

Applicant: **Thapa, Balaram**  
Organisation: **Local Initiatives for Biodiversity, Research and Development (LI-BIRD)**  
Funding Sought: **£37,666.00**

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# **CV19RR\1052**

## **Community Response to COVID-19 Impacts on Biodiversity and Sustainable Livelihoods**

The project has two components: first is the assessment of the impact of COVID-19 on biodiversity and sustainable livelihoods in the Lake Cluster of Pokhara Valley - A Ramsar Site in Nepal; and the second is the preparation of agricultural strategy documents with multi-year plans focusing on short-term high impact response followed by longer-term socioeconomic recovery of COVID-19 impacted vulnerable populations (women, Dalits, youths, returnee migrants). Partners in the project include local and provincial governments, cooperative and farmer groups.

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## Section 1 - Contact Details

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### PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

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**Title** Dr  
**Name** Balaram  
**Surname** Thapa  
**Organisation** Local Initiatives for Biodiversity,  
Research and Development (LI-BIRD)  
**Website (Work)** www.libird.org  
**Tel (Work)** [REDACTED]  
**Email (Work)** [REDACTED]  
**Address** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

### GMS ORGANISATION

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Type	Local charity organisation
<b>Name</b>	Local Initiatives for Biodiversity, Research and Development (LI-BIRD)
<b>Phone (Work)</b>	[REDACTED]
<b>Email (Work)</b>	[REDACTED]
<b>Website (Work)</b>	[REDACTED]
<b>Address</b>	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

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## Section 2 - Project Title & Previous Applications

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### Q3. Project Title:

Community Response to COVID-19 Impacts on Biodiversity and Sustainable Livelihoods

### 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).**

<b>Reference of current/recent project:</b>	<b>Title of current/recent project:</b>
26-008:	Market-led Approach to Sustainable Management of Agrobiodiversity for Livelihood Outcomes

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

Yes

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

26-008: Market-led Approach to Sustainable Management of Agrobiodiversity for Livelihood

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

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

Darwin Initiative

**Q6. Country(ies)**

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

<b>Country 1</b>	Nepal	<b>Country 2</b>	<i>No Response</i>
<b>Country 3</b>	<i>No Response</i>	<b>Country 4</b>	<i>No Response</i>

**Do you require more fields?**

No

**Q7. Project dates**

<b>Start Date:</b>	<b>End date:</b>
01 January 2021	31 March 2021

**Q8. Budget summary**

**Please note all spending must fall between 1st January 2021 - 31st March 2021**

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

Pokhara Metropolitan City Ward No 19 and Ward No 13, and Lake Conservation and Development Authority of Gandaki province have committed co-funding worth GBP [REDACTED] for the proposed project (Letters attached). Farmer Groups committed GBP [REDACTED] as co-funding for bee hives (informal groups so verbal commitment only).

## Section 4 - Project Outcome and Summary

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### Q9. Outcome

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

The project generates two outcomes: 1) assessment of COVID-19 impact on biodiversity in Lake Cluster of Pokhara Valley; and 2) agricultural development strategy documents of Ward No 13 and 19.

### 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.**

The project has two components: first is the assessment of the impact of COVID-19 on biodiversity and sustainable livelihoods in the Lake Cluster of Pokhara Valley - A Ramsar Site in Nepal; and the second is the preparation of agricultural strategy documents with multi-year plans focusing on short-term high impact response followed by longer-term socioeconomic recovery of COVID-19 impacted vulnerable populations (women, Dalits, youths, returnee migrants). Partners in the project include local and provincial governments, cooperative and farmer groups.

## Section 5 - Project Partners

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### 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: LI-BIRD


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**Other partners involved:** Local Government: Ward No 13 and Ward No 19 of Pokhara Metropolitan City (PMC)  
Provincial Government: Lake Conservation and Development Authority (LCDA) of Gandaki Province  
Three farmers groups: Pokhari Gau Krishi Samuha (PMC Ward No 13); Nepali Thar Krishak Samuha (PMC Ward No 19); Gautam Giri Krishak Samuha (PMC Ward no 19)  
Cooperative: Namuna Prangarik Krishi Sahakari (PMC Ward No 13)

**Summary of roles and responsibilities in project:** LI-BIRD: As a lead organization, LI-BIRD will be responsible for the overall quality delivery of the project in the stipulated timeframe, and donor reporting. It will lead the design of the study, manage human resources, conduct fieldworks, and produce reports.  
LCDA: Partner with LI-BIRD in conducting study on the impact of COVID-19 on biodiversity and sustainable livelihoods in Lake Custer of Pokhara Valley.  
PMC Ward Office: Provide background information about their wards for preparing agriculture strategy documents; coordinate farmers groups for the implementation of proposed activities and workplans; and generate co-funding by negotiating with PMC for inclusion of proposed activities and budget in the next fiscal year programme.  
Farmer Groups/Cooperative: Actively participate in providing information to the study team; engage in implementation of project activities; generate co-funding for honey bee promotion programme; and register their groups as formal entities.

**If you have not provided evidence of support from the Lead Organisation or partners above, please explain why:** Formal letters from lead organization, partners (Pokhara Metropolitan City Ward Offices; Lake Conservation and Development Authority; Cooperative) included. However, formal letters from farmers groups are not included because these are informal groups that do not have official letterhead and stamp. Informed consent for their participation was sought.


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

 [Commitment letter from Partner Organization](#)



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## 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.**

<b>Name (First name, surname)</b>	<b>Role</b>	<b>% time on project</b>	<b>1 page CV attached?</b>
Ram Rana	<b>Project Leader</b>	60	Checked
Nir Bishwakarma	Co-Project Leader	100	Checked
Indra Prasad Paudel	Researcher	20	
Aastha Bhusal	Researcher	50	


**Do you require more fields?**

Yes


<b>Name (First name, surname)</b>	<b>Role</b>	<b>% time on project</b>
Niranjana Pudasaini	Researcher	50
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	0
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	0
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	0
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	0
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	0
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	0
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	0

**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.**

 CV Project Leader and Co-Project Leader

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 pdf 134.52 KB

## Section 7 - Problem, Method and Change Expected

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### 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).**

The pervasive impact of COVID-19 pandemic on all aspects of human society is evident. The cumulative impact of reduced trade, tourism and remittance, among other sectors of the economy, has seriously derailed Nepal's long-term development goals of meeting the Sustainable Development Goals and graduating from Least Developed Country and becoming Middle Income Country by 2030 (UNDP, 2020; Raut, 2020). The short-term impact has been staggering with many people deprived of their livelihoods, thereby placing tremendous pressure on natural resources, including conservation areas and protected areas with increased risk of poaching, illegal logging, and pollutions (Gianni, 2020). For instance, in Nepal, a poaching incident of one rhino was reported in September after 1,249 days of zero poaching (Mandal, 2020). On the positive side, curtailing movement in many protected areas benefitted biodiversity, with increased fish stock, less human-wildlife conflict and regeneration of species (Biological Conservation, 2020; Gianni, 2020). Conservationists have called for joining forces through anecdotal observations, systematic assessments, quantitative data from monitoring programmes to promote knowledge generation that can support conservation actions and educate the general public about the links between resilient ecosystems and human wellbeing (Bates, et al. 2020).

The issues for the project (first component) were jointly identified by LI-BIRD and provincial government authority, whereas the second component was local government's request to LI-BIRD. As the first component, the project will assess how has the pandemic impacted people whose livelihoods depend on conservation and tourism in Ramsar area (Lake Cluster of Pokhara Valley), allowing provincial government to integrate key recommendations in their regular programmes for action. And, the second component deals with preparation of longer-term socioeconomic and environmental recovery plans, especially focusing most vulnerable communities (Dalits, women, returnee migrants, jobless youths) for local government's action. The project will contribute to knowledge generation at local, national and global database.

### 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 has two components: 1) Assessment of impact of COVID-19 on biodiversity and sustainable livelihoods in the Lake Cluster of Pokhara Valley (LCPV) area; and 2) Preparation of Agriculture Strategy Document and Multi-year Action Plans for PMC Ward No 13 and 19. The current project takes into account the preliminary work (meeting with communities on 8 and 13 October 2020) already initiated by LI-BIRD and local government, especially for the latter assignment. At the end of September 2020, the local government approached LI-BIRD requesting for their expertise in preparation of agricultural strategy for long-term recovery and multi-year plans for quick results specifically targeting the most vulnerable communities (n=225 households; Dalits, women, returnee migrants, and jobless youths) impacted by COVID-19 in these wards.

The project is relevant because except for some anecdotal evidences on the impact of COVID-19 on biodiversity, no systematic studies are available. Hence, there is a need to understand how COVID-19 has impacted biodiversity in the LCPV – A Ramsar Site in Nepal. The socioeconomic impact of COVID-19 is overwhelming, hence developing short-term and long-term recovery strategies for most vulnerable population on local government's request is a strong rationale for undertaking these assignments. The proposed project directly links to current DI project (26-008: Market-led Approach to Sustainable Management of Agrobiodiversity for Livelihood Outcome) both in terms of biodiversity conservation and promotion of agrobiodiversity products through organic agriculture practices. The proposed project is within the LCPV-DI area, and the producer groups will be linked to the DI project's Packaging House for marketing their produce.

Given the short duration of the project, LI-BIRD has proposed seven-member team including one consultant, one expert from Lake Conservation and Development Authority to accomplish the above two assignments within the stipulated timeframe. Two teams will be formed and they will simultaneously work on their assignments. In case of assessment study, the team will prepare checklists/semi-structured interview schedule applicable for Key Informants (Local Resource Persons, Government Officials) and Focus Group Discussions involving Lake Management Committees, Cooperatives, and Farmer Groups). About 20 key informant interviews and 16 FGDs will be conducted. Similarly, for preparing the agricultural strategy and multi-year plan, a multidisciplinary team will conduct series of participatory exercises with local government officials, farmer groups, cooperative members to understand their aspirations, resource-base (land, labour, credit, market, skills, etc.), and then using their expert knowledge jointly prepare action plans for implementation. For delivery of training (off-season vegetables, oyster mushroom, and honey bee) and provision of material support to targeted communities for quick impact interventions, support from the current ongoing project (26-008) staff will be sought. Health safety protocols (social distancing, face mask, sanitizers, and outdoor meetings) will be observed while conducting field exercises.

The proposed team members can be quickly assembled and their respective roles assigned for quality delivery. For managing financial matters LI-BIRD has allocated adequate time of a senior member to handle all accounts. The project leader will coordinate, ensure quality delivery and report to the donor.

## **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.**

The project is expected to reach out to 225 households (Dalit HHs=102; 45.3%), with 566 female and 517 male individuals, covered by three farmer groups and one cooperative. As a direct response to COVID-19 impacts on livelihoods of these vulnerable populations, the project in the short-term (during the life of the project) will directly work with 128 households (Landless=41; returnee migrant=25; jobless youth=62) for economic recovery. With quick and high impact interventions like off-season vegetables cultivation, oyster mushroom and honey production, we expect positive changes in family health and nutrition, and increase in household income, which will continue beyond the proposed project life. Surplus production from these groups will be supplied to the Packaging House (project ref: 26-008) for marketing, directly linking to the Darwin Initiative's ongoing project. Another important short-term change expected is the formal registration of these farmer groups in Pokhara Metropolitan City, thereby allowing these entities to access and leverage government support in terms of subsidy in seeds, machinery, insurance, soft loan, extension services, etc.

In the longer-term (post-project), the findings from the assessment report on impact of COVID-19 on biodiversity and sustainable livelihoods in the Lake Cluster of Pokhara Valley provides the basis for inclusion of need-based interventions in Lake Conservation and Development Authority's annual plan and budgets directly contributing to biodiversity conservation in the area. Likewise, the agricultural strategy documents with multi-year action plans prepared for the local government (PMC Ward No 13 and 19) serve as a platform for multi-year investment in promotion of organic agriculture and protection of environment, linked to socioeconomic recovery of these vulnerable households. Finally, the public-private-community-civil society partnership that was initiated in the DI Project (26-008) will be further strengthened through the joint works in this project, and the legacy will continue with similar undertakings in future.

**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**

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### **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 the project to support local government and provincial government in their efforts to socioeconomic and environmental recovery from the impact of COVID-19 in the Lake Cluster of Pokhara Valley area. Specifically, the project objectives include: (1) assessment of COVID-19 impact on biodiversity and sustainable livelihoods; and (2) preparation of agricultural strategic documents with multi-year plans. These two documents will enable local government and provincial government to make smart investment for longer-term socioeconomic recovery of targeted vulnerable households. Achievements towards the set targets (investment by local government on socioeconomic recovery and investment by provincial government on biodiversity conservation based on above documents) can be reported in the Half Year Report (October 2021) and Annual Report of DI Project 26-008 (April 2022).

The following deliverables are expected within the project period:

- 1) One assessment report of COVID-19 on biodiversity and sustainable livelihoods
- 2) Agricultural strategy document and detail multi-year activity plan prepared and shared with local government for inclusion of relevant interventions in their regular programmes
- 3) Formally register 3 farmer groups at Pokhara Metropolitan City office; basic policy and procedures

document to formally operationalize the groups developed

4) Train 128 individuals (41 landless, 25 returnee migrants, and 62 jobless youths) on oyster mushroom production and apiculture (honeybee management)

5) Distribute approximately 200 bee hives to interested target beneficiaries on 50% subsidy

6) Train 225 households (102 Dalit households) on off-season vegetables production; supply these households with relevant vegetable seeds

7) At least 55% trainees will be female, and 45% participants will be from Dalit communities

These short-term interventions can be achieved within 31 March 2021. Most probably farmers will be able to harvest a few batches of oyster mushroom and earn some cash income. All these achievements will be reported in final project completion report.

## 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”.**

By partnering with local government entity (PMC Ward No 13 and 19) and provincial government (Lake Conservation and Development Authority) along with local farmer groups and a cooperative, the project is ensuring that findings and recommendations generated are integrated into the annual development plans of Pokhara Metropolitan City for multi-year funding. Responsible authorities have already expressed their commitment to this effect in their support letters. This builds local ownership and stewardship.

Farmer groups and cooperative engaged in this project are from within the LCPV-DI project (26-008), so whatever agricultural products they produce will be marketed through the Packaging House, established in the LCPV-DI project through private investment. To ensure smooth functioning of supply chains, producer cooperatives and farmer groups will sign contracts with packaging house.

Farmer groups and cooperative have committed to the initiative by agreeing to the multi-stakeholder partnership – public, private, cooperatives and non-profit organization – which will remain intact even after the project, mainly through Packaging House. Project (26-008) strengthens local communities/institutions through its interventions so that the groups, cooperatives and market outlets continue to work together even after the project phases out. LI-BIRD can facilitate target population for resource tapping, and implementation of action plans.

## Section 9 - Budget

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### 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)
<b>Staff costs</b>	██████
<b>Consultancy costs</b>	██████

<b>Overhead costs</b>	████
<b>Travel and subsistence</b>	████
<b>Operating costs</b>	████
<b>Capital equipment*</b>	0
<b>Other costs</b>	████
<b>Total (Must be less than or equal to £60,000)</b>	37,666.00
<b>*If you are proposing to purchase any capital items over £1,000 please detail these here and provide justification below</b>	N/A

## 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.**

Financial risks to the project is very low because LI-BIRD has a well-structured financial risk management system in place. LI-BIRD carries out periodic internal and external audits at organizational and project level. The management prepares the audit action plans based on audit findings, with clear assignment of roles and responsibilities for action. The progress against the audit action plans are monitored regularly. In order to further strengthen its internal control system and to reduce/mitigate potential fiduciary risks, LI-BIRD has a full-time Compliance Manager (ACCA) since 2017/18.

To manage financial risk in procurement, LI-BIRD has a dedicated procurement officer, conversant with compliance requirements of various donors; and a well-defined Procurement Policy applied by all staff across the mission. The organization has a well-defined zero tolerance policy against financial misappropriation and staff are required to sign the code of conduct including organization's anti-corruption commitments. The organization also has a 'conflict of interest' policy, which is signed by all staff, including Board members, for identifying and managing conflict of interest issues in organization.

LI-BIRD maintains all its financial records in a computerized system 'Financial and Management Accounting System – FAMAS', which is widely used by NGO sector in Nepal.

## 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.**

No capital item will be purchased in the project.

## 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.**

Engagement of local and provincial government entities in the design, execution and co-funding of the project ensures ownership of the project results. Local government entities have already provided their written commitment to make investment based on study findings for longer term recovery (social, economic and environmental), which is an excellent value for the project money spent on proposed study and formulation of agricultural strategic plans. These agricultural strategic plans are geared towards safe and healthy food production and promotion of local crops based on principles of organic agriculture. Prior consultation with beneficiary households has assured 50% co-funding for bee hive promotion and raw material support for oyster mushroom programme for short-term high impact economic recovery and biodiversity conservation, which also contributes to assuring continuous supply of local honey and fresh mushroom to Packaging House (important component of ongoing 26-008 DI project), responsible for marketing local agrobiodiversity products for livelihood outcomes. Partnering with provincial government entity – Lake Conservation and Development Authority (LCDA) – for the study on impact of COVID-19 on biodiversity and sustainable livelihoods in Lake Cluster of Pokhara Valley (Ramsar Site) ensures that study findings and recommendations are reflected in their annual programmes and budgets. Finally, the request for COVID-19 response plan and preparation of agricultural strategy have come from local government, which perfectly matches with ongoing project (26-008) in the Pokhara Valley, the proposed activities complement each other with value added activities targeted to the most vulnerable communities – Dalits, women, jobless youths, returnee migrants – through

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

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### **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?**

LI-BIRD commits to meet legal and ethical obligations required for the Darwin Initiative: 1) LI-BIRD's research guideline protects the rights and privacy of people while participating in research activities, so Prior Informed Consent (PIC) will be obtained from the local communities for the study on COVID-19 impacts on biodiversity and sustainable livelihoods in LCPV area; and 2) Safeguarding Policy at organizational level safeguards the beneficiaries and staffs from any misconducts, which affect their safety and privacy. Organizational policies and procedures safeguard health and safety of all staff at all times through a comprehensive medical insurance policy.

### **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

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### 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.**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Key Milestone</b>
01 January 2021	START
15 January 2021	Two study teams formed; study framework developed; checklists prepared; key informants and community informed
16 January 2021	Field work by Team 1 and Team 2
31 January 2021	Formal registration of 3 Farmer Groups in Pokhara Metropolitan City
08 February 2021	Data analysis and interpretations; draft reports preparation
21 February 2021	Sharing of Key Findings and Recommendations to Local Government stakeholders/Cooperative/Farmer Groups
10 February 2021	Sharing of Key Findings and Recommendations to Local Government stakeholders/Cooperative/Farmer Groups, and distribution of off-season vegetable seeds and materials; oyster mushroom production; distribution of bee
01 March 2021	Finalization of reports
31 March 2021	Collection of monitoring data; preparation of draft report; financial report
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>

No  
Response

No Response

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No  
Response

No Response

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31  
March  
2021

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FINISH

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## Section 12 - Certification

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### 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.**

No

### Q26. Certification

**On behalf of the**

Company

**of**

Local Initiatives for Biodiversity, Research and Development (LI-BIRD)

**I apply for a grant of**

£37,666.00

**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

<b>Name</b>	Balaram Thapa, PhD
<b>Position in the organisation</b>	Executive Director
<b>Signature (please upload e-signature)</b>	 <a href="#">Balaram E-Signature</a>  02/11/2020  10:18:08  docx 27.65 KB
<b>Date</b>	02 November 2020

## Section 13 - Submission Checklist

### Checklist for submission

	<b>Check</b>
<b>I have read the Guidance, including the “Guidance Notes for Applicants” and “Finance for Darwin and IWT Challenge Fund”.</b>	Checked
<b>I have read, and can meet, the current Terms and Conditions for the relevant fund.</b>	Checked
<b>I have provided actual start and end dates for my project.</b>	Checked
<b>I have provided my budget in GBP.</b>	Checked
<b>The application has been signed by a suitably authorised individual (clear electronic or scanned signatures are acceptable).</b>	Checked
<b>(If copying and pasting into Flexi-Grant) I have checked that all my responses have been successfully copied into the online application form.</b>	Checked
<b>I have included a 1 page CV for the Project Leader (and co-Project Leader if relevant).</b>	Checked
<b>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.</b>	Checked
<b>I have checked the website on GOV.UK immediately prior to submission to ensure there are no late updates.</b>	Checked
<b>I have read and understood the Privacy Notice on GOV.UK.</b>	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 [here](#). 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).