Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs

Submit by Tuesday 1 December 2015

DARWIN INITIATIVE APPLICATION FOR GRANT FOR ROUND 22: 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. Blank cells may render your application ineligible

ELIGIBILITY

1. Name and address of organisation

(NB: Notification of results will be by email to the Project Leader in Question 6)

Applicant Organisation Name:	Madagascar Fauna and Flora Group (MFG)
Address:	BP 442, Morafeno
City and Postcode:	Toamasina 501
Country:	Madagascar
Email:	
Phone:	

2. Stage 1 reference and Project title

Stage 1 Ref: 3339	**Title (max 10 words):** Ex-situ conservation of threatened plants from the Ivoloina-Ifontsy valleys, Madagascar

3. Project description (not exceeding 50 words)

(max 50 words) This project will train young Malagasy botanists and conservation horticulturalists and then direct and coach them to prevent the loss through ex-situ conservation of sub-populations of at least 500 species of flowering plants growing in doomed forest fragments in the Ivoloina-Ifontsy River Valleys.

4. Country(ies)

Which eligible host country(ies) will your project be working in? You may copy and paste this table if you need to provide details of more than four countries.

Country 1: Madagascar	**Country 2:**
Country 3:	**Country 4:**

5. Project dates, and budget summary

Start date: Apr 2016		**End date:** Mar 2019		**Duration:** 3 years
Darwin request	**2016/17** **£112,609**	**2017/18** **£77,913**	**2018/19** **£44,372**	**Total request** **£235,894**
Proposed (confirmed & unconfirmed) matched funding as % of total Project cost				23%
Are you applying for DFID or Defra funding? (Note you **cannot** apply for both)			Defra	

6. Partners in project. Please provide details of the partners in this project and provide a CV for the individuals listed. You may copy and paste this table if necessary.

Details	Project Leader	Project Partner 1	Project Partner 2
Surname	Moore	Birkinshaw	Stuart
Forename (s)	Maya	Chris	Cable

Post held	Programme Director	Technical Advisor	Head of Madagascar Program
Organisation (if different to above)	Madagascar Fauna and Flora Group (MFG)	Missouri Botanical Garden	Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew
Department	n/a	Africa and Madagascar	Conservation Science Directorate
Telephone			
Email			

7. Has your organisation been awarded a Darwin Initiative award before (for the purposes of this question, being a partner does not count)**? If so, please provide details of the most recent awards (up to 6 examples).**

Reference No	Project Leader	Title

8a. If you answered 'NO' to Question 7 please complete Question 8a, b and c.
If you answered 'YES', please go to Question 9 (and delete the boxes for Q8a, 8b and 8c)

What year was your organisation established/ incorporated/ registered?	**1988**
What is the legal status of your organisation?	NGO Yes Government No University No Other (explain)
How is your organisation currently funded?	(Max 100 words) Funded through dues paying membership by international zoos and botanical gardens across 5 continents. Membership entails 3 categories: Managing Member, Sponsoring Member and Contributing Member giving dues of $10,000, $5000 and $2,500 respectively. Income supplemented by grants and donations.
Have you provided the requested signed audited/independently examined accounts?	Yes

8b. DO NOT COMPLETE IF YOU ANSWERED 'YES' TO QUESTION 7.

Provide detail of 3 contracts/awards held by your organisation that demonstrate your credibility as an organisation and provide track record relevant to the project proposed. These contracts/awards should have been held in the last 5 years and be of a similar size to the grant requested in your Darwin application.

1. Title	WildCare Institute – Saint Louis Zoo
Value	$90,000 / year

Duration	On-going
Role of organisation in project	Lead
Brief summary of the aims, objectives and outcomes of the contract/award.	WildCare funds MFG's research program, biomedical research as well as contributes to capacity building
Client/**independent** reference contact details (Name, e-mail, address, phone number).	Eric Miller Saint Louis Zoo 1 Govt. Drive Saint Louis,MO 63110-1332

2. Title	Planet Foundation
Value	$25,000 / year
Duration	On-going
Role of organisation in project	Lead
Brief summary of the aims, objectives and outcomes of the contract/award.	Funding covers MFG's capacity building program.
Client/**independent** reference contact details	Dr. Alex Rübel Direktor Zoo Zürich Zürichbergstrasse 221 CH-8044 Zürich Switzerland

3 Title	Guhl Foundation
Value	$18,000 / year
Duration	Ongoing
Role of organisation in project	Lead
Brief summary of the aims, objectives and outcomes of the contract/award.	Funding covers MFG's environmental education program.
Client/**independent** reference contact details	Dr. Irene C. Eggmann Rechtsanwältin Eggmann Stojan Rohrer & Partner Bellerivestrasse 5 8008 Zürich

8c. DO NOT COMPLETE IF YOU ANSWERED 'YES' TO QUESTION 7.

Describe briefly the aims, activities and achievements of your organisation. (Large organisations please note that this should describe your unit or department)

Aims (50 words) MFG aims to conserve biodiversity in eastern Madagascar through its four pillars of action: conservation, environmental education, capacity building and research. MFG aims to work in close collaboration with local stakeholders to promote the adoption of sustainable environmental practices and further local development.

Activities (50 words) MFG promotes, trains in and implements sustainable farming techniques, forest restoration, improved teaching skills, ex-situ conservation of rare plants and animals, protects Betampona Reserve, co-ordinates applied conservation management research, tackles invasive species, promotes family planning and runs an eco-tourist destination.
Achievements (50 words) >337 hectares of forest replanted, Madagascar National Parks' official research partner for Betampona and invited to manage it long term, participates in world breeding programmes for two critically endangered lemur species, ex-situ conservation of 40 plant species, nominated to lead invasive toad eradication effort, model for Saturday School used by UNICEF.

9. Please list all the partners involved (including the Lead Institution) 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 partners to be involved in the project. Please provide written evidence of partnerships. Please copy/delete boxes for more or fewer partnerships.

Lead institution and website:	**Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to lead the project): (max 200 words)**
Madagascar Fauna and Flora Group www. madagascarfaunaflora.org	MFG has contributed to the conception and development of this project with partner organisations; undertakes to direct the project alongside Missouri Botanical Garden; manage the horticultural team and organise logistics needed for accessioning of recalcitrant seed, seed propagation, seedling plantation and labelling; carry out monitoring, evaluation and reporting of the project with MBG; take primary responsibility of managing resources for the project. MFG has over 25 years' experience working on the East coast of Madagascar, has a strong infrastructure framework in place, including an office headquarters, vehicles, training centre and a staff of 51 full time employees. MFG has a long history of collaboration with MBG and RBG Kew and has undertaken several successful ex-situ plant conservation projects with these partners. Parc Ivoloina is under a 100 year lease to MFG and is an ideal site for keeping protected ex-situ populations of these endangered species within their native range; has the required space for the further nurseries and ex-situ planting sites needed to implement the project; and benefits from 20,000 visitors a year, allowing the potential to promote the proposed project and use it as an environmental education and awareness-raising opportunity. MFG staff includes trained and experienced nursery workers.
Have you included a Letter of Support from this institution?	Yes

Partner Name and website where available:	Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): (max 200 words)
Missouri Botanical Garden (MBG), Madagascar Research and Conservation Program (http://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/)	MBG is the oldest continually operating botanical garden in the United States and is a world leader in plant taxonomy and conservation boasting one of the largest concentrations of plant taxonomists anywhere, one of the world's largest herbaria, and the most widely consulted botanical database, TROPICOS (http://www.tropicos.org). The organizations largest overseas program, built over three decades is in Madagascar, where the organization has an annual operating budget of $1 Million, several offices, and 130 members of staff – all but one of which are Malagasy. Historically, MBG's Madagascar Program has focused on taxonomic research, botanical exploration, and in-country capacity building including training. More recently the organisation has also developed a Conservation Unit that has focused on the identification of priority areas for plant conservation and the designation and management of some of these sites as reserves. This Unit has also worked with MFG to support ex-situ plant conservation. MBG's main role in this project will be to train field botanists and then coach them to collect vouchered seed samples from the flora of unprotected forest fragments. MBG will also partner with MFG in project direction, coordination and monitoring, and MBG's horticulturalists will also contribute to the training of Malagasy nurserymen/women
Have you included a Letter of Support from this institution?	Yes

Partner Name and website where available:	Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): (max 200 words)
Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew www.kew.org teamkmcc.wordpress.com www.teamkmcc.org twitter.com/Team KMCC	Kew was founded in 1759 and operates two sites: Kew Gardens in London and Wakehurst Place in Sussex, home of the Millennium Seed Bank (MSB). Our aim is to use science and our rich collections to provide knowledge, inspiration and understanding of why plants matter to people. Kew is a non-departmental public body with exempt charitable status under the UK National Heritage Act 1983, The Kew Madagascar Conservation Centre (KMCC) is Kew's local office operating under an *Accord de Siège* with the Government of Madagascar. We employ 12 Malagasy botanists, 4 support staff and 2 PhD students. KMCC has a strong focus on conservation, establishing the Itremo Massif Protected Area in 2015 and coordinating the national MSB Partnership to bank the seeds of 25% of the Malagasy flora by 2020. KMCC will coordinate seed banking efforts and provide the necessary training and support for the project. We will contribute plants and seeds from collecting trips within the region, as well as information on phenology and identification of groups where we have expertise, such as the coffee family, Rubiaceae. Seed collections will be duplicated in Madagascar with the *Silo National des Graines Forestières* (SNGF) and in the UK at the MSB.
Have you included a Letter of Support from this institution?	Yes

10. Key Project personnel

Please identify the key project personnel on this project, their role and what % of their

time they will be working on the project. Please provide 1 page CVs for these staff, or a 1 page job description or Terms of Reference for roles yet to be filled. Please include more rows where necessary.

Name (First name, surname)	Role	Organisation	% time on project	1 page CV or job description attached?
Maya Moore	Project Leader	Madagascar Fauna and Flora Group	17%	Yes
Post to be filled	Manager Horticulture	Madagascar Fauna and Flora Group	100%	Yes
Chris Birkinshaw	Director of field botany	Missouri Botanical Garden	13%	Yes
Richard Randrianaivo	Manager of field botany	Missouri Botanical Garden	68%	Yes

11. Problem the project is trying to address

Please describe the problem your project is trying to address in terms of biodiversity and (essential for DFID projects) its relationship with poverty. For example, what are the drivers of loss of biodiversity that the project will attempt to address? Why are they relevant, for whom? How did you identify these problems?

If your project is working on an area of biodiversity or biodiversity-development linkages that has had limited attention (both in the Darwin Initiative portfolio and in conservation in general) please give details.

(Max 300 words)

The Malagasy flora is both exceptionally rich (14,000 species) and also highly endemic (90%)[1]. However it is also very threatened by anthropogenic activities (e.g. shifting cultivation, wild fires, charcoal production etc.). Between 1950 and 2000 40% of remaining forest was destroyed[2] and forest loss continues today at a similar pace. Most forest outside of protected areas will be lost in the next decade. An estimated14% the flora is not included in any protected area and many of these excluded species occur as tiny populations in small, degraded fragments of natural vegetation where they are exceptionally vulnerable. Ideally, these habitats should be conserved but this rarely occurs because of their small size and degraded nature. Thus, the most viable alternative to extinction for these species will be ex-situ conservation, either as growing plants in secure collections or as seeds in seed banks. Yet investment in ex-situ plant conservation in Madagascar is inadequate. In the last decade RBG-Kew succeeded in conserving ca. 28% of the Malagasy flora in the Millennium Seed Bank (MSB) but recently this work has much diminished. Also many Malagasy plant species have seeds unsuitable for seed-bank conservation and their ex-situ conservation requires cultivation as growing plants. The only examples of this approach in Madagascar are two modest projects implemented in the last decade by MBG and RBG-Kew at Parc Ivoloina. The ex-situ conservation of the Malagasy flora needs to be reanimated if we are to avoid the imminent loss of a significant proportion of the Malagasy flora.

12. Biodiversity Conventions, Treaties and Agreements

Which of the conventions supported by the Darwin Initiative will your project support? Note: projects supporting more than one convention will not achieve a higher scoring

Convention On Biological Diversity (CBD)	Yes
Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS)	No
International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA)	No

[1] Callmander M. W. *et al*. 2011. Plant Ecology and Evolution, 144(2): 121-125.

[2] Harper G.J. *et al.* (2007). Environmental Conservation 34 (4): 1-9.

Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)	No

12b. Biodiversity Conventions

Please detail how your project will contribute to the objectives of the convention(s), treaties and agreements your project is targeting. You may wish to refer to Articles or Programmes of Work here. Note: No additional significance will be ascribed for projects that report contributions to more than one convention

(Max 200 words)

This proposal clearly responds to one of the three main goals of the CBD i.e. the conservation of biological diversity. Of particular relevance is Target 8 Global Plant Conservation Strategy that is linked to the Convention after it was adopted by the Conference of Parties in 2002. This 16-point plan aims to slow the rate of plant extinctions around the world by 2020. Target 8 of this Strategy states *at least 75 per cent of threatened plant species in ex situ collections, preferably in the country of origin, and at least 20 per cent available for recovery and restoration programmes.*

The main mechanism whereby the goals of the CBD are achieved is through the development and the implementation of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs). MBG and RBG-Kew were both involved in developing Madagascar's next NBSAP (to 2025). This document will be released shortly and includes as Action 12.1 "*Mettre en œuvre des programmes in- situ et ex-situ de conservation et de rétablissement des populations d'espèces cibles concernées*."

12c. Is any liaison proposed with the CBD/ABS/ITPGRFA/CITES focal point in the host country?

Yes **if yes, please give details:** Personnel from MBG and RBG-Kew's Madagascar programs are part of the group that develops Madagascar's NBSAP and then monitors its implementation.

13. Methodology

Describe the methods and approach you will use to achieve your intended outcomes and impact. Provide information on how you will undertake the work (materials and methods) and how you will manage the work (roles and responsibilities, project management tools etc.). (Max 500 words – this may be a repeat from Stage 1, but you may update or refine as necessary. Tracked changes are **not** required.)

Training and capacity building provided to enable four young Malagasy men and women to organise field trips, conduct botanical inventories, and collect high quality seed samples for ex-situ conservation

This 12-month training course, hosted at Parc Ivoloina, will be organised by the Field Botany Manager and delivered by experienced field botanists from MBG's and RBG-Kew's Madagascar programs. The trainees will mainly be graduates of ISSEDD[3] and will be selected on the basis of their motivation, ability to work as part of a team, interest in plants, and love of fieldwork. The course will consist of initial 3-months of classroom sessions and then nine months of fieldwork as apprentices of experienced botanists.

Training and capacity building provided to enable six young Malagasy men and women the skills necessary to propagate and nurture native Malagasy plants

This 3-month training course, also hosted at Parc Ivoloina, will be organised and led by the Manager of Conservation Horticulture and will consist of themed modules provided by Malagasy and foreign horticulturalists. At the conclusion of the training the Manager will continue to coach the nurserymen/women for the remainder of the project and will organise on-the-job training for 2 days per month. In Madagascar horticulture is seen as a low-skilled occupation - we will break this paradigm by developing a skilled, knowledgeable and well-compensated staff.

Vouchered and genetically diverse seed samples collected for at least 500 endemic Malagasy species from remaining native forest fragments within Ivoloina River Valley

The target area for this project, the Ivoloina and Ifontsy River Valleys that are close to Parc Ivoloina, were once covered in exceptionally diverse evergreen forest of which little now remains but the modest-sized Betampona Reserve and a few relict and highly threatened forest fragments. The field botanists, divided into two teams, and equipped with camping and collecting materials, will visit all remaining forest fragments in the target area at least twice (at different times of the year to maximise encounters with different fruiting trees). Fertile trees will be vouchered with a herbarium specimen and genetically diverse and high quality samples of seeds collected using RBG-Kew's seed collection protocols[4]. In YR1 each team will be led by an experienced botanist from MBG or RBG-Kew, but in YR2 they will work independently under the direction of the Field Botany Manager. The voucher herbarium specimens will be identified by experts.

At least 500 vouchered, genetically-diverse, endemic Malagasy flowering plant species conserved ex-situ

Seeds from species thought to be suitable for preservation in seed banks will be divided in half with one part stored in the national seed bank managed by SNGF[5] and the other exported to the MSB. Seeds from taxa considered unsuitable for seed-bank conservation will be sent to Parc Ivoloina where they will be propagated by the team of nurserymen/women. Several young plants of each species will be planted with permanent labels into Parc Ivoloina. The origin, history and planting location of each plant will be recorded and tracked using MBG's Living Plant Monitoring System.

14. Change Expected

[3] Institut Supérieur du Science Environnement et du Développement Durable, Université Toamasina (http://issedd-univ.mg/issedd/)

[4] Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, Wakehust Place (2001) A field manual for seed collectors. http://www.kew.org/sites/default/files/English_kppcont_035653_A%20field%20manual%20for%20seed%20collectors.pdf

[5] Silo National des Graines Forestières, Madagascar (http://sngf-madagascar.mg/wp2/)

Detail the expected changes this work will deliver. You should identify what will change and who will benefit a) in the short-term and b) in the long-term.

- If you are applying for Defra funding this should specifically focus on the changes expected for biodiversity conservation and its sustainable use.
- If you are applying for DFID funding you should in addition refer to how the project will contribute to reducing poverty. Q15 provides more space for elaboration on this.

(Max 300 words)

In Eastern Madagascar, the next decade will see the destruction of all fragments of native forest that are not adequately conserved in protected areas. These forest vestiges are the last habitat for many genetically distinct sub-populations of plants including some species not known within any protected area. Being small and degraded, these fragments are not on the radar of any conservation organisations, yet their disappearance will result in the loss of significant botanical diversity including the extinction of some species. In the short term the proposed project will create a cadre of Malagasy field botanists and specialised nurserymen/women and then support them in the ex-situ conservation of the distinct and currently doomed botanical diversity of the Ivoloina and Ifontsy River Valleys. Specifically, at the end of the project, we aim to have achieved the ex-situ conservation of 500 endemic plant species originating from these doomed forests. These will certainly include hundreds of threatened species (because an estimated two thirds of the Malagasy flora is threatened) including perhaps critically endangered species such as *Pentachlaena betamponensis* (now known from just eight trees) and *Beguea betamponensis* (collected from this area just once over 60 years ago and not seen anywhere since). By creating Malagasy competence for this type of work and by demonstrating that ex-situ conservation is a pragmatic and cost-effective alternative to plant extinction, we will inspire and enable similar such initiatives elsewhere. A highly visible, model, ex-situ conservation project, as proposed here, is needed because currently conservationists in Madagascar are focused predominantly on in-situ conservation having adopted the Malagasy government's ambitious initiative to triple the area of Madagascar managed for conservation. Consequently the important role of ex-situ conservation in conserving Madagascar's biodiversity has been forgotten by most. The beneficiaries of this project will be all those who value the Malagasy flora.

15. Pathway to poverty alleviation – ESSENTIAL FOR DFID PROJECTS, OPTIONAL FOR DEFRA PROJECTS

Please describe how your project will benefit poor people living in low-income countries. Give details of who will benefit and the number of beneficiaries expected to be impacted by your project. The number of communities is insufficient detail – number of households should be the largest unit used. If possible, indicate the number of women who will be impacted.

(Max 300 words)

This project has been conceived to maximise the participation of the people of Madagascar and in total 29 Malagasy will receive compensation for their contributions to project implementation (7 senior staff, 4 field botanists, 6 nurserymen/women, 12 local guides). Of these, 10 (the field botanists and nurserymen/women) will develop marketable skills as a result of the project on which they can base viable careers. The creation of skilled nurserymen/women is particularly significant with respect to poverty alleviation because the country urgently needs such people if natural capital is to be restored to Madagascar's vast areas of degraded and minimally productive land. It is conceivable that among the species conserved by this project will be those of economic significance that could contribute to future development of the country including, for example, species of rosewood and ebony that could potentially be grown in commercial plantations.

16. Exit strategy

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 transformation of this project's outcome into a legacy requires that a) the seed-banks in which the seeds samples are conserved continue to be maintained and b) the Parc Ivoloina continues to be managed for the aims of biodiversity conservation and environmental education. These assumptions are reasonable so long as the RBG-Kew and the MFG continue to operate because it is inconceivable that these core activities cease while the organisations exist. The legacy of the plants growing in Parc Ivoloina is somewhat less secure than the seed samples in the MSB, because as living plants they will require some on-going nurturing (i.e. weeding). To minimise this requirement all the species planted at the Parc Ivoloina will be perennials and the young plants will be well established prior to the conclusion of the project. The three partner organisations are committed to replicating this project with a focus on other parts of Eastern Madagascar. This future work is relatively resistant to staff departures because of a large project team composed of four field botanists and six nurserymen/women.

17a. Harmonisation

Is this a new initiative or a development of existing work (funded through any source)? Please give details (Max 200 words)

During the past decade the only significant ex-situ plant conservation project in Madagascar is the work of the Millennium Seed Bank that now includes seed samples from 2200 Malagasy species. However, recently, the work of the MSB in Madagascar has much diminished due to funding constraints. Given that the next decade will see the loss of most remaining unprotected forest fragments this slow-down needs to be reversed. Concerning the ex-situ conservation of the Malagasy flora as growing plants, in the past both MBG and RBG-Kew have worked with MFG to enable 40 species of threatened plants to be grown within the Parc Ivoloina, however, while these plants are still monitored and nurtured, there is currently no support to enable new accessions to this collection. Thus this project can be seen as an up-scaling of past activities of proven success by partners who already enjoy a trusting relationship.

17b. Are you aware of any other individuals/organisations/projects carrying out or applying for funding for similar work? YES

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

There are several botanic gardens in Madagascar, but most are aimed at amenity and education. This project will aim to promote the idea of ex-situ conservation collections and develop technical cooperation. However, the other gardens cover different biomes to Parc Ivoloina and duplicating collections may not be successful for the local flora which is humid and lowland. Parc Tsimbazaza is highland, Ranomafana Arboretum is mid-elevation humid and Antsokay Arboretum is dry to sub-arid. . RBG Kew is committed to funding a continuation of the MSB programme in Madagascar to 2020 and beyond to enable SNGF to maintain a conservation seed bank and to undertake six collecting trips per year. Additional funding is also being sought from the UK Postcode Lottery to fund seed collecting by 100 communities associated with protected areas. RBG Kew has also applied for a small grant from the Mohammed bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund that will enable endangered palm species to be conserved at the Ranomafana Arboretum in Central-East Madagascar. Missouri Botanical Garden has recently received $12,000 to enable the collection and propagation of seeds of ebony species that will be planted in field gene-banks (a type of mini-botanic garden located in a secure wild location) associated with six new protected areas. The activities proposed in this application are additional to the work described because the collections are specifically focused on a part of Madagascar that has not been included in past MSB collection activities and is not the focus of pending funding applications. Also the current proposal focus, on unprotected and highly threatened forest fragments, makes it unique.

18. Ethics

Outline your approach to meeting the Darwin Initiative's key principles for research ethics as

outlined in the guidance notes.

(Max 300 words)

The work of all Project staff will be framed by MFG's Health and Safety policy, and all Malagasy trainees/staff will be subscribed into the Malagasy Government's health insurance and retirement schemes.

Before beginning their work, our field botanists will explain their proposed activities to the local community and obtain their consent to work within their territory. This is important because some forest fragments may serve as cemeteries. Refusal of access will be accepted.

Both MBG and Kew operates in Madagascar under an *Accord de Siege* with the Government of Madagascar and Access and Benefit Sharing Agreements and Memoranda of Collaboration with key partners such as SNGF (for Kew). The export of voucher herbarium specimens for specialist identification will be done with a research permit issued under these agreements - always ensuring that a replicate specimen is donated to Madagascar's national herbarium.

Under Kew's seed banking agreements, seeds stored at the MSB remain the property of the country of origin. Kew has had a Policy on Access to Genetic Resources and Benefit Sharing since 2001 (www.kew.org/conservation/index.html). Kew's overseas fieldwork is vetted by an Overseas Fieldwork Committee that ensures that staff are aware of and fulfil requirements of CITES and the CBD, including all national and local legislation on collecting and exporting genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge.

The results of the project will be shared with the local community by inviting representatives from each community where we worked as well as representatives of the local government to an open day at Parc Ivoloina at end of the project. The results of the project will be shared with to the national government and Madagascar's scientific and conservation community by means of a summary report, a dedicated webpage and articles published in the well-respected journal *Madagascar Conservation and Development*.

19. Raising awareness of the potential worth of biodiversity

If your project contains an element of communications, knowledge sharing and/or dissemination please provide a description of your intended audience, how you intend to engage them, what the expected products/materials there will be and what you expect to achieve as a result. For example, are you expecting to directly influence policy in your host country or is your project a community advocacy project to support better management of biodiversity?

(Max 300 words)

Parc Ivoloina hosts one of the largest and most respected environmental education programs anywhere in Madagascar that in 2015 provoked over 300 Malagasy students to consider why biodiversity and natural ecosystems are important, how they are being diminished and what they can do to protect their natural heritage. The native plants introduced to the Park by this work will be exploited for environmental education. Specifically, at a convenient location in the Park, a selection of the most interesting species, each with a story to tell, will be planted, attractively labelled, interpretive displays installed and used to inform students who come to the Park in scheduled school/university group visits. Parc Ivoloina is an eco-tourist destination, (20,000 visitors/year), who will also benefit from these displays. Tours of the nursery and ex-situ planting areas will become part of the program offered by Park guides.

MFG hosts a Saturday School Programme, which caters for around 300 primary school children at 4 sites and environmental camps for around 60 secondary school children each year. Children from these initiatives will be brought to Parc Ivoloina during the course of the project to learn about the project's goals and the need for urgent conservation action of this nature.

MFG airs regular radio shows, broadcast to people in the Toamasina area on subjects concerning the environment and this project will be included in the topics covered. Updates will also be given on MFG's website, newsletters, Twitter and Facebook accounts.

Representatives from the communities who live close to the forest fragments from which seeds were collected will be invited to an open day at the end of the project.

Nationally and internationally, the results of the project will be shared through reports, a dedicated webpages (all three partners have dedicated websites) and articles published in peer-reviewed journals.

20. Capacity building

If your project will support capacity building at institutional or individual levels, please provide details of what form this will take and how this capacity will be secured for the future.

(Max 300 words)

A major part of this project is capacity building: both human capacity building and building capacity at Parc Ivoloina to propagate, nurture, accession and track native plants as part of a model ex-situ conservation project.

Concerning human capacity building, the project will train ten young Malagasy as either expert field botanists or expert nurserymen/women. In both cases we will invest significantly to ensure that the graduates of this training are the best of their type in Madagascar and ready either to serve on-going ex-situ conservation work at Parc Ivoloina or to serve similar endeavours elsewhere in the country.

Currently Parc Ivoloina is equipped with a simple tree nursery in which native and exotic trees are propagated in polyethylene pots filled with locally made compost, arranged in bands in beds and protected from bright sun by bamboo shade structures. Although simple, this nursery is relatively effective and most seeds entering the nursery are successfully germinated and grown-on. Therefore, while this nursery will need to be much expanded, we propose to largely maintain its current pragmatic and low technology approach that is most resilient to a future in which resources will be unpredictable. However, certain improvements will be trialled including, for example, raising the nursery beds to make work more comfortable, the provision of a solar-powered misting unit, and the introduction of drip watering devices.

In addition to the improvements made in Parc Ivoloina's nursery, the current system of accessioning plant material entering the Parc and then tracking its progress will be transformed by fully adopting the MBG's Living Plant Monitoring System software. Data from previous accessions will also be captured in this system.

21. Access to project information

Please describe the project's open access plan and detail any specific costs you are seeking from Darwin to fund this.

(Max 250 words)

Two types of raw data will be generated by this project: a) information associated with the herbarium specimens made to voucher each of the seed samples collected for ex-situ conservation and b) information collected to describe the accession and history of the seed samples in the seed banks or within the living plant collection at Parc Ivoloina. The information associated with the herbarium specimens (e.g. identity, collection date, collection location, description, digital images etc) will be made available on the MBG's free on-line database TROPICOS (www.tropicos.org) on a dedicated "project" page. Full data describing the accession and history of seed samples in seed banks and within the living plant collection at Parc Ivoloina will be made available on a specially designed webpage of the MFG website (www.madagascarfaunaflora.org). This webpage will also describe the project more generally and provide summary updates of progress throughout the course of the project and beyond. All information collected will be uploaded to the MFG relational database. Access is open to all on request, free of charge.

Summary reports of the project will be published in the journals: Madagascar Conservation and Development and the BGJournal. Both these journals are freely available online and while the former is widely read by conservationists in Madagascar, the latter serves a global audience with an interest in the role of botanical gardens in plant conservation. A summary report will also be submitted to the Malagasy government detailing all collected vouchers and accessioned specimens.

22. Match funding (co-finance)

a) Secured

Provide details of all funding successfully levered (and identified in the Budget) towards the costs of the project, including any income from other public bodies, private sponsorship, donations, trusts, fees or trading activity.

Confirmed:

Millennium Seed Bank UK costs: £XXX

Provision of aluminium tags individually engraved with accession codes for trees planted in Parc Ivoloina: £XXX

Organising visits of Saturday School children to project, coverage on radio-shows, MFG newsletters, website, Twitter and Facebook accounts: £XXX

22b) Unsecured

Provide details of any matched funding where an application has been submitted, or that you intend applying for during the course of the project. This could include matched funding from the private sector, charitable organisations or other public sector schemes.

Date applied for	Donor organisation	Amount	Comments
December 2015	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE U.S. EMBASSY ANTANANARIVO PUBLIC AFFAIRS SECTION SMALL GRANTS PROGRAM	£7,713	To enable American horticulturalists to share their knowledge with their Malagasy homologues through training workshops in Madagascar

22c) None

If you are not intending to seek matched funding for this project, please explain why.

(max 100 words)

PROJECT MONITORING AND EVALUATION

MEASURING IMPACT

23. LOGICAL FRAMEWORK

Darwin projects will be required to report against their progress towards their expected outputs and outcomes if funded. This section sets out the expected outputs and outcomes of your project, how you expect to measure progress against these and how we can verify this.

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
Impact: Loss of Malagasy plant diversity avoided through ex-situ conservation (Max 30 words)			
Outcome: Newly-trained Malagasy field botanists and nurserymen/women conserve the genetic diversity of threatened sub-populations of 500 endemic Malagasy flowering plant species as growing plants or in seed banks (Max 30 words)	0.1 Number of Malagasy plant species preserved using ex-situ conservation measures increases from baseline of ca. 2100 species (the number of species actually conserved ex-situ in the MSB and Parc Ivoloina) to ca. 2600 species 0.2 Ten newly-trained Malagasy field botanists and nurserymen/women intervene effectively to reduce the risk of extinction of their flora through ex-situ conservation	0.1 Report (based on compilation of data from accession databases) listing species covered for the first time by ex-situ conservation measures as a result of this project 0.2 End of project independent evaluation of the strengths and weaknesses of the newly trained field botanists and nurserymen/women	- Most Malagasy plants can be either conserved long term in seed-banks or have seeds that can be germinated and grown thereby allowing conserved as growing plants - Young Malagasy are motivated to invest their career in the conservation of the Malagasy flora
Outputs: **1**. *Training and capacity building provided to enable four young Malagasy men/women to organise field trips, conduct botanical inventories, and collect high quality seed samples for ex-situ conservation*	1.1 By end Year 1, four field botanists are able and independently capable of making vouchered, genetically diverse, and high quality seed samples of endemic Malagasy plants 1.2 The field botanists selected for training have an equitable distribution of genders	1.1 Evaluation report elaborated by Manager of Field Botany of competence of each trainee and self-evaluation of competence by each trainee 1.2. Report on gender distribution of trainees	- Candidates for training are available who have the physical attributes and character to cope with the sometimes harsh conditions of fieldwork in Madagascar
2. *Training and capacity building provided to enable six young Malagasy men/women the skills necessary to propagate and nurture native Malagasy plants*	2.1 By end of 3-month formal training six nurserymen/women are independently capable of propagating seeds of most endemic Malagasy plants and then nurturing resultant seedlings with <30% mortality and by end Year 1 six nurserymen/women are independently capable of propagating seeds of all endemic Malagasy plants and then	2.1 Evaluation report elaborated by Manager of Conservation Horticulture of competence of each trainee and self-evaluation of competence by each trainee 2.2. Report on gender distribution of trainees	- Candidates for training are available who have the physical attributes and empathy for plant life required by excellent horticulturalists.

	nurturing resultant seedlings with < 10% mortality 2.2 The nurserymen/women selected for training have an equitable distribution of genders		
3. *Vouchered and genetically diverse seed samples collected for at least 500 endemic Malagasy species from remaining native forest fragments within Ivoloina-Ifontsy River Valleys*	3.1 By end Year 1 and end Year 2 genetically diverse seed samples are collected from a total of 200 and 500 vouchered, endemic plant species respectively and collection information data-based	3.1 Download of collection information (voucher herbarium specimens) from TROPICOS database	-Specialist identification of voucher specimens can be obtained during the project's duration
4. *At least 500 vouchered, genetically-diverse, endemic Malagasy flowering plant species conserved ex-situ*	4.1. During each monitoring period seed sample germination, seedling survival, and survival of young plants at Parc Ivoloina all >80% 4.2. By end Year 2 and Year 3 respectively, 200 and 500 genetically distinct sub-populations of endemic Malagasy flowering plant species growing in final planting locations at Parc Ivoloina or included in the MSB and its national partner seed bank at SNGF	4.1. Download from Living Plant Monitoring System database from Parc Ivoloina 4.2. Download from Living Plant Monitoring System database from Parc Ivoloina and Accessions Register from the MSB and SNGF	-Nursery teams able to retain high standards at times when the field teams collect large numbers of samples (phenological periodicity of work)

Activities (each activity is numbered according to the output that it will contribute towards, for example 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 are contributing to Output 1)

1.1. Project Leader, Director of Field Botany and Field Botany Manager select four trainees (most former graduates of ISSEDD)

1.2. The Project Leader obtains the required seed collection permits

1.3 Director of Field Botany and Field Botany Manager organises 12-month training course (3-month formal training and 9 months coaching with experienced field botanists)

2.1. Project Leader and Manager of Conservation Horticulture select six trainees

2,2, Manager of Conservation Horticulture expands and improves the nursery at Parc Ivoloina

2.3. Project Leader and Manager of Conservation Horticulture conceives and implements 3-month formal training course and then the Manager of Conservation Horticulture coaches the trainees for the remainder of the project

3.1. Two teams of field botanists organise expeditions to unprotected forest fragments in the Ivoloina-Ifontsy valleys and there collect vouchered seed samples of Malagasy plants

3.2. Seed samples of species considered orthodox sent to the SNGF Seed Bank and the Millennium Seed Bank

3.3. Seed samples of species considered recalcitrant sent to Parc Ivoloina for propagation

3.4. Voucher herbarium specimens processed so that replicates are both deposited at Madagascar's national herbarium and exported to international herbaria for expert identification

3.5. Data from voucher herbarium specimens data-based

4.1. Manager of Conservation Horticulture at Parc Ivoloina enters collection information for each seed accession into Living Plant Monitoring System and then updates history of each accession within the System throughout project and beyond

4.2. Head of accessions at the SNGF seed bank and the Millennium Seed-bank enters collection information into their respective accessions systems

4.3. Manager of Conservation Horticulture at Parc Ivoloina and six nurserymen/women propagate seeds and nurture seedlings, and label all accessions with unique codes linked to LPMS

4.4. Manager of Conservation Horticulture identifies appropriate planting locations for the seedlings within Park Ivoloina and directs planting out and labelling

4.5. Newly planted plants weeded until fully established

4.6. Creation of educational display (panels and labelling) at Parc Ivoloina of some of the interesting plants included in the project

4.7. Sharing results with local stakeholders through an open day at Parc Ivoloina for representatives of the communities where we worked

4.8. Organising visits of all Saturday school children to visit the project, coverage on radio show, MFG newsletters, website, Twitter and Facebook accounts

4.9. Publishing results in peer-reviewed journal

24. 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 (Q1 starting April 2016)

	Activity	No of months	Year 1				Year 2				Year 3			
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Output 1	*Training and capacity building provided to enable six young Malagasy men/women to organise field trips, conduct botanical inventories, and collect high quality seed samples for ex-situ conservation*	12	X	X	X	X								
1.1	Project Leader, Director of Field Botany and Field Botany Manager select four trainees (most former graduates of ISSEDD)	1	X											
1.2	The Project Leader and Director of Field Botany obtain the required seed collection permits	2	X											
1.3	Director of Field Botany and Field Botany Manager organises 12-month training course (3-month formal training and 9 months coaching with experienced field botanists)	12	X	X	X	X								
Output 2	*Training and capacity building provided to enable six young Malagasy men/women the skills necessary to propagate and nurture native Malagasy plants*	3	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
2.1	Project Leader and Manager of Conservation Horticulture select six trainees	1	X											
2.2	Manager of Conservation Horticulture expands and improves the nursery at Parc Ivoloina	3	X											
2.3	Project Leader and Manager of Conservation Horticulture organise 3-month formal training course and then the Manager of Conservation Horticulture coaches the trainees for the remainder of the project	3	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Output 3	*Vouchered and genetically diverse seed samples collected for at least 500 endemic Malagasy species from remaining native forest fragments within Ivoloina-Ifontsy River Valley*	21		X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
3.1	Two teams of field botanists organise expeditions to unprotected forest fragments in the Ivoloina-Ifontsy valleys and there collect vouchered seed samples of Malagasy plants	21		X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
3.2	Seed samples of species considered orthodox sent to the SNGF Seed Bank and the Millennium Seed Bank	21		X	X	X	X	X	X	X				

3.3	Seed samples of species considered recalcitrant sent to Parc Ivoloina for propagation	21		X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
3.4	Voucher herbarium specimens processed so that replicates are both deposited at Madagascar's national herbarium and exported to international herbaria for expert identification	21		X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
3.5	Collection information from voucher herbarium specimens data-based	21		X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
Output 4	*At least 500 vouchered, genetically-diverse, endemic Malagasy flowering plant species conserved ex-situ*	33		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
4.1	Manager of Conservation Horticulture at Parc Ivoloina enters collection information for each seed accession into Living Plant Monitoring System and then updates history of each accession within the System throughout project and beyond	33		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
4.2	Accessions Manager at the SNGF seed bank and the Millennium Seed-bank enters collection information into their respective accessions systems	33		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
4.3	Manager of Conservation Horticulture at Parc Ivoloina and six nurserymen/women propagate seeds and nurture seedlings, and label all accessions with unique codes linked to LPMS	27		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
4.4	Manager of Conservation Horticulture identifies appropriate planting locations for the seedlings within Park Ivoloina and directs planting out and labelling	15						X	X	X	X	X		
4.5	Newly planted plants weeded until fully established	21						X	X	X	X	X	X	X
4.6.	Creation of educational display (labelling) at Parc Ivoloina of some of the interesting plants included in the project	2											X	
4.7.	Sharing results with local stakeholders through an open day at Parc Ivolina for representatives of the communities where we worked	1												X
4.8.	Organising visits of all "Saturday School" children to visit the project, coverage on radio show, MFG newsletters, website, Twitter and Facebook accounts	36	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
4.9.	Publishing results in peer-reviewed journal	3												X

25. Project based monitoring and evaluation (M&E)

Describe, referring to the Indicators above, how the progress of the project will be monitored and evaluated, making reference to who is responsible for the project's M&E. Darwin Initiative projects are expected to be adaptive and you should detail how the monitoring and evaluation will feed into the delivery of the project including its management. M&E is expected to be built into the project and not an 'add' on. It is as important to measure for negative impacts as it is for positive impact.

(Max 500 words)

Most indicators will be monitored every 3 months and reviewed in quarterly meetings by the entire project team (note: the fieldwork element of the program is concluded after 24 months). Where progress is considered inadequate then the Leader will animate team discussions to diagnose the reasons for under-performance and identify and then implement remedial actions. The indicators used to track results are:

Outcome 1. Developing competent field botanists

Indicator 1.1. The Director Field Botany (DFB) and Manager Field Botany (MFB) will elaborate a standardised test of fieldwork skills (e.g. plant identification, completion of field-book, use of collection equipment etc) and teamwork skills (evaluation by colleagues) that will used to evaluate the trainee field botanists every 3 months. Where available, feedback from outside agencies will be integrated into this report. With the same periodicity the trainee field botanists will also evaluate themselves

Indicator 1.2. The Leader will report on gender of candidates for training and those who were selected.

Outcome 2. Developing competent nurserymen/women

Indicator 2.1. The Manager Conservation Horticulture (MCH) will elaborate a standardised test of nursery skills (e.g. sowing seeds, making compost, pricking out seedlings, watering etc) and teamwork skills (evaluation by colleagues) that will be used to evaluate the nurserymen/women every 3 months. Where available, feedback from outside agencies will be integrated into this report. Every 3 months the nurserymen/women will evaluate themselves

Indicator 2.2. The Leader will report on gender of candidates for training and those who were selected.

Outcome 3, Collection of vouchered seed samples

Indicator 3.1. Every 3 months the MFB will request a download of total number of voucher herbarium specimens (that accompany each seed sample collection) entered into the TROPICOS database as a result of this project

Outcome 4. Ex-situ plant conservation

Indicator 4.1. Every 3 months the MCH will report on the % germination of seeds sown during the previous monitoring period, the % mortality of seedlings pricked out and, in the later stages of the project, the % mortality of young plants planted out in the Park.

Indicator 4.2. Every 3 months the MCH will request a download of the seed sample accessions received as a result of this project by the SNGF seed-bank, the Millennium Seed Bank, and by Parc Ivoloina based on the respective databases – this information will then be compiled and presented in terms of number of species, and the genetic diversity of each species (number of sub-populations and number of parent trees)

The monitoring will take ca. 20%, 20%, 10% and 30% respectively of the time of the Leader, Director of Field Botany, MFB and the MCH. The information in TROPICOS used for monitoring will be captured by MBG's data-capture person who will work for 6 months. Information concerning the seed accessions to Parc Ivoloina will be captured into the Living Collection Monitoring System directly by the MCH using a handheld device. The total budget for M & E presented below is based on these salary contributions and also the purchase of a hand-held device.

Total budget for M&E	£14,063
Percentage of total budget set aside for M&E	4.6%

FUNDING AND BUDGET

Please complete the separate Excel spreadsheet which provides the Budget for this application. Some of the questions earlier and below refer to the information in this spreadsheet. You should also ensure you have read the 'Finance for Darwin' document and considered the implications of payment points for cashflow purposes.

NB: The Darwin Initiative cannot agree any increase in grants once awarded.

26. Value for Money

Please explain how you worked out your budget and how you will provide value for money through managing a cost effective and efficient project. You should also discuss any significant assumptions you have made when working out your budget.

(max 300 words)

The budget was developed by Maya Moore and Chris Birkinshaw based on their decades of experience of real costs in Madagascar and their experience of conceiving and implementing cost-effective projects. Value for money will be provided as follows:

- The project is based on existing partnerships in which existing trust will facilitate communication and efficacy
- Use will be made of existing facilities and equipment at Parc Ivoloina including the office space, a tree nursery, a well maintained Park, a centre for training, and a vehicle
- Use will be made of existing seed banks
- Most of the salaries requested are for Malagasy staff
- The project will exploit existing databases and websites
- Some of the seed collection and processing costs will be borne by RBG-Kew
- Voucher specimens will be identified by expert taxonomists at no cost to the project
- Travel between towns in Madagascar will be done using public buses (no air flights are included in funding requested from the Darwin Initiative)
- Equipment and some materials will be purchased in the USA where it is much cheaper than in Madagascar (even taking into account shipping costs)
- A balance has been sought between reliance on simple "traditional" nursery infrastructure, based on locally-sourced materials, and the introduction of new technologies. Specifically, while a number of new technologies will be introduced, this will be done on a trial basis with a vision of that only high performance technologies available at reasonable cost might be developed further after the conclusion of this project.

27. Capital items

If you plan to purchase capital items with Darwin funding, please indicate what you anticipate will happen to the items following project end.

(max 150 words)

The major capital items required by this project include: nursery technology (e.g. missing units, drip watering systems, absorbent mats), computers, printer, digital cameras, equipment for collecting herbarium specimens and camping equipment. The three partners in this project are dedicated to ensuring that the ex-situ conservation work based at Parc Ivoloina continues after the conclusion of support from the Darwin Initiative and therefore we propose that these items will remain within the partnership and be used to facilitate future activities of this type.

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 your Foreign Ministry or the local embassy or High Commission (or equivalent) directly to discuss security issues (see Guidance Notes) and attach details of any advice you have received from them.

Yes (no written advice) ✓ **Yes, advice attached** **No**

CERTIFICATION

On behalf of the trustees of (*delete as appropriate) THE MADAGASCAR FAUNA AND FLORA GROUP

I apply for a grant of £235,894 in respect of **all expenditure** to be incurred during the lifetime of this project based on the activities and dates 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 applicant institution to submit applications and sign contracts on their behalf.)*

- I enclose CVs for key project personnel and letters of support.
- I enclose our most recent signed audited/independently verified accounts and annual reports (if appropriate)

Name (block capitals)	MAYA MOORE
Position in the organisation	PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Signed**  **Date:** 12/01/15

If this section is incomplete or not completed correctly the entire application will be rejected. You must provide a real (not typed) signature. You may include a pdf of the signature page for security reasons if you wish. Please write PDF in the signature section above if you do so.

Stage 2 Application – Checklist for submission

	Check
Have you **read the Guidance Notes**?	✓
Have you provided **actual start and end dates** for your project?	✓
Have you indicated whether you are applying for DFID or Defra funding? **NB: you cannot apply for both**	✓
Have you provided your **budget based on UK government financial years** i.e. 1 April – 31 March and in GBP?	✓
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?	✓
Has your application been **signed by a suitably authorised individual**? (clear electronic or scanned signatures are acceptable)	✓
Have you included a **1 page CV for all the key project personnel** identified at Question 10?	✓
Have you included a **letter of support from the main partner organisations** identified at Question 9?	✓
Have you **been in contact with the FCO** in the project country/ies and have you included any evidence of this?	✓
Have you included a **signed copy of the last 2 years annual report and accounts** for the lead organisation?	✓
Have you **checked the Darwin website** immediately prior to submission to ensure there are no late updates?	✓

Once you have answered the questions above, please submit the application, not later than 2359 GMT on Tuesday 1 December 2015 to 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**. 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). You are not required to send a hard copy.

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.