



EIDCF004 - revised

Submit by 12 March 2010



DARWIN200

**DARWIN INITIATIVE APPLICATION FOR OVERSEAS TERRITORIES CHALLENGE FUND:
Round 17**

Please read the Guidance Notes before completing this form.

1. Name, postal address and contact details of applicant organisation and main individual: (notification of results will be by email to this individual)	
Dr Richard M. Smith, Buglife, First Floor, 90 Bridge Street, Peterborough, PE1 1DY	
2. Working title/name of the proposed resulting Darwin project (not exceeding 10 words):	
Laying the foundations for invertebrate conservation on St Helena.	
3. Proposed UKOT(s) involved (in Challenge Fund award): St Helena	Other collaborating country/ies (including metropolitan UK if appropriate) to be involved in the proposed resultant project:

4. Principals in Challenge Fund work

(a) Please give the details of the main individuals (max 2) from the applicant organisation who will be directly involved in the Challenge Fund award. CVs must be enclosed (max 2 pages each).

Details	Main individual	2nd individual
Surname	Smith	Key
Forename(s)	Richard Michael	Roger
Post held	UKOTs Project Officer	Entomological Consultant
Department	Conservation Projects	n/a
Telephone		
Email		

(b) Prospective collaborating partners relevant to the Challenge Fund award. Please provide details below, plus letters of support. (These letters should express their intention to collaborate, their contribution to the Challenge Fund activity, their endorsement of the proposed partnership, and the expect contribution of the proposed resultant Darwin project to the conservation of the biodiversity of the relevant UKOT(s).)

Details	Main project partner	Other partners
Organisation	St Helena National Trust (SHNT)	St Helena Government (Agriculture & Natural Resources Dept., ANRD)
Function/ Purpose of Organisation	The SHNT is an NGO responsible for the protection, enhancement and promotion of St Helena's unique environmental and cultural heritage	The ANRD delivers the island's Environmental Conservation programme.
Name of Main Contact	Jamie Roberts	Darren Duncan
Post Held	Director	Chief Agricultural and Natural Resources Officer

5. Concept note for the Challenge Fund award (max 500 words). This question concentrates on what the current application is for and should demonstrate the objectives of the award including

- what work will be carried out under the award;
- the location and duration of this work;
- what you expect to achieve from receiving the Challenge Fund award;
- details of how you will monitor and evaluate the work (reporting requirements for this fund are in the process of being finalised).

1. Background

The indigenous biodiversity of St Helena is severely threatened by the combined effects of habitat degradation and invasive alien species. The island supports the richest fauna, of *globally endemic* invertebrates, of any UK Overseas Territory: at least 300 – 400 species. Without concerted action this fauna will be seriously damaged.

Ongoing conservation effort on St Helena is focussed on maintaining and restoring native vegetation. This project will ensure that the requirements of invertebrates are integrated into this habitat-based approach.

2. Work programme:

a) A visit by the project manager and the consultant entomologist to St Helena, to develop a framework for delivery with the following partners and stakeholders:

St Helena National Trust,
Agriculture and Natural Resources Department,
Schools: Prince Andrew secondary and the 3 primary schools,
Local broadcast and published media,
Landowners – Private families (Solomons, Thorpes) and Crown Estates.

b) During the visit, sampling techniques will be trialled to increase the efficacy of future surveys.

c) Following the visit, we will assess what taxonomic resources and support are required to achieve an up-to-date invertebrate checklist. Collaboration with the Natural History Museum, London, will be explored further, following an initial meeting.

d) Following the visit, the project manager will prepare a full Darwin bid.

3. Schedule.

Duration: four months, based at the Buglife Office in Peterborough, UK. Visit to St Helena: two weeks (excluding travel time), taking place during the winter of 2010 / 11, depending on the sailing times of the RMS St Helena.

4. Outcomes. The project aims to achieve the following:

- a) Existing baseline knowledge of invertebrates collated and reviewed (translation and data inputting requirements identified).
- b) Local training needs in invertebrate knowledge, identification and habitat

management identified.

- c) Priority sites for baseline invertebrate survey on St Helena agreed.
- d) Information requirements at known hotspots of endemism identified (e.g. monitoring, research projects).
- e) Opportunities to integrate invertebrates into conservation management and planning policies identified.
- f) Invertebrate and biodiversity education requirements identified and a draft action plan for meeting them developed.
- g) Stakeholders who would benefit from outreach activities on invertebrate conservation identified and contacted.
- h) Optimal invertebrate sampling techniques trialled and agreed.
- i) Taxonomic expertise and resource requirements for the processing of survey samples assessed.

5. Monitoring and evaluation

The project manager will be responsible for ensuring the day to day monitoring of the project. A project steering group of partners and local stakeholders will be responsible for: monitoring the achievement of milestones against the original project objectives, evaluating progress and providing feedback through published minutes.

6. Concept note for resultant project (max 500 words). This question concentrates on the full Darwin application you intend to submit after the Challenge Fund award and should demonstrate:

- **Expected purpose and outputs of the resultant Darwin project**
- **How the resultant Darwin project would meet a need (and how this need was defined) in the UKOTs and help the territory/ies in its implementation of any or all of the following Conventions: the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)/Convention on Migratory Species (CMS)/Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES).**
- **Brief evidence of the proposed partners' intentions to collaborate in the Challenge Fund award and an outline of their expected role in the resultant Darwin project: include brief details of contact to date and planned ongoing collaboration. This would normally be supported by a letter or email of support, which may present the majority of this evidence.**
- **The expected role of the OTs and UK individuals in the resultant Darwin project**

1. The full project aims to lay down a foundation for invertebrate conservation on St Helena.

Outputs and outcomes:

- a) A robust evidence base for endemic invertebrates. Achieved through targeted surveys and integrating historic data into St Helena's Environmental Information System, thus aiding the designation of draft protected areas;
- b) The integration of the management needs of invertebrates with current habitat restoration programmes and other land-use management;
- c) An increased local capacity to advance invertebrate conservation, achieved through improvements in knowledge, skills and prioritisation.
- d) A raised profile for St Helena's indigenous invertebrates and their conservation, on the island itself, in the UK and globally.
- e) The identification of research priorities and development of proposals for enhancing invertebrate conservation management.
- f) A long-term conservation strategy, to ensure that invertebrates are considered in future biodiversity management.

2. The project delivers the needs of St Helena in three ways:

- a) Invertebrates have been highlighted as a priority for research by the St Helena Government's key environmental conservation staff (GBSC, 2007).
- b) The project meets the needs of St Helena's **Environment Charter**:

Commitment 7, to 'review the range, quality and availability of baseline data for natural resources and biodiversity' (and delivers actions specified under the 2005 'Strategy for Action to Implement St Helena's Commitments under its Environment Charter' (7.a.16));

Commitment 2, to 'ensure the protection and restoration of key habitats, species and landscape features'; and

Commitment 9, to 'encourage teaching within schools to promote the value of our local environment and to explain its role within the regional and global environment'.

- c) Under the **Convention on Biological Diversity**, the project fulfils:

Article 7, to 'identify and monitor components of biological diversity, particularly those of urgent conservation concern'; and

Article 13, to 'promote and encourage understanding of the importance of, and the measures required for, the conservation of biological diversity'.

3. Collaboration with proposed project partners:

The St Helena National Trust (SHNT) and the Agriculture and Natural Resources Department (ANRD) have identified project priorities, and supported

project development. Elements of the project will be delivered through the ANRD's environmental conservation programme, and the SHNT will provide on-the-ground support to all aspects of the work. Buglife has had extensive e-mail discussions with the SHNT since October 2009. Letters of support from SHNT and ANRD are enclosed.

4. Staff involved:

- a) Richard Smith will manage the project. He will coordinate the activities of project members working on St Helena, assist in the design of outreach and educational resources, and carry out final reporting.
- b) Roger Key is an entomological and educational consultant who will carry out invertebrate inventories on St Helena and deliver educational and outreach activities on the island.
- c) The SHNT Director, Jamie Roberts, will help to coordinate all aspects of the project on St Helena.
- d) The Environmental Co-ordinator, Isabel Peters, and her team will collaborate to integrate invertebrate data with management and protected area planning.

5. References

GBSC, 2007. Global Biodiversity Sub-Committee, Thematic report: Research Priorities in the UKOTs. Defra / JNCC.

7. Justification of need for a Challenge Fund award. Please provide details of why alternative funding is not available from within your own organisation or from other sources. Will matched funding be provided? (max 250 words)

Buglife is a not-for-profit conservation NGO with limited resources; the majority of funding is restricted to project work. Buglife does not have secured income that could cover the cost of scoping work for St Helena. Matched funding has already been contributed in the form of more than 100 hours in-kind voluntary staff time, which has been used to build expertise in UKOTs conservation issues and prepare this proposal (e.g. meetings with the RSPB, RBG Kew and the Natural History Museum to explore issues). The other principal funds available for UKOTs work – OTEP – are currently closed to applications, and it was felt essential to obtain scoping funds to develop a viable project.

8. Costs. Provide a detailed breakdown of costs to be funded by the Darwin Initiative.

Budget Line	Year 1	Year 2
Please complete those appropriate to your application – they may not all be relevant	Apr 2010 – Mar 2011	Apr 2011 – Mar 2012
Travel costs (airfares, transfers, sea travel, permits, travel documents)		£
Subsistence costs (Roger Key and Richard Smith 23 days)		£
Overhead costs (including office costs)		£
Operating costs (including conference/workshop/fieldwork costs)		£
Salaries: Entomological Consultant, Roger Key		£
Salaries: Project Officer, Richard Smith		£
Salaries: SHNT Director, Jamie Roberts		£
TOTAL REQUESTED FROM DARWIN INITIATIVE		£

9. Provide anticipated dates of award activity (including start and finish dates) and any milestones where relevant.

Date	Key Milestone
	START
	NOTE. As the logistics of arranging a short visit to St Helena are difficult due to limited ship passages, two options for the project schedule have been devised. This approach would not affect the execution of the project or the bid for Round 19.
Option 1	
1 November 2010	Project commences
27 Nov – 11 Dec	Visit to St Helena (excluding travel; possibility to return 17 Dec)
31 Jan 2011	Report on assessment of taxonomic resources
	Report to partners and stakeholders on proposed full project.
28 Feb 2011	Final report on proposed full project and draft bid for Round 19.
Option 2	
5 December 2010	Project commences
17 Jan – 8 Feb 2011	Visit to St Helena (excluding travel)
1 Mar 2011	Report on assessment of taxonomic resources
	Report to partners and stakeholders on proposed full project.
5 April 2011	Final report on proposed full project and draft bid for Round 19.
	FINISH

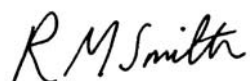
10. In what year would you expect to submit the full Darwin project application?

Round 19 Delete as applicable

I certify that, to the best of our knowledge and belief, the statements made in this application are true and the information provided is correct.

Name (block capitals): **Richard M Smith**

Position in organisation: **UKOTs Project Officer**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "R M Smith". The letters are cursive and fluid, with the first letters of each name being capitalized and prominent.

Signed:

Dated: **11 March 2010**

Challenge Fund Application - Checklist for submission

	Check
Have you provided anticipated start and end dates for your award?	Yes
Are your concept notes within 500 words each?	Yes
Has your application been signed	
Have you read the Guidance Notes and are you satisfied that your concept would be eligible for a main project application?	Yes
Have you included CVs and letters of support as required?	

Once you have answered Yes to the questions above, please submit the application in Word format, not later than 2359h GMT on Friday 19 February 2010 to Darwin-Applications@ltsi.co.uk using the title of the project (or first few words) as the subject of your email.

Metropolitan UK applicants should send a hard copy of a wet signature page to the Darwin Applications Unit, c/o LTS International, Pentlands Science Park, Bush Loan, Penicuik EH26 0PL.

Applicants from the UKOTs should fax a copy of the signature page to the Darwin Applications Unit on 0131 440 5501 or email a scanned original signature to Darwin-applications@ltsi.co.uk.

DATA PROTECTION ACT 1998: Applicants must agree to any disclosure or exchange of information supplied on the application form (including the content of a declaration or undertaking) which the Department considers necessary for the administration, evaluation, monitoring and publicising of the Darwin Initiative. Application form data will also be held by contractors dealing with Darwin Initiative monitoring and evaluation. It is the responsibility of applicants to ensure that personal data can be supplied to the Department for the uses described in this paragraph. A completed application form will be taken as an agreement by the applicant and the grant/award recipient also to the following:- putting certain details (ie name, contact details and location of project work) on the Darwin Initiative and Defra websites (details relating to financial awards will not be put on the websites if requested in writing by the grant/award recipient); using personal data for the Darwin Initiative postal circulation list; and sending data to Foreign and Commonwealth Office posts outside the United Kingdom, including posts outside the European Economic Area. Confidential information relating to the project or its results and any personal data may be released on request, including under the Environmental Information Regulations, the code of Practice on Access to Government Information and the Freedom of Information Act 2000