



17-001

Submit by Monday 1 December 2008



DARWIN200

DARWIN INITIATIVE APPLICATION FOR GRANT FOR ROUND 16: STAGE 2

Please read the Guidance Notes before completing this form. Where no word limits are given, the size of the box is a guide to the amount of information required. Information to be extracted to the database is highlighted blue.

1. Name and address of organisation (NB: Notification of results will be by post)

Name: Professor Adrian Newton	Address: Centre for Conservation Ecology and Environmental Change, School of Conservation Sciences, Bournemouth University, Talbot Campus, Poole, Dorset, BH12 5BB
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2. Project title (not exceeding 10 words)

Conserving Eden: participatory forest management in the Tien Shan region

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

Proposed start date: 1 April 2009		Duration of project: 3 years			End date: 31 March 2012	
Darwin funding requested	2009/10 £57,536	2010/11 £59,018	2011/2012 £63,169	2012/13 £	Total £179,723	

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

Strengthened national and local capacity applied to improve the sustainability of management of the fruit and nut forests of the Tien Shan region of Kyrgyzstan

5. Principals in project. Please provide a one page CV for each of these named individuals. You may copy and paste this table if you need to provide details of more than one overseas project partner.

Details	Project Leader	Other UK personnel (working more than 50% of their time on project)	Main project partner and co-ordinator in host country/ies
Surname	Newton		Orozumbekov
Forename (s)	Adrian Christopher		Almaz
Post held	Centre Director, Professor		Associate Professor, International Coordinator
Institution (if different to above)			Osh Technological University
Department	School of Conservation Sciences		Tourism and management
Telephone			
Email			

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

Reference No	Project Leader	Title
14032	Dr Juliet Vickery, BTO	' <i>Conserving Biodiversity in the Modernising Farmed Landscapes of Uganda</i> '. BU was contracted to provide training to overseas researchers as part of this project, which was awarded to BTO. BU has not led a Darwin Initiative project itself previously, although the PI of this proposal has coordinated four at other institutions.

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)

<p>Aims (50 words)</p> <p>The School of Conservation Sciences aspires to be an internationally recognised academic community committed to understanding the conservation and management of natural and human landscapes.</p>
<p>Activities (50 words)</p> <p>The School undertakes scientific research in a wide range of disciplines including conservation ecology, geography, environmental science, biology, coastal management, archaeology and forensic science. The organisation also provides teaching on these themes at undergraduate and postgraduate levels, as well as offering professional development and short-course training.</p>
<p>Achievements (50 words)</p> <p>As a result of recent recruitment, the School now houses one of the largest conservation ecology research groups in the UK. The group is currently engaged in 34 externally funded research projects totalling more than £4 million in value, and produced more than 50 scientific publications during the past year.</p>

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. Please copy/delete boxes for more or fewer partnerships.

Partner Name:	Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):
Fauna and Flora International (FFI)	FFI is the world's longest established international conservation body, and has substantial practical experience of integrating conservation with sustainable development, with over 10 years experience in Central Asia. FFI has been involved throughout development of the project, including participation in a project planning workshop held in Kyrgyzstan in 2006. FFI will take prime responsibility for integrating research results with community forest management plans, and for community outreach activities, with their Kyrgyz team working in partnership with local Forest Service units and NGOs such as TAZA.

<p>Partner Name:</p> <p>Osh Technological University (OTU)</p>	<p>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):</p> <p>OTU will be the lead overseas partner, and will take overall responsibility for implementing research and outreach activities in Kyrgyzstan. OTU is a leading scientific research and educational institution in Kyrgyzstan, with particular interests in the role of biodiversity in rural development, and has previously been a partner in the EU funded JUMP (juniper forest) project. They also have experience of working in the eastern Fergana Valley, which will be the focus of this project. OTU staff have been involved throughout development of the project, including participation in a project planning workshop held in Kyrgyzstan in 2006.</p>
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<p>Partner Name:</p> <p>Botanic Gardens Conservation International (BGCI)</p>	<p>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):</p> <p>BGCI is the world's largest network for plant conservation, environmental education and sustainable development. BGCI will provide assistance in capacity building and environmental education, particularly to the BGNAS, and will take responsibility for developing and establishing interpretation resources to be hosted at the Botanic Garden in Bishkek, focusing on threatened fruit and nut trees.</p>
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<p>Partner Name:</p> <p>Botanic Garden of the Kyrgyz National Academy of Sciences (BGNAS).</p>	<p>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):</p> <p>BGNAS is a long-established national Botanic Garden, with an important <i>ex situ</i> collection of more than 1500 tree species, including many native fruit and nut tree species. This project will support the development of an educational resource based around this collection, which will profile project activities and research results obtained. BGNAS has suffered particularly severely from the lack of resources affecting scientific institutions following the break-up of the Soviet Union in 1991, and currently has very little access to financial support. BGCI will take particular responsibility for strengthening capacity of BGNAS, including assistance with applying to international donors for support. BGNAS have been involved throughout development of the project, including participation in a project planning workshop held in Kyrgyzstan in 2006.</p>
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Partner Name:	Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):
The Institute of Biosphere, National Academy of Science (IB); the Institute of Biology and Soil Science (IBSS); TAZA; BioResources; the Regional Ecological Centre (REC); the State Forest Service of the Kyrgyz Republic (SFS); Kyrgyz State University (KSU)	These organisations will participate as recipients of in-country training to be supplied by the project. Each of the organisations is currently active in biodiversity research and education in the study region, and through dialogue during development of the project, has expressed strong interest in this form of participation. IB and IBSS will also participate in research activities, as part of the institutional strengthening process, and will contribute expertise on taxonomy and field survey methods. The SFS will also be involved in the participatory management planning. TAZA is an NGO focusing on sustainable development of local communities within the study area, and will participate particularly in outreach and environmental education activities.

9a. Have you consulted stakeholders not already mentioned above? Yes No
If yes, please give details:
 Local community groups and other NGOs active in rural development within the project area (in addition to TAZA) have also been consulted during project development (eg BioResources). Based on this consultation, when the project commences, formal collaborative links will be established with community groups and development NGOs throughout the study area, through formation of a stakeholder network.

9b. Do you intend to consult other stakeholders? Yes No
If yes, please give details:
 It is intended that relevant Government Ministry and protected area staff will be invited to participate in the training workshops to be held in Kyrgyzstan, in response to the need identified in the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan.

9c. Have you had any (other) contact with the government not already stated? Yes No
If yes, please give details:

9d. Is any liaison proposed with the CBD/CMS/CITES focal point in the host country? Yes No
If yes, please give details:
 The CBD national focal point in the host country has been contacted, and agreed to participate as a member of the project Steering Committee. In addition, the national focal point – together with other relevant Ministry, forest service and protected area staff – will be invited to attend the final project workshop, at which main findings and policy implications will be disseminated.

PROJECT DETAILS

10. Please provide a Concept note (Max 1,000 words) (repeat from Stage 1, with changes highlighted)

The forests of southern Kyrgyzstan are of global conservation importance, being dominated by walnut (*Juglans regia*) and containing many other fruit- and nut-bearing trees, including a high diversity of apple (*Malus*), pear (*Pyrus*), cherry and plum (*Prunus*) species. These forests are the source of many domesticated fruit and nut trees that are cultivated widely in temperate countries, including apple. The area is referred to as 'Eden' in a recent account (Deakin (2008), 'Wildwood'), reflecting the uniquely high diversity of edible fruit and nut species, together with their extraordinary role in human history and culture, involving dispersal along the Silk Road in antiquity. The many wild tree-crop relatives found in these forests are of exceptional commercial importance, yet 11 of these tree species are now critically endangered. Only 30,000 ha of this forest remains, less than 5% of its original area. The flora comprises 5000 species, of which 180 are trees, including many local endemics.

The Kyrgyz Republic ratified the CBD in 1996, and in support of its implementation, developed a National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP), in which fruit- and nut-forests are identified as one of two key priorities. The NBSAP notes that these forests have declined by 50% in recent decades, as a result of unsustainable land use practices. The current project is designed specifically to address Strategic Component C ('Sustainable Use') of the NBSAP, and will directly contribute to the fulfilment of national obligations under the CBD.

Some 48,000 people live in the project study area, around 80% of whom live below the poverty line. Their livelihoods depend strongly on forest products such as fruits, nuts, firewood and honey. However, yields of forest products are declining rapidly because of unsustainable land use practices. Methods are therefore required to improve the sustainability of forest management. We propose that this can be achieved by introducing participatory management approaches, with the active involvement of local communities. This has not previously been attempted in the area. For this approach to be successful, there is a need for: (i) strengthened capacity of government institutions and NGOs to collaborate with local communities, (ii) monitoring and adaptive management techniques developed appropriate for implementation by local communities, (iii) strengthened capacity of academic institutions to undertake research, to identify land use practices that are sustainable. This project has been developed to address these needs, and will comprise:

- (i) **Institutional capacity building.** Capacity to undertake research is severely limited. In particular, academic institutions have little experience of undertaking inter-disciplinary research integrating biophysical with socio-economic approaches. This will be addressed through a programme of collaborative research, supported by creation of a stakeholder network involving research institutes, government agencies and local community organisations, to foster information exchange and identification of best practice.
- (ii) **Training.** To assist the long-term development of in-country training capacity, senior staff of partner organisations will receive training in the UK on research methods. UK staff will also provide training overseas in forest survey techniques, monitoring and participatory management approaches. Provision of training to the forestry service will improve current conservation practice on the ground. Involvement of staff of educational establishments such as OTU and KSU, will ensure that the training has a long-term impact.
- (iii) **Research.** A collaborative research programme will be developed focusing on the sustainable management of fruit- and nut-forest. This will involve: (i) Analysis of spatial distribution, stand structure and stand dynamics of threatened fruit and nut tree species. This will be achieved by field surveys supported by analysis of air photographs using GIS, and will enable their conservation status to be assessed, and priorities for action to be identified. (ii) Analysis of the impact of current land use practices on the structure and composition of fruit- and nut-forest, with a particular focus on examining the potential impacts of harvesting and livestock grazing. This will be achieved by field survey supported by population modelling, to identify sustainable harvesting thresholds and management recommendations. (iii) Development of monitoring methods and indicators appropriate for implementation by local communities, an entirely novel approach for the region. This will strengthen capacity of forest users to monitor the impacts of their land use decisions, and to adjust their management practices accordingly, through a process of adaptive management.
- (iv) **Outreach.** Results of the research will be used to (i) develop plans for sustainable management of fruit and nut forest; and (ii) identify implications for policy-makers at both local and national scales, to support the sustainable management of fruit and nut forests. The project will also provide: (i) a community outreach programme to be developed in the study area, to raise awareness of the need for sustainable land use practices; (ii) a workshop supported by policy briefs to present policy recommendations to relevant stakeholders, including national government agencies and CBD national focal point; (iii) an interpretation facility at the national Botanic Gardens, supported by a campaign in the national media, with the aim of raising public awareness of the national and international importance of fruit and nut forests; (iv) scientific publications; (v) a dedicated internet site aimed at raising public awareness and disseminating research results.

The project will be aimed directly at implementing the ecosystem approach, by supporting the development of forest management strategies that promote conservation and sustainable use in an equitable way. The integral role of humans in these ecosystems will be addressed through the development of participatory management approaches.

The project will be coordinated by BU, who will provide technical inputs in terms of research and capacity building, and contribute to training provision. FFI will provide training on participatory approaches to forest management, and will coordinate community involvement and outreach. BGCI will provide capacity building to the BGNAS, specifically in education and interpretation. The lead overseas partner will be OTU, who will engage in research and outreach activities, with support from the IB and IBSS. SFS will be involved in participatory management planning. BGNAS and TAZA will receive capacity building in environmental education and outreach. All Kyrgyz partners will participate in training activities.

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

Please give details:

This is a new initiative, but will build upon a pilot project undertaken by FFI with external funding, focusing on the development of an initial management plan for part of the study area, capacity building of the local forest service team, and small grants for community livelihood projects. The pilot project has enabled links with the Forest Service and local community organisations to be established, which will be further developed during the proposed project.

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 been/will be made to co-operate with and learn lessons from such work for mutual benefits:

We are aware of one previous Darwin Initiative project in Kyrgyzstan of which FSC were the lead organisation, which focused on environmental education in schools. No previous Darwin project has focused on the fruit- and nut-tree forests or participatory forest management. A previous project (ending 2005) was undertaken in the fruit- and nut-forests of southern Kyrgyzstan by the University of Erlangen-Nürnberg (Germany). The project focused on political ecology, and did not examine how sustainable use of forest resources might be achieved in practice. The Swiss Forestry Support Programme undertook a project entitled KIRFOR from 1995-2007, supporting the transformation of the State Forest Service following independence. Although this project did support capacity building and research, this was not explicitly focused on the fruit- and nut-forests of southern Kyrgyzstan. The project did not address the need for sustainable land use practices in this area, and gave very limited support to the development of participatory management approaches involving local communities. The project proposed here will build upon an initial pilot project undertaken by FFI in a single community, and will extend activities throughout the Fergana Valley region. The inclusion of research activities to determine sustainable harvesting thresholds, the development of monitoring protocols and adaptive management approaches, and the provision of capacity building to institutions, are all additional to the initial FFI project. Contact has been made with both the German and Swiss projects, who have agreed to share information resources about the region, including remote sensing data. The KIRFOR project can provide particularly valuable insights into how to engage a wide range of stakeholders in decision-making relating to forests, and the proposed project intends to take full advantage of this experience, for example by involving former KIRFOR participants in an advisory capacity.

12. Please indicate which of the following biodiversity conventions your project will contribute to: -

At least one must be selected.

- Only indicate the conventions that your project is directly contributing to.

- No additional significance will be ascribed for projects that report contributions to more than one convention

Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
CITES	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Convention on Migratory Species (CMS)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

What problem is this project addressing and how was it identified? (150 words)

The project will address the problem that the fruit and nut forests of Kyrgyzstan have declined by 50% in area over the last 50 years, and remaining forests have become increasingly degraded, primarily as a result of unsustainable land use practices. As a result, globally important genetic resources have been diminished, and 44 endemic tree species are now threatened with extinction. Unsustainable harvesting of forest products and extensive livestock grazing are largely responsible for the rapid recent decline in the volume of fruits and nuts available for harvesting, which is threatening local livelihoods. This problem was identified by the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP), which was produced by the government of the Kyrgyz Republic in 1996, to implement the Convention on Biological Diversity.

What will change as a result of this project? (150 words)

The project aims to deliver two main results: (i) an improvement in the conservation status of threatened fruit and nut tree species, and (ii) improved sustainability of rural livelihoods in southern Kyrgyzstan. The research is designed to identify fruit and nut harvesting thresholds and grazing management approaches that are sustainable, to reduce rates of forest loss and degradation and reduce extinction risk of tree species, while supporting rural livelihoods. Monitoring protocols will be developed that are appropriate for implementation by local communities, and so that an adaptive management strategy can be implemented by local people. Such a participatory approach is required, because traditional top-down approaches to forest management have failed to prevent extensive loss and degradation of this globally important forest type. This reflects the failure of traditional approaches to involve local communities in the management process, and to provide them with appropriate tools to manage forest resources sustainably.

Why is the project important for the conservation of biodiversity? (150 words)

The fruit and nut forests of Kyrgyzstan are of outstanding global importance, containing exceptionally high diversity of fruit and nut tree species, from which many domesticated cultivars are derived (including the apple cultivars that form the basis of global agribusiness). The Kyrgyz NBSAP describes them as one of the country's two 'key ecosystems', noting they are severely threatened by unsustainable land use practices. Quote: *'The fruit and nut forests in the south of the Kyrgyz Republic are particularly valuable. As well as high species diversity, they contain many species of economic importance such as walnut, apple, almond, pistachio, and pear. Fruit and nut forests are, therefore, considered to be one of the main centres of origin for cultivated fruit plants, and this ecosystem represents an extremely valuable 'storehouse' of genetic richness'*. This project is therefore designed to prevent further loss and degradation of this globally important forest resource.

How does this relate to one or more of the biodiversity conventions? (150 words)

This project focuses on sustainable use, one of the three main objectives of the CBD, and Goal 4 of the Expanded Programme of Work on Forest Biological Diversity. Provision of training and capacity building is also a central element of this Programme. The project is aimed directly at implementing the ecosystem approach, the primary framework for action under the Convention, which will be addressed by supporting the development of forest management strategies that promote conservation and sustainable use in an equitable way. The integral role of humans in these ecosystems will be addressed through the development of participatory management approaches, with the active involvement of local communities. The project is designed specifically to address Strategic Component C ('Sustainable Use') of the NBSAP, which was developed to implement the CBD in the Kyrgyz Republic. The project will contribute to achieving at least 28 of the priority activities listed in the NBSAP.

13. How will the results of the project be disseminated; how will the project be advertised as a Darwin project and in what ways will the Darwin name and logo be used? (max 200 words)

Results will be disseminated through (i) a community outreach programme to be developed in the study area, (ii) a workshop to be held in the final year of the project supported by the development of policy briefs, to present policy recommendations to relevant stakeholders, including national government agencies and CBD national focal point; (iii) development of an interpretation facility at the national Botanic Gardens, supported by a campaign in the national media, leaflets and poster displays, with the aim of providing education to the public regarding fruit and nut forests and their role in supporting livelihoods, thereby raising public awareness; (iv) scientific publications; (v) a dedicated internet site aimed at raising public awareness and disseminating research results; (vi) a media campaign aimed at national television, radio and newsprint. All project outputs, including press releases and interpretive materials (i.e. leaflets and poster displays), will acknowledge Darwin funding and where appropriate carry the Darwin logo. The project web site will bear the Darwin logo and include a link to the Darwin Initiative internet site. The project will also be featured on the websites of the partner organisations. Field vehicles will also display the Darwin logo.

14. What will be the long term benefits of the project in the host country or region and have you identified any potential problems to achieving these benefits? (max 200 words)

The long-term benefits of this project will be strengthened capacity within Kyrgyzstan to manage biodiversity resources sustainably, while improving local livelihoods and reducing poverty. This will be achieved by strengthening the capacity of partner organisations to conduct inter-disciplinary research, monitoring and management planning. The training provided in the project will include leading educators in the principal universities of Kyrgyzstan, to provide a lasting legacy in terms of educational materials and curriculum content. The project will also have a significant impact at both local and national scales, by (i) developing sustainable forest management plans using participatory approaches, (ii) undertaking an inter-disciplinary research programme, (iii) developing a stakeholder network to support development of participatory management approaches throughout the study area, (iv) identifying policy recommendations and communicating them at a ministerial level through a workshop and publications. The project will also assist Kyrgyzstan meet its international policy obligations relating to conservation and sustainable use of forest biodiversity, particularly the CBD. The main problem is the lack of resources provided to scientific institutions following the break-up of the Soviet Union in 1991, leading to a widespread decline in scientific infrastructure, and the need for capacity building that this project seeks to address.

15. State whether or not the project will reach a stable and sustainable end point. If the project is not discrete, but is part of a progressive approach, give details of the exit strategy and show how relevant activities will be continued to secure the benefits from the project. Where individuals receive advanced training, for example, what will happen should that individual leave? (Max 200 words)

The aim is to reach a sustainable end point. Sustainability will partly be achieved through the development of proposals to fund future work after the completion of the project. At a project planning workshop, Kyrgyzstan partners identified two key problems: isolation from the international scientific community, and a lack of capacity and experience in bidding for financial support from international donors. UK project staff hold leading positions in international networks such as BGCI, the IUCN SSC Global Trees Specialist Group, and the FFI/BGCI Global Trees Campaign. Kyrgyzstan academic partners will be invited to become members of these networks and will be supported in establishing international collaborative partnerships, including provision of technical support to develop proposals to fund future work. This will strengthen capacity to bid for funding at the international level and ensure sustainability of project impacts. In addition, the focus on developing participatory approaches to forest management, which can be implemented by local communities, is aimed at ensuring long-term sustainability of forest management without strong dependence on external financial support. Risks of personnel changes will be minimised by training a wide range of technical staff in appropriate skills (at least 36 people).

16. If your project includes training and development, please indicate how you will assess the training needs in relation to the overall purpose of the project. Who are the target groups? How will the training be delivered? What skills and knowledge to you expect the beneficiaries to obtain. How will you measure training effectiveness. (max 300 words)

You should address each of these points.

Training needs will be identified at the outset of the project, by conducting a needs survey. This will be undertaken by OTU with support from the UK partners, and will involve a questionnaire survey and interviews with the staff of partner organisations, documented in a project report. The principal target group will be technical staff engaged in research and / or higher education, in a range of Kyrgyz partner organisations. The aim will be to strengthen their capacity to undertake research, survey, monitoring and education for sustainable use of forest resources, in ways that support the development of rural livelihoods. Training will comprise two main components:

(i) Three annual training secondments to UK institutions, each of three weeks duration, provided to >6 senior staff from partner organisations. Secondments will provide advanced training in research methods, especially sampling design, GIS, data analysis and modelling. Training will be provided by UK project partners and other UK organisations. Training effectiveness will be regularly assessed by the international supervisory team through questionnaire surveys. Training outcomes will be monitored through the professional development of those involved, by senior staff at the partner organisations.

(ii) Three annual training workshops, each of seven days duration, in Kyrgyzstan. These will provide training to >30 staff of partner organisations, in survey methods (including forest inventory, monitoring methods and data analysis), and participatory management approaches. Training will be provided by UK staff, and will be at postgraduate level. Trainees will be selected through open competition focusing on those professionals active in training of others. Training effectiveness will be assessed through questionnaire feedback forms.

Training will also be provided to local communities in the form of protocols for sustainable use, disseminated through interpretive materials (leaflets, poster display, community newsletter) and at stakeholder workshops, and assessed through questionnaire feedback forms.

LOGICAL FRAMEWORK

17. Please enter the details of your project onto the matrix using the note at Annex 3 of the Guidance Note. This should not have substantially changed from the Logical Framework submitted with your Stage 1 application. Please highlight any changes. (Use no smaller than Arial 10 pt)

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
<p>Goal: Effective contribution in support of the implementation of the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Convention on Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), and the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species (CMS), as well as related targets set by countries rich in biodiversity but constrained in resources.</p>			
<p>Sub-Goal: Reduction in the rate of forest biodiversity loss in the Tien Shan region of Kyrgyzstan through an increase in the sustainability of land use practices, as identified in the NBSAP.</p>	<p>Reduced rate of decline in biodiversity as indicated by national biodiversity indicators</p> <p>Improvement in indicators of human well-being including poverty indices, health status and income levels</p>	<p>Biodiversity assessments undertaken at regional and national scale by state agencies</p> <p>Socio-economic surveys undertaken by national government</p>	
<p>Purpose Strengthened national and local capacity applied to improve the sustainability of management of the fruit and nut forests of the Tien Shan region of Kyrgyzstan</p>	<p>Reduced rate of decline in production of fruits and nuts detected within 5 years of project implementation, indicated by and field surveys and market data.</p> <p>Number of participatory management plans developed by end of project.</p> <p>Recommendations for sustainable management of fruit and nut forests incorporated in local and national policy initiatives.</p>	<p>National reports, for example to the Global Forest Resources Assessment</p> <p>Surveys of management plans undertaken by project partners within the study area</p> <p>Policy documents developed by Kyrgyz Republic relating to forests</p>	<p>Economic crisis of country does not worsen, intensifying pressure on forest resources</p> <p>External actors do not increase commercial exploitation of fruit and nut forests, without involving local communities.</p> <p>Government remains committed to sustainable development of forest resources.</p>
<p>Outputs 1. Capacity strengthened for interdisciplinary research and education on sustainable forest management using participatory approaches</p>	<p>(a) At least six senior staff receive training in UK in research methods, especially sampling design, GIS, data analysis and modelling by end of project</p> <p>(b) At least 30 staff and students of partner organisations receive training in survey methods (including forest inventory, monitoring methods and data analysis), participatory management approaches, education and outreach through workshops in Kyrgyzstan, by end of</p>	<p>(a) Training secondment and study programme reports</p> <p>(b) Training workshop reports and educational materials</p> <p>(c) Reports of network meetings produced quarterly</p>	<p>Staff that have received training as part of the project, and facilities developed, remain in position and are able to maintain an on-going commitment to study area</p>

	project (c) Collaborative stakeholder network established between research institutes, government agencies and local community organisations in Kyrgyzstan		
2. Information on sustainable management of fruit and nut forests produced and disseminated	(a) At least four research publications produced by end of year 3, supplemented by annual reports (b) Interpretation facility presenting results established at Botanic Garden by end of year 3.	(a) Annual project reports, and research papers published in scientific journals (b) Interpretive facility featuring poster boards and leaflets on display, with associated press releases	Research successfully identifies interventions that can contribute to increased sustainability of management of fruit and nut forests
3. Plans for sustainable management of fruit and nut forests, involving participation of local communities, and informed by research findings, developed and disseminated	(a) At least three management plans published by end of year 3. (b) Interpretive and community outreach materials produced (website, leaflets, poster display, community newsletter) by end of year 3. (c) Policy recommendations published as a policy brief and disseminated at stakeholder workshop in year 3.	(a) Plans published (b) Annual reports produced and copies of interpretive materials produced (website, leaflets, poster display, community newsletter); use by local communities verified by participatory surveys of communities in study area (c) Workshop report and policy brief produced.	Partners involved in developing forest management plans receptive to interventions proposed for increasing sustainability identified by research component
<p>Activities (details in workplan)</p> <p>1.1 Training in UK on research methods</p> <p>1.2 Training in Kyrgyzstan on survey methods and participatory management approaches</p> <p>1.3 Collaborative stakeholder network established between research institutes, government agencies and local community organisations</p> <p>2.1 Analysis of spatial distribution, stand structure, stand dynamics and current status of threatened fruit and nut tree species</p> <p>2.2 Analysis of the impact of current land use practices on stand structure and composition of fruit and nut forest</p> <p>2.3 Development and implementation of participatory approaches to forest management</p> <p>3.1 Development of plans for sustainable management of fruit and nut forest by local communities</p> <p>3.2 Identification of implications for policy-makers at both local and national scales</p> <p>3.3 Development of community outreach programme</p> <p>3.4 Dissemination of policy recommendations through workshop and policy briefs</p> <p>3.5 Development of an interpretation facility at the national Botanic Gardens, supported by media campaign</p> <p>3.6 Preparation and submission of scientific publications</p> <p>3.7 Development of website and other outreach materials</p>			
<p>Monitoring activities:</p> <p>Indicator 1 Repeat surveys of the quantity of fruit and nuts harvested from local forests</p> <p>Indicator 2 Repeat surveys of the number of participatory management plans established with local communities</p> <p>Indicator 3 Repeat assessments of implementation of management plans and monitoring protocols by local communities</p>			

18. Provide a project implementation timetable that shows the key milestones in project activities. Complete the following table as appropriate to describe the intended workplan for your project.

Activity	Months	Year 1				Year 2				Year 3			
		1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
1.1 Training in UK on research methods	9 weeks		X				X				X		
1.2 Training in Kyrgyzstan on survey methods and participatory management approaches	3 weeks			X				X				X	
1.3 Collaborative network established between research institutes, government agencies and local community organisations	36	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
2.1 Analysis of spatial distribution, stand structure, stand dynamics and current status of threatened fruit and nut tree species	30	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
2.2 Analysis of the impact of current land use practices on stand structure and composition of fruit and nut forest	30		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
2.3 Development and implementation of participatory approaches to forest management	30			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
3.1 Development of plans for sustainable management of fruit and nut forest by local communities	30			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
3.2 Identification of implications for policy-makers at both local and national scales	9										X	X	X
3.3 Development of community outreach programme	30			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
3.4 Dissemination of policy recommendations through workshop and policy briefs	6											X	X
3.5 Development of an interpretation facility at the national Botanic Gardens, supported by media campaign	30			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
3.6 Preparation and submission of scientific publications	9										X	X	X
3.7 Development of website and other outreach materials	36	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

Project implementation timetable

Date	Key milestones
Project year 1	
April 2009	Project start date; project inception workshop with key partners and stakeholders
June 2009	Project website established

July 2009	First exchange visit of Kyrgyz staff and students to UK partners
July 2009	Project management system and Steering Committee established; collaborative network established of stakeholders with an interest in fruit and nut forests
August 2009	First project Steering Committee meeting
September 2009	Study sites identified and research programme initiated
October 2009	Training visit by UK staff to Kyrgyzstan, and in-country training course held.
October 2009	First season of field research completed
October 2009	Development of participatory approaches to forest management initiated involving partnership with local communities and other relevant partners
October 2009	Development of sustainable management plans incorporating participatory approaches initiated
October 2009	Development of interpretation facilities and educational materials initiated
November 2009	Second project Steering Committee meeting
March 2010	Field data analysed and pilot models constructed; annual report produced
Project Year 2	
July 2010	Second exchange visit of Kyrgyz staff and students to UK partners
October 2010	Second training visit by UK staff to Kyrgyzstan, and in-country training course held.
October 2010	Final season of field research completed, and analysis of results completed.
November 2010	Field data analysed and incorporated into model; preliminary sustainability thresholds identified; pilot educational and interpretive materials produced
December 2010	Third project Steering Committee meeting

March 2011	Annual report produced
Project Year 3	
July 2011	Third exchange visit of Kyrgyz staff and students to UK partners
October 2011	Third training visit by UK staff to Kyrgyzstan, and in-country training course held.
October 2011	Field data analysis complete; model construction, validation and exploration complete; sustainability thresholds identified and monitoring protocols developed; development of interpretive materials complete and disseminated
November 2011	Final project Steering Committee meeting; workshop presentation to government, NGOs, other stakeholders
February 2012	Development of sustainable management plans incorporating participatory approaches completed
March 2012	Final report produced; submission of manuscripts for publication; final policy brief produced and disseminated

19. Please indicate which of the following Standard Measures you are likely to report against. You will not necessarily plan to cover all these Standard Measures in your project.

Standard Measure No	Description	Tick if Relevant
1A	Number of people to submit thesis for PhD qualification (in host country)	
1B	Number of people to attain PhD qualification (in host country)	
2	Number of people to attain Masters qualification (MSc, MPhil etc)	
3	Number of people to attain other qualifications (ie. Not outputs 1 or 2 above)	
4A	Number of undergraduate students to receive training	
4B	Number of training weeks to be provided	X
4C	Number of postgraduate students to receive training	X
4D	Number of training weeks to be provided	X
5	Number of people to receive at least one year of training (which does not fall into categories 1-4 above)	
6A	Number of people to receive other forms of education/training (which does not fall into categories 1-5 above)	X
6B	Number of training weeks to be provided	X
7	Number of (ie different types - not volume - of material produced) training materials to be produced for use by host country	X
8	Number of weeks to be spent by UK project staff on project work in the host country	X
9	Number of species/habitat management plans (or action plans) to be produced for Governments, public authorities, or other implementing agencies in the host country	X
10	Number of individual field guides/manuals to be produced to assist work related to species identification, classification and recording	
11A	Number of papers to be published in peer reviewed journals	X
11B	Number of papers to be submitted to peer reviewed journals	X
12A	Number of computer based databases to be established and handed over to host country	X
12B	Number of computer based databases to be enhanced and handed over to host country	
13A	Number of species reference collections to be established and handed over to host country(ies)	X
13B	Number of species reference collections to be enhanced and handed over to host country(ies)	
14A	Number of conferences/seminars/ workshops to be organised to present/disseminate findings	X
14B	Number of conferences/seminars/ workshops attended at which findings from Darwin project work will be presented/ disseminated.	X
15A	Number of national press releases in host country(ies)	X
15B	Number of local press releases in host country(ies)	X
15C	Number of national press releases in UK	X
15D	Number of local press releases in UK	X
16A	Number of newsletters to be produced	X
16B	Estimated circulation of each newsletter in the host country(ies)	X
16C	Estimated circulation of each newsletter in the UK	X
17A	Number of dissemination networks to be established	X
17B	Number of dissemination networks to be enhanced/ extended	
18A	Number of national TV programmes/features in host country(ies)	X
18B	Number of national TV programmes/features in UK	
18C	Number of local TV programmes/features in host country(ies)	X
18D	Number of local TV programmes/features in UK	
19A	Number of national radio interviews/features in host county(ies)	X
19B	Number of national radio interviews/features in UK	
19C	Number of local radio interviews/features in host country(ies)	X
19D	Number of local radio interviews/features in UK	
20	Estimated value (£'s) of physical assets to be handed over to host country(ies)	
21	Number of permanent educational/training/research facilities or organisations to be established and then continued after Darwin funding has ceased	X
22	Number of permanent field plots to be established during the project and continued after Darwin funding has ceased	X
23	Value of resources raised from other sources (ie in addition to Darwin funding) for project work	X

PROJECT BASED MONITORING AND EVALUATION

20. 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 Steering Committee will be created, comprising senior representatives from Bournemouth University (BU), FFI, BGCI, OTU, SFS, REC, KSU, BGNAS,TAZA, IB and IBSS, and the National Focal Point for the CBD. Other appropriate Ministry staff will be invited to participate, together with local community representatives. The progress of the project will be monitored through regular Steering Committee meetings, supervisory visits from the UK and exchange visits by project staff, supported by regular email contact between partners. Progress will be assessed towards delivery of the milestones and outputs listed in sections 18 and 19, and the indicators listed in the Logical Framework, including training secondment and study programme reports and annual project reports, research papers published in scientific journals, interpretive materials produced (website, leaflets, poster display, community newsletter) and Steering Committee minutes. Overall coordination, management and quality control of the project will be the responsibility of BU in close collaboration with OTU, who will be responsible for day-to-day management of the project in Kyrgyzstan. The Steering Committee will be kept apprised of developments by the project staff (channelled through the project coordinator) at regular meetings and via e-mail. The Steering Committee will discuss progress against the milestones and outputs at each of its regular meetings, and prioritise project activities in the light of progress made. Success of the scientific research included in the project will be monitored through the production of databases, peer review of scientific papers and reports. Success of the training components of the project will be monitored through the production of training and supervisory reports, supporting questionnaires and feedback forms, and the production of funding proposals and project reports by in-country partner staff. The success of implementation of approaches to sustainable use will be assessed by incorporation of project results in local forest management plans, and their use by local forest service units and communities verified by participatory surveys of communities in the study area. At the policy level, success will be assessed by production of policy briefs and associated reports, and by feedback from policy makers gathered at the closing project workshop. Public outreach activities will be monitored through a media releases file, establishment of a project website, and presentations made at conferences and workshops.

FUNDING AND BUDGET

Please complete the separate Excel spreadsheet which will provide the Budget information for this application. Some of the questions below refer to the information in this spreadsheet.

NB: Please state all costs by financial year (April to March). Use current prices – and include anticipated inflation, as appropriate up to 3% per annum. The Darwin Initiative will not be able to agree increases in grants to cover inflation on UK costs once grants are awarded.

21. How is your organisation currently funded? (max 100 words)

Bournemouth University is primarily funded by the UK Government, for example through the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE), and by students' tuition fees. However, the School of Conservation Sciences also undertakes research and enterprise activities funded by a range of external donors, including the World Bank, UNEP, Forestry Commission, RSPB, DEFRA, the National Trust, English Nature, the European Commission, British Ecological Society, etc. During the 2007/8 academic year, the School received nearly £4,000,000 of income of which approximately £3,000,000 was from students and learning, £1,000,000 was from externally funded research and enterprise activities.

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

Confirmed:

£30,143 confirmed matched funding will be contributed by Bournemouth University, as an in-kind contribution covering staff costs and overheads.

£45,000 confirmed matched funding will be contributed by FFI, which is being provided by an external sponsor, to cover staff costs and overheads of UK staff and the in-country project team, including stafftime of one of the in-country partners (TAZA).

£9000 confirmed matched funding will be contributed by BGCI, as an in-kind contribution covering staff costs and overheads

Unconfirmed:

23. Please give details of any further funding resources (confirmed or unconfirmed) sought from the host country partner (s) or others for this project that are not already detailed in the Budget or Question 22. This will include donations in kind or un-costed support eg accommodation. (max 50 words per box)

Financial resources:

Funding in kind:

The lead host country partner, OTU, will provide office, laboratory and computing facilities for use by project staff for the duration of the project. Administrative costs of running the project in Kyrgyzstan (including communications with partners, organisation of workshops, logistical support for fieldwork etc.) will also be supported by OTU.

FCO NOTIFICATIONS

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

Please indicate whether you have contacted the local UK embassy or High Commission directly to discuss security issues (see Guidance Notes) and attach any advice you have received from them.

Yes (no written advice)

Yes, advice attached

No

CERTIFICATION 2009/10

On behalf of the trustees/company* of Bournemouth University

(*delete as appropriate)

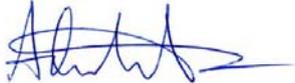
I apply for a grant of £57,536 in respect of expenditure to be incurred in the financial year ending 31 March 2010 on the activities specified in the above application.

I certify that, to the best of our knowledge and belief, the statements made by us in this application are true and the information provided is correct. I am aware that this application form will form the basis of the project schedule should this application be successful. (This form should be signed by an individual authorised by the lead UK institution to submit applications and sign contracts on their behalf.)

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

Name (block capitals)	ADRIAN NEWTON
Position in the organisation	Director, Centre for Conservation Ecology and Environmental Change

Signed



Date:

26/11/08

Stage 2 Application - Checklist for submission

	Check
Have you provided actual start and end dates for your project?	X
Have you provided your budget based on UK government financial years ie 1 April – 31 March?	X
Have you checked that your budget is complete, correctly adds up and that you have included the correct final total on the top page of the application?	X
Is the concept note within 1,000 words?	X
Is the logframe no longer than 2 pages and have you highlighted any changes since Stage 1?	X
Has your application been signed by a suitably authorised individual? (clear electronic or scanned signatures are acceptable)	X
Have you included a 1 page CV for the Project Leader, any other UK staff working 50%+ on this project, and for a main individual in each overseas partner organisation?	X
Have you included a letter of support from the main overseas partner organisations?	X
Have you checked with the FCO in the project country/ies and have you included any evidence of this?	X
Have you included a copy of your most recent annual report and accounts? An electronic link to a website is acceptable.	X
Have you read the Guidance Notes ?	X

Once you have answered Yes to the questions above, please submit the application, not later than midnight GMT on **Monday 1 December 2008** to Darwin-Applications@itsi.co.uk using the application number (from your Stage 1 feedback letter) and the first few words of the project title **as the subject of your email**. However, if you are e-mailing supporting documentation separately please include in the subject line an indication of the number of e-mails you are sending (eg whether the e-mail is 1 of 2, 2 of 3 etc). **In addition**, a hard copy of the application and any supporting documents not available electronically should be submitted to the Darwin Applications Management Unit, c/o ECTF, Pentlands Science Park, Bush Loan, Penicuik EH26 0PL **postmarked** not later than **Tuesday 2 December 2008**.

DATA PROTECTION ACT 1998: Applicants for grant funding must agree to any disclosure or exchange of information supplied on the application form (including the content of a declaration or undertaking) which the Department considers necessary for the administration, evaluation, monitoring and publicising of the Darwin Initiative. Application form data will also be held by contractors dealing with Darwin Initiative monitoring and evaluation. It is the responsibility of applicants to ensure that personal data can be supplied to the Department for the uses described in this paragraph. A completed application form will be taken as an agreement by the applicant and the grant/award recipient also to the following:- putting certain details (ie name, contact details and location of project work) on the Darwin Initiative and Defra websites(details relating to financial awards will not be put on the websites if requested in writing by the grant/award recipient); using personal data for the Darwin Initiative postal circulation list; and sending data to Foreign and Commonwealth Office posts outside the United Kingdom, including posts outside the European Economic Area. Confidential information relating to the project or its results and any personal data may be released on request, including under the Environmental Information Regulations, the code of Practice on Access to Government Information and the Freedom of Information Act 2000.