



2/483

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**

<b>Name:</b> The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB)	<b>Address:</b> The Lodge, Sandy, Bedfordshire, SG19 2DL
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**2. Project title (not exceeding 10 words)**

<b>Participatory management of priority biodiversity sites in Taraba State, Nigeria</b>
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**3. Project dates, duration and total Darwin Initiative Grant requested**

<b>Proposed start date:</b> 1 <sup>st</sup> May 2005		<b>Duration of project:</b> 2 years 11 months			
<b>Darwin funding requested</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>2004/5</b>	<b>2005/6</b>	<b>2006/7</b>	<b>2007/8</b>
	(£) 98,634	(£) 0	(£) 38,621	(£) 29,909	(£) 30,104

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

The purpose of this project is to establish innovative, collaborative mechanisms for the sustainable management of four priority sites for the conservation of forest biodiversity on the Mambilla Plateau and in the Donga Basin, Taraba State, Nigeria. Project sites will be selected by means of standardised surveys, and Participatory Forest Management (PFM) plans will be developed for each. The capacity of local communities, the Nigerian Conservation Foundation and the Taraba State Forestry Division to implement, monitor, revise and sustain the plans will be enhanced through the provision of training, and the PFM approach will be promoted state- and country-wide taking account of lessons learned during the project.

**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
<b>Surname</b>	Hipkiss	-	Inahoro
<b>Forename (s)</b>	Alex	-	Ibrahim
<b>Post held</b>	International Officer – West Africa	-	Principal Conservation Manager
<b>Institution</b>	RSPB	-	NCF
<b>Department</b>	International Division	-	Technical Programmes

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

We have been awarded the following funding under the Darwin Initiative:

- £84,000 in Round 3 for a project to compile a directory of important ornithological sites in Tanzania (project completed successfully)
- £136,000 in Round 7 for a three-year project entitled *Management planning for conservation of mesotrophic fen mire biodiversity in Belarus* (completed successfully)
- £158,000 in Round 9 for a project entitled *Action plans for conservation of globally threatened birds in Africa* (completed successfully)
- £98,000 in Round 10 for a project entitled *Kenyan Important Biodiversity Areas: improving monitoring, management and conservation action* (now in the final year of three)
- £231,975 in Round 11 for a project entitled *Prediction and management of declines in Gyps species vultures* (in the second year of four)
- £154,117 in Round 11 for a project entitled *Empowering the people of Tristan to implement the CBD* (in the second year of three)
- £109,889 in Round 11 for a project entitled *Implementing urgent conservation actions in mesotrophic fen mires in Belarus* (in the second year of three)
- £78,770 in the first round of Post-Project 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 (in the first year of two)
- £109,992 in Round 12 for a project entitled *Gurney's pitta research and conservation in Thailand and Myanmar* (in the first year of three)
- £133,556 in Round 12 for a project entitled *Pioneering an innovative conservation approach in Sierra Leone's Gola Forest* (in the first year of three).

**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)**

**Activities (50 words)**

**Achievements (50 words)**

**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.**

**Nigerian Conservation Foundation**

The Nigerian Conservation Foundation (NCF – see [www.africanconservation.org/ncftemp/](http://www.africanconservation.org/ncftemp/)) will be the main overseas partner. NCF is a Lagos-based NGO and the Nigerian partner of BirdLife International, a global partnership of bird conservation organisations that also includes the RSPB. The RSPB has worked with NCF since 1987, providing it with technical and financial support and collaborating with it on a variety of projects.

NCF has spent the last 5 years implementing a pilot PFM project in Taraba State with the support of the RSPB. In addition, NCF has led a series of workshops at government and community levels to plan the expansion of this pilot project to additional sites, which have resulted in this proposal. NCF will play a central role in delivery of the project at the site level in collaboration with state and local governments. It will coordinate project work and liaise with local communities, local and state government and the RSPB. In addition, it will be responsible for accounting for the use of project funds at the field level and for providing the core information for project progress reports.

The project will involve a number of staff from NCF, some of whom will be recruited specifically for it. Therefore, individual staff changes will not threaten the legacy of the project. In addition, the RSPB has a long-term interest in the sustainability of NCF and its programmes and will provide ongoing support to ensure continuity. At the site level, the project will build sustainability into the

management of the forests by strengthening the capacity of local communities and the state forest department to manage the forests equitably for conservation.

### **Taraba State Forestry Department**

The Taraba State Forestry Department (FD) will play an important role in the project, although it will not be a formal partner. It is responsible for the enforcement of forestry law across Taraba State, and holds the forests 'in trust' for the people of the state. It participated in the pilot project mentioned above and in discussions about its expansion, and has recently increased its financial commitment to the project area, demonstrating its commitment to achieving conservation there (see Annexes 2 and 3). During the project, the FD will play a leading role in developing PFM plans and in their subsequent delivery. Staff changes within the FD will have little impact on the project, as several staff will be involved and any that leave will be replaced with others with similar levels of knowledge and experience.

### **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.**

Project design has been a participatory process throughout. All of the feedback received from communities and other stakeholders during and after the Participatory Sustainable Management of Renewable Natural Resources (PSMRNR) project (see point 10 for more details) has been taken into account in the development of this new project. PSMRNR was run in a highly consultative and adaptable manner and involved numerous stakeholder workshops, meetings and surveys, so the quantity and quality of feedback was high. In addition, a number of events have been organised specifically to inform the development of this project. For example, a stakeholder workshop focusing on the Ngel Nyaki site was held in the town of Gembu on 21 and 22 April 2004, involving officials from the Taraba state government and the Kurmi and Sardauna local area governments, farmers, hunters, graziers, community council members and representatives from several NGOs. Further discussion took place at a meeting between major stakeholders held in Jalingo, the state capital of Taraba State, on 18–20 August 2004, and the project design was finalised at a workshop held at the NCF head office in Lagos on 9–12 November 2004 involving the RSPB, NCF and the Forestry Department.

The project will be collaborative with communities throughout, and we will liaise with local government development authorities (Kurmi and Sardauna) on development priorities. We will also collaborate with relevant research and technical institutions such as the Federal University of Technology in Yola, the AP Leventis Ornithological Research Institute (APLORI) at the University of Jos, and the Nigerian Montane Forest Project run by the University of Canterbury in New Zealand.

## **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 proposed initiative has been inspired by a previous project in Nigeria entitled *Participatory Sustainable Management of Renewable Natural Resources* (PSMRNR). This project was funded by DFID and implemented by NCF, WWF-UK and the RSPB, and surveyed the whole country for potential Important Bird Areas (IBAs). The project also established two PFM programmes, one of which was centred on the Buru Forest in the Donga Basin. The Buru programme has now been running for more than four years, and has succeeded in establishing Taraba State's first formal community forest. It has resulted in clear livelihood improvements in local communities by enabling these communities to develop sustainable forest management plans, take control of harvesting and forest management, and market forest products directly to local consumers. Nearby communities

and the state government requested continuation of the PSMRNR project and its expansion to four further sites, two in the Donga Basin and two on the Mambilla Plateau. This request has led directly to the development of the present proposal, through the process described in the answer to question 9.

To our knowledge, there are no other Darwin projects in the area that are of relevance to this proposed project. Lessons from a non-Darwin project that has recently been carried out by BirdLife International in the Bamenda Highlands, Cameroon (part of the same ecological region) will be reviewed and considered during the implementation of this project. Moreover, we will collaborate with the staff of the nearby Gashaka-Gumti National Park, which has supported and worked with NCF in the area for more than 20 years, and with the NMFP, which has a long-term presence in the area and is currently establishing a research station and eco-tourism centre in collaboration with local communities, NCF and local universities. Representatives from both the national park and the NMFP will play prominent roles on the project steering committee.

This proposed project is part of a larger programme of work that aims to ensure sustainable management of the forest resources of Taraba State through the establishment of a greater role for communities in forest management. This will be achieved at the site level through the establishment of community forests in unreserved areas and participatory management regimes in forest reserves, coupled with income generation and livelihood schemes. At the local, state and federal government levels, the broader programme will seek to influence decision- and policy-makers both with regard to the role that communities can play in forest management and the contribution that sustainable forest management can make to poverty alleviation and livelihood enhancement. We have submitted an application for part-funding of the programme to DFID's Civil Society Challenge Fund and are currently waiting to hear if this has been successful. Even if it has not been, however, we will be able to implement the work described in the present application, as this is the 'core' of the programme and will form a coherent and highly beneficial project in its own right.

The project will take full account of PFM best practice lessons learned from the PSMRNR project and similar projects in Nigeria, neighbouring Cameroon and other countries, and will adapt documented and model PFM practices to the specific situation at each project site. Our work in this area will be facilitated by the fact that the UK Project Leader has extensive experience of PFM, as shown on the CV included in the annexes.

Finally, the project will be complementary to and supportive of the ongoing African Forest Law Enforcement and Governance (AFLEG) process. This process has involved Nigerians in its development and has considered the Nigerian context. Nigeria can be seen as an atypical country with respect to AFLEG, as there is a lack of transparency and information-sharing at forest policy decision-maker levels. At the site level, moreover, capacity to enforce forest laws is severely limited. Solutions proposed under AFLEG include infrastructure support, technical capacity building and technical and financial assistance from donors and NGOs. In addition, laws need to be made 'fairer' to allow for stakeholder consultation and participatory management. Thus, although it is not directly linking to the AFLEG process, the proposed project will make a significant contribution to addressing some of these core issues, and we will seek to ensure that lessons and achievements of the project are fed back to decision-makers and planners involved in AFLEG.

**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 supporting site biodiversity and use assessment work and the formulation and implementation of participatory sustainable forest management plans the project will support the Nigerian government's implementation of Articles 5 (5%), 6 (5%), 7 (15%), 8 (25 %), 10 (15%), 12 (10%), 13

(10%), 17 (5%), 18 (5%) and 20 (5%) of the CBD. It will also be relevant to the following themes: forest biodiversity; indicators; protected areas; sustainable use and biodiversity; traditional knowledge, innovations and practices; and ecosystem approach.

NCF has a strong relationship with the CBD Focal Point in the Federal Ministry of the Environment. NCF is also engaged in dialogue with the Ministry over national environmental concerns and is well known for its strong advocacy role in the country, particularly in relation to the establishment of protected areas.

**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.**

Both the Mambilla Plateau and the Donga Basin are listed as priority sites in the book 'Critical Sites for Biodiversity Conservation in Nigeria', which has been produced by NCF with the support of the Federal Ministry for the Environment. The project will make a significant contribution to the implementation of the CBD in Nigeria (which has yet to complete a Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan), as the forests of Taraba State are an extremely important component of the country's biodiversity resource and are vital for watershed protection. Ensuring sustainable use of forest resources is one of the Nigerian government's main policy goals in the biodiversity field.

With respect to global priorities, the forests of the Mambilla Plateau and Donga Basin are part of the Guinea Forest biodiversity hotspot, which extends from Sierra Leone to Cameroon. This is one of the most fragmented hotspots on Earth, with only 10% of the 1,265,000 km<sup>2</sup> of forest it originally contained remaining. Within the hotspot, there are 270 endemic terrestrial vertebrate species – of which 70 are threatened and seven are critically endangered (including the Western Chimpanzee which occurs in the project area) – and more than 2,250 endemic plants. Within the project area, there are two globally threatened birds, *Zoothera crossleyi* and *Ploceus bannermani*, and seven restricted-range birds. Moreover, the Mambilla Plateau montane forests are home to 24 Red Data List plants. The project area falls within the Cameroon Mountains Endemic Bird Area and includes the Ngel Nyaki Forest and Donga River Basin Forests Important Bird Areas.

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

We estimate that the project will potentially benefit directly up to 6,000 the poorest people in Nigeria and will bring indirect benefits to the remaining 2 million inhabitants of Taraba State. It will do this firstly by enabling forest-adjacent people who depend upon forest resources to realise their rights to access those resources and define and implement sustainable patterns of resource use, and secondly by contributing to the long-term conservation of the forests so that they continue to provide ecosystem services vital for the well-being of the wider community of Taraba State.

The forests we plan to work in are in one of the remotest and least developed parts of Nigeria, and local communities depend heavily on them for their livelihoods. This dependence is increased by the fact that much of the land outside the forests is badly degraded due to soil erosion and/or overgrazing. The forests provide a wide variety of resources, including timber, fuel wood, foodstuffs and medicinal plants. These resources are of great importance, both for domestic consumption and as a source of income. At present, however, local communities are unable to derive benefit from their forests because they have little or no control over the way in which these forests are managed.

The problems of forest-dependent communities in Taraba State are exacerbated by serious institutional weaknesses in the forestry sector. Nigeria's 1999 constitution is vague on forestry issues and there is therefore confusion regarding the mandates of federal, state and local forestry authorities. This leads to a lack of capacity in these authorities, which are unable or unwilling to take full account of the needs of local communities in their operations.

**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.**

This project will apply the PFM approach used in the PSMRNR project to four additional priority sites. Importantly, however, the approach will be refined and developed to reflect the differing threats and management arrangements at each site. For example, at sites designated as forest reserves (for biodiversity and water catchment purposes), community involvement in management will necessarily be limited, whereas at sites that are community forests, there will be significantly more flexibility and communities will take on a greater role.

The first stage of the project will involve the selection of priority sites by means of standardised biodiversity surveys and threat assessments. The impact of this will be that the four sites selected will be those that are richest in biodiversity and most immediately or severely threatened.

Within each of these priority sites, PFM plans will be developed in collaboration with all relevant stakeholders identifying key threats and livelihood needs and the means by which these can be addressed and supported. This will have the impact of increasing understanding of the biodiversity value of the sites among those who have a direct stake in them and whose activities could pose the greatest threat. A further impact will be an increased understanding of how livelihood aspirations can be integrated with and delivered through sustainable use of biodiversity.

The project will build the capacity of community organisations, NCF and the state Forestry Division to implement these plans, which will include programmes of training on biodiversity monitoring and reserve management planning. The impact of the initiative as a demonstration project will be maximised by means of a wide range of external dissemination activities. The project partners will take every opportunity to share information about the project with decision-makers, the media and the public: NCF will exploit its excellent links throughout Nigeria, the RSPB will take advantage of its status as one of the largest environmental NGOs in the world, and both will utilise their membership of the global BirdLife International partnership to raise awareness of the project internationally. Methods used will include both those detailed in the list of outputs below (e.g., presentations at conferences, press releases, TV and radio broadcasts and newsletters) and other more general techniques (e.g. the placement of information about the project on partners' websites and in their regular publications).

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

We expect that PFM will be institutionalised in Taraba State through legislation during or soon after this project, and will therefore be taken forward by the government with little or no external funding in the future. We will support this by building the capacity of the state Forestry Department and NCF to develop, implement and monitor PFM programmes. Thus, the legacy of the project will be a strong legal and institutional framework for PFM, which will be of great benefit to both forest-dependent communities and the rest of the population of Taraba State.

The project is intended to 'kick-start' PFM in Taraba State and many of its outputs will be largely self-sustaining. The PFM plans will have long-term validity, and any updates that do become necessary will be within the (enhanced) capacity of the communities, the Forestry Department and NCF. Community groups established during the project (Forest User Groups (FUGs) and Forest Management Committees (FMCs)) will flourish without further external input, especially as they will be designed to fit easily into existing community management structures. The increase in the capacity of communities, the Forestry Department and NCF will be long-lasting. The guidelines on PFM will have long-term relevance and our other advocacy work will, we hope, have a long-lasting impact on attitudes to forest management in Taraba State.

Crucially, the project has been developed in response to demand from within Nigeria rather than being imposed from outside, and both communities and the state government are enthusiastic about PFM and its potential benefits. Therefore, 'buy-in' from the main stakeholders in the project is guaranteed – a key factor in securing the legacy of any project.

**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.**

As indicated above, the focus of our exit strategy will be to ensure that a strong, self-sustaining framework for PFM is established in Taraba State by the end of the project. 'Exit' is perhaps a misnomer as the RSPB fully intends maintain its support to NCF after the project ends; we have worked with NCF since 1987 and will continue to do so for the foreseeable future.

A key feature of the project that will ensure long-term sustainability is that implementation of the project 'on the ground' will be led by NCF rather than the RSPB, and that both the project and follow-up activities will be driven from within Nigeria. In addition, we will pay great attention to enhancing the capacity of local communities through the development and support of FUGs and FMCs, which will be recognised in both community and state government edicts. This will help to ensure that communities are able to play a full role in the PFM process and increase their incomes through sustainable utilisation of the natural resources of their forests – thus increasing the incentive for them to support PFM in the long term.

This project has been designed not only through a series of workshops and meetings as described in the answer to question 9, but also through evaluations of the PSMRNR project and consultation with state-level decision-makers, communities and NCF. Three main potential problems have been identified during this process. These are as follows.

- Ethnic/tribal unrest has occasionally occurred in the area in the past and has the potential to recur. We will obviously be unable to address this issue directly. However, conflicts over land ownership and use have often underpinned the unrest, and we expect that the project will make a significant contribution to resolving many of these conflicts.
- It cannot be guaranteed that the current level of support for the PFM concept within state and local governments will be maintained in the long term or that government bodies will continue to be as willing to review forest policies as they are at present. However, we will do everything we can to ensure that the current situation persists, relying mainly on NCF's strong advocacy skills and excellent relations with government and the international reach of the RSPB.
- It is not guaranteed that all communities in the project area will be open to new conservation approaches or challenges to current unsustainable levels of exploitation. Site selection criteria will be carefully designed to ensure that chosen sites meet both biodiversity and viability targets. In addition, the PFM process will be carefully adapted at each site chosen to ensure that full account is taken of site-specific management challenges and stakeholder needs.

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

The Darwin name and/or logo will be used whenever appropriate – for example, in all of the dissemination activities carried out by NCF (which has a very good working relationship with the national Nigerian media); in descriptions of the project on the NCF website and in the NCF annual report; in articles about the project in RSPB and BirdLife publications and on the RSPB and BirdLife websites; in papers submitted to peer-reviewed journals on both the biodiversity and the participatory management aspects of the project; during training events, the project launch and workshops; and on project signboards, vehicles and posters.

**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? 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?**

#### **NCF/FD**

A training programme will be developed for field staff of NCF and for state-level officers and relevant field staff of FD. The course is proposed to include 4–5 modules of up to 5 days (1 week) each and will include up to 10 members (5 NCF and 5 FD) at any one time. The programme will be developed after a series of capacity assessment meetings with both NCF and FD to identify areas that need to be focused on. Potential topics include PFM, community engagement and negotiation, monitoring, benefit-sharing and conflict resolution. Training will be conducted by experts within the RSPB and NCF, and external experts from within Nigeria and the UK will be brought in if the need arises, in areas such as PFM best practices and forestry related topics.

#### **Communities**

Specific community groups will be supported in their establishment. Of particular note will be Forest Management Committees (FMCs) and Forest User Groups (FUGs). Training will be provided to these groups on an ongoing basis, through direct, adaptive support from site management staff. In addition, however, we propose to organise more structured training courses comprising 4–5 modules of up to 5 days (1 week) each and involving up to 10 members from each of the 4 proposed sites. Possible training modules will include management planning and monitoring, group/co-operative management and accounting.

#### **Training impact**

Monitoring of training outcomes will follow the same general principles for all groups trained. Specific tools will be developed as follows: Feedback sheets will be used at the end of each workshop. In addition, it will be possible to monitor the impact of much of the training we deliver by assessing the subsequent performance of trainees in related activities (e.g. the implementation of specific forest management tasks and the preparation of forest monitoring reports) in terms of both quality and timeliness.

## 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
<b>Goal:</b> 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"> <li>• the conservation of biological diversity,</li> <li>• the sustainable use of its components, and</li> <li>• the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the utilisation of genetic resources</li> </ul>			
<b>Purpose</b>  Four priority sites for the conservation of forest biodiversity in Taraba State, Nigeria are managed sustainably through innovative, collaborative mechanisms	-Management plans for all sites are being implemented with limited external support by end of project (EOP) -Conservation status of sites at least as good at EOP as at beginning	-End-term evaluation report  -Biodiversity monitoring reports	-Political will and support from state and local government is maintained in the long term
<b>Outputs</b>			
1. Project sites are selected	-Site surveys completed by mid-yr 1 - 4 priority sites selected and project presence established at each by end of yr 1	-Site survey reports -Site selection meeting report	-Communities at selected sites remain committed to PFM throughout the project -Achievement of the project purpose is not prevented by outbreaks of civil strife
2.PFM plans developed for project sites and approved by state governments	-Management planning process completed by end of yr 3 -Government approval received by EOP	-Management plan documents	
3. The capacity of community organisations, NCF and the Forestry Division enhanced to implement PFM plans	-Training delivered to NCF (5 staff), community groups (40 people in 5 training modules) and the Forestry Division (5 staff) -Agreed performance indicators measured and achieved	- Training reports  - Reports on performance against indicators	
4. PFM approach promoted in the state and country-wide	-Approach and successes of project documented in local and national newspapers (≥4 articles per year) and peer-reviewed journals (≥2 papers) -Requests received to share experience and expand to other areas	-Written evidence of govt approval -Performance records -Articles and papers -Request records	
<b>Activities</b>  Site selection  Management planning and monitoring design Capacity development  Awareness raising and advocacy	<b>Activity Milestones (Summary of Project Implementation Timetable)</b> [This section has been modified since stage 1 to improve precision and clarity, but there have been no substantive changes to the timetable.]  Biodiversity survey of potential sites completed by July 05, participatory forest assessment by June 06  PFM plans initiated April 06 and development continues to end of project (EOP), monitoring plans developed by Mar 07  Project staff recruited by June 05, project equipment procured by June 05, project in established in field by Aug 05, FUGs and FMCs established by September 05. Training needs assessed by May 06, training programme for NCF, FD and communities implemented June 06 to EOP, monitoring tools developed by Mar 06  Three national awareness-raising events and publications Mar 06, 07, 08. Community awareness programme initiated April 06. Community Forest Policy guidelines assessed and proposed by Mar 08.		

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

<b>Project implementation timetable</b>		
Date	Financial year	Key milestones
	Apr-Mar 2005/6 Apr-Mar 2006/7 Apr-Mar 2007/8	
June 05	05/06	Project staff recruitment
July 05	05/05	Biodiversity surveys to establish priority project sites.
August 05	05/06	Establish project presence at each site
August 05	05/06	Project procurement and site infrastructure.
September 05	05/06	Forest User Groups and Forest Management Committees established at each site.
Aug 05 – May 06	05/06 06/07	Training needs assessments for FD, NCF, Forest User Groups and Forest Management Committees
By March 06	05/06	Monitoring tools and use for necessary feedback and revision of training programmes developed
April-June 06	06/07	Participatory forest resource assessments designed and carried out to inform management plans.
April 06 – March 08	06/07 07/08	Facilitate development of PFM plans for each site with communities and Forestry Department
April 06- March 07	06/07 07/08	Monitoring plans and tools to monitor forest product off take and forest condition developed
June 06- March 08	06/07 07/08	Training delivered to Forest User Groups and Forest Management Committees – 40 people over 5 weeks
June 06- March 08	06/07 07/08	Training delivered to Forestry Department 5 staff over 5 weeks
June 06- March 08	06/07 07/08	Training delivered to 5 NCF staff over 5 weeks
April 06- March 08	06/07 07/08	Community-level environmental awareness-raising programme implemented.
March 06 March 07 March 08	05/06 06/07 07/08	Implement national awareness-raising programme with annual publications
By March 08	07/08	Guidelines on establishing and maintaining PFM programmes proposed to government.

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

<b>PROJECT OUTPUTS</b>		
<b>Year/Month</b>	<b>Standard output number (see standard output list)</b>	<b>Description (include numbers of people involved, publications produced, days/weeks etc.)</b>
<b>Training</b>		
June 06-March 08	6A, 6B	1 week of training to each of FUGs and FMCs. 5 training modules at 4 sites for 10 at each module= 200 people
June 06-March 08	6A, 6B	Five modules of 1 week of training for FD and NCF by end of project (EOP)
By March 06	7	6 training documents and tools for communities – community-based organisation management, CBO accounting, species and forest monitoring, conflict resolution and others to be defined.
<b>Research</b>		
Every six months	8	6 biannual monitoring and support visits (10 days each) by Project Leader
By March 08	9	4 forest management plans submitted to state government by EOP 4 community use forest monitoring plans developed by EOP
By March 08	11B	2 papers submitted to peer-reviewed journals
Throughout but beginning Oct 05	12B	NCF species database and image bank enhanced
<b>Dissemination</b>		
Throughout	14B	Annual presentation at NCF AGM (total 3) Annual presentation at BirdLife Conference of African Partners (total 3)
Annually by May each year	15A	Annual press release in national media (total 3)
By March 08	18A	1 national TV programme
May each year	19A	Annual national radio interview (total 3)
October each year	16A 16B	Annual project newsletter (3 issues, circulation of 1000)
<b>Physical</b>		
	20	Vehicle and equipment as specified in budget – total value £28,763
	22	4 permanent plots established as part of management plans
<b>Financial</b>		
	23	Total anticipated match funding = £114,663

## **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.**

Simple and useful monitoring and evaluation tools will be developed during the first year of the project through a collaborative process involving NCF, FD and RSPB. This plan will be used by FD and NCF at one project site and adjusted if necessary, and will then be presented and 'rolled out' at all other sites. It will be based around the indicators and means of verification laid out in the logical framework, and baseline and end-term assessments of key variables will be carried out to aid evaluation of the overall impact of the project.

The PFM process will be explained to and agreed with communities at each of the four sites by NCF and FD by year 2 of the project, and project staff and community groups and members will be allocated roles in monitoring the PFM planning process. Once the PFM plans are developed, community members will be responsible for monitoring implementation, with support from the FD. We expect that the plans will call for communities to take lead responsibility for monitoring many aspects of project progress. One area in which communities will definitely take the lead is the monitoring of forest product offtake and forest condition. We will help communities develop appropriate plans and tools for the monitoring of these variables.