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12-034

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DEFRA

Department for
Environment,
Food & Rural Affairs

DARWIN INITIATIVE

APPLICATION FOR GRANT FOR ROUND 11 COMPETITION: STAGE 2

Please read the Guidance Notes before completing this form. Give a full answer to each section; applications will be considered on the basis of information submitted on this form. Please do not cross-refer to information in separate documents except where invited on the form. The space provided indicates the level of detail required but you may provide additional information on a separate A4 sheet if necessary. Do not reduce the font size below 10pt or the paragraph spacing.

Submit by 13 January 2003

1. Name and address of organisation

Professor Edward Maltby,
Royal Holloway Institute for Environmental Research (RHIER), Royal Holloway University of
London

2. Project title (not exceeding 10 words)

The Darwin Southeast Asian Wetland Restoration Initiative

3. Principals in project. Please provide a one page CV for each of these named individuals.

Details	Project leader	Other UK personnel (if working more than 50% of their time on project)	Main project partner or co-ordinator in host country
Surname	Maltby		Ni
Forename(s)	Edward		Duong Van
Post held	Director		Manager
Institution (if different to above)			Cantho University, Vietnam
Department			
Telephone			
Fax			
Email			

4. Describe briefly the aims, activities and achievements of your organisation. (Large institutions please note that this should describe your unit or department)

Aims

The Institute's overall mission is to advance understanding of the natural environment and develop scientific guidelines for the management, sustainable utilisation and conservation of natural resources.

Activities

Pure and applied research in (1) wetland science, including: development of functional approach, optimisation of wetland management, development of decision making systems; (2) river catchment management for sustainable development (3) ecosystem approach to management of land, water and living resources and application under the Convention on Biological Diversity.

Achievements

Development of a new methodology for wetland ecosystem assessment; development of the ecosystem approach and elaboration through case studies at international pathfinder workshops to assist implementation under the CBD; lead coordinator of numerous international wetland projects including marshlands of S. Iraq, S.E. Asia peatlands, European wetlands and new water policy.

5. Has your organisation received funding under the Initiative before? If so, please give details.

Yes: 1. Melaleuca Wetlands Project (Code 162/4/197; 8/95 -8/98) Partner countries: Thailand, Vietnam 2. Madagascar Wetlands Project (Code 162/7/113; 4/98 - 4/00; Partner country: Madagascar

6. Please list the overseas partners that will be involved in the project and explain their role and responsibilities in the project. The extent of their involvement at all stages in the project should be detailed, including in project development. Please provide written evidence of this partnership.

Key partner 1: Farming Systems R & D Unit, Cantho University (CTU), Vietnam. Key partner 2: Faculty of Economics, An Giang University (AGU), Long Xuyen City, Vietnam.

Both partners will be fully integrated in executing progress of the project, and will also have key responsibilities for certain milestones. They will play key roles in securing relevant permissions, interfacing with local committees, engaging stakeholders and officials, (People's Committees and farmers primarily) carrying out preparatory project work (e.g feasibility studies of areas identified for biophysical and socio-economic surveys) and facilitating the project at every level.

In year 1, CTU and AGU will be key convenors of a workshop which will evaluate how the Ecosystem Approach as embedded in the CBD (COP Decisions V/6 and V/12) can be transferred from theory to practice. CTU/AGU will be key points of contact for the institutions, organisations and groups (listed in Box 8) with interests in the CBD in Vietnam. The workshop will promote and publicise the project concerns and proposed outcomes (sustainable use providing short and long term socio-economic benefits from wetland ecosystems) and engage stakeholders. Both CTU and AGU will collaborate with these local contacts to ensure that both local and nation-wide views are represented.

Teams from CTU and AGU will be established to carry out the respective socio-economic and biophysical surveys and data analysis after the relevant training from experts at RHUL. They will produce results not only to assist CBD activity but to generate new knowledge that can be disseminated through the production of training materials in wetland ecosystem functioning, wetland values and wetland management (paper based, website and audio visual), establishing a legacy for further reference and development. CTU/AGU will host a training and dissemination workshop at the end of year 2. At this stage expertise will have been passed from the UK to Vietnamese trainers. CTU/AGU will use the skills and materials produced to establish a series of workshops, demonstration sites and a wetland educational trail, involving individuals and groups with an interest in wetland ecosystems, both in the Mekong Delta and the wider region (including Laos, Cambodia and Thailand).

7. What steps have been taken to (a) engage at all appropriate levels within the host country partner organisations to ensure full support for the project and its outcomes; and (b) ensure the benefits of the project continue despite staff changes in these organisations?

(a) RHIER has experience of working in Vietnam for over a decade and has developed together with CTU/AGU a strong and well-established foundation network for a project of this kind. Through this RHIER has secured the engagement of specific organisations and local interested parties (listed in BOX 8) as well as the national focal point for the implementation of the CBD to help understand concerns, obtain views on the project themes and gain support for the project aims and outcomes. This includes the IUCN's Mekong River Wetland Conservation Programme, which has offered local and regional assistance with the Initiative (see letters of support).

(b) Continuity will be achieved through active promotion of institutional engagement, backed up by the establishment of concrete guidance for applying the Ecosystem Approach available through leaflets, manuals and development of a web-site. The guidance will be promoted as current 'best practice' procedures within the relevant organisations, and whilst generic to the MD can be easily made specific to common concerns across the whole region, assisted by partner national and international organisations. Through this the Initiative will play a key role in methodology development needed to establish CBD aims.

8. What other consultation or co-operation will take place or has taken place already with other stakeholders such as local communities. Please include any contact with the government of the host country not already provided.

Contacts at local, provincial and national levels have been built up over a decade, and are listed in full on the appended separate sheet. This has been enhanced by the recent formation of a 'University Network for Wetland Ecology and Training in the Mekong Region' (covering 8 universities in Vietnam, Lao PDR, Cambodia and Thailand) in which CTU is a full participant. The project team will contribute as far as possible, via our CTU partner, to building up this network.

(SEE SEPARATE SHEET)

PROJECT DETAILS

9. Define the purpose (main objective) of the project in line with the logical framework.

To help achieve simultaneously the three key objectives of the CBD (conservation, sustainable development and equitable benefit sharing) by building the capacity of wetland managers and farmers in the Mekong Delta, Vietnam, to deliver sustainable livelihoods and enhanced biodiversity through wetland restoration and more effective wetland management, building on the effective linkage of wetland ecology and the needs of local people. This will be achieved by the following:

1. The training of scientists, farmers and other stakeholders in wetland restoration and management;
2. The development of a wide range of practical tools and information resources for Vietnamese scientists and communities, including restoration and management guidelines, together with wetland functional databases (e.g. including roles in flood amelioration and fisheries support)
3. Improved awareness of the requirements of local communities, the biodiversity and functioning of various wetland types and the environmental variables determining their distribution;
4. A strategic management and restoration plan for wetlands in the Mekong delta, using the Ecosystem Approach including an analysis of threats, to permit the more effective management and protection of these habitats and assist in the use of this approach to deliver the Biodiversity Convention in Vietnam;
5. Further regional capacity building by the targeted dissemination of project outputs.

10. Is this a new initiative or a development of existing work (funded through any source)?

The Darwin South East Asian Wetland Restoration Initiative is a new project. We will capitalise on specialist regional /subject knowledge derived from past projects (particularly *Melaleuca* Wetlands) but will develop new concrete outputs and mechanisms to bring an integrated approach to restoration, conservation and management across a range of wetland types that address (i) primary socio-economic causes of degradation and (ii) socio-economic benefits of restoration.

11. How will the project assist the host country in its implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity? Please make reference to the relevant article(s) of the CBD, thematic programmes and/or cross-cutting themes. Is any liaison proposed with the CBD national focal point in the host country? Further information about the CBD can be found on the Darwin website or CBD website.

The Ecosystem Approach (EA) was adopted by the CBD as a key method for implementing the objectives of the CBD. By virtue of RHIER's and the (Project Leader's strong engagement in development of the EA within the Convention, this project will provide an excellent proving ground for taking the EA from theory to practice, and will help Vietnam to establish pathways for implementation that at present do not exist. The functional and socio-economic evaluation techniques may be used as standard methods and protocols for assessing wetland biodiversity values as consistent with Article 6, 7a and 7b of the CBD and COP Decision V/7, something which is lacking in reporting to the CBD. By identifying the main causes for the degradation of wetland biodiversity, and addressing stakeholder needs and views (Article 10), strategies for sustainable use can be better informed and successful. Wetland areas will be identified as important for biodiversity protection (Article 7), databases would be created and monitoring/conservation skills disseminated (Articles 12 and 17) allowing for informed future monitoring programmes and conservation efforts (Article 8 and COP Decision II/7). Priority areas for rehabilitation and restoration would be identified (Article 7) through field research and demonstration sites facilitated by the project, and the legacy of the Initiative (e.g. enhanced capacity in management/restoration) cuts across many CBD objectives: the restoration or rehabilitation of degraded ecosystems (Article 8) and sustainable resource use (Article 10) using awareness building and education (Article 13). Contact with the National Environment Agency (the focal point for CBD in Vietnam) has been established and will be developed to ensure continuation of the Initiative's legacy.

12. How does the work meet a clearly identifiable biodiversity need or priority within the host country?

Wetlands are biodiverse (Figure 1), support vital ecological functioning and provide essential socio-economic benefit. Despite this, wetland loss has been extensive in the Mekong Delta as well as other areas of Southeast Asia (Figure 2). This has led to a serious and irremediable loss of its inherent biodiversity.

The project will therefore address three key biodiversity needs in Vietnam:

- Loss of biodiversity associated with wetland conversion/degradation
- Problems of rural poverty caused by lack of access to national wetland resources
- Lack of capacity to bring about wetland restoration

13. If relevant, please explain how the work will contribute to sustainable livelihoods in the host country

Achieving poverty alleviation and food security through natural resource management has historically been seen purely in terms of increased productivity. However, this has not been successful in Vietnam. Wetland resource use using the approach proposed by the Initiative recognises and addresses the negative effects an increase in productivity by wetland conversion may have on the environment, health and socio-economic structure of communities, and instead builds the capacity of wetlands managers and farmers in wetland restoration / management. Thus, the short and longer-term socio-economic gains possible from the sustainable use of wetlands will become available. An alternative will be offered to wetland conversion, which in the past has offered only short term and unsustainable socio-economic benefit. In addition, through this Initiative, a more equitable sharing of resources is possible as wetlands are accessible across a range of socio-economical groups.

14. What will be the impact of the work, and how will this be achieved? Please include details of how the project outputs will be disseminated and put into effect to achieve this impact.

The pioneering application of the Principles of the Ecosystem Approach will make a major contribution to implementation of the CBD and guidance to the COP. A wider knowledge at all levels of the role and application of sustainable wetland use in supporting socio-economic development and in poverty alleviation in the Mekong Delta, whilst preserving and enhancing the biodiversity of the region are the most significant impacts.

In summary, impact will be established by

1. Development of a demonstration site at Hoa An.
2. An outline strategy for wetland management and restoration
3. Identification and dissemination of both short and longer term socio-economic gains achievable by new approaches
4. Training of relevant technical people (grass roots to institutional)
5. Production of materials (e.g sponsored video, educational trail) to raise and consolidate awareness
6. School visits and incorporation of findings into University courses
7. Synthesis as a case study submitted to CBD website and as part of the Clearing House Mechanism

15. How will the work leave a lasting legacy in the host country or region?

High quality U.K. expertise in wetland ecosystem natural and socio-economical functioning will be passed to Vietnamese trainers who will establish networks of trainees to further disseminate this knowledge. Standard methods will be produced and promoted by the IUCN and other organisations in the region and will be available for future reference and development. Gaps in the practical and theoretical ability to meet the commitments to the CBD will be met, and may be further developed to address similar issues throughout the region. Vietnam will be the beneficiary of an improved training centre developed around Hoa An including an educational trail and a new training network that encompasses farmer's and women's groups as well as University students and Department of Science, Technology and Environment (DOSTE) officials. The project will facilitate improved links between institutions in the region, and a Darwin educational trail and demonstration site will continue to develop beyond the project duration.

16. What steps have been taken to identify and address potential problems in achieving impact or legacy?

1. A good relationship of enduring trust and confidence already exists between RHIER and many wetland stakeholder groups in the Mekong Delta. The stakeholders within our network have a strong desire to achieve the aims of the Initiative. The Initiative has generated contact that will develop this relationship and throughout the project the Initiative will strengthen of links between institutions in Vietnam. 2. A wide range of views and opinions have been and will continue to be consulted and incorporated into the project giving a greater chance of the success of the legacy. These include People's Committees, Government agencies and grass roots organisations.

17. How will the work be distinctive and innovative? How will the project be advertised as a Darwin project and in what ways would the Darwin name and logo be used?

The project will be interdisciplinary, practical and built around the concept of the Ecosystem Approach from the outset, with the intention to deliver simultaneous economic, social as well as ecological and environmental benefits. This will go well beyond the experience and legacy of the *Melaleuca* project. It will constitute the first attempt to apply the principles of the Ecosystem Approach from the outset.

The Darwin logo will be used on all publicity material and reports. The aims and objectives of the project will be clearly referenced to those of the Darwin Initiative in project meetings, training workshops and reports. A website will be established during the early stages of the project and developed throughout the project period. Hotlinks to the Darwin website and the CBD website will be available. The project name identifies itself as a Darwin Initiative, but its derivation will be acknowledged wherever possible. Similarly, all paper-based training material and project correspondence will bear the Darwin logo.

18. Are you aware of any other individuals/organisations carrying out similar work? Are there completed or existing Darwin Initiative projects which are relevant to your work? Please give details, explaining the similarities and differences. Show how the outputs and outcomes of this work will be additional to any similar work, and what attempts have been/will be made to co-operate with such work for mutual benefits.

The Mekong Wetlands Biodiversity Project (IUCN/UNDP/GEF/MRC/Netherlands Government) will be addressing issues of wetland biodiversity across Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand and Vietnam from the regional to local level, but this project will not be involved in the specific application of the Ecosystem Approach or our Wetland Functional Methodology. MWBP has recognised the complementarity of effort by agreeing to support this application (see letters of support). The previous RHIER Darwin *Melaleuca* project (Project 162/4/197) generated invaluable expertise and experience in wetland research and evaluation, but this new project will seek to integrate that scientific legacy with socio-economic data to develop wider socio-economic benefits. Close liaison with MWBP throughout will ensure maximum beneficial collaboration.

19. Will the project include training and development? Please indicate who the trainees will be and criteria for selection. How many will be involved, and from which countries? How will you measure the effectiveness of the training and will those trained then be able to train others? Where appropriate give the length and dates (if known) of any training course. How will trainee outcomes be monitored after the end of the training?

A significant proportion of the project is aimed at training and development. A network of interested parties and stakeholders from Vietnam currently exists that will be utilised throughout the project duration. Training will occur in several different stages and different criteria will be necessary for the selection of trainees at each stage:

1. Project workshop and Ecosystem Approach theory and practise training (2-3 days) - 20-30 attendees will be a selection of interested parties from Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos and Thailand who are able to disseminate the material to a wider audience. Attendees will be selected and invited by CTU and AGU on the basis of choosing a representative selection of stakeholder views.

2. Biophysical and socioeconomic survey and analysis training - will involve small groups, 4 from CTU and 4 from AGU over a 3 week period. Those with an interest or previous experience in hydrology, biogeochemistry, ecology/socio-economics will be selected. An evaluation and monitoring workshop will review progress and adjust methods as necessary after an initial fieldwork period.

3. Training and dissemination workshops - 1 group of 4-6 from the Mekong Delta Women's Union and Farmer's Union, 1 group of 4-6 from DOSTE in Vietnam and 1 group of 4-6 from Universities in Laos, Cambodia and Thailand.

Educational trail and demonstration sites - DOSTE officials and decision makers in Vietnam will be trained in wetland values and products. On completion of training at each stage, a report will be available on the website, indicating the nature of the training and detailing the skills acquired.

20. How are the benefits and/or work of the project expected to continue after the end of grant period? Please provide a clear exit strategy.

The project will create tools that meet the commitments to the CBD and also build the capacity of wetland managers and stakeholders in the evaluation, management and/or restoration and sustainable use. A socio-economically viable alternative to wetland conversion will be demonstrated as achievable and able to produce tangible results, and the benefits to local communities and to the biodiversity of the region will be evident in both the short- and longer-term. It will be reported as a case study to the Clearing House Mechanism and can contribute to Vietnam's report to the CBD.

Throughout the project, a strong training element will ensure that skills and knowledge for sustainable use and biodiversity conservation have been passed on to committed individuals and groups ensuring the project's legacy. The materials produced will be available as a standard tool to enable the future development of management plans and priority actions for research, monitoring and applied work to be carried out in a consistent manner and in a way that is commensurate to the standards and requirements of the CBD. These materials and tools will be distributed widely by the Vietnamese trainers.

The key exit strategy will be an improved training centre, bearing the Darwin logo supporting ongoing education and training which will be managed, run and continued to be developed by our Vietnamese counterparts.

21. Provide a project implementation timetable that shows the key milestones in project activities.

Project implementation timetable	
Date	Key milestones
04/2003	Start of Project Stakeholder network established, expert advisory committee established. Press releases in UK and Vietnam, website opened.
05/2003	Study sites confirmed and access permission finalised for mangrove, <i>Melaleuca</i> and lowland grassland wetlands in a range of restored/managed wetlands (reference sites) and sites along a degradation/restoration gradient. The sites will be GPS referenced and displayed on the project website.
05/2003	Initial project workshop to publicise aims and objectives also including a training component on the application of the Ecosystem Approach to meet CBD objectives.
08/2003	Start of flooding season
11/2003	End of flooding season Training workshop for local staff on biophysical and socio-economic survey methodologies
12/2003	Start of biophysical and socio-economic survey to be carried out by Vietnamese staff. Biophysical surveys will determine the functioning of the different wetland types and the functioning existing along the restoration/degradation gradient and the associated values and benefits. Socio-economic surveys will determine the perceived values and benefits to local communities of the different wetland types. Barriers to achieving socio-economic benefit (particularly in the short-term), and thus, barriers to effective wetland protection, to be investigated.
01/2004	Training workshop to monitor and evaluate implementation of biophysical and socio-economic by local staff
04/2004	Biophysical and socio-economic surveys completed
05/2004	Training workshop for local staff on data analysis
07/2004	Data analysis completed, reports submitted for peer-reviewed publication
08/2004	Start of flooding season
10/2004	Material for stakeholder training workshops completed
11/2004	End of flooding season
12/2004	Training of local staff in preparation for stakeholder training workshops
01/2004	Stakeholder training workshop for farmers
02/2004	Stakeholder training workshop for women's groups
03/2004	Stakeholder training workshop for University students and DOSTE officials
2004	Demonstration sites established
09/2004	Project reports completed and used to produce case study for CBD website and production of draft strategic management plan for circulation

22. How will the most significant outputs contribute towards achieving the purpose of the project? (This should be summarised in the Log Frame as Indicators at Purpose level)

1. The expert advisory committee will ensure that the relevant institutional end users will be fully engaged with development and further promotion of the strategic management plan. 2. The case study will assist the CBD focal point to apply the Ecosystem Approach in delivery of the CBD objectives in Vietnam. 3. The trainers will provide the capacity for enhanced wetland management and restoration on the ground. The demonstration site will be a key training and educational venue in the Mekong Delta. 4. The workshops and manuals produced (paper-based and website) will ensure that reference sources exist for wetland managers as well as giving an outlet for effective dissemination of the project aims and objectives to a widespread audience. The demonstration site and educational trail will continue to develop beyond the duration of the project, building capacity in the longer term as well as ensuring the project's legacy.

23. Set out the project's measurable outputs using the attached list of output measures

PROJECT OUTPUTS		
Year/Month (starting April)	Standard Output Number (see standard output list)	Description (include numbers of people involved, publications produced, days/weeks etc)
2003/April - Oct	8(1); 16A(1); 16B(100); 16C(25); 17A(1).	Establishment of an expert advisory committee of 5 Vietnamese chosen to represent a range of views and opinions (scientists, officials and farmers) on the project development and the material produced. Active throughout the duration of the project. Comments on and contributions towards a six-monthly newsletter will be made. This newsletter will be available in paper-based format as well as on line and distributed to the stakeholders identified in Box 8.
2003/May	8(1); 17A(1).	Project web-site and discussion forum. To be developed throughout the project by a group of staff from both the UK and Vietnamese institutions involved, including input from undergraduate trainees who have an active interest in the field.
2003/May	6A(20); 6B; 7(3); 8(4); 14A(1); 17B(1).	Initial project workshop (2-3 days) for 20-30 participants together with a specific training component concerned with theory and practical guidelines on the implementation of the Ecosystem Approach for addressing national commitments to the CBD. Workshop report and presentations available on website. Support materials (posters and information leaflets) available at the meeting.
2003/Nov- 2004/Nov	4C(2); 4D(8); 5(6); 7(5); 8(32 between 7 UK experts); 10(2) 11B(3); 12A(2); 13B(1); 16A(3); 16B(100x3); 16C(25x3); 22 (1).	8 Vietnamese trained by UK experts in small workshops for biophysical and socio-economic analysis of mangrove, <i>Melaleuca</i> and lowland grassland wetland ecosystems (Nov '03); data analysis (May '04) and its interpretation and presentation and training material production (Aug '04). Training materials will include biophysical, socio-economic and water quality methods for the functional analysis of wetlands (theory and field guides). The values (short and long term socio-economic and biodiversity values) of wetland ecosystems; management and/or restoration guidelines.
2004/Dec	6A(5-10); 7(3); 8(6); 14A(1); 16A(1); 16B(100); 16C(25);9(1)	Project dissemination workshop/conference for 20-30 key participants with wider dissemination objectives. Presentations of the project findings of wetland functioning and the values (socio-economic and biodiversity) of restored/ managed areas (support materials will be available in leaflet and poster form as well as fully supported on the website). Guidelines for management/restoration presented and biodiversity priority areas identified and discussed. To contain a training element for 5-10 key decision-makers through a wetland educational trail at the demonstration site established and improved in Hoa An .
2004/Dec	7(5+); 8(7).	UK and Vietnamese staff to prepare 'training trainers' workshops, develop the educational trail and demonstration site (labelling plants, products and areas). Prepare timetables and materials.
2005/Jan-Mar	A(3 groups of 4); 6B(3); 14A(3); 17A(3).	Vietnamese trainers to carry out a series of workshops aimed at a variety of stakeholders involved in or with an interest in wetland management/restoration, education and decision making. Interested parties include the Women's Union and the Farmer's Union, DOSTE officials and University students.
2005/Jan-Sep	9(1)	Case studies on experience in application of the principles of the Ecosystem Approach written up for publication and disseminated through the CBD Clearing House Mechanism. Strategic management plan drafted to assist in future decision-making and identification of priority sites for management and restoration.
By Sep 2005	23	In-kind and collaborative funding utilised in project: current value ca £73 K for RHUL staff time, CTU/AGU support, IUCN staff time (see box 31)

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

- 24. Describe how the progress of the project, including towards delivery of outputs, will be monitored and evaluated in terms of achieving its overall purpose. This should be both during the lifetime of the project and at its conclusion. Please make reference to the indicators described in the Logistical Framework.**

The project will be managed by Royal Holloway Institute for Environmental Research. Dr Ni of Cantho University and Dr Kiem of An Giang will be responsible for the day to day management of activities in Vietnam. The Vietnamese expert advisory committee will monitor the work of the project and ensure that it meets the requirements of the local people and provide expert advice in this area. The quality of training material will be ensured by review of all materials by UK and Vietnamese experts and the advisory committee before the courses take place. Furthermore, a workshop is scheduled (01/2004) for the evaluation and monitoring of the biophysical and socio-economic surveys being implemented by the local staff. This is early in the field work programme so that any problems in implementation can be rectified at an early stage. Project reports will be distributed to the project partners and the Darwin Initiative to provide information on progress and opportunities for feedback. The scientific quality of project outputs will be monitored by UK and Vietnamese experts and by submission for peer-review prior to publication in international journals or presentation at conferences. The CBD and project websites will be used to inform the CBD secretariat, COP and other interested parties of progress and experience and invite comment in relation to attainment of practical application of the Ecosystem Approach to delivery of CBD objectives in the region.

- 25. How will host country partners be involved in monitoring and evaluation of the project?**

Staff from Cantho and An Giang University will monitor the day-to-day implementation of the biophysical and socio-economic aspects of the project respectively. They will also, along with other staff from the local partners, monitor and evaluate the training material in conjunction with the expert advisory committee. They will also ensure that all project materials are translated adequately into Vietnamese and assist with dissemination in Vietnam. They will contribute to the training programmes and ensure that the training material is fully understood by the local staff and relevant stakeholders.

- 26. How will you ensure that the project achieves value for money?**

The project already will be capitalising on previous significant research and financial investment. It will benefit from methodologies developed through a series of research projects supported by the European Commission. It will also benefit from the well-established links between the UK and local partners, and local networks of stakeholders, which were developed in previous projects and other collaborative initiatives. These well established networks; in conjunction with the contributions of the UK and local partner institutions and the targeted work-programme will ensure a good value delivery of high quality outputs, which will significantly contribute to the aims of the Darwin Initiative and the delivery of the Biodiversity Convention in Vietnam. If successful the project will be used to leverage additional funds to promote further training, education and dissemination activities.

- 27. Reporting Requirements. All projects must submit six monthly reports (by 31 October each year) and annual reports (by 30 April each year). Please check the box for all reports that you will be submitting, dependent on the term of your project. You must ensure that you cover the full term of your project.**

Report type	Period covered	Due date	REQUIRED?
Six month report	1 April 2003 – 30 September 2003	30 October 2003	Yes
Annual report	1 April 2003 – 31 March 2004	30 April 2004	Yes
Six month report	1 April 2004 – 30 September 2004	30 October 2004	Yes
Annual report	1 April 2004 – 31 March 2005	30 April 2005	Yes
Six month report	1 April 2005 – 30 September 2005	30 October 2005	
Annual report	1 April 2005 – 31 March 2006	30 April 2006	
Six month report	1 April 2006 – 30 September 2006	30 October 2006	
Final report	1 April 2004 – project end date	3 months after project completion	Yes

LOGICAL FRAMEWORK

28. Please enter the details of your project onto the matrix using the note at Annex B of the Guidance Note. This should not have substantially changed from the Logical Framework submitted with your Stage 1 application. Please highlight any changes.

Project summary	Measurable indicators	Means of verification	Important assumptions
<p>Goal:</p> <p>To draw on expertise relevant to biodiversity from within the United Kingdom to work with local partners in countries rich in biodiversity but poor in resources to achieve</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the conservation of biological diversity, • the sustainable use of its components, and • the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilisation of genetic resources 			
<p>Purpose</p> <p>To build the capacity of wetland managers and farmers to meet commitments to the CBD through the restoration and protection of biodiversity and sustainable livelihoods based on the diversity of wetlands in the Mekong Delta, Vietnam.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Short and long-term socio-economic benefits derived from (restored) wetlands. 2. Tools and educational demonstrations for evaluating, managing/restoring wetland functioning. 3. Identification of priority sites for potential restoration and establishment of wetlands 4. Skills and ability for sustainable management of wetland resources. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. and 2. Training materials; workshops (manuals; AV; website). 3. Facilitation of the methods needed for the identification of sites through project notes and reports. 4. Training materials; workshops (manuals; AV; website) 5. Improvements to a potential training centre in Hoa An, Vietnam. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 + 2. Sites can be identified, accessed and sampled. 3. Successful engagement and facilitation of relevant wetland managers and farmers. 4. Engagement of significant stakeholders, workshop participation of motivated trainees, subsequent wider dissemination 5. Continued relationships between collaborators.
<p>Outputs</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Trainers trained: wetland functioning and restoration techniques, Ecosystem Approach training. 2. Scientific and socio-economic databases of wetland biodiversity and values. Materials produced to support training and build awareness. 4. Stakeholder engagement and capacity building between university and research staff in Vietnam and other areas in SE Asia. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reports produced, training attendance monitored and progress posted on web-site. 2. Outputs from the analysis of field research described and catalogued on a database. 3. Published materials as an output of the data collection, analysis and expert knowledge. 4. Capacity building through project research and training programs. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review of reports from the project, web-site updates. 2. Multi-variate and uni-variate statistical tests carried out as well as descriptive data analysed and published in manuals, reports and papers submitted for publication 3. and 4. On-going training course at an established training centre, attendance monitored and web-site updated. Workshop reports and questionnaires posted on web-site. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Successful engagement of stakeholders. Successful knowledge transfer. 2. Successful field data collection, a statistically valid sample is taken. 3. Production of materials. 4. Regional participants willing and able to travel to Vietnam.

<p>5. Production of case study for inclusion in CBD Clearing House mechanism and on website, draft Strategic Management plan, improved demo. site</p>	<p>5. Case study accessible on CBD website, draft plan Circulated to relevant stakeholders, improved demo site accessible</p>	<p>5. Feedback from website and draft plan incorporated into final plan and updating of website</p>	<p>5. Maintenance of awareness generated by Darwin project</p>
<p>Activities Workshops/Meetings and Training Field Research Training Materials Dissemination and publicity material; case study submitted to CBD Clearing House Mechanism and available for website</p>	<p>Activity Milestones (Summary of Project Implementation Timetable) Yr 1: Project planning; task allocation, identifying locations and relevant permissions (May-July '03); Training on socio-economic and natural scientific field techniques and methodologies, survey design (Nov '03); Yr 2/3: Training on the analysis of data (July '04); Dissemination workshops (training trainers from SE Asia) (Dec '04-Mar '05). Methods and protocols for habitat and socio-economic surveys to be established July '03, sites identified and mapped Aug '03. Field research to be carried out between Dec '03 to June '04. Identify priority habitats throughout field research. Analysis of data and collation of field surveys and other relevant information by Nov '04. Production of manuals for training workshops Nov '04; database and website available by May '05 Final reports; publications as manuals in Vietnamese and English by Sept '05. Website containing the training information and database May '05. Facilitation of demonstration sites May-Sept '05; Case study ready for submission to CBD Clearing House Mechanism and launching on CBD website</p>		

FINANCIAL ASPECTS

29. Please state costs by financial year (April to March). Use current prices - do not include any allowance for assumed future inflation. For programmes of less than 3 years' duration, enter 'nil' as appropriate for future years. Show Darwin funded items separately from those funded from other sources.

Table A: Staff time. List each member of the team, their role in the project rate and the percentage of time each would spend on the project each year.

	2002/2003 %	2003/2004 %	2004/2005 %
United Kingdom project team members and role			
Prof E Maltby – Project Director	10	6	12
U Digby – Project Co-ordinator	35	33	67
Dr H Beazely- Co-ordinator, Socio-economic surveys	10	12	8
Dr Thorne –Water/biophysical quality survey co-ordinator	5	12	4
Dr M Blackwell – Water quality survey co-ordinator	5	12	15
C Howie – Project Assistant	12	12	12
Dr C Sollars – Project Assistant	5	5	5
Host country/ies project team members and role			
Dr D V Ni – Vietnam Project Co-ordinator - CTU	37	25	31
Mr Phat – Project Research Assistant	29	33	15
Mr Quoi - Project Research Assistant	29	33	15
Mr Khoa- Project Research Assistant	29	33	15
In-country administration, survey and dissemination support staff (CTU/AGU)	62	37	31

Table B: Salary costs. List the project team members and show their salary costs for the project, separating those costs to be funded by the Darwin Initiative from those to be funded from other sources.

Project team member	2003/2004 £		2004/2005 £		2005/2006 (6 mths) £	
	Darwin	Other	Darwin	Other	Darwin	Other
Prof E Maltby						
Ms U Digby						
Dr H Beazely						
Dr R Thorne						
Dr M Blackwell						
Mr C Howie						
Dr C Sollars						
Dr D V Ni						
Mr Phat						
Mr Quoi						
Mr Khoa						
In-country admin, survey and dissemination support staff						

TOTAL COST OF SALARIES	11747	27625	11532	27357	5258	17097
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Table C. Total costs. Please separate Darwin funding from other funding sources for every budget line.

	2003/2004	2004/2005	2005/2006	TOTAL
Rents, rates, heating, lighting, cleaning, overheads				
• Darwin funding				
• other funding				
Office costs e.g. postage, telephone, stationery				
• Darwin funding				
• other funding				
Travel and subsistence				
• Darwin funding				
• other funding (See 'Other costs')				
Printing				
• Darwin funding				
• other funding				
Conferences, seminars etc				
• Darwin funding				
• other funding				
Capital items/equipment (please break down)				
• Darwin funding				
• other funding				
Other costs (please specify and break down)				
• Darwin funding				
1. In-country survey support to CTU/AGU partners; translation of manuals				
2. IUCN field staff assistance				
• other funding				
1. CTU/AGU support for workshop costs (food, accommodation, delegate transport etc); production of training manuals and tools				
2. IUCN Regional staff time (6 days)				

Salaries (from previous table)	
• Darwin funding	
• other funding	
TOTAL PROJECT COSTS	
TOTAL DARWIN COSTS	
TOTAL COSTS FUNDED FROM OTHER SOURCES	

30. How is your organisation currently funded?

RHIER's Director and a small core support staff are funded via the RHUL central staff budget. Research Assistants are part- or wholly-funded by research grants and contracts currently worth ca [redacted] generated from a range of sponsors such as the EU, Countryside Agency, UK South East Economic Development Agency (SEEDA), Environment Agency and others. Central support services (e.g libraries, IT, building maintenance etc) are provided centrally by RHUL, partly funded by overheads on contracts.

31. Provide details of all other funding sources identified in Question 29 that will be put towards the costs of the project, including any income from other public bodies, private sponsorship, donations, trusts, fees or trading activity. Please include any additional funding the project will lever in to carry out additional work during or beyond the project lifetime. Indicate those funding sources which are confirmed.

1. Staff/student time funded by RHUL central budget or other projects - [redacted] (confirmed)
2. IUCN Regional staff advisors time by Mekong Wetlands Biodiversity Project - [redacted] confirmed – see letters of support)
3. CTU/AGU: Staff time, office costs, workshop costs and incidental costs associated with surveys [redacted] (confirmed)
4. ESRC/NERC studentship for C Howie (Project assistant on part-time basis) [redacted] ver 3 years.

32. Please give details of any further resources sought from the host country partner institution(s) or others for this project that are not already detailed in Questions 29 and 31. This will include donations in kind and un-costed support e.g. accommodation.

Support is being sought from BP (Vietnam) who have a strong interest in relationship-building with local communities through environment and community projects. Discussions are taking place to explore ways in which they could for example sponsor training videos or support the cost of other dissemination media. The Mekong Wetland Biodiversity Project is keen to collaborate over the entire length of the project to build a platform for future collaborative funding bids, which would contribute enormously to maintaining and expanding the legacy of this Darwin project. Mr Charles Howie, a project assistant, is a part of a British Council HE link via the Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester, and this will be developed as far as possible over the project duration to help consolidate the project's legacy

33. Please separately indicate in Table D the amounts of grant requested under the Darwin Initiative and any confirmed funding/income from elsewhere (where these may be costed). Add together to show total project costs.

Table D Darwin funding request

	2003/2004	2004/2005	2005/2006

Amount of Darwin Initiative funding requested	44945	48356	16320
+ Funding/Income from other sources	31165	31290	18305
= Total project cost	76110	79646	34625

34. FCO NOTIFICATION

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

CERTIFICATION 2003/04

On behalf of the trustees/company (delete as appropriate) ROYAL HOLLOWAY UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

I apply for a grant of £ 109621 in respect of expenditure to be incurred in the financial year ending 31 March 2004 on the activities specified in paragraphs 21 and 23.

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.

I enclose a copy of the organisation's most recent audited accounts and annual report, CVs for project principals and letters of support.

Name (block capitals)	PROFESSOR E MALTBY
Position in the organisation	DIRECTOR

Signed



Date:

8/1/03

Please return completed form to Defra by 13 January 2003 by e-mail to darwin@defra.gsi.gov.uk or in paper form to Zone 4/A2 Ashdown House, 123 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6DE.