



Submit by 21 January 2005

DARWIN INITIATIVE APPLICATION FOR GRANT ROUND 13 COMPETITION:STAGE 2

Please read the Guidance Notes before completing this form. Applications will be considered on the basis of information submitted on this form and you should give a full answer to each question. Please do not cross-refer to information in separate documents except where invited on this form. The space provided indicates the level of detail required. Please do not reduce the font size below 11pt or alter the paragraph spacing. Keep within word limits.

1. Name and address of organisation

Name: Education for Conservation Ltd (E4C)	Address: Hillcrest, Pailton Fields, Pailton, Rugby, Warwickshire CV23 0QJ
--	---

2. Project title (not exceeding 10 words)

Large Carnivore Education Centre in the Pirin Mountains, Bulgaria

3. Project dates, duration and total Darwin Initiative Grant requested

Proposed start date: May 2005		Duration of project: May 2005 – Apr 2007			
(Initial Phase – 2 to 3 years with E4C involvement. After that period, project will be ongoing and self-sustainable).					
Darwin funding requested	Total	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
	£95,210	£40,000	£35,320	£19,890	£

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

- To build, develop, equip and run a Large Carnivore Education Centre (LCEC) in the Pirin Mountains, Bulgaria, which aims to provide education and awareness to a national and international audience about large carnivores, regional and national biodiversity, and conservation and environmental issues in general, in accordance with Article 13 of the CBD. The LCEC will be the main centre delivering education programmes about large carnivores to schoolchildren from all over Bulgaria.
- To train project staff on the delivery of environmental and conservation education initiatives through self-directed learning, attendance at seminars, conferences and workshops both in the host country and in the U.K. (In accordance with Article 12 of the CBD).
- To attract visitors to the project, which in turn will have an impact on the local economy, and will help to foster self-sustainability, and improve the quality of life of local people. This also help to retain traditional knowledge and practices in the region in accordance with Article 8J of the CBD)
- To strengthen existing partnerships and foster new ones with organisations and institutions with a stakehold or interest in the biological diversity in Bulgaria.

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

Details	Project Leader	Other UK personnel (working more than 50% of their time on project)	Main project partner or co-ordinator in host country
Surname	Taylor	Andersone-Lilley	Tsingarska
Forename (s)	Denise	Zanete	Elena
Post held	Project Leader	Project Manager	Project Leader
Institution	Education for Conservation Ltd	Education for Conservation Ltd	Balkani Wildlife Society

Department			
Telephone			
Fax			
Email			

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

No

7. IF YOU ANSWERED NO TO QUESTION 6 describe briefly the aims, activities and achievements of your organisation. (Large institutions please note that this should describe your unit or department)

Aims (50 words)

- To provide information and knowledge about education and learning theory.
- To provide access to a range of resources, including expertise, teaching materials, funding.
- To equip conservation educators (non-professional and professional) with skills and resources to help them to develop successful and effective conservation education programmes and initiatives.

Activities (50 words)

From an internet-based portal at www.education4conservation.org, E4C provides practical help and resources for wildlife conservation educators which includes access to information, funding, human resources and expertise and equipment and materials. E4C also actively engages in partnering with projects such as the one in the Pirin Mountains in Bulgaria.

Achievements (50 words)

Although E4C is still relatively young considerable work has already taken place to develop and strengthen our national and international networks. Education programmes are currently being rolled out in Great Britain, and work is rapidly progressing to bring together the practical resources that will be available through the website.

8. Please list the overseas partners that will be involved in their project and explain their roles and responsibilities in the project. Describe the extent of their involvement at all stages, including project development. What steps have been taken to ensure the benefits of the project will continue despite any staff changes in these organisations? Please provide written evidence of partnerships.

BALKANI Wildlife Society - 8 Dragan Tzankov Blvd., BG - 1164 Sofia, Bulgaria - Balkani Wildlife Society is a non-governmental, nature protection organisation founded in 1992 and is the lead partner in Bulgaria. The organisation has already delivered education programmes to schools in the region under their Wolf Conservation Programme (WCP). The programme reached a total of 13,000 children over a two year period.

BBPS – SEMPERVIVA – kv. “Tvurdi livadi” 51/90, BG – 2300 Pernik, Bulgaria - Semperviva, another NGO founded in 1997, already works in close partnership with Balkani Wildlife Society. Their project house in Vlahi has provided BWS with a base from which to undertake biological field research, and has, and will continue to provide, accommodation for volunteers.

SAPARD - (Special Accession Programme for Agriculture and Rural Development) . An application has been submitted to access funding for the redevelopment and refurbishment of the building that has been purchased in Vlahi for the new centre.

European Natural Heritage Fund - EURONATUR - has provided funding to purchase a currently derelict building in Vlahi which is ideal for development into an Education Centre.

The Large Carnivore Education Centre project will be co-ordinated, and eventually run by, staff and volunteers from the Balkani Wildlife Society. This organisation already has a good track record

and is well regarded in the region for the work it has already undertaken. A great deal of time, money and energy has already been expended in developing and delivering other programmes in the region such as the Livestock Guarding Dog Programme which is run in partnership with BBPS – Semperviva.

A change of lead role staff would have an impact on the development of the Large Carnivore Education Centre Project. However, this would be in the short term until replacement members of staff are recruited. E4C would be able to support Bulgarian project staff in any interim period by providing advice and practical support where appropriate.

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

BALKANI Wildlife Society is a partner of The Ministry of Environment and Waters for implementation of a project on elaboration of the Brown Bear Management Plan. This project is financed by PIN Matra program of the Dutch Government and co-financed by the Bulgarian Ministry of Environment and Waters.

BALKANI Wildlife Society has established strong links with the local Municipality responsible for the region where the Large Carnivore Centre will be built. Balkani Wildlife Society members, together with the ecologists of the municipality and a few other NGOs have developed a municipal strategy for tourism development. This joint initiative is currently working on a plan to provide small scale, nature-friendly tourism using the mountain diversity and beauty without harming it. This includes education about nature and the mountains, the local village, the countryside and tourism, etc. This will help to protect biodiversity in the region through education and awareness-raising of the values. At the same time it will sustainable business opportunities for local people will be promoted and encouraged.

There is mutual support between the municipality and BALKANI Wildlife Society for improvement of the infrastructure of the village of Vlahi.

PROJECT DETAILS

10. Is this a new initiative or a development of existing work (funded through any source?) Are you aware of any other individuals/organisations carrying out similar work, or of any completed or existing Darwin Initiative projects relevant to your work? If so, please give details explaining similarities and differences and showing how results of your work will be additional to any similar work and what attempts have/will be made to co-operate with and learn lessons from such work for mutual benefits.

The Large Carnivore Education Centre itself is a new initiative, which was a natural progression from the work previously undertaken on Large Carnivore conservation in Bulgaria in the last few years. It was realised that education of all the publics involved, but especially of the young generation, is one of the key strategies for the long-term conservation of these species. Education programmes that involve school visits started in 1999 and continued intensively until 2002. Such activities are still being implemented. Building a Centre will mean that the provision of education programmes will be more efficient, will have a higher capacity and a much longer lasting facility for the achievement of the education goals of the project.

In Bulgaria there is currently no Education centre of this type. There are smaller information centres with more general information available. All the available information on similar nature centres in other countries such as Romania show that they have a very positive impact on public education and awareness-raising about nature and its conservation.

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.

By building the Large Carnivore Education Centre in the Pirin Mountains and delivering public education and eco-tourism promotion in the region, the project will support the Government's implementation of the following Articles of the Convention of Biological Diversity, with particular emphasis on biodiversity and tourism, public education and awareness, sustainable use and biodiversity, mountain biodiversity:

Article 10 (15%) - Sustainable Use
Article 12 (10%) - Research and Training
Article 13 (50%) - Public Education and Awareness
Article 17 (15%) - Exchange of Information
Article 18 (10%) - Technical and Scientific Co-operation

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

Public education about the three large carnivore species of Bulgaria, and in particularly the brown bear which is a strictly protected species according to the National and European Legislation, is of extreme importance for their successful conservation. People in Bulgaria currently have little information on this topic. The lynx, which had previously been extinct in the country for more than 60 years, has been slowly recovering since about five years. To support its recovery and ensure its conservation people need to be informed with the aim of fostering a much more positive attitude. The wolf is a species, towards which the attitude is generally negative. However, this negative attitude is not based on realistic information and scientific evidence. The Wolf Study and Conservation Program has already collected information that the species status is not very good in some regions of the country because of intensive persecution.

A large scale education and communication programme is needed in order to achieve a better understanding of these species, what conservation measures are required, and how a more positive attitude towards large carnivores and the natural world in general can be fostered.

In Chapter four of The National Biological Diversity Conservation Strategy of Bulgaria, for the purpose of developing a comprehensive conservation program, environmental education is one of the main priorities.

In Chapter five of the same strategy, as one of the priorities for immediate action and support, "Environmental Education" is indicated.

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

The Large Carnivore Education Centre is not directly connected with development of sustainable practices, but the Large Carnivore Study and Conservation Program attempts to raise interest in the mountainous regions using the presence of large carnivores to attract visitors. This will hopefully foster positive attitudes among local people and help them to realise the value of ecological and educational tourism and the impacts this can have on local communities. Activities at the Large Carnivore Education Centre would contribute significantly to the promotion of sustainable tourism and all the accompanying activities such as accommodation, selling of souvenirs, local food products, which can be provided by the local population. It is proposed to open a souvenir shop in the Large Carnivore Education Centre where local crafts and produce will be sold.

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

The Centre aims to help to conserve and protect large carnivores in the Pirin mountains through using education and communication strategies. Activities and education programmes at the Centre will aim at changing negative attitudes towards large carnivores, raise awareness of biodiversity and conservation issues, promote sustainable use of natural resources and help to contribute towards the local economy through ecotourism activities.

The Centre can be used as a model for other conservation education projects in Bulgaria and other countries.

The work of the project will be publicised on a regular basis and results disseminated using different media which will include local and national press, radio and television. Case studies, papers and articles will be produced for dissemination at conferences and seminars with the environmental and education communities. Information will be regularly updated on the E4C website, and regular newsletters will be sent to network contacts and partner organisations both electronically and through the post. Any PR opportunities will be acted on in order to maximise the exposure of the project, its partners and the Darwin Initiative.

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

Once established, the aim is for the Large Carnivore Education Centre to be in operation on a long-term basis. The education activity of the centre itself will leave a lasting legacy with thousands of young people informed on the topic. Attitudes in Bulgaria are very slowly starting to change in favour of wildlife conservation, and the Balkani Wildlife Society has already had some success in this area through its work with schools, the local community and local farmers and hunters. Activities at the centre will contribute to changing the centuries-old negative attitudes towards large carnivores and will also contribute to positive changes of people attitudes towards nature and its conservation.

Activities at the Centre will also bring income to the local people through the sale of local crafts and products.

The strong links with the municipality will mean that the infrastructure of the village will be greatly improved, which will provide much better access and facilities not only for visitors to this region, but for local people too. Vlahi is a very poor village that has been overlooked for investment into its infrastructure since the Communist era. The Centre will be attract visitors to the region which in turn will provide opportunities that might otherwise not be there if the Centre were not to be developed.

Anyone participating in the education programs at the Centre will be given the opportunity of gaining good knowledge about large carnivores and the ecosystems they inhabit.

16. Please give details of a clear exit strategy and state what steps have been taken to identify and address potential problems in achieving impact and legacy.

E4C will be involved in the Large Carnivore Education Centre project for three years, with the main support being provided in the first two years through a series of training and development programmes, mentoring and practical help and support with regard to the operational functions of the project. By early Year 3 the training and development programme will have been completed and the outcomes evaluated. Review and Monitoring meetings will be held once a quarter in the first two years to evaluate whether the project is within the timeframes outlined. A final Strategy Review meeting will be held in the first quarter of Year 3 to evaluate the whole project in accordance with the outcomes expected. Any additional support that is required at this stage will be carefully considered against the Logical Framework, and support provided where this is appropriate and within the boundaries of the Framework.

Also, to facilitate E4C's exit in Year 3, we propose an intensive mentoring programme for the Project Leaders in Bulgaria to ensure they are fully equipped to provide development programmes for their staff and volunteers in the long term.

With regard to achieving impact and legacy, the potential problems have been discussed and it is felt that there are number of areas where such problems might arise. For example, the attitudes towards large carnivores in Bulgaria are still generally very negative, and this is exacerbated by negative media coverage. Changing attitudes is a lengthy process and it is likely that it will be difficult to evaluate the impact of the project in the short term. Surveys and other evaluation tools and methods will be used for the duration of the project and general trends monitored and reviewed.

Attracting visitors to the region may have some negative impact as well as positive. Achieving a balance that is sensitive to the needs of the local population whilst at the same time protecting the biodiversity of the region will require continuous monitoring and review. These are difficulties faced by other projects in other countries and E4C and Balkani Wildlife will seek the advice and expertise from these projects in an attempt to avoid some of the pitfalls involved.

In relation to this aspect of the project, a human dimensions survey about the brown bear was made in model areas in 2004. The same survey about the wolf is starting in the first quarter of 2005. The results of these surveys will be helpful in identifying the exact information needed for the public and preparing the right education and information materials, which will achieve the required impact.

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

E4C has identified a marketing and PR company which will be raising awareness of E4C in a number of different media. A percentage of E4Cs expenditure on this will be allocated to advertising of The Large Carnivore Education Centre project in Bulgaria and the Darwin Initiative Funding. It is intended that different media be targeted in both Bulgaria and the UK, and there may also be opportunities to publicise the project in other countries. This will include print-based media – newspapers and magazines as well as relevant local radio and television.

The project will be showcased on the E4C website and the Balkani Wildlife Society website at www.balkani.org.

The Darwin logo will be put on the Large Carnivore Education Centre entrance, on all the exhibition materials and printed materials for the project, and on the relevant E4C literature.

Word-of-mouth “advertising” is already taking place within the E4C established network of contacts. This will continue for the duration of the project and beyond.

18. Will the project include training and development? Please indicate who the trainees will be and criteria for selection and that the level and content of training will be. 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?

The project will include training and development. The trainees will be staff from Bulgaria working in the Large Carnivore Education Centre. These comprise: Project Leader, Centre Manager, the Assistant and the Guide.

The criteria for selection will be based largely on the roles and responsibilities of the staff working in the Centre, and their individual training and development needs and aspirations.

The training will comprise:

- “on the job” induction, training and mentoring in Bulgaria
- workshops in Bulgaria
- a series of planned workshops / seminars in the UK at the University of Nottingham

The aim of the training and development is to help to equip Centre staff with some of the skills they will require to deliver a variety of education programmes to appropriate audiences.

The effectiveness of the training will be measured by obtaining feedback from the trainees immediately after the training has taken place, and in the case of ongoing training and development on a regular basis. The information will be recorded in Individual Training Plans held in employee files at the Centre. E4C will also have copies of all training information for the purposes of monitoring and review.

Trainee outcomes will be monitored as part of the Individual Training Plan process. Review meetings will be held between key project leaders and managers who will assess both individual and group training results and how this impacts the operation of the Centre.

E4C will provide mentoring and other practical training support on an ongoing basis throughout the duration of the project. Training needs will be identified and assessed in order to provide the most appropriate training support.

One of the key aims of E4C as an organisation is to equip conservation educators with practical resources to help them carry out their educational roles effectively.

LOGICAL FRAMEWORK

19. 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
Goal: 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 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the conservation of biological diversity, • the sustainable use of its components, and • the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the utilisation of genetic resources 			
Purpose Long-term and effective public education about large carnivore species and the ecosystems in which they exist in Bulgaria.	Large Carnivore Education Centre to be built and equipped by Year 2. Throughput of visitors (school groups and adults) to the Education Centre Evidence of raised public awareness	Large Carnivore Education Centre and partner institution reports Visitors' Book and Attendance Records Pre and post education programme surveys	Schools express interest in the centre and the activities it offers The number of visitors to the national park is stable or growing.

<p>Outputs</p> <p>An old building is rebuilt and refurbished.</p> <p>The Centre is equipped with exhibition and education materials.</p>	<p>Plans drawn up by architects, building and refurbishment work undertaken. Equipment put in place</p>	<p>The Centre is opened and ready to be used.</p>	<p>The local municipality issues all restoration permits in time.</p>
<p>Staff from the Centre attend professional development and training courses to equip them with the skills required to deliver conservation education programmes.</p>	<p>Upto 4 members of staff attend 2 workshop courses or seminars in UK during first two years of the project.</p>	<p>Partnership institution reports.</p> <p>Completed course material.</p>	<p>Necessary visas can be obtained to attend UK.</p> <p>Trained staff will remain with project to use the skills and experience gained.</p>
<p>Visitors attend the Centre – school groups and adults.</p>	<p>At least 25 groups of pupils (each group about 50 pupils) from different parts of Bulgaria and at least 300 other visitors have visited the LC centre by Yr 3.</p>	<p>Positive feedback from visitors. The pupils’ groups and all visitors are satisfied with their experience, evidenced through Satisfaction Surveys and comments in Guest Books, and observations made by Centre staff.</p>	<p>Schools and other groups express sufficient interest in the Centre and the activities being offered.</p>
<p>Different meetings, workshops and seminars on environmental and nature protection issues are held in the LCEC in the seminar hall.</p>	<p>At least 4 seminars/workshops held in the Centre by yr3</p>	<p>Results of the pupils’ attitude survey prove that their knowledge about large carnivore species has improved and their attitude is more favourable</p> <p>Visitors’ attendance and assessment recorded by the guest book</p> <p>Minutes, results, declarations, etc. from the meetings held in the LCEC.</p>	<p>Various organisations find the locality attractive for holding meetings at the centre.</p>
<p>Activities</p> <p>To complete architectural plans, carry out construction and refurbishment of the building. To obtain all the necessary permissions from the local municipality. To appoint the company which will build/refurbish the new Centre.</p>	<p>Activity Milestones (Summary of Project Implementation Timetable)</p> <p>Yr 1: Meetings with the specialists to clarify the ideas and the final architectural project. Visit municipality to apply for and get the permissions for building, etc. (2 months May, June 05);</p> <p>Yr 1: Collect offers from different companies and choose one (1 wk June 05);</p>		

To plan the education programmes that are to be delivered at the new centre.	Yr 1: Centre staff to attend first professional development courses in UK. Yr 1: Collect information about the way of presenting /exhibiting the information and the materials used in other information centres, museums, etc., using different sources (internet, personal contacts, other information materials) (July – September 05); Yr 1: Meetings with a designer to work out the plan for the way the information will be presented in the present LC centre and the type of materials to be used (September – October 05).
To plan, develop, and produce the education and information materials for the LCEC. To equip the centre.	Yr 1: Order the different materials required. (November 05 – February 06); Yr 1: Arrange all the education materials in the LC centre (April – May 06); Yr 2: Update education and information materials.
To advertise the LCEC to schools in the whole country. To undertake a marketing campaign to raise awareness of the centre to the general public using different media – local and national TV/radio/press	Yr 2: Opening the LC centre inviting representatives of GOs, NGOs, Institutes, etc. Inviting media (June 06); Yr 2: Prepare a brochure and distribute throughout schools in Bulgaria (September – October 05); Invite the media including TV and radio channels, newspapers and magazines) to present the new LCEC.
To accept school groups from all over the country. To accept visitors from the general public. To host meetings/workshops.	Yr 2 & 3 and ongoing: At least four school groups to visit LCEC per month. (Sep – Nov 06; Mar – June 07; Sep – Nov 07; Mar – May 08); Yr 2 & 3 and ongoing: Accept visitors daily throughout for different activities according to seasonal conditions; Yr 2 & 3: Host at least 4 workshops per year.
To estimate the results of the project by undertaking surveys with the school groups and others who visit the LCEC.	Yr 2 & 3 and ongoing: Carry out surveys with all the pupil groups before and after the education process in the centre. Yr 2 & 3 and ongoing: Collect opinions, assessments and recommendations by visitors of the centre through the guest book

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

Project implementation timetable		
Date	Financial year	Key milestones
	Apr-Mar 2005/6 Apr-Mar 2006/7 Apr-Mar 2007/8	
May 2005	Apr-Mar 2005/6	Obtain initial grant funding from Darwin Initiative and other funders.
May/Sep 2005	Apr-Mar 2005/6	Plans drawn up and permits obtained. Appoint contractors. Building work commences. Planning of education programmes and initiatives started.
Jul/Sep 2005	Apr-Mar 2005/6	Research undertaken about the presentation of information at the Centre. Design and Production commences on print-based information and exhibits.

Oct/Dec 2005	Apr-Mar 2005/6	Project Leader and staff to attend first workshop / seminar in the UK. Materials ordered for Education Materials and Aids and Exhibits. Equipment and furniture for Centre sourced and ordered. Staff recruited to work at Centre.
Jan/Mar 2006	Apr-Mar 2005/6	Refurbishment of Education Centre completed. Materials, Furniture and Equipment laid out in new Centre. Planning of PR and Marketing to be undertaken to launch the Centre. Brochure produced for schools and distributed.
Mar/Jun 2006	Apr-Mar 2006/7	Centre opens. Media, government organisations, NGOs, local community invited to launch.
Jun/Sep 2006	Apr-Mar 2006/7	Visitors and groups start to attend Centre. First of the school groups attend Centre. First series of workshops planned and delivered. Staff from Centre attend 2 nd seminar/workshop in UK.
Sep 2006 to Mar 2007	Apr-Mar 2006/7	Centre starts to become more established. School groups start to attend on regular basis. Centre attracts other visitors to the region. Activities reviewed and monitored. Revisions to plans implanted as a result of evaluation meetings. Surveys carried out to evaluate impact of education programmes and Centre activities.

21. Set out the project's measurable outputs using the separate list of output measures.

PROJECT OUTPUTS		
Year/Month	Standard output number (see standard output list)	Description (include numbers of people involved, publications produced, days/weeks etc.)
Oct 2005	6a / 6b	Upto 3 Centre staff to attend training programme in the UK. This workshop/seminar based programme will be held over a 4-day period at the University of Nottingham.
Jun 2006	6a / 6b	Upto 3 Centre staff to attend training programme in the UK. This workshop/seminar based programme will be held over a 4-day period at the University of Nottingham.
Apr 2007 to Mar 2008	14a / 14b	4 workshops to be held at the Centre in Year 3
Sep/Dec 2005	15a / 15b/ 15c /15d	At least 4 press releases to be distributed in both the host country and the UK prior to the opening of the Centre

Mar/Jun 2006	15a / 15b / 15c / 15d 18a / 18b / 18c / 18d 19a / 19b / 19c / 19d	At least 4 press releases to be distributed in both the host country and the UK prior to the opening of the Centre. Radio and TV to be invited to launch of the Centre
May/Apr 2008	16a	Newsletters to be sent each quarter to already established international network of 500+ conservation organisations and biologists
Mar 2008	21	Large Carnivore Education Centre established as a permanent facility in the Pirin Mountains providing education and research facilities on a long-term basis.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

22. Describe, referring to the Indicators in the Logical Framework, how the progress of the project will be monitored and evaluated, including towards delivery of its outputs and in terms of achieving its overall purpose. This should be during the lifetime of the project and at its conclusion. Please include information on how host country partners will be included in the monitoring and evaluation.

Regular progress monitoring will be carried out in the form of public opinion surveys which will largely be done by the partners from Bulgaria on site. It is planned to have an attitude survey among schoolchildren before and after the project's education programme in order to evaluate the project success. Feedback from visitors (e.g., through the guest book) and data on visitors' attendance level will serve as another tool to evaluate the project. Also, the increasing number of visitors to the national park will be an indicator of the project's success and its positive impact on the local community.