



Submit by Monday 30 November 2009

## DARWIN INITIATIVE APPLICATION FOR GRANT FOR ROUND 17: 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)

<b>Name:</b> Jamie Roberts	<b>Address:</b> St Helena National Trust, Broadway House, Jamestown, St Helena STHL 1ZZ
-------------------------------	--

### 2. Project title (not exceeding 10 words)

Increasing local capacity to conserve St Helena's threatened native biodiversity
--

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

<b>Proposed start date:</b> 01 July 2010		<b>Duration of project:</b> 3 yrs		<b>End date:</b> 30 June 2013	
<b>Darwin funding requested</b>	<b>2010/11</b> £112,138	<b>2011/12</b> £97,094	<b>2012/2013</b> £92,153	<b>2013/14</b> £32,387	<b>Total</b> £333,772

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

To halt biodiversity loss in the species-rich High Peak and Blue Point areas on St Helena through increasing local capacity to deliver practical habitat restoration and management
---

### 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
<b>Surname</b>	Roberts		Duncan
<b>Forename (s)</b>	Jamie		Darren
<b>Post held</b>	Director		Chief Agriculture and Natural Resources Officer
<b>Institution (if different to above)</b>			Saint Helena Government
<b>Department</b>			ANRD
<b>Telephone</b>			
<b>Email</b>			

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

Reference No	Project Leader	Title

**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)**

The National Trust is responsible for the protection, enhancement and promotion of St Helena's unique environmental and cultural heritage. The Trust is working to conserve threatened endemic species and to restore the native habitats of St Helena. We also raise awareness and engage the local population in practical conservation.

**Activities (50 words)**

The Trust is: restoring and managing native Gumwood *Commidendrum robustum* ecosystems; eradicating invasive species in biodiversity hotspots; conserving the endemic Wirebird *Charadrius sanctaehelenae* through habitat management and predator control; supporting the development of eco-tourism; and working with Government to progress the designation and management of new Protected Areas.

**Achievements (50 words)**

The Trust has replanted 35 hectares of endemic Gumwoods at the Millennium Forest, the biggest reforestation project on St Helena. We are a partner on the invasive species project, which has helped to reduce the threat to native biodiversity. We have worked to increase Wirebird numbers by 50% since 2000.

**8. Please list all the institutions involved including 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.**

<p><b>Lead UK institution and website where available:</b></p> <p><b>Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew</b> www.kew.org</p>	<p><b>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):</b></p> <p>RBG Kew has a very active UK Overseas Territories programme and a long-term commitment to conserving St Helena's unique flora, with current collaborative conservation projects including the OTEP-funded Supporting Critical Species Recovery and Horticultural Needs project. RBG Kew will provide essential botanical and horticultural expertise and support for critical species conservation. RBG Kew has been involved in the development of this project, and will help to identify research needs to directly inform conservation action, and will assist in the delivery of horticultural and site management training. RBG Kew will be closely involved in ongoing monitoring and evaluation, including one visit to the island during the project. RBG Kew will also continue to provide opportunities for St Helenian collaborators to visit Kew for specific training and practical experience.</p>
---	--

<p><b>Lead host country Partner and website where available:</b></p> <p><b>St Helena National Trust</b> www.nationaltrust.org.sh</p>	<p><b>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):</b></p> <p>The National Trust has led the development phase of this project, working in close collaboration with both local and international stakeholders. The Trust has been a partner on the delivery of a number of the projects that have informed the development of this Darwin bid – including the EU-funded South Atlantic Invasive Species project (SAIS) and the Critical Species Recovery project. The Trust will be the Lead Partner for this project, responsible for project management, financial management, coordination of partner input, awareness raising and outreach, and monitoring and evaluation. In addition to an experienced Director and Trust team, the capacity of the Trust to run this project will be increased by the expertise of the key project personnel, strong Government support, and the ongoing participation of two world-leading conservation organisations.</p>
--	---

<p><b>Partner Name and website where available:</b></p> <p><b>Saint Helena Government</b> (Agriculture and Natural Resources Department) www.sainthelena.gov.sh</p>	<p><b>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):</b></p> <p>The Agriculture and Natural Resources Department is the main Government department responsible for conservation and land management. The Department is already collaborating with the Trust on projects including Wirebird conservation and invasive species control. The Department will be the main on-island partner on the project. It will provide personnel to support habitat restoration and invasives control, along with logistical and administrative support.</p>
---	--

<p><b>Partner Name and website where available:</b></p> <p><b>Royal Society for the Protection of Birds</b> www.rspb.org.uk</p>	<p><b>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):</b></p> <p>The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds has been actively involved in conservation activities on St Helena for more than five years. RSPB works closely with the Trust on projects including Wirebird conservation and the South Atlantic Invasive Species project (SAIS). RSPB will support the development of best practice in site management, and the development of eco-tourism activities (such as Wirebird tours) that support sustainable conservation on St Helena. The RSPB is also supporting capacity building in the Trust.</p>
---	---

<p><b>9a. Have you consulted stakeholders not already mentioned above?</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><b>If yes, please give details:</b></p> <p>The Education Department and the Tourism Office have both been consulted. The project will include the development of a National Vocational Qualification (NVQ), a conservation apprenticeship programme, and the provision of education packs for local schools curricula. These activities have been discussed and agreed with the Education Department. The development of eco-tourism activities on St Helena has been discussed with the Tourism Office and this will be built into their strategic and financial planning to coincide with this project.</p>
<p><b>9b. Do you intend to consult other stakeholders?</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><b>If yes, please give details:</b></p> <p>The project will consult and engage other key stakeholders, particularly farmers and landowners in areas adjacent to the habitat restoration target areas. Invasive species particularly impact upon livelihoods on the island, so the project will work with farmers and landowners to develop sustainable land management practices that help to control invasive species. Some engagement has already been commenced through previous project work.</p> <p>Local volunteers and St Helena Nature Conservation Group are already involved in seed collecting and propagation activities, and have expressed an interest in contributing to the restoration activities proposed in this project.</p>

**9c. Have you had any (other) contact with the government not already stated?**  Yes  No

**If yes, please give details:**

The Saint Helena Development Agency, responsible for developing the private sector on St Helena, is strongly supportive of the project. SHDA is providing considerable financial support to the conservation apprenticeship programme which will be started as part of this project. Data generated through this project will also be used to inform an environmental economic evaluation process taking place on St Helena. The results of this process will enable the socio-economic value of the natural environment to be better valued, supporting sustainable development policy and decision-making on St Helena.

**9d. Is any liaison proposed with the CBD/CMS/CITES focal point in the host country?**  Yes  No

**If yes, please give details:**

The Environmental Coordinator Isabel Peters has been involved in the project development phase and has provided comments on the final project proposal. The project team will continue to liaise closely with Isabel, particularly on the collation of data for monitoring (such as changes in the status of Critically Endangered species), and the designation and management planning of new Protected Areas.

**9e. Will your project support any work in the UK Overseas Territories?**  Yes  No

**If yes, please give brief details stating which Territory/ies will be involved.**

The project will take place in Saint Helena in the South Atlantic Ocean, the UK's Overseas Territory with the highest level of endemism across several taxa, and arguably the Territory whose biodiversity is under the most severe threats.

## PROJECT DETAILS

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

### Background

*"St Helena versus the world would perhaps be the first division [of a phytogeographical system]"*  
Charles Darwin, 1844.

St Helena holds a rich and globally unique biological heritage, which includes over 400 known endemic species. Flagship species include the ancient endemic arborescent Asteraceae.

Centuries of exploitation and change of land-use have left the island's native ecosystems severely degraded. A large proportion of the island's flora and fauna is now on the brink of extinction, surviving in isolated remnant habitats which are facing significant ongoing threats, particularly rapid encroachment by invasive species and increasing erosion.

Of the 45 endemic higher plant species which have been assessed, 40% are categorised as Critically Endangered (IUCN, 2009 Red List); the St Helena Olive became globally extinct in November 2003.

### Problem to be addressed

Tiny remnant habitats in the island's Peaks area are known to support an abundant amount of endemic plant and invertebrate diversity. Both these and the equally remarkable remnants of St Helena's dryland habitats are deteriorating rapidly as invasive species outcompete them or predate upon them.

The principal constraint to reversing the decline of key habitats is a shortage of skilled personnel on-island able to undertake sustained practical conservation action. This is manifested in an inability to adequately tackle pressing threats, particularly the negative impacts of invasive species. Current conservation activities are often ad hoc and inadequate, reacting to immediate problems rather than working with a concerted, well-resourced ecosystem approach to invasives control and native habitat reinstatement.

### **Level of priority for St Helena**

This project is an urgent priority for St Helena on account of the accelerating deterioration of our remaining biodiversity hotspots. The recent SAIS project has emphasised the scale of the problem and the pressing need for concerted resources to tackle it before it is too late. This project will address commitments made in St Helena's Environment Charter (2001), through which the island's CBD obligations are delivered – specifically: “to safeguard and restore native species, habitats and landscape features, and control or eradicate invasive species”.

### **Proposed strategy and outcomes**

The strategic approach taken by this project has been informed by the practical on-island experiences and international expert advice of the last decade, which have demonstrated that habitat-focused restoration rather than species-led conservation is the key to preserving the unique biodiversity of St Helena. Projects such as SAIS and Critical Species Recovery have identified and trialled the basis for a successful formula for species restoration, and increased essential nursery production capacity, but have lacked the resources to deliver it at a large scale. Using this strong existing knowledge base, this project will work to secure the conservation of highly threatened habitats within the High Peak complex and Blue Point areas. Data collated on the biodiversity of these areas, and the positive management structures put in place during the project, will support and progress their designation as new Protected Areas.

The project will work to address current skills and capacity limitations through bringing international applied conservation expertise to St Helena to provide practical on-the-ground training in conservation techniques including invasives control, habitat assessment, endemic plant community restoration and effective site management. **It will establish a conservation apprenticeship programme, including a new NVQ, which will ensure that skills needs are addressed long-term.**

The training element has been informed by the conservation-related training and capacity needs analysis undertaken by the current SAIS and Critical Species Recovery projects. The increase in the conservation skills base on-island will facilitate the widespread, sustained practical action needed to address the conservation needs of St Helena, by securing and creating buffer zones around the key areas of remnant habitat and their associated endemic species.

The project will employ a collaborative and multi-disciplinary approach to conserving biodiversity on St Helena. Partners from the Government, NGO and private sectors will be engaged in the delivery of the project, to maximise the value of existing limited resources to achieve practical conservation gains.

The socio-economic benefits of conserving the natural environment, particularly as a basis for eco-tourism, will be promoted to key stakeholders and the general public, to foster an increased understanding and appreciation of why conservation is a priority. The provision of improved interpretation at High Peak complex and Blue Point will provide an enhanced asset for the tourism sector. Through providing a positive example of how biodiversity conservation can underpin sustainable socio-economic development, the project will help to inform and influence the ongoing development of sustainable development plans and policies on St Helena.

The project will disseminate its results both on-island and internationally. The practical restoration techniques implemented in target areas will provide case studies in habitat recovery and invasives control. The establishment of a demonstration habitat restoration area with easy access and interpretation will showcase best practice in practical conservation initiatives and facilitate wider community engagement.

The project will achieve value for money through: building on the lessons learned from previous practical conservation projects; securing significant matched funding from partners and other stakeholders; ensuring that collaborative stakeholder action prevents unnecessary duplication of effort and maximises existing resources; and using volunteers to augment the core project team to deliver the project objectives.

**Respective contributions of St Helena and UK partners**

The National Trust of St Helena is the project leader, responsible for coordinating project delivery and management, including coordinating expert input from overseas, project reporting, and providing office space and administrative support to the project team. The main on-island project partner is St Helena Government, where the Agriculture and Natural Resources Department (ANRD) will be the lead department, providing personnel and resources for practical conservation delivery. The project will also engage private sector interests and conservation volunteers on St Helena.

The UK partners will be RBG Kew and RSPB. RBG Kew will provide essential botanical and horticultural expertise and support for critical species conservation. The RSPB will support capacity building of the NGO conservation sector on St Helena; provide advice on Protected Areas planning and implementation; and support the development of the island's eco-tourism sector.

**11a. Is this a new initiative or a development of existing work (funded through any source)?****Please give details:**

This project is a new conservation initiative for St Helena. It will hugely increase the capacity of the island to secure existing fragments of biodiversity-rich habitat and to tackle invasive species, by drawing upon existing knowledge and expertise. Best practice and recommendations from a number of successful conservation initiatives have informed the project development. These projects include: the EU-funded South Atlantic Invasive Species Project (SAIS); the Critical Species Recovery project (OTEP); Conserving St Helena's Gumwoods (OTEP); and A Protected Area Plan for St Helena's Central Peaks project (OTEP). These have contributed to: awareness raising and capacity building for invasive species control; increasing horticultural capacity for the sourcing and propagation of critically endangered plant species; the trialling of habitat and ecosystem restoration; practical site management; and progressing the designation of Protected Areas. The collected experiences gained from these earlier programmes have provided the evidence for the approach developed in this Darwin proposal, the implementation of which is urgent if we are to prevent further loss of St Helena's unique biodiversity.

**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:**

The scope of the proposed work is to our knowledge unique. Although the project will carry out ecological restoration, which is a widespread and much applied concept, here it will be working in severely degraded environments on an extremely isolated oceanic island with unique endemic species and unique challenges including human depopulation.

**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)  Yes  No

CITES  Yes  No

Convention on Migratory Species (CMS)  Yes  No

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

Some of St Helena's most biodiverse habitats, which support an abundance of endemic plant and invertebrate diversity, are deteriorating rapidly and becoming increasingly fragmented as invasive species outcompete them or predate upon them. A number of Critically Endangered plant species are under severe threat of extinction.

The principal constraint to reversing the decline of key habitats and species is a shortage of skilled personnel on-island to undertake practical habitat restoration and management, effectively and at a sufficiently large scale. Current conservation activities are often ad hoc and inadequate, fire-fighting immediate problems, when what is needed is a concerted, well-resourced ecosystem approach to native habitat reinstatement and invasives control.

The problem has been identified through knowledge and experience gained from a number of recent projects and from practical on-island experiences of the last decade. These have demonstrated that habitat-focused restoration is the key to preserving the unique biodiversity of St Helena.

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

The project will address the chronic lack of capacity on St Helena to tackle existing conservation threats. A team of skilled conservation practitioners will be built to deliver largescale habitat restoration and invasive species control

A more sustainable ecosystem approach to conservation will be adopted as a result of this project, improving efficiency of current resources. This coordinated approach will reverse the decline of a number of Critically Endangered species.

The threatened habitats of High Peak complex and Blue Point will be secured under long-term positive management, with stronger populations of endemics and sustainable control of invasive threats. The results of implementing and monitoring habitat restoration in these areas will inform future conservation work at other biodiversity hotspots.

The project will highlight the socio-economic importance of nature conservation, and will support the development of new eco-tourism activities. This will provide a greater justification for increased conservation resources.

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

St Helena is the UKOT with the highest level of endemism across several taxa, with new discoveries still being made (St Helena Neglected Sedge in 2008). Over 40% of endemic higher plant species are categorised as Critically Endangered or Extinct in the Wild (IUCN, 2009 Red List). The St Helena Olive became extinct in November 2003. There is currently one St Helena Boxwood and nine False Gumwood remaining in the wild; only one Bastard Gumwood survives in cultivation.

There is currently little or no regeneration of endemic plant species in the wild on St Helena. There is overwhelming competition from invasive species. Native habitats only exist in small remnant pockets isolated from one another, with endemic species represented in very low numbers. This has resulted in the degradation of self-regenerating functional native habitats. This project will give St Helena the capacity to halt and start to reverse the loss of biodiversity.

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

The project will contribute significantly to the CBD. In particular it will significantly progress the achievement of conservation objectives under Articles:

8 'In-situ Conservation' (specifically: a & b (establishment and management of Protected Areas); c (creation of habitat stepping stones); d (protection of ecosystems); f (restoration of ecosystems); h (invasive species control)

9 'Ex-situ Conservation' (specifically: c (best practice on species reintroduction); e (build on previous conservation work)

10 'Sustainable Use of Components of Biological Diversity' (specifically: d (engage local populations); e (facilitate stakeholder cooperation in conservation action)

12 'Research and Training' (specifically: a (education and training); b (research contributing to conservation delivery)

13 'Public Education and Awareness' (a (promotion of conservation); b (education & awareness)

16 'Access To and Transfer of Technology', 17 'Exchange of Information' and 18 'Technical and Scientific Cooperation' (through new best practice, website, and training).

It will also support the implementation of our Environment Charter.

**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)**

Project results will be disseminated through outputs including a project report, web-based reports and resources, and newsletters (including those of SHNT and UKOTCF). A project website promoted on partner websites will provide an international dissemination hub. Collaboration with partners at Kew and RSPB will facilitate dissemination of project results to a wide audience in the UK and globally, through articles in membership magazines and in peer reviewed journals and conservation publications. Project results will also be presented at events including the UKOTs conference.

Promotion of the project will capitalise on Darwin's visit to St Helena, and show how this historical visit relates to current conservation activities. Interpretation boards at the project demonstration sites will include information on Darwin's visit to St Helena, the purpose of the Darwin Initiative and ongoing conservation initiatives.

All project communications will carry Darwin branding. Darwin will be cited as principal funder in all outputs produced or published by the project. Regular articles and on site broadcasting will be used to promote the project brand locally. The Darwin logo is not currently used on St Helena. This project will therefore be intimately linked with use of the logo during its implementation.

**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 will include significantly increased local capacity for habitat restoration work on St Helena, with a suite of practical skills for effective conservation of the island's unique biodiversity. Identifiable problems include a perceived lack of career opportunities, insufficient trainees and loss of conservation skills overseas. With more substantive, rewarding conservation roles on St Helena the chance of retaining skills will increase.

A collaborative and ecosystem-led approach to conserving and promoting biodiversity will be fostered between on-island partners. Standardised conservation best practice will be deployed across all sectors, maximising coordination and effectiveness in habitat restoration and invasive species control. Potential problems include change of key personnel undermining partner buy-in and continuity.

The conservation status of threatened endemics will be significantly improved through the project, and the long-term protection and management of two biodiversity hotspots will be secured. Threats might include an increase in the current level of threat from invasives, and a reduction in conservation resources currently provided by Government.

Awareness of the importance of St Helena's natural resources amongst the public and key decision-makers will be increased through targeted communications and the development of eco-tourism activities.



**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 project will not reach an end point but will enable conservation work post-project to be carried out more effectively through capitalising on the increased capacity and best practice methods developed.

The project will ensure that increased capacity is sustainable through training a core of apprentices and existing conservation staff to form a critical mass of skilled conservation personnel. Skills will be retained through Government involvement and the development of the private sector in conservation activities on-island, with start-up support from Government and SHDA. New schools curriculum activities and the establishment of a conservation NVQ will ensure that a steady stream of conservation personnel is produced, allowing for natural wastage

A sustainable ecosystem approach will become integrated into work and conservation strategy for the Conservation department to ensure that progress is maintained long-term, and is achievable with existing resources. Socio-economic evidence compiled by the project will strengthen the case for increased resources for the sector.

A conservation volunteer programme will be established, to capitalise on the stream of locals and longer-term overseas visitors who wish to volunteer while on-island.

External partners RBG Kew and RSPB will continue to provide on-going financial, technical and administrative support via their core UKOTs programmes.

**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 do you expect the beneficiaries to obtain. How will you measure training effectiveness. (max 300 words)**

You should address each of these points.

Training needs have already been identified through the South Atlantic Invasive Species and Critical Species Recovery projects, as well as a Training Needs exercise carried out by the ECS. Identified needs include invasives control, habitat restoration techniques, rope work, plant establishment and habitat management.

The project has been designed to address these needs through a practical training programme and new NVQ to increase local capacity and skills. The key target audience for the training will be those directly involved in the delivery of practical conservation action, including: conservation apprentices, Government conservation staff, private contractors and SHNT staff. Training for these groups will combine practical field based activities and work experience with some classroom-based learning. The NVQ will assess skills development for the trainees and Government staff, while direct observation and oral assessment will be used to evaluate development of other target groups. Indicators of effectiveness will include: ability to select and deploy invasives clearance methods; success rate of new plantings. The project team will be responsible for monitoring individual trainees and making adjustments to schedules where needed.

Other important target groups include farmers, schoolchildren, students and volunteers. Each group will require flexibility in the training approach. For example, the SAIS project identified that farmers are very concerned about specific invasive species, and require practical training in the best treatment methods. Short training courses will be provided in the best techniques.

Educating and engaging young Saints is also a priority. Currently conservation is perceived by many as a tough and unrewarding career choice. To address this conservation curriculum materials and practical activities will be developed and deployed to each of the island's schools. The Education Department strongly endorses this programme. Indicators of effectiveness will include the number of students taking conservation-related modules, including the new NVQ.

**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
<b>Goal:</b> 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.			
<b>Sub-Goal:</b> Priority habitats for globally threatened plant diversity on St Helena protected from invasives and other threats, regenerating and providing an asset for local education and eco-tourism	Target threatened habitats in improving condition for biodiversity  New Destination Management Strategy developed for St Helena, incorporating the island's key natural areas	Baseline and completion habitat assessments of target areas  Increase in the number of natural areas promoted as tourist destinations, increase in number of tours visiting natural attractions	
<b>Purpose</b> To halt biodiversity loss in the species-rich High Peak complex and Blue Point areas on St Helena through increasing local capacity to deliver practical habitat restoration and management	Target threatened habitats in improving condition for biodiversity, with increased abundance of key endemic species, and reduction in number of invasives  Management plans for High Peak complex and Blue Point written, adopted and implemented by project partnership  IUCN Red List status of threatened species stabilised and progress made towards down-listing Critically Endangered species	Baseline and completion habitat assessments of target areas, carried out by ANRD  Endorsed management plans for High Peak complex and Blue Point (50 hectares in total)  Published IUCN Red List showing no decline in species status	Saint Helena Government policies towards conservation remain favourable, particularly under a future airport development scenario  Resources available for practical conservation (Government, NGO and private sector) are maintained at current levels
<b>Outputs</b> (add or delete rows as necessary) 1. A training programme delivered to increase local capacity and skill base in the restoration and sustainable management of natural resources/endemic biodiversity	12 ANRD staff trained in practical conservation techniques, including sustainable habitat restoration and management, invasives control  5 conservation apprentices provided with 2-3 years practical training  10 members of the private sector and general public trained in practical conservation activities	ANRD staff with accredited conservation skills (including NVQ)  Apprentices receiving NVQ accreditation  15 apprentices and private sector workers with accredited conservation skills, and available to undertake contract work	SHG departmental resources available for practical conservation remain are maintained at current levels  Partners (including SHDA) provide agreed level of administrative support

<p>2. The threatened habitats of High Peak complex and Blue Point secured and under long-term positive management for biodiversity</p>	<p>Threatened habitats in High Peak complex and Blue Point in improving condition for biodiversity, with a reduction in the level of threats</p> <p>Draft management plans incorporating best practice for High Peak complex and Blue Point adopted by project partners and implemented by ANRD</p> <p>High Peak complex and Blue Point prioritised for designation as Protected Areas</p>	<p>Baseline and completion habitat assessments of target areas, based on established island methodology</p> <p>Management plans approved by project partners and adopted and implemented by ANRD in Yr 3</p> <p>A report and evidence-base supporting the designation of 2 new Protected Areas submitted to SHG</p>	<p>The threat from invasives does not increase during the lifespan of the project (both the risk of invasiveness from existing introduced species, plus any new introductions)</p> <p>SHG has the necessary commitment and resources to support the designation of additional Protected Areas</p>
<p>3. A programme to increase education, awareness and engagement in the conservation of St Helena's natural resources</p>	<p>All 3,800 islanders exposed to information about the natural resources</p> <p>Increase in the number of local people and visitors engaged in the natural environment</p> <p>700 schoolchildren on island provided with conservation-based educational opportunities</p>	<p>Project information made available to all local people through printed, radio and web-based media;</p> <p>Volunteer programme established;</p> <p>Quarterly public conservation activities taking place; results of the Tourism Survey</p> <p>Educational materials produced;</p> <p>Students taking part in conservation activities</p>	<p>Existing organisations have the capacity to manage an increased number of volunteers</p> <p>Teachers adopt the new resources and continue to use them; schools curriculum remains supportive</p>
<p>4. Information on the importance and potential socio-economic value of St Helena's natural resources produced and disseminated</p>	<p>Baseline data on current biodiversity-related tourism activities compiled in Yr 1</p> <p>Information on ecosystem services provided to economic evaluation process in Yr2</p> <p>New Destination Management Strategy developed for St Helena, incorporating the island's key natural attractions (Yr 2)</p> <p>Local tourism sector provided with promotional materials for eco-tourism in Yr 3</p> <p>New eco-tour set up (Yr 3)</p>	<p>Results of Tourism Survey</p> <p>Environmental economic evaluation report produced in Yr3</p> <p>Increase in the number of natural areas promoted as tourist destinations, increase in number of tours visiting natural attractions</p> <p>New web resource promoting the natural environment of St Helena as a visitor destination</p> <p>Demonstration site with interpretation set up; sightseeing pamphlet in Tourism Office</p> <p>Eco-tour promoted locally, on the web</p>	<p>Access to St Helena is able to deliver sufficient visitors to support a sustainable eco-tourism sector</p> <p>SHG maintains current level of prioritisation for tourism-led development</p>

**Activities** (details in workplan)

- 1.1 Promote training opportunities to key target groups
- 1.2 Run training workshops for ANRD staff
- 1.3 Run training programme for conservation apprentices
- 1.4 Run training workshops for private sector/general public
- 1.5 Produce training materials
- 1.6 Set up NVQ to run alongside training programme
- 2.1 Set up site management steering committee
- 2.2 Control invasives
- 2.3 Plant out endemics
- 2.4 Monitor habitat quality
- 2.5 Develop site management plans
- 2.6 Implement site management plan
- 2.7 Produce evidence base to support designation of Protected Areas
- 2.8 Presentation to legislative council to support designation
- 2.9 Carry out species status evaluation to update IUCN Red List
- 3.1 Promote project to local population
- 3.2 Set up conservation volunteer programme
- 3.3 Practical conservation activities and talks held in island schools
- 3.4 Research and produce new schools education pack
- 4.1 Design Tourism Survey
- 4.2 Analyse Tourism Survey to inform Destination Management Plan
- 4.3 Produce Destination Management Plan for natural areas
- 4.4 Provide information to environmental economic evaluation process
- 4.5 Create new promotional materials for eco-tourism
- 4.6 Set up demonstration site with public access and interpretation
- 4.7 Set up new 'eco-tour'
- 5.1 Project steering group set up
- 5.2 Recruit project staff
- 5.3 Steering group meetings
- 5.4 Monitoring and evaluation visit by overseas partners
- 5.5 Dissemination of project results

**Monitoring activities:**

Indicator 1: Number of training workshops

Indicator 2: Number of people attending workshops

Indicator 3: Effectiveness of training (measured through trainee retention rate and annual trainee feedback)

Indicator 4: Number of people receiving NVQ or other accreditation (based on continuous assessment)

Indicator 5: Number of training resources produced (growing guides, habitat restoration guides etc)

Indicator 6: Abundance and coverage of invasive species in target habitat restoration areas (based on before and after habitat surveys)

Indicator 7: Abundance and coverage of endemic species in target habitat restoration areas, including success rate of plant establishment (based on before and after habitat surveys)

Indicator 8: Minutes of site management steering committee

Indicator 9: Number of site management plans adopted and implemented

Indicator 10: Number of press releases/newspaper articles/public talks/radio pieces

Indicator 11: Number of volunteers attending conservation activities

Indicator 12: Number of practical activities in schools

Indicator 13: Number of new eco-tourism leaflets distributed per annum

Indicator 14: Number of bookings for eco-tour

Indicator 15: Minutes of project steering group

Indicator 16: Number of weeks spent in St Helena by overseas project partners

Indicator 17: Progress reports to Darwin

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			
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
1.1 Promote training opportunities to key target groups													
1.2 Run training workshops for ANRD staff													
1.3 Set up NVQ													
1.4 Run training programme for conservation apprentices													
1.5 Run training workshops for private sector/general public													
1.6 Produce training materials													
2.1 Set up site management steering committee													
2.2 Control invasives													
2.3 Plant out endemics													
2.4 Monitor habitat quality													
2.5 Develop site management plans													
2.6 Implement site management plans													
2.7 Produce evidence base to support designation of Protected Areas													
2.8 Presentation to legislative council to support designation													
2.9 Carry out species status evaluation to update IUCN Red List													
3.1 Promote project to local population													
3.2 Set up conservation volunteer programme													
3.3 Practical conservation activities and talks held in island schools													
3.4 Research and produce new schools education pack													
4.1 Carry out Tourism Survey													
4.2 Analyse Tourism Survey to inform Destination Management Plan													
4.3 Produce Destination Management Plan for natural areas													
4.4 Provide information to environmental economic evaluation process													
4.5 Create new promotional materials for eco-tourism													
4.6 Set up demonstration site with public access and interpretation													
4.7 Set up new 'eco-tour'													
5.1 Project steering group set up													

5.2	Recruit project staff													
5.3	Steering group meetings													
5.4	Monitoring and evaluation visit by overseas partners													
5.5	Dissemination of project results													

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. Separate guidance on Standard Measures can be found at [http://darwin.defra.gov.uk/resources/reporting/standard\\_measures/](http://darwin.defra.gov.uk/resources/reporting/standard_measures/)

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)	x
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	
4D	Number of training weeks to be provided	
5	Number of people to receive at least one year of training (which does not fall into categories 1-4 above)	x
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	
11B	Number of papers to be submitted to peer reviewed journals	
12A	Number of computer based databases to be <b>established</b> and handed over to host country	
12B	Number of computer based databases to be <b>enhanced</b> and handed over to host country	
13A	Number of species reference collections to be <b>established</b> and handed over to host country(ies)	
13B	Number of species reference collections to be <b>enhanced</b> and handed over to host country(ies)	
14A	Number of conferences/seminars/ workshops to be <b>organised</b> to present/disseminate findings	
14B	Number of conferences/seminars/ workshops <b>attended</b> 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)	
15C	Number of national press releases in UK	
15D	Number of local press releases in UK	
16A	Number of newsletters to be produced	x
16B	Estimated circulation of each newsletter in the host country(ies)	
16C	Estimated circulation of each newsletter in the UK	x
17A	Number of dissemination networks to be <b>established</b>	
17B	Number of dissemination networks to be <b>enhanced/ extended</b>	
18A	Number of national TV programmes/features in host country(ies)	
18B	Number of national TV programmes/features in UK	
18C	Number of local TV programmes/features in host country(ies)	
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	
22	Number of permanent field plots to be established during the project and continued after Darwin funding has ceased	
23	Value of resources raised from other sources (ie in addition to Darwin funding) for project work	



## 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 project steering group will be established to ensure broad monitoring of the implementation of the project. This will include representatives from all of the main partners and stakeholder groups, both on St Helena and overseas. The St Helena National Trust Director and Agriculture and Natural Resources Department's Conservation Officer will take overall responsibility for the more detailed monitoring of project outputs through the Steering Group. The Steering Group will meet quarterly to review progress against objectives. Overseas partners will be able to participate using tele-conferencing, which has been effectively used in recent project work. Progress will be reviewed against the Logframe and the original application, ensuring that any departure from the original project objectives and timeline can be addressed quickly and effectively. Minutes from this group will be included in project reporting.

The Government's EPD Section is also tasked with monitoring the progress of externally funded environmental projects and would therefore undertake independent monitoring of this project.

Training will be monitored by recording the number of training events that take place, the number of trainees attending each event. Evaluation of training will be through continuous assessment, with an oral assessment and written recommendation for each trainee at the conclusion. NVQ students will be evaluated through their final qualifications.

Invasives control and habitat restoration will be monitored and evaluated by the restoration ecologist with support from ANRD, using standardised habitat assessment techniques. The results will then be reported back to the steering group for discussion. Any action points will be fed back to the project team in a dynamic way.

Improvements in site management will be monitored and evaluated by the restoration ecologist with support from ANRD, measuring progress against agreed site management plans. The results will then be reported back to the steering group for discussion and agreement.

Project education and awareness raising will be monitored and evaluated by the project manager, in collaboration with headteachers and key teaching staff. Adjustments to educational activities and materials will be made where this is required. Media output will be provided as an annex to regular project reports.

The provision of socio-economic information will be monitored and evaluated by the project manager with support from the steering group.

The close involvement of overseas project partners in this activity is an important component, enabling the project to make full use of their extensive knowledge and expertise in project monitoring and evaluation. RBG Kew and RSPB will make an on-island visit during the project to evaluate progress towards delivery of project objectives, and to provide input on any required adjustments.

At the conclusion of the project the final project report will be produced in draft, before it is circulated to the project partners and stakeholders for comment. A final steering group meeting will be convened to agree and endorse the final report before it is submitted.

## 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)

The National Trust is annually funded by a core grant from Saint Helena Government. Additional sources of income include: project funding; financial support for core management and administrative functions from RSPB; and income from memberships and merchandise sales.

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:

SHDA/SHG (financial support for apprenticeships) - £XXX  
 Kew (travel to St Helena) – £XXX  
 St Helena Tourism (leaflet and interpretation panels) £XXX  
 SHNT (fieldwork equipment) - £XXX

#### 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:

ANRD (personnel; equipment; admin support) - £XXX

SHNT (project management and reporting; outreach and education activities; office facilities; admin support) - £XXX

RBG Kew (staff time) - £XXX

RSPB (staff time) - £XXX

Volunteers (practical conservation activities; admin support) - £XXX

### 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 2010/11

On behalf of the trustees of

St Helena National Trust

(\*delete as appropriate)


I apply for a grant of £112,138 in respect of expenditure to be incurred in the financial year ending 31 March 2011 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)	JAMIE ROBERTS
Position in the organisation	DIRECTOR

Signed



Date:

30<sup>th</sup> November  
2009

## 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 in the email, but a wet signature should be provided in the hard copy version)	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 30 November 2009** to [Darwin-Applications@ltsi.co.uk](mailto:Darwin-Applications@ltsi.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 signed hard copy of the application and any supporting documents not available electronically should be submitted to the Darwin Applications, c/o LTS International, Pentlands Science Park, Bush Loan, Penicuik EH26 0PL **postmarked** not later than **Tuesday 1 December 2009**.

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.