



DARWIN INITIATIVE



APPLICATION FOR GRANT FOR ROUND 12 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 12pt or alter the paragraph spacing.

Submit by 19 January 2004

Ref (*Defra only*):

1. Name and address of organisation

Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, The Lodge, Sandy, Bedfordshire, SG19 2DL, UK

2. Project title (not exceeding 10 words)

Gurney's Pitta research and conservation in Thailand and Myanmar

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

Details	Project leader (no other UK staff working more than 50% on project)	Main project partner or co-ordinator in Thailand (see Q6 for other main partners)	Main project partner or co-ordinator in Myanmar (see Q6 for other main partners)
Surname	Donald	Elliot	Eames
Forename(s)	Paul F	Stephen D	Jonathan C
Post held	Senior Research Biologist	Lecturer	Programme Manager
Institution (if different to above)	RSPB, as above	Chiang Mai University, Thailand	BirdLife International
Department	Conservation	Forest Restoration Research Unit	Indochina Programme
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 RSPB works for a healthy environment rich in birds and other wildlife, both in the UK and overseas. It is the UK partner of BirdLife International, a global partnership of national conservation organisations that share common objectives and work together in advocating and carrying out priority conservation actions. The aims of this partnership are as follows:

- to prevent the extinction of any bird species in the wild
- to maintain and where possible improve the conservation status of all bird species
- to conserve and where appropriate improve and enlarge sites and habitats important for birds
- to help, through birds, to conserve biodiversity and to improve the quality of people's lives
- to integrate bird conservation into sustaining people's livelihoods.

Activities: Internationally, the RSPB works mainly by providing financial and technical support to partner organisations in the UK Overseas Territories and more than 20 countries in southern and eastern Europe, Africa and Asia. Capacity-building underpins all of the work we do with these partners, as our ultimate aim is to help them to become fully self-sufficient. Together with our partners and a wide range of other local stakeholders, we work to:

- protect endangered species of birds
- identify and conserve the most important sites for birds
- influence international, national and local policies affecting birds and other wildlife
- learn more about the problems facing birds and possible solutions to these problems
- teach children and adults about the importance of the environment and ways in which they can help to conserve it.

In addition, we run a training programme called *Building on Experience*, which aims to improve the effectiveness and long-term viability of BirdLife partners and will be delivered to all 100+ partners over a 5-year period.

Achievements: Over the past 20 years, the RSPB has provided direct support to 32 BirdLife partners. Many of these have become the foremost conservation organisations in their countries, with active programmes of conservation, public awareness, education and advocacy and close working relationships with government.

We have made a major contribution to the conservation of many endangered birds, including the aquatic warbler (*Acrocephalus paludicola*), the Seychelles magpie-robin (*Copsychus sechellarum*) and the northern bald ibis (*Geronticus eremita*). In addition, we have helped our partners to identify and document several thousand key sites for birds – known as Important Bird Areas – and to formulate conservation strategies for many of these sites. As one of the largest conservation NGOs in the world, we have been able to exert a significant influence on the development and implementation of several key international treaties and directives, and in discussions on world trade, energy use, marine conservation and other topics of global importance. We have carried out vital research on numerous endangered species, and on issues such as agricultural intensification, the palm oil industry, climate change and introduced predators. Together with partners, we have implemented highly successful large-scale environmental education programmes in Ghana, Sierra Leone and South Africa, and will soon start additional programmes in India and Kenya.

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

1. We were awarded £84,000 in Round 3 for a project to compile a directory of important ornithological sites in Tanzania. This project has been completed successfully.

2. We were awarded £136,000 in Round 7 for a three-year project entitled *Management planning for conservation of mesotrophic fen mire biodiversity in Belarus*. This project has been completed successfully.

3. We were awarded £158,000 in Round 9 for a project entitled *Action plans for conservation of globally threatened birds in Africa*. This project is in its third and final year.

4. We were awarded £98,000 in Round 10 for a project entitled *Kenyan Important Biodiversity Areas: improving monitoring, management and conservation action*. This project is in the second year of three.
5. We were awarded £231,975 in Round 11 for a project entitled *Prediction and management of declines in Gyps species vultures*. This project is in the first year of four.
6. We were awarded £154,117 in Round 11 for a project entitled *Empowering the people of Tristan to implement the CBD*. This project is in the first year of three.
7. We were awarded £109,889 in Round 11 for a project entitled *Implementing urgent conservation actions in mesotrophic fen mires in Belarus*. This project is in the first year of three.
8. We were awarded £78,770 in the first round of Follow-Up Funding for a project entitled *Enabling implementation of threatened bird Species Action Plans in Africa* – a follow-up to the Round 9 project described above. This project will start in April 2004 and last for two years.

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.

National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation Department (NPWPCD), Thailand:

Government agency responsible for all nature conservation issues in Thailand; already active in Gurney's Pitta conservation and signatory to an MoU with RSPB and BCST to work for conservation of the species; hosts of Gurney's Pitta Recovery Plan (GPRP) Workshop in 2002; chair of Gurney's Pitta Recovery Plan Steering Committee; competent body for protection of remaining habitat of the species; involved in all aspects of project development; will co-lead research elements of GPRP including those within this project; letter of support and CVs attached

Forest Restoration Research Unit (FORRU), Chang Mai University, Thailand: leading experts in all aspects of forest restoration; have visited remaining habitat of Gurney's Pitta; will lead on all aspects of habitat recreation in GPRP and as part of this project, develop lowland forest restoration strategy for southern Thailand; letter of support and CVs attached

Bird Conservation Society of Thailand (BCST), Thailand: Thai NGO already active in Gurney's Pitta conservation and research with RSPB funding; organised Gurney's Pitta Recovery Plan Workshop in 2002; employ, with RSPB funding, a Conservation Officer to oversee implementation of non-technical elements of the Plan; full Partner of BirdLife International; involved in all aspects of project development; will co-lead research elements of GPRP including those within this project; letter of support and CVs attached

BirdLife International Indochina Programme: Vietnam-based special programme of UK-based NGO BirdLife International, involved in bird conservation in Indochina; co-funded and took part in expedition that rediscovered Gurney's Pitta in Myanmar in 2003; managing Darwin project with BENCA in Myanmar; will co-ordinate all project work on Gurney's Pitta in Myanmar; letter of support and CVs attached

Bird Enthusiasts and Nature Conservation Association (BENCA), Myanmar: registered NGO established in 2000 to conserve birds through research and awareness raising; rediscovered Gurney's Pitta in Myanmar in 2003; experienced in research and survey work; supported by BirdLife International Indochina Programme; will lead on all research and survey aspects of the project in Myanmar with guidance from RSPB and BirdLife International researchers; letter of support and CVs attached

Yangon University or Mergui University, Myanmar: leading universities in Myanmar; will host Masters or PhD student running the research in Myanmar

Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust (DWCT), Jersey: NGO with expertise in species management, including captive breeding, species recovery and training in species recovery methods; will advise on need for species management in Thailand and on methods if necessary; letter of support attached

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) The two main bird conservation partners in Thailand, NPWPCD and BCST (see previous box), signed a Memorandum of Understanding with RSPB in 2002 to work for the conservation of Gurney's Pitta in that country (Annex 3). RSPB currently supports two staff at BCST and makes a contribution towards NPWPCD's involvement in the Gurney's Pitta Recovery Plan (GPRP). This work has the support and permission of the Thai Government (Annex 4). All three organisations were heavily involved in the GPRP Workshop in 2002, which gained consensus amongst all stakeholders, from representatives of local communities to senior Government officials. RSPB holds regular meetings with staff of NPWPCD and BCST, and the three organisations work closely together to attempt the goals outlined in the MoU. The Forest Restoration Research Unit (FORRU) at Chiang Mai University have been involved in discussions with other partners and have made scoping visits to the area of S Thailand where Gurney's Pitta still occurs. FORRU fully support the aims of this project and hope to use their expert knowledge to address several technical elements of the GPRP. In Myanmar, BirdLife International and BENCA work closely together, and the two organisations were responsible for planning and undertaking the expeditions that led to the rediscovery of Gurney's Pitta there in 2003. The two organisations are also working on a Darwin-funded project aimed at strengthening site-based conservation capacity in Myanmar. Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust have been involved in all aspects of project development and were represented at the GPRP Workshop in Thailand in 2002. As all the outputs of this project were agreed at the GPRP Workshop, they have the support of all stakeholders (b) the institutions involved are committed by the long term conservation of gurney's Pitta through the MOU and the recovery plan. They are therefore committed to ensure that the achievements of the project are maintained and built upon. The project is therefore driven by organisations, not by key individuals. Staff changes could lead to some loss of expertise gained by staff through the training aspects of the project, but we will ensure this is minimised by ensuring sharing of knowledge, training of new staff and production of training materials.

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.

All Thai stakeholders, including government, national and international NGOs and local community representatives (including heads of local civic councils), came together at the Gurney's Pitta Recovery Plan (GPRP) Workshop in 2002. All stakeholders reached consensus on the main problems and their solutions, and jointly drew up a Recovery Plan. This project seeks to address the technical elements within this Plan, and so by definition has the support of all stakeholders. In Myanmar, identification of stakeholders will be a product of this project, as at present the species' population, distribution and threats are too poorly known to allow stakeholder analysis

PROJECT DETAILS

9. Define the purpose of the project in line with the logical framework.

A framework for the conservation of Gurney's Pitta is established and strategic conservation measures are implemented in Thailand and Myanmar

Abstract: *Pitta gurneyi* is one of the most threatened and charismatic Asian birds, and has become a flagship species in the conservation of Asia's many threatened species. The tiny population in southern Thailand requires urgent action to prevent extinction, and the newly discovered population in Myanmar needs to be quantified, its threats evaluated and a conservation plan developed. This project will address key actions in the recently agreed Recovery Plan in Thailand and undertake essential research and conservation work in Myanmar. It will involve training, research, advocacy, habitat and species management and the development of cross-border conservation initiatives.

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

This project is a new initiative in Myanmar, where no follow-up to the species' rediscovery there in 2003 is otherwise planned, and a development of existing work in Thailand, where the project will support elements of the Recovery Plan not currently being funded, including forest restoration work and species management, and expand some elements that are being funded in part by RSPB by providing resources to Government researchers and conservationists. All elements of the project are additional to work currently being funded by RSPB, which will continue to fund two staff at BCST, and all address one or more of the Outputs in the Gurney's Pitta Recovery Plan that receive no other funding.

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 (see Annex C for list and worked example) and rank the relevance of the project to these by indicating percentages. 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.

Thailand is due to ratify the CBD in January 2004, Myanmar ratified in 1994. The project will assist both countries meet a number of Articles, particularly Article 5 (by building cooperation between conservationists in Myanmar and Thailand; 5%), Article 6 (by implementing an existing recovery plan in Thailand and producing a new plan in Myanmar; 20%), Article 7 (by monitoring the species' numbers, distribution and threats in both countries 35%), Article 8 (by promoting in situ conservation of the bird and its habitat; 10%), Article 10 (by promoting sustainable use of forests; 5%), Article 11 (by providing local employment in Thailand; 5%), Article 12 (by undertaking research and training through collaboration; 10%), and Articles 16, 17 and 18 (by collaboration and knowledge transfer within and between countries; 10%). The project also addresses key objectives of the CBD thematic programme on forests The CBD National Focal Point in Thailand has been informed of the project and made aware of the threats facing Gurney's Pitta.

12. How does the work meet a clearly identifiable biodiversity need or priority within the host country? Please indicate how this work will fit in with National Biodiversity Strategies or Environmental Action Plans if applicable.

Gurney's Pitta is listed by IUCN as Critically Endangered because of its small and declining population. It has become a flagship species for the conservation of critically threatened birds in Asia. Conservation of Gurney's Pitta will not only prevent its extinction but will also conserve lowland Sundaic forest, one of the most threatened habitats in SE Asia.

Thailand is about to ratify the CBD and has not yet produced a NBS. However, Gurney's Pitta is one of only twelve species listed as Natural Treasures of Thailand and is a protected species. The species was only rediscovered in Myanmar in 2003 and so does not yet feature in that country's NBS.

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

This project will contribute directly to sustainable livelihoods by providing employment for local people. More generally, conservation of Gurney's Pitta will contribute to local livelihoods by ensuring a permanent source of non-timber forest products, by encouraging ecotourism, and by stabilising local soil and water resources. Other aspects of the Gurney's Pitta Recovery Plan (which are best initiated in country and for which this project may lever funds) deal with improving local communities livelihoods.

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.

This project will establish a framework of knowledge, skills and agreed priorities necessary for habitat restoration in southern Thailand, and the conservation of key sites in Myanmar, as well as securing the Thailand population while the recovery plan is implemented. These actions, mediated through Recovery Plans agreed by all stakeholders, will contribute towards the conservation of Gurney's Pitta, and to the conservation of lowland Sundaic forests, one of the most threatened habitats in SE Asia. The project will contribute to this vision by:

- 1) strengthening the knowledge and skills of, and working relationships between, the recovery plan partners
- 2) leveraging funds for other components of the recovery plan
- 3) increasing national and international commitment to the plan by through advocacy and public relations activities
- 4) generating the scientific knowledge necessary to conserve Gurney's Pitta and conserve and restore its habitat
- 5) producing a Recovery Plan for Myanmar, and updating the Recovery Plan in Thailand

Scientific papers and reports will be distributed to all national and international stakeholders. The results of research will be used to guide conservation efforts on the ground, for example by identifying key areas for reserve staff to protect. Annual reviews of the Thailand recovery plans and the Species Recovery Plan for Myanmar will be disseminated through the Gurney's Pitta Recovery Plan Steering Committee, which includes representatives of all stakeholder groups. A multilingual project web site will be updated regularly with the latest results of the project.

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

The work will achieve a lasting legacy both directly, by leaving NGO and Government conservationists with the capacity to protect Gurney's Pitta and its threatened lowland forest habitats, and indirectly, by building cooperation between, and capacity within, Government and NGO conservation bodies and local communities, both within and between countries. The project will produce one Masters or PhD in Myanmar. Direct legacies include the generation of knowledge necessary to reforest the Sundaic lowlands, the generation of knowledge of the ecological requirements, population and distribution of Gurney's Pitta and the production of strategic plans to guide future conservation strategy. Indirect legacies include an improved framework of cooperation between conservationists in Thailand and Myanmar, enabling them to tackle cross-border issues more effectively. All these benefits will further enhance the capacity of Governments in the host countries to meet their obligations under the CBD.

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

Previous efforts to conserve Gurney's Pitta in S Thailand failed to meet their objectives largely because of a lack of co-operation and understanding between NGOs, Government agencies and local communities. The Gurney's Pitta Recovery Plan (GPRP) Workshop funded by RSPB in 2002 addressed these problems of communication by bringing all stakeholders together to discuss problems and solutions, and all parties are now signed up to the GPRP, which is being overseen by a Steering Committee composed of representatives of all stakeholder groups. Furthermore RSPB, Government and BCST are bound by an MoU which ensures future collaboration. National and local ownership and increased capacity will ensure a lasting legacy.

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

Gurney's Pitta is a charismatic flagship species with a high profile in the international conservation community and, increasingly, amongst the Thai public. A national magazine ran a long article on the species in 2003, focusing on the fact that His Majesty the King has expressed concern over the species. His Majesty has appointed a Privy Councillor to monitor the situation and sit on the Recovery Plan Steering Committee. This will therefore be a high profile project. All project outputs will acknowledge Darwin funding and, where appropriate, carry the Darwin logo. A project web site will be established bearing the Darwin logo. The tree nursery in Thailand will carry the Darwin logo, as will the Recovery Plan that will be produced for Myanmar. All press releases will acknowledge Darwin funding.

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 and how your work will be distinctive and innovative. 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 partners involved in this project comprise most of the organisations working for the conservation of Gurney's Pitta. Socioeconomic aspects of the Gurney's Pitta Recovery Plan are being addressed by WWF Thailand and by the Oriental Bird Club, both of which organisations are represented on the Recovery Plan Steering Committee and so fully signed up to the current project. Two ongoing Darwin-funded projects are relevant to this one, both led by partners in the current project. First, a Darwin project "Building constituencies for site-based conservation in Myanmar", led by BirdLife International Indochina Programme, aims to increase conservation capacity in the Sundaic lowlands of Myanmar. This project is building the capacity necessary for the current project to take place, by increasing the capacity of Myanmar NGOs to undertake conservation work. Results from the former project will also feed into the Recovery Plan of the current project. The Site Support Group model designed by the Darwin project in Myanmar will be particularly useful in future conservation of important areas for Gurney's Pitta. The two projects are therefore complementary and synergistic. The other relevant Darwin-funded project is "Education and training for restoring tropical forest biodiversity", awarded to Horticultural Research International, with FORRU at Chiang Mai University a leading partner. This project is developing methods the current project will employ in the conservation of Gurney's Pitta. The current project can therefore be seen as a logical and practical extension of the two ongoing projects, by harnessing the increased capacity they are producing and focussing it on a critically endangered species.

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?

Around six conservationists in both Myanmar and Thailand will be trained by RSPB scientists on scientific field methods, and in fundraising and marketing. This training will largely take the form of accompanied field visits, though a short (3-day) training course will be delivered in Myanmar to complement similar courses that have already been run in Thailand. The Project Officer in Myanmar will have the opportunity to develop his or her research into a Masters or PhD studentship. The effectiveness of this training will be assessed by the perceived need for further training as the project develops, and by the ability of researchers to undertake more advanced work. Conservationists will benefit from help from professional RSPB fundraisers. Furthermore, experience already gained of Gurney's Pitta in Thailand will be shared by Thai researchers with workers in Myanmar. The flow of research from these countries after the end of the project will be used as an indication of the effectiveness of the training.

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 is intended to provide Government and NGO conservationists in Thailand and Myanmar with the knowledge and capacity necessary to meet their obligations to carry through the existing Recovery Plan in Thailand and the Recovery Plan that will be produced as part of the project in Myanmar. Outputs of the project include funding proposals to continue work on the species after the end of the current project. RSPB will continue to fund a Conservation Officer post at BCST for at least a year after the end of the project to continue the process of development of the Plans and to seek further funding to continue them. RSPB's bird research expertise and FORRU's expertise in forest restoration and recreation will remain available to the partners into the foreseeable future.

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

Project implementation timetable		
Date	Financial year:	Key milestones
	Apr-Mar 2004/5	
	Apr-Mar 2005/6	
	Apr-Mar 2006/7	
Jun 2004	2004/5	Project management system and steering group established
Jun 2004	2004/5	New project staff in Myanmar and Thailand recruited
Jul 2004	2004/5	Project web site established
Jul 2004	2004/5	Species management protocol in place, S Thailand
Aug 2004	2004/5	First Project Steering Group meeting
Aug 2004	2004/5	First exchange visit of researchers in Myanmar and Thailand
Aug 2004	2004/5	Worm farm established, S Thailand
Sep2004	2004/5	Analysis of forest types in S Myanmar complete
Oct 2004	2004/5	Local forest field team recruited and trained, S Thailand
Oct 2004	2004/5	First year of species management work complete in S Thailand
Dec 2004	2004/5	Survey protocol for Myanmar developed
Dec 2004	2004/5	Training workshop held in Myanmar
Jan 2005	2004/5	Tree species list for Gurney's Pitta habitat in Thailand published
Mar 2005	2004/5	First year of bird research in Thailand complete
Apr 2005	2005/6	Tree nursery established in S Thailand
Jun 2005	2005/6	First experimental reforestation plots established in S Thailand
Aug 2005	2005/6	First year of bird surveys in Myanmar complete
Oct 2005	2005/6	Second year of species management work complete in S Thailand
Dec 2005	2005/6	Second Project Steering Group meeting

Dec 2005	2005/6	Second exchange visit of researchers in Myanmar and Thailand
Mar 2006	2005/6	Second year of bird research in Thailand complete
Apr 2006	2006/7	Seed bank collected in S Thailand
May 2006	2006/7	Lowland forest restoration strategy for S Thailand published
Aug 2006	2006/7	Second year of bird surveys in Myanmar complete
Oct 2006	2006/7	Third year of species management work complete in S Thailand
Oct 2006	2006/7	Gurney's Pitta Recovery Plan workshop held in Myanmar
Dec 2006	2006/7	Scientific papers on research in Myanmar and Thailand submitted
Dec 2006	2006/7	Third Project Steering Group meeting held
Dec 2006	2006/7	Third Project Steering Group meeting
Feb 2007	2006/7	Forestry phenological research and monitoring complete
Feb 2007	2006/7	Workshop to update Gurney's Pitta Recovery Plan in Thailand
Mar 2007	2006/7	Third year of bird research in Thailand complete
Mar 2007	2006/7	Gurney's Pitta Recovery Plan published in Myanmar
Mar 2007	2006/7	PhD or Masters thesis submitted, Myanmar
Mar 2007	2006/7	Project funding proposals prepared and submitted
Mar 2007	2006/7	Final project report published

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)

The purpose of the project is to establish a framework for the conservation of Gurney's Pitta and implement strategic conservation measures in Thailand and Myanmar. The framework will overcome the main barriers to implementing recovery plans in Thailand and Myanmar.

In-country capacity in Thailand is insufficient to gather scientific information on the Pitta, implement some types of conservation action, including measures to prevent the species extinction, develop a strategy for habitat restoration across the species former range, and raise funds to resource conservation. Therefore, progress on implementing the recovery plan is dependent on external expertise. By the end of the project sufficient external assistance, through exchange of expertise and training will have occurred to allow all activities requiring external expertise to be initiated.

In Myanmar in-country capacity is also insufficient to gather scientific information on the Pitta, implement some types of conservation action, develop a conservation strategy for key sites in and raise funds to resource conservation. As with Thailand, implementing the recovery plan is dependent on external assistance. By the end of the project sufficient external assistance, through exchange of expertise and training, will have occurred to allow project proposals to be developed and submitted for all activities in the Myanmar Species recovery plan.

23. Set out the project's measurable outputs using the separate 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)
April 2004 - March 2007	1A/2 1B/2	Myanmar Project Officer, working within BENCA, will be registered as a Masters or PhD student (depending on experience and previous qualifications). Thesis submitted by end of project.
April 2004 – March 2006	5	3 researchers working in Thailand and 3 in Myanmar with close scientific supervision of RSPB and BirdLife scientists
April 2004 – March 2006	5	2 people in Thailand trained in plant propagation and seed collection methods
April 2004 – March 2005	6A/6B	Training course in scientific survey methods delivered to researchers in Myanmar; 1 week
April 2004 – March 2005	7	2 training manual for researchers in Thailand and Myanmar; one on scientific bird survey and monitoring methods, one on forest restoration methods
April 2004 – March 2007	8	A total of 20 weeks will be spent by UK project staff in the host countries
April 2006 – March 2007	9	A Species Recovery Plan for Gurney's Pitta in Myanmar will be produced by the end of the project. The Species Recovery Plan for Thailand will be updated in the light of outputs from this project and other developments
April 2006 – March 2007	10	An annotated bird checklist in Myanmar and an annotated tree list in Thailand will be produced to guide future work in the little known Sundaic forests in Thailand and Myanmar
April 2005 – March 2007	11A/11B	At least four scientific papers will be produced and submitted or published by the end of the project
April 2005 – March 2007	12A	Three databases will be produced, relating to Gurney's Pitta numbers and distribution in Thailand and Myanmar, to the seed bank collection in Thailand and to forest characteristics in Thailand
April 2005 – March 2007	13A	Seed and tree reference collection from S Thailand Sundaic forests established
April 2006 – March 2007	14A 14B	Scientific results will be presented at the Species Recovery Plan workshops in Myanmar and Thailand. UK staff will present the results of the project at at least one scientific conference.
April 2004 – March 2007	15A/B	At least one national and two local press releases in both host countries each year
May 2004	15C	One national press release in the UK at the start and one at the end of the project
April 2005 – March 2007	17A	Multilingual project web site established to disseminate information
April 2005 – March 2007	18A/C	At least one national and two local television features in both host countries

April 2004 – March 2007	19A/C	At least one national and two local radio features in both host countries, including a feature on BBC World Service, East Asia Network
April 2005 – March 2007	20	£15,000 worth of equipment and assets handed over to host countries, including computers, fieldwork equipment, a 4x4 vehicle and a tree nursery
April 2005 – March 2007	21	Tree nursery established in S Thailand
April 2004 – March 2007	22	At least one experimental forest regeneration plot established in S Thailand
April 2004 – March 2007	23	At least £82,000 will be contributed by the project partners, either as in-kind contributions (£22,000) or as co-funding from RSPB (£60,000)

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 Logical Framework.

The progress of the project will be monitored through regular supervisory visits from the UK, and assessed in terms of achieving the outputs listed in question 23, which will be summarised in the quarterly progress reports and recovery plan annual reviews.

Success of the scientific research included in the project will be monitored through the production of databases, scientific papers, reports, a PhD thesis and paper distribution lists. Success of the training components of the project will be monitored through the production of training and supervisory reports, and the production of funding proposals and project reports by in-country partner staff. The success of measures to prevent extinction of the Pitta in Thailand will be monitored through population monitoring reports.

Progress in the production of a strategy for Gurneys Pitta habitat restoration in southern Thailand, and a conservation strategy for key sites in Myanmar will be monitored through strategy meeting reports and ultimately the production and approval of these strategy documents by the stakeholders. Advocacy and Public relations activities will be monitored through a media releases file, establishment of a project website, and presentations made at conferences.

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

In Thailand, this work forms part of the existing Gurney's Pitta Recovery Plan, which has its own M&E strategy. The Steering Committee of national and international stakeholders will therefore monitor the success of this project as part of their evaluation of the Plan as a whole. All 6-monthly progress reports to Darwin will be circulated to the Steering Committee in Thailand and to partners in Myanmar for comments.

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

RSPB's purchasing policy, overseen by the Finance division, requires that good value is obtained, but also that purchases are ethical and as environmentally sound as possible. All trips by UK personnel to Thailand and Myanmar will be carefully timed to achieve maximum benefits and minimise the number of trips necessary. All equipment will be purchased in the country in which it is cheapest. Research liaison meetings and Project Steering Committee meetings have been planned to coincide, reducing travel costs to a minimum.

The Council of BCST all have full time jobs outside the organisation, principally in science and conservation. Their contribution to the working of BCST is therefore voluntary and, during the course of the project, will constitute a considerable, though unquantifiable, contribution to the running of the project.

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 2004 – 30 September 2004	31 October 2004	Yes
Annual report	1 April 2004 – 31 March 2005	30 April 2005	Yes
Six month report	1 April 2005 – 30 September 2005	31 October 2005	Yes
Annual report	1 April 2005 – 31 March 2006	30 April 2006	Yes
Six month report	1 April 2006 – 30 September 2006	31 October 2006	Yes
Annual report	1 April 2006– 31 March 2007	30 April 2007	Yes
Six month report	1 April 2007 – 30 September 2007	31 October 2007	No
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>A framework for the conservation of Gurney's Pitta established and strategic conservation measures implemented in Thailand and Myanmar</p>	<p>All activities in Gurney's Pitta Species Recovery Plan in Thailand requiring external expertise initiated by end of project</p> <p>Project proposals developed and submitted for all activities in Species Recovery Plan in Myanmar</p>	<p>Quarterly progress reports</p> <p>Recovery plan annual reviews</p>	<p>All stakeholders remain committed to saving the species</p>
<p>Outputs</p> <p>Knowledge of GP numbers, distribution and ecological needs across its range is provided to GP stakeholders</p> <p>Measures to prevent the extinction of Gurney's Pitta in Thailand are in place</p> <p>A strategy for Gurney's Pitta habitat restoration across the species' former range in southern Thailand is developed and agreed</p> <p>Conservation strategy for key sites in Myanmar is produced</p> <p>Capacity of Thai and Myanmar conservationists to undertake further conservation is increased</p>	<p>Gurney's Pitta stakeholders have access to recent research results by end of Year 3</p> <p>Population in S Thailand does not fall below 5 males and 5 females</p> <p>Restoration projects that are part of the strategy are submitted to funders by end Yr 2</p> <p>Species Recovery Plan for Myanmar produced, agreed and published by end Yr 3</p> <p>New research and management projects developed and undertaken by end Yr 1 (in Thailand) or end Yr 3 (Myanmar)</p>	<p>3 scientific papers published; reports and paper distribution lists</p> <p>Population monitoring reports</p> <p>Funding proposals</p> <p>Species Recovery Plan</p> <p>Project proposals and reports</p>	<p>No novel mortality incidents arise</p> <p>The political situation in Myanmar permits development of strategy</p> <p>Staff turnover in Thailand and Myanmar is low</p>

Activities	Activity Milestones (Summary of Project Implementation Timetable)
Project management	Yr 1: Establish project management systems and structure; Establish regular liaison meetings between Thai and Myanmar biologists and conservationists; Establish project Steering Group, have first meeting of group and set up information sharing mechanisms between Steering Group members; Recruit project staff. Yr 2: Second Steering Group meeting. Yr 3: Third Steering Group meeting
Research and survey	Yr 1: Complete analysis of forest types in S Myanmar; Design research protocol for Myanmar; Undertake bird surveys in Thailand; Measure territory quality by habitat and food supply in Thailand; Undertake species management work in Thailand; Determine biodiversity values of lowland agricultural habitats within ecoregion; Start forest seed bank collection. Yr 2: Determine limiting factors in S Thailand; Continue all research work started in Yr 1 and start surveys in Myanmar; establish tree nursery and reforestation plots in S Thailand and collect seed bank Yr 3: Complete seed bank collection; Establish optimal forest restoration patterns; produce and submit papers to the scientific literature
Training	Yr 1: Train key personnel in technical aspects of conservation, research and forest regeneration; First cross-border liaison meeting Yr 2: Second cross-border liaison meeting. Yr 3: Train project staff in fundraising and marketing of recovery plan
Advocacy and PR	Yr 1: Raise awareness among key stakeholders of the value and purpose of research work; establish project website Yr 2 and 3 raise awareness of value of lowland forest; Yr 3: Develop restoration plans using key tree species; Publish forest regeneration strategy for S Thailand; Produce Species Recovery Plan for Myanmar and update Plan in Thailand Yr1-3: All major outputs accompanied by press releases in relevant countries
Conservation action	Yr 1: Agree in situ management protocols in Thailand; establish worm farm in S Thailand; Yr 3: Initiate long term forest restoration plans in southern Thailand; Produce funding proposals to continue conservation process.