

Darwin Initiative, Darwin Plus and Illegal Wildlife Trade Challenge Fund Case Studies Webinars 9th and 12th November 2021

Darwin Main and Darwin Plus Case Studies Webinar

On 9th November 2021, a webinar was held for Darwin Main and Darwin Plus projects. The specific intention of the webinar was to provide new projects funded under Rounds 27 and 9 with the opportunity to hear from existing projects, with a particular focus on lessons learning, but the webinar was open to all Darwin Initiative and Darwin Plus projects and Defra stakeholders.

The projects included in the webinar were:

- 25-011 “Andean bears and people: coexistence through poverty reduction, Bolivia” led by Chester Zoo, presented by Xime Velez-Liendo
- DPLUS094 “Developing Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) tools for Turks and Caicos” led by SAEI, presented by Tara Pelembe
- 26-012 “Ghodaghodi’s Guardians: Communities restoring a Ramsar wetland at watershed scale, Nepal” led ZSL, presented by Shashanka Sharma

The presentation slides and recordings for can be found on both the [Darwin Initiative website](#) and the [Darwin Plus website](#).

IWT Challenge Fund Case Studies Webinar

On 12th November 2021, a webinar was held for IWT Challenge Fund projects. The specific intention of the webinar was to provide new IWT projects funded under Round 7 with the opportunity to hear from existing IWT projects, with a particular focus on lessons learning, but the webinar was open to all IWT projects, Defra stakeholders and members of the IWTAG.

The projects included in the webinar were:

- IWT062 “Disrupting the illegal wildlife trade in grey parrots in Cameroon” led by ZSL, presented by Andrew Fowler and Fanny Djomkam
- IWT040 “Strengthening trans-continental cooperation to combat IWT between Vietnam and Mozambique” led by WCS, presented by Thuy Hoang and Trung Pham

The presentation slides and recordings for both webinars can be found on the [IWT Challenge Fund website](#).

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Darwin Main and Darwin Plus Webinar Agenda

Agenda Item
Welcome and introduction to the webinar
Case Study 1 – 25-011 “Andean bears and people: coexistence through poverty reduction, Bolivia”
Questions
Case Study 2 – DPLUS094 “Developing Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) tools for Turks and Caicos”
Questions
Case Study 3 – 26-012 “Ghodaghodi’s Guardians: Communities restoring a Ramsar wetland at watershed scale, Nepal”
Final Questions & Close

Notes on the Darwin/Darwin Plus webinar

A total of 84 people registered, and 56 people were able to attend. See Annex 1 for details on the spread of people attending the webinar.

The objectives of the session were:

- To provide a lesson learning opportunity for key personnel from new Darwin Initiative and Darwin Plus projects
- An opportunity for past Project Leaders to share their experiences and tips

Following the completion of the webinar, detailed feedback was requested from participants. This is summarised below.

Summarised Webinar Feedback

How useful did you find the webinar?

Of the 56 people who attended the webinar, 18 attendees provided feedback. 16 attendees reported finding the webinar very useful, 2 attendees responded that it was moderately useful, and no attendees responded that it was not useful.

Would you be interested in similar webinars in the future?

Out of the 18 webinar attendees who provided feedback, all responded that they would be interested in future webinars.

Please share your thoughts on what you found useful

- Great to hear lessons learned, and advice on what works well in Darwin funded projects.
- Good tips from the project leaders, what pitfalls exist and how to deal with some challenges.
- Lessons learned from each project in particular for challenging times.
- Very interesting and very instructive.
- Project management tips e.g. admin
- The variety of case studies I found very useful.
- Most of the projects are engaging with local communities to have an ecological restoration that I found very useful.
- It is really interesting to hear from funded projects, and especially how the implementation differed from the original funding applications.
- I found it useful that the presenters talked about problems that arose during their projects and how they were mitigated, and gave suggestions on planning, communication, involving stakeholders etc.
- Sharing of lessons, challenges and approaches to adapt project implementation.
- Hearing about general approaches to other projects and lessons learnt was very useful.
- It is good to see how other projects have dealt with problems, and how they adapted to them.
- How future monitoring works could continue after the projects end.

Please share your thoughts on what could be improved

- Really interesting projects. Would have perhaps preferred a bit more detail on challenges and specific adaptations from some of the speakers, but great otherwise.
- This section is not allowing a useful response because of its character count
- Presentation time to be extended.
- More interaction, is it possible?

Do you have any suggestions for future webinar topics?

- Only suggestion is perhaps less time could be spent on project details, and more time on the practicalities of working on a Darwin funded project/advice/lessons learned.
- Perhaps going through an example project report from a past project. It would be interesting to see examples of the reporting and M&E more specifically.
- For these to happen a couple of times a year, in order to hear from a variety of projects who took different approaches and have different needs.
- It would be useful to learn more about the process of resolving human-wildlife conflict in areas where it has become extreme.
- Maybe you could theme the webinars geographically so, for example, those with projects in Asia could log on to a webinar with Asian project speakers? Perhaps then there could be deeper conversation
- Supporting local communities on forest protection.
- Always good to hear from more projects! It would be interesting to get some focus on how successful projects were initially developed, and how partnerships were formed.
- Not at this time but this sort of thing is a great way of finding out about the work being done and to help plan future collaborations - thank you!
- Perhaps more on reporting and what is expected.
- Topic-specific webinars/workshops, such as: working with community leaders; leading effective workshops; managing multiple partners; M&E; etc
- There are so much to do in conservation, every topic will be interesting.

IWT Challenge Fund Webinar Agenda

Agenda Item
Welcome and introduction to the webinar
Case Study 1 – IWT062 “Disrupting the illegal wildlife trade in grey parrots in Cameroon”
Questions
Case Study 2 – IWT040 “Strengthening trans-continental cooperation to combat IWT between Vietnam and Mozambique”
Final Questions & Close

Notes on the IWT Challenge Fund webinar

A total of 48 people registered, and 33 people were able to attend. See Annex 2 for details on the spread of people attending the webinar.

The objectives of the session were:

- To provide a lesson learning opportunity for key personnel from new and previously funded IWT Challenge Fund projects
- An opportunity for past project leaders to share their experiences and tips

Following the completion of the webinar, detailed feedback was requested from participants. This is summarised below.

Summarised Webinar Feedback

How useful did you find the webinar?

Of the 33 people who attended the webinar, 8 attendees provided feedback. 4 attendees reported finding the webinar very useful and 4 attendees responded that it was moderately useful.

Would you be interested in similar webinars in the future?

All 8 webinar attendees who provided feedback responded that they would be interested in future webinars.

Please share your thoughts on what you found useful

- The challenges and lessons learned from the past projects
- I gain lesson learn from other projects
- It's great to hear about other IWT projects, how they operate, achieve their successes, and solve problems.
- Lesson learned and tips.
- Hearing case studies, including the challenges faced and methods used to overcome them was very helpful when starting a new project.
- I found more useful to hear about past projects, their results, what was achieved and what are the future steps that should be taken.
- Good: example from Africa & from Asia (maybe Latin American IWT next time?)

Please share your thoughts on what could be improved

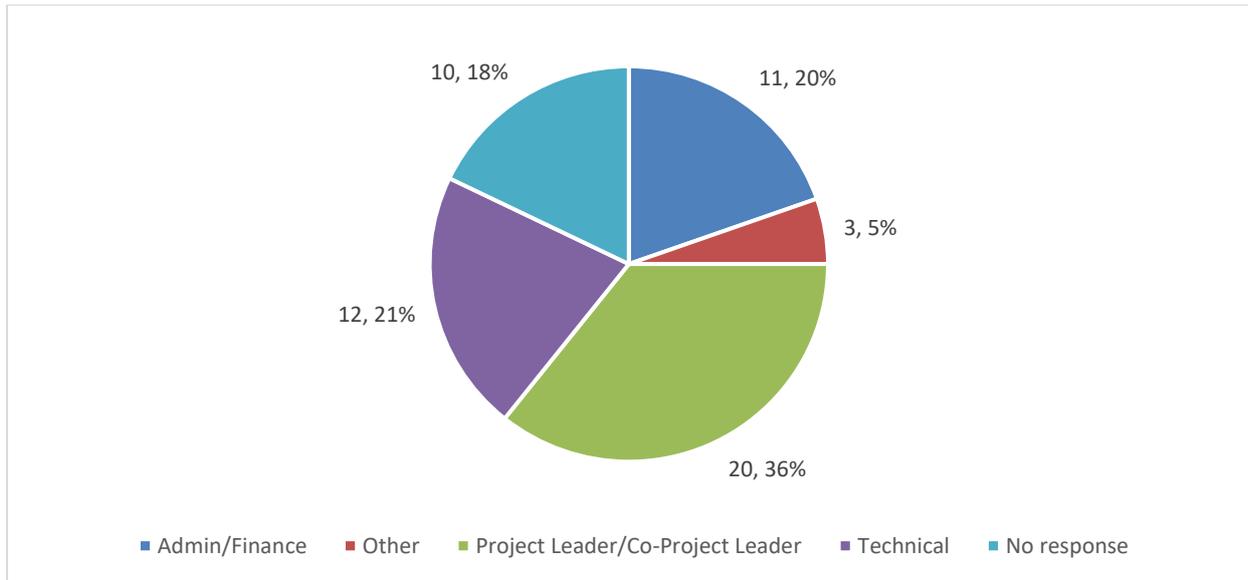
- An idea could be to pair up old and new project team members for coaching.
- Ideally less time on the projects & more time on discussing what Project Leaders learned about handling the project/grant.

Do you have any suggestions for future webinar topics?

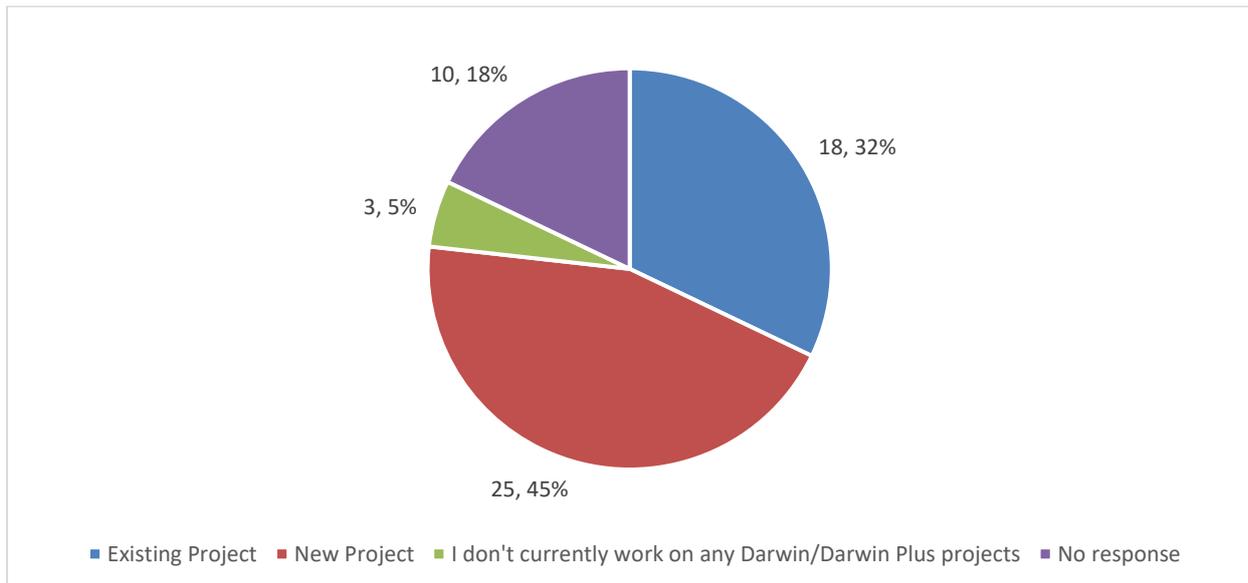
- A session where similar projects are connected to encourage information sharing and the building of a bigger picture of trade routes/trafficking/poaching syndicates and consumers.
- Reporting and finance.
- Managing reporting: did Project Leaders prompt Project Partners for financial & performance reports more regularly than the half-year requirement, & what were the pros/cons of their decision.
- Dealing with change requests.
- More case studies and avenues to contact the presenter
- If possible, it would be very interesting to hear from the perspective of beneficiaries of the projects. For example, community members, other agencies, local partners etc.

Annex 1 – Darwin/Darwin Plus Webinar Poll Responses

What is your role on your project?

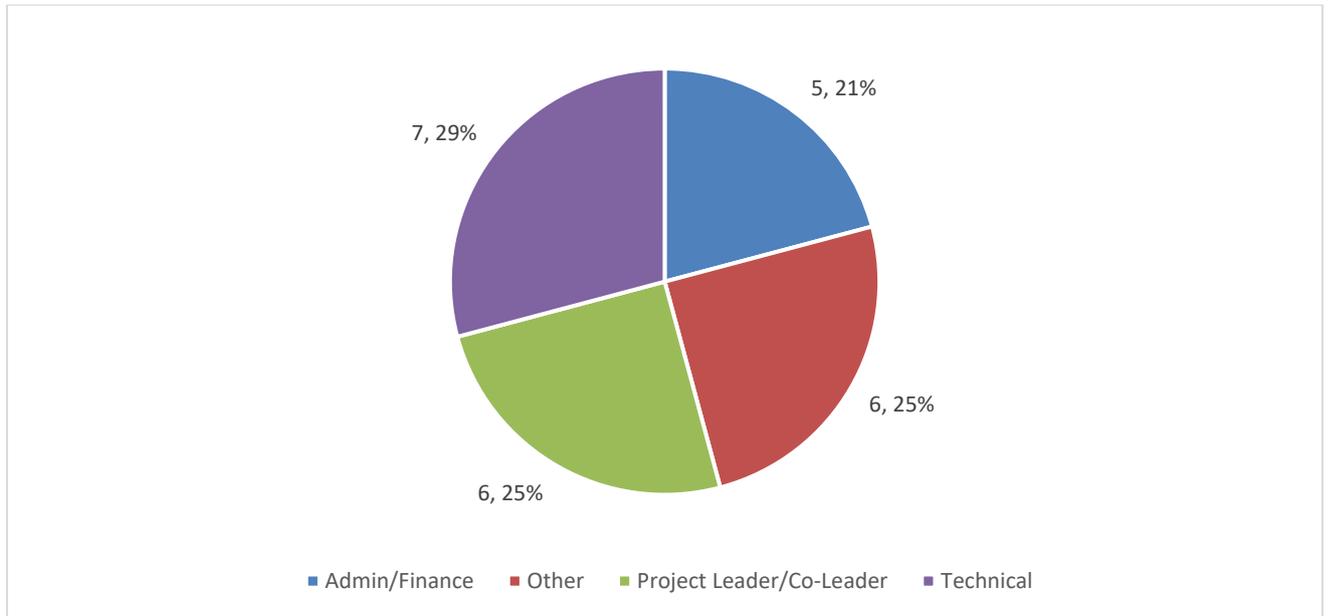


Is your project new or from a previous funding Round?



Annex 2 – IWT Challenge Fund Webinar Poll Responses

What is your role on the project?



Is your project new or from a previous funding Round?

