



Darwin Plus: Overseas Territories Environment and Climate Fund

Guidance Notes for Applicants – Round 9

Darwin Plus Main Projects: Stage 1 and Stage 2 applications

Darwin Plus Fellowships

July 2020

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This publication is available at [Darwin Plus - GOV.UK](#)

Any enquiries regarding this publication should be sent to us at darwin@defra.gov.uk

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1 Summary

These guidance notes provides information on:

- what can be funded by Darwin Plus, also known as the Overseas Territories Environment and Climate Fund, which funds projects in the UK's Overseas Territories¹.
- how to apply to Darwin Plus
- the process used to select projects for funding

This guidance covers Darwin Plus and Darwin Plus Fellowships. This document does not cover the main Darwin fund. The Darwin Initiative, which support biodiversity projects in developing countries alongside the ODA eligible Overseas Territories, has [separate guidance](#) available on GOV.UK.

A separate call, and further funding opportunities, may open later in 2020, and separate guidance will be issued if this takes place. Please note that no further call is guaranteed at this stage, and Defra reserves the right to not open any such call.

Applicants should also read the [Finance for Darwin/IWT](#) document, which explains:

- what budgetary information you need in your application
- how the payments will be made if your application is successful, and how you should manage your budget
- when reporting is due and how it is linked to payments.

Applications to all Darwin funds are through the online application portal Flexi-Grant at ltsi.flexigrant.com. There is additional guidance to support applications through Flexi-Grant. All of the relevant Guidance documents can be accessed through Flexi-Grant, however important information and all key documents can also be accessed on GOV.UK. Applications will be administered independently by LTS International.

Please read all guidance notes and the [Finance for Darwin/IWT](#) document before requesting additional assistance, as these provide answers to most queries. If you can't find the answer, please contact the Darwin Administration Team:

Email: Darwin-applications@LTSI.co.uk

Telephone: + 44 (0) 131 440 5181

For queries specific to using the Flexi-Grant system, email: Flexigrant@LTSI.co.uk

¹ From this round Darwin Plus funding will only be available to the non-ODA eligible OTs. The Darwin Initiative is now the source of ODA funding in the OTs

2 Introduction

The aim of Darwin Plus is to help deliver long-term strategic outcomes for the natural environment in the UK's Overseas Territories (OTs).

Biodiversity in the OTs is globally significant. Our OTs boast some of the world's most delicate and complex ecosystems and habitats. The UK Government is working to improve our understanding of the full value of these unique environments. It is estimated that the OTs contain an estimated 90% of the biodiversity found within the UK and the Territories combined. With their vast marine areas, the OTs offer an opportunity to lead the world in marine protection.

The OTs are highly dependent on the assets provided by their natural environments for the livelihoods of local populations and their economic and social wellbeing. The quality and sustainable management of these assets is essential to the sustainability of freshwater provision, fisheries, disaster mitigation, agriculture, and tourism, and to the development of sustainable economies.

Darwin Plus can help deliver the UN Sustainable Development Goals, in particular SDG 15 (life on land) and SDG 14 (life below water)

Effective conservation of the OTs' natural environment is moreover essential to help meet targets under the Convention on Biological Diversity as well as international commitments under other relevant Multilateral Environmental Agreements, applicable to many UKOTs. These include the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, Cartagena Convention for the Caribbean, and the London Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution.

In Round 9 the fund will achieve its objectives by supporting both:

- **Darwin Plus projects** focused on environment and climate change issues in the UKOTs
- **Fellowships** for promising individuals to acquire skills and knowledge that will contribute to achieving Darwin Plus objectives

From 2020/21 Darwin Plus will become an entirely non-ODA fund. The ODA eligible territories will be able to apply for funding via the Darwin Initiative main round. Of the 14 Overseas Territories, only St Helena, Tristan da Cunha, Montserrat and the Pitcairn Islands are eligible for Official Development Assistance (ODA). ODA is defined as government aid designed to promote the economic development and welfare of developing countries. Historically Darwin Plus has been funded through a mix of ODA and non-ODA funding, reflecting the difference in ODA eligibility across the territories

3 What kind of projects can be funded by Darwin Plus?

Grants are for projects working on environment or climate change issues in the UKOTs. Projects may be new ideas, or build on existing work, but applicants will be expected to demonstrate that the proposed project will be of real value to the host UKOT(s) by meeting clearly identifiable needs and priorities, for example, as may be identified in OT roadmaps.

The Fund is not intended as a substitute for activities that would normally be part of a UKOT government's core functions (such as full-time staff salaries or routine management activities) but can be used for discrete pieces of work that provide data to feed into core activities. For example, mapping OT habitats and soils to inform future environmental management, or preparing for the extension of the Convention on Biological Diversity or updating Site information of Ramsar designated Sites.

3.1 Objectives of the fund

Darwin Plus supports projects working on environment or climate change issues in the UKOTs.

The key priorities for Darwin Plus in Round 9 are:

- To increase the area of coverage and effectiveness of marine protected areas in pursuit of global targets
- The conservation and effective management of coral reef, seagrass meadows and mangrove forest ecosystems
- To tackle invasive non-native species
- Design and implementation of waste management strategies, particularly those with a focus on plastics
- To respond to, and mitigating against, the impacts of natural disasters on the OTs
- Implementation of National Biodiversity Action Plans
- The conservation, restoration and wise use of wetlands
- Eligible environmental activities that respond to the effects or causes of the COVID-19, and other, pandemics.

In this round, we are particularly keen to see projects which:

- involve partnerships in order to provide greater capability for the partners involved to deliver environmental projects
- aim to test or pilot an approach or idea that has the potential to be developed into a larger project in future
- incorporate the use of natural capital
- look at the opportunity for synergies between tackling climate change and halting or reversing biodiversity loss

When assessing applications, no weighting is attached to the length or budget of a project. **Short projects with a clear Outcome are just as likely to succeed as longer, higher cost projects.**

There are some activities which are not eligible for funding through Darwin Plus:

- activities that would normally be part of a UKOT government's core functions (such as full-time staff salaries or routine management activities). Note that funding can be used for discrete pieces of work that provide data to feed into core activities, for example, mapping OT habitats and soils to inform future environmental management
- long-term research
- ongoing maintenance of habitats or protection of species
- work where the main focus is built heritage
- building activity or investment in infrastructure and related capital expenditure (see Section 1.7 of the Finance guidance)

3.2 The UK Overseas Territories

The 14 Overseas Territories are:

- Anguilla
- Bermuda
- British Antarctic Territory (BAT)
- British Indian Ocean Territory (BIOT)
- British Virgin Islands (BVI)
- Cayman Islands
- Falkland Islands (FI)
- Gibraltar
- Montserrat (ODA Eligible)
- Pitcairn, Henderson, Ducie & Oeno Islands (ODA eligible)
- St Helena (ODA Eligible), Ascension and Tristan da Cunha (ODA eligible)
- South Georgia & the South Sandwich Islands (SGSSI)
- Sovereign Base Areas of Akrotiri and Dhekelia (on Cyprus)
- Turks & Caicos Islands (TCI)

Of the 14 Overseas Territories, St Helena, Tristan da Cunha, Montserrat and the Pitcairn Islands are ODA eligible. If your project is proposing to work entirely in one of the ODA eligible territories, you should apply for funding via the Darwin Initiative

Regional projects, i.e. involving more than one UKOT, are encouraged. If your project is working across both ODA and non-ODA eligible territories, you should apply for Darwin Plus funding.

3.3 Gender Equality

Promoting gender equality is an important priority for the UK. All applicants should consider whether and how their project will contribute to reducing inequality between persons of different gender. Applicants should at a minimum ensure proposals will not increase inequality and are encouraged to design interventions that proactively contribute to increased equality in communities where they will operate. Applicants are encouraged to provide indicators disaggregated by sex where possible.

Depending on the context you are working in, some or all of the following questions may be relevant to you:

- What are the prevailing gender norms in the host country in relation to division of labour, access and control of resources, and ability to participate in decision making?
- How do these prevailing norms affect the project, in terms of what it can achieve and how it needs to be designed?
- How will the intervention impact (positively and negatively) girls, boys, women and men in their domestic, economic and community roles and responsibilities and in term of access to and control over assets?
- Will the intervention provide opportunities for girls, boys, women and men to participate in decision making and positions of influence?
- Does the intervention address underlying barriers that prevent girls and women from accessing opportunities created?
- How will any risks and unintended negative consequences be avoided or mitigated against, and monitored?
- Are relevant outcomes and outputs being measured, including through results data disaggregated by sex and age?

Girls and women are not a homogenous group. Women and girls in the project area may face additional layers of exclusion based on their ethnicity, caste, age, religion, sexuality and disability status. Thorough gender and social inclusion analysis can be utilised to identify and account for these issues in project design.

3.4 Value for money and leaving a legacy

Projects must demonstrate good value for money in terms of the scale of impact expected relative to cost inputs. Projects should be designed to ensure that they have a real and lasting impact, and that the Outcome can be sustained after the project ends. Value for money is delivered through a combination of:

- strong budget management
- efficient and effective use of funding to deliver the desired outputs
- ensuring that delivering the chosen outputs are logical and likely to lead to the project's intended Outcome
- sustainability of the intervention
- equitable distribution of any results

Projects funded through Darwin Plus should not significantly cut across or duplicate work being funded through other mainstream environment and development or research programmes, as this would not represent good value for money.

Projects should consider relevant historical and existing initiatives, and reflect this in project design to maximise the chance of success.

Projects must deliver additional activity, above and beyond what might otherwise have occurred. Funding is for distinct projects with an end date and specific, measurable results. Projects may be an identifiable element of a larger project. Darwin Plus will not fund ongoing organisational running costs.

3.5 Supporting wider Monitoring and Evaluation

All projects must comply with monitoring and evaluation requests which may include providing supplementary reports on other aspects of project activities.

Darwin Plus regularly commissions evaluations and reviews of the Darwin portfolio which take place during the life of the project (i.e. mid-term reviews or monitoring visits). It is important to the success of Darwin Plus for all projects to fully engage in such reviews and evaluations. Failure to meaningfully engage with Darwin monitoring and evaluation work may result in an organisation no longer being considered eligible for future funding from Darwin Plus and, in extreme cases, the termination of their current grant.

3.6 Ethics

Darwin projects are expected to meet the following key principles of good and ethical project implementation practice. You will need to demonstrate how your project meets these principles.

All Darwin projects must:

- meet all legal and ethical obligations of both the UK and the countries involved in the project, including relevant access and benefit sharing legislation pertaining to the utilisation of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge
- include strong leadership and participation from the OTs and the communities directly involved to enhance the chances that the perspectives, interests and wellbeing of those directly affected by specific projects are properly addressed
- recognise the potential value and relevance of traditional knowledge and utilise it where appropriate, alongside international scientific approaches and methods
- respect the rights, privacy, and safety of people who are the subject of research and other project activities or other intended beneficiaries, whether direct or indirect
- use Prior Informed Consent (PIC) principles with partner communities
- protect the health and safety of all staff working full and part time on their project
- uphold the credibility of any research and other findings.

Funding may be frozen or withdrawn in the event that these principles are not met.

Any project staff involved in the design or conduct of research should maintain the independence and integrity of the research process and ensure that they maintain an intellectual detachment from any personal convictions relating to the topic of their research.

3.7 Safeguarding

UK supported projects must fully protect vulnerable people all of the time, wherever they work. Projects are expected to provide a safe and trusted environment which safeguards anyone who the organisation has contact with, including beneficiaries, staff, and volunteers. The safeguarding of the local communities they are working in and with should always be central to every project. **In order to receive funding the lead organisation must:**

- have a safeguarding policy, which includes a statement of your commitment to safeguarding and a zero-tolerance statement on bullying, harassment and sexual exploitation and abuse
- keep a detailed register of safeguarding issues raised and how they were dealt with
- have clear investigation and disciplinary procedures to use when allegations and complaints are made, and have clear processes in place for when a disclosure is made
- share your safeguarding policy with downstream partners
- have a whistle-blowing policy which protects whistle blowers from reprisals and includes clear processes for dealing with concerns raised
- have in place a Code of Conduct for staff and volunteers that sets out clear expectations of behaviours - inside and outside the workplace - and make clear what will happen in the event of non-compliance or breach of these standards

Safeguarding practices apply to anyone the project is in contact with, not just direct project staff and partners. Applications invited to Stage 2 will be required to submit a copy of their safeguarding policy as part of their application.

3.8 Fraud, bribery and corruption

The UK has a ‘zero-tolerance’ approach to fraud, bribery and corruption. Any indication of possible fraud, bribery or corruption will be investigated and may result in termination of the grant if appropriate action isn’t taken by the project and the incident not reported to Defra. All projects are required to have transparent processes in place to identify and address fraud and error risk. All applicants will need to explain how much of a risk corruption is for their project, and how they will manage this risk. Defra appreciates that fraud and corruption cannot be entirely eliminated within a project, but the application should clearly demonstrate an understanding of these risks and how they will be mitigated.

3.9 Open access policy and data sharing

The UK Government is committed to “push for a global transparency revolution” in the availability and use of data to improve accountability, decision making, and to help deliver sustainable development outcomes to people living in poverty. It is also a crucial part of our commitment to deliver the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Darwin Plus projects are likely to generate significant outputs including datasets, peer-reviewed journal articles and technical reports which will be of interest to OT Governments and other countries and stakeholders. All outputs from Darwin Plus projects should therefore be made available on-line and free to users whenever possible. This includes all derived and raw data on species, land cover and land use, through appropriate national, regional and global databases.

In your application, please consider the project outputs you expect and how this information can be shared with others. You may include appropriate costs in your budget for open access publishing but be realistic about when articles will be published. It is likely that dates will fall outside the formal project so it is worth considering matched funding for these costs.

Further information on open and enhanced access can be found on [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk).

Please note that all Darwin Plus projects are required to publish all data outputs from the project (subject to any pre-existing data used in the project) in a manner outlined in the Terms and Conditions.

3.10 Communications

Each applicant for a Darwin Plus project is asked to provide a very short, plain English summary of what the project will do, which may subsequently be used in communications activity if your project is successful.

For the summary please try to describe your project for a non-technical audience, including what the project expects to achieve and the activities the project will undertake.

4 Darwin Plus Main Projects

4.1 Size and length of project

There is no minimum or maximum award size for Darwin Plus main projects. The overall funding pot in any given year is, however, limited. The average project award last year was a little under £100,000 a year, however we also welcome small, discrete projects. We would not expect to see projects exceed £500,000, however if additional funds can be justified in the proposal, projects over this amount will be considered. Project budgets should preferably show an even spread over the funding period and should not as a general rule be front-loaded, as this restricts the number of new projects that can be awarded in any year.

An application will not score more highly if it is a large project taking the full length of time available. Shorter projects, with relatively small budgets, are just as likely to succeed in the assessment process. This could include, for example, a short pilot project that may be scaled up for a later application.

The minimum length of a project is 6 months and the maximum length is 3 years. Any budget commitment must end by 30 June 2024.

Applicants for Round 9 of Darwin Plus:

- should plan to start on or after 1 July 2021. You cannot start earlier and it is unlikely the final list of projects will be accepted until May 2021 at the earliest.
- must ensure their budget commitments end by 30 June 2024.

Please ensure that your budget is set out by financial year (1 April – 31 March). Note that because of the timing of this round, a 3 year project will cover 4 financial years. As set out in the Finance for Darwin/IWT, budget cannot be moved between financial years, except in exceptional circumstances. Applicants should take this into account when designing project proposals, considering carefully the level of risk of delay with any activities proposed for the fourth quarter (January – March) of the financial year.

You should have a realistic budget and timeframe for your project, and logframe targets should be achievable. Do not be overambitious.

4.1 Monitoring and Evaluation

To ensure continued funding under Darwin Plus, projects must be able to demonstrate their impact, not only in terms of whether they have met their intended objectives but, from a wider perspective, how they have contributed to the overall aims of Darwin Plus. With this in mind each project must have a clear monitoring and evaluation (M&E) plan

in place at the outset. As a guide, projects would usually allocate 5-10% of their project budget for monitoring and evaluation purposes throughout the life of the project. At completion projects must be able to produce robust evidence of their contribution to the Darwin Plus objectives. **Annex D** provides more information on monitoring and evaluation.

4.2 Applicant organisations

Applications must come from an organisation, not an individual. We welcome applications from all organisations working in the UKOTs. This may include NGOs, research institutions, the private sector and other stakeholders and UKOT Governments. A collaborative approach is encouraged and all project partners must be clearly listed on the application.

It is important that you engage with the UKOT Government while designing your project. At Stage 2 you will be required to submit a letter of support with your application, but this should not be the first time the UKOT Government are aware of the project. The Stage 1 form includes a tick box to confirm that the relevant OT Government has been consulted and is supportive.

The lead organisation will be responsible for overall management of the project, including financial management and reporting. The applicant may work with one or more other implementing organisations to assist with all or part of the work.

Organisations applying for funding must:

- have a credible record of working on similar types of projects
- have demonstrated experience managing projects of a similar size
- nominate a Project Leader who will be responsible for the technical direction of the project.

4.3 Financial capacity of applicant organisation

As part of your application, you will need to provide evidence of financial capability and capacity, including audited or independently examined accounts. The maximum annual value of funds requested should not exceed 25% of the lead organisation's average annual turnover/income for the previous 3 years². Applicants that are unable to demonstrate this will only be considered in exceptional circumstances. Applications from government departments need not supply audited accounts, due to the nature of their financial reporting, but if information is available it should be included.

Please see the Finance for Darwin/IWT document [here](#) for additional information on financial questions.

4.4 Project Leader

The Project Leader should have a minimum of 5 years of relevant experience. The Project Leader will be considered as the main point of contact for the project and will be the person responsible for ensuring any grant meets the relevant Terms and Conditions.

The Project Leader can share this role with a co-Project Leader if appropriate. This could encourage your main project partner to take on a leadership role and to learn the requirements of delivering a successful Darwin grant. Both individuals should be named on the application form and in the budget.

² Grants schemes are outside the scope of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 – Regulation 58 (9)

We would expect the Project Leader to provide at least 10% of their time in delivering the project.

4.5 Conditions of grant

Successful applicants will be issued a grant award letter. This will set out conditions that will apply to the grant, including the grant purpose, value, period, and reporting and financial arrangements.

The full schedule of terms and conditions and financial requirements currently in use can be found on the Darwin website and with the Finance for Darwin/IWT document. You should read these before making an application to be sure your organisation can meet these conditions. Darwin Plus retains the right to amend the conditions at any time.

5 Darwin Plus projects – How to apply

Please read this guidance and look at past [examples of funded projects](#) before requesting additional assistance. If you can't find the answer, please contact Eilidh Young. Given the current restrictions on office workings, email is recommended and a call can be organised if appropriate.

Email: Darwin-applications@LTSI.co.uk

Telephone: +44 (0) 131 440 5181 (restricted/changing days)

If your question is about using Flexi-Grant, please contact the Flexi-Grant mailbox, Flexigrant@LTSI.co.uk.

5.1 Completing the application form and eligibility

Darwin Plus now has a two-stage process.

All applications **must** be submitted through Flexi-Grant and must be in comprehensible English.

Please note that applications at both Stage 1 and Stage 2 must meet the published administrative, technical and financial criteria for that Stage in order to be considered. This includes, but is not limited to:

- The project must support work in an eligible UKOT.
- All questions must be completed (N/A is acceptable if appropriate), and all required supporting attachments must be submitted
- Applications must be signed (with a PDF signature uploaded as part of the Flexi-Grant application)
- The start and end dates must be within the funding period stated in the guidance
- The logframe, using the Darwin template, is uploaded as a completed PDF document
- CVs or job descriptions (where role not yet recruited) submitted must be **one page only** and must be uploaded as one collated PDF document (Stage 2 only)
- Letters of support should include the content outlined below and should be uploaded as one collated PDF document where possible (Stage 2 only)
- The budget must be fully completed using the format provided (Stage 2 only). Please note: the financial format uses Defra's financial years: 1st April - 31st March. Please note the following with regards to the completion of the budget forms:
 - Applicants seeking over £100,000 in funding **must** complete the full budget form which must be uploaded to Flexi-Grant.
 - Applicants seeking less than £100,000 in funding **must** complete the shorter budget form which must be uploaded to Flexi-Grant.

These eligibility criteria will be strictly enforced and applications that are incomplete, or do not meet the published criteria, including financials, will be rejected as ineligible.

While not a rejection criteria, if you cannot provide the following financial information, we may be unable to fund your project:

- The last 2 sets of audited or independently verified and signed accounts for your organisation

Annex C provides further guidance on questions in the application form.

5.2 Additional materials

You should only submit the materials requested. However, you may include a map to clarify project location. You may also include references, but these should be kept to a minimum, as should weblinks and hyperlinks. You should be able to provide enough information in the space provided on the form. Maps and references should be uploaded as one additional pdf document. They must not be used as a means of providing additional information or avoiding word limits. However, you may include a cover letter to show how you have responded to any previous feedback.

5.3 Submitting your application

Darwin Plus Projects follow a two stage process for Round 9.

Stage 1: Open call for applications. A shorter application.

Stage 2: By invitation only. A larger, more comprehensive application form.

Stage 1 applications - key dates:

- Application (on Flexi-Grant only) deadline – 2359 BST (GMT+01:00) on Tuesday 8 September 2020
- Acknowledgement – by midday on Friday 11 September 2020
- Results – expected late November 2020

N.B.: If you have not received an acknowledgement by Friday 11 September (pm), please call +44 (0)131 440 5181. **Please do not call between 8 and 11 September**

Stage 2 applications – key dates

- Invitations expected to be issued by late November 2020
- Applications (on Flexi-Grant only) deadline – 2359 GMT on Tuesday 2 February 2021
- Acknowledgement – by midday on Friday 5 February 2021
- Results – expected by end of May 2021.

N.B.: If you have not received an acknowledgement by 5 February (pm) please call +44 (0)131 440 5181. **Please do not call between 2 and 5 February,**

5.4 Essential and supporting materials

If the following essential material is not included with your application it will be rejected as incomplete.

Application	Essential materials for eligible application	Optional materials for application
Stage 1 Application	Stage 1 application completed on Flexi-Grant	Cover letter to outline how you have addressed previous feedback if this is a resubmission.
	Completed logframe using Stage 1 Darwin template submitted as a PDF document	
Stage 2 Application	Stage 2 application completed on Flexi-Grant Other materials can be uploaded within Flexi-Grant	Brief covering letter – this should outline how you have addressed any feedback from Stage 1, although this should also be in the application
	Budget table in Darwin Plus format in Excel including exchange rate, source and project dates	Letters of support from stakeholders
	Completed logframe using Stage 2 Darwin template submitted as a PDF document	
	Project timeline in Darwin format using Excel template	
	Letters of support from applicant organisation and key partners (Inc UKOT Gov.) who are essential to the success of the project combined in one pdf.	
	Applicant organisation's last 2 sets of signed and audited or independently verified accounts, clearly identifying currency shown. Please send as separate pdf documents i.e. two documents. Maximum file size each 5MB.	
	Details of past experience and previous contracts/ awards (if new to Darwin as a lead organisation). Note that contracts must be with external organisations/grant bodies (not from within your own organisation). This is part of the application form and not a separate document.	
	1 page CVs or job descriptions for key project personnel named at Q11 as one pdf.	

All material uploaded to Flexi-Grant should be either PDF or Excel.

Additional documents or annexes falling outside of the list above will not be passed to the Advisory Group (see 'Assessment process' below) for their consideration unless they have been specifically requested by or on behalf of the Advisory Group.

Letters of support

Letters of support (LoS) are only required at Stage 2. However, it is expected that you will have engaged with the OT Government(s) at Stage 1 and have, in principle, an agreement that the project will be supported at Stage 2. There is a check box on the Stage 1 application form to confirm this. If it is found that you have not engaged with the OT Government(s) at Stage 1 your application may be rejected. LoS should ensure they include the elements below, be on headed paper and must be in English or with an English translation. Letters written by partners will normally be stronger than those based on a template. Letters of support are required:

- as evidence of your organisation's support for your application and the importance of the work to your organisation
- as evidence of your relationship with partners and contacts within the OT
- to support the demand for the work
- to show your ability to meet deadlines and to be able to achieve results with local contacts

Letters of support are expected to include the following elements:

- the extent to which partners have been involved in the development of the proposal
- an outline of how the proposed work aligns with your own organisational priorities **and** the priorities of the OT – particularly in the case where the partner providing the LoS is a UKOT Government agency. This applies to letters from the lead organisations as well as all partners
- information on the capacity of partners to support the project
- details of any matched funding your organisation is proposing, either financially or in kind, and whether confirmed or not.

If it is not possible to obtain a full letter of support from one of the partner organisations, please explain why.

Key project staff

In the application form you should list **all** key project staff, i.e. those people/roles that make up the main project team and are critical to project success. You may not necessarily consider these to be staff roles internally, but for the purposes of the application they should be recognised as project staff. You must provide a one page CV or job description (if not yet recruited) for **all** these people and they should **all** appear in your Stage 2 budget. Your budget may include other staff providing support to the project beyond the key project staff identified in the applications form.

5.5 Workplan and budget breakdown

At Stage 1, we require an indication of budget spread by financial year only, however you may find it helpful to work in the Stage 2 budget templates to help you reach these figures. We do not require the workplan or completed budget at Stage 1.

At Stage 2, applicants should complete a **basic work-plan**. For applications requesting under £100,000, please complete the template for funds requested below £100,000. Applicants requesting over £100,000 **must** complete the full budget table.

We are keen to see funds spent locally where possible, but recognise this is not always possible or the most cost effective approach. At Stage 2 you will be asked to explain how the budget provides specific benefits to the territories.

5.6 Results of applications

Once the results are agreed, all Lead Applicants (both successful and unsuccessful) will receive notification via email from Flexi-Grant.

If you are successful you will receive an offer of funding or, in the case of a Stage 1 proposal, an invitation to Stage 2. Darwin Plus retains the right to clarify any issues raised during the application process or to award funding subject to amendments to the project. Darwin Plus also retains the right to withdraw an offer if the applicant is subsequently unable to meet the requirements of the award.

Only unsuccessful applicants whose applications were competitive, but not shortlisted, will receive additional feedback.

5.7 Resubmission of applications

If your application is unsuccessful, you may submit it to a subsequent application round. A resubmitted application will only be accepted on one occasion, unless there is prior agreement owing to exceptional circumstances or unless there is a significant difference in the revised application. Applicants should re-submit in the correct format and in accordance with the guidance applicable to the round in which the resubmission is made. Please include a cover letter with your Stage 1 application, outlining how you have addressed previous feedback.

6 Darwin Plus Fellowship Awards

Darwin Plus Fellowship funding is aimed at building capacity within the UKOTs by offering opportunities for training for UKOT nationals or, for Territories without a resident population, for individuals who are committed to providing support to their chosen Territory and can demonstrate an existing relationship with that Territory. It is intended to support Fellows to draw on wider UK technical and scientific expertise in the fields of biodiversity and sustainable development to broaden their knowledge and experience. A Fellowship should enable the beneficiary to increase their knowledge and ability to deliver long-term strategic outcomes for the natural environment in the UKOTs.

6.1 Eligibility of the individual

Support is available for nationals of UKOTs who have previously worked on a Darwin or Darwin Plus project in an OT or who are currently working in the UKOTs on environment and climate change issues. For Territories without a resident population, individuals who can demonstrate an existing relationship with that Territory may be considered.

Before applying please also check the likelihood of any necessary visas being obtained by the prospective Fellow.

6.2 What can be funded?

Where needs are clearly identifiable and demonstrable, the Department is willing to consider support for Fellows:

- broadening their own experience of working in natural resource management through appropriate related work experience. This may include training on how to write applications for funding or a period of mentoring/networking with partner organisations;
- developing policy skills (for example, attendance at relevant national or international workshops or meetings).
- undertaking formal qualifications (where these are linked to the broader criteria of the scheme and fall within a Fellowship length of 24 months);

6.3 Project Leader

The Project Leader should meet the criteria outlined for a Main Darwin Plus Project.

For a Fellowship, this is the lead individual within the lead organisation who will work closely with or supervise the Fellow.

6.4 Size of grants available

Eligible costs (depending on the nature of the Fellowship) include a monthly subsistence, host organisation expenses, travel costs and fees for academic qualifications.

Applications will be considered on their merits in the light of available resources. The Department will not be able to fund all eligible applications.

6.5 Length and start date

Darwin Plus Fellowships can last for up to 24 months.

Start dates can be flexible (to match academic years for example) but Fellowships should not start before **1 July 2021** and must end within 24 months of the start date.

Be aware that the Darwin Plus financial year runs from 1 April to 31 March and project finances for each year are required to report to these dates.

7 How to Apply for a Darwin Plus Fellowship

All applications must be submitted online through the [Flexi-Grant](#) portal. There is separate guidance on how to use this portal.

Help completing the application

Please read this guidance before requesting additional assistance. If you can't find the answer, please contact Eilidh Young. Given the current restrictions on office workings, email is recommended and a call can be organised if appropriate.

Email: Darwin-applications@LTSI.co.uk

Telephone: +44 (0) 131 440 5181 (restricted/changing days)

If your question is about using Flexi-Grant, please contact the Flexi-Grant mailbox, Flexigrant@LTSI.co.uk.

7.1 Submitting your application

Applications must be received through the Flexi-Grant portal by **2359 GMT on Tuesday 2 February 2021**.

You will receive a formal acknowledgement by midday on Friday 5 February 2021

N.B.: If you have not received an acknowledgement by Friday 5 February (pm), please call +44 (0)131 440 5181. **Please do not call between 2 and 5 February.**

7.2 Supporting documents

Your application must also include:

Essential materials for eligible application	Optional materials for application
Darwin Plus Fellowship Application completed on Flexi-Grant	Brief covering letter
Darwin Plus budget table including exchange rate and its source	Letters of support from stakeholders
Letter of support from the Lead Organisation expressing their intention to collaborate and endorsement of the proposed Fellowship, and the value of the proposed Darwin Fellowship to the Fellow's Territory.	Details of any dialogue with the relevant Governor's Office in the host territory/ies
Letter of support from the proposed Fellow's employer or government of the expected value of the Fellowship.	
1 page CVs for Fellow and proposed Project Leader and any other key project personnel named at Q8 as one pdf	
A project implementation timetable/workplan	

Additional documents or annexes falling outside of the list above will not be passed to the Advisory Group (see 'Assessment process' below) for their consideration unless they have been specifically requested by or on behalf of the Advisory Group.

8 Assessment process

Applications will be assessed by the Darwin Plus Advisory Group (DPAG). This group is made up of UK government officials, representatives from relevant statutory advisory bodies and the UK Overseas Territories Association and external experts with experience of working in the OTs. The group will draw on other specialist expertise to better quantify the impacts of the proposals. The group is overseen by the Chair of the Darwin Expert Committee.

The Group follows a strict code of practice. If any member has been involved in the development of an application, they will declare their involvement and will not assess that particular project.

An overview of the process for assessment is:

- 1) **Initial review:** Applications that do not meet the essential eligibility criteria will be rejected. You will be informed of the reasons for rejection.
- 2) **Expert review:** Eligible applications are scored by at least three DPAG members against the assessment criteria set out below.
- 3) **Moderating panel:** The DPAG discusses the comments and scores of the strongest applications to draw up a shortlist to recommend for funding.
- 4) **Final result:** the DPAG make recommendations to the Ministers of the funding department on which projects should be funded.

8.1 UKOT government priorities

Applicants should contact UKOT Governments to ensure applications for the appropriate territory address their current priorities and policies. We highly recommend applicants make contact in advance of submitting an application. If you are unsure who to contact in the OT Government please email Darwin-applications@LTSI.co.uk for advice.

UKOT Governments will be contacted for feedback on all Stage 2 applications in their territory. Please note that comments from UKOT Governments form only a part of the application and awarding process. Final decisions lie with the Secretary of State following recommendations made by the Darwin Plus Advisory Group.

8.2 Assessment of costs

Costs are rigorously examined during the assessment process and decisions are based on realistic and justifiable budgets to deliver the work plan as well as the value for money justification in the application

9 Assessment criteria – Darwin Plus Main Projects

The application will be assessed by the DPAG against the criteria below to generate a score (see **Annex A**). The DPAG will use these three scores to determine the suitability of projects for funding.

Policy Priorities

- The project contributes to the priority issues for Round 9
- The project demonstrates measurable environmental and/or climate change outcomes
- The project contributes to the delivery of existing commitments such as those set out within the Joint Ministerial Council (JMC) Communiqués or individual Territories, national biodiversity strategies, environmental action plans and roadmaps, or equivalent
- The project has good local ownership, as evidenced by commitment from relevant local stakeholders including UKOT Governments
- The project outcomes will contribute to embedding good environmental decision-making in UKOT policies and processes

Impact

- The project applicant has the capacity and capability to deliver the project
- The project contributes to environmental goods and services within the UKOT(s)
- The project is sustainable – the outcomes will be sustained after the funding is finished, including building capacity within the UKOT(s)

Technical Excellence

- The project has been well-planned and has a clear goal, purpose and outputs. The activities are practical and achievable. The risks are identified and well managed.
- The monitoring and evaluation plan ensures changes are measurable and exhibits a clear understanding of the evidence needed to demonstrate these changes. A well-defined exit strategy is in place from the start of funding.
- The project represents value for money

10 Assessment criteria – Darwin Plus Fellowship

The application will be assessed by the DPAG against the criteria below to generate a score (see **Annex A**). The DPAG will use these three scores to determine the suitability of projects for funding.

- The Fellowship contributes to the priority issues for Round 9
- The Fellowship will result in the **transfer of knowledge** and/or technology to the UKOT relating to environment and/or climate change
- The Fellowship is **collaborative**, involving the Darwin Plus Fellow and the applicant organisation at all stages (including development of the proposal). Where relevant, the Fellow should demonstrate their own consultation and collaboration with local institutions or communities in the target country/ies
- The Fellowship will **contribute, directly or indirectly**, towards implementation of long-term strategic outcomes for the natural environment in the UKOTs
- Where appropriate, the Fellowship will **raise awareness** of the potential worth of natural resources and encourage their sustainable use directly or indirectly
- The Fellowship will be of **high quality and scientific** (or other appropriate professional) **excellence**
- The Fellowship will **leave a legacy**, through a real and lasting impact on the Fellow's capacity to help his/her territory meet its long-term strategic outcomes for the natural environment
- The Fellowship should **be additional** – that is, the outputs and outcomes of the Fellowship will not cut across work being funded through other mainstream environmental or research programmes. Research projects, in particular, must tackle work in an area of natural resource management that has previously been neglected or undervalued
- The Fellowship should be, wherever possible, **innovative and distinctive**. It should show a new approach to a problem or issue and not cover old ground - although tested methodology may be used for a new area or issue. To ensure Fellowship work is distinctive, applications should identify how any outputs will be badged and how the Darwin name and logo would be used to help raise the Darwin profile
- The Fellowship demonstrates **good value for money**. Both in terms of actual results from the Fellows work, as well as the benefits of the Fellowship to the Fellow and the UKOT's capacity to meet long term strategic outcomes will be taken into account

Annex A: Assessment Scoring - all Darwin Plus funds

Score	Description
6	The proposed project meets all the of assessment criteria . The majority of the assessment criteria are met to a high standard. There are few minor issues which if addressed may improve the project but they are unlikely to be detrimental to the delivery of the project and should not prevent it from being funded without changes being made.
5	The proposed project meets most of the assessment criteria . The criteria it does meet are mostly to a high standard. There are minor issues that could improve the project but these are unlikely to significantly impact the project's success and should not prevent it from being funded. It is likely to significantly contribute to the objectives of the Darwin Plus scheme.
4	The proposed project meets most of the assessment criteria . The criteria it does meet are often to a good standard. There are a few minor issues that would improve this project which they would be advised to consider if funded. It is likely to contribute to the objectives of the Darwin Plus scheme.
3	The proposed project meets most of the assessment criteria . Those criteria it does meet are largely to an acceptable standard. It is likely to contribute to the objectives of the Darwin Plus scheme. The project has some issues with design which the team would be recommended to review to increase its suitability for funding.
2	The project meets some of the assessment criteria . Those criteria it does meet are to a modest standard. Overall however, it is inconsistent in terms of the assessment criteria. The application requires changes to make it suitably address the assessment criteria to make it competitive.
1	The proposed project is unsatisfactory and meets only a few of the criteria outlined. The proposed project is likely to require significant alterations to make it address the assessment criteria.
0	For special cases e.g. flawed in scientific approach, subject to serious technical difficulties, unclearly written that it cannot be properly assessed, success depends on the project student or is duplicative of other research. Fails to meet any of the criteria outlined.

Annex B: Awarded Grants

The award is made to the lead organisation, not to an individual. The Project Leader will be considered the first point of contact for all aspects of project management (including financial management), and will be responsible for the overall management of the project and accountability of the award, on behalf of the institution they represent.

Contact details will be required for a nominated individual from the finance section of the institution to whom the award is made. This person may be identified once the grant has been offered.

Reporting Requirements

Darwin Plus Main projects: All projects are required to submit a Final Report at the end of the award.

Projects lasting for more than one year must provide Annual and Half Year progress reports that are reviewed each year. These reports must provide robust reporting against intended objectives and include information on outputs and ethics and environmental impact. Reports should be completed and submitted using the Flexi-Grant portal. Further information on how to do this will be shared with all successful projects.

To continue receiving funding from Darwin Plus, reports must be completed and submitted within deadlines. If these requirements are not met your funding can be stopped.

Darwin Plus Fellowships: The Lead organisation is responsible for ensuring that the following reports are submitted:

- an interim report, at the mid-point, providing a brief account of experience gained and showing progress against the programme of work;
- a final report, no more than one month after the completion of the Darwin Plus Fellowship, showing how the Fellow has achieved his/her objectives, and the objective and criteria of the Darwin Plus Fellowship Programme.

Both reports should be compiled by the Darwin Fellow in consultation with the Lead Organisation and using the templates provided on the Darwin website.

To continue receiving funding from Darwin Plus reports must be complete and within deadlines. If you do not meet these requirements your funding can be stopped.

Project datasets

Data collection, analysis, management and storage protocols should be established to ensure the integrity of research findings and their subsequent use within the research team, Darwin Initiative and wider public domain.

The application should demonstrate that the publication of results and secure data storage has been thought about, a plan exists and appropriate resources are included.

Data protection and use of personal data

Information supplied in the application form, including personal data, will be used by Defra as set out in the latest copy of the Privacy Notice for Darwin, Darwin Plus and the Illegal Wildlife Trade Challenge Fund available on [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk). This Privacy Notice must be provided to all individuals whose personal data is supplied in the application

form. Some information, but not personal data, may be used when publicising Darwin Plus including project details (usually title, lead organisation, project leader, location, and total grant value) on the GOV.UK and other websites.

Information (including personal data) relating to the project or its results may also be released on request, including under the 2004 Environmental Information Regulations and the Freedom of Information Act 2000. However, Defra will not permit any unwarranted breach of confidentiality nor will we act in contravention of our obligations under the General Data Protection Regulation (Regulation (EU) 2016/679).

Annex C: Guidance for completing the Darwin Plus application forms for Main Projects

Stakeholders (Stage 2 question 14)

The proposal must state how all **stakeholders** (which must include OT governments) have been fully consulted in the proposal and that they are in agreement with the way in which it will be implemented.

Project Outcome statement in logframe

The Outcome statement is the overarching objective of the project you have outlined. That is, what do you expect to achieve as a result of this project. There can only be one Outcome for the project and the Outcome should identify what will change, and who will benefit.

For example, if the project is to build capacity to adapt to climate change then the purpose could be written as “*Staff in all relevant departments are better able to develop and implement measures to tackle climate change.*”

Outputs and Outcome in logframe

The application should set out the intended **Outputs**, and the **Outcome** that the project Outputs will contribute to, with an indication of how each Output will contribute to the overall Outcome. Outcomes should seek to deliver long-term, strategic change within the OT(s).

The applicant should also give details of how progress will be measured – what the current situation is and what will be different at the end of the project. For example if the Output is to train people in a particular skill, how many people have that skill now, how many will have it at the end, how will this be certified or reported?

Activities in logframe (Stage 2 only)

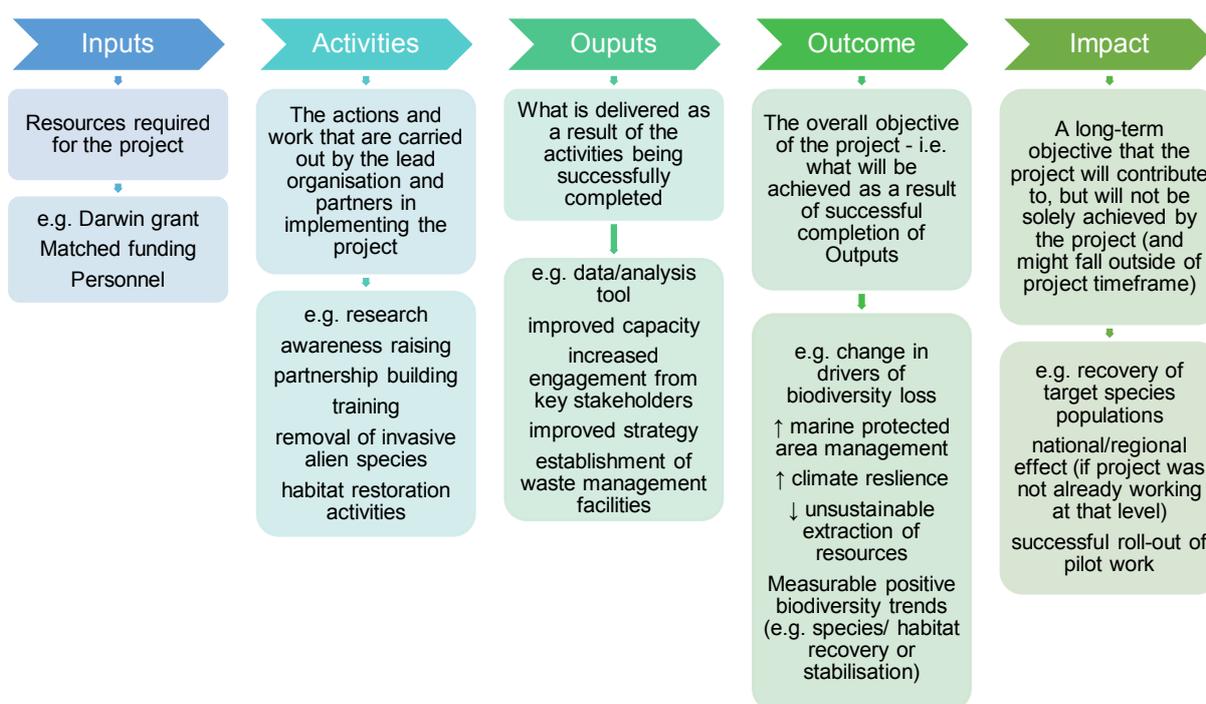
For each Output, the **Activities** which will lead to the Output should be listed. For example if the Output is people trained in environmental impact assessment, the activities would include: *design of training courses, attendance at training courses, an assessment of skills gained, and endorsement or formal qualification received.* Lots of detail is not required but it should be clear what the project scope is and what the budget will be spent on.

Annex D: Monitoring and evaluation – guidance on the logical framework

Developing a pathway to impact

We want Darwin Plus to make a real difference on the ground, through practical action. This means that it is important that we can measure the effect of the projects we fund and that we can learn from what works where and what does not so that this can be adapted and applied elsewhere.

A logframe is an expression of the ‘results chain’. That is, the results you expect to achieve as a result of the project outlined in your proposal. The figure below provides an example of a results chain:



Measuring impact

Robust monitoring and evaluation allows projects to review their progress and evaluate their success in reaching their identified objectives, and will allow us to measure the impact the Fund has made.

The definition of evaluation agreed by the OECD Development Assistance Committee and widely accepted by the international development community is:

"The systematic and objective assessment of an on-going or completed project, programme or policy, its design, implementation, and results in relation to specified evaluation criteria."

Guidance on how to fill in the Logical Framework (“logframe”)

Before you develop your logframe it may be useful to consider and discuss with your project partners the following questions about your intended project:

- What is the project trying to achieve?
- How will it achieve its objectives? What activities will be carried out?
- What resources, people, and equipment will you need?
- What potential problems or risks may affect your delivery?
- How can you mitigate any potential problems or risks?
- How will the progress and ultimate success of the project be measured?

Impact

The Impact statement is a statement of the project’s long-term objective, as a contribution to a wider advance on, for example, conservation and economic and social development. The impact:

- will not be achieved solely by the proposed project
- will be achieved outside of the timeframe of the proposed project

Outcome

The Outcome statement is a project’s objective; what do you expect to achieve as a result of this project? There can only be one Outcome for a project which should identify what will change, and who will benefit. There should be a clear link between the Outcome and the Impact.

Indicators for measuring Outcome

Indicators are the tools and mechanisms you will use to measure the changes your project is making. Indicators should be useful both for project planning and external reporting. They should allow you to demonstrate what you have achieved and when.

Indicators used to measure Outcome may not be achieved until in the closing stages of your project. It is therefore advisable to break these indicators down into milestones so that project progress can be assessed at regular intervals, not just at project end.

Darwin Plus strongly encourages the use of SMART indicators. That is:

- **S**pecific
- **M**easurable
- **A**chievable
- **R**elevant, and
- **T**ime-bound

Indicators can be quantitative or qualitative. It is unlikely that one indicator will be broad enough at this level to capture progress across outcomes. The indicators should ideally cover all aspects of the project, whether they are environmental, social, economic or institutional aspects of intended change.

The indicators provide the detail of what you will measure to assess your progress towards achieving the Outcome. You should be able to state what the change you expect to achieve as a result of the project i.e. the difference between the existing state and the expected end state.

Verifying Outcomes

At the design stage you should identify the materials you will use to verify your Outcome. This is the 'source' material that supports your accounts of achievement.

To evidence the Outcome indicators, you can rely on a range of data sources. For example, these could include secondary data produced in CITES reports, government produced statistics, prosecutions, reports produced by external entities etc. or could include primary data you have collected, as long as this has been collected in a robust and credible manner.

In some cases it may be difficult to rely on independently produced materials to meet the timelines you require. For example, government statistics could be delayed in their production. It is useful therefore to rely on a range of materials from a variety of sources including those produced by your own project and those produced by independent sources.

Understanding important assumptions and managing risks at the Outcome level

Project achievements will often depend on external conditions outside the control of the project. Project design should reflect these risks and assumptions. Risks and assumptions should be monitored. If the situation changes a change in approach for your project may be needed.

Outputs

Outputs are the specific, direct deliverables of the project. These will provide the conditions necessary to achieve the project Outcome; if the outputs are achieved then the logic is that the Outcome will also be achieved. The logic of the chain from Output to Outcome therefore needs to be clear. Most projects will have three or four outputs in order to achieve the intended Outcome. More than five outputs for a Darwin project is likely to be excessively complex. Often, two or more outputs can be combined since they are steps in the same deliverable.

Understanding important assumptions and managing risks at the Output level

Outputs can also be dependent on, or affected by, external events outside the project's control. Risks and assumptions should also be recorded, and monitored, for Outputs. Often risks at Output level can be managed by the project, but it is still possible that the project's approach may need to change because of external events.

Activities

Activities do not need indicators; their completion should be sufficient. Only summarised main activities are required. These should be numbered against the Output that they relate to.

Other resources

This annex is not intended to be a fully developed resource for undertaking project level monitoring and evaluation. There are numerous resources available that provide useful step-by-step instructions for developing project level monitoring and evaluation systems including handy toolkits. Whilst some of these use different terminology for the components of a logframe, the principles remain the same. Some of useful resources include:

- [Darwin Initiative Logframe Information Note](#)
- [DFID How to Note: guidance on using the revised Logical Framework](#)
- [DFID: Review of the use of 'Theory of Change' in International Development](#)
- [The Magenta Book: HM Treasury guidance on what to consider when designing an evaluation](#)
- [Better Evaluation](#)
- [BOND – The Logical Framework Approach](#)
- [BOND – Some useful online materials for monitoring and evaluation.](#)

Annex E: Example Logframe

This is a worked example of a fictitious Darwin Plus project. The measures and indicators are meaningless but demonstrate how you might develop a logframe for your project.

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
<p>Impact:</p> <p>Enhanced resilience of UKOT X's threatened biodiversity directly informs and inspires other islands to incorporate climate change in species action planning.</p>			
<p>Outcome:</p> <p>Globally threatened species in UKOT X are more resilient to climate change through climate informed recovery interventions, strong management competencies, and more supportive civil society.</p>	<p>0.1 Climate change informed Population Viability Analysis modelling demonstrates at least 50% improvement in the viability of target species over the next 50 years by implementing action plans.</p> <p>0.2 At least four critically threatened species achieve at least a 10% increase in population size and/or number of populations by end of Year 3 from baseline established in Y1.</p> <p>0.3 Work plans and budgets of the responsible national agency and supporting partners demonstrate intention to continue implementing action plans beyond the life of this project.</p> <p>0.4 At least 7 natural resources managers and conservation officers demonstrate increased capacity (at least a 30% improvement in capacity level using standardised scoring method) to adaptively manage species conservation needs.</p>	<p>0.1 Population Viability Analysis reports.</p> <p>0.2 Species distribution maps and monitoring reports.</p> <p>0.3 Institutional work plans; staff work plans; institutional budgets.</p> <p>0.4 Trainer's reports; line manager observations; Self-assessment scores using competency questionnaire.</p>	<p>Climate change impacts, including human land use, are forecast within sufficiently accurate bounds.</p> <p>Action plans correctly identify and address the main threats, capacity needs and resources to achieve true species recovery and resilience.</p>

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
<p>Outputs:</p> <p>1. Climate change informed species action plans produced by a participatory process for UKOT X's terrestrial Endangered species that are most at-risk to climate change</p>	<p>1.1 Baseline information on distribution, status, and life history of 7 target Endangered and Critically Endangered species updated by Q3Y1.</p> <p>1.2 Projected impacts of climate change on UKOT X in general – and the target species in particular – reviewed and updated by Q3Y1.</p> <p>1.3 Action planning workshops conducted with at least 30 stakeholders in Q4Y1, taking account of short and long-term climate change predictions.</p> <p>1.4 Action plans finalised and disseminated to all stakeholders within UKOT X by Q1Y2.</p>	<p>1.1 Species databases; status reports; habitat and species population maps; species population reports.</p> <p>1.2 Climate change species impact maps and reports.</p> <p>1.3 Workshop agendas; workshop participants sign-in sheet; PowerPoint presentations; climate change-informed species conservation strategies and action plans (one for reptiles and one for plants), including (current and expected) species distribution maps.</p> <p>1.4 Action Plan for reptile species; Action Plan for plant species; dissemination statistics.</p>	<p>Major field activities can be re-scheduled if extreme weather events occur during grant period.</p> <p>Sufficient data exist to support consensus among conservationists within UKOT X on the likely impacts of climate change.</p> <p>National and regional stakeholders continue willingness to cooperate on biodiversity conservation initiatives.</p>
<p>2. At least six priority interventions prescribed by the action plans to increase climate change resilience are implemented,</p>	<p>2.1 <i>Endangered reptile species X</i> population size increased by at least 20% through creation of artificial nest sites and release of at least 30 additional stock by end of project.</p> <p>2.2 At least 300 seedlings of two endangered plant species planted (and surviving/growing well for 12 months) by end of project.</p>	<p>2.1 CITES export permits; artificial endangered species X nesting sites; endangered species X release and monitoring data sheets and database; habitat and species populations maps; monitoring and evaluation reports.</p>	<p>Field activities can be re-scheduled if extreme weather events occur during grant period.</p> <p>National and regional stakeholders continue to be willing to cooperate on habitat and species</p>

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
monitored and evaluated.	<p>2.3 Invasive mice eradicated from UKOT X island by end of Q2Y2.</p> <p>2.4 At least 4 offshore cays that are essential refuges for threatened species are actively kept free from harmful invasive alien vertebrates (rats, mice, goats).</p> <p>2.5 At least one Endangered or Critically Endangered reptile reintroduced successfully to a secure offshore cay, increasing its range by at least 30 hectares by end of project against baseline established at start of project.</p> <p>2.6 At least one additional key intervention from the action plans identified and implemented by end of project (the specific measure/s will be submitted for approval by Darwin by Year 2 progress report).</p>	<p>2.2 Reforestation/planting protocols; monitoring data on plant survival and growth</p> <p>2.3 UKOT X island rodent eradication progress reports and final technical report.</p> <p>2.4 Biosecurity protocols, monitoring datasheets and database for each island; invasive species incursion response reports (if any incursions occur).</p> <p>2.5 Translocation protocols, datasheets and database; Monitoring datasheets, database, and reports; species distribution maps.</p> <p>2.6 Darwin Plus correspondence; Project reports.</p>	<p>conservation/ resiliency initiatives.</p> <p>Young plants can successfully be transplanted from high risk areas to protected sites.</p>
<p>3. National capability to plan, manage, implement and monitor climate change informed species conservation actions is raised, supported by</p>	<p>3.1 Communications and public awareness communications plan developed by Q2Y1.</p> <p>3.2 At least 70% of nationals (c. 8,500 people) know about the project and can articulate why the target species merit conservation.</p> <p>3.3 At least 40 UKOT X residents (50% women) volunteer their time and resources</p>	<p>3.1 Communications and public awareness plan.</p> <p>3.2 Knowledge-Attitudes-Performance (KAP) surveys at start and end of project newspaper articles; social media posts; radio press releases; PowerPoint</p>	<p>Trained expertise remains in UKOT X.</p> <p>Improved knowledge leads to improved behaviours to conserve biodiversity.</p>

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
enhanced technical skills and greater public awareness and cooperation	<p>towards implementing the conservation actions by end of project (baseline = 0).</p> <p>3.4 At least 30 nationals gain advanced technical skills and experience in developing action plans and implementing conservation actions by end of project (baseline = 0).</p> <p>3.5 Project methods and lessons learned disseminated to relevant natural resource managers within all regional UKOTs and other sub-regional islands by end of project.</p> <p>3.6 At least GBP 100,000 generated in cash and/or in-kind to continue implementing action plans after the grant period.</p>	<p>presentations; social media analytics.</p> <p>3.3 Minutes of meetings; names and details of participating residents.</p> <p>3.4 Training evaluation sheets; training workshop agenda; workshop attendance sheet; monitoring protocol; biodiversity datasheets.</p> <p>3.5 Case studies; presentation abstracts; PowerPoint presentations; Minutes of meetings.</p> <p>3.6 Memoranda of Understanding; grant proposals and funding agreements; merchandise sales; habitat and species adoption schemes.</p>	
4. Research outputs developed and shared with target audiences (including local government)	<p>4.1 Journal article on island conservation and resilience by Y2 submitted to open access journal by Y2.</p> <p>4.2 Workshop hosted by responsible national agency on applying resilience building actions in practice in UKOT X.</p>	<p>4.1 Journal confirmation email; draft article</p> <p>4.2 Workshop proceedings; attendance records; presentations</p> <p>4.3 Google analytics for Y2.</p>	Responsible national agency remains committed to co-hosting research outputs of project

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
	<p>4.3 Project brief downloaded from project website at least 200 times in Y2</p> <p>4.4 Pop up survey of who is downloading document shows breakdown of practitioners, policy makers, researchers etc.</p>	4.4 Pop up survey results	