Applicant: McCarthy, John

Organisation: Environmental Investigation Agency (EIA)

Funding Sought: £59,217.00

# CV19RR\1038

### Responding to COVID-19 impacts on wildlife trafficking in Uganda/DRC

Uganda and eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) are hubs for illicit wildlife product trafficking. This project will respond to the urgent need to disrupt escalating wildlife trafficking associated with the reduction in law enforcement resourcing associated with COVID-19. Investigations into traffickers operating from Uganda's national parks and between DRC and Uganda will enable government agencies to conduct successful law enforcement. COVID-19 impacts on wildlife trafficking and zoonotic disease emergence risks in Uganda/DRC will be published in a briefing document.

# **Section 1 - Contact Details**

#### PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS



#### **GMS ORGANISATION**



# **Section 2 - Project Title & Previous Applications**

## **Q3. Project Title:**

Responding to COVID-19 impacts on wildlife trafficking in Uganda/DRC

## **Q4. Existing project**

Q4a. Does your organisation have an existing (or recently finished) project under either Darwin Initiative, Darwin Plus or Illegal Wildlife Trade Challenge Fund?

Yes

If yes, please list the project reference and title of relevant projects (e.g. 25-001, DPLUS090, IWT099).

Reference of current/recent project:	Title of current/recent project:
IWT056	Strengthening enforcement against the illegal pangolin trade in Uganda

### Q4b. Is this proposal directly relevant to one of the projects listed above?

Yes

### If yes, please list the relevant project reference and title.

IWT056 Strengthening enforcement against the illegal pangolin trade in Uganda

## **Section 3 - Countries, Dates & Budget Summary**

# Q5. Which Fund's objectives will your project most directly address? (please only select one)

Illegal Wildlife Trade Challenge Fund

### Q6. Country(ies)

### Which eligible country(ies) will your project be working in?

Country 1	Uganda	Country 2	Congo (DRC)
Country 3	No Response	Country 4	No Response

### Do you require more fields?

No

### **Q7. Project dates**

Start Date:	End date:
01 January 2021	31 March 2021

### **Q8. Budget summary**

Darwin/IWT Funding Request Total request 2020/21:

59,217.00

Please note all spending <u>must</u> fall between 1st January 2021 - 31st March 2021

Q8a. If any matched funding arrangements are proposed, please detail them here.

n/a

## **Section 4 - Project Outcome and Summary**

### Q9. Outcome

### What is the expected Outcome of this project?

Strengthened capacity for intelligence-led investigations, prosecutions and transboundary cooperation reduces the impact of COVID-19 on the escalating trafficking of pangolins, elephant ivory and other globally threatened wildlife through Uganda.

### Q10. Summary of project

Please provide a brief summary of your project, its aims, and the key activities you plan on undertaking. Please note that if you are successful, this wording may be used by Defra in communications e.g. as a short description of the project on GOV.UK.

Uganda and eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) are hubs for illicit wildlife product trafficking. This project will respond to the urgent need to disrupt escalating wildlife trafficking associated with the reduction in law enforcement resourcing associated with COVID-19. Investigations into traffickers operating from Uganda's national parks and between DRC and Uganda will enable government agencies to conduct successful law enforcement. COVID-19 impacts on wildlife trafficking and zoonotic disease emergence risks in Uganda/DRC will be published in a briefing document.

## **Section 5 - Project Partners**

## **Q11. Project partners**

Please list all the partners involved (including the Lead Organisation) and provide a summary of their roles. Please upload letters, emails or other confirmation of support from any new partners.

Lead Organisation name:	Environmental Investigation Agency UK
Other partners involved:	Natural Resource Conservation Network (NRCN) - Uganda Conserv Congo - DRC

# Summary of roles and responsibilities in project:

EIA will be responsible for ensuring overall implementation and evaluation of this project. EIA will coordinate project delivery, provide capacity building support on intelligence management relating to wildlife trafficking and information analysis.

NRCN (based from Kampala, Uganda and operational at key wildlife trafficking hubs across the country) will lead on supporting the Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA) to conduct field investigations into wildlife trafficking in Uganda and working with the Department of Public Prosecutions to prosecute cases in the special wildlife court in Kampala. NRCN will also liaise closely with Conserv Congo to coordinate investigations into wildlife trafficking between DRC and Uganda.

Conserv Congo (based in Kinshasa, DRC and operational at key wildlife trafficking hubs across the country) will support the Congolese Institute for Nature Conservation (ICCN) to conduct investigations into wildlife trafficking in eastern DRC and key wildlife trafficking hubs. They will liaise closely with NRCN on transboundary (DRC-Uganda) investigations.

If you have not provided evidence of support from the Lead Organisation or partners above, please explain why:

n/a

Please provide a combined PDF of letters of support from the lead organisation and partner(s) as relevant.

- ① 15:37:48
- pdf 213.05 KB

# **Section 6 - Project Staff**

## Q12. Project staff

Please identify the core staff on this project, their role and what % of their time they will be working on the project. Further information on who should be classified as core staff can be found in the guidance. Please provide a 1 page CV for the proposed Project Leader and any co-Project Leader if relevant.

Name (First name, surname)	Role	% time on project	1 page CV attached?
Julian Newman	Project Leader	10	Checked

Chris Hamley	Senior Pangolin Campaigner (EIA)	20	Unchecked
Denitsa Dimitrova	Intelligence Officer (EIA)	10	
[name withheld for security reasons]	Investigator (EIA)	10	

### Do you require more fields?

Yes

Name (First name, surname)	Role	% time on project
Vincent Opyene	Executive Director (NRCN)	5
[name withheld for security reasons]	Head Investigator (NRCN)	20
Akello Gladys	Prosecutor (NRCN)	20
Irene Nyareru	Head of Prosecutions	10
Joan Namuddu	Project Coordinator (NRCN)	20
Adams Cassinga	Executive Director (Conserv Congo)	40
Josue Elonda	Logistics Coordinator (Conserv Congo)	60
[name withheld for security reasons]	Senior Investigator (Conserv Congo)	80

Please provide 1 page CVs for the proposed Project Leader and any co-Project Leader listed above as a combined PDF.

Ensure the file is named clearly, consistent with the named individual and role above.

- Julian Newman, EIA Campaigns Director CV
- **i** 02/11/2020
- © 15:43:37
- pdf 96.47 KB

## Section 7 - Problem, Method and Change Expected

## Q13. Problem the project is trying to address

Please describe the problem your project is trying to address in terms of Covid-19 and its impact on biodiversity or IWT and sustainable livelihoods. For example, what are the drivers of loss of biodiversity that the project will attempt to address? Why are they relevant, for whom? How did you identify these problems? Please cite the evidence you are using to support your assessment of the problem (references can be listed in an additional attached PDF document).

Uganda is a major regional transit hub for the trafficking of illicit wildlife products such as pangolin skins and scales, elephant and hippo ivory, live chimpanzees, and leopard, giraffe and okapi skins. This is driving severe population declines in some of the last strongholds of Central/East Africa's wildlife. Much of these illicit wildlife products are sourced from adjacent Central African countries such as the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Information from ElA's existing civil-society partners – Natural Resource Conservation Network (NRCN) and Conserv Congo demonstrate the escalating impact of COVID-19 on wildlife. With the onset of COVID-19, Uganda's ten national parks have experienced a rapidly escalating poaching crisis. As international tourist numbers diminished due to global transportation restrictions, Uganda's national parks have become more vulnerable to poaching. Wildlife traffickers operating between eastern DRC and Uganda are also capitalising on a reduction in law enforcement effort to smuggle illicit wildlife products through Uganda undetected.

Reduced tourist revenue for the Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA) has undermined resourcing for ranger patrols. The reduced tourist presence in protected areas has eliminated the poaching deterrent affect associated with safaris and dramatically reduced ecotourism employment opportunities. There has been a doubling in wildlife poaching associated with communities that previously benefited from ecotourism. By June 2020, UWA had recorded 367 poaching cases compared to 163 cases in 2019. This has been compounded with a growing backlog of court cases in Kampala resulting from a temporary closure of the special wildlife court that has now reopened. Furthermore, restrictions on travel have led to increases in transport costs affecting intelligence gathering activities.

Both Uganda and DRC have experienced outbreaks of diseases originating in wildlife including Ebola and Marburg. Human exposure to animals in the DRC/Uganda illegal wildlife supply chain is a major risk factor in the zoonotic disease emergence.

## Q14. Methodology

**Describe the methods and approach you will use to achieve** your intended Outcome. **Provide information on:** 

- How you have analysed historical and existing initiatives and are building on or taking work already done into account in project design. Please cite evidence where appropriate.
- The rationale for carrying out this work and a justification of your proposed methodology.
- If relevant, how this project links to an ongoing Darwin/IWT project.
- How you will undertake the work (materials and methods).
- How you will manage the work (roles and responsibilities, project management tools etc.).

Projects should also consider how best they can address inequality, especially gender inequality, as per the existing guidance for each fund.

# Please make sure you read the Guidance Notes, particularly Section 3, before answering this question.

The project will build on, and draw lessons learned from, EIA's ongoing work to address the transnational trafficking of elephants, pangolins and Asian big cats. This has included three DEFRA IWT Challenge Fund grants: IWT046, IWT056 and IWT059. EIA draws on decades of experience conducting field investigations that combine approaches from investigative journalism and intelligence-led enforcement. Recent EIA investigations have shown how Uganda and DRC are strategic priorities in efforts to address global organised wildlife trafficking. DRC is a major wildlife source country and traffickers transport illicit wildlife products from there to Uganda, exploiting its weak governance and global transportation linkages. EIA has established strong working partnerships with civil-society organisations operating in key countries

in the Africa to Asia illicit wildlife product supply chain. Civil-society organisations in countries affected by transnational wildlife trafficking hold government to account and facilitate law enforcement capacity building. Through our existing partnerships with NRCN and Conserv Congo, EIA is well positioned to engage national level stakeholders in Uganda and DRC.

Through IWT056, EIA and NRCN teams are collaborating closely to investigate pangolin trafficking, inform prosecutions, build capacity for financial investigations and strengthen the Uganda Wildlife Act. Throughout the COVID-19 period, EIA has adapted to the new context by conducting remote engagement with wildlife traffickers operating in Uganda, and NRCN has obtained special permissions from UWA to conduct investigations into trafficking networks operating from key wildlife source areas, with 12 convictions resulting from this (Apr-Sep 2020).

This project will directly link with EIA/NRCN's ongoing work to dismantle pangolin trafficking networks by providing support for investigations into the trafficking of other high priority illicit wildlife products. It will do this by responding to the urgent need to disrupt the escalating rates of trafficking associated with poaching in Uganda's national parks. Improved resourcing for NRCN investigations will strengthen intelligence gathering and prosecutorial support to the relevant Uganda government agencies. Successfully generating leads, conducting investigations and making arrests of the individuals involved in transboundary DRC/Uganda trafficking requires close collaboration between stakeholders in each country. This project with strengthen EIA's and NRCN's new partnership activities with Conserv Congo to respond to this need. Conserv Congo has an operational investigations presence in eastern DRC and is well positioned to generate and share intelligence on trafficking networks. Specific activities:

- Conduct investigations into wildlife trafficking groups operating from Uganda's national parks and between eastern DRC and Uganda
- Establish an investigations information coordination mechanism between EIA, NRCN and Conserv Congo
- Analyse information to document wildlife trafficking characteristics (species, routes, corruption, emerging trends, etc), identify zoonotic disease emergence risks and impacts of COVID-19
- Disseminate intelligence on trafficking networks to transport/finance taskforces and trusted law enforcement agencies
- Monitor Uganda/DRC government wildlife trafficking investigations and prosecutions to ensure these are effective, and undertake prosecutions to clear court case backlog
- Produce briefing document COVID-19 wildlife trafficking impacts in Uganda/DRC, including zoonotic disease risks, and share publicly with stakeholders
- Project planning and M&E through regular communication and information sharing between partners

## Q15. Change expected

Detail the expected changes this work will deliver. You should identify what will change and who will benefit a) in the short-term (i.e. during the life of the project) and b) in the long-term (after the project has ended). Please describe the changes for biodiversity/environment and for people in developing countries, and how they are linked. If you are proposing building on a current or past project, be clear how additional benefits will be delivered through this project.

When talking about people, please remember to give details of who will benefit and the number of beneficiaries expected. The number of communities is insufficient detail – number of households should be the largest unit used. If possible, indicate the number of women who will be impacted.

This project will increase risks and reduce profits for organised wildlife traffickers and reduce levels of elephant, pangolin, chimpanzee, leopard, giraffe and okapi poaching in Uganda and DRC. It will do this by enhancing diminished UWA capacity to address an uptick in wildlife trafficking associated with COVID-19. It will ensure that resources invested through the existing IWT056 project on investigations are not lost

because of limited resourcing for prosecutions at the special wildlife court in Kampala.

Trafficking networks will be disrupted through arrests and prosecutions, and by creating a situation in which wildlife traffickers face risks of arrest and prosecution. The disruption of illicit wildlife product supply chains will reduce the growing poaching of wildlife associated with the COVID-19 socio-economic impacts. Furthermore, it will prevent the loss of key wildlife populations in DRC and Uganda's national parks that attract tourists and provide a vital revenue source for communities and government.

The project will support the implementation of activities by two successful wildlife activity civil society organisations in two developing countries affected by major deficits in government accountability and transparency. By supporting law enforcement capability and ensuring resourcing of investigations will enable NRCN and Conserv Congo to act as effective civil society watchdogs on the activities of the government to prioritise activities to combat wildlife trafficking during the COVID-19 crisis. This in turn will promote law enforcement and judicial accountability and the prevention of wildlife exploitation that can undermine the livelihood security of resource-dependent rural communities in Uganda and DRC. The project will build disincentives that discourage people from engaging in wildlife exploitation that brings rural communities into closer contact with animals that can be of disease risk. This will protect human health by preventing the emergence of zoonotic diseases such as Ebola and Marburg, and other potentially unknown diseases.

If necessary, please provide supporting documentation e.g. maps, diagrams, references etc., as a PDF using the File Upload below:

No Response

# **Section 8 - Aims, Objectives and Exit Strategy**

## Q16. Aims and objectives

# Clearly outline the aim and objectives of the project and how the achievement will be measured. Use SMART objectives if possible.

The aim of this project is to mitigate the escalating trafficking of wildlife in Uganda and between DRC and Uganda resulting from diminished law enforcement resourcing and ecotourism benefits associated with the COVID-19 crisis. It will do this by strengthening capacity for intelligence-led investigations and prosecutions, and facilitate transboundary cooperation. The project will also build an evidence base on the impacts of COVID-19 in Uganda and DRC, and generate information on the zoonotic disease risks associated with wildlife trafficking in the region. The objectives of the project are:

- Resource field investigations into wildlife trafficking networks operating in Uganda/DRC so there is an increase from a monthly average of 14 active investigations (NRCN: 8; Conserv Congo: 6) between April and September 2020 to a minimum of 18 active investigations per month between January and March 2020
- Cooperation between EIA, NRCN and Conserv Congo ensures strengthened Uganda/DRC transboundary field investigations that lead to a minimum of 3 court cases for wildlife trafficking offences
- At least 20 intelligence reports are generated from opensource, social media and field investigations relating to wildlife trafficking in Uganda/DRC (stored on EIA's secure internal information management system managed by experienced intelligence officers with experience in UK law enforcement)
- NRCN supports UWA, public prosecutions department and police to complete prosecutions for wildlife trafficking offences so that the conviction rate for January to March 2020 is above 70% of new cases
- Strengthened enforcement effort targeting wildlife trafficking networks in Uganda is associated with a measurable reduction in poaching incidents in national parks (compared to the average for April to December 2020)
- Knowledge of COVID-19 impacts on wildlife trafficking in Uganda and DRC, as well as zoonotic disease risks, is generated and shared with key Ugandan, DRC and international stakeholders to inform future

## Q17. Exit strategy

State how the project will reach a stable and sustainable end point, and explain how the outcomes will be sustained, either through a continuation of activities, funding and support from other sources or because the activities will be mainstreamed in to "business as usual".

The project will deliver several outputs that will have a long-term impact on reducing wildlife trafficking in Uganda and DRC. It will enhance the generation and availability of information on wildlife traffickers in Uganda/DRC and provide a basis upon which governments and NGOs can strategically plan advocacy and law enforcement or interventions to disrupt and end the global illegal wildlife trade.

The outputs of the project will also link with ongoing EIA and NRCN work to strengthen criminal justice responses to wildlife trafficking. EIA has recently been awarded a United States government grant focusing on disrupting ivory and pangolin trafficking in Nigeria. Intelligence generated from the COVID-19 response work in Uganda will feed into Africa-wide learning on opportunities to disrupt transnational wildlife trafficking.

NRCN is currently implementing a sub-grant as part of a USAID funded project to combat wildlife crime in Uganda, this is implemented by the Wildlife Conservation Society. This USAID project does not include resourcing for NRCN to cover the activities outlined in this project proposal. This project will therefore ensure that priority COVID-19 wildlife trafficking response needs are prioritised, and associated information fed into USAID workstreams including those related to Uganda's National Wildlife Crime Coordination Taskforce.

## **Section 9 - Budget**

## Q18. Budget

Provide a detailed breakdown of costs to be funded by the Darwin Initiative/Darwin Plus/IWT Challenge Fund in GBP.

See Finance for Darwin/IWT for which costs sit under which budget line.

Budget Line	Cost in £ (GBP)
Staff costs	
Consultancy costs	
Overhead costs	
Travel and subsistence	
Operating costs	
Capital equipment*	
Other costs	

Total (Must be less than or equal to £60,000)	59,217.00
*If you are proposing to purchase any capital items over £1,000 please detail these here and provide justification below	Two laptops, one each for NRCN and Conserv Congo to support secure information management

## **Q19. Financial Risk Management**

This question considers the financial risks to the project. Explain how you have considered the risks and threats that may be relevant to the successful financial delivery of this project. This includes risks such as fraud or bribery, but may also include the risk of fluctuating foreign exchange and internal financial processes such as storage of financial data.

EIA has a qualified London-based finance team, which oversees the implementation of financial management processes within the organisation and with project partners in developing countries. The organisation also has an Anti-Bribery and Corruption Policy in line with UK government law. Sub-grants to project partners carry risks around a lack of transparency on grant financial management accounting. To eliminate these risks EIA includes specific clauses in our sub-grant agreements that ensure that partners implement robust systems for documenting project expenditure and the production of accurate and fully accounted financial reports. These agreements also include clauses on adherence to the UK Bribery Act. Processes established by EIA with partners to mitigate financial risks include regular financial reports, tracking of expenditure, spot checks of transactions and supporting documents, and direct communication between the EIA finance team and project partner finance teams. NRCN has a Head of Finance who oversees a team of finance assistants and Conserv Congo has a two-person finance team. Through this project the EIA finance team will provide ad-hoc support to both NRCN and Conserv Congo to ensure full compliance with DEFRA terms and conditions. Monthly Monitoring and Evaluation meetings between partners will be used to track project implementation.

## **Q20. Capital items**

If you plan to purchase capital items with Darwin/IWT funding, please indicate what you anticipate will happen to the items following project end. If you are requesting more than 10% capital costs, please provide your justification here.

Two laptops will be purchased by NRCN and Conserv Congo (one each) to facilitate efficient and secure management of sensitive and confidential information obtained through investigations. Following project end, the laptops will remain in the possession of the two organisations to support ongoing investigations, intelligence management and prosecution activities funded by different donors.

## **Q21. Value for Money**

Please describe why you consider your application to be good value for money including justification of why the measures you will adopt will secure value for money.

EIA has a decades-long record for intelligence-gathering, analysis and advocacy that makes us the most independent and effective campaigners tackling the gravest global issues of our time. A central tenet of our

approach on wildlife trafficking is to generate information from investigations to inform advocacy that leads to significant and sustained disruptions to the global illegal wildlife trade. EIA has a commitment to building effective long-term responses to serious and organised wildlife trafficking in key source and transit countries in Africa. This project will provide value for money through:

- EIA's capable and highly experienced team of wildlife campaigners, intelligence officers, investigators, communications specialists and financial managers.
- Strong partnerships with two civil-society organisations (NRCN and Conserv Congo) with an existing operational presence in Uganda and DRC and established relationships with relevant government agencies such as wildlife departments, police and prosecutors. Both organisations have a track-record in delivering law enforcement outcomes that disrupt wildlife trafficking networks.
- Strengthening of transboundary collaboration between Uganda and DRC through enhanced cooperation between NRCN and Conserv Congo that will continue beyond the project lifetime.
- The project's civil-society partnerships will channel resourcing that will support in-country capacity and build local initiatives and voices that will continue to campaign for wildlife conservation outcomes beyond the project lifetime.
- The project will generate lessons learned on how local civil-society organisations in major wildlife trafficking source and transit hubs can enhance pro-active law enforcement responses for replication in other countries.

## **Section 10 - Ethics and Safeguarding**

### Q22. Ethics

Outline your approach to meeting Darwin/IWT's key principles for ethics as outlined in the guidance note. Additionally, are there any human rights and/or international humanitarian law risks in relation to your project? If there are, have you carried out an assessment of the impact of those risks, and of measures that may be taken in order to mitigate them?

EIA has extensive experience conducting investigations in developing countries, this will enable the project team to ensure the rights and safety of staff or investigations targets are protected. EIA partner organisations are contractually obliged to adhere to international human rights laws and required by EIA to implement measures ensuring their activities do not support government actions that violate human rights. EIA will work with the project partners to maintain intelligence confidentiality, including secure information management and source identity protection. Information will not be shared with law enforcement agencies when there are death penalty or other risks (e.g. unlawful detention).

## **Q23. Safeguarding**

Projects funded through the Darwin Initiative/IWT Challenge Fund must fully protect vulnerable people all of the time, wherever they work. In order to provide assurance of this, projects are required to have appropriate safeguarding policies in place. The award Terms and Conditions set out clear requirements on safeguarding. Please confirm you have read and understand these and that you comply with them all.

Checked

## **Section 11 - Key Milestones**

## Q24. Provide an overview of your proposed project, outlining key

## milestones.

# N.B. This should cover the period of your requested project only and the start/end dates should match with those provided in Question 7.

Date	Key Milestone
01 January 2021	START
18 January 2021	NRCN/Conserv Congo have identified leads and initiated field investigations in priority areas for wildlife trafficking.
18 January 2021	NRCN has initiated work with the public prosecutions department to clear a back log of wildlife trafficking court cases.
18 January 2021	EIA, NRCN and Conserv Congo have formalised investigations cooperation and information sharing procedures for DRC-Uganda investigations.
13 February 2021	NRCN/Conserv Congo have generated intelligence on wildlife trafficking networks operating between DRC and Uganda and supported government agencies on law enforcement responses.
13 February 2021	EIA processes intelligence from NRCN/Conserv Congo investigations to feed into analysis and dissemination products.
20 March 2021	NRCN has prosecuted cases resulting from field investigations initiated in January/February both independently and in cooperation with Conserv Congo.
20 March 2021	EIA has produced final briefing document on COVID-19 impacts on wildlife trafficking in Uganda and DRC (incl. zoonotic disease risks) and shared with key stakeholders.
No Response	No Response

March 2021

### **Section 12 - Certification**

# **Q25. FCDO notifications**

Please check the box if you think that there are sensitivities that the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office will need to be aware of should they want to publicise the project's success in the Darwin/IWT competition in the host country.

Unchecked

Please indicate whether you have contacted your Foreign Ministry or the local embassy or High Commission (or equivalent) directly to discuss security issues (see Guidance Notes) and attach details of any advice you have received from them.

O Yes (no written advice
O Yes, advice attached
O No

## **Q26. Certification**

#### On behalf of the

trustees

of

Environmental Investigation Agency UK

#### I apply for a grant of

£59,217.00

I certify that, to the best of our knowledge and belief, the statements made by us in this application are true and the information provided is correct. I am aware that this application form will form the basis of the project schedule should this application be successful.

(This form should be signed by an individual authorised by the applicant institution to submit applications and sign contracts on their behalf.)

• I have enclosed a CV for the Project Leader/co-PL and letters or confirmation of support (uploaded at appropriate points in application)

Checked

Name	JOHN MCCARHTY
Position in the organisation	Trust and Statutory Funding Manager
Signature (please upload e-signature)	<ul> <li>∴ IM signature</li> <li>iii 02/11/2020</li> <li>○ 15:54:45</li> <li>iii jpg 15.01 KB</li> </ul>
Date	02 November 2020

## **Section 13 - Submission Checklist**

## **Checklist for submission**

	Check
I have read the Guidance, including the "Guidance Notes for Applicants" and "Finance for Darwin and IWT Challenge Fund".	Checked
I have read, and can meet, the current Terms and Conditions for the relevant fund.	Checked
I have provided actual start and end dates for my project.	Checked
I have provided my budget in GBP.	Checked
The application has been signed by a suitably authorised individual (clear electronic or scanned signatures are acceptable).	Checked
(If copying and pasting into Flexi-Grant) I have checked that all my responses have been successfully copied into the online application form.	Checked
I have included a 1 page CV for the Project Leader (and co-Project Leader if relevant).	Checked
I have included a letter or electronic confirmation of support from the lead organisation and main partner organisation(s) identified at Question 11, or an explanation of why not.	Checked
I have checked the website on GOV.UK immediately prior to submission to ensure there are no late updates.	Checked
I have read and understood the Privacy Notice on GOV.UK.	Checked

### Data protection and use of personal data

Information supplied in this 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 <a href="https://example.com/here">here</a>. This Privacy Notice must be provided to all individuals whose personal data is supplied in the application form. Some information may be used when publicising the Darwin Initiative including

project details (usually title, lead organisation, location, and total grant value) on the GOV.UK and other websites.

Information 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).