <i>Cotinga maculata</i> (EN)	Logging, agricultural expansion, conversion of forest to pasture, human encroachment, forest fire	This reserve protects one of the most threatened species in Brazil and provides the best opportunity for protection of the severely fragmented habitats of the Atlantic Forest biome. Community initiatives underway provide a strong opportunity to engage local people in the protection of this species.
Isla Mocha Reserve (Arauco Province, Chile)	2,181 (1988)	National Reserve managed by CONAF Number of staff: 5 Annual budget: US\$26,500	Mocha Island Ground Frog <i>Eupsophus insularis</i> (CR) Also: Pink-footed Shearwater <i>Ardenna creatopus</i> (VU) <i>Octodon pacificus</i> (CR, presumed extinct)	Predation from invasive species, primarily cats and rats Loss of habitat	Ongoing GEF project on invasive species is addressing one of the main threats to native wildlife, but harvest of timber and fuel wood is not being addressed adequately and presents an opportunity for this project to have a positive impact.
Mehuín, Chile	Not currently protected	Currently no formally protected areas; private property landowners are devoted to amphibian conservation at Don Isaac, Teresa, and Llenhue properties.	<i>Insuetophrynus acarpicus</i> (CR) Miguel's Ground Frog <i>Eupsophus migueli</i> (EN)	Erosion and water quality are affected by timber harvesting (felled conifers alter the pH) and cattle resulting in loss of habitat and ecological change	Reducing negative impacts from timber and cattle are possible through improved practices in both industries. Areas with are small and best management practices could easily avoid these areas given improved biological information and targeted interventions (eg fencing along specific ravines where frogs are present).
Forêt de Tsitongambarika, Tolagnaro District,	60,000 ha Project focal area 40,000	Temporary Protection Co-management between Asity	Plants: <i>Ravenea musicalis</i> (CR) <i>Micronychia bemangidiensis</i> (EN) Amphibians:	Deforestation, selective logging, leading to habitat loss, fragmentation and	(1) Strong political will: Tsitongambarika was among the first new Protected Areas to be created with temporary protection under the

<p>Anosy Region</p>	<p>ha) Temporary protection, 2008</p>	<p>Madagascar and KOMFITA ; part of the site (4000 ha) designated as a biodiversity offset site for mining project by Rio Tinto QMM</p> <p>Number of staff: 20 part-time</p> <p>Annual Budget: US\$ 130,000 excl. salaries</p>	<p><i>Boophis</i> sp. nov. 1 <i>Boophis</i> sp. nov. 2 <i>Gephyromantis</i> sp. nov. <i>Spinomantis</i> sp. nov. <i>Vatomantis</i> sp. nov. <i>Mantidactylus</i> sp. nov. Reptiles: <i>Brookesia</i> sp. nov. <i>Liophidium</i> sp. nov. <i>Liopholidophis</i> sp. nov. <i>Lygodactylus</i> sp. nov. <i>Phelsuma</i> sp. nov. Also: 6 threatened birds (1 EN, 5 VU) 7 threatened mammals, including <i>Lepilemur fleuretae</i> (CR) 3 new species of ant 55 other threatened or locally endemic plant 23 threatened or locally endemic molluscs Total at least 60 threatened species</p>	<p>direct mortality of larger mammal and bird species through hunting.</p>	<p>Government’s Protected Area expansion programme after 2003. Upgrading to permanent protection is expected in 2015.</p> <p>(2) Innovative biodiversity offsets programme. Tsitongambarika was selected by Rio Tinto as its global pilot for achievement of Net Positive Impact including biodiversity offsetting, bringing technical assistance, long-term cofinancing for the offset area, leverage for the non-offset area (avoidance of leakage)</p> <p>(3) Ongoing , exceptional rate of discovery of new species of fauna and flora, giving high profile</p>
---------------------	---	--	--	--	---

3.5. Risk analysis and risk management measures

197. During project preparation, risks were updated from those presented at PIF stage, elaborated and classified according to risk categories¹⁰, and assessed according to criteria of ‘impact’ and ‘likelihood’ (see **Box 1** and **Table 10** below). These risks and the mitigation measures will be continuously monitored and updated throughout the project, and will be reported in the PIRs. The UNEP Environmental and Social Checklist (see **Appendix 16**) has been applied during project preparation and did not identify any significant environmental or social risks associated with the proposed project. In general, the project will contribute positively towards the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity at AZE sites in the selected demonstration countries, as well as globally through their mainstreaming into NBSAPs, PoWPA Action Plans and financial institutions safeguard policies. The project will also contribute towards the involvement of indigenous and local communities in community-based natural resource management, co-management of protected areas and improved land use sustainability associated with AZE sites.

<i>Box 1. Risk Assessment Guiding Matrix</i>						
		Impact				
		CRITICAL	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW	NEGLECTIBLE
Likelihood	CERTAIN / IMMINENT	Critical	Critical	High	Medium	Low
	VERY LIKELY	Critical	High	High	Medium	Low
	LIKELY	High	High	Medium	Low	Negligible
	MODERATELY LIKELY	Medium	Medium	Low	Low	Negligible
	UNLIKELY	Low	Low	Negligible	Negligible	Considered to pose no determinable risk

¹⁰Includes the following eight categories: environmental; financial; operational; organizational; political; regulatory; strategic; and other.

Table 10. Project Risks Assessment and Mitigation Measures

Identified Risks	Category	Impact	Likelihood	Risk Assessment	Mitigation Measures
<p>1. Weak coordination among ministerial bodies and lack of support from national governments at the national and local level to support the conservation of AZE sites.</p>	Strategic	High	Moderately Likely	Medium	<p>Building on the lessons of other GEF projects it will be critical to foster government ownership from the onset. Practical measures to pre-empt this risk will be to establish coordination mechanisms comprised of both civil society and government personnel. Government staff will also be involved on relevant local Steering Committees and governance structures. To ensure sustainability, measures will be taken to facilitate government support for conservation activities in partnership with the AZE members and partners, after the project cycle has ended. Effective inter-ministerial bodies such as Madagascar’s SAPM Commission will help to mitigate this risk.</p>
<p>2. Government turnover leading to changes in political direction. This risk appears to be strongest in Madagascar, in view of the 2009-2013 political crisis, but has been reduced by the recent election, and by the long-term involvement of key government officials in conservation efforts. Conservation policy directions including the new Protected Areas initiative have been largely maintained (albeit sometimes interrupted) through several changes of government including the recent crisis.</p>	Political	High	Moderately Likely	Medium	<p>To counter this risk it is essential foster a sense of Return on Investment and demonstrate how the conservation of AZE sites benefits national interests. Particular attention needs to be devoted to sustaining government engagement through a combination of high level, public, and working level meetings to leverage maximum political commitment. All major agreements should be clearly documented and signed off by relevant government agencies. This risk can be minimized by ensuring that staff at a variety of levels are engaged in national AZE discussions.</p> <p>The present government has committed to place the conservation of natural capital, always with the participation of local communities, at the heart of the national strategy for sustainable development, and similar policies have been maintained through several earlier changes of Government, and so are</p>

					considered likely to be maintained.
3. Unwillingness to cooperate and sacrifice local or national interests for the achievement of global environmental benefits and conservation of AZE sites.	Strategic	Medium	Moderately Likely	Low	A well-designed communications strategy at the global level, and at each site, will provide the foundation for project success, networking among AZE sites’ practitioners, while highlighting the benefits of measures to improve biodiversity conservation and habitat quality across boundaries. In Madagascar, local communities around Tsitongambarika have endorsed PA creation under appropriate governance through KOMFITA, and pilot projects have shown strong willingness to adopt sustainable development practices and reduce or abandon deforestation where support can be directed. In Brazil, private landowners and local Governments have confirmed their willingness to cooperate in establishing Private Nature Reserves and complying with Forest Code in reforestation programmes. In Chile, no major risks of this type are known.
4. Opportunities to influence IFI policies fail to occur during lifespan of project	Operational	High	Moderately likely	Medium	Success does not depend on all IFI policies being open for complete review. The number of IFIs is large and, although policies of each one are rarely reviewed, it is expected that some will be during the period. The project will engage on the basis of international best-practice approaches that IFIs have committed to in their environmental policies; this can be done through a case-by-case approach by forming close relationships with IFI environmental specialists to influence the decision-making and requirements on EIAs/SEAs. The project will also collect evidence of how weak policies affect the outcome of a project and revive the information when reviews are underway.
5. Insufficient awareness of climate change and adaptation issues affecting AZE sites among key stakeholders including national and local government officials and local communities. Unanticipated events such as severe droughts can impact project activities, such as reforestation at	Operational	Medium	Moderately Likely	Low	Climate change and adaptation will be incorporated into conservation planning at national level (such as NBSAPs and PoWPA APs) and site level, and mainstreamed into awareness and capacity building tools to be developed by the project. A recent study suggests that existing prioritization methods such as

the Brazilian site.					the Red List that informs AZE are in fact good predictors of climate change risk. Extreme events during project implementation such as severe droughts will entail some flexibility in approach so that fire risk management is prioritized, and failure of replanting efforts is avoided through appropriate steps.
6. Communities resident in areas surrounding target AZE sites may not be supportive of conservation plans. This may arise from lack of awareness of the significance of such sites, as well as the potential for government restrictions on land uses and access to natural resources in order to ensure habitat and species protection	Operational	High	Moderately Likely	Medium	A comprehensive community outreach plan for each target AZE site will be developed and implemented. At the Madagascar site, this, and consequent actions, will be based on the existing Social and Environmental Safeguards Plan based on comprehensive community consultation with and approval by local communities. The generation of socio-economic benefits will be emphasized as part of the establishment and management of target AZE sites. Where applicable, priority in job creation and capacity building will be given to the disadvantaged social groups, including women’s groups, within the surrounding community.
7. The needs and priorities of the more disadvantaged groups of society, including Indigenous groups and Women Groups may not be adequately taken into account by conservation and development plans for AZE sites.	Operational	Low	Moderately Likely	Low	Stakeholder consultation and involvement mechanisms at all levels to be ensured during the project preparation, design and implementation of the overall project with highlighted features in site level interventions. Where applicable, priority in job creation, capacity building and project-related income generation activities will be given to the disadvantaged social groups, including women’s groups, within the surrounding communities.

3.6. Consistency with national priorities or plans

198. In both **Chile and Brazil**, the project site work and national components will contribute towards the implementation of threatened species and protected areas targets in respective NBSAPs and PoWPA Action Plans to meet national obligations towards the Convention on Biological Diversity. The project will ensure the development and implementation of at least three pilot National AZE Strategies (Brazil, Chile, and Madagascar) that are then mainstreamed into the respective national NBSAPs and PoWPA Action Plans, including strategies for long-term financing and sustainability. AZE will work to consolidate and strengthen national AZE partnerships to help them provide input to these NBSAP and PoWPA processes, and to assist national CBD reporting (such as through national AZE workshops and training courses). This work will be piloted nationally and scaled up globally.
199. **Brazil’s** NBSAP’s second objective is to promote the conservation of species diversity, which is further supported by goals that envision 100% of threatened species effectively conserved in Protected Areas and reducing by 25% the threatened species on the national list. Brazil’s 4th National Report to CBD on its NBSAP specifically references in their national biodiversity targets, a goal of 100% of threatened species effectively conserved in Protected Areas and “all species officially recognized as threatened with extinction in Brazil the object of action plans and active advisory groups”.
200. **Chile’s** NBSAP’s second objective calls for the preservation of species, and specifically to prioritize conservation efforts for endangered species. Chile’s 4th National Report to CBD references the extinction of at least two species of vertebrates, and prioritizes the development of policies to protected species in danger of extinction and to promote actions to recuperate the most threatened species.
201. In **Madagascar**, the project will be closely coordinated with, and will contribute to, actions to realize the President’s promises at the World Parks Congress, Sydney, in 2014, to confirm the permanent protection of hitherto ‘temporary’ protected areas in 2015 (followed by implementation), to eradicate trafficking of valuable timber such as rosewood, and to engage local communities in conservation and sustainable development. This declaration is part of the basis for the development of the current National Development Plan, to which the project therefore contributes. The key bodies for coordination will be the SAPM Commission, and the Department for Biodiversity Conservation and Protected Area System within MEEMF; Asity Madagascar is already an active member of the first, and engages closely with the second.
202. The project will contribute towards to the establishment and expansion of the Protected Areas System of Madagascar, as defined most recently in the PoWPA 2012-2020 (section 2.6) and earlier plans such as the Madagascar Action Plan. Actions under the project bring together the three strategic axes of the 2002 NBSAP (although this pre-dates the protected area expansion initiative): conservation of biodiversity, promoting sustainable use of biodiversity, and reducing pressures on biological resources. The new NBSAP has not yet been finalised, but is expected to place a stronger emphasis on community-based protected area management as the primary tool for conservation and management of Madagascar’s forests. Madagascar’s 4th National Report references extinction as a consequence of threats to biodiversity, recommending urgent intervention and short-term measures.
203. Government policy on natural resource management has for some years been to transfer the rights and responsibilities for natural resource management to local communities, through a

range of legal instruments including Locally Secured Management (GELOSE), Contractualized Forest Management (GCF), and locally based rules given a legal basis, known as *Dina*. This is the primary approach for the management of Tsitongambarika. However, the optimal approaches to implementation remain much debated, and the project will provide powerful lessons in how effectively the approach addresses deforestation and, more innovatively, conservation of highly threatened species.

204. **Globally**, this project is designed to contribute to several targets set out in the CBD Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 (the Aichi Targets; see 2.4). Most notably it will contribute to Target 12 on species conservation, and target 11 on Protected Areas.

3.7. Incremental cost reasoning

205. **Baseline scenario without GEF support:** Despite the rapid erosion of biodiversity across the world, and the priority being afforded to globally threatened species through CBD’s Aichi Targets 11 and 12, the innovative concept of AZE and the underlying strong partnership has not yet achieved sufficient traction because individual partners do not have sufficient collective resources to upscale the AZE concepts and support the development and uptake of the AZE initiative at the global level. The AZE guidelines are not yet adequately taken into account in updating NBSAPs and are not adopted as part of key development planning processes, leading to the continuing and irreversible loss of additional AZE species and sites, impacting progress towards the achievement of CBD’s Aichi Targets for 2020. At national levels, the lack of capacity, awareness, information exchange and resourcing has impaired country ability to identify and integrate AZE sites into national PA systems, and to address imminent threats at priority AZE sites.

206. **In the alternative scenario enabled by the GEF:** barriers to the recognition, documentation and protection of AZE species and sites will be removed at the global, national and site levels through a combination of information management, mainstreaming, demonstration and replication/upscaling activities.

207. The incremental GEF contribution to conservation activities at the site level (**Component 1**) will support the achievement of immediate and measurable global benefits by avoiding the extinction of species and deterioration/loss of critically important AZE sites, while developing pilot projects and leveraging site-level actions at some 10 additional sites covering a total of at least 160,000 ha. In **Component 2**, the capacity of the AZE partnership to complement, catalyze and build upon conservation efforts by all AZE partners will be strengthened and mobilized. Critical conservation planning tools and guidelines will be developed to support the achievement of CBD Targets 11 and 12 through enhanced AZE site and species monitoring and conservation. Through the GEF incremental contribution, these new AZE-related materials and tools will be developed to the highest standard and will be widely disseminated and up-taken effectively and with potential for significant impact at a global scale. The incremental GEF support will also foster the more timely adoption of AZE as part of NBSAPs and its uptake as part of conservation, development planning and decision making process at global, national and local levels. It will also contribute to the development of additional capacities at the local/site level as well as globally to improve access to AZE data, build awareness and capacity to leverage actions through the AZE network and its partners at the global level – thus contributing to the delivery of significant GEBs at all AZE sites.

208. The project will generate **Global Environmental Benefits** (GEBs) by directly contributing to the conservation of at least 17 AZE species and increased management

effectiveness of their habitats at five sites in Brazil, Chile and Madagascar, and leveraging these pilot projects at an additional 10 AZE sites globally (**Table 6**), for a combined total of at least 27 species in 160,000 ha. At least 67 other globally threatened species at the same five demonstration sites will benefit from these interventions (see the site profiles in **Appendix 15**). Through the integration of AZE considerations into UN policies and the safeguard policies of multilateral development banks and private sector institutions, the potential leveraged impact to deliver GEBs through this project is huge and the effects will be long lasting. Furthermore the inclusion of AZE prioritization into NBSAPs will leverage prioritization and funding of AZE action in the entire portfolio of countries finalizing and implementing their NBSAPs, again leveraging immense potential GEBs into the longer term. GEBs will also be delivered through the knock-on impacts of changed behaviour and increased actions, through increased awareness, capacity and access to online AZE databases and knowledge products. The protection of AZE species will be significant for biodiversity conservation not only for the three countries receiving direct interventions, but also globally through the integration of AZE in planning and prioritization processes. See **Section 3.1** for further information, including benefits at site and country levels.

209. **Socio-economic Benefits:** The project will result in socio-economic benefits through both direct and indirect means, with the latter being potentially much larger. Component 1 will result in the improved conservation management of at least 160,000 ha of natural habitats. The interventions at the five demonstration sites will provide direct benefits to local communities and other stakeholders through their involvement in project activities, as well as increased security of ecosystem services at these sites (see the site profiles in **Appendix 15** for further information on the socio-economic context of the individual sites and their ecosystem services). Mainstreaming of AZE sites into NBSAPs and PoWPA Action Plans, and the development of national AZE strategies and partnerships will further strengthen stakeholder involvement in site management and conservation action at additional AZE sites. This will contribute towards safeguarding highly unique natural heritage for the benefit of current and future generations and ensuring continued supply of ecosystem services nationally and locally. As the ecosystem services benefits will accrue at numerous sites in different countries, it is not possible to assign values to these benefits, but they are expected to include ecosystem services such as forest carbon sequestration, watershed protection, coastal protection, fish nurseries, wetland regulating and productive services, insect pollination, tourism, recreation, research and education, and cultural services.
210. Locally, the project will bring in socio-economic benefits to local communities in and around the five demonstration AZE sites. Communities will continue to be able to benefit from access to an improved forest resource base, including NTFP and tourism resources (see the site profiles in **Appendix 15** for baseline information on current land uses). Safeguards will be put in place for continued access, through involvement of community members in site management operations, with legally agreed sustainable use regimes and monitoring mechanisms. In order to ensure socio-economic benefits and their sustainability, local level activities will be carried out with the participation of local stakeholders, with full consideration given to gender dimensions. Local stakeholders themselves will implement many local level activities.
211. In **Brazil**, site level reforestation work will benefit local communities by providing employment opportunities for the impoverished community in the immediate vicinity of the Stresemann’s Bristlefront Reserve. Previous projects with the community established a cooperative business structure that allows the community, particularly women, to work in the plant nursery. Atlantic Forest environmental regulations require large landowners surrounding the Reserve to restore habitat and continued employment opportunities are anticipated.

212. In **Chile**, site work on Isla Mocha will result in cost-effective alternatives to fuel wood, which will benefit local communities by reducing time and opportunity cost collecting wood. In Mehuin, best practices will be implemented for timber harvest and benefit water quality from reduced erosion to local communities.
213. In **Madagascar**, beneficiaries of the project interventions will be chosen according to the recommendations of the comprehensive and locally endorsed Social and Environmental Safeguard Plan for Tsitongambarika, in which all forest-adjacent communities were surveyed and assessed for their dependence on forest resources and hence vulnerability to changes in forest governance, and safeguarding approaches identified accordingly. Project interventions will target primarily the 295 people affected by the proposed establishment of the protected area who were classified as being the most heavily dependent.
214. Project planning, implementation, monitoring and reporting will be gender sensitive and respect UNEP Gender Sensitivity Guidelines. The project will also further integrate the principles and approach outlined in BirdLife’s gender policy. Training materials and courses will be gender sensitive and gender balance will be sought in workshop participation by working through AZE partnered women’s groups. The project will furthermore monitor training attendance by women and men, and use this information to adjust training approaches and materials to ensure that women are able to participate fully.

3.8. Sustainability

215. The project design includes strategies and activities to ensure sustainability as mandated by the UNEP Sub-programme on Ecosystem Management. At the site level this includes: (i) increasing management effectiveness; (ii) maximizing ecosystem services; and (iii) generating socio-economic benefits for surrounding community groups. At the national level, activities to ensure sustainability include: (i) training and awareness raising activities, (ii) development of national AZE strategies; (iii) long term financing and sustainability plans for AZE strategy implementation. At the global level: (i) tools made available to integrate AZE priorities into lending and planning for mobilizing funds from sustainable sources, and; (ii) developing realistic strategies for future activities.

The project will address sustainability as follows:

216. Financial sustainability will be achieved at global level through continued baseline support from the key project proponents for the operation and further development of the AZE Secretariat. BirdLife International will also supply a unique body of experience of species and site conservation through a Partnership and Secretariat model, including strengthened strategic planning for further roll-out of this programme. The project intervention aimed at strengthening safeguards for AZE species/sites within MDBs will, as well as focusing attention on AZE sites and preventing damaging developments, also encourage increased flow of resources towards AZE conservation efforts from these development-oriented sources.
217. At the national level, the project’s emphasis on mainstreaming AZE species/site conservation into NBSAPs, PoWPA Action Plans and national policies and implementation places the financial support required for site conservation squarely within the mandate of the responsible national and subnational authorities. The project will also support the development of long term financing and sustainability plans for AZE strategy implementation at national level. Given the policy recognition at global level through CBD and national level in the participating

countries, it is very likely that national fiscal support would be forthcoming once conservation plans have been approved.

218. At the demonstration site level, while management arrangements vary between the sites, strengthened conservation plans, management effectiveness and stakeholder engagement (with a strong NGO-local community co-management model a particular strength in **Madagascar**) will pave the way for more secure financial support for their conservation. This will be enhanced through the fact that the national executing agencies in the three participating countries are committed to achieving conservation goals and improving funding security for PA operations, especially to support the financial needs for effective PA management.
219. For example, at the demonstration site in **Brazil**, the implementation of a reserve business plan will seek financial sustainability for the Mata do Passarinho Reserve. Specifically, investments in cacao and tourism will provide revenue to support reserve operating expenses beyond the three year project period, including salaries for the reserve administrator and forest guards. Operational income will reduce costs and provide institutional stability to Fundacao Biodiversitas, the organization that owns and operates the reserve. Continued outreach with local communities, scaling up of a cooperative reforestation business and employment from tourism opportunities (eg transportation, reserve cooks, bird guides), will provide vital income to low-income communities in the immediate vicinity of the reserve. Communities knowledgeable of the benefits of the reserve and receiving direct employment from activities related to the environment will help reduce long-term pressure on forests.
220. In **Chile**, Regional Governments will be involved in the discussion of the conservation of project site territories, which would make possible the generation of regional funding through the presentation of specific projects. Public-private partnerships will be promoted, particularly in Mehuín that may include both land owners and the forestry companies that are in the headwaters of the basin.
221. The project has been designed to ensure that the major costs involved in setting up new systems and technologies are covered during the project period, with any necessary long-term maintenance costs related to project initiatives remaining affordable. Most project components will be completed within the project period, including capacity building, financial planning, recommendations for improvement of policies and plans; demonstration activities at the selected sites including site management and monitoring plans, enhanced law enforcement monitoring, biodiversity monitoring systems, community participation and development programmes, and education and awareness programmes. At the demonstration site level, it is recognised that sufficient financial sustainability must be established to cover long term management costs, especially patrolling and monitoring.
222. Institutional sustainability will be improved through the mainstreaming of AZE concerns into NBSAPs, PoWPA Action Plans and national policies and plans, supported by the development and strengthening of national AZE partnerships and national AZE strategies where appropriate. Training and awareness raising measures will be conducted in the demonstration countries such as mini workshops and AZE strategy workshops. The mainstreaming of AZE into existing frameworks led by government agency mandate, such as NBSAPs, POWPA Action Plans, ICMBio’s Species Action Plans in Brazil, will not incur additional institutional costs. At the demonstration sites, the project will support local level capacity building in order to strengthen management effectiveness, to be tracked using the METT.

223. The sustainability of necessary project activities and benefits beyond the completion of the GEF project will also be ensured as a result of their conformity with national government policies, plans and regulations, including the NBSAPs and PoWPA Action Plans and related national conservation plans, strategies and their implementation.
224. **Chile** is currently drafting legislation that will create the Biodiversity and Protected Areas Service, a new public agency that will be tasked with managing protected areas and encouraging the creation of private protected areas as well as promoting the conservation of threatened species. The enactment of this Act and the creation of the Service for Biodiversity and Protected Areas will result in the generation of a system of private protected areas, which will for the first time in Chile allow private lands to be earmarked for conservation, opening an opportunity for AZE areas that are under private ownership. This Law also aims to create a National Biodiversity Fund, which could be a source of financing for the conservation of endangered species.
225. At the strategic and technical levels, the CSO implementing partners BirdLife International and ABC/AZE Secretariat have significant capacity and experience in supporting species conservation, PA management, capacity building, information management, biodiversity assessment and monitoring, and are strongly positioned to champion further outrolling of the AZE programme in further countries and sites with support from their networks.
226. In **Madagascar**, the improved cooperation among relevant organisations concerned with AZE (and potentially the creation of a formal National AZE alliance) will ensure the participation and support of the Government in the implementation of AZE site and species conservation strategies. Updated AZE site and species information will be published online, and this will support both advocacy and marketing for all sites and species, creating funding opportunities promoting financial sustainability. The project capitalises on the Government’s protected area expansion initiative, and this is a very powerful force for sustainability, as it demonstrates Government engagement and responsibility for the site, while also making clear the need for support to realise the vision.
227. **At global level**, to ensure sustainability in the long term and keep AZE assessments up to date, the Species Information Service (the database developed by IUCN and BirdLife to manage Red List Assessments and associated data) will be modified and processes established to facilitate regular updating and expansion of the dataset by those undertaking Red List assessments.
228. Social sustainability will be improved through the development/strengthening of stakeholder participation mechanisms for the demonstration AZE sites, and establishment and strengthening of national level AZE partnerships. Local communities will be empowered through involvement in AZE site management and demonstration activities, sustainable livelihood development and awareness raising to address existing local resource use conflicts and empower women. Long-term investments to raise staff and institutional capacities for stakeholder participation, and sustained improvements in relations with local communities (through regular communication, joint field activities and targeted awareness raising) will lead to increased levels of local participation and improved site governance, contributing to the overall sustainability of project outcomes.
229. Environmental sustainability will be achieved at demonstration site level through improved PA management effectiveness for the five internationally significant demonstration AZE sites, reduction of threats at these sites through both within site and wider regional interventions, enhanced stakeholder involvement, awareness raising and local capacity

development. For example, in **Brazil**, the project is expected to register new private lands in the private reserve network or bring them into compliance with the Brazil Forest Code. Environmental sustainability will be further strengthened through ongoing reforestation activities and forested land acquisition that provide additional habitat and buffer the area to threats such as climate change. Forest protection safeguards against future water shortages for the communities living nearby. In **Chile**, project design on Isla Mocha seeks to improve the management of a national protected area for an endangered amphibian through reduced pressure on fuel wood harvest within the reserve. Working with local communities to identify alternative, less impactful strategies, will facilitate the persistence of forested habitat within the reserve. Efforts to increase protection of Isla Mocha into a national park will further support environmental sustainability and help attract increased funding for protected area operating expenses.

230. At national level, the project’s contributions in strengthening capacity on AZE site conservation through development and strengthening of AZE partnerships, training on AZE site conservation and engagement of relevant technical expertise to support AZE site identification and conservation will achieve significant durable gains. At the global level, the updating and expansion of the scope of AZE species and site databases, improvements in their online accessibility and related technical guidance and advocacy related to safeguards from the BirdLife Partnership will greatly support the global uptake of AZE species conservation under the overall umbrella of CBD.

3.9. Replication

Component 1: Protected areas and AZE site-level management at globally important sites.

231. The demonstration site interventions will provide opportunities to develop and implement species and site protection strategies that have much broader applicability. This will include management and site protection techniques that will contribute to the global knowledge base on how to manage AZE sites and species. Of particular interest to the project proponents is the opportunity to develop these pilot projects in collaboration with government agency partners. Many existing AZE projects have been implemented by NGOs alone, therefore the possibility of adding official protection, coupled with additional government-supported management expertise, and funding opportunities such as LifeWeb afforded by NGO-government collaboration, provide a potential new model for replicating AZE site projects at additional sites and in additional countries. While this project directly targets replication at a further ten sites in addition to the five demonstration sites (together totalling at least 160,000 ha), it is expected that this initiative will increase momentum globally for the uptake of AZE site conservation (with CBD / LifeWeb support), with potentially huge gains in the medium term.
232. With successful uptake of AZE in national planning, site level efforts will be possible by multiple entities. Significantly, the national protected area authorities, led by each nation’s Ministries of Environment, will have gained important experience implementing AZE site level planning and protection in this project and will be able to look to other AZE sites for increased or new protection measures. Furthermore, a multitude of AZE member institutions in these countries will support the replication of site level approaches. For instance, some of the forty Brazilian Alliance for Zero Extinction members are positioned to undertake work on AZE species and sites. Through the Latin American Bird Reserve Network, American Bird Conservancy is working with over a dozen partners to create private protected areas to safeguard AZE sites. Successful implementation and dissemination of this project will allow partners, including several in Chile and Brazil, to replicate AZE site-level projects. Recent establishment of a private reserve for the Araripe Manakin by BAZE member, Aquasis, and expansion of micro-reserves for the Arica

Hummingbird, conducted by Aves y Chile, are opportunities for replication of private conservation area creation.

233. This project reinforces the contribution of highly threatened species and site conservation actions to more widely adopted landscape-scale approaches; the Tsitongambarika programme is already working at the landscape level as part of the Madagascar Protected Areas System. Furthermore, Asity will work with managers of other Protected Areas and other AZE sites (21 listed and many more now known to meet the criteria) to maximize benefits regionally, use national forums such as the SAPM Commission, engage with Government policy makers to establish our approach as a model, and publicise and disseminate lessons from this project. Improved national coordination, possibly through creation of a formal national AZE alliance, will facilitate this process.
234. UNEP/GEF support for AZE will add an additional level of credibility to the initiative that may also unlock additional funding opportunities and provide encouragement to additional donors, which would further enable replication of AZE site conservation globally.
235. The demonstration of AZE site conservation combined with awareness raising, technical capacity development, stakeholder engagement, and national planning inputs, also provide potential for catalyzing the conservation of lesser known sites and their wider landscapes through government support. As small AZE sites are vulnerable to external threats, the conservation or improved sustainability of land uses in wider areas such as watersheds and connected forested landscapes is likely to be significant for their long term survival, in some cases involving habitat rehabilitation and reversal of fragmentation. Thus the project is also anticipated to facilitate impacts beyond the immediate boundaries of the identified AZE sites.
236. Some AZE sites form part of larger blocks of habitat, and in these cases work on the AZE species would be an effective catalyst for conservation action over a wider area. In other cases, such as the two larger (over 300,000 ha) sites listed in Table 6, the AZE site as currently defined may prove to be considerably larger than the range of the trigger species which has not been exhaustively surveyed; work would focus on known areas for the trigger species but ultimately benefit the whole site.

Component 2. Mainstreaming of AZE site conservation in national policy and regulatory frameworks, and into safeguard policies of financial institutions.

237. The Equator Principles offer an immediate opportunity to scale-up AZE site conservation into the operational procedures of 70 lending institutions operating globally. The fact that IFC already includes AZE in its safeguard policies can also provide an example for additional regional banks and the World Bank to include AZE in their own safeguards. These policies therefore enable the project proponents an opportunity to leverage the project results across multiple financial institutions, with widespread impact in terms of reducing incidental damage to AZE sites from development projects, and potentially increased support from the same institutions for AZE site conservation through their more direct engagement.
238. The inclusion of AZE in a small number of NBSAPs and PoWPA Action Plans provides proof of concept, and the combined engagement of CBD, IUCN, UNEP, UNDP and AZE partners in the project provides an excellent opportunity to scale the project up to include multiple NBSAPs and PoWPA action plans, related documents, and their implementation. By concentrating initially on the development of three model national AZE strategies that can be

replicated elsewhere, the project will be able to showcase national pilot strategies in a variety of fora, such as CBD and IUCN meetings to encourage uptake by additional nations.

3.10. Public awareness, communications and mainstreaming strategy

239. Public awareness, communications and mainstreaming are key elements of this project, relating to all components and levels of implementation. Accordingly, a detailed communication and outreach strategy will be developed during the project inception phase, supported by core partner organization staff (ABC/BirdLife International) with the relevant expertise and roles. The strategy will be reviewed and updated annually in line with annual workplans in order to ensure it remains relevant and adaptive to achieve project goals.
240. The strategy will include plans for changing knowledge, attitudes and practices among target audiences at global, national and local levels; key project messages; definition of the roles of all partners in communications; ensuring that acknowledgement of donors and partners is correctly addressed in communications; key information about the project’s implementation and operation arrangements; and impact monitoring against baseline. It will identify those responsible for local, national and international communication channels, an appropriate timeline, and detailed budget.
241. Communication, coordination with and engagement of key stakeholders in project activities will be essential to ensure effective and sustainable site management and mainstreaming of AZE into national conservation planning. This will be achieved through working closely with and supporting national partners and stakeholders through direct contacts, consultations and workshops. For example, in **Brazil**, site level work will be communicated among local communities through workshops and trainings. Materials and events associated with youth guide and tourism training as well as tree nursery and reforestation will provide opportunities to offer broad context to AZE site work. **Chile** site work will similarly be disseminated via community engagement. Annual soccer matches, radio programs and printed materials have proven effective in current projects to minimize threats to the Pink-footed Shearwater. This project will dovetail efforts by adding amphibian conservation messages to harmonize communications with existing successful programs, rather than creating all new materials. National case studies will consist of maps and a gap analysis. Email list-serves will provide a foundation to disseminate AZE analyses and invite feedback from experts and the broader conservation community. National printed maps will be distributed.
242. Communication activities in **Madagascar** will be at both local and national levels. All project initiatives will be preceded by appropriate communication and public awareness activities: at site level, this typically means meetings with target communities, and physical demonstrations of successful initiatives. At the national level, Asity Madagascar will also communicate through national newspapers and a newsletter published by the MEEMF. Dissemination will take place also internationally through Asity Madagascar’s and BirdLife International’s own channels (publications, websites, meetings) and through partners (such as Conservation International Madagascar) to promote uptake at other sites. Asity Madagascar works closely with other national NGOs that conserve AZE species and sites in Madagascar. Lessons learnt from this project in Tsitongambarika will be shared with these organizations through national networks.
243. Thus communication for information sharing and exchange of best practices and lessons learned will also be established by networking through the AZE/BirdLife International partnerships, and related UNEP and GEF initiatives in the participating countries and wider

regions. The BirdLife World Conference (2017 or 2018) and the African and Americas regional Partnership meetings (2015 and probably 2017) meetings of BirdLife provide further opportunities.

244. AZE conservation programs are not fundamentally different from other conservation initiatives, and will therefore provide lessons to other conservation projects in order to achieve broader impacts. Lessons learned would also be a standard component of all progress reports to project management, compiled reporting to GEFSEC in the PIR each August. To collect, synthesize and disseminate knowledge generated from the pilot and scaling-up sites, project staff at AZE and BirdLife will compile case studies according to standard formats and monitoring systems (such as BirdLife’s IBA monitoring framework) as well as GEF Tracking Tools, from all sites. A synthesis of key lessons learned will be prepared in popular format (perhaps similar to that produced under the GEF UNEP *Wings Over Wetlands* Project¹¹, with dissemination at the above events and potentially also CBD meetings), and lessons from the field blogs from project partners will appear on the AZE and/or BirdLife websites.
245. At global level, AZE will report on the inclusion of AZE sites in NBSAPs and PoWPA Action Plans, and the number of development projects that contact AZE for input during environmental assessments and the outcome of these consultations. Through this effort, global awareness of the importance and conservation status of AZE site network will be enhanced to support improved conservation efforts at local, national, regional and global levels. The outreach and networking capacity of the global AZE Alliance and national AZE alliances or networks in key countries will be significantly improved to support site conservation action at all levels. Promotional materials will be developed and success stories from model national projects will also be shared. At least five countries will be encouraged to take steps to implement AZE site conservation projects including both national government and NGO partners, e.g. with support from LifeWeb and AZE NGO members.
246. UNEP will also facilitate the integration of AZE priorities within NBSAPs through the NBSAP forum and through the specific NBSAP revision projects for which UNEP currently serves as the GEF Implementing Agency. Through the newly started global project titled "Support to GEF Eligible Countries for achieving Aichi Biodiversity Target 17 through a globally guided NBSAPs update process" the UNEP (DEPI, DELC) and UNEP-WCMC will ensure that AZE issues are incorporated in the NBSAP revisions, making use of the NBSAP Forum portal (nbsapforum.net) and direct communication with the NBSAP country focal points, and AZE issues will be discussed in the global webinars under the same project.
247. Communication activities will support capacity building and training in AZE site and species conservation in the participating countries and more widely for replication and upscaling efforts led by ABC/BirdLife International. AZE database updates, maps including AZE site polygons, AZE site gap analysis, technical guidance and knowledge products, as well as project results, reports, and awareness materials will be disseminated through the AZE website. AZE site polygons would also be made available to the MDB audiences to enable their consideration in enhanced safeguard policies, as well as to related conservation information management initiatives such as Key Biodiversity Areas, UNEP/WCMC World Database on Protected Areas, and IBAT for Business (Information on Biodiversity Assessment Tool). Presentations on project progress and outcomes will be given at appropriate national and international meetings (eg CBD COP side events), and scientific conferences.

¹¹ http://www.unep.org/PDF/PressReleases/UNEP_GEF_Flyway_Paper_low_res8.pdf

248. For internal communications, all partners will be regularly apprised of progress via reports and regular meetings, email etc. In the inception phase partners will be consulted regarding other possible communication mechanisms.

3.11. Environmental and social safeguards

249. **The UNEP Environmental and Social Safeguards Checklist (ESSC)** assessment was conducted during project preparation. Accordingly, the environmental and social sustainability of project activities will be in compliance with the ESSC for the project (see **Appendix 16**). The ESSC identified no significant issues for this project that cannot be mitigated. Overall, the project is expected to result in major long term positive impacts for biodiversity conservation and greater participation of local and indigenous communities in site management processes at the demonstration AZE sites. As outlined below, the project will furthermore be consistent with GEF Environmental and Social Safeguards.¹²
250. The project’s community-related interventions will be focused on communities within and around the five target demonstration AZE sites in Brazil, Chile and Madagascar. Given the project’s conservation objectives, the anticipated environmental impacts of the project are overwhelmingly positive. The project also aims to have a positive social impact, by strengthening PA managers’ capacity for community outreach and participatory management, as well as by supporting development of conservation agreements that define mechanisms for reducing threats and maintaining biodiversity, while at the same time establishing mechanisms for securing alternative livelihoods. The project will support the realisation of benefits for communities at the demonstration sites through involvement in site management, sustainable resource use and alternative livelihood schemes.
251. Despite the above, based on the results of the ESSC, several issues will need to be carefully considered during project implementation. These include possible restrictions on local natural resource usage in order to achieve habitat and species conservation goals. Different roles played by women and men in households and communities will be fully taken into account to ensure that the project benefits both genders equitably. The project will ensure that all stakeholders will be involved in the development of conservation agreements and other local area management plan development, and capacity will be developed (within both genders) for their implementation, thereby increasing women’s and men’s ability to use, develop and protect natural resources. Integration of gender concerns has been specifically referenced in the indicators for outputs 1.1.4 and 2.2.1.
252. Project planning, implementation, monitoring and reporting will be gender sensitive and respect UNEP Gender Sensitivity Guidelines and GEF Gender Policy. The project would further integrate the principles and approach outlined in BirdLife’s gender policy which is currently being reviewed by their Council with the expectation that it will be accepted later in 2014. Training materials and courses will be gender sensitive and gender balance will be sought in workshop participation by working through AZE partnered women’s groups. The project will furthermore monitor training attendance by women and men, and use this information to adjust training approaches and materials to ensure that women are able to participate fully.

Chile

253. The project aims to reduce extraction of wood in order to improve the sustainability of these practices and to reduce impacts on critical habitats for AZE species. Communities

¹² http://www.thegef.org/gef/policies_guidelines/safeguards

accustomed to extracting wood for cooking fuel and timber are likely to be impacted. On Isla Mocha AZE site, mapping will be carried out to indicate areas where sensitive areas for amphibians overlap with current wood harvest within the Isla Mocha Reserve. Although some areas will be restricted from harvest as a result of new biological monitoring information on important amphibian areas, communities will continue to have access to other areas for wood collection. Meanwhile, the viability of fuel wood alternatives will be explored, taking into account community interests through a participatory process and the Isla Mocha Advisory Council. These alternatives will need to be fully implementable should Chile be successful in increasing the protected status of the Isla Mocha Reserve to become a National Park. The national park would restrict all fuel wood extraction. Efforts to promote changes in the community and improve protection of the island’s native habitat will be further enabled through the project’s planned updating and implementation of a socio-environmental strategy as well as continued environmental awareness and education programming.

254. In the Mehuin AZE sites, a participatory conservation plan will be developed that will identify the overlap between key amphibian populations and areas of human use such as agriculture, cattle ranching, timber and fuel wood harvest. Evidence suggests that much of the land use is conducted illegally or degrades the environment in avoidable ways. The implementation of environmental education programs based on amphibian conservation in an effort to raise awareness and motivate local communities to report illegal land use and improve farming, ranching and timber practices. In order to assist communities to reduce environmental impacts, the project plans to take advantage of ongoing government programs in the areas conducted by INDAP/Prodesal to provide training to improve agriculture and cattle ranching practices. The project also plans to produce specific recommendations to improve timber harvesting practices based on consultations with stakeholders and provide workshops to support the implementation of best practices.

Brazil

255. The project will improve environmental quality by implementing natural restoration and will not have negative impacts on the surrounding environment. Project partner, Fundacao Biodiversitas, has several years of experience implementing the reforestation program on 60 hectares with a cooperative business operated by the community. Inclusion of the community in this project is vital as poor neighboring communities are dependent on natural resources within the reserve in the absence of livelihood alternatives. Direct employment within these communities, particularly of women who are adept at working in nurseries and show greater output over men at many reforestation tasks, will provide important social safeguards. Large landowners are another segment of the population that the project will impact. Technical assistance will be provided to bring these properties into compliance with existing laws (eg Brazilian Forest Code), especially through the Rural Environmental Cadaster (CAR), a fundamental tool for the environmental regularization process of rural areas. According to Brazilian law, some special areas in the properties have a restricted use and in some cases require landowners to maintain intact native vegetation. The CAR will be used to identify these areas and determine whether landowners who cleared their land will be required to restore a certain amount of native vegetation to comply with the law. In these cases, the adequacy of the land will result in the reduction in area available to landowners for cattle ranching or agriculture. The program will be voluntary and provide technical assistance only to landowners who seek support. Consequently, this program does not place any additional restriction, but does seek to offer positive alternatives to comply with current regulations.

Madagascar

256. Tsitongambarika Forest is (or will be) an IUCN Category VI protected area which are established to conserve ecosystems and habitats, together with associated cultural values and traditional natural resource management systems; a proportion of the area is under sustainable natural resource management and where low-level non-industrial use of natural resources compatible with nature conservation is seen as one of the main aims of the area. Forest conservation requires participation of local communities, and the existing Management Plan, and Social and Environmental Safeguards Plan, for Tsitongambarika, all endorsed by local communities, were designed to ensure positive social and environmental impacts. The PPG consultations reinforced the comprehensive assessments made through these earlier planning exercises.
257. Most of the project's impacts are social. Decisions on the type of governance (co-management) and delineation of management zones (mapped) took full account of human rights considerations based on household data and consultation at Regional and District levels, so these are at the root of the whole Tsitongambarika programme including this project. Representatives of the local population are an integral part of the site management structure through KOMFITA: they are informed and consulted, and take part in decision-making on the management of the site. All local people have the right to speak in the management of their resources.
258. The project brings about changes in land use. Where forest is conserved, land will not be available for the traditional shifting cultivation method. Steps taken by the project to mitigate this include introduction and promotion of more efficient and sustainable farming methods on existing cleared areas, and other income-generation methods elsewhere.

SECTION 4: INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK AND IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

Global

259. A global project management structure will include nested national project management arrangements, and these are summarised in the organograms in Appendix 9. The Project Manager will be BirdLife’s Head of Policy, a senior member of the Science, Policy and Information Management Department based in the global headquarters (Cambridge, UK). The Project Manager will work closely with BirdLife colleagues working on safeguards policy, science, data and website management, and conservation programme support (the latter in the Conservation Department), and also with the AZE Secretariat (American Bird Conservancy) in Washington DC. Together, the senior BirdLife and AZE staff will form a Project Management Team.
260. Strategic guidance will be provided by a Global Steering Committee (GSC), comprising UNEP, the Brazil, Chile, Madagascar Government focal points, one or more members of the independent AZE steering committee, and a representative of the CBD Secretariat. The Project Manager (BirdLife) and one AZE staff member will attend GSC meetings but not as members of the Committee. The GSC will meet every 6 months (with one or more additional meetings if needed in the first year) by teleconference; in view of language challenges, written documentation will be essential and ensured by the BirdLife or AZE participants. The Project Management Team will report to the GSC.
261. A separate AZE Steering Committee already exists to guide the wider, long-term AZE initiative; BirdLife and AZE staff are already represented. Periodic updates will be provided to the AZE Steering Committee, and advice sought wherever appropriate, but the Project Management Team will not be accountable to the AZE Steering Committee.

262. GEF funds received from UNEP will be managed by BirdLife. For implementation of project outcomes, BirdLife will lead on outcome 2.1 (mainstreaming AZE into MDB and equator bank policies), and subcontract as follows. To Asity Madagascar (its Partner NGO in Madagascar), a subcontract to cover output 1.1.3 (Madagascar site work) and Madagascar components of outcome 2.2 (mainstreaming AZE into national biodiversity plans). To AZE, a subcontract will cover Outputs 1.1.1 (Brazil site work) and 1.1.2 (Chile site work) and outcome 2.2 (global elements of the work to mainstream AZE into national biodiversity plans); in turn, AZE will subcontract its Partners in Brazil and Chile to implement outputs 1.1.1. and 1.1.2 under AZE’s supervision. To IUCN, a subcontract will cover elements of the data update (output 2.1.1) related to non-bird species. BirdLife will be in daily contact with AZE over implementation of outcomes 2.1 (led by BirdLife) and 2.2 (led by AZE), as both organisation will in practice contribute significantly to both outcomes.
263. Implementation arrangements in Brazil, Chile and Madagascar were identified during the national consultation of the Project Preparation Grant phase. National Coordinators, supported by National Directors, in each country will ensure alignment with other relevant projects in their countries, both those supported by GEF and also those by other donors. They will establish contact with the relevant national and international institutions at the outset of the project and make periodic visits to report progress (without direct accountability) as appropriate. Nationally, annual work plans and targets will be proposed by the National Project Coordinator to their National Steering Committee, and when approved will be passed to the designated contact points in the (global) Project Management Team.

Chile

264. The national Project Steering Committee (PSC) will be the executive decision-making body of the site and national project components in Chile and will provide guidelines based on assessments of project progress and related recommendations. The PSC will review and approve the reports, work plans, technical documents, budget and annual financial reports of the project. The PSC will provide strategic and implementation to the Project Management Unit (PMU) general guidance. It shall meet annually and will make decisions by consensus. The specific rules and procedures of the CDP will be decided during the project launch workshop.
265. The PSC will be formed by the Ministry of Environment, the Regional Ministry of Environment of the Regions of the Biobío and Los Ríos, and the Regional Offices of Biobío SAG and CONAF. The PSC will be called together by the MMA and shall meet at least once a year, to discuss strategic, legal and politics associated with project management and implementation, to review the progress of the project, approve work plans and major project deliverables.
266. A National Technical Committee (NTC) will be created and will consist of at least one representative of the Division of Natural Resources and Biodiversity of MMA who will preside, one delegate from SAG Biobío regional office, a CONAF Biobío regional office, the administrator of the Mocha Island National Reserve, one NGO participant from each Oikonos and CODEFF, academic experts from universities that develop research sites (Austral University of Chile, Universidad del Bio Bio and University of Concepción). Representatives of other sectors of the Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Environment, other entities that work with the project, regional governments, NGOs, international organizations and/or co-financiers of the project can participate as guests. The NTC will meet at least twice a year. NTC functions include, among others: 1). Monitoring achievement of the goals and activities of the project, according to the Annual Operating Plan. 2). Provide technical support to the Project Management Unit.

267. The Project Management Unit (PMU): The Project Director will be a representative of the Division of Natural Resources and Biodiversity of MMA and will hire a National Project Coordinator, to be funded by this project, who will be based in one of the two regions where AZE sites work is taking place, Bio Bio or Los Rios. The site management unit Isla Mocha is responsible for site level work of the project output (output 1.1.2), will consist of Biobío Region MMA and CONAF Biobío Region, which includes staff at Isla Mocha Reserve. For Mehuin AZE sites project management (1.1.2), MMA Los Rios region will coordinate work with local land owners and stakeholders.

Brazil

268. The project management set-up will consist of the following components:

- National project steering committee – Membership consists of MMA, ICMBio and Fundacao Biodiversitas. National tasks (component 2) will be carried out in coordination with AZE Secretariat.
- National technical group – membership will be made up of MMA, ICMBio, BAZE which is made up of NGOs, particularly those most active in the project regions (Biodiversitas, SAVE Brasil, Aquasis, SOS Mata Atlantica, etc), as well as taxonomic experts. The technical group will be consulted primarily through national and regional workshops supported by the project to review AZE species and mainstreaming into conservation planning and reporting.
- Site management unit – this is Biodiversitas staff at Mata do Passarinho Reserve whose responsibility is to implement the project output 1.1.1.
- Local stakeholder involvement – there will be local site consultation with communities from the Jequitinhonha valley primarily throughout the implementation of project activities.

Madagascar

269. In Madagascar, the National Project Director (and chair and supervisor) will be the Director of Environmental Mainstreaming (DIDE), within the General Directorate of Environment and reporting to its Director General. Asity Madagascar will be responsible for National Project Coordination through its team (director, communications officer, GIS and data officer, forest programme manager and finance and administrative team) based in its headquarters in Antananarivo, and a designated National Project Coordinator.

270. A National Steering Committee hosted by the General Directorate of Environment (where the GEF OFP is based, in the Ministry of Environment, Ecology, Sea and Forests) will undertake technical validation of project outputs, and act as the national technical and advisory technical group; it will be chaired by the National Project Director and will include as members nationally-based staff of conservation organisations concerned with AZE (including WWF, Conservation International, Missouri Botanical Garden, WCS, ONG Fanamby, Madagascar Voakajy) and the technical directorates of the Ministry and related agencies (DVRF, DCBSAP, DIDE, DPPSE, ONE). This committee will liaise closely with the SAPM Commission, to ensure integration with the critically important New Protected Areas initiative, which is however in great need of further support.

271. The national execution body of the project will be formed of Asity Madagascar for technical aspects related to AZE conservation including work at the demonstration site, and the DIDE for mainstreaming AZE into national policy. At the demonstration site, Asity Madagascar has a small team based in Tolagnaro who will manage the site level components including the cofinanced work. Tsitongambarika itself is co-managed by Asity Madagascar and KOMFITA under delegated authority from the Government (see section 000), and meet frequently; KOMFITA itself is composed of elected representatives of the participating Community-based

Associations for natural resource management in the forest (CoBas). Asity and KOMFITA report jointly to the decentralized authorities: the Anosy Regional Government, and the regional services of MEEMF.

Additional countries

272. Management responsibility for replication activities will be agreed between AZE and BirdLife, according to which ever organization is best placed to handle specific sites through its own networks. Simplified management arrangements, appropriate to the scale of the work, will be based on those for Brazil, Chile and Madagascar; common features will include the engagement of national GEF focal points and relevant UNEP offices, and action through civil society partners.
273. Terms of Reference for the key positions of Project Coordinator are given in Appendix 11. It is suggested that remaining ToR proposed will be developed at Project Cooperation Agreement stage.

SECTION 5: STAKEHOLDER PARTICIPATION

Stakeholder Participation during Project Preparation

274. A two-day workshop was conducted in **Chile** with eighteen participants, representing a broad range of expertise in the public and private sector, in Concepción, Chile on November 20-21, 2014. Another two-day workshop was conducted in **Brazil** with fifteen participants in Brasilia, Brazil during December 16-17, 2014 (See **Appendix 17** for meeting reports). The purpose of these meetings were to: 1) inform key stakeholders about the PPG process: schedule, information and consultation needs; 2) present the project design approved in the PIF, focusing on national and site level outcomes, outputs and activities; 3) conduct a situational analysis and problem analysis, in order to refine the proposed project intervention at outcome, output and activity levels and clarify its scope; 4) identify the main project stakeholders at national, provincial and local levels; 5) identify sources of information and confirm responsibilities for obtaining it; and 6) identify related initiatives that should be taken into account during project design. In Chile, a second in-person consultation meeting was held in Valdivia during the second week of January, 2015 to conduct further project planning with experts and stakeholders. In Brazil, one additional follow-up meeting was held with Mata do Passarihno Reserve administration from Biodiversitas to revise project goals, indicators and budgets.
275. Consultation workshops in **Madagascar** were held at national and regional levels (see **Appendix 17** for reports) in December 2014. During the national workshop (in Antananarivo, hosted and chaired by the DIDE), participants included the most relevant technical directorates and agencies at MEEMF, namely DIDE DCBSAP, DPPSE and ONE, together with conservation organisations working on AZE sites and species including Asity Madagascar, MBG and WCS. The regional workshop (Taolagnaro) was hosted by the Regional Government, attended by MEEMF (DIDE from Antananarivo), the Regional Directorate of Environment, Ecology and Forests, and the Regional Environment Department, and the two main non-governmental organizations concerned, SAHA (a local development NGO) and Asity Madagascar. Local communities were represented by members of KOMFITA, the Regional Government by the Head of Region, and the private sector by Rio Tinto QMM. A representative of the BirdLife International Secretariat (UK) joined both meetings as an observer and to provide clarifications where requested. Most of the individuals and organisations concerned had visited the site during the PPG phase and earlier, and have good knowledge of the issues affecting it.

Stakeholder Participation Arrangements for Project Implementation

276. In **Brazil**, site level work will be communicated among local communities through workshops and trainings. Materials and events associated with youth guide and tourism training as well as tree nursery and reforestation will provide opportunities to offer broad context to AZE site work. Prior to this project, Fundacao Biodiversitas has produced a video describing the importance of the Mata do Pasarinho Reserve and Atlantic Forest, as well as a field guide to avifauna in the area. These materials have been used to train 120 teachers and raise awareness among 1,500 students to date. Within this project’s tourism activities, day trips from local schools are planned to continue environmental outreach with students and teachers. Local schools represent the impoverished communities of Ribeirão and Canada, about 90 families, surrounding the reserve and represent the future populace in the area.
277. Community residents, including women, will be employed through a community-run reforestation business. The business uses a plant nursery located on the reserve and residents are paid for their labor filling bags with soil, seeding bags, watering and weeding seedlings, as well as eventual transplanting and maintenance of saplings within the reserve. The skills provided through direct employment in reforestation will likely allow some local residents to earn future income. This project aims to promote reforestation on large properties surrounding the reserve in compliance with the with the Brazilian Forest Code and other environmental laws, which is expected to translate in additional job opportunities for the community reforestation cooperative. Continued outreach with local communities, scaling up of a cooperative reforestation business and employment from tourism opportunities (eg transportation, reserve cooks, bird guides) will provide income to local communities. Communities that are knowledgeable of the benefits of the reserve will reduce long-term pressure on forests and provide environmental sustainability assuring the survival of the species and the Atlantic Forest habitat.
278. In **Chile**, project design on Isla Mocha seeks to improve the management of a national protected area for an endangered amphibian through reduced pressure on fuel wood harvest within the reserve. Working with local communities to identify alternative, less impactful strategies, will facilitate the persistence of forested habitat within the reserve. Current projects on the Pink-footed Shearwater, implemented by Oikonos and coordinated with CONAF and MMA, have been largely successful in garnering public support with active inclusion of local communities. Efforts to increase protection of Isla Mocha as a national park will further support environmental sustainability and help attract increased funding for protected area operating expenses. The Isla Mocha community will be involved through continued participation on the Isla Mocha Reserve Advisory Council, and associated workshops and meetings specifically organized for the residents of the island, with emphasis on fishing groups, residents who gather firewood and families of school children. Representatives of the Advisory Council will be invited to participate in Technical Committee meetings.
279. In Mehuin, project activities will be communicated locally through meetings and training courses for actors from the community, as well as representatives of the municipalities. Working with landowners models will be more directly undertaken from the Regional Secretariat of MMA in the Region of Los Ríos. One of the planned activities is the generation of a site conservation plan using a participatory process that involves all local stakeholders. The process of developing this plan will raise interest and awareness regarding conservation of amphibians and protection of the sites. In addition to local operating forestry businesses will be engaged in the project to evaluate best practices that could be employed to reduce the risk of sedimentation in the watercourse amphibian species inhabit.

280. In **Madagascar**, the major stakeholders in the project committed to work with the project through, and following, attendance at the national consultation workshops. Additional stakeholders to be involved in implementation at the nation level include other parts of MEEMF such as the DGE, whose director had delegated DIDE as the appropriate project focal point. Asity Madagascar will be responsible for AZE site and species data. The DIDE will be technically supported by Asity Madagascar in the establishment of a national AZE Alliance (formal, Government-convened) or network (less formal). Other conservation organizations will also be involved through the Steering Committee.
281. A specific task for the decentralized services in MEEMF, such as DREEF and Regional Forestry Service, is to monitor compliance with the law in collaboration with the Protected Area co-managers, KOMFITA and Asity Madagascar, reinforced by the security services (police and gendarmerie) in case of serious offences (such as highly organised logging by outsiders). Other decentralized services will be engaged to ensure consistency of actions with regional planning and development.
282. KOMFITA, representing local communities, will be continuously involved in site management, its position strengthened through management capacity development of its member organisations, the CoBas. Target villagers at the site are identified based on surveys of whole households (i.e. taking into account needs of men, women and children) presented in the social and environmental safeguards plan; those benefiting are those identified as being the most vulnerable. The project will also coordinate with Rio Tinto QMM community development activities in the region which include compensation for impacts of the mining project.

SECTION 6: MONITORING AND EVALUATION PLAN

283. UNEP will be responsible for managing the mid-term review/evaluation and the terminal evaluation. The Project Manager and partners will participate actively in the process. The project will be reviewed or evaluated at mid-term. The purpose of the Mid-Term Review (MTR) or Mid-Term Evaluation (MTE) is to provide an independent assessment of project performance at mid-term, to analyze whether the project is on track, what problems and challenges the project is encountering, and which corrective actions are required so that the project can achieve its intended outcomes by project completion in the most efficient and sustainable way. In addition, it will verify information gathered through the GEF tracking tools.
284. The project Steering Committee will participate in the MTR or MTE and develop a management response to the evaluation recommendations along with an implementation plan. It is the responsibility of the UNEP Task Manager to monitor whether the agreed recommendations are being implemented. An MTR is managed by the UNEP Task Manager. An MTE is managed by the Evaluation Office (EO) of UNEP. The EO will determine whether an MTE is required or an MTR is sufficient.
285. An independent terminal evaluation (TE) will take place at the end of project implementation. The EO will be responsible for the TE and liaise with the UNEP Task Manager throughout the process. The TE will provide an independent assessment of project performance (in terms of relevance, effectiveness and efficiency), and determine the likelihood of impact and sustainability. It will have two primary purposes:
- (i) to provide evidence of results to meet accountability requirements, and
 - (ii) to promote learning, feedback, and knowledge sharing through results and lessons learned among UNEP and executing partners.

286. While a TE should review use of project funds against budget, it would be the role of a financial audit to assess probity (i.e. correctness, integrity etc.) of expenditure and transactions. The TE report will be sent to project stakeholders for comments. Formal comments on the report will be shared by the EO in an open and transparent manner. The project performance will be assessed against standard evaluation criteria using a six point rating scheme. The final determination of project ratings will be made by the EO when the report is finalised. The evaluation report will be publically disclosed and will be followed by a recommendation compliance process.

287. The direct costs of reviews and evaluations will be charged against the project evaluation budget.

288. The GEF tracking tools are attached as **Appendix 14**. These will be updated at mid-term and at the end of the project and will be made available to the GEF Secretariat along with the project PIR report. As mentioned above the mid-term and terminal evaluation will verify the information of the tracking tool.

SECTION 7: PROJECT FINANCING AND BUDGET

7.1. Overall project budget

Cost category		TOTAL	Component 1	Component 2	Management cost
PERSONNEL COMPONENT		195,816	23,267	172,549	
SUB-CONTRACT COMPONENT		1,546,856	960,397	586,459	
	AZE	366,083	-	366,083	
	IUCN	101,000	-	101,000	
	Develop WBDB to manage AZE data	25,000	-	25,000	
	AZE site identification for new species groups	6,000	-	6,000	
	Brazil subcontract	404,123	374,300	29,824	
	Chile subcontract	237,607	217,015	20,592	
	Madagascar subcontract	407,043	369,082	37,961	
TRAINING COMPONENT		30,000	-	30,000	
MISCELLANEOUS COMPONENT		150,141	27,000	27,000	96,141
TOTAL COST		1,922,813	1,010,664	816,008	96,141

7.2. Project co-financing

	CO-FINANCING BY PROJECT COMPONENT				CO-FINANCING BY TYPE		Total
	1	2	PMC	Total	Cash	In-Kind	

CO-FINANCING SOURCE	US\$	US\$	US\$	US\$	US\$	US\$	US\$
BirdLife International	725,050	555,309	113,072	1,393,431	748,244	645,187	1,393,431
American Bird Conservancy (AZE Secretariat)	712,500	712,500	75,000	1,500,000	300,000	1,200,000	1,500,000
AZE Partners: Asity Madagascar	237,500		12,500	250,000		250,000	250,000
AZE Partners: Fundacao Biodiversitas	365,750		19,250	385,000		385,000	385,000
Rio Tinto QMM	375,250		19,750	395,000	300,000	95,000	395,000
Government of Madagascar	20,000	130,000		150,000		150,000	150,000
Government of Brazil	40,000	260,000		300,000		300,000	300,000
Government of Chile - MMA	30,600	175,000		205,600	93,040	112,560	205,600
Government of Chile - CONAF	18,140			18,140	7,700	10,440	18,140
UNEP	100,000	100,000		200,000		200,000	200,000
Grand Total	2,624,790	1,932,809	239,572	4,797,171	1,448,984	3,348,187	4,797,171

PMC, Project Management Costs

7.3. Project cost-effectiveness

289. Each project outcome will contribute towards AZE trigger species/site conservation through cost-effective approaches that build on substantial existing efforts led by the AZE Secretariat and BirdLife International at global level, and by national governments and other stakeholders in the three selected demonstration countries. This continuity of effort and use of existing partnerships to a large degree involves very limited start-up costs and enhances the efficiency of project implementation. These substantial baseline efforts will be supported by major cofinancing inputs, especially from the global project partner organizations and participating national governments. The project will also facilitate the wider promulgation of the AZE mainstreaming approach, following approaches to at least 20 other countries in collaboration with the CBD Secretariat.

290. In Outcome 1.1, the project will demonstrate effective management of five AZE sites in the three demonstration countries, and facilitate enhanced protection of an additional 10 sites. Thus the protection and management of at least 15 AZE sites covering a combined total of at least 160,000 ha will be enhanced through the project intervention through a GEF investment of approximately US\$ 1 million, averaging some US\$ 6.10 per hectare over the project lifetime and matched by some US\$ 2.6 million in cofinancing. The conservation of these sites will benefit a wide range of globally threatened species in addition to the target AZE species (see the site profiles in **Appendix 15**).

291. In Outcome 2.1, the conservation of threatened species and the protection of AZE sites will be mainstreamed into the safeguard policies of Multilateral Development Banks and key private sector institutions such as Equator Principle Banks, to minimize the impact of development projects on AZE sites. This will involve major improvements in the scope and online accessibility of AZE datasets for global users, making use of the global partner organizations’ major capacity for such work, and ongoing cofinanced support for the maintenance of such data. Thus GEF’s inputs will be a minor portion of the overall cost of the development and maintenance of such online databases. The awareness raising, capacity building and facilitation of MDB safeguard policy improvements to language and references and to incorporate AZE species/sites will also represent a cost-efficient approach towards achieving global conservation outcomes, with expected co-benefits for other globally significant species and ecosystems.
292. In Outcome 2.2, the project’s approach of mainstreaming AZE trigger species conservation into national NBSAPs, PoWPA Action Plans and national policies, as well as demonstrating the development of national AZE strategies is highly cost-effective in that it will have broad impacts at national level, enabling a more effective approach to AZE species and site conservation in key countries, and paving the way for its replication across the world through CBD-led NBSAP and PoWPA updating processes and national initiatives.
293. The total GEF investment of US\$1,922,813 for this project will leverage some US\$ 4.3 million in cofinancing, a ratio of 2.2, with additional co-financing inputs anticipated during project implementation.
294. Finally, the recognition associated with involvement in an international project and receipt of GEF resources channeled through a UN implementing agency is a source of pride for national, regional and local project partners, which often facilitates the necessary political commitment to take difficult decisions on issues such as expanding the PA network, upgrading PA protection status, inter-agency coordination to reduce external pressures on PAs, the adoption of more environmentally friendly practices in related sectors, and concessions on land uses; a particularly cost-efficient contribution to biodiversity conservation.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Budget by project components and UNEP budget lines

See separate excel file

Appendix 2: Co-financing

	CO-FINANCING BY PROJECT COMPONENT				CO-FINANCING BY TYPE		Total
	1	2	PMC	Total	Cash	In-Kind	
CO-FINANCING SOURCE	US\$	US\$	US\$	US\$	US\$	US\$	US\$
BirdLife International	725,050	555,309	113,072	1,393,431	748,244	645,187	1,393,431
American Bird Conservancy (AZE Secretariat)	712,500	712,500	75,000	1,500,000	300,000	1,200,000	1,500,000
AZE Partners: Asity Madagascar	237,500		12,500	250,000		250,000	250,000
AZE Partners: Fundacao Biodiversitas	365,750		19,250	385,000		385,000	385,000
Rio Tinto QMM	375,250		19,750	395,000	300,000	95,000	395,000
Government of Madagascar	20,000	130,000		150,000		150,000	150,000
Government of Brazil	40,000	260,000		300,000		300,000	300,000
Government of Chile - MMA	30,600	175,000		205,600	93,040	112,560	205,600
Government of Chile - CONAF	18,140			18,140	7,700	10,440	18,140
UNEP	100,000	100,000		200,000		200,000	200,000
Grand Total	2,624,790	1,932,809	239,572	4,797,171	1,448,984	3,348,187	4,797,171

PMC, Project Management Costs

Appendix 3: Incremental cost analysis

The Baseline associated with this project is estimated at US\$ 15 million. The GEF Alternative has been costed at US\$ 21.2 million. The total Incremental Cost required to achieve global environmental benefits through implementing the project is US\$ 6.7 million. Of this amount, US\$1.9 million is requested from GEF for direct project funding (exclusive of agency fees). GEF funds have leveraged US\$ 4.8 million in co-financing for the Alternative Strategy. Costs have been estimated for three years, the duration of the planned project Alternative. These costs are summarized below in the incremental costs matrix.

Project Component	Baseline (B)	Alternative (A)	Increment (A-B)
<p>Component 1: Protected areas and AZE site-level management at globally important sites</p>	<p>AZE sites are often poorly known, unprotected, receive little management support, and are highly vulnerable to threats as a result of their small size and weak protection. National conservation efforts are primarily focused on ecosystems and large areas of habitat and may miss irreplaceable sites for highly unique, threatened species which often occupy relatively small areas. Local communities are often unaware of the global uniqueness of the AZE species in their area, and may lack alternatives to unsustainable land use practices. Lack of model examples of AZE site management may constrain responses from national governments.</p> <p>Baseline: \$10,000,000</p>	<p>The incremental GEF contribution to conservation activities at the site level in Component 1 will support the achievement of immediate and measurable global benefits by avoiding the extinction of species and deterioration/loss of 5 critically important AZE sites in three countries. Lessons learned from these experiences will be used to inform AZE site conservation and national AZE strategy development for other sites and countries. AZE site-level actions will be replicated at a further 10 sites, for a combined total of at least 160,000 ha.</p> <p>Alternative: \$ 13,635,545</p>	<p>GEF \$1,010,664 COFINANCING \$2,624,790</p> <p>TOTAL \$3,635,545</p>
<p>Component 2. Mainstreaming of AZE site conservation in national policy and regulatory frameworks, and into safeguard policies of financial institutions</p>	<p>Investment strategies of lending institutions pay insufficient attention to globally irreplaceable sites for biodiversity conservation due a lack of awareness and access to AZE data. IFIs that have incorporated AZEs in their safeguards need to clarify their avoidance strategies and update their references. Current AZE databases only cover limited taxonomic groups (birds, mammals, amphibians, reptiles, reef-building corals and conifers) and were last updated in 2010. Existing MDB investment strategies pay insufficient attention to AZE</p>	<p>In Component 2, the list of AZE sites and trigger species for these groups will be comprehensively updated to 2016. AZE sites will be identified for a suite of other taxonomic groups (chameleons, freshwater crabs, crayfish and shrimps, cycads, cacti and mangroves), and processes established to identify and integrate into the dataset AZE sites identify for non-comprehensively assessed taxonomic groups. The capacity of the AZE partnership to complement, catalyze and build upon conservation efforts by all AZE partners will be significantly strengthened. Critical conservation planning tools and guidelines will</p>	<p>GEF \$816,008 COFINANCING \$1,932,809</p> <p>TOTAL \$2,748,817</p>

Project Component	Baseline (B)	Alternative (A)	Increment (A-B)
	<p>species and sites and safeguard policies fail to recognize them, contributing towards continued AZE site and species loss. The existing limited level of engagement between lending institutions and biodiversity conservation organizations needs to be strengthened in order to facilitate capacity development and to raise awareness of AZE conservation needs. At national level, NBSAPs, PoWPA Action Plans and national conservation plans generally pay inadequate attention to AZE species/site conservation.</p> <p>Baseline: \$5,000,000</p>	<p>be developed to support the achievement of CBD Targets 11 and 12 through enhanced AZE site and species monitoring and conservation. Through the GEF incremental contribution, these new AZE-related materials and tools will be developed to the highest standard and will be widely disseminated for uptake, with potential for significant impact at a global scale. The incremental GEF support will also foster the more timely adoption of AZE as an integral part of NBSAPs, PoWPA Action Plans and its uptake as part of conservation, development planning and decision making processes at global, national and local levels. It will also contribute to the development of additional capacities at the local/site level as well as globally to improve access to AZE data, build awareness and capacity to leverage actions through the AZE network and its partners at the global level – thus contributing to the delivery of significant GEBs at all AZE sites.</p> <p>Alternative: \$7,748,817</p>	
<p>Project Management</p>	<p>In the absence of project management, coordination between the different levels of intervention is weakened, as well as stakeholder engagement and the sharing of approaches and lessons learned. Strategic direction of the AZE initiative will not reach its full potential, reducing the rate of uptake in policies, plans and site conservation. Inadequate M&E may contribute to non-accomplishment of objectives.</p> <p>Baseline: \$0</p>	<p>Project management is supported by adequate human resources, enabling effective global, national and site level coordination to contribute towards an integrated synergistic approach to AZE initiative delivery. Clear strategic direction, stakeholder involvement and information sharing strengthens the accomplishment of project objectives and uptake of AZE by key target audiences including national governments and major lending institutions. Effective M&E ensures that progress remains on track and outputs, outcomes and the project objective are achieved.</p> <p>Alternative: \$335,713</p>	<p>GEF \$96,141 COFINANCING \$239,572 TOTAL \$335,713</p>

Appendix 4: Results Framework

Project’s Development Goal: To contribute to the global achievement of CBD Aichi Target 12 by improving the conservation status of AZE listed species

Objective/ Outcomes	SMART Indicators				Means of Verification	Risks and Assumptions
	Objectively Verifiable Indicators	Baseline	Mid-Term Target	End of Project Target		
<p>Objective: To prevent species extinctions at priority sites identified through the Alliance for Zero Extinction (AZE)</p>	<p>Indicator 0.1: AZE is mainstreamed into national biodiversity strategies and action plans and MDB policies, as indicated by the BD2 Tracking Tool (Appendix 14a)</p>	<p>See the GEF BD2 Tracking Tool (Appendix 14a).</p> <p>Two NBSAPs (Brazil and Philippines), and four PoWPA Action Plans (Vietnam, Nauru, Indonesia, and the Philippines) currently explicitly mention AZE (i.e., a total of five countries with AZE referenced in at least one of the key documents).</p> <p>UNEP has made contact with countries for which they are providing NBSAP support requesting inclusion of AZE.</p>	<p>See the GEF BD2 Tracking Tool (Appendix 14a).</p> <p>All CBD Focal Points have received from the CBD Secretariat notification requesting information on Protected Areas representativeness including AZE sites</p> <p>Direct contacts made between AZE staff and responsible parties regarding inclusion of AZE in NBSAPs, CBD National Reports, and/or PoWPA Action Plans for at least 20 countries.</p>	<p>See the GEF BD2 Tracking Tool (Appendix 14a).</p> <p>At least nine countries include AZE in at least one of the following: NBSAPs, CBD National Reports and/or PoWPA Action Plans as direct result of project inputs.</p>	<p>GEF BD2 Tracking Tool completed at project preparation stage, midterm and project completion.</p> <p>Updated NBSAPs, CBD National Reports, and/or PoWPA Action Plans include AZE.</p>	<p>Scheduling of NBSAP and PoWPA revisions and MDB policy updates permits incorporation of AZE provisions within the project period.</p>
<p>Component 1: Protected areas and AZE site-level management at globally important sites</p>						
<p>Outcome 1.1. Creation and improved management effectiveness of protected areas covering 160,000 ha of AZE sites, and improved conservation status of 27 AZE species at a total of five demonstration sites in Brazil, Chile, and Madagascar, and at an additional 10 sites globally.</p>						
<p>Outputs for Outcome 1.1:</p>						
<p>Output 1.1.1. Habitat conservation for <i>Merulaxis stresemanni</i> in Bandejas, Brazil, strengthened through improved</p>						

<p>forest protection and restoration with community support to sustain long-term conservation.</p> <p>Output 1.1.2. Chile: at Isla Mocha Reserve, for <i>Eupsophus insularis</i> and at Mehuin 1 and Mehuin 2 for <i>Eupsophus migueli</i> and <i>Insuetophrynus acarpicus</i> respectively, habitat conservation enhanced through strengthened protection status and implementation of newly created or existing (Isla Mocha) management plans.</p> <p>Output 1.1.3. At Tsitongambarika, Madagascar, habitat of two plant and 11 newly-discovered frog and reptile species is enhanced through a co-managed protected area and the implementation of a management and financing plan with a private sector partner.</p> <p>Output 1.1.4. An additional 10 AZE sites covering a minimum of 120,000 ha will gain enhanced protection through additional projects, informed by progress at the three demonstration projects</p>																													
<p>Outcome 1.1. Creation and improved management effectiveness of protected areas covering 160,000 ha of AZE sites, and improved conservation status of 17 AZE species at a total of five demonstration sites in Brazil, Chile, and Madagascar, and at an additional 10 sites globally.</p>	<p>Indicator 1.1.1: Management Effectiveness (METT Score) Improved management effectiveness of 5 target AZE sites covering a baseline area of 64,102 ha, indicated by the increase in the METT assessment (see inset table and Appendix 14a):</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>AZE Site / Protected Area</th> <th>METT Baseline Score (Mar 2015)</th> <th>Mid-term Target</th> <th>End of Project Target Score</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Brazil: Mata do Passarinho Private Reserve (654 ha)</td> <td>69%</td> <td>75%?</td> <td>91%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Chile: Isla Mocha National Reserve (2,905 ha)</td> <td>62%</td> <td>65%</td> <td>70%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Chile: Mehuin I – Llenuhue (2ha)</td> <td>9%</td> <td>12%</td> <td>18%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Chile: Mehuin II – Isaac (42ha)</td> <td>23%</td> <td>30%</td> <td>46%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Madagascar: Tsitongambarika Forest (proposed protected area) (60,509 ha)</td> <td>58%</td> <td>65%</td> <td>73%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			AZE Site / Protected Area	METT Baseline Score (Mar 2015)	Mid-term Target	End of Project Target Score	Brazil: Mata do Passarinho Private Reserve (654 ha)	69%	75%?	91%	Chile: Isla Mocha National Reserve (2,905 ha)	62%	65%	70%	Chile: Mehuin I – Llenuhue (2ha)	9%	12%	18%	Chile: Mehuin II – Isaac (42ha)	23%	30%	46%	Madagascar: Tsitongambarika Forest (proposed protected area) (60,509 ha)	58%	65%	73%	<p>METT Scorecards at Project Mid term and End of Project</p>	<p>METT gives a true and complete assessment of management effectiveness related to the achievement of site conservation goals</p>
	AZE Site / Protected Area	METT Baseline Score (Mar 2015)	Mid-term Target	End of Project Target Score																									
Brazil: Mata do Passarinho Private Reserve (654 ha)	69%	75%?	91%																										
Chile: Isla Mocha National Reserve (2,905 ha)	62%	65%	70%																										
Chile: Mehuin I – Llenuhue (2ha)	9%	12%	18%																										
Chile: Mehuin II – Isaac (42ha)	23%	30%	46%																										
Madagascar: Tsitongambarika Forest (proposed protected area) (60,509 ha)	58%	65%	73%																										
<p>Indicator 1.1.2: Target AZE Site Legal Protection Status: Increased area of 5 target AZE sites under improved legal protection (see inset table)</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>AZE Site / Protected Area</th> <th>Baseline</th> <th>Mid-term Target</th> <th>End of Project Target</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Brazil: Mata do Passarinho</td> <td>Private Reserve (RPPN) and Rural Environmental Cadaster (CAR) compliant (654 ha)</td> <td>Private Reserve (RPPN) and CAR compliant (1,041 ha)</td> <td>Private Reserve (RPPN) and CAR compliant (1,041 ha)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Chile: Isla Mocha</td> <td>National Reserve (2,905 ha)</td> <td>National Reserve (2,905 ha)</td> <td>National Park (c.2,905 ha)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Chile: Mehuin I & II AZE Site</td> <td>Unprotected private areas: 44 ha</td> <td>Land tenure studies conducted</td> <td>Participatory</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			AZE Site / Protected Area	Baseline	Mid-term Target	End of Project Target	Brazil: Mata do Passarinho	Private Reserve (RPPN) and Rural Environmental Cadaster (CAR) compliant (654 ha)	Private Reserve (RPPN) and CAR compliant (1,041 ha)	Private Reserve (RPPN) and CAR compliant (1,041 ha)	Chile: Isla Mocha	National Reserve (2,905 ha)	National Reserve (2,905 ha)	National Park (c.2,905 ha)	Chile: Mehuin I & II AZE Site	Unprotected private areas: 44 ha	Land tenure studies conducted	Participatory	<p>Brazil: Private reserve (RPPN) and CAR registration documents to demonstrate compliance with CAR.</p> <p>Chile: PA documentation to national authority; official government notifications of PA upgrading / establishment</p>	<p>Brazil: Interest among private landowners and local Governments in establishing RPPNs and complying with Forest Code is forthcoming</p> <p>Chile: Effective site management can precede lengthy process of formal declaration as</p>									
AZE Site / Protected Area	Baseline	Mid-term Target	End of Project Target																										
Brazil: Mata do Passarinho	Private Reserve (RPPN) and Rural Environmental Cadaster (CAR) compliant (654 ha)	Private Reserve (RPPN) and CAR compliant (1,041 ha)	Private Reserve (RPPN) and CAR compliant (1,041 ha)																										
Chile: Isla Mocha	National Reserve (2,905 ha)	National Reserve (2,905 ha)	National Park (c.2,905 ha)																										
Chile: Mehuin I & II AZE Site	Unprotected private areas: 44 ha	Land tenure studies conducted	Participatory																										

		at two Mehuin sites: Llenehue (2 ha) & Isaac (42 ha)	and recommendations implemented to improve protection	conservation (management) plan for Mehuin approved and under implementation	t. Madagascar: official government notification of PA establishment.	protected area. Madagascar: Government continues with confirmation of new PAs, following Promise of Sydney.																
	Madagascar: Tsitongambarika Forest	Proposed protected area – temporary protection status (60,509 ha)	Protected Area (60,509 ha)	Protected Area (60,509 ha)																		
<p>Indicator 1.1.3: Target AZE Site Threat Response Status Measurable progress in addressing key threats at each AZE site (site specific, see inset table):</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>AZE Site / Protected Area</th> <th>Baseline</th> <th>Mid-term Target</th> <th>End of Project Target</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Brazil: Mata do Passarinho - Area of forest habitat restored in and around the reserve</td> <td>50,000 trees planted and 50 ha of habitat restored in and around Mata do Passarinho Reserve</td> <td>70,000 trees planted and 70 ha of habitat restored in and around Mata do Passarinho Reserve</td> <td>90,000 trees planted and 90 ha of habitat restored in and surrounding Mata do Passarinho Reserve</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Chile: Isla Mocha - Exclusion zones created for priority AZE amphibian conservation areas where wood harvesting is not permitted</td> <td>Deforestation and forest degradation ongoing and causing declines in habitat quantity and quality for AZE species</td> <td>Key areas for AZE species and wood harvesting identified and mapped</td> <td>Zones established within the protected area for exclusion of wood harvesting activities</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Chile: Mehuin I & II AZE Site - Length of fencing at three properties (Teresa, Isaac and Llenehue) to</td> <td>Deforestation and forest degradation ongoing and causing declines in habitat quantity and quality for</td> <td>Negotiations underway to allow fencing: land ownership survey and consultations</td> <td>Fencing of 260 meters at two Mehuin properties (Isaac and Llenehue) restricts access to</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>					AZE Site / Protected Area	Baseline	Mid-term Target	End of Project Target	Brazil: Mata do Passarinho - Area of forest habitat restored in and around the reserve	50,000 trees planted and 50 ha of habitat restored in and around Mata do Passarinho Reserve	70,000 trees planted and 70 ha of habitat restored in and around Mata do Passarinho Reserve	90,000 trees planted and 90 ha of habitat restored in and surrounding Mata do Passarinho Reserve	Chile: Isla Mocha - Exclusion zones created for priority AZE amphibian conservation areas where wood harvesting is not permitted	Deforestation and forest degradation ongoing and causing declines in habitat quantity and quality for AZE species	Key areas for AZE species and wood harvesting identified and mapped	Zones established within the protected area for exclusion of wood harvesting activities	Chile: Mehuin I & II AZE Site - Length of fencing at three properties (Teresa, Isaac and Llenehue) to	Deforestation and forest degradation ongoing and causing declines in habitat quantity and quality for	Negotiations underway to allow fencing: land ownership survey and consultations	Fencing of 260 meters at two Mehuin properties (Isaac and Llenehue) restricts access to	Brazil: Tree measurement in representative 1 ha plots; area measurements using GPS to map restored areas. Chile: Project technical reports; measurement of fencing at Mehuin against site conservation plans. Madagascar: Project technical reports based on field observation (mid-term); official government statistics and independent assessments of deforestation rates (2018).	Chile: AZE amphibian populations can be assessed, despite their scarcity, by viable field methodologies. Madagascar: Amphibian fungus <i>Bd</i> , recently confirmed present in Madagascar, does not reach, and cause mortality to frogs in, Tsitongambarika
AZE Site / Protected Area	Baseline	Mid-term Target	End of Project Target																			
Brazil: Mata do Passarinho - Area of forest habitat restored in and around the reserve	50,000 trees planted and 50 ha of habitat restored in and around Mata do Passarinho Reserve	70,000 trees planted and 70 ha of habitat restored in and around Mata do Passarinho Reserve	90,000 trees planted and 90 ha of habitat restored in and surrounding Mata do Passarinho Reserve																			
Chile: Isla Mocha - Exclusion zones created for priority AZE amphibian conservation areas where wood harvesting is not permitted	Deforestation and forest degradation ongoing and causing declines in habitat quantity and quality for AZE species	Key areas for AZE species and wood harvesting identified and mapped	Zones established within the protected area for exclusion of wood harvesting activities																			
Chile: Mehuin I & II AZE Site - Length of fencing at three properties (Teresa, Isaac and Llenehue) to	Deforestation and forest degradation ongoing and causing declines in habitat quantity and quality for	Negotiations underway to allow fencing: land ownership survey and consultations	Fencing of 260 meters at two Mehuin properties (Isaac and Llenehue) restricts access to																			

	restrict access to amphibian habitat in ravines, minimizing the impact from illegal logging and cattle.	AZE species		AZE amphibian habitat in ravines, minimizing impacts from illegal logging and cattle.		
	Madagascar: Tsitongambarika Forest - Deforestation rate as the main threat to, and determinant of conservation status of, AZE species	Estimated rate 2.05% to be verified on project inception	15% reduction in deforestation rate in project area	35% reduction in deforestation rate in project area		
	Indicator 1.1.4: Measurable improvements in conservation status achieved for ten additional target AZE sites covering a minimum of 120,000 ha based on METT scores [Improvements to include equitable engagement of women, men and disadvantaged social groups taking into account their different roles and their different concerns.]	All potential target sites have significant management problems and threats, impacting on AZE species. Baseline METT scores to be established for target AZE sites by project mid-term	Ten additional AZE sites identified, beyond those initially targeted for project action that are appropriate to focus on for this project element, with interventions and deliverables defined and METT baseline scores established.	Measurable improvements in conservation status achieved for ten additional target AZE sites covering a minimum of 40,000 ha based on repeat METT scores	Documentation of government engagement and signage, land titles or conservation agreements, community agreements, photographs of completed infrastructure, project reports, ecotourism income statements. Sex-disaggregated data to be collected for targeted communities	Lessons learned from demonstration sites can be applied to replication sites, and project duration is sufficient to achieve initial results at replication sites
Component 2. Mainstreaming of AZE site conservation in national policy and regulatory frameworks, and into safeguard policies of financial institutions						

Outcome 2.1. The conservation of threatened species and the protection of AZE sites are mainstreamed into the safeguard policies of key financial institutions such as Equator Principles Financial Institutions and Multilateral Development Banks to minimize the impact of development projects on AZE sites.						
Outputs for Outcome 2.1:						
Output 2.1.1. Improved awareness of, and accessibility to, AZE data online for relevant decision-makers to facilitate mainstreaming, including updated global AZE site list and global site status assessment.						
Output 2.1.2. Technical guidance documents based on 2.1.1, to inform and support the incorporation of AZE species and site considerations into EIA and safeguard policies.						
Output 2.1.3. Capacity of AZE members to partner with lending institutions strengthened and national AZE networks enhanced through outreach and training programs.						
Output 2.1.4. Staff in private financial institutions trained in use of AZE tools and data.						
Output 2.1.5. Synergies identified and AZE site conservation opportunities mainstreamed with existing and planned donor/agency and private sector financing programs.						
Outcome 2.1. The conservation of threatened species and the protection of AZE sites are mainstreamed into the safeguard policies of key financial institutions such as Equator Principles Financial Institutions and Multilateral Development Banks to minimize the impact of development projects on AZE sites.	Indicator 2.1.1: Number of comprehensively assessed taxonomic groups for which AZE sites systematically identified	6	10	15	WBDB contains records for AZE sites (with the minimum documentation requirements including digital polygons) for each target taxonomic group	Specialist Groups and experts engage in process to identify and verify sites
	Indicator 2.1.2: Number of mapped and documented AZE sites	588	700	750	WBDB contains records for AZE sites (with the minimum documentation requirements including digital polygons)	Specialist Groups and experts engage in process to identify and verify sites
	Indicator 2.1.3: Number of visitors to website presenting site factsheets	500	50,000/year	100,000/year	AZE and KBA website stats on number of unique views & visitors	AZE Website visitors access and use the information presented
	Indicator 2.1.4: Number of MDB and EPFI policies referring specifically to AZE following	2 Baseline and targets to be confirmed (requires survey as part of project)	5	10	Published or consultative versions of safeguard policies	Opportunities to influence IFI policies occur during lifespan of project

	project guidance and consequent reviews of safeguard policies.					
	Indicator 2.1.5: Number of financial institutions engaging and working with AZE member staff to use tools, data and guidance, and/or making this available for borrowers’ due diligence/initial screening processes	2 Baseline and targets to be confirmed (requires survey as part of project) Some staff in WB, IFC, IDB and EIB (not other MDBs and EPFIs) aware and have access to limited data	5	10	AZE member records (meeting minutes etc), project reports, workshops, webinars Project proposals, reports and due diligence/initial screening process reports from financial institutions	IFIs are open to dialogue, uptake of guidance and information sharing
	Indicator 2.1.6: Number of AZE sites with conservation enhanced or threats averted by participating IFIs through avoidance, mitigation and/or compensation related to development project impacts	0 Baseline and targets to be confirmed (requires survey as part of project) Small number of synergistic projects with AZE partners and IDB/IFC funding	5	10	Project safeguard strategies Other project plans and strategies	
Outcome 2.2: AZE site conservation is mainstreamed into national biodiversity strategies, in support of CBD targets.						
Outputs for Outcome 2.2:						
Output 2.2.1. Development and implementation of at least three pilot National AZE Strategies (Brazil, Chile, and Madagascar) mainstreamed into NBSAPs and PoWPA Action Plans, and plans developed and adopted for long-term financing and sustainability.						
Output 2.2.2. Technical guidance documents (based on the strategies developed under 2.2.1) inform and support incorporation of AZE priorities in the development of further NBSAPs and PoWPA Action Plans globally.						
Output 2.2.3. Consolidated and strengthened national AZE partnerships use project outputs to support NBSAP and PoWPA processes, national CBD reporting and enhanced AZE site conservation through targeted capacity development and outreach programs						
Outcome	Indicator	0	0	3	National	Political

<p>2.2: AZE site conservation is mainstreamed into national biodiversity strategies, in support of CBD targets.</p>	<p>2.2.1: Number of endorsed and launched pilot national AZE Strategies in project countries (Brazil, Chile, Madagascar)</p> <p>[Strategies to include equitable engagement of women, men and disadvantaged social groups taking into account their different roles and their different concerns.]</p>	<p>No national AZE strategies exist for Chile, Brazil and Madagascar.</p>	<p>First draft of National AZE Strategy in Chile, Brazil, and Madagascar</p>	<p>National AZE Strategies for Brazil, Chile, and Madagascar endorsed and being implemented</p>	<p>AZE maps as well as protected area gap analyses and strategy document produced with Government endorsement</p> <p>Sex-disaggregated data to be collected for targeted communities</p>	<p>support is sustained for incorporation of AZE into national policies and plans by the implementing partner governments.</p>
	<p>Indicator 2.2.2: Number of project countries (Brazil, Chile, Madagascar) including AZE site protection in NBSAPs/CBD National Reports, and/or PoWPA Action Plans, and other relevant national planning documents</p>	<p>0</p> <p>Brazil: AZE is mentioned in NBSAP, but not the PoWPA Action Plan.</p> <p>Chile: NBSAP and PoWPA Action Plans do not mention AZE.</p> <p>Madagascar: NBSAP and PoWPA Action Plans do not mention AZE.</p>	<p>0</p> <p>Draft National AZE Strategy developed with strong Government engagement and contains recommendations and timetables for inclusion of AZE in national biodiversity strategies.</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Brazil, Chile, and Madagascar AZE site protection included in key documents, including AZE Species Action Plans (Brazil), Amphibian Conservation Plan (Chile), Species Action Plans (Madagascar)</p>	<p>National biodiversity planning documents include reference to and/or provision for AZE site conservation</p>	<p>Political support is sustained for incorporation of AZE into national policies and plans by implementing partner governments.</p>
	<p>Indicator 2.2.3: Number of countries* explicitly including AZE sites and species among strategic priorities in at least one of NBSAPs, CBD</p>	<p>5</p> <p>countries with AZE referenced in at least 1 key document</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 NBSAPs (Brazil and Philippines) 	<p>5</p> <p>All CBD Focal Points received from CBD Secretariat notification requesting information on Protected Areas</p>	<p>9</p> <p>countries with AZE referenced in at least 1 key document</p>	<p>Updated NBSAPs, CBD National Reports, and/or PoWPA Action Plans include AZE.</p>	<p>NBSAP and PoWPA Action Plan updates or CBD National Reports are completed according to a schedule that allows AZE</p>

	<p>National Reports, and/or PoWPA Action Plans</p> <p><i>*Excluding Brazil, Chile and Madagascar</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 PoWPA Action Plans (Vietnam, Nauru, Indonesia, and Philippines) 	<p>representativeness including AZE sites</p> <p>Direct contacts made between AZE staff and responsible parties for at least 20 countries.</p>			<p>to be incorporated by end of project.</p>
	<p>Indicator 2.2.4: Number of countries with national AZE partnerships strengthened through AZE mini-workshops and national strategy development workshops</p>	<p>0</p> <p>AZE has 93 member NGOs in 35 countries, with national alliances in Brazil, Colombia, India, Mexico, and Peru. 200 member organizations in these countries.</p> <p>Site identification workshops conducted in Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Mexico, and Peru.</p>	<p>0</p> <p>Relevant experts are identified and invited to participate in AZE site review processes in 5 countries.</p>	<p>5</p> <p>AZE mini-workshops followed by at least 2 national strategy workshops** in 4-6 countries, resulting in strengthened national AZE partnerships and draft national AZE strategies</p>	<p>National AZE reviews and workshop reports</p>	

**The final selection of countries for the 2 national strategy workshops will depend on the outcomes of the 4 mini workshops

Appendix 5: Workplan and timetable

Output 1.1.1. Habitat conservation for *Merulaxis stresemanni* in Bandeiras, Brazil, strengthened through improved forest protection and restoration with community support to sustain long-term conservation.

Activities to be performed within Mato do Passarinho Reserve:

Activity 1. Continue implementation of habitat restoration and alternative livelihoods program for local communities and through reforestation of 40 hectares (40,000 saplings) within the reserve. Bolster present nursery production at the Mato do Passarinho Reserve through the implementation of a seedling nursery following Ministry of Agriculture standards.

Activity 2. Implement Stresemann's Bristlefront conservation activities. Hire a full-time employee and assistant to implement and monitor artificial nests, monitor camera traps, and daily worm feeding in addition to systematic species monitoring within the reserve and surrounding areas.

Activity 3. Draft and implement a Reserve Business Plan to achieve financial sustainability over a five year period, primarily through cacao production and tourism, described in Activities 4 and 5 below.

Activity 4. Produce cacao on the Mata do Passarinho Reserve to ensure a long-term stream of funding to support ongoing management costs. This activity includes hiring consultants to design, provide technical assistance and training to reserve staff to implement shade cacao production. This component is also tied to the restoration efforts in the previous activity; native shade trees will be planted on degraded areas prior to the planting of cacao.

Activity 5. Improve tourism at the reserve by publicizing new reserve infrastructure, training workers from the adjacent communities as guides, cooks and other service jobs, and streamlining tourist bookings at the lodge and managing operations to accommodate tourist visits.

Activities to be performed in areas surrounding Mata do Passarinho Reserve:

Activity 6. Formulate protected area scenarios to propose public or private protected areas describing which of the twelve categories of protected areas is most appropriate in consideration of local interests, existing regulations and conditions.

- a) Consult existing Atlantic Forest projects for lessons learned or applicable data, such as land tenure mapping (see section 2.7).
- b) Acquire a Federal Government letter of support from ICMBio for AZE-GEF project and activities (eg land tenure assessment) in order to facilitate information sharing (eg notary offices) and protected area creation at local and state levels.
- c) Prepare a social-environmental assessment through compilation of baseline information within Stresemann’s Bristlefront range including data on socioeconomics, fauna, stakeholders, political, development programs.
- d) Conduct stakeholder meetings in three municipalities to invite input and validate development of protected area scenarios.
- e) Present results of the socio-environmental assessment, land tenure study and conservation site map (see below) to ICMBio with state and municipal governments to begin a formal protected area creation process, presentations and discussions to refine issues.

Activity 7. Create a site conservation map that includes interpretation of existing satellite images

combined with land tenure surveys on private lands and protected area scenarios to connect remnant forest, and other themes.

- a) Creation of online GIS database (use national Biodiversity portal) to serve as a platform to systematize site information, create transparency and allow for the creation of conservation maps and actions.

Activity 8. Strengthen stakeholder awareness regarding benefits of protecting habitat and environmental laws.

- b) In addition to information provided to stakeholders in Activity 1, conduct a series of meetings with local communities (approximately 60 families) in three municipalities (two departments).

Activity 9. Assist interested landowners to comply with Forest Code and create private reserves (RPPN) by providing technical and legal support to improve property boundary mapping and land tenure status.

- c) Visits with approximately 30 landowners to define property boundaries and create land survey maps. Identify with landowners which portion of their properties could be registered to comply with the Brazilian Forest Code, through the Rural Environmental Cadaster (CAR).
- d) Support state registration of land survey maps for approximately 20 large landowners to support the Brazilian Forest Code, through the compliance of the Rural Environmental Cadaster (CAR) and private reserve creation (RPPN).
- e) Technical assistance regarding sustainable use of native, non-timber species and fire management.

Outputs & activities	Year 1				Year 2				Year 3			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Output 2.1.1. Improved awareness of and accessibility to AZE data online for relevant decision-makers to facilitate mainstreaming, including updated global AZE site list and global site status assessment												
Activity 1. Alternative livelihoods program and reforestation												
Activity 2. Implement Stresemann's Bristlefront conservation activities.												
Activity 3. Draft and implement a Reserve Business Plan												
Activity 4. Produce cacao on Mato do Passarinho Reserve.												
Activity 5. Improve tourism at Mato do Passarinho Reserve.												
Activity 6. Formulate protected area scenarios to propose public or private protected areas.												
Activity 7. Create a site conservation map and platform for information sharing.												
Activity 8.												

Strengthen stakeholder awareness regarding benefits of protecting habitat and environmental laws.												
Activity 9. Assist interested landowners to comply with Forest Code and create private reserves (RPPN).												

Output 1.1.2. In Chile, at Isla Mocha Reserve in Chile, for *Eupsophus insularis* and at Mehuin 1 and Mehuin 2 for *Eupsophus migueli* and *Insuetophrynus acarpicus* respectively, habitat conservation enhanced through strengthened protection status and implementation of newly created or existing (Isla Mocha) management plans.

The following activities will be carried out in **Isla Mocha Reserve** to benefit the Mocha Island Ground Frog (*Eupsophus insularis*):

Activity 1. Design and implement a species monitoring program for *Eupsophus insularis*.

Activity 2. Install fencing near trails within the Isla Mocha Reserve to prevent people and cattle from entering.

Activity 3. Upgrade the protected status of the Isla Mocha Reserve to a National Park.

Activity 4. Implement an environmental awareness and education campaign in the local community based on *Eupsophus insularis* conservation.

Activity 5. Update and begin implementation of the socio-environmental strategy in order to promote changes in the community that improve the protection of the island.

Co-financing activities:

Activity 6. Promote responsible pet ownership and implement a pet spay/neuter program on Isla Mocha to reduce the presence of cats, and consequently frog predation, inside the reserve.

Activity 7. Implement biosecurity measures to avoid the spread of disease to amphibian populations.

Activity 8. Sample the presence and diet of invasive vertebrate species, particularly rodents and cats, to determine their level of impact on amphibian populations.

Activity 9. Analyze the viability of fuelwood alternatives, taking into account community interests, to substitute wood harvested from the Reserve with alternative heat sources.

Activity 10. Create maps depicting priority amphibian conservation areas and areas where wood harvesting occurs in order to create zones excluding wood harvest.

Activity 11. Design a project to seek future funding from the Fondo Nacional de Desarrollo Regional (National Fund for Regional Development) to create a guest house and environmental education center to strengthen the cultural identity of Isla Mocha residents.

The following activities will be carried out in **Mehuín 1 and Mehuín 2** for *Eupsophus migueli* and *Insuetophrynus acarpicus*:

Activity 1. Conduct a land tenure study including an analysis of legal status, water rights, actors and issues with existing land titles in order to make protected area recommendations to strengthen legal protection of the two project areas, Isaac and Llnehue.

Activity 2. Fence 320 meters at two properties (Isaac and Llnehue) to restrict access to amphibian habitat in ravines, minimizing the impact from illegal logging and cattle.

Activity 3. Conduct a base line amphibian survey to improve population estimates and information regarding species distribution; develop and implement a monitoring methodology.

Activity 4. Develop and initiate implementation of a conservation plan for the site using a participatory process that involves all local stakeholders.

Activity 5. Design and implement an environmental education program.

Co-financing:

Activity 6. Conduct training to improve agriculture and cattle ranching practices with INDAP/Prodesal.

Activity 7. Implement workshops to improve management practices for timber harvesting in ravines that are critical amphibian habitat. Contract a consultant to produce recommended best timber harvesting practices based on consultations with stakeholders.

Activity 8. Conduct a baseline study to investigate fish and invertebrate populations .

Outputs & activities	Year 1				Year 2				Year 3			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Output 1.1.2. In Chile, at Isla Mocha Reserve in Chile, for <i>Eupsophus insularis</i> and at Mehuín 1 and Mehuín 2 for <i>Eupsophus migueli</i> and <i>Insuetophrynus acarpicus</i> respectively, habitat conservation enhanced through strengthened protection status and implementation of newly created or existing (Isla Mocha) management plans.												
Isla Mocha (IM)												
IM1. species monitoring program for <i>Eupsophus insularis</i>												
IM2. Install fencing												
IM3. Upgrade status of Isla Mocha Reserve to National Park												
IM4. Implement environmental awareness and education campaign												
IM5. Update and begin implementation of socio-environmental strategy												
IM6. Promote responsible pet ownership and implement a pet spay/neuter program												
IM7. Implement biosecurity measures												
IM8. Determine impact of invasive vertebrate species, particularly rodents and cats, on amphibian populations												
IM9. Analyze viability of fuelwood alternatives												
IM10. Create amphibian conservation area and wood harvesting maps to create wood harvest exclusion zones												
IM11. Seek funding from the Fondo Nacional de Desarrollo Regional												

Mehuin (Me)													
Me1. Conduct land tenure study													
Me2. Fence 320 meters at two properties													
Me3. Conduct baseline amphibian survey, and develop and implement monitoring methodology													
Me4. Develop and initiate implementation new conservation plan													
Me5. Design and implement environmental education program													
Me6. Training to improve agriculture and cattle ranching practices													
Me7. Workshops and consultancy to recommend improved timber harvesting practices in critical amphibian habitat													
Me8. Baseline study to investigate fish and invertebrate populations													

Output 1.1.3. At Tsitongambarika, Madagascar, habitat of two plant and 11 newly-discovered frog and reptile species is enhanced through a co-managed protected area and the implementation of a management and financing plan with a private sector partner.

Activity 1. Conducting ecological and taxonomic research on AZE species (frogs, reptiles and plants) in support of conservation measures

Activity 1. Delineate habitats and known ranges of each AZE species

Activity 2. Develop conservation strategies for AZE species

Activity 3. Update the Protected Area Management Plan by incorporating the concept of AZE into activities and timetables

Activity 4. Evaluate the local community associations CoBa (BirdLife Local Conservation Groups) and develop new contracts with Government to confirm their rights and responsibilities to manage the forest (and thus parts of the Protected Area)

Activity 5. Strengthen the capacity of 66 CoBas for management of forest resources in their care, covered by contracts

Activity 6. Carry out targeted forest restoration in critical zones, and establish forest plantations

Activity 7. Develop income-generating activities for the most vulnerable and forest-dependent populations

Activity 8. Support the KOMFITA management platform in the development, implementation and monitoring of its annual work plans

Activity 9. Carry out socio-economic and ecological monitoring of Protected Area management effectively, conservation status of AZE species and livelihoods improvements in local communities related to project-supported activities

Activity 10. Support forest managers (*Polisin’ala*) in their inspections

Activity 11. Support CoBas in achieving their terms of reference (monitoring of natural resources, conflict management, membership management etc.)

Output and activities	Y1				Y2				Y3			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Output 1.1.3 At Tsitongambarika, Madagascar, habitat of two plant and 11 newly-discovered frog and reptile species is enhanced through a co-managed protected area and the implementation of a management and financing plan with a private sector partner												
1. Conducting ecological research on AZE species		■	■			■	■					
2. Delineate habitats of AZE species						■	■		■	■	■	
3. Develop a conservation strategy for AZE species		■	■	■	■	■						
4. Update Protected Area Management Plan by incorporating the concept of AZE						■	■	■	■			
5. Evaluate the COBA and develop new management contract		■	■	■	■							
6. Strengthen the capacity of 66 CoBas for management of forest resources					■	■	■	■				
7. Carry out forest restoration and establish forest plantations			■	■	■	■			■	■		
8. Develop income generating activities for the most vulnerable populations			■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
9. Support KOMFITA management platform in the development and implementation of its annual work plan				■	■			■	■			■
10. Carry out socio-economic and ecological monitoring			■				■				■	
11. Support forest managers in their inspections		■		■	■		■		■		■	■
12. Support CoBas in achieving their terms of reference	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■

Output 1.1.4. An additional 10 AZE sites covering a minimum of 120,000 ha gain enhanced protection through additional projects, informed by progress at the three demonstration projects

Activity 1. Develop criteria (mainly concerning conservation priority, opportunity and probability of success; latter based on a range of social, political and institutional factors) and confirm site selection from long-list presented in Prodoc, based on assessment by BirdLife, ABC, local and national partners and Government staff.

Activity 2. Measure METT baselines and set high-level targets for action within project timetable

Activity 3. Develop site intervention goals, workplans, activities and deliverables for each site, together with conditions for inclusion within this project

Activity 4. Supervise and where appropriate support implementation at each site

Activity 5. Final METT scoring and reporting

Output & activities	Year 1				Year 2				Year 3			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Output 1.1.4. An additional 10 AZE sites covering a minimum of 40,000 ha will gain enhanced protection through additional projects, informed by progress at the three demonstration projects												
1. Confirmation of site selection	■											
2. METT baseline and target setting		■	■	■								
3. Development of site intervention goals, workplans		■	■	■								

and deliverables												
4.Supervision of implementation												
5.Final METT and reporting												

Output 2.1.1. Improved awareness of, and accessibility to, AZE data online for relevant decision-makers to facilitate mainstreaming, including updated global AZE site list and global site status assessment.

Activity 1. Develop the World Biodiversity Database (WBDB) to manage AZE data more effectively, including:

- Automate update of Red List information from SIS to the WBDB to ensure the species backbone is up-to-date
- Develop the WBDB dashboard to include AZE sites, & providing a taxonomic window (alongside the existing ‘country’ window)
- Develop ‘wizard’ functionality to make the assessment/reassessment process straightforward from the dashboard.
- Create any new fields required to manage data on the ‘minimum documentation requirements’ defined in Activity 3
- Integrate simple GIS data management and presentation for AZE site boundaries into the WBDB.
- Improve output and reporting functionality to allow easier analysis and publication of the AZE data.
- Create GIS and non-spatial web-services from the WBDB to provide AZE data to third parties to integrate in their own sites in such a way that they remain up-to-date automatically.

Activity 2. Update AZE assessments for each of the six species groups that have been comprehensively assessed for the IUCN Red List and that are included in the current (2010) AZE dataset (birds, mammals, amphibians, reptiles [turtles & tortoises, iguanas and crocodilians only], reef-building corals and conifers).

Sub-Activity 2.1 Assess potential species & sites that no longer qualify for AZE status:

- Reclassify AZE species that no longer qualify for AZE status
- Assess information on the distribution of remaining AZE species that have been re-assessed for the IUCN Red List since 2010
- Assess implications and remove any AZE sites that no longer qualify

Sub-Activity 2.2 Assess potential species & sites that may newly qualify for AZE status

- Identify any additional trigger species for existing AZE sites and/or potential new AZE sites.
- Delineate potential new AZE sites and create digital polygons.

Sub-Activity 2.3 Seek open peer-review of proposed revisions to AZE species and site list

- Propose any revisions to the AZE list deriving from activities 1.1 and 1.2 through an appropriate internet forum
- Advertise this widely to solicit comments and relevant information
- Assess feedback and reach consensus on revised list of AZE species and sites

Activity 3. Identify and document AZE sites for species groups that have been comprehensively assessed for the IUCN Red List but are NOT included in the current (2010) AZE dataset (chameleons, freshwater crabs, crayfish and shrimps, cycads, cacti and mangroves).

- Assess distributional information to determine if any are effectively restricted to single sites
- Determine if these qualify as additional trigger species for existing sites or trigger potential new AZE sites

- Delineate the latter, taking into account boundaries of existing KBAs where possible, and create digital polygons
- Seek open peer-review of proposed revisions to AZE species and site list as per Activity 2.3, including through national workshops and processes under Outcome 1.1.

Activity 4. Facilitate AZE site identification for species groups that have not yet been comprehensively assessed for the IUCN Red List (i.e. some, but not all, taxa within the group have been assessed):

- Create a standard template for web-submission of a proposed AZE species/site which would require proposers to provide information and documentation
- Advertise & promote this template and the opportunity to propose AZE species/sites for taxonomic groups that have not been comprehensively assessed for the IUCN Red List, including through national workshops and processes under Outcome 1.1.
- Establish a process for reviewing such proposals and determining if they qualify for AZE status, building on the processes being developed for KBA identification.
- Review any submitted proposals and add accepted species/sites and their documentation to the AZE dataset
- Develop website/database infrastructure to allow the documentation of proposed sites to be imported automatically into the AZE database when proposals are approved
- Develop field in Species Information Service that prompts Red List assessors to identify potential AZE candidates when assessing taxa for the first time, or when reassessing taxa already listed on the IUCN Red List. [Also add field for confirmed AZE trigger species].

Activity 5. Develop AZE website

- Develop website to present list of AZE sites and associated documentation (derived directly from WBDB), improve user experience, accessibility & search functionality (both tabular and spatial).
- Incorporate the functionality to display spatial data for sites (with those for comprehensively assessed groups shown by default, but allowing users to also visualise sites for non-comprehensively assessed groups should they choose to do so).
- Incorporate functionality to allow spatial dataset to be freely downloaded, requiring users to provide basic details of purpose of use and agree to terms of use

Output and activities	Year 1				Year 2				Year 3			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Output 2.1.1. Improved awareness of, and accessibility to, AZE data online for relevant decision-makers to facilitate mainstreaming, including updated global AZE site list and global site status assessment												
Activity 1. Develop WBDB												
Activity 2. Update AZE assessments for comprehensively assessed groups in current AZE dataset												
Activity 3. Identify and document AZE sites for species groups that have been comprehensively assessed for the IUCN Red List but are NOT included in the current AZE dataset												
Activity 4. Facilitate AZE site identification for species groups that have not yet been comprehensively assessed for the IUCN Red List												
Activity 5. Develop AZE website												

Output 2.1.2. Technical guidance documents based on 2.1.1, to inform and support the incorporation of AZE species and site considerations into EIA and safeguard policies.

Activity 1. Produce comprehensive and tailored guidance materials for use by development banks and financing institutions and for advocacy by AZE member organisations at national and regional levels. The guidance fact sheets and supporting reports will address the needs of AZE sites and species and be applicable in Environmental Assessment throughout the Project Cycle of International Finance Institutions) and Equator Principle Financial Institutions (EPFIs). Specifically they will address:

- EIA and SEA processes,
- habitat definitions
- risk assessments at screening and scoping stage, implementation of impact assessments, and monitoring of mitigation actions.

Activity 2. Make guidance available on AZE website and IBAT.

Activity 3. Produce scoping document identifying advocacy targets and review opportunities

Activity 4. AZE member organisations to undertake targeted advocacy to strengthen safeguard policies of financial institutions in order to ensure AZE sites and species are referenced in their safeguard policies.

Activity 5. AZE member organisations will work with financial institutions to ensure guidance is best accessed and utilised to contribute to reviews of their safeguard policies such that AZE sites and species referenced in their safeguard policies

Activity 6. Engage with financial institutions to ensure AZE species and site guidance is accessed and utilised to strengthen compliance with and implementation of existing safeguard policies and understanding of likely impacts

Activity 7. AZE member comments on safeguard policies posted online

Output & activities	Year 1				Year 2				Year 3			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Output 2.1.2 Technical guidance documents based on 2.1.1, to inform and support the incorporation of AZE species and site considerations into EIA and safeguard policies												
Activity 1. Produce comprehensive and tailored targeted guidance material												
Activity 2. Make guidance available on AZE website and IBAT												
Activity 3. Produce scoping document identifying advocacy targets and review opportunities												
Activity 4. AZE member organisations undertake targeted advocacy												
Activity 5. AZE member organisations work with development banks to ensure guidance contributes to reviews of safeguard policies												
Activity 6. AZE member organisations work with development banks to ensure guidance utilised by MDBs and EPBs to strengthen compliance with and implementation of existing safeguard												
Activity 7. AZE member comments on safeguard policies posted online												

Output 2.1.3. Capacity of AZE members to partner with lending institutions strengthened and national AZE networks enhanced through outreach and training programs.

Activity 1. Scoping capacity development needs with AZE member organisations and produce capacity development programme document addressing both gaps in capacity and knowledge

Activity 2. Organise and deliver workshops to train staff from AZE member organisations in safeguard policies covering EIA, SEA and decisions on the mitigation hierarchy. Target existing group structure e.g national groups in 3 priority countries, ASCET and APAWG in Africa

Activity 3. Develop webinars for AZE member organisations on safeguard policies and guidance

Activity 4 . Work with AZE member organisation staff to reach out to key financial institution staff at national, regional and global levels – attend bilateral meetings and key safeguard related meetings

Activity 5. Ensure regular engagement of AZE staff with national and regional lending institution staff operating in the 3 focal countries.

Output & activities	Year 1				Year 2				Year 3			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Output 2.1.3 Capacity of AZE members to partner with lending institutions strengthened and national AZE networks enhanced through outreach and training programs												
Activity 1. Scope capacity development needs and produce capacity development programme document												
Activity 2. Organise and deliver workshops to train staff from AZE member organisations												
Activity 3. Develop webinars for AZE member organisations in safeguard policies and guidance												
Activity 4 . Work with AZE member organisation staff to reach out to key financial institution staff at national, regional and global levels through meetings												
Activity 5. Ensure regular engagement of AZE staff with lending institutions in the 3 focal countries												

Output 2.1.4. Staff in private financial institutions trained in use of AZE tools and data.

Activity 1. Produce targeted plan outreaching to private financial institutions.

Activity 2. Develop AZE member staff relationships with key staff in financial institutions

Activity 3. Scope needs of staff in private financial institutions to use tools, data and guidance to be integrated in their risk assessment frameworks and environmental policies (used to inform activity 1 under output 2.1.2)

Activity 4. Deliver webinar and seminars for bank staff to enhance consideration of AZE sites and species within safeguard reviews as well as compliance with and implementation of existing safeguard policies and understanding of likely impacts.

Activity 5. Deliver targeted support from AZE member staff to IFIs at times when bank safeguards are under review

Output & activities	Year 1				Year 2				Year 3			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Output 2.1.4 Staff in private financial institutions trained in use of AZE tools and data												
Activity 1. Produce targeted plan outreaching to private financial institutions.												
Activity 2. Develop AZE member staff relationships with key staff in financial institutions												
Activity 3. Scope needs of staff in private financial institutions to use tools, data and guidance to be integrated in their risk assessment frameworks and environmental policies												
Activity 4. Deliver webinar and seminars for bank staff												
Activity 5. Deliver targeted support from AZE member staff to financial intuitions												

Output 2.1.5. Synergies identified and AZE site conservation opportunities mainstreamed with existing and planned donor/agency and private sector financing programs.

Activity 1. Identify and review lessons learned where private sector financing programs reflect AZEs (e.g. CEPF)

Activity 2. Scope opportunities through UNEP’s Finance Initiative, and United Nations-supported Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI) and UN Global Compact

Activity 3. Develop strategy for future actions

Activity 4. Support the IBAT Director to renew subscriptions/secure new subscription to IBAT

Activity 5. Support/provide advise to IFIs through bilateral meetings and seminars with key staff in lending institutions about use of AZE data in project appraisals. Promote AZE information to be included in screening and scoping mitigation decisions to enhance site conservation, particularly through avoidance measures in prospective projects.

Output & activities	Year 1				Year 2				Year 3			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Output 2.1.5 Synergies identified and AZE site conservation opportunities mainstreamed with existing and planned donor/agency and private sector financing programs												
Activity 1. Review lessons learned where private sector financing programs reflect AZEs												
Activity 2. Scope opportunities through UNEP’s Finance Initiative												
Activity 3. Develop strategy for future actions												
Activity 4. Support the IBAT Director to renew subscriptions/secure new subscription to IBAT												
Activity 5. Support/provide advice to IFIs in use of AZE data [as screening and scoping tool for to enhance site conservation												

Output 2.2.1. Development and implementation of at least three pilot National AZE Strategies (Brazil, Chile, and Madagascar) mainstreamed into NBSAPs and PoWPA Action Plans, and plans developed and adopted for long-term financing and sustainability.

Activity 1. Three pilot National AZE Strategies in Brazil, Chile, and Madagascar developed, based on

- national level review of current AZE sites using current global AZE sites,
- most up-to-date national red list information,
- series of workshops with taxonomic experts to validate the designation and delineation of AZE sites with up-to-date biological information, and analysis to identify overlap of national AZE sites with the existing protected area networks in each country.

Activity 2. Information resulting from expert workshops used in production of national AZE maps and gap analyses.

Activity 3. Initial steps towards mainstreaming or adoption of National AZE Strategies into POWPA Action Plans and NBSAPs using present dataset, through inclusion of local, regional and national stakeholders integrated with existing national processes.

Activity 4. Mainstreaming of National AZE Strategies into PoWPA Action Plans and NBSAPs and their implementation, including National CBD Reporting processes.

Output & activities	Year 1				Year 2				Year 3			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Output 2.2.1. Development and implementation of at least three pilot National AZE Strategies (Brazil, Chile, and Madagascar) mainstreamed into NBSAPs and PoWPA Action Plans, and plans developed and adopted for long-term financing and sustainability.												
Activity 1. Expert workshops												
Activity 2. Publication of maps and analyses												
Activity 3. Initial mainstreaming of National AZE Strategies into PoWPA Action Plans and NBSAPs using present dataset												
Activity 4. Mainstreaming of National AZE Strategies into PoWPA Action Plans and NBSAPs												

Output 2.2.2. Technical guidance documents (based on the strategies developed under 2.2.1) inform and support incorporation of AZE priorities in the development of further NBSAPs and PoWPA Action Plans globally.

Activity 1. Case studies from the three participating countries written up, and details provided on the AZE website so that other NBSAP and PoWPA Action Plan authors can see how AZE conservation strategies were developed in Brazil, Chile, and Madagascar to inspire the development of similar strategies elsewhere (see Output 2.2.4).

Activity 2. AZE website updated (framework, not data which are covered by 2.1.1) to provide download facility for updated AZE polygons and Global AZE gap analysis “scorecard” for global biodiversity data users.

Activity 3. Data tools and communication materials completed. AZE site polygons will also be made available for use by UNEP in the NBSAP Forum; to the managers of additional data platforms such as the IBAT; and to other users of global biodiversity data such as IUCN, World Bank, IFC and other IFIs (under outcome 2.1), NatureServe, UNEP-WCMC and others.

Output & activities	Year 1				Year 2				Year 3			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4

Output 2.2.2 Technical guidance documents (based on the strategies developed under 2.2.1) inform and support incorporation of AZE priorities in the development of further NBSAPs and PoWPA Action Plans globally												
Activity 1. Completion of case studies												
Activity 2. Website updates (framework, not the data itself)												
Activity 3. Completion of data tools and communication materials												

Output 2.2.3. Consolidated and strengthened national AZE partnerships use project outputs to support NBSAP and PoWPA processes, national CBD reporting and enhanced AZE site conservation through targeted capacity development and outreach programs

Activity 1. CBD Secretariat supported to write to 81 countries regarding inclusion of AZE in NBSAPs.

Activity 2. National Alliances, AZE members and/or project staff contact and liaise with NBSAP and PoWPA Action Plan authors or focal points in 20 countries to support mainstreaming of AZE into national plans and their implementation. Project will work initially with five countries where major AZE alliances currently operate (Brazil, Colombia, India, Mexico and Peru) and the two additional project countries (Chile and Madagascar); then, will work with CBD Secretariat, UNEP and IUCN to reach out directly to NBSAP and PoWPA Action Plan authors in 13 additional countries with an emphasis on megadiverse countries.

Activity 3. Mini-workshops held in the four most promising countries following the additional contacts, and full AZE strategy workshops held in the three project countries (Brazil, Chile, and Madagascar) and the two most promising additional countries. AZE data products and gap analyses will provide training resources for these workshops.

Activity 4. Gap analysis and data revisions communicated to country focal points when data update (2.1.1) complete. UNEP will also facilitate the integration of AZE priorities within NBSAPs through the NBSAP forum and through specific NBSAP revision projects for which UNEP is implementing agency.

Activity 5. Funding and protected area proposals with Governments and other stakeholders including CBD LifeWeb Zero Extinction campaign to increase protection at AZE sites in selected countries.

Outputs & activities	Year 1				Year 2				Year 3			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Output 2.2.3: Consolidated and strengthened national AZE partnerships use project outputs to support NBSAP and PoWPA processes, national CBD reporting and enhanced AZE site conservation through targeted capacity development and outreach programs												
Activity 1. CBD letter sent to 81 countries re NBSAPs including AZE												
Activity 2. Alliances and staff contact and liaise with plan authors												
Activity 3. Mini-workshops and AZE strategy workshops held												
Activity 4. Gap analysis and data revisions communicated to country focal points when data update (2.1.1) complete												
Activity 5. Funding and protected area proposals developed												

Appendix 6: Key deliverables and benchmarks

Outcomes/Outputs	Key Deliverables	Benchmarks
Component 1: Protected areas and AZE site-level management at globally important sites		
<i>Outcome 1.1: Creation and improved management effectiveness of protected areas covering at least 160,000 ha of AZE sites, with improved conservation status of at least 27 AZE species at a total of five demonstration sites in Brazil, Chile and Madagascar and at an additional 10 sites globally..</i>		
<p>Output 1.1.1 Habitat conservation for <i>Merulaxis stresemanni</i> in Bandeiras, Brazil, strengthened through improved forest protection and restoration with community support to sustain long-term conservation</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Monitoring program in place for Stresemann’s Bristlefront <i>Merulaxis stresemanni</i> and additional sites identified 2. 40,000 trees planted and 40 ha restored in Mata do Passarinho Reserve 3. 50 community members employed in restoration and tourism 4. 1,041 ha formally protected (an additional 387 ha) 5. Reserve business plan completed 6. 10 ha of shade cacao planted to provide sustainable income 7. Increase in tourism visitors / income to 50 per year 8. Proposal for government supported PA establishment, including supporting documentation 9. Site conservation map including land tenure information 10. Stakeholder awareness activities conducted for all targeted groups (or an indicator showing changes in awareness levels / behaviour patterns) 11. State registration of land surveys maps for c.20 landowners with the Rural Environmental Cadaster (CAR) for compliance with Brazil Forest Code and/or support the creation of private reserve (RPPN) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Y3 Q4 2. Y3 Q4 3. Y3 Q4 4. Y2 Q4 5. Y1 Q2 6. Y3 Q4 7. Y3 Q4 8. Y2 Q2 9. Y2 Q2 10. Y3 Q4 11. Y3 Q4
<p>Output 1.1.2 Chile: at Isla Mocha Reserve, for <i>Eupsophus insularis</i> and at Mehuin 1 and Mehuin 2 for <i>Eupsophus migueli</i> and <i>Insuetophrynus acarpicus</i> respectively, habitat conservation enhanced through strengthened protection status and implementation of newly created or existing (Isla Mocha) management plans.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Population assessments of three amphibian species: <i>Eupsophus insularis</i> (Isla Mocha), <i>Eupsophus migueli</i>, and <i>Insuetophrynus acarpicus</i> (Mehuin) 2. Land tenure studies conducted and recommendations implemented to improve protection of 54 hectares at three locations in Mehuin: Llenehue-2ha and Don Isaac-42ha 3. Isla Mocha Reserve protected area status upgraded to National Park from National Reserve 4. 340 m of fencing installed to safeguard sites 5. Increased awareness and participation among local residents of Isla Mocha in amphibian conservation and responsible pet ownership 6. Participatory conservation (management) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Y3 Q4 2. Y2 Q2 3. Y3 Q4 4. I. Mocha: Y3 Q1 Mehuin: Y2 Q2 5. Y3 Q4 6. Y3 Q4 7. Y3 Q4 8. Y3 Q1 9. Y3 Q1 10. Y3 Q1 11. Y3 Q1

Outcomes/Outputs	Key Deliverables	Benchmarks
	<p>plan for Mehuin AZE sites formally approved</p> <p>7. Biosecurity plans completed and under implementation for Isla Mocha and Mehuin AZE sites</p> <p>8. Documentation of key amphibian conservation areas</p> <p>9. Fuel wood alternatives developed on Isla Mocha</p> <p>10. Implementation of best practices at logging operations at Mehuin AZE sites</p> <p>11. Improved agricultural and cattle ranching practices</p>	
<p>Output 1.1.3. At Tsitongambarika, Madagascar, habitat of two plant and 11 newly-discovered frog and reptile species is enhanced through a co-managed protected area and the implementation of a management and financing plan with a private sector partner.</p>	<p>1. AZE species conservation strategies developed for Tsitongambarika</p> <p>2. Protected Area Management Plan incorporates AZE species plans</p> <p>3. Joint work plan between Asity Madagascar and KOMFITA developed and executed annually for the management of forest resources</p> <p>4. Implementation of at least 60% of activities in the Protected Area Management Plan for the conservation of highly endangered and local endemic species and their habitats</p> <p>5. All 66 CoBas have Terms of Reference for natural resource management transfer</p> <p>6. Initiation of conservation programs at biodiversity offset site to strengthen conservation of highly endangered and local endemic species</p>	<p>1. Y2 Q2</p> <p>2. Y3 Q4</p> <p>3. Y2 Q2</p> <p>4. Y3 Q4</p> <p>5. Y2 Q2</p> <p>6. Y3 Q4</p>
<p>Output 1.1.4 An additional 10 AZE sites covering a minimum of 120,000 ha will gain enhanced protection through additional projects, informed by progress at the three demonstration projects.</p>	<p>1. Confirmation of additional 10 AZE sites, including PA coverage and site area</p> <p>2. Establishment of METT baselines for all sites</p> <p>3. Confirmation of key objectives and workplans for project intervention at each site</p> <p>4. Repeat METT assessments and reporting on achievements and priorities for continued site management</p>	<p>1. Y1 Q3</p> <p>2. Y1 Q3</p> <p>3. Y1 Q4</p> <p>4. Y3 Q4</p>
<p>Component 2. Mainstreaming of AZE site conservation in national policy and regulatory frameworks, and into safeguard policies of financial institutions</p>		
<p><i>Outcome 2.1. The conservation of threatened species and the protection of AZE sites are mainstreamed into the safeguard policies of key financial institutions such as Equator Principles Financial Institutions and Multilateral Development Banks to minimize the impact of development projects on AZE sites.</i></p>		
<p>Output 2.1.1. Improved awareness of and accessibility to AZE data online for relevant decision-makers to facilitate mainstreaming, including updated global AZE site list and global site status assessment.</p>	<p>1. Improved WBDB containing fields and functionality to allow effective management and straightforward updating of AZE dataset.</p> <p>2. Updated and expanded AZE dataset for birds, mammals, amphibians, reptiles, reef-building corals and conifers, new AZE sites identified for chameleons, freshwater crabs,</p>	<p>1. Y2 Q2</p> <p>2. Y2 Q2</p> <p>3. Y2 Q2</p> <p>4. Y3 Q4</p>

Outcomes/Outputs	Key Deliverables	Benchmarks
	crayfish and shrimps, cycads, cacti and mangroves. 3. AZE website improved with sophisticated search options, download facility, and populated with revised dataset 4. Web submission system established for proposals for new AZE sites for non-comprehensively assessed taxonomic groups.	
Output 2.1.2. Technical guidance documents based on 2.1.1, to inform and support the incorporation of AZE species and site considerations into EIA and safeguard policies.	1. Guidance materials produced 2. Targeted advocacy underway 3. Guidance available on AZE website and IBAT 4. Scoping document produced identifying advocacy targets and review opportunities 5. IFI reviews of safeguard policies assessed by project staff and AZE partners	1. Y1 Q3 2. Y1 Q3 3. Y1 Q4 4. Y1 Q4 5. Y3 Q4
Output 2.1.3. Capacity of AZE members to partner with lending institutions strengthened and national AZE networks enhanced through outreach and training programs.	1. Capacity development needs assessment and strategy prepared 2. Workshops to train AZE member staff in safeguard policies held 3. Webinars for AZE member organisations on safeguard policies and guidance developed 4. Programme of bilateral meetings and key safeguard related meetings with IFI staff completed and documented	1. Y1 Q4 2. Y2 Q2 3. Y2 Q2 4. Y3 Q4
Output 2.1.4. Staff in private financial institutions trained in use of AZE tools and data.	1. Targeted outreach plan for IFIs produced 2. Needs assessment for staff in IFIs to use tools, data and guidance produced 3. Webinar and seminars for bank staff on improved consideration of AZE sites in existing and new safeguard policies 4. targeted support from AZE member staff to IFIs	1. Y1 Q4 2. Y1 Q4 3. Y2 Q2 4. Y3 Q4
Output 2.1.5. Synergies identified and AZE site conservation opportunities mainstreamed with existing and planned donor/agency and private sector financing programs.	1. Lessons-learned report on private sector financing programs that reflect AZEs e.g. CEPF 2. Scoping document on opportunities through UNEP’s Finance Initiative, United Nations-supported PRI and UN Global Compact 3. Project follow-up strategy for mainstreaming 4. Guidance provided to IBAT director on securing renewed/new IBAT subscriptions 5. Bilateral meetings and seminars with IFI staff on AZE data use in project appraisals	1. Y1 Q4 2. Y1 Q4 3. Y2 Q2 4. Y2 Q4 5. Y3 Q4
<i>Outcome 2.2: AZE site conservation is mainstreamed into national biodiversity strategies, in support of CBD targets.</i>		
Output 2.2.1. Development and implementation of at least three pilot National AZE Strategies (Brazil, Chile, and Madagascar) mainstreamed into NBSAPs and PoWPA Action Plans, and plans developed and adopted for long-	1. Expert workshops held and maps and analyses developed 2. Draft National AZE Strategies for Chile, Brazil, and Madagascar. 3. Pilot National AZE Strategies for Brazil, Chile, and Madagascar officially endorsed and under implementation.	1. Y2 Q1 2. Y2 Q2 3. Y3 Q4 4. Y3 Q4

Outcomes/Outputs	Key Deliverables	Benchmarks
term financing and sustainability.	4. Brazil, Chile, and Madagascar AZE site protection included in NBSAPs/CBD National Reports, and/or PoWPA Action Plans, and other relevant national planning documents, such as AZE Species Action Plans (Brazil), Amphibian Conservation Plan (Chile).	
Output 2.2.2. Technical guidance documents (based on the strategies developed under 2.2.1) inform and support incorporation of AZE priorities in the development of further NBSAPs and PoWPA Action Plans globally.	1. Case studies on AZE national strategies relating to Brazil, Chile, and Madagascar made public. 2. ‘Scorecard’ and other web-based communications tools created for global biodiversity data users. 3. Summarized communication materials to promote the new AZE data made public.	1. Y2 Q4 2. Y2 Q4 3. Y3 Q4
Output 2.2.3. Consolidated and strengthened national AZE partnerships use project outputs to support NBSAP and PoWPA processes, national CBD reporting and enhanced AZE site conservation through targeted capacity development and outreach programs.	1. CBD Executive Secretary writes to CBD focal points, followed up by Project staff (AZE and BirdLife) for 20 focal points. 2. National AZE reviews completed. 3. Four mini-workshops conducted outside 3 project countries. 4. Five in-depth AZE strategy workshops completed (3 project countries + 2 others) 5. Funding and protected area proposals developed	1. Y1 Q4 2. Y2 Q4 3. Y2 Q4 4. Y3 Q4 5. Y3 Q4

Appendix 7: Costed M&E plan

Type of M&E activity	Responsible parties	GEF Budget US\$ <i>Excluding project team staff time</i>	Cofinancing US\$	Time frame
Global inception Workshop/teleconference	Project Coordination Team UNEP TM	\$5,000 (limited travel; mainly remote using telecoms)		Within three months of project start up
National inception workshops	National Project Coordinators National Steering Committees	\$10,000	\$5,000	Within three months of project start up
Inception Report	Project Coordination Team UNEP TM	Electronic copies only	Partner staff time to review report	Within one month of Inception Workshop
Measurement of Means of Verification for Project Indicators (outcome, progress and performance indicators, GEF Tracking Tools) at national and global levels	Project Management Team	To be finalized in Inception Phase for annual workplans. Indicative cost: \$20,000	Significant proportion of \$95,000 Rio Tinto cofinancing in Madagascar. Otherwise project partners to contribute cofinanced staff time	Outcome indicators: Start, mid and end of project Progress/performance indicators: annually
PIR	Project Manager UNEP TM Steering Committee members (including national coordinators)	None	Partner staff time to review report	Annually, on or before 31 August
Cofinancing reports	Project Manager Project Co-financiers	Electronic copies only	Partner staff time to provide information	Annually for input to PIR, ie on or before 31 July. Semi-annually for internal progress reports
Progress reports to UNEP	Project Manager to compile reports from global and all country components	None	Partner staff time to review draft reports	Half-yearly, within 1 mo of end of reporting period i.e. on or before 31 January and (for input to PIR) 31 July
Project Steering	Project Manager to	None	Partner staff	Six-monthly

Type of M&E activity	Responsible parties	GEF Budget US\$ <i>Excluding project team staff time</i>	Cofinancing US\$	Time frame
Committee Meeting reports	organize PSC meetings and act as secretary to the PSC	Remotely using telecoms	time to participate in meetings and review reports. Partner to provide meeting space	
National Steering Committee Meeting reports	National Project Coordinators will organize meetings and act as secretary to NPSC	\$9,000 (\$1,000 per meeting x 3 countries x 3 years)	Partner staff time to participate in meetings and review reports. Partner meeting space, where possible.	Annually
Monitoring visits to the field sites (UNEP staff travel costs to be charged to IA fees)	Project Coordinator Project Partners UNEP TM	\$7,500 (based on \$2,500/visit x 3 sites x 3 visits, most cofinanced)	\$15,000 Plus Partner staff time to participate in field visits	Annual, tied to cofinanced activities.
Mid-Term Evaluation or Review	Project Manager UNEP TM Project partners External Consultant	\$15,000	Partner staff time to participate in interviews and field visits	After 18 months
National Terminal Evaluations	National Project Coordinator National consultant	\$15,000 (3 x \$5,000)	Partner staff time to participate in interviews and field visits	Within 6 months of the end of project implementation
Global Terminal Evaluation	Project Manager UNEP TM Project partners External Consultants (i.e. evaluation team)	\$15,000	Partner staff time to participate	Within 6 months of the end of project implementation, following and informed by national evaluations
Project Terminal Report	Project Manager UNEP TM BirdLife/AZE communications staff	None Electronic publication	Partner staff time to provide inputs and review draft reports	At least one month before end of project

Type of M&E activity	Responsible parties	GEF Budget US\$ <i>Excluding project team staff time</i>	Cofinancing US\$	Time frame
Lessons learned	Project Manager UNEP EOU (advice on design and quality) Project partners	\$12,000 (average \$1,000 per country per year)	Partner staff time to provide inputs on lessons learned, review draft documents and publish via existing channels	Annually, part of semi-annual progress reports and terminal report
Annual Audit	Birdlife International		Part of BirdLife	Annually
TOTAL indicative COST <i>Excluding project team staff time and UNEP staff and travel expenses</i>		US\$ 112,500		

Appendix 8: Summary of reporting requirements and responsibilities

Reporting requirements	Due date	Format appended to legal instrument as	Responsibility of:
Procurement plan (goods and services) and Policy	2 weeks before inception meeting	N/A	Project Coordinator
Inception Report (including workshop report and updated workplan, budget and results framework)	1 month after inception meeting	N/A	Project Coordinator
Expenditure report (consolidating reports from all countries and global component) accompanied by explanatory notes	Half yearly	EXCEL	Project Coordinator
Cash advance request and details of anticipated disbursements	Half yearly or when required	EXCEL	Project Coordinator
Progress report (consolidating reports from all countries and global component)	Half yearly on or before 31 January and 31 July	WORD	Project Coordinator
Audited report for expenditures for year ending 31 December	Annually by June of each year. Each in-country project to be externally audited at least once during project duration	N/A	Global and country partners to contract auditing companies
Updated inventory of non-expendable equipment	Annually (as part of progress report)	EXCEL	Project Coordinator
Project Implementation Review (PIR) report	Annually on or before 31 August	WORD	Project Coordinator, TM, FMO
Co-financing report (consolidating reports from all countries and global component)	Annually, but advised to prepare half-yearly (as part of progress report)	EXCEL	Project Coordinator
Minutes of Steering Committee meetings	Annually (or as relevant)	N/A	Project Coordinator
Mission reports and “aide memoire” for executing agency	Within 2 weeks of return	N/A	Project staff, consultants, TM
Independent mid term review report	Midway through project	N/A	TM or UNEP EOU
Terminal report (consolidating reports from all countries and global component)	Within 2 months of project completion date	WORD	Project Coordinator

Final inventory of NXE (as needed)	Within 2 months of project completion date	EXCEL	Project Coordinator
Equipment transfer letter (as needed)	Within 2 months of project completion date	WORD	Project Coordinator, FMO
Final expenditure statement (consolidating reports from all countries and global component)	Within 3 months of project completion date	EXCEL	Project Coordinator, FMO
Final audited report for expenditures of project	No later than 6 months after project completion date	N/A	Project Coordinator
Independent terminal evaluation report	No later than 6 months after project completion date	WORD	UNEP EO

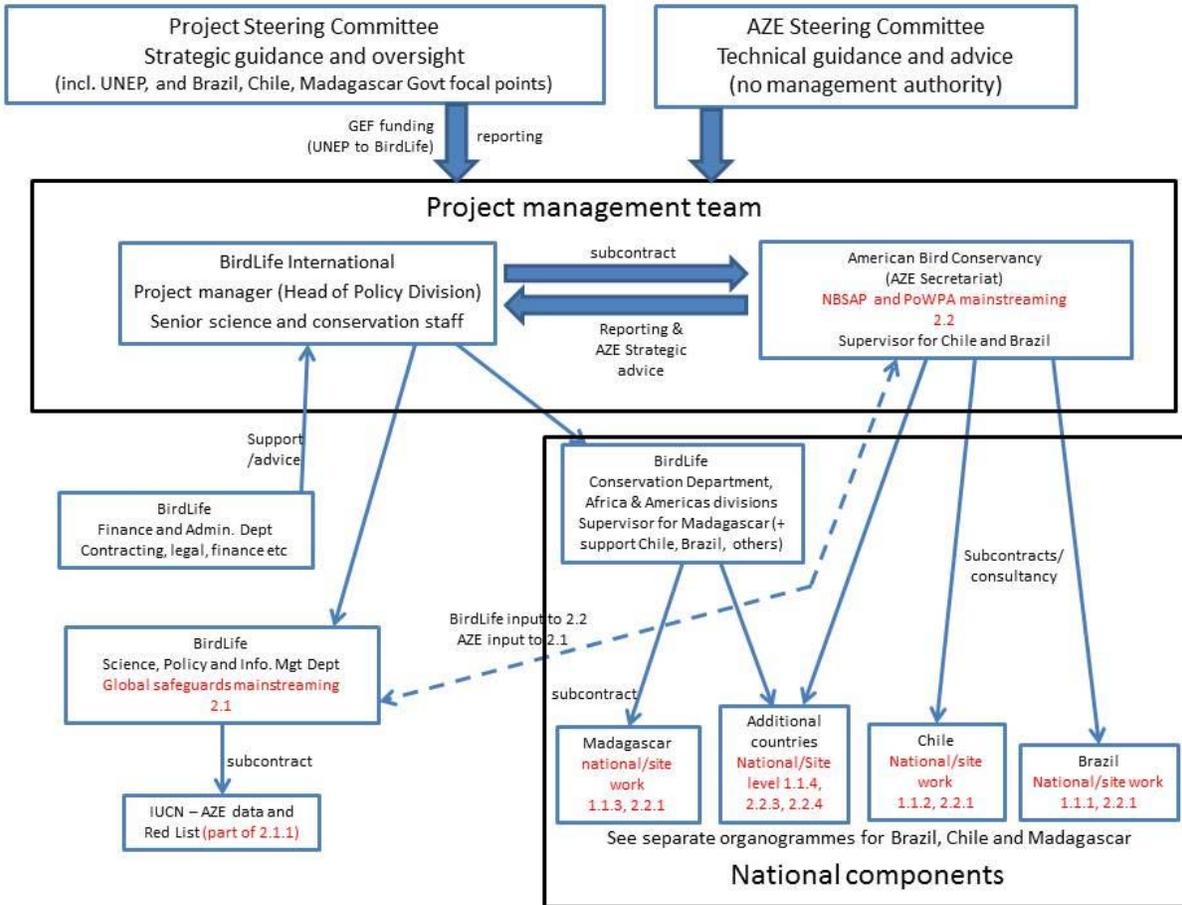
FMO – Financial Management Officer (project staff)

EO – UNEP Evaluation Office

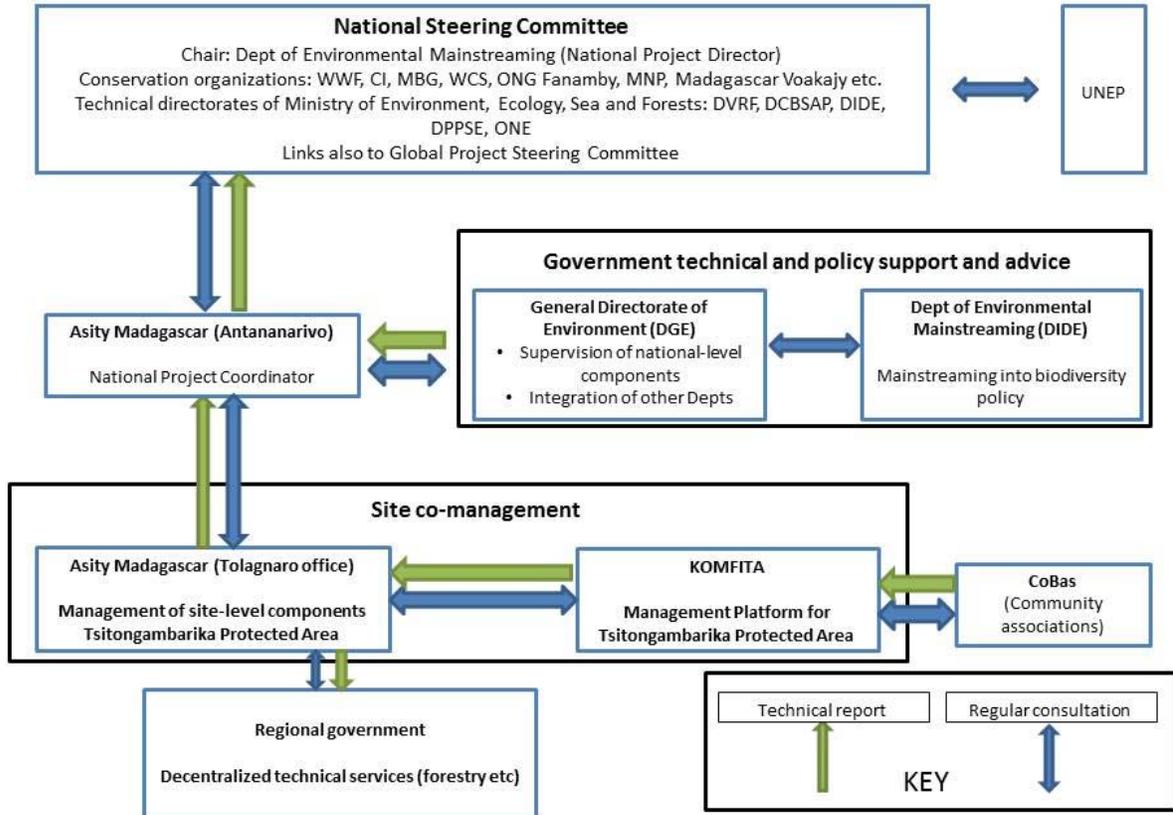
TM – UNEP Task Manager

Appendix 9: Decision-making flowcharts and organizational charts

Global

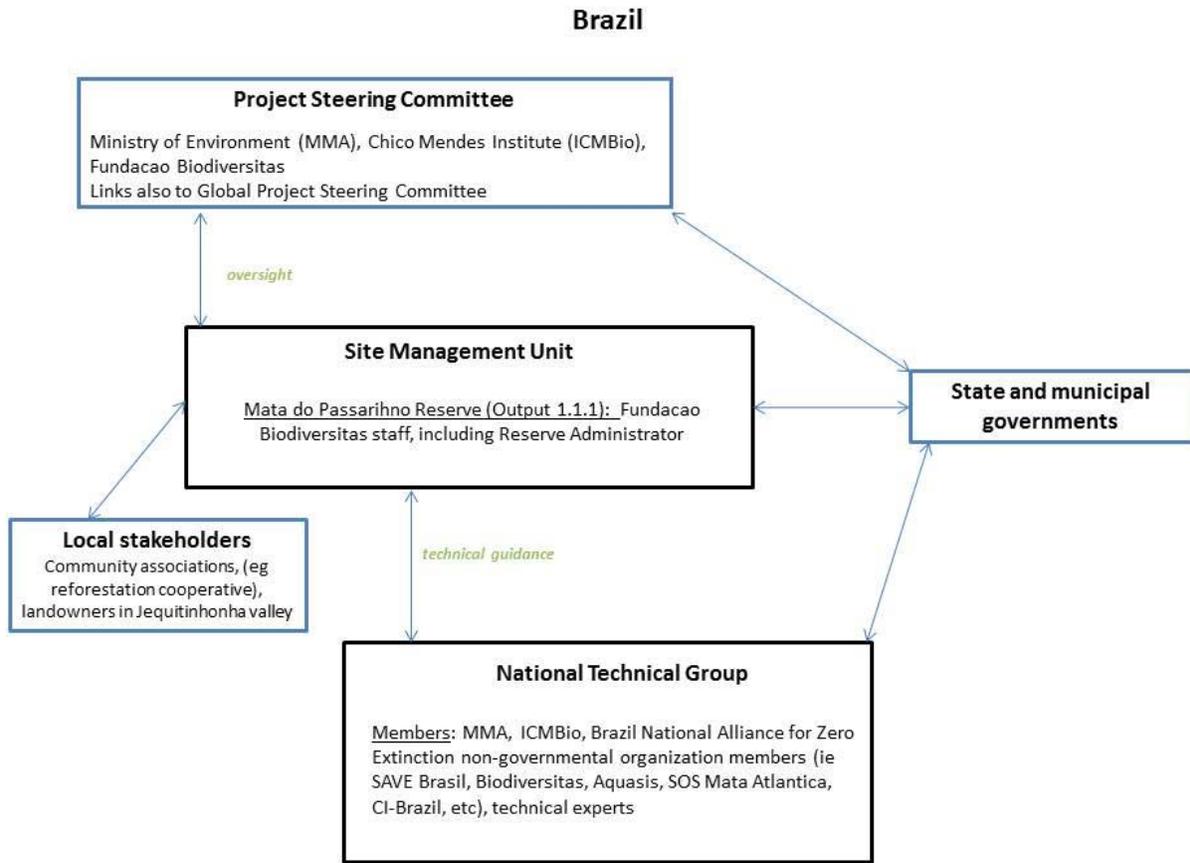


Madagascar



Chile





Appendix 10: Terms of Reference

Alliance for Zero Extinction (AZE): Conserving Earth’s Most Irreplaceable Sites for Endangered Biodiversity

TITLE: Project Coordinator

REPORTS TO: Project Steering Committee
LIAISON WITH: BirdLife Senior Science and Conservation staff
BirdLife Finance and Admin. Dept
American Bird Conservancy (AZE Secretariat)
AZE Steering Committee

POSITION DESCRIPTION / MAIN ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Reporting to the Project Steering Committee, the Project Coordinator will be the day-to-day coordinator of all project activities as outlined in the Project Document, including the following.

Oversee Activities of Project Staff

Monitor and assume oversight responsibility for all project staff, including Global safeguards officer, Species conservation manager, Science coordinator, Information manager, and all consultants and subcontractors. Activities of staff include:

1. Networking

- Convene project management team composed of Senior Science and Conservation staff at BirdLife International, and American Bird Conservancy (AZE Secretariat) staff.
- Liaise as appropriate with UNEP and AZE Steering Committee, and/or facilitate direct liaison with appropriate project staff
- Maintain regular link with UNEP Task Manager, to provide project updates, seek input, and ensure that the project continues to meet expectations
- Ensure appropriate linkages between subcontractors/consultants: Madagascar, Chile, Brazil site work, data update components, national PoWPA and NBSAP mainstreaming work by AZE secretariat
- Maintain network of external contacts as appropriate

2. Event Planning, Preparation, Implementation, and Follow-up

- Liaise with project partners to facilitate their involvement in project activities, including subject-matter expertise and resources
- Perform activities relating to the scheduling, preparation, implementation, and follow-up for all project briefings and events
- Liaise with appropriate GEF/UNEP representatives during the process of program development and implementation

3. Information and communication strategy

- Develop updates and relevant information to communications staff
- Coordinate production of all printed/web-based products to coordinate writing support, as necessary, and to ensure quality control before printing or disseminating electronically

4. Travel and procurement planning

- Conduct all activities related to travel planning for project team members and others

- Ensure all project participants are aware of and comply with BirdLife procurement policy and other relevant GEF and UNEP regulations and contractual obligations.

5. Mainstreaming

- Provide technical support to delivery of mainstreaming outputs, working most closely with BirdLife Global safeguards officer and AZE Secretariat consultants, with particular reference to Independent Financial Institution safeguards

Reporting, monitoring and evaluation

- Assume primary responsibility for tracking programs and activities, financial transactions, budget/expenses, and progress/measurable impact in accordance with the Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) component for the project
- Ensure that all activity and budget reporting is conducted on time in accordance with the Project Document Workplan and Timetable, and deliverables and benchmarks schedule

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

The Project Coordinator must have experience managing large projects, including overseeing project teams, managing complex budgets, interacting with oversight personnel or committees, and demonstrating adaptive management when necessary.

Familiarity with biodiversity policy mainstreaming at national and international levels is necessary, including working with high-level policymakers and/or judicial representatives. Other required skills include:

Education and Training

- Fluent in English with strong writing and editing skills; Additional language proficiency desirable.
- A university degree and 3+ years of experience in project management.
- Experience or knowledge of non-profits a plus.

Team Leadership Skills

- Must work well as a leader of a multi-cultural, inter-disciplinary, multi-lingual, global team;
- Proven, professional abilities and technical skills in managing complex multi-cultural operations and teams.

Project Management Skills

- Experience in working with international project teams;
- Strong project management skills to plan, organize, coordinate and control the implementation of several activities simultaneously;
- Demonstrated project management experience and ability to manage deadlines and budgets.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- The position is based in Cambridge, UK, in the BirdLife International Secretariat Headquarters
- Part-time, project funded; remaining time covered by other projects.
- Will require occasional international travel

It is suggested that remaining ToR proposed (see Appendix 9 - Decision-making flowcharts) will be developed at Project Cooperation Agreement stage

Appendix 11: Co-financing commitment letters from project partners

Appendix 12: Endorsement letters of GEF National Focal Points

Appendix 13: BirdLife International procurement policies and procedures

Scope of document

The purpose of this document is to set out guidelines for BirdLife staff that are engaged in procurement activity, in order to ensure compliance with varying statutory requirements.

This is of a general nature and procedures may vary due to specific national legislation or funder requirements. Where appropriate please follow the procurement policy of the individual funder which will override those set out in this document.

Main principles

Definition of procurement

The term ‘Procurement’ refers to the process by which goods, services and works are acquired from third parties. This is a lifecycle process that covers the period from the initial purchase concept through the end of the life of the purchased asset or service.

Value for Money

In procuring goods, services or works, all divisions are responsible and accountable for achieving value for money (VfM). Additionally divisions are urged to seek continuous improvement in VfM.

Value for money is not only about price, it may also include:

- Fitness for purpose i.e. quality, delivery and availability against price, whole life cost, and the cost of maintenance, running costs and any support costs such as after sales service.
- Transport and storage costs
- Staff costs involved in the procurement process.

Legal obligations

BirdLife must comply with all of its legal obligations. The legal framework includes:

- EU and other international obligations, as implemented in UK legislation or by virtue of direct effect, e.g. discrimination on grounds of nationality, restrictions of free movement of goods and services, equal treatment, transparency and competitive procurement.
- Specific national legislation, e.g. on corrupt gifts or unfair contract terms;
- Contract and commercial law in general; and
- Funder specific requirements.

Supplier relationships

- All Suppliers will be dealt with equally, transparently, with integrity, fairness and courtesy and in a professional manner.
- Relationships with suppliers should be constructive, but built on a competitive approach that will lead to cost savings and better quality.
- Examples of suppliers are those providing goods or services or external consultants working on projects.

Procurement processes

Contracts and purchase orders

All suppliers of goods and services will be covered by an appropriate contract, purchase order or agreement. A formal contract should be agreed with the supplier where there is an ongoing relationship or a large cost to BirdLife. Where the anticipated total cost (whole life cost), is relatively small then a purchase order including the BirdLife standard terms and conditions should be used as the contractual relationship.

All formal contracts should be prepared by the project manager with review by FAD. The appropriate authorised signatory should approve the contract or purchase.

Panels

Should a formal tender and evaluation process be required for a purchase then a committee should be formed comprising a group of independent committee members to evaluate the tenders received.

Potential members of the panel must declare any conflict of interest and if a real or apparent conflict of interest is involved then they should not participate. (See BirdLife’s conflict of interest policy).

Evaluation criteria

The evaluation criteria for a procurement activity should be agreed jointly by the project manager and the Senior Advisor: Legal and Risk Management prior to the issue of the tender or quotation documents. Any criteria that is mandatory or has a minimum standard should be clearly identified. The procurement procedures below set out all appropriate evaluation criteria.

Quotations and tenders

Tendering procedures are not needed for goods and services costing less than £25,000 excluding VAT. Purchases of goods or services with a total cost of £1,000 may be made ‘off the shelf’ with no specific number of bids, for purchases over this amount quotations must be sought as follows:

Estimated value of goods or services excluding VAT	Number of quotations
Over £1,000 but not exceeding £5,000	May be purchased off the shelf
Over £5,000 but not exceeding £25,000	3

Invitations to quote should be sent to known suppliers of the goods/services required.

A record should be kept of quotations invited and replies received with the reasons they were accepted or declined.

Copies of the contract entered into with the successful contractor and delivery receipts must be kept on file.

Tendering for goods or services about £25,000 but less than £150,000

The tender should define the goods or services required with a full specification and any additional information necessary to the supplier.

BirdLife’s standard terms and conditions should be referred to and a copy attached.

Any special conditions of the funder or the contract should be defined and attached as well as Terms of Reference for consultancy services.

When tendering for a service (consultancy) the contractor should be asked for the following details:

Whether the contract includes or excludes labour, materials, equipment or any thing else necessary for the service to be carried out;

- Specify the right of BirdLife or the contractor to vary the contract;
- Payment and/or settlement terms;
- Statutory obligations of both parties regarding safety, insurance indemnities etc;
- The period and objectives of the service should be clearly defined.

Tender documents should be sent out to all applicants with the return address and closing date and time marked.

The tenders should be opened by not less than two people drawn from senior management.

Tenders should be sought from a reasonable selection of potential and able suppliers/contractors. Advertising in relevant publications and newspapers may be appropriate in certain circumstances.

Both successful and unsuccessful tenderers should be informed as soon as possible.

The offer should be formally accepted in writing by the contractor.

Tendering for supplies and services of £150,000 and above

Supplies and services of this value would normally only be purchased through an externally funded project grant. Please refer to the specific procurement policies of the funder.

Corporate Social Responsibility

Environmental considerations should be included into routine procurement decisions, thereby providing an improved organisational environment and improved reputation.

Consideration should be given to the purchasing of locally produced products for business lunches as well as using products sourced ethically which cause minimum damage to the environment.

Appendix 14: GEF BD1 and BD2 Tracking Tools

Separate excel files

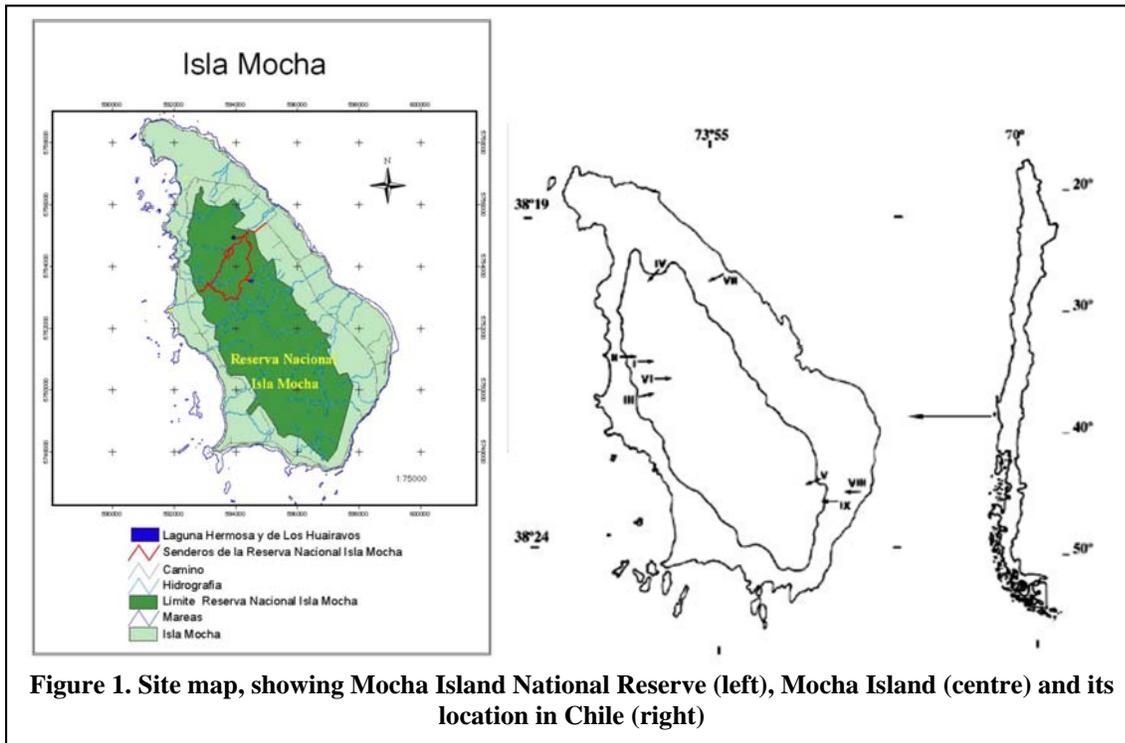
Appendix 15: Site Profiles

Isla Mocha National Reserve, Chile

Name:	Isla Mocha National Reserve
Status:	Declared a National Reserve by Decree #70 by the Agricultural Ministry May 12, 1988
Location (UTM):	598939.50 m E, 5747345.22 m S; 591790.33 m E, 5758527.70 m S.
Country:	Chile
State:	Arauco Province, Chile.
Counties:	Lebu Comuna.
Region:	Biobío.
Area:	2,181.67 Ha

Description of Boundaries

Mocha Island in the Arauco Gulf at the southern limits of the Biobío Region. Mocha Island is located off the coast of Tirúa town and commune.



Stakeholder villages and populations

Mocha Island is home to approximately 600 people, of whom about 50% are male. The populace generally lives in scattered plots around the reserve which occupies the centre of the island. It has a grade school, G-501 Isla Mocha School, with no more than 70 children. The children typically have to move to Lebu and Cañete to continue with secondary education. Most of the population lives on the north side of the island, where the civic center of the island (school, police station) is also located.



Fig. 2. Aerial photo of Isla Mocha

Principal Local Resource Uses

The main income comes from artisanal fisheries, crabs and *locos* (*Concholepas concholepas*, the Chilean abalone), and in the summer, algae (*Luga*). Additional income is derived from cattle and sheep, which are raised on the island and transported to the mainland markets by boat. In the middle of the island there is a chain of mountains covered with native forest, which forms the Mocha Island National Reserve unit SNASPE, a total area of 2,181.66 ha (i.e. 22 km²). This reserve was created in 1988 with the objective of maintaining the hydrological network, providing fuel wood in a sustainable manner to the islanders, retaining the unique and endemic vegetation and ensuring the continued survival of the native flora and fauna present on the island.

Ethnic and Social Context

The island’s history is marked by two discrete population events, corresponding to the first total depopulation of the island in the late seventeenth century, when all the indigenous inhabitants were wiped out by the Spanish. The second corresponds to the repopulation some 160 years later by Chilean population from the mainland.

In contrast to the original island inhabitants, the current population has developed a radically different culture. For instance, communities rely on terrestrial sources of income, such as sheep. Over the course of time, the people have developed an identity based on the island’s geography and environment. The contemporary social system of the island is notable for its unlimited wealth of traditions, rules and patterns of behavior that acquire a logical explanation through a comprehensive anthropological study. This has created a progressive relationship between anthropologists and some families corresponding to the fourth generation of inhabitants of the island.

From an economic point of view, all indicators do not show the presence of extreme poverty.

History/Timeline

Mocha Island was registered as state property in 1929, with an area of about 56 km². In 1938, the former Agricultural Colonization Board allocated 31 lots to settlers, reserving 3 lots for the Treasury:

- Lot 1 or cooperative sector, 8 ha.
- Lot 2 or community facilities, 32.4 ha.
- Lot 3 or Protection Area (then National Reserve) with 2,367.95 ha. Plot 17 (47 ha) was later added for the Navy.

On February 21, 1979, the lands comprising the forest of the central part of the island were declared a Protected Area, by Presidential Decree No. 67.

On September 12, 1983 through Resolution No. 121, the Agricultural and Livestock Service transferred the land that remained in its domain to the Ministry of National Heritage, corresponding to plot No. 32, totaling 2,408.35 ha. These correspond to the area identified above.

On February 12, 1988, Resolution No. 001 of the Ministerial Regional Secretariat of the Biobío Region of the Ministry of National Heritage, repealing Resolution No. 014 dated July 28, 1986 in the same Ministry, granted free use of 2,152 m² of insular territory to the National Forestry Corporation, to serve as support establishment and administration of the future National Reserve. Finally, Mocha Island National Reserve was created by Presidential Decree No. 70 of the Ministry of Agriculture of May 12, 1988, with an area of approximately 2,367 ha, which delimits its perimeter with parceled sectors of Colonia La Mocha.

Target species

Mocha Island Ground Frog (*Eupsophus insularis*) is a forest-living amphibian endemic to Isla Mocha. The species is classified as Critically Endangered by IUCN. No studies have been conducted on its abundance and ecology, but preliminary data indicate its presence at altitudes of 20–250 m, apparently in low abundance. Chytrid fungal pathogen *Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis* has been found through genetic analysis, but no symptoms have been observed on wild amphibian populations.

Isla Mocha National Reserve has the largest known breeding population of the VU Pink-footed Shearwater (*Puffinus creatopus*), which is otherwise only known to breed on the Juan Fernandez Islands, also part of Chile. The Pink-footed Shearwater is distributed along the eastern Pacific Ocean. It nests in the southern hemisphere and migrates north during the austral winter (Murphy 1936). The migratory route to their breeding areas follows the coast, from Chile to Canada, and sometimes includes Alaska (Guicking et al. 2001). It nests exclusively in Chile, and although it is recorded between Arica and around Chiloé Island the only known nesting sites are on Mocha Island and the Juan Fernandez archipelago (AOU 1998). As a result of its small breeding distribution and low overall abundance, the species is classified as Vulnerable by IUCN and BirdLife International.

The largest population of nesting Pink-footed Shearwater occurs on Mocha Island. On Mocha, the shearwater nests in the forest, while in Juan Fernández nests are found in the forest and in among large ferns and areas of sparse vegetation. It is the largest seabird in Mocha. They spend the day in the burrows they excavate in forested areas and, at night, feed over the ocean (Housse 1924, Bullock 1935). Some parts of the island reveal areas with many unoccupied nesting burrows, suggesting the species was much more abundant in the past. Shearwaters prefer to establish nest burrows in canyons and on steep hills covered with trees.

The Pacific Degu, *Octodon pacificus*, is a species of rodent in the family Octodontidae described recently in 1994, based on specimens that were collected in Mocha Island in January 1959 by Francisco Behn and deposited in the collection of Alexander Museum Koenig (Bonn, Germany). F. Behn did not elaborate on the specific place or environment where the specimens were captured. There is no report stating that the species has been recaptured since that date. In January 2000, Saavedra et al. (2003) studied and encountered archaeological remains of rodents in three areas of the island, including *Octodon pacificus*, but did not record any extant individuals. Nothing is known of the species and there are some experts who have questioned its taxonomic validity. However, the species is recognised, and classified as Critically Endangered, by IUCN.

Physical Features

The island has two distinct areas: a mountainous central forested region that includes the Mocha Island National Reserve; and the coastal strip. Mocha is a mountainous island formed by eastern and western ranges, both parallel to the coast with maximum dimensions of 390 m and separated by deep gorges. Climatically, Mocha Island is located at the boundary between the Mediterranean and temperate zones of Chile (Van Husen 1967) and is characterized by a strong oceanic influence.

Elevation Range: 0–390 m

Main Forest Types:

In the central part of the island there are groups of hills that are distributed parallel to the coast, which are covered with woody vegetation very similar to Valdivian rainforest, but with the notable absence of the genus *Nothofagus*. The plant community is called "Deciduous Forest Conception", which is located within the Ecological Deciduous Forest Region and Sub-Region Deciduous Forest Llano.

Key Species:

Fauna:

Some 110 species of birds have been observed on the island, in both terrestrial and marine environments, none of which are endemic to the island. The island serves as the most important breeding colony of Pink-footed Shearwater globally.

Flora:

The flora of the olive forest on in Mocha Island is characterized by the dominance of bird-dispersed tree species (eg, *Aextoxicon punctatum*, *Drimys winteri*, *Luma apiculata*, *Myrceugenia planipes*, *Rhaphithamnus spinosus*, *Azara lanceolata*, *A. microphylla*, *Fuchsia magellanica*) and a dearth of species with other types of dispersion, except for two anemochorous (wind dispersed) species *Dasyphyllum diacanthoides*, *Laureliopsis philippiana*). A remarkable feature is the absence of a number of arboreal taxa that are very important in the temperate rainforests of Chile, including species of Fagaceae and Proteaceae. *Fuchsia magellanica* ("chilcón") is common along edges of streams and estuaries. On the slopes of the mountain range that connect grassland and coastal terraces with crops runs a strip of secondary scrubland with *Aristotelia chilensis* ("maqui") and *Fuchsia magellanica*. In this ecotonal area with sandy soils, *Peumus boldus* ("Boldo") is found. Individual specimens of this species and remnant patches interspersed between anthropogenic grasslands, reveal an expansion of this taxon in the recent past. In low hollows that allow accumulation of water, plants in the family Myrtaceae include: *Blepharocalyx cruckshanksii* ("temu") and *Luma apiculata* (Lequesne et al 1999) occur.

Mammals	Birds	Amphibians
<i>Octodon pacificus</i> (CR by IUCN; Not Evaluated by Chilean List)	<i>Puffinus creatopus</i> (VU by IUCN; EN by Chilean List)	<i>Eupsophus insularis</i> (CR by IUCN; EN by Chilean List)

CR: Critically Endangered; EN: Endangered; VU: Vulnerable.

Contributions to the PA System

Cultural Values:

Archaeology

Culturally, the existing Mocha population has no relation to archaeological materials on the island, such as cemeteries, isolated tombs, pottery, stone, etc. The island’s pottery reflects Mapuche and Hispanic origins.

Recreation and Tourism Values:

In Isla Mocha National Reserve, various types of adventure tourism exist, including hiking, biking or birdwatching (there are over 100 different species of birds on the island). Horseback riding, fishing and hiking excursions around the island are additional popular activities.

The island offers beautiful white sand beaches, places to observe whale fossils, a ridge covered by forest and important sites for early pirates and pre-Columbian history of Chilean culture.

Principal Threats:

1. Loss of native forest: trees are extracted for use by the local populace for posts, stakes, firewood and construction, and expansion of agriculture. *Olivillo* and *arrayan* tree species have poor regenerative capacity when commonly used for fuel, construction and fences. Erosion and water scarcity for the local population are secondary threats that derive from deforestation.
2. Invasive species are a direct threat to native wildlife, including cats, rats, dogs, pigs and cows. Many of these species predate on the native wildlife. Invasive plants also occur but are a less direct threat to wildlife.
3. Lack of explicit cultural links with nature among the local populace. This results in over-exploitation of natural resources, such as the illegal consumption of Pink-footed Shearwaters by people.

Current Management

Contact: Alberto Bordeu S., Jefe de Áreas Silvestres Protegidas, región del Biobío, Chile. (alberto.bordeu@conaf.cl). Guillermo Reyes C. Administrador Reserva Nacional Isla Mocha, Cañete, Chile. (guillermo.reyes@conaf.cl).

Staffing

The reserve’s personnel consists of permanent park guard staff and additional assistant park guards who are contracted seasonally to work with tourists, maintenance and other tasks.

Sr.	Rank	Present Strength
1.	Administrator	1
2.	Park guards	2
3.	Guard assistants	2
	Total	5

Management Structure

Buildings

There is a guard house and office on the southern side of the Reserve and a small structure to attend to visitors in the northern section.

Financial Support and Training

The current operating budget is approximately \$26,300 (CONAF).

Current Management Priorities

Olive (*Olivillo*) forest conservation, which provides water, and a controlled timber resource for inhabitants. Control invasive alien predator species.

Reports and Publications

- Aguirre J, López, V, Quiroz D & P Tello. (2010) Design of an Environmental Education Program Directed at Isla Mocha Inhabitants, Region VIII, Chile. Unión de Ornitólogos de Chile-AvesChile American Ornithologists’ Union (AOU). 1998. Checklist of North American Birds. 7th edition. Washington, DC: American Ornithologists’ Union.
- BirdLife International (2015) Species factsheet: *Ardeola creatopus*. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 01/03/2015.
- Guicking, D. 1999. Pink-footed shearwaters on Isla Mocha, Chile. World Birdwatch Special Issue 21(4): 20–23.
- Hagen E, Partarrieu, U, & K Campbell.(2013) Evaluation for the management of invasive species: Isla Mocha, Chile. Island Conservation.
- Hutterer R (1994) Island rodents: a new species of *Octodon* from Isla Mocha, Chile (Mammalia:Octodontidae). Z. Säugetierkunde 59: 27-41.
- North American Conservation Action Plan – Pink-footed Shearwater. (2005) Commission for Environmental Cooperation.
- Saavedra B, D Quiroz & J Iriarte (2003) Past and present small mammals of Isla Mocha (Chile). Mammalian Biology 68: 365-371.
- Stuart S, M Hoffman, J Chanson, N Cox, R Berridge, P Ramani, & Young BE (eds). (2008). *Threatened Amphibians of the World* Lynx Ediciones, Barcelona, Spain; IUCN, Gland, Switzerland; and Conservation International, Arlington, VA, USA

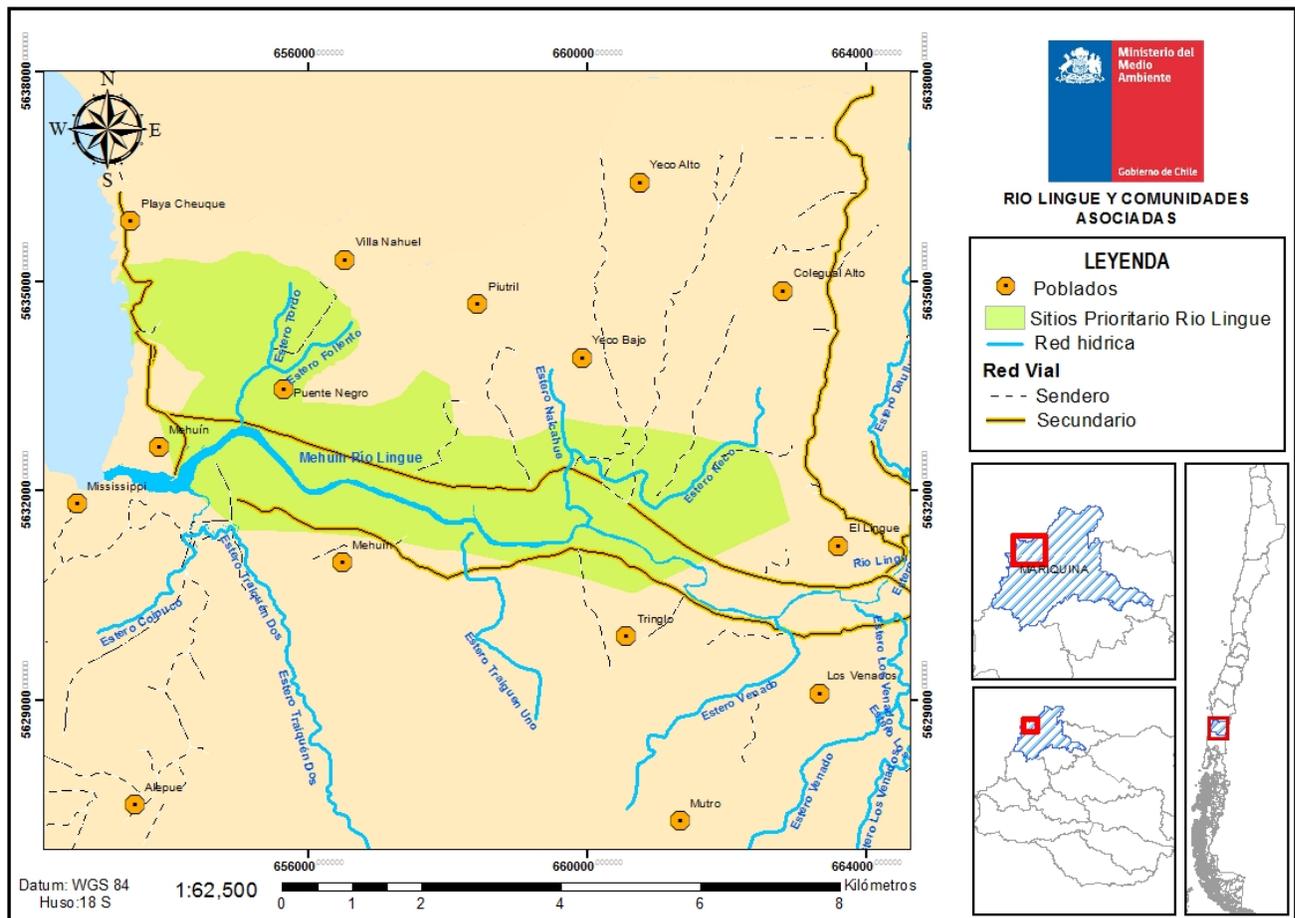
Mehuín, Chile

Name: Mehuín-Río Lingue
Status: Accepted as a Regional Priority Site by COREMA¹³, January 4, 2010
Location (UTM): 39°23'35.44"S, 73°12'0.09"W
Country: Chile
State: Valdivia Province, Chile.
Counties: Mariquina Comuna.
Region: Los Ríos.

Description of Boundaries:

Situated in the northwest of the Los Ríos Region, the site almost borders the Araucanía Region

SITE MAP



¹³ Regional Environmental Commission handled environmental issues in each region of the country prior to 2010.

Stakeholder villages and populations:

Of the total population of the Mariquina community of 18,158 inhabitants, 23% are indigenous and the main economic activities are agriculture, livestock, forestry and harvesting of wood for cooking. A small percentage of the population does small scale fishing activity associated mainly with the use of the coastline in the following areas: Mehuín, Mississippi, Cheuque, Maiquillahue, among others (Häfelin, 2011).

The main population center of Mehuín has 1,135 inhabitants (INE 2002) where the main activity is fishing and summer tourists who visit the Pacific Ocean, the scenic landscape, the Lingue River wetlands and the inland hills covered with native evergreen forests.

Throughout the Mehuín site there are longstanding *lafquenche* settlements, such as the coastal areas of Chan Chan, Llenehue, Villa Nahuel, Pichicuyin, Maiquillahue, among others. The most densely populated is Villa Nahuel, with contains ravines that have small streams which are tributaries of the river Lingue, and whose inhabitants live in direct contact with the natural surroundings.

Principal Local Resource Uses:

The population in Mehuín area, specifically in Villa Nahuel, lives off resources associated with the sea, harvesting seafood such as sea squirts, sea urchins and mussels, plus artisanal fisheries in the Lingue river, wetlands and estuaries.

Ethnic and Social Context:

Today the old *lafkenche* territory, according to Chilean political administrative order, is under the jurisdiction of two districts: San Jose Valdivia and the Mariquina, both belonging to the province of Valdivia (Nuñez, 2006). The coastal area of San José, Mariquina where Villa Nahuel is located, has a history based on archaeological studies indicating the presence of human settlements more than 5,000 years ago. The sites studied are characterized by coastal settlements linked to the consumption of marine resources. As indicated by Marilaf, the presence of these settlements suggests a long period of continuous habitation and Mapuche ethnogenesis throughout the province of Valdivia that links to the current Mapuche people along the coast and that expressed today in that culture. Mapuche-*lafkenche* groups we know today are founded on a culture linked to the sea and harnessing knowledge which enabled them to perpetuate their culture (Alliende, 2011).

The old *lafkenche* territory is, today, according to Chilean political administrative order, under the jurisdiction of two districts: San Jose Valdivia and Mariquina, both belonging to the province of Valdivia (Nuñez, 2006). The coastal area of San José, Mariquina where the Villa Nahuel community is located, has a history based on archaeological studies indicating the presence of human settlements of more than 5,000 years ago. The sites researched are characterized by their coastal settlements linked to the consumption of marine resources. These ancient hunter-gatherer settlements’ use of marine resources suggests a long process of Mapuche ethnogenesis whereby coastal areas north of Valdivia have been continuously inhabited by people closely related to the current Mapuche people of the coast and that is expressed today in that culture. So Mapuche-*lafkenche* groups we know today built a culture linked to the sea and a specific territory developing a knowledge which enabled them to perpetuate their culture. (Alliende, 2011).

History/Timeline:

Research is currently being conducting regarding the human settlements in Villa Nahuel.

Target species:

The area is of great ecological importance and uniqueness due to the presence of two endemic species of amphibians, *Insuetophrymnus acarpicus* and *Eupsophus migueli* (Rabanal and Nunez 2009). There is also high species richness due to ecotones, areas of transition between the Lingue River and the sea. The biggest threats to these species are forestry, pine and eucalyptus plantations, and the introduction of livestock on streams the amphibians inhabit. The species are only known from this site, the type locality, and protection of the site is required (CONAMA, 2010)¹⁴.

Besides amphibian species, this area is characterized by its tributaries and in the wetland a population of Southern river otter (*Lontra provocax*), an endemic species to Chile that is in danger of extinction.

In addition, species of fish found in the Lingue River are of conservation concern. Research regarding the status and ecology of fauna will be included in the Ministry of Environment 2015 budget, at which time further information will become available.

Physical Features

Elevation Range: 0 - 350 meters

Main Forest Types:

Evergreen forests dominate the site, including *Aextoxicon punctatum* and removal de canelos, a variety of cinnamon tree. In lower areas associated with the wetlands surrounding the Lingue River, inundated forests are dominated by *Myrceugenia exsucca*, *Blepharocalyx crukshanksii* and *Drimys winteri*.

Key Species:

Fauna in the area include *Pudu pudu*, *Puma concolor*, *Leopardus guigna*. Westland species include *Myocastor coypus*, *Lontra provocax* and a rich birdlife.

Mammals	Birds	Amphibians
<i>Lontra provocax</i> (EN) <i>Leopardus guigna</i> (EN) <i>Pudu pudu</i> (VU)	<i>Plegadis chihi</i> (EN) <i>Cygnus melanocorypha</i> (VU) <i>Ixobrychus involucris</i> (R)	<i>Eupsophus migueli</i> (EN) <i>Insuetophrynus acarpicus</i> (EN)

CR: Critically Endangered; EN: Endangered; VU: Vulnerable.

Flora:

Within the evergreen forest ecosystem a variety of ferns are endemic to the region, such as *Blechnum corralense* or attractive species with attractive flowers such as *Lobelia bridgessi*, which is considered Vulnerable by IUCN Red List.

Contributions to the PA System

Cultural Values:

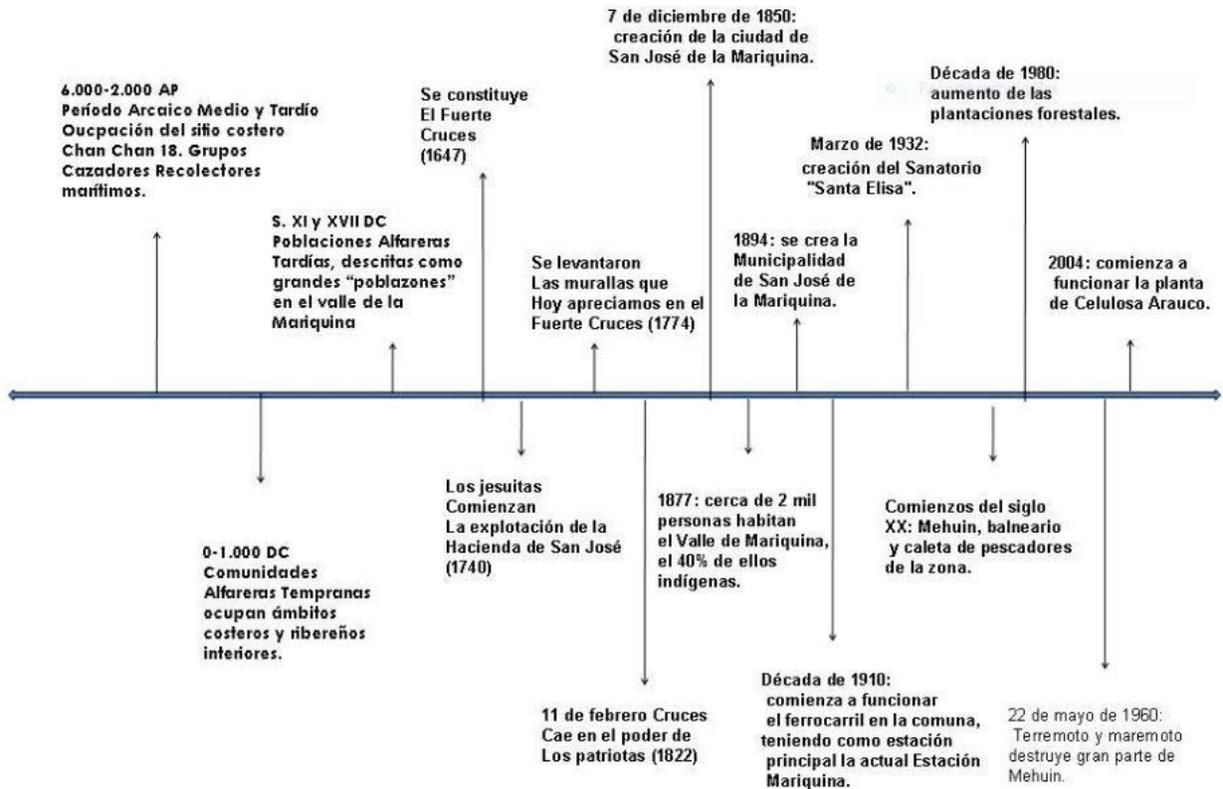
¹⁴ En Estrategia Regional de Biodiversidad 2010, Región de Los Ríos.

Archaeology

The territories within the Mariquina community have attracted historical-archaeological interest for a long time. One of the well explored landscapes is the coastline that provided ample living conditions for human communities. One of the best known settlements is a site called Chan 5,000 years ago in the Middle Archaic period it was called *tratade*.

The groups of hunter-gatherers who lived in Chan Chan knew well the coastal environments and they practiced rituals, such as carefully burying their dead, shared with contemporaries in the mountains, such as in Marifilo, Pucura. Among the cultural artifacts are certain stone tools such as spear-points made of basalt or obsidian, indicating their specialization towards hunting marine fauna. It is further known that Chan Chan participated in a wide sphere of distribution of obsidian, whose sources of production are in remote areas as Melipeuco, Lonquimay or Chaitén. During the Middle Archaic, we see reflected in Chan Chan archaeology, the construction of a territory that is divided both along the coast and inland routes along water bodies and tributaries. The environment along the coast and adjacent inland ecosystems provided natural resources from the forest and the sea that allowed continuous occupation by hunter-gatherers. Abundant pottery from the region, reflect the natural environment and resource use during this period.

Línea de tiempo



Source: National Monuments Council (Consejo de Monumentos Nacionales), Los Ríos

Recreation and Tourism Values:

The beach resort in Mehuín, located in the Mariquina community, is the only coastal sector of the community that contains beaches, hotels and restaurants.

Its development is still at a low level, however, and the beauty of the mountainous landscape, crowned by coastal marine ecosystems, make Mehuín and its immediate surroundings a potential tourist destination for visitors interested in nature, beaches and ecotourism, scientific research and cultural.

Areas of interest for tourism include Playa Grande beach, Pichicuyin beach, Caleta de pecadores, sectors of Mississippi, Lingue River wetland areas ideal for hiking and exploring.

Principal Threats:

1. Loss of native vegetation. This is seen in much of the area, especially related to thinning of native trees, which is done in a low-impact way, but is steady and constant over time. In turn, this loss of native vegetation has given way to the replacement of native forests with plantations of pine and eucalyptus spp. Due to forestry regulations this substitution has diminished in recent years.
2. Destruction of habitat. Subsistence farming, where small landowners have the ancestral habit of allowing cattle to roam freely through the woods in search of food. Cattle cause continuous trampling of regeneration of vegetation and pollute waterways with feces.
3. Poor waste management. The rural populace produces household wastewater and does not have adequate treatment, causing contamination of ground and surface waters.

Current Management

No formal protected areas exist. Small private conservation areas exist whose landowners have formed an association called ‘Asociación Gremial de Áreas Protegidas Privadas’.

Staffing

Each private area is managed and cared for by family members of the landowners. These areas cannot be considered formal protected areas.

Sr.	Rank	Present Strength
1.	Administrator	2
2.	Park guards	0
3.	Guard assistants	0
	Total	2

Management Structure

Buildings

Family homes. The infrastructure is not designed for adequately for protected area management.

Financial Support and Training

No financing exists beyond the landowner families’ incomes, which to date has not been quantified for the proportion invested in conservation.

Current Management Priorities

Conservation and restoration of evergreen forests along ravines and waterways is essential to improve amphibian hábitat. The evergreen forests

Reports and Publications

Estrategia Regional de Biodiversidad de la Región de Los Ríos, 2010

Informe investigación antropológica proyecto “Itro Fill Mongen: Protección y puesta en valor de los espacios ecoculturales de la Comunidad Mapuche Villa Nahuel. Autora: Daniela Jofré Hernández. Agosto 2012. Proyecto FPA financiado por el Ministerio del Medio Ambiente.

Estudio: Diagnóstico Patrimonio Cultural de la Región de Los Ríos. Universidad Austral de Chile. Licitado por Consejo de Monumentos Nacionales.

Mata do Passarinho, Brazil

Name: Mata do Passarinho Reserve

Status: Established 26 October 2007

Location (UTM): Between N 8254730 / E 338498 and N 8250563 / E 338298

Country: Brazil

State: Minas Gerais (MG) and Bahia (BA) States

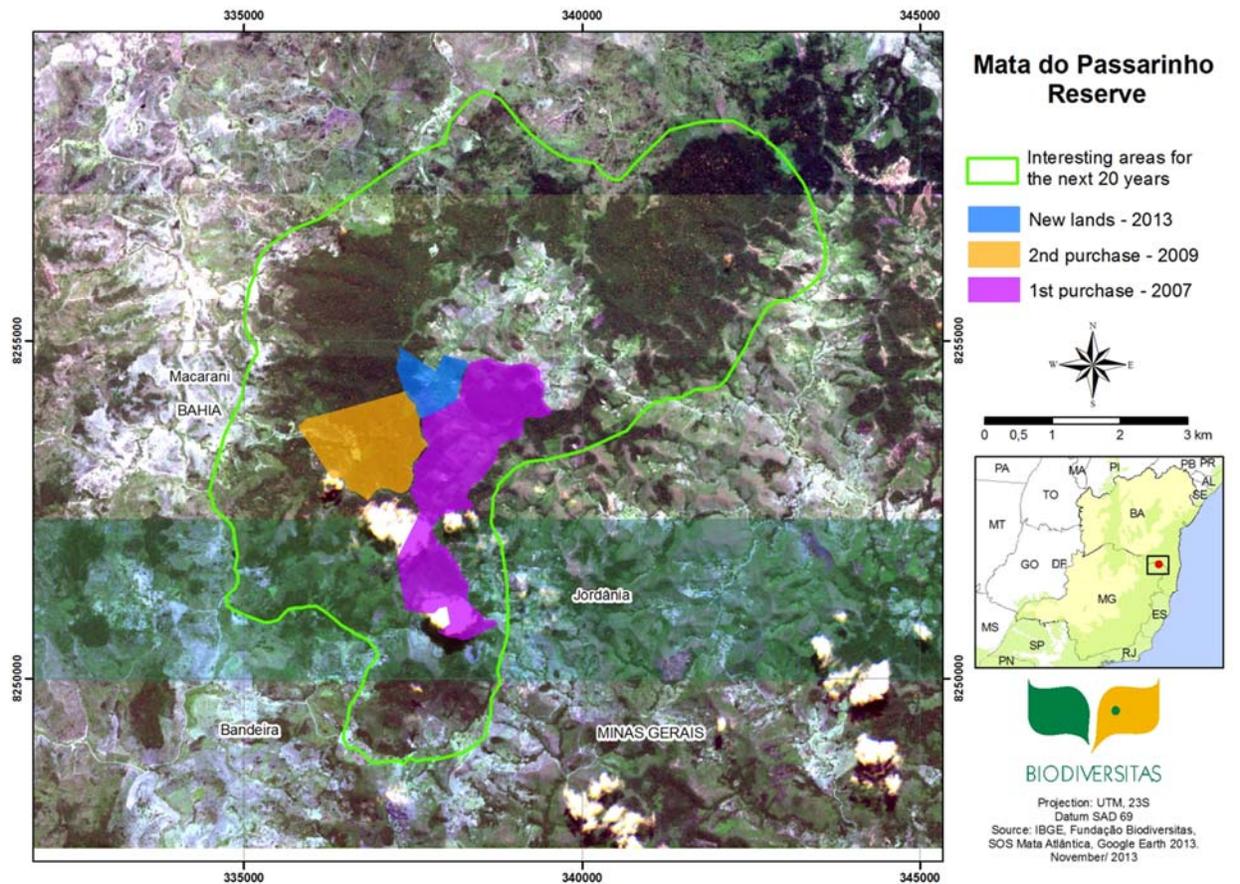
Counties: Bandeira and Jordânia (MG), Macarani (BA)

Region: Jequitinhonha Valley

Area: 654 ha

Description of Boundaries:

The area covers part of three counties (Bandeira, Jordânia and Macarani) and two states (Minas Gerais and Bahia), just at the political division of southeast and northeast Brazil.



Stakeholder villages and populations:

There are two rural communities next to the reserve, one in the extreme north and another in the extreme south. Ribeirão Community is formed by workers of the adjacent cattle farm, with about 60 families and 200 people. Canada Community has about 30 people distributed over 10 small properties. The other immediate neighbors to the reserve are big properties where the main activity is cattle production;

clearing pasture with fire is a principal threat to the reserve’s intact forest and a current project with Petrobras is creating firebreaks.

Principal Local Resource Uses:

Cattle ranching is almost the only economic activity and most of the big farms have no other products. There is production of cacao in small properties, which represents a good income for poor people – however, most men work on the cattle farms. Manioc, corn, beans and fruits are produced for subsistence.

Ethnic Composition:

Records of Botocudos, Oas, and Pancararu native tribes exist for the Region (Jequitinhonha Valley). These tribes were virtually wiped out in the second half of the sixteenth century, with the advancement of Portuguese colonization. The enslavement of natives and contact with diseases such as smallpox, which were previously unknown to the indigenous population, contributed to their extermination. Inhabitants descended from the earliest tribes are no longer found in the region. Current populations represent mestizo communities who re-colonized the area. The colonization of the region occurred around the seventeenth century, when the first explorers roamed the cities of Araçuaí, Piauí and Itacambiruçu in search of precious stones. The first major influx of settlers, however, occurred in the first decades of the nineteenth century.

Social context:

The Mata do Passarinho Reserve, located in the last portions of the Atlantic Jequitinhonha Valley, is one of the poorest regions of the Minas Gerais and Bahia states. The population of this region suffers from the arid climate, as well as major difficulties in transportation, schools, hospitals and other basic infrastructure needs. The area surrounding the reserve is dominated by large estates surrounded by small villages with little infrastructure and low level of development.

Rural schools are present and in addition to their function to provide formal education, they represent spaces community meetings.

Over-exploitation of natural resources by settlers caused serious environmental problems such as lack of rainfall, the loss of soil fertility and the extinction of native species that were used as food. The change in rainfall cycles, caused by indiscriminate clearing of forests in this region since the nineteenth century gave way to the vast pastures and cattle (Martin 2008). The scarcity of natural resources has led to low economic and social development. Lacking information about the rational use of natural resources, residents of the Jequitinhonha Valley have suffered the consequences of the reduction of native vegetation and the consequent reduction in the quantity and water quality of rivers and streams, loss of fertile soil, decreased diversity and supply of forest products and the increased occurrence of diseases such as schistosomiasis and leishmaniasis.

History/Timeline:

The reserve was formed after the presence of Stresemann’s Bristlefront (*Merulaxis stresemanni*) was reported in 2004, a very rare species of bird that had not been seen for 10 years. Since it was reported, acquisitions of lands have been made through a partnership between the Biodiversitas Foundation and American Bird Conservancy.

Target species:

Described by the ornithologist Helmut Sick in 1960 from specimens collected in 1830 near Salvador and in 1945 near Ilheus (both in Bahia State), Stresemann’s Bristlefront (*Merulaxis stresemanni*) was not recorded again until 1995, when Baudet saw the bird again in Una, Bahia. However, he did re-find the species in subsequent searches of the same site.

A small population was found in 2004 during a survey commissioned by the Brazilian Ministry of Environment (through the National Biodiversity Program - PROBIO) in a fragment of Atlantic Forest in Bandeira Municipality, Minas Gerais and later also discovered across the state border in Bahia as well. Considered one of the rarest and most endangered Neotropical birds, biological and taxonomic data on the species are extremely scarce and the species was even considered extinct (Baudet 2001). Currently, Stresemann’s Bristlefront is ranked as Critically Endangered nationally (MMA 2003) and globally (BirdLife 2015).

This sole remaining fragment of Atlantic Forest fragment known to support Stresemann’s Bristlefront represents its only chance for survival, according to the studies of the Alliance for Zero Extinction (Ricketts et al., 2005) and the Brazilian Alliance for Zero Extinction - BAZE (FOUNDATION BIODIVERSITAS 2010). It is therefore an AZE site, and the focal site for the project in Brazil.

Physical Features

Elevation Range: 608 - 910 m

Climate: Tropical. Annual precipitation is 2100mm. The average annual temperature is above 28° C.

Main Forest Types:

- Tropical Humid Forest
- Small patches of wetlands

Key Species: See the following table for globally threatened species of mammals and birds recorded at this site. The Buff-headed Capuchin (*Cebus xanthosternos*) has been listed as Critically Endangered for the past decade and isolated populations persist in several small reserves. *No* information available for other taxa given the dearth of scientific research conducted in the reserve to date.

Mammals	Birds
<i>Priodontes maximus</i> (VU) <i>Cebus xanthosternos</i> (CR)	<i>Pyrrhura cruentata</i> (VU) <i>Touit melanonotus</i> (EN) <i>Touit surdus</i> (VU) <i>Amazona rhodocorytha</i> (EN) <i>Jacamaralcyon tridactyla</i> (VU) <i>Dysithamnus plumbeus</i> (VU) <i>Myrmotherula urosticta</i> (VU) <i>Myrmotherula minor</i> (VU) <i>Merulaxis stresemanni</i> (CR) <i>Synallaxis whitneyi</i> (VU) <i>Thripophaga macroura</i> (VU) <i>Acrobatornis fonsecai</i> (VU) <i>Hemitriccus furcatus</i> (VU) <i>Phylloscartes beckeri</i> (EN) <i>Carpornis melanocephala</i> (VU) <i>Cotinga maculata</i> (EN) <i>Procnias nudicollis</i> (VU)

CR: Critically Endangered; EN: Endangered; VU: Vulnerable.

Contributions to the PA System

Cultural Values: Not available.

Recreation and Tourism Values: The reserve is an AZE site for Stresemann’s Bristlefront, and shelters another 16 globally endangered species of birds. This makes the area an important site for birdwatchers. At local level, the reserve represents a scenic landscape, and an opportunity for local visitors to see the forest as well as the conservation activities in the area.

Principal Threats:

Within the Mata do Passarinho Reserve, the principle threat is weak systematic biological monitoring systems for the Stresemann’s Bristlefront, a species that is extremely rare and difficult to locate and observe. The principal threats in the area surrounding the reserve, and thereby, putting pressure on the habitat for the Stresemann’s Bristlefront are logging and loss of forest due to conversion to pastures and agriculture. Fires are set to clear forest, but frequently encroach on protected forests within the reserve. In areas surrounding the reserve, weak law enforcement and lack of comprehensive land-use policies and planning in areas surrounding the reserve is also an issue. For instance, existing Rural Environmental Cadaster requires large landowners to protect a portion of their properties’ as forest and restricts all cutting of native forests; however, landowners often remove forest and do not comply with the current regulations.

Current Management

Contact: Park Warden: Alexandre Enout (E-mail: alexandre@biodiversitas.org.br). Director of Biodiversitas Foundation: Gláucia Drummond (E-mail: glaucia@biodiversitas.org.br).

Staffing

The internal staff of Mata do Passarinho reserve consists of four employees. At the Biodiversitas Foundation headquarters there are another seven people involved in reserve strategies, maintenance, plans, and other kinds of support.

Sr.	Rank	Present Strength
1.	Warden	1
3.	Ranger	1
7.	Forester	2
	Total	4

Management Structure

The reserve headquarters is situated in Macarani and there are two functional guard posts inside the reserve, one for each of the two entrances. Patrols operate weekly, on the existing trails. There is a four-wheel drive vehicle and horses to support management activities. Communication is by telephone, and the manager is constantly in contact with the headquarters of Biodiversitas Foundation in the capital.

Buildings

There is a reserve headquarters in Macarani and two guard posts, in Macarani and Bandeira respectively. An ecolodge was recently constructed for tourism and research purposes; the lodge will start to receive visitors during the first semester of 2015. A Visitor Center will start to operate at the same time, for meetings, courses and an environmental education program. The infrastructure for tourism, research and education is completed by a structure inside the forest, where visitors can shelter from the weather conditions, observe fauna, have lunch and rest.

Financial Support and Training

All the costs of the Reserve are met by projects. The Biodiversitas Foundation have expertise in training guards, and the manager of the reserve is developing the training of human resources.

Current Management Priorities

In the past, the local people did not know or pay attention to the law concerning wildlife conservation and forest protection, as management was weak. Now that situation has changed and improved to a slightly better condition, due to occasional wildlife conservation activities. Concerns with fires to clean pastures continues to be the most important issue, since this represents the main threat to forest conservation.

Reports and Publications

BirdLife International (2015) Species factsheet: *Merulaxis stresemanni*. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 19/02/2015.

Damasceno, S.S. 2011. Distribuição, biologia e estimativa populacional do entufado-baiano (*Merulaxis stresemanni*) (Passeriformes, Rhinocryptidae), uma espécie criticamente em perigo de extinção da Mata Atlântica. Ouro Preto Federal University.

Drummond, G. M.; Martins, C. S.; Machado, A. B. M. Sebaio, F. A. e Antonini, Y. 2005. Biodiversidade em Minas Gerais: um atlas para sua conservação. 2. ed. Belo Horizonte: Fundação Biodiversitas. 222p.

Kierulff, M.C.M., Mendes, S.L. & Rylands, A.B. 2008. *Cebus xanthosternos*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. Version 2014.3. <www.iucnredlist.org>. Downloaded on 19 February 2015.

Melo, F. R. 2004. Primatas e áreas prioritárias para a conservação da biodiversidade no vale do rio Jequitinhonha, Minas Gerais. (PHD Thesis). Federal University of Minas Gerais. Belo Horizonte.

Melo, F. R., Fontes, D. F. and Rylands, A. B. 2002. Primatas do Vale Jequitinhonha, Minas Gerais. Em Resumos: X Congresso Brasileiro de Primatologia. p. 56. Universidade Federal do Pará. Belém. 10 a 15 de novembro de 2002.

Ribon, R., Mattos, G. T., Luis, E. R., Moraes, L. L., Morais, F. C. 2005. Projeto: inventário biológico nos vales dos rios Jequitinhonha e Mucuri nos estados de Minas Gerais e Bahia–Sub-Projeto Avifauna. Ministério do Meio Ambiente, dos Recursos Hídricos e da Amazônia Legal–MMA / CNPq / BIRD / GEF / Conservation International do Brasil / SAVE–Brasil / American Bird Conservancy. Relatório Técnico. 166 p.

Whitehouse, A. J. & Ribon, R. 2011. Finding Stresemann’s Bristlefront in Minas Gerais, Brazil. *Neotropical Birding* (06) 37-39.

Tsitongambarika Forest, Madagascar

Status: Temporary Protection since December 2008
Location: 46°96–47°22 E, 24°45–25°00 S
Region: Anosy
District: Taolagnaro
Townships: Taolagnaro
Area: 60,000 Ha (project focal area 41,000 ha; northern 2/3 of the forest)

Description of Boundaries:

Tsitongambarika is in Taolagnaro (Fort Dauphin) District, Anosy Region, overlapping with 15 communes (Tolagnaro, Soanierana, Ifarantsa, Isaka Ivondro, Fenoovo, Enakara, Emagnobo, Ranomafana Bevoay, Ampasimena, Manantenina, Iabokoho, Mahatalaky , Ampasinampoina, Mandromondromotra). It is located between Regional Route 118 from Taolagnaro to Manantenina via Ranomafana, and National Route 12a from Taolagnaro to Manantenina via Iabokoho (see map).

Principal Local Resource Uses:

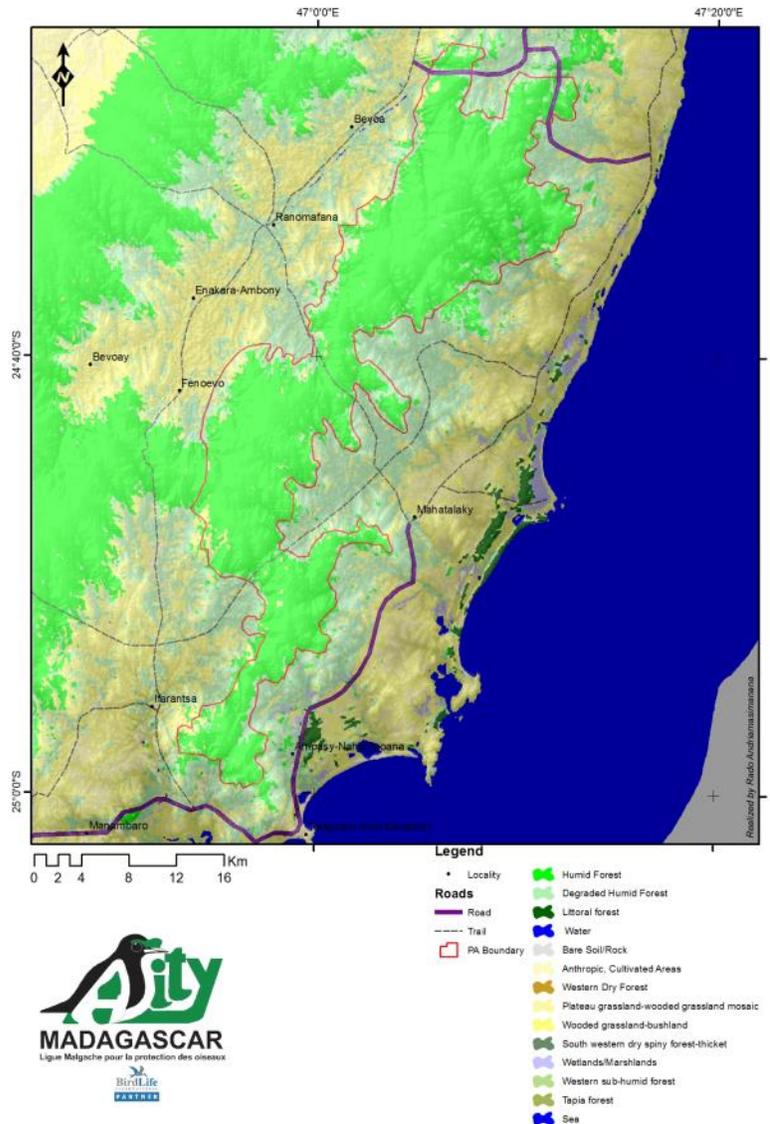
The main local natural resource uses are shifting cultivation (‘slash-and-burn’), forest resource collection, logging (illegal) and hunting (largely illegal).

Ethnic Composition:

The population around the site is mainly ethnic Antanosy, with immigrants being Antandroy , Antesaka, Merina and Betsileo.

History/Timeline:

In 1999, the site was identified through a faunal inventory as an Important Bird and Biodiversity Area. The results of further biological and social assessments in 2005 led to the proposal to include the site in the expanded Protected Areas System of Madagascar (i.e. as a New Protected Area). This process to confirm this began in 2006, and temporary protection status was granted in 2008. Permanent protection status has now been applied for as is due to be approved in mid 2015.



Part of Tsitongambarika has been designated as a biodiversity offset site in relation to the nearby mining project implemented by the mining company Rio Tinto QMM, towards achieving the company’s commitment to achieving Net Positive Impact of its mining operation in Madagascar. This forms the last part of the ‘mitigation hierarchy’ of avoidance, minimisation, restoration and offsetting activities in response to the mining impacts. It should provide sufficient resources to guarantee the conservation of the offset area, which however covers only around 4000 ha around the village of Bemangidy in the far N of Tsitongambarika. This site was chosen because of its richness in lowland biodiversity, similar to that of the forest under the mine footprint. Rio Tinto QMM has funded conservation activities in Tsitongambarika since 2005, and more intensively in Bemangidy since 2013.

Physical Features

Tsitongambarika forest is located on a mountain ridge, the Vohimena chain, extending over a length of about 100 km, with steep slopes rising to 1358 m. Inland of the chain (to the West) lies the basin of Ranomafana Antanosy and seaward (to the East) is a narrow coastal plain fragmented by different rivers flowing into several rivers (notably the Ebakika, Vatomirindry, Iabokoho). A pass with a narrow forest corridor connects the forest to the larger massif of Andohahela (or the Anosyenne Chain) further West.

Elevation Range: 50-1358 m

Climate:

No climate data are available specifically for Tsitongambarika, but at nearby Taolagnaro Airport, on the coast a few km to the South, annual rainfall is 1700 mm, and average annual temperature is 23°C varying seasonally from 20°C and 26°C. Tsitongambarika is on the transition between two different weather patterns. The area to the East has a tropical humid climate, that to the West a subtropical arid climate. There is also an increasing rainfall gradient, less pronounced, from South to North, on the East coast. Overall, Tsitongambarika is dominated by the tropical, humid system with fairly high rainfall, giving rise to broad-leaved, humid, evergreen forest characteristic of the lowlands of Madagascar. For further information, see: <http://www.worldweatheronline.com/Tolagnaro-weather-averages/Toliara/MG.aspx>

Main Forest Types:

Lowland rainforest occupies most of the site (around 70% of the area) and is found up to 600 m altitude. This is an exceptionally rich and scarce forest type, having been largely destroyed by human activity, and is the sole habitat for many species.

Mid-altitude forest occupies altitudes above 600 m (30% of the area). It also supports numerous threatened species and also, even though the forest type is globally less rare than lowland forest, very high local endemism.

Key Species: See **Table 1** below for the extremely high number of locally endemic and threatened species of Tsitongambarika, all found only within the last 10 years; surveys continue and will no doubt add to the surprises.

Contributions to the PA System

Biodiversity Value:

- Tsitongambarika encompasses the transition from humid lowland forest to mid-altitude forest, with well preserved examples of both. It is one of the few Protected Areas to hold extensive lowland forest in Madagascar.
- It holds many locally endemic flora species, and many more undescribed species.
- Similarly, at least ten local fauna species (mainly frogs and reptiles) are undescribed but known only from the site .

Watershed Values:

Tsitongambarika contains seven catchments: Efaho, Mananara, Manampanihy, Manambolo, Mandrare, Manampanja and Tarantsy. The first three named are the main sources of water for the District.

Cultural Values:

The mountains contain burial sites called *Amomike* or *Kibory*, who of great cultural importance to local communities; some have also become roost sites for animals such as bats. Most are under the forest canopy, and they are sacred places where access and wood cutting is traditionally forbidden. As well as its cultural importance per se, this tradition contributes significantly to the conservation of biodiversity.

Recreation and Tourism Values:

The forest has potential to be one of the most important eco-tourism attractions in Anosy region, but it is still underdeveloped. The promotion of eco-tourism is a major opportunity for development of the site, but logistical challenges are considerable.

Principal Threats:

- 1 Shifting cultivation (the dominant threat)
- 2 Illegal wood-cutting
- 3 Subsistence hunting
- 4 Overcollection of non-timber forest products (honey, other everyday uses)
- 5 Grazing of livestock
- 6 Bushfire

Current Management

Management structure

The management of the New Protected Area is the responsibility of Asity Madagascar and a community-based management platform known as KOMFITA (*Komity Mpandrindra ny Fitantanana ny Ala* or Forest Management Coordination Committee): a co-management model. Decisions on implementation of management plans are taken jointly by KOMFITA and Asity Madagascar. In this co-management structure, Asity Madagascar plays the role of Technical Secretary. KOMFITA has 10 members.

The co-management structure’s mission is to:

- ensure the conservation of natural resources and ecological functions of the Protected Area for the well-being of the population
- ensure participatory, transparent and sustainable co-management of the Protected Area
- make decisions about the implementation of workplans and management of the Protected Area

Asity Madagascar

For the management of Tsitongambarika, Asity Madagascar has two offices: its headquarters in Antananarivo, and a regional office in Taolagnaro. Coordination and administrative and financial management of the programme are provided by the National Coordinator and Coordinator of the Forest Programme at headquarters. Implementation of the field activities is carried out by the regional team based in Taolagnaro.

The regional team of Asity Madagascar is composed of:

- Head of site team (Chef de Site)

- Offsets Project manager (Chef de Projet pour l’offset)
- Development officer (Responsable de Développement Durable)
- Zone supervisors (Chef de zone, 2 staff)
- Animators (9 staff)

The contact for Asity Madagascar is Mme Voninavoko Raminoarisoa, National Coordinator. In addition, Asity Madagascar’s forest programme manager is based in the headquarters in Antananarivo (capital city of Madagascar)

Asity also has the responsibility of facilitator at national and local levels of the initiative to create the New Protected Area, a role for which (as in other such areas) it is referred to as the Promoter. The Promoter’s responsibility is to:

- Implement prioritized activities in the Management Plan to achieve the objectives of the Protected Area
- Develop, and ensure the implementation of, annual work-plans of the Protected Area
- Monitor and evaluate performance against the work plan
- Ensure the integrity of the Protected Area

Asity Madagascar provides technical support in conservation and development, fundraising and administration, along with capacity-building for KOMFITA.

The site is managed largely through Community-based Natural Resource Management, under which management rights and responsibilities are transferred from the Government to local community associations known as CoBas, with contracts and Terms of Reference. Across the whole of Tsitongambarika, 53 such management transfer contracts have been established, with 53 CoBas. Each CoBa includes 4–6 forest monitors (*Polisin’Ala*). These 53 CoBas are organised into Federations of which eight representatives form KOMFITA.

Financial Support and Training

Funding for site management is mostly raised from foundations and institutional donors by Asity Madagascar and BirdLife International. In addition, increasingly significant contributions have been and continue to be provided by the mining company Rio Tinto QMM through its environment and biodiversity offsets programmes.

Current Management Priorities

The current priorities is to significantly reduce forest destruction caused by shifting agriculture and illegal exploitation of valuable hardwood. Among priority initiatives are strengthening surveillance and control of resources, improved agricultural technology and the development of new, alternative sources of income to reduce actions that damage the forest.

Stakeholder villages and populations

Tsitongambarika Forest includes 66 villages/Fokontany (local administrative unit) with 15,228 households and a population of 77,646 people. A full list of villages is available on request.

Reports and Publications

- Andriamasimanana, R. (2008). Appui à l'élaboration du schéma d'aménagement de la forêt de Tsitongambarika, Tolagnaro par des outils d'observation de la terre. Rapport final, Birdlife International.
- Asity Madagascar (2010). Suivi écologique participatifs des forêts d'Enato, d'Anka Maromagniry, de Mahialambo, de Farafara, d'Amborabao et de Vatambe. Antananarivo, Madagascar: Rapport final.
- Asity Madagascar (2012). Urgent action to stop deforestation in the richest forest in the Southeastern of Madagascar. First intermediate report to Mava Foundation.
- Pilgrim, J., Ramanitra, N., Ekstrom, J., Tordoff, A. W., & Safford, R. J. (2011). Tsitongambarika forest Madagascar, Biological and socio-economic surveys, with conservation recommendation. Cambridge UK: Birdlife International.
- Rakotonarivo, G. (2008). Rapport d'évaluation des contrats de transferts de gestion des ressources naturelles renouvelables de Tsitongambarika I, Tolagnaro. Antananarivo: WWF.
- Randrianasolo, A., & Lowry, P. (2009). Four news species and new combination in the Malagasy endemic genus *Micronychia* Oliv. (Anacardiaceae). *Adansonia* 3 31(1), 157-168.
- Raveloson, A. (2009). Suivi écologique de la forêt d'Anka, d'Enato, de Mahialambo, de Farafara, d'Amborabao, et de Vatambe. Antananarivo: Rapport final déposé à Asity Madagascar.
- Ravoahangy, A. (2010). Suivi écologique participatif des primates et mammifères de la forêt de Tsitongambarika. Antananarivo: Rapport final, Asity Madagascar.
- Ravoahangy, A., & Robenarimangason, H. (2010). Plan de sauvegarde environnemental et social de la NAP Tsitongambarika. Antananarivo: Rapport final, Asity Madagascar.
- Ravoahangy, A., Raveloson, B. A., Raminoarisoa, V. M., & Safford, R. J. (2011). Notes on the carnivores of Tsitongambarika Forest, Madagascar, including the behaviour of a juvenile Eastern Falanouc *Eupleres goudotii*. *Small Carnivore Conservation* 45, 1-3.
- Zicoma (1999). Zones d'importance pour la conservation des Oiseaux à Madagascar. Antananarivo: BirdLife International, Association National pour la Gestion des Aires Protégées, Ministères des Eaux et Forêts.

Table 1: Threatened or site-endemic (in bold type) species of Tsitongambarika. Source: various, compiled by Asity Madagascar. nd = not described

TAXA	Species	IUCN Status
Amphibian	<i>Anodontohyla rouxae</i>	EN
Amphibian	<i>Boophis sp. nov 1</i>	nd
Amphibian	<i>Boophis sp. nov 2</i>	nd
Amphibian	<i>Gephyromantis sp. nov</i>	nd
Amphibian	<i>Mantidactylus sp. nov</i>	nd
Amphibian	<i>Spinomantis sp nov</i>	nd
Amphibian	<i>Vatomantis sp nov</i>	nd
Birds	<i>Ardeola idae</i>	EN
Birds	<i>Brachypteracias leptosomus</i>	VU
Birds	<i>Geobiasstes squamiger</i>	VU
Birds	<i>Mesitornis unicolor</i>	VU
Birds	<i>Newtonia fanovanae</i>	VU
Birds	<i>Tyto soumagnei</i>	VU
Mammals	<i>Lepilemur fleuretae</i>	CR
Mammals	<i>Avahi meridionalis</i>	EN
Mammals	<i>Daubentonia madagascariensis</i>	EN
Mammals	<i>Eulemur collaris</i>	EN
Mammals	<i>Cryptoprocta ferox</i>	VU
Mammals	<i>Hapalemur meridionalis</i>	VU
Mammals	<i>Microcebus rufus</i>	VU
Reptiles	<i>Furcifer balteatus</i>	EN
Reptiles	<i>Amphiglossus sp.</i>	nd
Reptiles	<i>Brookesia sp.nov.</i>	nd
Reptiles	<i>Lygodactylus roavolana</i>	EN
Reptiles	<i>Paragehyra gabriellae</i>	EN
Reptiles	<i>Liophidium sp. nov</i>	nd
Reptiles	<i>Liopholidophis sp. nov</i>	nd
Reptiles	<i>Uroplatus malahelo</i>	EN
Reptiles	<i>Lygodactylus sp.</i>	nd
Reptiles	<i>Phelsuma sp.</i>	nd
Reptiles	<i>Uroplatus malama</i>	VU
Ants	<i>Camponotus mg038 sp nov</i>	nd
Ants	<i>Strumygenys sp nov</i>	nd
Ants	<i>Tetramorium sp nov</i>	nd
Molluscs	<i>Boucardicus mahermanae</i>	EN
Molluscs	<i>Boucardicus victorhernandezi</i>	EN
Molluscs	<i>Omphalotropis vohimena</i>	DD
Molluscs	<i>Boucardicus randalanai</i>	EN
Molluscs	<i>Boucardicus rakotoarisoni</i>	VU
Molluscs	<i>Boucardicus fidimananai</i>	CR
Molluscs	<i>Boucardicus albocinctus</i>	VU
Molluscs	<i>Boucardicus antiquus</i>	VU
Molluscs	<i>Boucardicus carylae</i>	EN
Molluscs	<i>Boucardicus culminans</i>	EN
Molluscs	<i>Boucardicus curvifolius</i>	EN
Molluscs	<i>Boucardicus delicatus</i>	EN
Molluscs	<i>Boucardicus divei</i>	EN
Molluscs	<i>Boucardicus esetrae</i>	EN
Molluscs	<i>Boucardicus magnilobatus</i>	EN
Molluscs	<i>Boucardicus simplex</i>	CR
Molluscs	<i>Boucardicus tridentatus</i>	VU
Molluscs	<i>Cyathopoma randalana</i>	VU
Molluscs	<i>Omphalotropis costulata</i>	VU
Molluscs	<i>Omphalotropis sp. nov. 2</i>	DD
Molluscs	<i>Microcystis subplanata</i>	
Molluscs	<i>Microcystis vohimena</i>	
Molluscs	<i>Microcystis andriamahajai</i>	
Molluscs	<i>Microcystis esetra</i>	
Molluscs	<i>Microcystis blanci</i>	
Molluscs	<i>Kalidos richardi</i>	
Molluscs	<i>Kalidos fenni</i>	
Molluscs	<i>Kalidos striaspiralis</i>	

Project Document: AZE – Conserving Earth’s Most Irreplaceable Sites for Endangered Biodiversity

Molluscs	<i>Malagarion tillieri</i>	
Molluscs	<i>Sitala josephinae</i>	
Molluscs	<i>Sitala elegans</i>	
Molluscs	<i>Sitala ilapiryae</i>	
Molluscs	<i>Sitala euconiliforma</i>	
Molluscs	<i>Sitala alicae</i>	
Plants	<i>Dypsis laevis</i>	CR
Plants	<i>Ravenea musicalis</i>	CR
Plants	<i>Aeranthes antennophora</i>	EN
Plants	<i>Angraecum didieri</i>	EN
Plants	<i>Angraecum equitans</i>	EN
Plants	<i>Asteropeia micraster</i>	EN
Plants	<i>Asteropeia rhopaloides</i>	EN
Plants	<i>Bulbophyllum cf. henrici</i>	EN
Plants	<i>Bulbophyllum ikongoense</i>	EN
Plants	<i>Centauroopsis antanossi</i>	EN
Plants	<i>Acridocarpus sp nov</i>	
Plants	<i>Dalbergia delphinensis</i>	EN
Plants	<i>Aloe bernadettae sp nov</i>	
Plants	<i>Jumellea intricata</i>	EN
Plants	<i>Micronychia bemangidiensis</i>	EN
Plants	<i>Pyrenacantha capitata</i>	EN
Plants	<i>Ravenea nana</i>	EN
Plants	<i>Viguieranthus alternans</i>	EN
Plants	<i>Costularia sp nov</i>	nd
Plants	<i>Cremocarpon sp nov</i>	nd
Plants	<i>Diospyros bemangidiensis</i>	
Plants	<i>Diospyros 'sclerophylla group' sp. 14</i>	nd
Plants	<i>Dombeya mandenensis sp.nov.</i>	nd
Plants	<i>Gnidia razakamalalana sp. nov.</i>	nd
Plants	<i>Gravesia sp nov</i>	nd
Plants	<i>Hyperacanthus gereau</i>	
Plants	<i>Hyperacanthus rajeriarisoniae</i>	
Plants	<i>Ivodia anosiensis sp. nov.</i>	nd
Plants	<i>Ixora bemangidiensis sp. nov.</i>	nd
Plants	<i>Leptolaena delphinensis sp. nov.</i>	nd
Plants	<i>Lowryanthus rubens (new genus)</i>	
Plants	<i>Dalbergia baroni</i>	VU
Plants	<i>Melanophylla sp nov</i>	nd
Plants	<i>Melicope sp nov</i>	nd
Plants	<i>Dalbergia orientalis</i>	VU
Plants	<i>Oncostemon sp nov</i>	nd
Plants	<i>Petchia sp nov</i>	nd
Plants	<i>Gaertnera aff. raphaelii</i>	VU
Plants	<i>Polyscias bemangidiensis</i>	nd
Plants	<i>Polyscias ericii</i>	
Plants	<i>Polyscias manonae</i>	
Plants	<i>Polyscias purpuristyle</i>	
Plants	<i>Polyscias sp nov</i>	nd
Plants	<i>Polyscias urceolata</i>	
Plants	<i>Gaertnera guillotii</i>	VU
Plants	<i>Garcinia aphanophlebia</i>	VU
Plants	<i>Mascarenhasia speciosa</i>	VU
Plants	<i>Rhodocodon jackyi</i>	
Plants	Sapindaceae CR4849	nd
Plants	<i>Schefflera bemangidiensis</i>	
Plants	<i>Schefflera vohimensis</i>	
Plants	<i>Schizolaena charlottae</i>	
Plants	<i>Schrebera trifoliata</i>	
Plants	<i>Vernonia sp nov</i>	nd
Plants	<i>Phylloxylon xylophylloides</i>	VU

Appendix 16: Environmental and Social Checklists

Checklist for Environmental and Social issues – Isla Mocha, Chile

Please note that as part of the GEFs evolving Fiduciary Standards that Implementing Agencies have to meet is the need to address ‘Environmental and Social Safeguards’.

To address this requirement UNEP-DGEF have developed this checklist with the following guidance:

1. Initially filled in during concept development to help guide in the identification of possible risks and activities that will need to be included in the project design.
2. A completed checklist should accompany the PIF
3. Check list reviewed during PPG phase and updated as required
4. Final check list submitted with Project Package clearly showing what activities are being undertaken to address issues identified

Project Title:	Alliance for Zero Extinction (AZE): Conserving Earth’s Most Irreplaceable Sites for Endangered Biodiversity		
GEF project ID and UNEP ID/IMIS Number	GEF ID 5201 UNEP ID 5201	Version of checklist:	CEO Endorsement
Project status (preparation, implementation, MTE/MTR, TE)	PIF/PPG CEO Endorsement	Date of this version:	February 2015
Checklist prepared by (Name, Title, and Institution)	Benjamin Skolnik, Alliance for Zero Extinction (with MMA Chile)		

In completing the checklist both short- and long-term impact shall be considered.

Section A: Project location:

If negative impact is identified or anticipated the Comment/Explanation field needs to include: Project stage for addressing the issue; Responsibility for addressing the issue; Budget implications, and other comments.

	<i>Yes/No/N.A.</i>	<i>Comment/explanation</i>
- Is the project area in or close to -		
- densely populated area	NO	
- cultural heritage site	NO	
- protected area	YES	No negative impacts anticipated
- wetland	YES	No negative impacts anticipated
- mangrove	NO	
- estuarine	NO	
- buffer zone of protected area	NO	
- special area for protection of biodiversity	YES	No negative impacts anticipated
- Will project require temporary or permanent support facilities?	NO	

If the project is anticipated to impact any of the above areas an Environmental Survey will be needed to determine if the project is in conflict with the protection of the area or if it will cause significant disturbance to the area.

Section B: Environmental impacts, i.e.

If negative impact is identified or anticipated the Comment/Explanation field needs to include: Project stage for addressing the issue; Responsibility for addressing the issue; Budget implications, and other comments.

	<i>Yes/No/N.A.</i>	<i>Comment/explanation</i>
- Are ecosystems related to project fragile or degraded?	YES	It is fragile because of its size and condition but is not a degraded island. Project will result in positive impacts on habitat condition.
- Will project cause any loss of precious ecology, ecological, and economic functions due to construction of infrastructure?	NO	
- Will project cause impairment of ecological opportunities?	NO	
- Will project cause increase in peak and flood flows? (including from temporary or permanent waste waters)	NO	
- Will project cause air, soil or water pollution?	NO	
- Will project cause soil erosion and siltation?	NO	
- Will project cause increased waste production?	NO	
- Will project cause Hazardous Waste production?	NO	
- Will project cause threat to local ecosystems due to invasive species?	NO	
- Will project cause Greenhouse Gas Emissions?	NO	
- Other environmental issues, e.g. noise and traffic	NO	
<i>Only if it can be carefully justified that any negative impact from the project can be avoided or mitigated satisfactorily both in the short and long-term, can the project go ahead.</i>		

Section C: Social impacts

If negative impact is identified or anticipated the Comment/Explanation field needs to include: Project stage for addressing the issue; Responsibility for addressing the issue; Budget implications, and other comments.

	<i>Yes/No/N.A.</i>	<i>Comment/explanation</i>
- Does the project respect internationally proclaimed human rights including dignity, cultural property and uniqueness and rights of indigenous people?	YES	
- Are property rights on resources such as land tenure recognized by the existing laws in affected countries?	YES	.
- Will the project cause social problems and conflicts related to land tenure and access to resources?	NO	
- Does the project incorporate measures to allow affected stakeholders’ information and consultation?	YES	
- Will the project affect the state of the targeted country’s (-ies’) institutional context?	NO	
- Will the project cause change to beneficial uses of land or resources? (incl. loss of downstream	YES	The project aims to reduce extraction of wood in order to improve the sustainability of these practices and to reduce impacts on critical habitats for AZE

beneficial uses (water supply or fisheries)?		species. This will be mitigated as described in Prodoc Section 3.11, through Output 1.1.2. Although some areas will be restricted from wood harvest as a result of new biological monitoring information on important amphibian areas, communities will continue to have access to other areas for wood collection. Meanwhile, the viability of fuel wood alternatives will be explored, taking into account community interests through a participatory process and the Isla Mocha Advisory Council. These alternatives will need to be fully implementable should Chile be successful in increasing the protected status of the Isla Mocha Reserve to become a National Park, which would restrict all fuel wood extraction. Efforts to promote changes in the community and improve protection of the island’s native habitat will be further enabled through the project’s planned updating and implementation of a socio-environmental strategy as well as continued environmental awareness and education programming. Responsibility lies with the Chilean National Project Manager. The activities are fully budgeted through GEF and cofinancing.
- Will the project cause technology or land use modification that may change present social and economic activities?	NO	
- Will the project cause dislocation or involuntary resettlement of people?	NO	
- Will the project cause uncontrolled in-migration (short- and long-term) with opening of roads to areas and possible overloading of social infrastructure?	NO	
- Will the project cause increased local or regional unemployment?	NO	
- Does the project include measures to avoid forced or child labour?	N/A	
- Does the project include measures to ensure a safe and healthy working environment for workers employed as part of the project?	N/A	
- Will the project cause impairment of recreational opportunities?	NO	
- Will the project cause impairment of indigenous people’s livelihoods or belief systems?	NO	
- Will the project cause disproportionate impact to women or other disadvantaged or vulnerable groups?	NO	
- Will the project involve and or be complicit in the alteration, damage or removal of any critical cultural heritage?	NO	
- Does the project include measures to avoid corruption?	N/A	
<i>Only if it can be carefully justified that any negative impact from the project can be avoided or mitigated satisfactorily both in the short and long-term, can the project go ahead.</i>		

Section D: Other considerations

If negative impact is identified or anticipated the Comment/Explanation field needs to include: Project stage for addressing the issue; Responsibility for addressing the issue; Budget implications, and other comments.

	<i>Yes/No/N.A.</i>	<i>Comment/explanation</i>
- Does national regulation in affected country (-ies) require EIA and/or ESIA for this type of activity?	NO	
- Is there national capacity to ensure a sound implementation of EIA and/or SIA requirements present in affected country (-ies)?	NO	
- Is the project addressing issues, which are already addressed by other alternative approaches and projects?	NO	
- Will the project components generate or contribute to cumulative or long-term environmental or social impacts?	NO	
- Is it possible to isolate the impact from this project to monitor E&S impact?	NO	Positive impacts will be monitored

Checklist for Environmental and Social issues– Mata do Passarinho, Brazil

Please note that as part of the GEFs evolving Fiduciary Standards that Implementing Agencies have to meet is the need to address ‘Environmental and Social Safeguards’.

To address this requirement UNEP-DGEF have developed this checklist with the following guidance:

5. Initially filled in during concept development to help guide in the identification of possible risks and activities that will need to be included in the project design.
6. A completed checklist should accompany the PIF
7. Check list reviewed during PPG phase and updated as required
8. Final check list submitted with Project Package clearly showing what activities are being undertaken to address issues identified

Project Title:	Alliance for Zero Extinction (AZE): Conserving Earth’s Most Irreplaceable Sites for Endangered Biodiversity		
GEF project ID and UNEP ID/IMIS Number	GEF ID 5201 UNEP ID 00930	Version of checklist:	CEO Endorsement
Project status (preparation, implementation, MTE/MTR, TE)	PIF/PPG CEO Endorsement	Date of this version:	15 January, 2015
Checklist prepared by (Name, Title, and Institution)	Alexandre Enout, Project Coordinator, Fundação Biodiversitas		

In completing the checklist both short- and long-term impact shall be considered.

Section A: Project location:

If negative impact is identified or anticipated the Comment/Explanation field needs to include: Project stage for addressing the issue; Responsibility for addressing the issue; Budget implications, and other comments.

	<i>Yes/No/N.A.</i>	<i>Comment/explanation</i>
- Is the project area in or close to -		
- densely populated area	NO	
- cultural heritage site	NO	
- protected area	YES	The project will improve environmental quality by implementing restoration process.
- wetland	NO	
- mangrove	NO	
- estuarine	NO	
- buffer zone of protected area	YES	The project will improve environmental quality by implementing restoration process.
- special area for protection of biodiversity	YES	The project will improve environmental quality by implementing restoration process.
- Will project require temporary or permanent support facilities?	NO	

If the project is anticipated to impact any of the above areas an Environmental Survey will be needed to determine if the project is in conflict with the protection of the area or if it will cause significant disturbance to the area.

Section B: Environmental impacts, i.e.

If negative impact is identified or anticipated the Comment/Explanation field needs to include: Project stage for addressing the issue; Responsibility for addressing the issue; Budget implications, and other comments.

	<i>Yes/No/N.A.</i>	<i>Comment/explanation</i>
- Are ecosystems related to project fragile or degraded?	YES	Project will result in positive impacts on habitat condition.
- Will project cause any loss of precious ecology, ecological, and economic functions due to construction of infrastructure?	NO	
- Will project cause impairment of ecological opportunities?	NO	
- Will project cause increase in peak and flood flows? (including from temporary or permanent waste waters)	NO	
- Will project cause air, soil or water pollution?	NO	
- Will project cause soil erosion and siltation?	NO	
- Will project cause increased waste production?	NO	
- Will project cause Hazardous Waste production?	NO	
- Will project cause threat to local ecosystems due to invasive species?	NO	
- Will project cause Greenhouse Gas Emissions?	NO	
- Other environmental issues, e.g. noise and traffic	NO	
<i>Only if it can be carefully justified that any negative impact from the project can be avoided or mitigated satisfactorily both in the short and long-term, can the project go ahead.</i>		

Section C: Social impacts

If negative impact is identified or anticipated the Comment/Explanation field needs to include: Project stage for addressing the issue; Responsibility for addressing the issue; Budget implications, and other comments.

	<i>Yes/No/N.A.</i>	<i>Comment/explanation</i>
- Does the project respect internationally proclaimed human rights including dignity, cultural property and uniqueness and rights of indigenous people?	YES	
- Are property rights on resources such as land tenure recognized by the existing laws in affected countries?	YES	
- Will the project cause social problems and conflicts related to land tenure and access to resources?	NO	
- Does the project incorporate measures to allow affected stakeholders’ information and consultation?	YES	
- Will the project affect the state of the targeted country’s (-ies’) institutional context?	NO	
- Will the project cause change to beneficial uses of land or resources? (incl. loss of downstream beneficial uses (water supply or fisheries)?	YES	Loss of pastures for fencing and forest restoration process. In reality, the loss of pastures is not a social impact, since most landowners are in debt regarding the provisions of the new National Forest Code and

		the Rural Environmental Cadaster (CAR) under which they have a legal obligation to revert pasture lands back to forest. They must register 20% of their land on legal reserves and implement forest restoration of degraded areas on permanent protected areas. Thus, this GEF project will provide affected landowners with an opportunity, by providing them with technical assistance to meet these obligations. Please see prodoc Section 3.11 for further information.
- Will the project cause technology or land use modification that may change present social and economic activities?	NO	
- Will the project cause dislocation or involuntary resettlement of people?	NO	
- Will the project cause uncontrolled in-migration (short- and long-term) with opening of roads to areas and possible overloading of social infrastructure?	NO	
- Will the project cause increased local or regional unemployment?	NO	
- Does the project include measures to avoid forced or child labour?	N/A	
- Does the project include measures to ensure a safe and healthy working environment for workers employed as part of the project?	YES	Workers in reforestation will have personal protection equipment.
- Will the project cause impairment of recreational opportunities?	NO	
- Will the project cause impairment of indigenous people’s livelihoods or belief systems?	NO	
- Will the project cause disproportionate impact to women or other disadvantaged or vulnerable groups?	NO	
- Will the project involve and or be complicit in the alteration, damage or removal of any critical cultural heritage?	NO	
- Does the project include measures to avoid corruption?	N/A	
<i>Only if it can be carefully justified that any negative impact from the project can be avoided or mitigated satisfactorily both in the short and long-term, can the project go ahead.</i>		

Section D: Other considerations

If negative impact is identified or anticipated the Comment/Explanation field needs to include: Project stage for addressing the issue; Responsibility for addressing the issue; Budget implications, and other comments.

	<i>Yes/No/N.A.</i>	<i>Comment/explanation</i>
- Does national regulation in affected country (-ies) require EIA and/or ESIA for this type of activity?	NO	
- Is there national capacity to ensure a sound implementation of EIA and/or SIA requirements present in affected country (-ies)?	NO	
- Is the project addressing issues, which are already addressed by other alternative approaches and	NO	

projects?		
- Will the project components generate or contribute to cumulative or long-term environmental or social impacts?	NO	
- Is it possible to isolate the impact from this project to monitor E&S impact?	NO	

Checklist for Environmental and Social issues – Mehuin, Chile

Please note that as part of the GEFs evolving Fiduciary Standards that Implementing Agencies have to meet is the need to address ‘Environmental and Social Safeguards’.

To address this requirement UNEP-DGEF have developed this checklist with the following guidance:

9. Initially filled in during concept development to help guide in the identification of possible risks and activities that will need to be included in the project design.
10. A completed checklist should accompany the PIF
11. Check list reviewed during PPG phase and updated as required
12. Final check list submitted with Project Package clearly showing what activities are being undertaken to address issues identified

Project Title:	Alliance for Zero Extinction (AZE): Conserving Earth’s Most Irreplaceable Sites for Endangered Biodiversity		
GEF project ID and UNEP ID/IMIS Number	GEF ID 5201 UNEP ID 00930	Version of checklist:	CEO Endorsement
Project status (preparation, implementation, MTE/MTR, TE)	PIF/PPG CEO Endorsement	Date of this version:	February 2015
Checklist prepared by (Name, Title, and Institution)	Benjamin Skolnik, Alliance for Zero Extinction (with MMA Chile)		

In completing the checklist both short- and long-term impact shall be considered.

Section A: Project location:

If negative impact is identified or anticipated the Comment/Explanation field needs to include: Project stage for addressing the issue; Responsibility for addressing the issue; Budget implications, and other comments.

	<i>Yes/No/N.A.</i>	<i>Comment/explanation</i>
- Is the project area in or close to -		
- densely populated area	NO	
- cultural heritage site	YES	Mapuche / lafquenche human settlements, formerly associated with the sea and Lingue river wetlands. No negative impacts on these cultural heritage sites are anticipated.
- protected area	NO	Part of the area is covered by privately protected areas, although this figure does not have official recognition. No negative impacts on these protected areas are anticipated.
- wetland	YES	The catchment of native forest is fed by tributaries of the river Lingue. No negative impacts on the river Lingue wetlands are anticipated.
- mangrove	NO	
- estuarine	YES	No negative impacts on the estuary of the river Lingue are anticipated.

- buffer zone of protected area	NO	
- special area for protection of biodiversity	YES	No negative impacts on the Río Lingue Regional Priority Site are anticipated.
- Will project require temporary or permanent support facilities?	NO	
<i>If the project is anticipated to impact any of the above areas an Environmental Survey will be needed to determine if the project is in conflict with the protection of the area or if it will cause significant disturbance to the area.</i>		

Section B: Environmental impacts, i.e.

If negative impact is identified or anticipated the Comment/Explanation field needs to include: Project stage for addressing the issue; Responsibility for addressing the issue; Budget implications, and other comments.

	<i>Yes/No/N.A.</i>	<i>Comment/explanation</i>
- Are ecosystems related to project fragile or degraded?	YES	The project will have overall positive impacts on the ecosystems at the site.
- Will project cause any loss of precious ecology, ecological, and economic functions due to construction of infrastructure?	NO	
- Will project cause impairment of ecological opportunities?	NO	
- Will project cause increase in peak and flood flows? (including from temporary or permanent waste waters)	NO	
- Will project cause air, soil or water pollution?	NO	
- Will project cause soil erosion and siltation?	NO	
- Will project cause increased waste production?	NO	
- Will project cause Hazardous Waste production?	NO	
- Will project cause threat to local ecosystems due to invasive species?	NO	
- Will project cause Greenhouse Gas Emissions?	NO	
- Other environmental issues, e.g. noise and traffic	NO	
<i>Only if it can be carefully justified that any negative impact from the project can be avoided or mitigated satisfactorily both in the short and long-term, can the project go ahead.</i>		

Section C: Social impacts

If negative impact is identified or anticipated the Comment/Explanation field needs to include: Project stage for addressing the issue; Responsibility for addressing the issue; Budget implications, and other comments.

	<i>Yes/No/N.A.</i>	<i>Comment/explanation</i>
- Does the project respect internationally proclaimed human rights including dignity, cultural property and uniqueness and rights of indigenous people?	YES	The project will work in a predominantly indigenous area. It will respect international human rights standards.
- Are property rights on resources such as land tenure recognized by the existing laws in affected countries?	YES	
- Will the project cause social problems and conflicts related to land tenure and access to resources?	NO	
- Does the project incorporate measures to allow affected stakeholders’ information and consultation?	YES	The Project actively incorporates the involvement of communities in decision making and intervention

		planning.
- Will the project affect the state of the targeted country's (-ies') institutional context?	NO	
- Will the project cause change to beneficial uses of land or resources? (incl. loss of downstream beneficial uses (water supply or fisheries)?	YES	Loss of grazing area for fencing in order to protect critical habitats for AZE species. This will be mitigated as described in Prodoc Section 3.11, through Output 1.1.2. Evidence suggests that much of the land use is conducted illegally or degrades the environment in avoidable ways. The implementation of environmental education programs based on amphibian conservation in an effort to raise awareness and motivate local communities to report illegal land use and improve farming, ranching and timber practices. In order to assist communities to reduce environmental impacts, the project plans to take advantage of ongoing government programs in the areas conducted by INDAP/Prodesal to provide training to improve agriculture and cattle ranching practices. The project also plans to produce specific recommendations to improve timber harvesting practices based on consultations with stakeholders and provide workshops to support the implementation of best practices. Responsibility lies with the Chilean National Project Manager. The activities are fully budgeted through GEF and cofinancing.
- Will the project cause technology or land use modification that may change present social and economic activities?	YES	The Project will support the improvement of certain practices of watershed management
- Will the project cause dislocation or involuntary resettlement of people?	NO	
- Will the project cause uncontrolled in-migration (short- and long-term) with opening of roads to areas and possible overloading of social infrastructure?	NO	
- Will the project cause increased local or regional unemployment?	NO	
- Does the project include measures to avoid forced or child labour?	N/A	
- Does the project include measures to ensure a safe and healthy working environment for workers employed as part of the project?	N/A	
- Will the project cause impairment of recreational opportunities?	NO	
- Will the project cause impairment of indigenous people's livelihoods or belief systems?	NO	
- Will the project cause disproportionate impact to women or other disadvantaged or vulnerable groups?	NO	
- Will the project involve and or be complicit in the alteration, damage or removal of any critical cultural heritage?	NO	
- Does the project include measures to avoid corruption?	N/A	

Only if it can be carefully justified that any negative impact from the project can be avoided or mitigated satisfactorily both in the short and long-term, can the project go ahead.

Section D: Other considerations

If negative impact is identified or anticipated the Comment/Explanation field needs to include: Project stage for addressing the issue; Responsibility for addressing the issue; Budget implications, and other comments.

	<i>Yes/No/N.A.</i>	<i>Comment/explanation</i>
- Does national regulation in affected country (-ies) require EIA and/or ESIA for this type of activity?	NO	
- Is there national capacity to ensure a sound implementation of EIA and/or SIA requirements present in affected country (-ies)?	NO	
- Is the project addressing issues, which are already addressed by other alternative approaches and projects?	NO	
- Will the project components generate or contribute to cumulative or long-term environmental or social impacts?	NO	
- Is it possible to isolate the impact from this project to monitor E&S impact?	NO	Positive impacts of the Project will be measured.

Checklist for Environmental and Social issues Tsitongambarika Forest, Madagascar

Please note that as part of the GEFs evolving Fiduciary Standards that Implementing Agencies have to meet is the need to address ‘Environmental and Social Safeguards’.

To address this requirement UNEP-DGEF have developed this checklist with the following guidance:

13. Initially filled in during concept development to help guide in the identification of possible risks and activities that will need to be included in the project design.
14. A completed checklist should accompany the PIF
15. Check list reviewed during PPG phase and updated as required
16. Final check list submitted with Project Package clearly showing what activities are being undertaken to address issues identified

Project Title:	Alliance for Zero Extinction (AZE): Conserving Earth’s Most Irreplaceable Sites for Endangered Biodiversity		
GEF project ID and UNEP ID/IMIS Number	GEF ID 5201 UNEP ID 00930	Version of checklist:	CEO Endorsement
Project status (preparation, implementation, MTE/MTR, TE)	PIF/PPG CEO Endorsement	Date of this version:	15 January, 2015
Checklist prepared by (Name, Title, and Institution)	Rado Andriamasimanana, Programme Development Manager, Asity Madagascar		

In completing the checklist both short- and long-term impact shall be considered.

Section A: Project location:

If negative impact is identified or anticipated the Comment/Explanation field needs to include: Project stage for addressing the issue; Responsibility for addressing the issue; Budget implications, and other comments.

	<i>Yes/No/N.A.</i>	<i>Comment/explanation</i>
- Is the project area in or close to -		
- densely populated area	YES	The site has safeguard plan for identified people affected by the PA establishment. This project will implement a major part of the safeguard actions through Output 1.1.3. GEF and cofinancing budgets have taken these costs into account. The National Project Manager for Madagascar will be responsible for implementation of safeguards.
- cultural heritage site	NO	
- protected area	YES	Protected area with temporary status of protection, definitive status of protection will be acquired this year (2015)
- wetland	NO	
- mangrove	NO	
- estuarine	NO	
- buffer zone of protected area	NO	

- special area for protection of biodiversity	YES	The project site contains a biodiversity offset site for the mining company, Rio Tinto QMM
- Will project require temporary or permanent support facilities?	NO	
<i>If the project is anticipated to impact any of the above areas an Environmental Survey will be needed to determine if the project is in conflict with the protection of the area or if it will cause significant disturbance to the area.</i>		

Section B: Environmental impacts, i.e.

If negative impact is identified or anticipated the Comment/Explanation field needs to include: Project stage for addressing the issue; Responsibility for addressing the issue; Budget implications, and other comments.

	<i>Yes/No/N.A.</i>	<i>Comment/explanation</i>
- Are ecosystems related to project fragile or degraded?	YES	Project will result in positive impacts on habitat condition.
- Will project cause any loss of precious ecology, ecological, and economic functions due to construction of infrastructure?	NO	
- Will project cause impairment of ecological opportunities?	NO	
- Will project cause increase in peak and flood flows? (including from temporary or permanent waste waters)	NO	
- Will project cause air, soil or water pollution?	NO	
- Will project cause soil erosion and siltation?	NO	
- Will project cause increased waste production?	NO	
- Will project cause Hazardous Waste production?	NO	
- Will project cause threat to local ecosystems due to invasive species?	NO	
- Will project cause Greenhouse Gas Emissions?	NO	
- Other environmental issues, e.g. noise and traffic	NO	
<i>Only if it can be carefully justified that any negative impact from the project can be avoided or mitigated satisfactorily both in the short and long-term, can the project go ahead.</i>		

Section C: Social impacts

If negative impact is identified or anticipated the Comment/Explanation field needs to include: Project stage for addressing the issue; Responsibility for addressing the issue; Budget implications, and other comments.

	<i>Yes/No/N.A.</i>	<i>Comment/explanation</i>
- Does the project respect internationally proclaimed human rights including dignity, cultural property and uniqueness and rights of indigenous people?	YES	International human rights are considered during the design of the PA, as for all new PAs being created in Madagascar under the national initiative to expand PA network. Categorization and development of the management plan has taken account of these rights, and this was followed by development of a Social and Environmental Safeguards plan, consulting and endorsed by representatives of all stakeholders.
- Are property rights on resources such as land tenure recognized by the existing laws in affected countries?	YES	
- Will the project cause social problems and conflicts related to land tenure and access to	NO	

resources?		
- Does the project incorporate measures to allow affected stakeholders’ information and consultation?	YES	Representatives of stakeholders are members of the management structure of the PA, which is co-managed with local communities through the ‘management platform’ KOMFITA.
- Will the project affect the state of the targeted country’s (-ies’) institutional context?	NO	
- Will the project cause change to beneficial uses of land or resources? (incl. loss of downstream beneficial uses (water supply or fisheries)?	YES	Loss of traditional agricultural activities (tavy). New agricultural methods using crop fields (non-destructive) will be taught to the villagers through Output 1.1.3. They will be supported to initiate these methods, with initial support from GEF/Cofinancing budgets. The National Project Manager will be responsible for implementation. See prodoc section 3.11 for further information.
- Will the project cause technology or land use modification that may change present social and economic activities?	NO	
- Will the project cause dislocation or involuntary resettlement of people?	NO	
- Will the project cause uncontrolled in-migration (short- and long-term) with opening of roads to areas and possible overloading of social infrastructure?	NO	
- Will the project cause increased local or regional unemployment?	NO	
- Does the project include measures to avoid forced or child labour?	N/A	
- Does the project include measures to ensure a safe and healthy working environment for workers employed as part of the project?	YES	As employees of Asity Madagascar, the workers of this project will follow its procedure manual that ensures a safe and healthy working environment
- Will the project cause impairment of recreational opportunities?	NO	
- Will the project cause impairment of indigenous people’s livelihoods or belief systems?	NO	
- Will the project cause disproportionate impact to women or other disadvantaged or vulnerable groups?	NO	
- Will the project involve and or be complicit in the alteration, damage or removal of any critical cultural heritage?	NO	
- Does the project include measures to avoid corruption?	N/A	
<i>Only if it can be carefully justified that any negative impact from the project can be avoided or mitigated satisfactorily both in the short and long-term, can the project go ahead.</i>		

Section D: Other considerations

If negative impact is identified or anticipated the Comment/Explanation field needs to include: Project stage for addressing the issue; Responsibility for addressing the issue; Budget implications, and other comments.

	<i>Yes/No/N.A.</i>	<i>Comment/explanation</i>
- Does national regulation in affected country (-ies)	NO	

require EIA and/or ESIA for this type of activity?		
- Is there national capacity to ensure a sound implementation of EIA and/or SIA requirements present in affected country (-ies)?	NO	
- Is the project addressing issues, which are already addressed by other alternative approaches and projects?	NO	
- Will the project components generate or contribute to cumulative or long-term environmental or social impacts?	NO	
- Is it possible to isolate the impact from this project to monitor E&S impact?	NO	

Appendix 17: PPG Workshop Reports

Separate pdf file

Appendix 18: Supporting information on Protected Area Systems

Total and Protected Area of AZE sites in Brazil

Brazil AZE sites	AZE Area (km²)	AZE Area Protected (km²)
Arquipelago de Alcatrazes	2.44	0.00
Bandeira / Macarani*	48.54	0.00
Botucatu State Forest	0.37	0.37
Campo Grande	209.71	0.00
Chapada do Araripe	3969.65	3264.53
Curaçá	328.89	0.00
Engenho Coimbra (Usina Serra Grande)	43.65	0.00
Guadalupe	147.23	5.61
Helvecia	151.15	0.00
Horto Florestal de Santa Cruz	36.78	0.00
Ilha de Porcos Pequena	0.74	0.00
Ilha Grande	181.13	154.90
Ilhabela State Park	589.02	587.75
Ilhas Queimada Pequena e Queimada Grande	1.38	1.30
Itatiaia	282.19	282.18
Pompeu	2873.52	0.00
Raso da Catarina	4031.66	1726.06
Restinga de Maçambaba e Ilha de Cabo Frio	203.42	121.37
Rio Carangola	43.40	0.00
Rio Tacutu	29803.33	19027.84
Rubião Júnior	65.94	0.00
Serra da Mantiqueira	1544.46	1544.22
Serra das Araras Ecological Station	298.08	296.89
Serra de Maranguape e Aratanha	46.80	20.37
Serra do Baturité	304.41	299.27
Serra do Tabuleiro State Park	946.99	946.85
Serra dos Órgãos	169.65	164.96

Table 2. Total and Protected Area of AZE sites in Chile

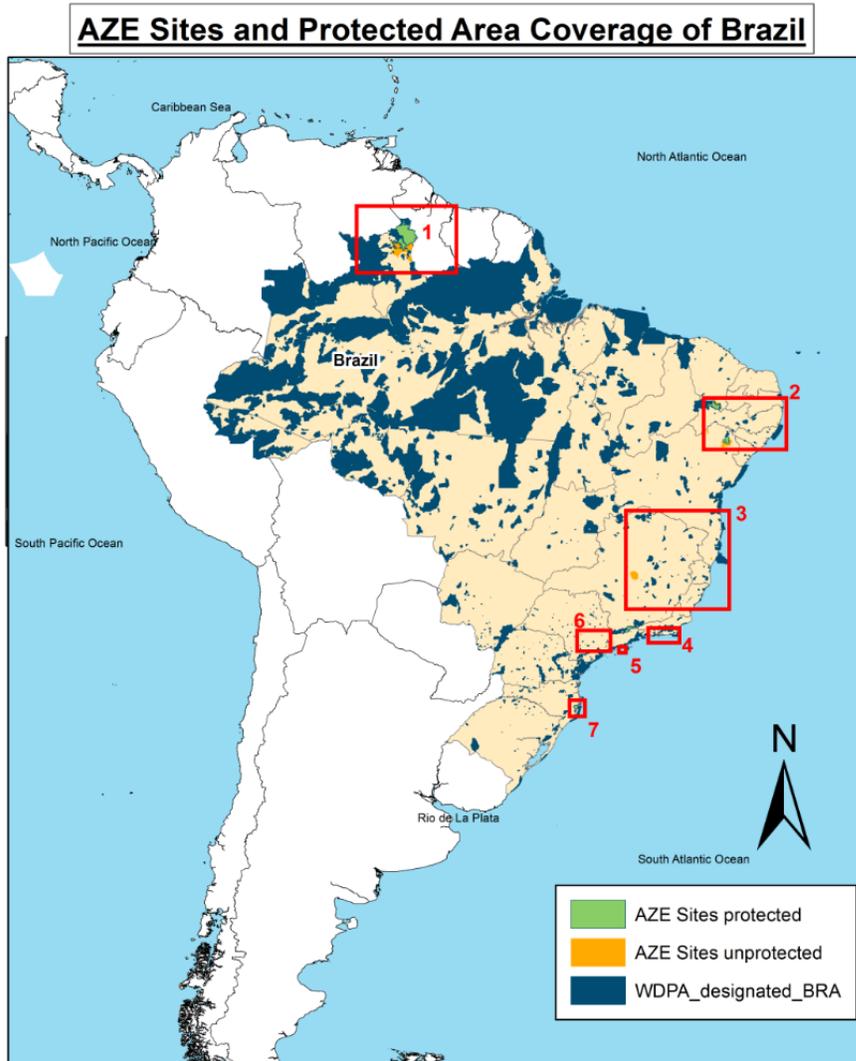
Chile AZE sites	AZE Area (km²)	AZE Area Protected (km²)
Farellones 1	22.39	0.00
Farellones 2	51.83	26.05
Isla Ángel de la Guarda y satélites	54.46	0.00
Isla Mocha*	24.24	24.24
Isla Robinson Crusoe	48.80	26.23
Mehuín 1*	110.77	0.00
Mehuín 2*	204.61	37.49
Nahuelbuta Range	64.04	62.23
Zapahuira	209.85	0.00

Table 3. Total and Protected Area of AZE sites in Madagascar

Madagascar AZE Sites	AZE Area (km²)	AZE Area Protected (km²)
Ambohitantely Special Reserve and surrounding area	134.71	49.75
Andohahela National Park: Parcel I	599.05	591.21
Andringitra National Park	322.37	305.46
Anjanharibe-Sud-Marjoje Future Proposed Protected Area	1352.72	0.64
Ankarafantsika and surrounds	2932.70	1357.52
Ankaratra Massif	82.00	0.00
Anosy Mountains	1274.11	93.11
Baly Bay National Park	656.69	650.90
Fierenana	156.48	0.00
Isalo	1769.88	1729.43
Itremo	1006.25	0.00
Lac Alaotra	559.15	0.00
Menabe - Andranomena	3698.09	265.92
Mikea Forest	3268.79	209.31
Montagne d'Ambre National Park and Special Reserve	269.23	269.23
Ranomafana National Park	407.30	407.27
Sahamalaza-Iles Radama	576.40	0.00
Tsaratanana Massif	346.05	0.00
Tsaratanana Strict Nature Reserve and surrounding areas	2827.14	990.73

Tsingy de Bemaraha National Park	3149.54	3121.99
*GEF Project Demonstration Sites		

Figure 1a. AZE Sites and Protected Area Coverage of Brazil
(see Figure 1b for inset maps)



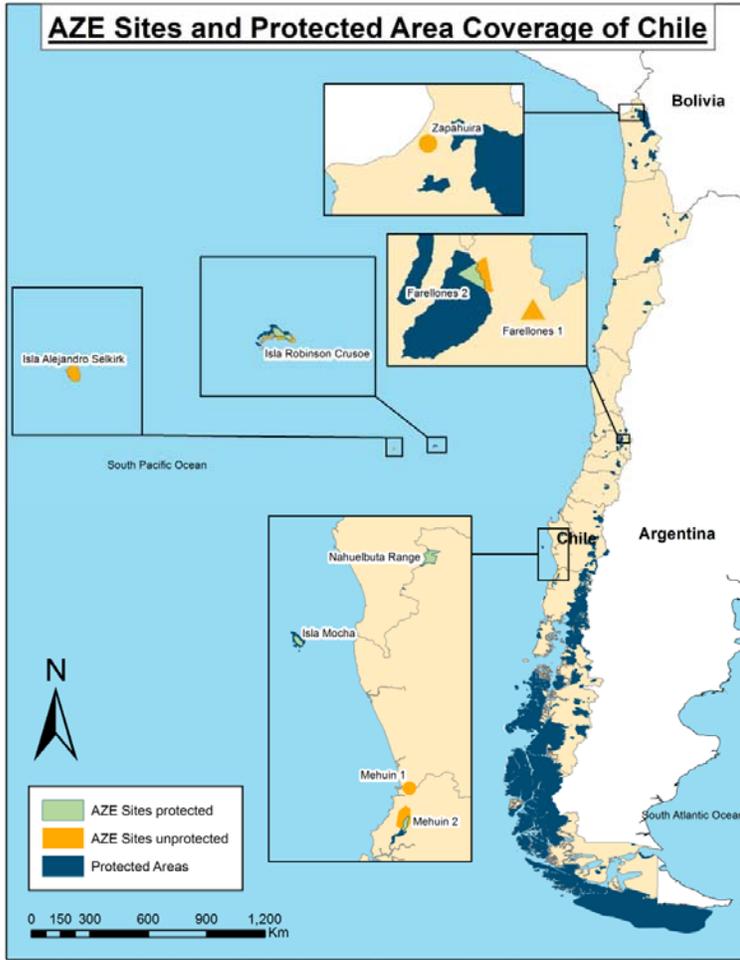
Sources: IUCN and UNEP-WCMC (2013), The World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA) [On-line]. Cambridge, UK: UNEP- WCMC. Available at: www.protectedplanet.net [Accessed 29/05/2013]
 Alliance for Zero Extinction (2010). 2010 AZE Update. www.zeroextinction.org
 VLIZ (2012). Intersect of IHO Sea Areas and Exclusive Economic Zones (version 2). Available online at <http://www.marinerregions.org/>
 World Administrative Divisions. By Esri, DeLorme Publishing Company, Inc. / Map by: Ian Martin

Figure 1b. AZE Sites and Protected Area Coverage in Brazil – Inset Maps



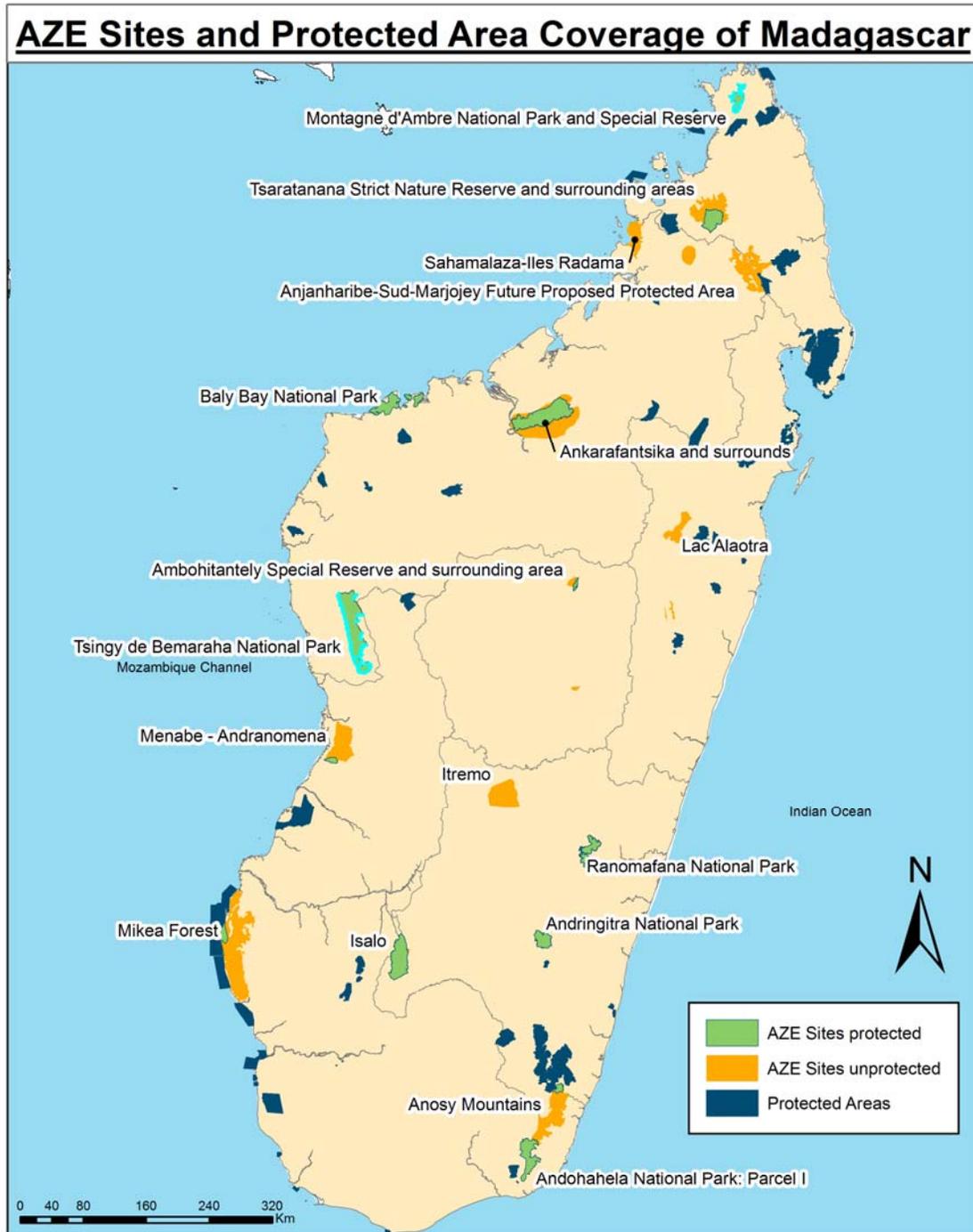
Sources: IUCN and UNEP-WCMC (2013), The World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA) [On-line]. Cambridge, UK: UNEP- WCMC. Available at: www.protectedplanet.net [Accessed 29/05/2013]
 Alliance for Zero Extinction (2010). 2010 AZE Update. www.zeroextinction.org
 VLIZ (2012). Intersect of IHO Sea Areas and Exclusive Economic Zones (version 2). Available online at <http://www.marinerregions.org/>
 World Administrative Divisions. By Esri, DeLorme Publishing Company, Inc. / Map by: Ian Martin

Figure 2. AZE Sites and Protected Area Coverage in Chile



Sources: IUCN and UNEP-WCMC (2013). The World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA) [On-line]. Cambridge, UK: UNEP-WCMC. Available at: www.protectedplanet.net [Accessed 29/05/2013]
Alliance for Zero Extinction (2010). 2010 AZE Update. www.zeroextinction.org
VLIZ (2012). Intersect of IHO Sea Areas and Exclusive Economic Zones (version 2). Available online at <http://www.marinerregions.org/>
World Administrative Divisions. By Esri, DeLorme Publishing Company, Inc. / Map by: Ian Martin

Figure 3. AZE Sites and Protected Area Coverage in Madagascar



Sources: IUCN and UNEP-WCMC (2013), The World Database on Protected Areas (WPA) [On-line]. Cambridge, UK: UNEP- WCMC. Available at: www.protectedplanet.net [Accessed 29/05/2013]
Alliance for Zero Extinction (2010). 2010 AZE Update. www.zeroextinction.org
VLIZ (2012). Intersect of IHO Sea Areas and Exclusive Economic Zones (version 2). Available online at <http://www.marinerregions.org/>
World Administrative Divisions. By Esri, DeLorme Publishing Company, Inc. / Map by: Ian Martin

Member Organizations of the Brazilian AZE Alliance. No such alliance exists in Chile or Madagascar

ARPEMG	Associação de RPPNs e Reservas Privadas de Minas Gerais
BioAtlântica	Instituto BioAtlântica
Biotrópicos	Biotrópicos - Instituto de Pesquisa em Vida Silvestre
BirdLife / SAVE Brasil	SAVE Brasil (BirdLife International Partner in Brazil)
CEPAN	Centro de Pesquisas Ambientais do Nordeste
CI	Conservation International
CI Brasil	Conservação Internacional -Brasil
CN-RBMA	Conselho Nacional Reserva da Biosfera da Mata Atlântica
Cvida	Centro de Realizações Sociais e Ecológicas Vida Nordeste
Ecotrópica	Ecotrópica - Fundo de Apoio à Vida nos Trópicos
FB	Fundação Biodiversitas
Funatura	Funatura - Fundação Pró-Natureza
FZB	Fundação Zoobotânica de Belo Horizonte
ICMBio / CPB	ICMBio / Centro de Proteção de Primatas Brasileiros
ICMBio / RAN	ICMBio / Centro de Conservação e Manejo de Répteis e Anfíbios
ICMBio/CECAT	ICMBio / Centro Nacional de Pesquisa e Conservação da Biodiversidade do Cerrado e Caatinga
Idéia Ambiental	Idéia Ambiental - Instituto de Pesquisa e Conservação da Natureza
IMA	Instituto Mar Adentro
INSTITUTO BIOMAS	Instituto de Pesquisas e Conservação da Biodiversidade dos Biomas Brasileiros
Instituto Onça-Pintada	Instituto Onça-Pintada
IPÊ	Instituto de Pesquisas Ecológicas
ISMECN	Instituto Sul-Mineiro de Estudos e Consvração da Natureza
JBRJ	Jardim Botânico do Rio de Janeiro
LECA / UFRPE	Laboratório de Ecofisiologia e Comportamento Animal da UFRPE
Manuelzão	Projeto Manuelzão
Mater Natura	Mater Natura Instituto de Estudos Ambientais
MMA / SBF	MMA / Secretaria de Biodiversidade e Florestas
MZUSP / Aves	Museu de Zoologia da USP / Seção de Aves
Preserve Amazônia	Preserve Amazônia
SBEEL	Sociedade Brasileira para o Estudo de Elasmobrânquios
SBI	Sociedade Brasileira de Ictiologia
SBPr	Sociedade Brasileira de Primatologia
SOS Amazônia	Associação SOS Amazônia
SOS Mata Atlântica	Fundação SOS Mata Atlântica
SPVS	Sociedade de Pesquisa em Vida Selvagem e Educação Ambiental
Terra Brasilis	Instituto Terra Brasilis de Desenvolvimento Sócio-Ambiental
TNC / Brasil	The Nature Conservancy / Brasil
WWF Brasil	WWF Brasil - Fundo Mundial para a Natureza / Brasília