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FACTSHEET – BirdLife project financed by RAINFOREST TRUST in São Tomé

The overall project goal (by the end of the project) is:

Expanding the area of critical and high value forest habitat on São Tomé that is protected, through effective zonation and government-endorsed participatory land-use planning and management of targeted areas of the buffer zone of Obô Natural Park.

The Objectives through which to achieve this are:

1. Undertake land-use mapping in the buffer zone to provide the evidence base for site prioritization, protection and management.
2. Through a participatory process, develop a government-endorsed Land-Use Plan for management of High Conservation Value (HCV) forests in the buffer zone of Obô Natural Park in accordance with relevant IUCN protection category (IV, V or VI).
3. Participatory Forest Management Platform established to oversee the management of the buffer zone in accordance with the agreed IUCN protection category.

4. ACTIVITIES AND TIMEFRAME

List activities to be completed Note: numbers indicate relevant objectives	Start date	End date	Outputs/Milestones to be completed for each activity
Activity 1.1: Collate relevant existing info on the buffer zone (e.g. socio-economics, demography, private sector, biodiversity, ecosystem services, threats, policies, relevant government departments and structure etc.) through desk studies and (Skype) meetings with relevant stakeholders (e.g. government departments and agencies, scientists, (I)NGOs etc.). Who/lead: BirdLife Project Manager, working with project partners	Year 1 – Quarter 2	Yr 1 -Qrt4	Comprehensive study report which informs the evidence base for site protection and management.
Activity 1.2: Baseline field mapping of buffer zone of forest and other habitats, communities, livelihoods, private sector activities (e.g. plantations), other land use etc. during dry months: June-September and December - February. Who/Lead: Project Manager and SPEA	Yr 1 -Qrt3	Yr1-Qrt4	Comprehensive field mapping report which, together with the study report, informs site prioritization, protection and management.
Activity 1.3 Develop and deploy biodiversity monitoring and surveillance protocol in the buffer zone to determine trends in species population and distribution, and mitigate illegal activities in biodiversity hotspots Who/lead: BirdLife Project Manager, SPEA Conservation Officer, Ricardo Lima - Post-doc researcher at the Centre for Ecology, Evolution and Environmental Change of Lisbon University, and local field staff	Yr1-Qtr4 then annually in Qrt3	Yr4-Qrt3	Annual biodiversity status reports that document the state of biodiversity, threats that they are faced with and conservation responses to address the threats, and inform the ongoing consultations towards protection of High Conservation Value forest and sustainable land-use planning of the buffer zone.
Activity 2.1: Hold a series of consultation workshops and meetings with government, CSOs, private sector and communities to present project and aims, present mapping results, agree on boundaries, zonation, and Sustainable Land-use Management. Who/lead: BirdLife Project Manager, government staff and relevant stakeholders	Yr2-Qrt1	Yr3-Qrt4	Endorsement of project deliveries by key stakeholders, including government, CSOs, private sector and communities.

<p>Activity 2.2: Hire a consultant to facilitate drafting of the Management Plan.</p> <p>Who/lead: Consultant</p>	Yr2-Qrt3	Yr3-Qrt3	Competent consultant hired and the development of the plan underway.
<p>Activity 2.3: Conduct Sustainable Land-use Plan development supporting field visits by relevant (government and (I)NGO) staff and communities.</p> <p>Who/lead: Who: consultant with relevant stakeholders</p>	Yr2-Qrt4	Yr3-Qrt4	Widely-supported Sustainable Land-use Plan drafted.
<p>Activity 2.4: Hold a series of workshops and meetings to develop a Sustainable Land-use Plan for the buffer zone.</p> <p>With active engagement of government institutions and involving other key stakeholders with technical input from a consultant.</p>	Yr3-Qrt3	Yr4-Qrt3	Land-use Plan developed through a participatory process.
<p>Activity 2.5: Demarcation of HCV in the buffer zone through a set of beacons.</p> <p>Who/lead: Local team under guidance of Project Manager</p>	Yr3-Qrt1	Yr3-Qrt4	Formal boundaries of the HCV clearly marked in the buffer zone.
<p>Activity 2.6: Print and disseminate Land-use Plan.</p> <p>Who/lead: Consultant and BirdLife Project Manager</p>	Yr4-Qrt3	Yr4-Qrt4	Hardcopy plan presented/mailed to relevant stakeholders and publicly available.
<p>Activity 3.1: Hold two workshops to establish (agree on ToR) a formal participatory Forest Management Platform to oversee the management, in accordance with agreed IUCN protection category, of the buffer zone, including government, private sector, CSOs and community representatives.</p> <p>Who/lead: BirdLife Project Manager, government</p>	Yr4-Qrt1	Yr4-Qrt3	Widely-supported participatory Management Platform for the buffer zone in place.
<p>Activity 3.2: Seed money for quarterly meetings of the Management Platform</p> <p>Who/lead: Government staff and relevant stakeholders</p>	Y4-Qrt3	Yr4-Qrt4	Forest Management Platform operational and effective.
<p>Plus: set up of BirdLife project office in Sao Tome and recruitment of project manager.</p> <p>Who/lead: BirdLife International</p>	Yr1-Qrt1	Yr1-Qrt3	Effective and efficient project management structure in place.