



Submit by 5 January 2007

DARWIN INITIATIVE APPLICATION FOR GRANT ROUND 15 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 (NB: Notification of results will be by post)

Name: Richard Grimmett	Address: Head of Asia Division, BirdLife International, Wellbrook Court, Girton Road, Cambridge, CB3 0NA
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2. Project title (not exceeding 10 words)

Strengthening partnerships for Ramsar implementation in South-East Asia
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3. Project dates, duration and total Darwin Initiative Grant requested

Proposed start date: 01 July 2007	Duration of project: 33 months	End date: 31 March 2010			
Darwin funding requested	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	Total
	£ 57,455	£ 73,775	£ 73,575	£ 0	£ 204,805

4. Define the purpose of the project (extracted from logframe)

The purpose of the project is to strengthen government-civil society partnerships to support implementation of the Ramsar Convention in South-East Asia (Malaysia, Thailand, Cambodia and Vietnam) . Civil society organisations will play an active part in wetland policy formulation and implementation, and will assist governments with meeting Ramsar obligations including advancing wise-use at key wetlands and expanding the Ramsar List of Wetlands of International Importance.
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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)	Project co-ordinator in Malaysia (Host Country 1)
Surname	Grimmett		Krishnasamy
Forename (s)	Richard		Kanitha
Post held	Head of Asia Division		Science Officer
Institution	BirdLife International		Malaysian Nature Society
Department	Asia Division		Science and Conservation Unit

Details	Project co-ordinator in Thailand (Host Country 2)	Project co-ordinator in Cambodia (Host Country 3)	Project co-ordinator in Vietnam (Host Country 4)
Surname	Kaewplang	Vorsak	Tu
Forename (s)	Kritsana	Bou	Nguyen Duc

Post held	Manager	Acting Programme Manager	Wetland Programme Officer
Institution	Bird Conservation Society of Thailand	BirdLife International	BirdLife International
Department	n/a	Cambodia Programme	Vietnam Programme

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

Reference No	Project Leader	Title
No ref available	Mike Crosby	Directory of key sites for the conservation of Philippine birds
162/11/022	Guy Dutson	Identifying sites of global biodiversity conservation importance for the Fiji BSAP
12-025	Jonathan Eames	Building constituencies for site based conservation in Myanmar
235 13/021	Lincoln Fishpool	Strengthening capacity for biodiversity conservation in West Africa
116 13/006	Rob Williams	DarwinNet - The Peru-Ecuador Dry Forest Clearing House Mechanism
459 14/044	Mike Crosby	Building a bird conservation and environmental network in China
454 14/042	John Fanshawe	Supporting southern conservation NGOs to work with the CBD
656 15/019	James Millett	Community-based conservation groups at Fiji's key conservation sites
702 15/30	Leon Bennun	Strengthening scientific capacity of conservation NGOs working with the CBD
667 15/022	Roger Safford	Government-civil society partnerships for protected areas in Timor-Leste
EIDPO19	David Thomas	DarwinNet and the Tumbesian Important Bird Areas

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 UK/collaborative (where there are partners in addition to the applicant organisation) and host country partners that will be involved, and explain their roles and responsibilities in the project. Describe the extent of their involvement at all stages, including project development. This section should illustrate the capacity of host country partners to be involved in the project. Please provide written evidence of partnerships.

<p>Partner Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB), the BirdLife Partner NGO in the UK (UK Partner)</p>	<p>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): RSPB is a UK charity working to secure a healthy environment for birds and other wildlife. It is Europe's largest wildlife conservation charity with more than a million members. Among the many national and international environmental issues with which RSPB is engaged, the Society has particular expertise in wetland conservation. At the national level, RSPB is involved in the designation, safeguard and management of Ramsar Sites, of which the UK has more than any other country. At the international level, RSPB provides technical and scientific support to the implementation of the Ramsar Convention, as part of BirdLife International's role as an International Organisation Partner of the Convention.</p> <p>RSPB will make available to the project a leading UK expert on the Ramsar Convention, with 25 years' experience of international policy, wetland conservation and conservation planning. The RSPB expert will contribute strategic advice, oversight and consultative input to the technical content of implementation in each of the countries. This will draw on experience of similar activities worldwide on a day-to-day basis, as well as specific past projects on national wetland policies, legislation and site designation. Input will also be made to the planning and capacity-building workshop events of the project, and to presentations/promotional networking at COP10 and regional Ramsar meetings. The same individual plays a prominent role in the institutions of the Convention itself, including the Standing Committee, Scientific & Technical Review Panel, Secretariat and ad hoc working groups; and he will provide the liaison link between these bodies and the project. In the first year of the project, the RSPB will assist with a brief review of UK-based experience with wetland monitoring, to feed into the content of relevant training that will be delivered by the project.</p> <p>In addition, in the context of the RSPB's international support programme for selected partner countries, which includes an existing programme with BCST in Thailand, a new collaborative wetland management initiative (with engagement of local stakeholders) is to be undertaken in Thailand; and this will form a further contribution to the project.</p> <p>The RSPB expert has been closely involved in the design of the project and the preparation of this proposal, and a letter of support from RSPB is attached to this proposal.</p>
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<p>Partner Ramsar Administrative Authorities in Malaysia, Thailand, Cambodia and Vietnam</p> <p>(Host Country Partners)</p>	<p>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):</p> <p>The national government partners will be the Ramsar Administrative Authorities in the respective countries, namely the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MNRE) in Malaysia, the Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning (ONEP) in Thailand, the Department of Nature Conservation and Protection (DNCP) of the Ministry of Environment in Cambodia, and the Vietnam Environmental Protection Agency (VEPA). In recent years, these government agencies have worked closely with BirdLife, its country programmes and its partner NGOs. In each country, there has been dialogue to identify priority areas for joint activities in relation to wetland conservation, with specific emphasis on Ramsar implementation and the forthcoming 10th meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties (COP 10). The project proposal has been discussed and agreed between the Ramsar Administrative Authorities and the civil society partners in each of the participating countries. Letters of support from MNRE, DNCP and VEPA are attached to this proposal, and a letter is expected from ONEP and will be forwarded to Darwin if it is received.</p> <p>In each country, the Ramsar Administrative Authority will be responsible for formulation of agreed strategies, work plans and position papers with the civil society partners, based on national priorities for Ramsar implementation. They will also nominate and empower government staff to take part in joint activities, including workshops, training courses, wetland monitoring and site conservation activities. In particular, with support from BirdLife and RSPB and in partnership with the civil society partners in each host country, the Ramsar Administrative Authorities will: (a) assess national capacity development needs; (b) lead on identifying candidate sites and designating new sites for the Ramsar List; (c) prepare wetland policies and position papers arising from project activities; (d) prepare and submit National Reports to the Ramsar Secretariat; and (e) give presentations at the Ramsar COP 10.</p>
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<p>Partner Malaysian Nature Society (MNS), BirdLife Partner NGO in Malaysia (Host Country Partner)</p>	<p>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): MNS has been contributing towards the protection of Malaysia's natural heritage since 1940. MNS is a membership-based organisation, that works very closely with grassroots communities and local governments, as well as private organisations, to conserve natural habitats.</p> <p>MNS will be responsible for all aspects of project implementation in Malaysia, in collaboration with MNRE (the host government partner), and with technical support from BirdLife and RSPB. MNS will liaise and engage with representatives of MNRE and other government departments, as well as other related stakeholders. MNS will be responsible for organising national workshops and training courses, wetland monitoring and site conservation activities. MNS will provide technical input to MNRE in relation to (a) identifying candidate sites and designating new sites for the Ramsar List; (b) drafting wetland policies and position papers arising from project activities; (c) preparing National Reports to the Ramsar Secretariat; and (d) effective national representation at the Ramsar COP 10.</p> <p>MNS has the capacity and experience to engage in both the site-level and policy-level activities of the Darwin project. This is evident in MNS's management of Kuala Selangor Nature Park (a coastal wetland) for the Selangor state government, with active partnerships with private corporations and the media. This remains the only protected area in the country that is managed by an NGO on behalf of the government. Furthermore, MNS is the official NGO Communication, Education and Public Awareness Focal Point for the Ramsar Convention in Malaysia, and has joined the Malaysian delegation to the two previous COPs. In this role, MNS has actively engaged other civil society groups in Ramsar implementation, strengthened partnerships among all sectors of the Malaysian community for wetland conservation, and showcased the importance of such collaborations at national and international fora.</p> <p>MNS is represented in almost all of the Malaysian states by local branches, which work closely with the MNS Headquarters in tackling local conservation issues. MNS will directly involve its branches in the Darwin project activities, particularly those relating to Ramsar Site nomination and collaborative wetland management on the ground.</p> <p>MNS will engage the services of one of its members, Rebecca D’Cruz, to support national and regional training activities. Rebecca is the former Ramsar Regional Coordinator for Asia/Oceania, and has a great depth of experience in relation to Ramsar and wetland conservation.</p> <p>MNS views the training components of this project as an excellent opportunity to build its own capacity as well as that of its government partners in ensuring effective wetland management and participation in the Ramsar Convention. MNS has been closely involved in the planning of the Darwin project and the drafting of this proposal. Planning meetings were held between MNS and BirdLife International staff in Kuala Lumpur in July and November 2006. A letter of support from MNS is attached to this proposal.</p>
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<p>Partner Bird Conservation Society of Thailand (BCST), BirdLife Partner NGO in Thailand</p> <p>(Host Country Partner)</p>	<p>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):</p> <p>First established in 1962, as Bangkok Bird Club, BCST is one of the oldest NGOs working on wildlife conservation in Thailand today. BCST's vision is to be a leading organisation in bird and nature conservation in Thailand and Asia. BCST aims to achieve this vision by: using birdwatching and bird conservation as tools to take care of natural resources and the environment; using birds as indicators for the quality of ecosystems; and promoting awareness and knowledge on birds and their importance as a vital part of the environment among Thai people.</p> <p>BCST will be responsible for all aspects of project implementation in Thailand, in collaboration with ONEP (the host government partner), and with technical support from BirdLife and RSPB. Specifically, BCST will be responsible for: (a) developing dialogues with ONEP and other relevant government agencies; (b) training and supporting local monitoring coordinators; (c) adapting training tools and materials to the Thai context; and (d) facilitating government-civil society partnerships at the local level.</p> <p>BCST has the necessary capacity to be involved in the activities of the project. BCST has a long history of engagement with government partners to advocate for the conservation and wise-use of wetlands, with a particular focus on the Inner Gulf of Thailand. At the site level, BCST has considerable experience of catalysing collaborative conservation initiatives involving local communities, NGOs and government agencies, with a particular emphasis on public outreach.</p> <p>BCST has been closely involved in the development of the Darwin project and the preparation of this proposal. BCST staff participated in a planning meeting with BirdLife International and other civil society partners in Kuala Lumpur in November 2006. A letter of support from BCST is attached to this proposal.</p>
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<p>9a. Have you consulted stakeholders not already mentioned above? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>If yes, please give details:</p> <p>During the development of the project, the Secretariat to the Ramsar Convention was consulted, to ensure that the proposal addressed global priorities for Ramsar implementation. A letter of support from the Secretary General of the Ramsar Convention is attached to this proposal.</p>
<p>9b. Do you intend to consult other stakeholders? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>If yes, please give details:</p>
<p>9c. Have you had any (other) contact with the government not already stated? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>If yes, please give details:</p> <p>In Malaysia, MNS has been working in collaboration with the Department of Town and Country Planning of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, through the National Physical Plan (NPP). The NPP, which was established in 2005, is a key statutory document, which provides guidelines for spatial planning of the country and has particular relevance to the conservation of wetlands that are otherwise unprotected. MNS has an ongoing partnership with this department and a coalition of environmental NGOs towards sustainable land-use in Malaysia, which will help realise the outputs of the Darwin project in the country.</p>

PROJECT DETAILS

10. Please provide a Concept note (Max 800 words) (repeat from Stage 1, with changes highlighted)

South-East Asia's wetlands are very important for biodiversity, national economies and the wellbeing of human communities. Unfortunately, wetlands have frequently been viewed as unproductive areas, and converted to other land-uses. Although reduced in extent, South-East Asia's remaining natural and semi-natural wetlands support tremendous biodiversity wealth, including many threatened and endemic species.

The framework for national action and international cooperation for the conservation and wise use of wetlands is provided by the Ramsar Convention. Parties to the convention have obligations to designate wetlands of international importance as Ramsar Sites, and to promote the conservation of these sites and the wise use of all wetlands in their territory. To date, however, implementation of the Ramsar Convention in many South-East Asian countries has been limited. Many countries have only designated a few Ramsar Sites, and many wetlands that have been designated still lack appropriate management arrangements. Furthermore, the technical knowledge generated by national civil society rarely informs strategic planning and policy making, and the potential for engaging local civil society in enhancing wetland site conservation remains largely untapped.

The Asia Regional Meeting prior to the 9th Ramsar Conference of the Parties (COP 9) in May 2005 identified limited capacity of Ramsar Administrative Authorities as a substantial challenge to Ramsar implementation in Asia. Further insights into constraints to Ramsar implementation were provided by the national reports to COP 9 submitted by South-East Asian governments, which identified a need for strengthened capacity of wetland management agencies, and greater engagement of local stakeholders in wetland conservation. In this context, the Ramsar Administrative Authorities in Malaysia, Thailand, Cambodia and Vietnam have approached BirdLife and its NGO partners to seek greater collaboration in Ramsar implementation.

A review published by BirdLife in 2005 identified priority sites that qualify as potential Ramsar Sites based on their importance for wetland birds, the majority of which are not yet designated as Ramsar Sites. The review recommended that governments should designate more of these wetlands as Ramsar Sites, and that, in the interim, they should receive the same degree of protection as Ramsar Sites.

The need to strengthen cooperation between government and civil society was identified in the third Joint Work Plan (JWP) between the Ramsar Convention and the Convention on Biological Diversity, which includes the following action: "*BirdLife International will continue to... support implementation as appropriate of the actions of this JWP, and will provide technical information and input to policy development activities in support of the implementation of both Conventions*". The JWP also identifies a need for national focal points to develop national monitoring programmes and indicators for wetland biodiversity.

The proposed Darwin project will address the needs outlined above, by strengthening government-civil society partnerships to support Ramsar implementation in four South-East Asian countries. This will be achieved through: supporting national civil society partners to develop joint priorities and work plans with the relevant Ramsar Administrative Authority; strengthening the capacity of national government and civil society partners in key aspects of Ramsar implementation; developing collaborative wetland management initiatives involving site management authorities and local civil society, such as landowners, fisheries concessionaires and local communities (through these initiatives, the project will promote sustainable wetland-based livelihoods); and supporting the establishment of national monitoring programmes for wetlands of international importance. Finally, the project will include a communication component, aimed at demonstrating the importance of the Ramsar Convention and disseminating the project's achievements, in order to promote replication. In this context, Ramsar COP 10, which is scheduled for November 2008 in South Korea, will be a key focus of activities.

As one of Ramsar's International Organisation Partners, BirdLife has a long history of providing technical and scientific support to the implementation of the convention at global, national and local levels. BirdLife will have overall responsibility for management of the project, and take the lead with partnership building, training delivery, and development of frameworks for collaborative wetland management initiatives and national wetland monitoring. Project implementation will be supported by RSPB, an organisation with tremendous experience of wetland management in the UK and a long-standing involvement with Ramsar. RSPB will contribute to the development of training tools and materials and the delivery of training courses,

and advise national civil society partners on wetland policy development and advocacy. The national civil society partners will take the lead with developing dialogues with national government partners, training and supporting local monitoring coordinators, and facilitating government-civil society partnerships at the local level. They will also ensure that training tools and materials are adapted to local contexts and that training events target the most appropriate people. The national government partners will be responsible for preparing official lists of candidate Ramsar Sites, formulating joint strategies, work plans and position papers, and supporting the design and implementation of collaborative wetland management initiatives.

Only minor editorial changes were made from the Stage 1 application

11a. Is this a new initiative or a development of existing work (funded through any source)?

Please give details:

This is a new initiative. However it will build on existing work of the national civil society partners, a history of collaboration between them and government agencies, and the long-standing Ramsar-related work of BirdLife International and RSPB.

The national civil society partners comprise Malaysian Nature Society (MNS), Bird Conservation Society of Thailand (BCST) and BirdLife International's country programmes in Cambodia and Vietnam. To date, these partners have collaborated on an *ad hoc* basis with their Ramsar Administrative Authorities, attending meetings and taking part in some joint activities. However, the Darwin project provides an opportunity to greatly strengthen and formalise collaboration, and to work together on longer-term joint initiatives that will strengthen Ramsar implementation in each country and in the region. The civil society partners have also been involved, to varying extents, in conservation activities at the priority wetland sites that will be a focus for the project. The project will be able to build on these site-based activities, learn from experience and share this regionally and with government partners.

BirdLife International and the RSPB have had a long-standing involvement with the Ramsar Convention, and have supported governments, BirdLife Partners and the institutions of the Convention in a wide variety of ways including accession, legislation, policy development, training, national planning and site conservation activities. The ability to mobilise Partnership efforts in a coordinated way was exemplified by the activities of the BirdLife African Partners in the run-up to the 9th Ramsar Conference of Parties, held in Uganda in 2005. In South-East Asia, the BirdLife Partnership has distributed a review of important wetland sites, evaluated against the Ramsar criteria, to all governments in the region, and this will provide a sound scientific basis for developing the Ramsar List in each country and for strengthening wetland monitoring systems.

11b. Are you aware of any other individuals/organisations/Darwin Initiative projects carrying out similar work? Yes No

If yes, please give details explaining similarities and differences, and explaining how your work will be additional to this work and what attempts have/will been made to co-operate with and learn lessons from such work for mutual benefits:

We are not aware of any similar projects. However Wetlands International (WI) is, alongside BirdLife, another of the Ramsar International Organisation Partners, and it provides ongoing support to the Ramsar Secretariat and to the Malaysian government from its national office in Kuala Lumpur. BirdLife will work closely with WI in the run-up to the 10th Conference of Parties, and MNS has already discussed co-operation on Ramsar implementation with WI Malaysia and expects to liaise closely during the life-time of this project. WI also coordinates the annual Asian Waterbird Census and BirdLife and WI have agreed to collaborate closely in promoting this as a regional approach to wetland monitoring.

12. How does this project 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.

The project has been developed in response to needs identified in the national reports to Ramsar COP 9 submitted by South-East Asian governments, in particularly the need for strengthened capacity of wetland management agencies and the need for greater engagement of local stakeholders in wetland conservation. In addition, in each of the host countries, the project addresses priorities set out in national environmental policies and biodiversity conservation needs identified in National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans and similar documents.

In Malaysia, the project will be in line with the main principle of the *National Wetland Policy*, which is wise use and conservation of wetlands through active consultation and participation of all main stakeholders, such as local communities and NGOs. In particular, the project will address a core objective of this policy: conservation of important representative wetland habitats through coordination of key stakeholders, especially governments and civil societies, and through communication, education and public awareness measures. The project is also consistent with the *National Policy on Biological Diversity*, which highlights wetlands as one of the areas that require more integrated conservation efforts. Furthermore, the project is in line with Malaysia's *National Policy Plan*, which identifies wetlands, specifically coastal ecosystems, as a priority for protection and sustainable use.

In Thailand, the national strategy on biodiversity is encapsulated in the *National Policies, Measures and Plans on the Conservation and Sustainable Utilisation of Biodiversity*, which cover the period 1998 to 2007. The project will assist Thailand to implement many of the strategies set out in these documents, including: (i) build capacity of institutions and their staff in biodiversity conservation; (ii) control and monitor processes and activities that threaten the existence and richness of biodiversity; and (iii) promote cooperation between international and national agencies in conservation and sustainable utilisation of biodiversity. The project is also consistent with the *Policy and Prospective Plan for Enhancement and Conservation of National Environmental Quality 1997-2016*, which recognises the contributions that NGOs and local-level institutions can make to formulation of policy and initiation of monitoring programmes.

In Cambodia, the project will address a number of needs identified in the *National Environmental Action Plan*, including: (i) the need for training for staff of the Ministry of Environment and other agencies involved in biodiversity conservation; (ii) the need to establish monitoring systems in order to inform biodiversity conservation and management planning; and (iii) the need for participatory management planning and implementation processes that facilitate local participation in site conservation. In addition, the project will address several of the goals of the *National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan*, including: (i) to encourage and support the participation of women, minority groups, local communities, religious groups, NGOs and private sector in efforts leading to conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity; and (ii) to improve the technical capacity of national experts in the different fields of biodiversity management.

In Vietnam, the project will support three of the priority programmes under the *National Strategy for Environmental Protection 2001-2010*, namely Programmes 12 (Improve management and sustainable use of wetlands), 14 (Upgrade and strengthen the institutional arrangements and human capacity for environmental management) and 18 (Promote environmental action by voluntary organisations). The project will also address several biodiversity conservation needs identified in the *Biodiversity Action Plan for Vietnam*, in particular: (i) the need to accord some level of protection to important wetland sites that are currently unprotected; (ii) the need to strengthen management of protected wetlands through increased involvement of local people; and (iii) the need for monitoring of on-the-ground conditions and management effectiveness at sites. Moreover, the project is in line with Government Decree 109 on Wetland Conservation and Sustainable Development, which established a *National Action Plan for Wetland Conservation and Sustainable Development 2004-2010*. Priority actions in this plan that will be supported by the project include: (i) formulating wetland policies; (ii) developing models for wise-use of wetlands; (iii) planning conservation for important wetlands, and (iv) improving international cooperation in wetland conservation.

13a. How will the project assist the host country in its implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity? Please rank the relevance of the project to the relevant article(s) of the CBD thematic programmes and/or cross-cutting themes by indicating percentages.

Articles	% Relevance	Themes	% Relevance
5. Co-operation		Access and Benefit Sharing	
6. General measures for Conservation and Sustainable Use		Agricultural Biodiversity	
7. Identification and Monitoring	15	Alien Species	
8. <i>In-situ</i> Conservation	15	Biodiversity and Tourism	
8h. Alien Species		Biosafety	
8j. Traditional Knowledge		Climate Change and Biodiversity	
9. <i>Ex-situ</i> Conservation		Economics, Trade and Incentives	
10. Sustainable use of components of Biological Diversity	10	Ecosystems approach	
11. Incentive measures		Forest Biodiversity	
12. Research and Training	20	Global Strategy for Plant Conservation	
13. Public education and awareness	10	Global Taxonomy Initiative	
14. Impact assessment and minimizing adverse impacts		Impact Assessment, Liability and Redress	
15. Access to genetic resources		Indicators	
16. Access to and transfer of technology		Inland Waters Biodiversity	10
17. Exchange of information		Marine and Coastal Biodiversity	10
18. Technical and scientific co-operation	10	Mountain Biodiversity	
19. Handling of biotechnology and distribution of its benefits		Protected Areas	
20. Financial resources		Public Education and Awareness	
21. Financial mechanism		Sustainable Use and Biodiversity	
22. Relationship with other international conventions		Traditional Knowledge, Innovations and Practices	
23. Conference of the Parties			
24. Secretariat			
25. Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological advice			
26. Reports			

13b. Is any liaison proposed with the CBD national focal point in the host country? Yes No
If yes, please give details:

In all cases, the government partner institutions are the CBD focal points in their respective countries and the civil society partners will maintain regular contact with the focal points during the lifetime of the project.

14. If relevant, please explain how the work will contribute to sustainable livelihoods in the host country. (Max 200 words)

The assistance that will be given to the host countries under Outputs 1 and 2 will include developing joint workplans and strengthening capacity in key aspects of Ramsar implementation. These will include Resolution IX.14 from 2005 on Wetlands and Poverty Reduction. The project will strengthen the implementation of this resolution in each host country, with specific regard to its provisions on:

- improving access to and developing capacity to use, on a sustainable basis, land, water and wetland resources, respecting the rights of local communities and indigenous peoples;
- enhancing the priority given to sustainability in all relevant mainstream policy sectors;
- maintaining or improving the ecosystem benefits/services that wetlands provide;
- creating new partnerships between communities, developers and conservationists to ensure that local perspectives are included and existing sustainable livelihood strategies are respected.

With specific reference to the last provision, the project will develop, under Output 3, site-level partnerships among communities, private businesses, government agencies and other local stakeholders, to address wetland management issues of common concern. By encouraging and facilitating dialogue among these stakeholders, the project will work to ensure that wetland management takes into account the concerns of local communities regarding sustainable access to key resources.

15. 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. (max 200 words)

The project will facilitate greater civil society involvement in wetland policy formulation and implementation in four countries where this has traditionally been the preserve of government. This is expected to result in enhanced Ramsar implementation beyond the project period, through improved flow of information, skills and resources between government and civil society. The project will also improve the long-term conservation prospects of key wetlands, by putting in place site action plans and local conservation partnerships, and promoting their designation as Ramsar Sites. Furthermore, the project will initiate national wetland monitoring programmes, to fill a major gap in national Ramsar implementation.

Exchange of experience and perspectives among the four countries will add further value to their individual efforts, in line with the international cooperation pillar of Ramsar. More widely, the impacts of the project are expected to have relevance for other countries within and beyond South-East Asia. The project will, therefore, feature a communication component, which will disseminate its achievements and promote replication of good practice approaches. Experience will be disseminated nationally, through Ramsar meetings, including via a side event at COP 10, and internationally, through national media coverage generated by the World Bird Festival and World Wetlands Day events.

16. How will the work leave a lasting legacy in the host country or region? (max 200 words)

The project will leave a significant legacy in the recipient countries by strengthening the capacity of government institutions responsible for Ramsar implementation, catalysing synergies between government and civil society for wetland conservation and wise use, and putting in place knowledge management structures for monitoring key wetlands. These outputs will ensure that the project makes a lasting impact on the recipient countries' abilities to meet their obligations under Ramsar and other multilateral environmental agreements including the CBD. In all cases, the government partner institutions are the CBD focal points in their respective countries, and the skills that the project will develop among their staff will be highly transferable. With its strong focus on capacity strengthening and partnership building, the project will enhance the host countries' ability to implement the CBD, particularly Articles 7 (identification and monitoring), 8 (*in situ* conservation), 12 (research and training) and 18 (technical and scientific cooperation). Implementation of the CBD's Programmes of Work on inland waters and marine & coastal biodiversity, and its Joint Work Plan with Ramsar, will also be assisted.

17. 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. For example, what steps have been taken to ensure the benefits of the project will continue despite any staff changes in these organisations? (max 200 words)

The key structure for ensuring that the project leaves a lasting legacy will be the strengthened government-civil society partnerships at national levels. These partnerships will work to ensure that the staff capacity built by the project is brought to bear on wetland conservation, that the local conservation partnerships catalysed by the project are sustained, that the good practice they generate is documented and replicated at other key wetland sites, and that the national wetland monitoring programmes initiated by the project are expanded and their results fed into policy formulation in key development sectors.

The sustainability of these partnerships will be enhanced by emphasising dialogue and consensus-building during their establishment, to ensure that partners have common agendas. In order to increase the resilience of these partnerships to the effects of personnel changes, they will be based not only on relationships among individuals but also on formal partnership mechanisms, such as joint wetland committee meetings, wetland conservation strategies and workplans. These joint workplans will include financing plans that review sustainable financing options for wetland conservation at the site and system levels, including linkages to major poverty reduction initiatives, and identify concrete opportunities that government and civil society partners can jointly pursue.

18. How will the project be advertised as a Darwin project and in what ways will the Darwin name and logo be used? (max 100 words)

The Darwin name and logo will be carried prominently in relation to the following: (i) project launch through a press release and promotion on the BirdLife and partner websites; (ii) further publicity, promoting Darwin project activities, prior to Ramsar COP 10; (iii) presentations and posters at COP 10 highlighting Darwin activities; (iv) banners and materials for the three regional training courses, four national workshops, 12 round-table meetings, and eight site-based workshops, and (v) printed outputs, such as national monitoring frameworks, Ramsar shadow lists, training materials, and site conservation strategies (plus possible recognition in Ramsar Information Sheets and National Reports).

19. If your project includes training and development, please indicate a) who the trainees will be, b) the criteria for selection, c) what the level and content of training will be, d) how many people will be involved, e) which countries will they be from, f) how will you measure the effectiveness of the training, g) will those trained then be able to train others and h) how will trainee outcomes be monitored after the end of the training? (max 300 words)

Training will be provided in three main areas:

(1) Key aspects of Ramsar implementation

(a) Staff from the Ramsar Administrative Authorities and civil society partners; (b) Persons responsible for Ramsar implementation and wetland conservation; (c) Ramsar commitments and priorities including developing the Ramsar List, developing and advancing wise-use policies and practices, and sustainably financing wetland conservation; (d) 24 people will be trained; (e) Malaysia, Thailand, Cambodia and Vietnam; (f) Trainees are able to implement training at national and site levels; (g) Trainees will be able to pass on skills and knowledge to colleagues; (h) Post-training evaluation questionnaires will be circulated to trainees.

(2) Collaborative wetland management

(a) Stakeholders from local government, private sector and civil society at the priority sites; (b) Persons with responsibility for and/or a stake in wetland use; (c) Wetland conservation and wise-use, site action planning, and sustainably financing wetland conservation; (d) 80 people will be trained; (e) Malaysia, Thailand, Cambodia and Vietnam; (f) Trainees can prepare site action plans and implement effective collaborative conservation actions; (g) Trainees will be able to pass on skills to other local conservation partnership members; (h) Post-training evaluation questionnaires will be circulated.

(3) Wetland monitoring

(a) Staff of the civil society partners and technical staff in national and local government, and civil society at the priority sites; (b) Persons with an interest in wetland conservation; (c) Monitoring of wetland species, habitats and threats, use of monitoring data and report writing; (d) Eight trainers will be trained, who, in turn, will train 40 local coordinators; (e) Malaysia, Thailand, Cambodia and Vietnam; (f) monitoring results are received from at least 80% of sites covered; (g) Civil society trainers will be able to train additional local coordinators to expand the monitoring networks; (h) Post-training evaluation questionnaires will be circulated.

LOGICAL FRAMEWORK

20. Please enter the details of your project onto the matrix using the note at Annex C of the Guidance Note. This should not have substantially changed from the Logical Framework submitted with your Stage 1 application. Please highlight any changes. (Amendments are underlined.)

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: To strengthen government-civil society partnerships to support implementation of the Ramsar Convention in South-East Asia.	Civil society organisations participating in wetland policy formulation & implementation in at least 3 countries; Local stakeholders engaged in conservation of at least 4 <u>existing or proposed</u> Ramsar Sites; New Ramsar Sites designated in at least 3 countries.	Joint position papers, memoranda of cooperation and National Reports to Ramsar COPs; Reports of wetland management initiatives; Ramsar Information Sheets and the Ramsar List.	Governments remain open to policy dialogue with civil society on wetland issues; Institutional and policy frameworks enabling local stakeholders to engage in wetland conservation can be strengthened.
Outputs: 1. Government and civil society organisations develop joint priorities and work plans for enhancing Ramsar implementation in 4 South-East Asian countries.	1a. Wetland site conservation priorities agreed in all 4 countries by end yr 1; 1b. Civil society organisations actively involved in national Ramsar/wetland committee meetings or equivalent in at least 3 countries by end yr 1; 1c. Joint strategies and work plans developed by end yr 1.	1a. Published official lists of candidate Ramsar Sites; 1b. Meeting agendas, minutes and reports; 1c. Strategies and work plans of participating civil society organisations.	Civil society organisations and government agencies can reach agreement on priorities for Ramsar implementation; Governments remain willing to engage with civil society on Ramsar implementation.
2. Capacity of government and civil society partners in key aspects of Ramsar implementation strengthened.	2a. At least 24 national government and civil society staff trained in Ramsar commitments and priorities, <u>developing and advancing wise-use policies and practices, and sustainably financing wetland conservation</u> by end yr 2.	2a. Training materials, needs assessments, evaluation reports, course agendas and participant lists.	Trainees remain in relevant positions after the project lifetime and are able to pass on skills to colleagues.
3. Collaborative wetland management initiatives engaging local government and civil society stakeholders in place at priority sites.	3a. Local conservation partnerships established for at least 4 key wetland sites by end yr 2; 3b. Wetland conservation actions underway for at least 4 key wetland sites by end yr 3.	3a. Agreements and joint work plans; 3b. Activity reports and media coverage. <u>3c. National reports by Ramsar Administrative Authorities.</u>	Wetland management issues of common concern to site managers and local civil society stakeholders can be identified and addressed at the site level.
4. National wetland monitoring programmes established as an activity of government-civil society partnerships.	4a. Wetland monitoring frameworks in place for all 4 countries by end yr 1; 4b. Key wetlands monitored by local coordinators in yrs 2 & 3; 4c. Monitoring results included in information presented at Ramsar COP 10 in yr 2.	4a. National wetland monitoring framework documents; 4b. National wetland monitoring reports; 4c. <u>National reports by Ramsar Administrative Authorities.</u> <u>4d. Revised Ramsar Information Sheets.</u>	Nationwide networks of local stakeholders can be established to ensure monitoring coverage of key wetland sites.

5. The importance of the Ramsar Convention and the achievements of government-civil society partnerships demonstrated at national, regional and global levels.	5a. Achievements of gov't-civil society partnerships presented at Ramsar meetings, including COP 10 in yr 2; 5b. Importance of the Ramsar Convention promoted as a key message of the <u>World Wetlands Day activities during yrs 1-3 and the World Bird Festival in Asia during yr 2.</u>	5a. COP 10 agenda, national reports and reports of side-events; 5b. Media coverage and reports of <u>World Wetlands Day and World Bird Festival in Asia.</u>	Ramsar COP continues to welcome civil society involvement; Opportunities are provided at the COP for joint reports to be given.
Activities: 1. Workshops, meetings and joint planning exercises to facilitate the development of government-civil society partnerships.	Activity Milestones: <u>1.1 National priority-setting workshops held (yr 1);</u> <u>1.2 Official lists of candidate Ramsar Sites drafted (yr 1);</u> <u>1.3 Round-table meetings to formulate and review joint strategies and work plans held (yrs 1-2);</u> <u>1.4 Joint position papers on key wetland policies relating to Ramsar drafted (yrs 2-3);</u> <u>1.5 Cross-sectoral consultation meetings to explore linkages to wider poverty reduction initiatives held (yrs 2-3).</u> <u>[Previous activity 1.1 (Regional meeting of national partners held) deleted]</u>		Assumptions: Key government and civil society personnel are available to attend national and regional workshops and round-table meetings.
2. Training for selected government and civil society staff in key areas of Ramsar implementation.	2.1 Training needs assessments conducted (yr 1); 2.2 Training tools and materials prepared (yr 1); 2.3 <u>Regional training workshops in Ramsar commitments and priorities, developing and advancing wise-use policies and practices, and sustainably financing wetland conservation held (yrs 1 & 3);</u> 2.4 Hands-on training in site action planning and forming partnerships with local stakeholders provided (yrs 2-3).		Nominated staff are available to attend training courses and participate in field trips; Trainees remain committed to putting training into practice.
3. Design and implementation of collaborative wetland management initiatives that engage local stakeholders.	3.1 Meetings to select priority sites held (yr 1); 3.2 Stakeholder workshops at priority sites to identify priority issues and formulate intervention strategies held (yr 1); 3.3 Training workshops for local stakeholders held (yrs 2 & 3); 3.4 Wetland conservation actions implemented (yrs 1-3); 3.5 <u>Consultations with sustainable financing initiatives to broker relationships with priority sites held (yrs 2-3).</u>		Local stakeholders with sufficient skills and motivation to lead collaborative wetland management initiatives can be identified. <u>Opportunities exist to support priority sites through sustainable financing initiatives.</u>
4. Establishment of national wetland monitoring programmes covering key wetlands.	4.1 Review of UK-based experience with wetland monitoring conducted (yr 1); 4.2 National wetland monitoring frameworks developed and trainers trained by UK experts (yrs 1-2); 4.3 Local monitoring coordinators identified and trained by national civil society trainers (yr 2); 4.4 <u>Annual wetland monitoring undertaken (yrs 2-3)</u> 4.5 <u>Monitoring reports prepared and published (yrs 2-3);</u> 4.6 <u>Monitoring results integrated into national environmental reporting (yrs 2-3).</u>		Local monitoring coordinators can be identified at key wetland sites; Opportunities to integrate monitoring results into national environmental reporting arise during the project lifetime.

5. Advocacy and outreach to promote Ramsar and the achievements of government-civil society partnerships.	5.1 Successful government-civil society collaboration for wetland conservation documented (yr 2); 5.2 Presentations made at Ramsar COP 10 (yr 2); 5.3 Public awareness activities implemented during the World Bird Festival in Asia (yr 2); 5.4 Public awareness activities implemented during World Wetlands Day (yrs 1-3) <u>[Previous activity 5.4 (Briefings for key government and civil society stakeholders organised) deleted]</u>	BirdLife is invited to present at Ramsar COP 10 and/or a side event; Key government and civil society stakeholders are available to attend briefings on Ramsar.
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21. Provide a project implementation timetable that shows the key milestones in project activities.

Project implementation timetable		
Date	Financial year	Key milestones
July 07	Apr-Mar 2007/08	Project management and administrative procedures established and agreed between UK personnel and national civil society partners.
July 07	Apr-Mar 2007/08	Press releases and publicity on launch of Darwin project.
July 07	Apr-Mar 2007/08	National workshops held in four countries to: (1) discuss and agree priorities for Ramsar collaboration with particular reference to the agenda for COP 10; (2) develop joint work plans including development of the Ramsar List and wetland monitoring; (3) assess capacity development needs; and (4) agree on priority sites for joint wetland conservation actions.
August 07	Apr-Mar 2007/08	Stakeholder workshops at priority sites to identify conservation issues and wise-use options, and formulate site conservation strategies.
September 07	Apr-Mar 2007/08	Initiation of site conservation strategies that demonstrate wise-use principles with local stakeholders.
October 07	Apr-Mar 2007/08	Darwin Initiative half-yearly report submitted to DEFRA.
October 07	Apr-Mar 2007/08	National wetland monitoring frameworks developed, drawing on wetland monitoring in UK, Ramsar guidelines for wetland monitoring and BirdLife's IBA monitoring framework.
November 07	Apr-Mar 2007/08	Regional training workshop drawing on national workshops in July 2007, and needs highlighted by capacity assessments. The workshop is expected to cover: (1) Ramsar commitments and priorities including developing the Ramsar List; (2) developing and advancing wise-use policies and practices; and (3) sustainably financing wetland conservation.
December 07	Apr-Mar 2007/08	National 'round-table' discussions held in four countries to review progress with national partnerships and work plans, and preparations required for Ramsar COP 10, including requirements for National Reports from Ramsar Administrative Authorities.
January 08	Apr-Mar 2007/08	National wetland monitoring frameworks tested in the field during Asian Waterbird Census.
February 08	Apr-Mar 2007/08	Public awareness activities, promoting wise-use of wetlands, undertaken during World Wetlands Day.
March 08	Apr-Mar 2007/08	Inventories of candidate sites for the Ramsar List drafted for four countries.
Year 2		
April 08	Apr-Mar 2008/09	Darwin Initiative annual report submitted to DEFRA.
April 08	Apr-Mar 2008/09	Second national round-table discussions held in four countries to review progress with preparation for Ramsar COP 10.

April 08	Apr-Mar 2008/09	National Reports from Ramsar Administrative Authorities for COP 10 prepared with input from civil society partners and drawing on collaborative work supported by Darwin Project.
May 08	Apr-Mar 2008/09	Review of implementation of site conservation strategies with local stakeholders and assessment of training needs (for at least four sites).
May 08	Apr-Mar 2008/09	Training workshops in site conservation and wetland wise-use for local stakeholders at four sites.
June 08	Apr-Mar 2008/09	Joint government/civil society position papers on key wetland issues relating to Ramsar drafted.
July 08	Apr-Mar 2008/09	Ramsar Information Sheets prepared with support from civil society partners for (1) any new sites to be added to the Ramsar List and (2) any existing sites covered by Darwin project activities where updating is required.
August 08	Apr-Mar 2008/09	Wetland monitoring training provided to national civil society trainers by UK experts.
August 08	Apr-Mar 2008/09	First round of cross-sectoral meetings to explore linkages to wider poverty reduction initiatives held in each country.
September 08	Apr-Mar 2008/09	Consultations with sustainable financing initiatives to broker relationships with priority sites held in each country.
October 08	Apr-Mar 2008/09	Darwin Initiative half-yearly report submitted to DEFRA.
October 08	Apr-Mar 2008/09	National wetland monitoring networks expanded with coordinators identified and trained by national civil society trainers.
October 08	Apr-Mar 2008/09	Public awareness activities, promoting Ramsar COP 10, undertaken during the World Bird Festival in Asia.
October 08	Apr-Mar 2008/09	Press releases and publicity highlighting Darwin project activities and achievements produced in run up to Ramsar COP 10.
November 08	Apr-Mar 2008/09	Successful government-civil society collaboration for wetland conservation presented by project partners at Ramsar COP 10, Korea, 28 October to 4 November 2008.
January 09	Apr-Mar 2008/09	Annual wetland monitoring undertaken as part of Asian Waterfowl Census.
February 09	Apr-Mar 2008/09	Monitoring reports prepared and published and input to national environmental reporting.
February 09	Apr-Mar 2008/09	Public awareness activities implemented during World Wetlands Day highlighting conclusions from annual wetland monitoring.
March 09	Apr-Mar 2008/09	Hands-on training provided to government and civil society staff in site action planning and forming partnerships with local stakeholders.
Year 3		
April 09	Apr-Mar 2009/10	Darwin Initiative annual report submitted to DEFRA.
April 09	Apr-Mar 2009/10	Third national round-table discussions held in four countries to review outcome of Ramsar COP 10 and review progress with national partnerships and work plans.
May 09	Apr-Mar 2009/10	Review of implementation of site conservation strategies with local stakeholders (for at least four sites).
May 09	Apr-Mar 2009/10	Training workshops in site conservation and wetland wise-use for local stakeholders at four sites.
May 09	Apr-Mar 2009/10	Regional training workshop in Ramsar commitments and priorities (contents to be decided based on outcomes from Ramsar COP 10 and national round-table discussions).

August 09	Apr-Mar 2009/10	Second round of cross-sectoral meetings to explore linkages to wider poverty reduction initiatives held in each country.
September 09	Apr-Mar 2009/10	Relationships brokered between sustainable financing initiatives and at least two priority wetland sites.
October 09	Apr-Mar 2009/10	Darwin Initiative half-yearly report submitted to DEFRA.
October 09	Apr-Mar 2009/10	Review of national wetland monitoring networks and finalisation of plans for January 2010 Asian Waterfowl Census.
January 10	Apr-Mar 2009/10	Annual wetland monitoring undertaken as part of Asian Waterfowl Census
February 10	Apr-Mar 2009/10	Monitoring reports prepared and published and input to national environmental reporting.
February 10	Apr-Mar 2009/10	Public awareness activities implemented during World Wetlands Day highlighting conclusions from annual wetland monitoring
March 10	Apr-Mar 2009/10	Hands-on training provided to government and civil society staff in site action planning and forming partnerships with local stakeholders.
March 10	Apr-Mar 2009/10	Ramsar Information Sheets prepared with support from civil society partners for: (1) any new sites to be added to the Ramsar List and (2) any existing sites covered by Darwin Project activities where updating is required.
March 10	Apr-Mar 2009/10	Reports on implementation of site conservation strategies.
Year 4		
April 10	Apr-Mar 2010/11	Darwin Initiative annual report submitted to DEFRA.
June 10	Apr-Mar 2010/11	Darwin Initiative final report submitted to DEFRA.

22. 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.)
July 07 to March 10	8	Total of 48 weeks spent by UK experts on project work in the host countries.
July 07	15A, 15C	Four national press releases in the host countries and one national press release in the UK on launch of the Darwin project
August 07	14A	Workshops held at four sites to enable local stakeholders to review past conservation experience, identify current conservation issues and examine wise-use and sustainable financing options.
August 07	21	Site conservation partnerships involving local government, private sector and local land-users forged at four sites as outcome from these workshops.
August 07	9	Site conservation strategies prepared for at least four sites, drawing on Ramsar guidelines on wise-use of wetlands and site management planning.
November 07 and May 10	7	Four sets of training tools and materials on Ramsar Convention implementation prepared and available in English, Khmer, Thai and Vietnamese; based on Ramsar Convention Technical Guidelines, see http://www.ramsar.org/key_guidelines_index.htm
November 07 and May 10	6A, 6B	Capacity of 24 government and civil society staff (Malaysian, Thai, Cambodian and Vietnamese) enhanced through attending two three-day regional training workshops covering key issues for effective Ramsar Convention implementation.

December 07	10	National wetland monitoring frameworks published in English, Khmer, Thai and Vietnamese. 50 copies available for each country.
February 08, February 09 and February 10	18A, 18C	Four national and four local TV features on wise use of wetlands and the Ramsar Convention broadcast in the host countries during World Wetlands Day events.
March 08	Other	Inventories of candidate sites for the Ramsar List drafted for four countries. 100 copies available for each country.
April 08	Other	National Reports from Ramsar Administrative Authorities for COP 10 prepared with input from civil society partners and drawing on collaborative work supported by Darwin Project.
May 08 and May 09	6A, 6B	At least 80 local stakeholders (Malaysian, Thai, Cambodian and Vietnamese) each attend two three-day training courses on site conservation and wetland wise-use.
July 08 and March 10	Other	Ramsar Information Sheets prepared with support from civil society partners for: (1) any new sites to be added to the Ramsar List; and (2) any existing sites covered by Darwin Project activities where updating is required.
July 08 to March 10	6A, 6B	20 government and civil society staff (Malaysian, Thai, Cambodian and Vietnamese) each receive eight weeks' hands-on training in site action planning and forming partnerships with local stakeholders.
August 08	6A, 6B	Eight national civil society trainers (Malaysian, Thai, Cambodian and Vietnamese) attend five-day training workshop on wetland monitoring organised by UK experts.
October 08	6A, 6B	40 local monitoring coordinators (Malaysian, Thai, Cambodian and Vietnamese) trained by national civil society trainers at three-day training workshops.
October 08 and February 10	Other	Four joint government/civil society position papers on key wetland issues relating to Ramsar drafted.
November 08	14B	Presentations by four countries at the Ramsar Conference of Parties on successful government-civil society collaboration for wetland conservation (four posters, one side event, and at least one presentation).
October 08	18A, 18C	Two national and two local TV features on wise use of wetlands and the Ramsar Convention broadcast in the host countries during the World Bird Festival.
November 08	15A, 15C	Four national press releases in the host countries and one national press release in the UK on Darwin project activities and achievements.
February 09 and February 10	Other	Wetland monitoring reports prepared and published and input to national environmental reporting.
November 09	15A, 15C	Four national press releases in the host countries and one national press release in the UK on Darwin project activities and achievements.
March 10	Other	Reports on implementation of site conservation strategies prepared for four sites.

PROJECT BASED MONITORING AND EVALUATION

23. 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.

A detailed project workplan will be developed at the beginning of the project, in consultation with project partners in each host country. This workplan will set out quarterly milestones towards the delivery of each project output and attainment of the overall purpose, based on the indicators in the logical framework. The project indicators are all measurable and time based, which will enable progress towards them to be readily measured and evaluated.

The Project Manager will monitor progress against the project workplan on a quarterly basis, through consultations with the National Project Coordinators and visits to selected project sites. Based on this, the Project Manager will prepare semi-annual progress reports in April and October each year, which will be submitted to Darwin and to the national Ramsar/wetland committee in each country (in which the host country partners will participate). Annual project review meetings will be held in each country, to provide an opportunity for government and civil society partners to review project progress and propose solutions to any barriers to project implementation encountered. Feedback from the host country partners will be appended to the annual progress reports and final project reports submitted to Darwin.