



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)

<b>Applicant Organisation Name:</b>	UNIVERSITY OF KENT
<b>Address:</b>	Research Services, The Registry, University of Kent
<b>City and Postcode:</b>	Canterbury, CT2 7NR
<b>Country:</b>	United Kingdom
<b>Email:</b>	
<b>Phone:</b>	

**2. Stage 1 reference and Project title**

<b>Stage 1 Ref:</b> 3304	<i>Translocating conservation success and skills-exchange across four Indian Ocean countries</i>
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**3. Project description (not exceeding 50 words)**

Many global conservation success-stories originate from Seychelles and Mauritius. Remarkably, however, propagating these much-needed skill-sets elsewhere doesn't happen naturally, particularly across low-income and island nations. Building upon previous Darwin-funded success, we will implement three flycatcher reintroductions, and via a newly-established regional 'training hub', galvanise skill-sharing between four Indian Ocean countries.

**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.

<b>Country 1: Seychelles (UMIC)</b>	<b>Country 2: Mauritius (UMIC)</b>
<b>Country 3: Comoros (LDC)</b>	<b>Country 4: Madagascar (LDC)</b>

**5. Project dates, and budget summary**

<b>Start date:</b> 01 April 2016	<b>End date:</b> 31 March 2019	<b>Duration:</b> 3 years		
<b>Darwin request</b>	<b>2016/17</b> £102,490	<b>2017/18</b> £127,060	<b>2018/19</b> £76,814	<b>Total request</b> £306,364
<b>Proposed (confirmed &amp; unconfirmed) matched funding as % of total Project cost</b>				<b>51%</b>
<b>Are you applying for DFID or Defra funding?</b> (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
<b>Surname</b>	Groombridge	Joubert	Tatayah
<b>Forename (s)</b>	Jim	Flavien	Vikash
<b>Post held</b>	Reader in Conservation Biology	Chief Executive Officer	Director of Conservation
<b>Organisation (if different to above)</b>	University of Kent	Seychelles National Parks Authority	Mauritian Wildlife Foundation
<b>Department</b>	Durrell Institute of Conservation and Ecology (DICE), School of Anthropology and Conservation		
<b>Telephone</b>			
<b>Email</b>			

Details	Project Partner 3	Project Partner 4	Project Partner 5
<b>Surname</b>	Copsey	Doulton	Bristol
<b>Forename</b>	Jamie	Hugh	Rachel
<b>Post held</b>	Managing Director Durrell Conservation Training Limited (Mauritius)/ Head of Durrell Conservation Academy.	Technical Director	Independent consultant-Seychelles (self-employed)
<b>Organisation (if different to above)</b>	Durrell Conservation Training Limited/ Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust	Dahari	Self Employed/ Honorary Research Associate, School of Anthropology and Conservation, University of Kent
<b>Department</b>			
<b>Telephone</b>			
<b>Email</b>			

**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). YES**

Reference No	Project Leader	Title
21-014	Dr Jim Groombridge	Reconnecting poverty-alleviation to biodiversity conservation in Kenya's Eastern Arc Mountains
20-016	Prof Douglas Macmillan	Socio-ecological landscapes for biodiversity conservation and climate change adaptation
19-002	Dr Jim Groombridge	A cutting-EDGE approach to saving Seychelles' evolutionarily distinct biodiversity

19-014	Prof Richard Griffiths	Implementing CITES in Madagascar
EIDCF009	Dr Zoe Davies	Mapping the Falklands: facilitating systematic conservation planning and implementation (Scoping grant)
17-009	Prof Stuart Harrop	Integrating religion with conservation: Islamic belief and Sumatran forest management

**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.**

<p><b>Lead institution and website:</b> Durrell Institute of Conservation and Ecology (DICE) /University of Kent</p> <p><a href="http://www.kent.ac.uk/dice/">http://www.kent.ac.uk/dice/</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.kent.ac.uk/sac/staff-profiles/profiles/conservation-biology/academic-staff/groombridge_jim.html">http://www.kent.ac.uk/sac/staff-profiles/profiles/conservation-biology/academic-staff/groombridge_jim.html</a></p>	<p><u>Mission:</u> DICE breaks down barriers between natural and social sciences in its interdisciplinary approach to biodiversity conservation.</p> <p><u>Project development:</u> Dr Jim Groombridge has 12-years' experience leading Darwin projects. This project builds upon JGs 22-years involvement in Indian Ocean conservation. JG (Project Leader) was approached by the in-country partners regarding conservation training needs and proposed conservation initiatives following his involvement in relevant projects on Seychelles and Mauritius.</p> <p><u>Capacity for engagement:</u> JG has led two large, successful Darwin projects in the Indian Ocean region, both forging partnerships with those organisations proposed here. Within SAC, DICE is ideally-placed to source natural and social science expertise to assist projects linking species conservation and capacity-building/training in conservation.</p> <p><u>Team coordination:</u> DICE, as lead institution, has assembled a strong set of team-players from the partner organisations with the diverse range of complementary key skills required to deliver this project.</p> <p><u>Roles/responsibilities:</u> DICE will play a central role in the training, capacity-building and reintroduction efforts, by: (i) hosting two MSc/MRes students from Seychelles/Madagascar; providing guidance/expertise on species conservation and reintroduction; (ii) taking lead advisory role on capacity building and the wider network management. Two site visits by DICE will assist initiation, implementation and project monitoring.</p>	
Have you included a Letter of Support from this institution?		Yes

<p><b>Partner Name and website where available:</b></p> <p>Seychelles National Parks Authority (SNPA)</p> <p><a href="http://www.snpa.sc/">http://www.snpa.sc/</a></p>	<p><u>Mission:</u> The Seychelles National Parks Authority (SNPA) is responsible for all 10 marine and terrestrial National Parks within Seychelles. Their responsibilities include management, research and monitoring of all National Parks for the Seychelles government, and coordination and implementation of conservation efforts and actions for the biodiversity they contain.</p> <p>SNPA manage Curieuse Island National Park, where lowland native broad-leaved woodland (SPF preferred habitat) will be restored and flycatchers will be reintroduced under this project. SNPA has been instrumental in developing the Seychelles Protected Area Policy 2013 and preparing the 2<sup>nd</sup> Seychelles National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) 2015-2020.</p> <p><u>Capacity to engage:</u> SNPA has been instrumental in this project's development since its inception and have ensured priority actions for local staff capacity building and conservation of Seychelles most threatened bird (the Seychelles paradise flycatcher) were fully incorporated into the project.</p> <p><u>Roles/responsibilities:</u> SNPA will facilitate the project activities in Seychelles by employing local project staff, providing logistical support and back-stopping, SNPA staff time, facilitating government permissions for flycatcher reintroductions, and by actively participating in the project steering group.</p>
Have you included a Letter of Support from this institution?	Yes

<p><b>Partner Name and website where available:</b></p> <p>Mauritian Wildlife Foundation (MWF)</p> <p><a href="http://www.mauritian-wildlife.org/application/">http://www.mauritian-wildlife.org/application/</a></p>	<p><u>Mission:</u> MWF is a well-established conservation NGO active since the early 1980's to restore native terrestrial species and habitats. MWF is widely recognised as a leader in ecosystem restoration of Mauritius, Rodrigues and offshore islets, and for endemic bird rescues, including passerines.</p> <p><u>Capacity to engage:</u> MWF works closely with the Government of Mauritius, private sector, universities and international conservation organisations (e.g. Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust and Chester Zoo) and is best placed in Mauritius to facilitate the working arrangements and permissions for this project to proceed. MWF has long-standing links with the Durrell Institute of Conservation and Ecology- University of Kent and the key persons in this application spanning 20+ years.</p> <p><u>Roles/responsibilities:</u> MWF will lead on all aspects of the Mauritius paradise flycatcher habitat rehabilitation and translocation. They will employ and support the project staff who will catch birds from the donor population, ring them, transfer them to the release site and monitor post-release. MWF will be closely involved with restoration of the species beyond the project completion.</p>
Have you included a Letter of Support from this institution?	Yes

<p><b>Partner Name and website where available:</b></p> <p>Dahari  <a href="http://daharicomores.org/">http://daharicomores.org/</a></p>	<p><u>Mission:</u> Dahari was created in February 2013 as a key outcome of the Darwin-funded ECDD project (<a href="http://www.ecddcomoros.org">www.ecddcomoros.org</a>). Dahari has already established a reputation as the leading conservation NGO in the Comoros and is currently running a major project funded by the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund to identify conservation priorities on the island of Anjouan. The NGO also benefits from funding from the EU and the French Embassy in the Comoros, amongst others, for rural development and forest management work.</p> <p><u>Capacity to engage:</u> Dahari is the lead project partner in the Comoros and has been involved in the development of the Comoros parts of the project proposal since its inception.</p> <p><u>Roles/responsibilities:</u> Dahari will send two Comorian ecological technicians for training on the Durrell PGDip course in Mauritius. Dahari will also organise exchange visits from and to Madagascar/Mauritius/Seychelles for its ecological team and Comorian partner to get on-the-job training around habitat and species restoration, as well as data analysis and GIS, and begin a forest restoration project in Comoros during this project.</p>
Have you included a Letter of Support from this institution?	Yes

<p><b>Partner Name and website where available:</b></p> <p>Durrell Conservation Training Limited (DCT)  <a href="http://www.durrell.org/training/">http://www.durrell.org/training/</a></p>	<p><u>Mission:</u> Durrell Conservation Training Ltd (DCT) was established in Mauritius in 2013 to provide long-term conservation training support to existing Durrell partners in Mauritius and the wider region. In 2015 DCT launched its Post-Graduate Diploma in Endangered Species Recovery (PGDip) validated through the University of Kent.</p> <p><u>Capacity to engage:</u> DCT is an off-shoot of the UK-registered charity, Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust (DWCT), and the Managing Director of DCT (Jamie Copsey) is also the Head of Learning and Development at DWCT. Importantly DCT has strong ties with Durrell's long-standing Madagascar programme and is therefore well positioned to act in the role of Madagascar project partner for this project. DCT in fact has existing relationships with all project partners and has been involved in the planning of this project since inception.</p> <p><u>Roles/responsibilities:</u> DCT will deliver the PDGDip course in Mauritius and provide co-supervision and support for participants during the course, during their projects, post-training care and further, 'remote' training through the Durrell Learning Network. DCT will also provide co-supervision and guidance to Madagascar MRes student during and post MRes studies.</p>
Have you included a Letter of Support from this institution?	Yes

<p><b>Partner Name and website where available:</b></p> <p>Dr Rachel Bristol</p> <p>Independent consultant, Seychelles.</p> <p>Honorary Research Associate, DICE, University of Kent</p> <p><a href="https://www.kent.ac.uk/dice/">https://www.kent.ac.uk/dice/</a></p>	<p><u>Capacity to engage:</u> Rachel is an independent Seychellois biologist with over 20 years' experience working to recover threatened species in both Seychelles and Mauritius and as such has a detailed understanding of the conservation issues and needs of these islands as well as the wider Indian Ocean region. As a respected member of the local conservation community, she is well placed to lead this project on the ground, and to be able to intervene appropriately as-and-where necessary to ensure project activities, outputs and outcomes are achieved to time and standard. Rachel brings immense practical experience and know-how to this project –she has been Project Officer on 2 previous Darwin Initiative projects successfully implemented in the Seychelles (15-009 &amp; 19-002) and previously worked as a field-biologist for the Mauritian Wildlife Foundation in Mauritius.</p> <p><u>Roles/responsibilities:</u> Rachel will be the Project Officer on this project and will oversee, coordinate and lead the implementation of project activities on the ground. She will also be the main liaison point between project partners and will chair project steering group meetings, lead the project M&amp;E activities and ensure the all project partners and the steering group are kept up to date with project progress and upcoming activities.</p>
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
Dr Jim Groombridge	Project Leader	DICE/ University of Kent	10% (matched funding)	Yes
Dr Rachel Bristol	Project Officer	Independent consultant (Seychelles)	100%	Yes
Mr Flavien Joubert	<u>Seychelles</u> contact & coordinator	SNPA	5% (matched funding)	Yes
Dr VikashTatayah	<u>Mauritius</u> contact & coordinator	Mauritian Wildlife Foundation	5% (matched funding)	Yes
Mr Hugh Doulton	<u>Comoros</u> contact & coordinator	Dahari, Comoros.	5% (matched funding)	Yes
Mr Jamie Copsey	Host students on PGDip in Mauritius <u>Madagascar</u> contact & coordinator	Durrell Conservation Training Ltd/ Durrell.	10% (matched funding)	Yes
Female biologist	Seychelles flycatcher field researcher	SNPA	100% (for 2 years)	Job description
Ms Teesha Baboorun	Mauritius flycatcher field researcher	MWF	100% (for 2 years)	Yes
Mr Ronley Fanchette	MSc candidate nominated from Seychelles	Seychelles Department of Environment	100% for 1 year on MSc	Yes

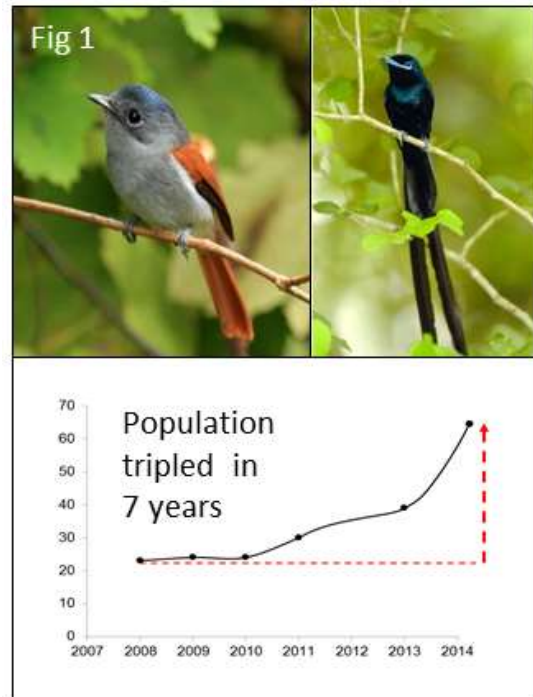
### 11. Problem the project is trying to address

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.

**BUILDING ON SUCCESS:** A previous Darwin-funded project on **Seychelles** (Project 15-009) reintroduced 23 critically-endangered Seychelles Paradise-Flycatchers from La Digue Island to Denis Island, successfully establishing a 2<sup>nd</sup> population alongside intensive habitat restoration.

That reintroduced population has grown to 70+ birds (Fig. 1) and is now breeding in 100% replanted habitat. Seychelles' Government wishes to replicate this success to additional islands to galvanise whole-island ecosystem restoration elsewhere and to secure the species' down-listing. Elsewhere in the Indian Ocean, the Mascarene Paradise-Flycatcher on **Mauritius** is prioritised by MWF for habitat restoration and reintroduction. Combining these parallel intentions provides a novel, highly effective, collaborative opportunity for **galvanising conservation success elsewhere** and fostering much-needed skills-exchange across international boundaries.



### **GALVANISING REGIONAL IMPACT ACROSS**

**INDIAN OCEAN:** Low-income and island nations, such as Madagascar and Comoros, are less able to benefit from neighbourhood success, as a consequence of their poverty and isolation which, together with language barriers can profoundly limit skills-exchange opportunities. Fortunately, an international conservation academy has recently been set up on Mauritius as a world-class 'training hub', providing a timely mechanism for facilitating regional/international impact.

**PROPOSED PROJECT:** Embracing both these opportunities this project will;

- (i) **Implement three flycatcher reintroductions** on Seychelles and Mauritius, and facilitate **network-building exchange-visits** between Comoros/Madagascar/Mauritius/Seychelles linked to associated habitat/ecosystem restoration aspects of these and other 'live' field projects (all four countries host highly evolutionarily distinct endemic flycatchers and also have active recovery-programmes for several other threatened endemic species).

- (ii) Compliment this *in-situ* skill-sharing (Fig.2) with **regional capacity-building** by funding citizens from

Comoros/Madagascar/Mauritius/Seychelles on DCTs *Postgraduate Diploma in Endangered Species Recovery* (at newly-established conservation 'training hub' on Mauritius) and DICEs UK-based *MSc in Conservation Science and Management*.

Our **dual approach**, combining exchange of **key conservation skill-sets** and **formal training**, will build lasting capacity and crucial employment opportunities for LDC citizens.



## 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

<b>Convention On Biological Diversity (CBD)</b>	Yes
<b>Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS)</b>	Yes
<b>International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA)</b>	No
<b>Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)</b>	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

All four implementing countries are signatories to the CBD and Nagoya Protocol. This project will contribute substantially to the objectives of the CBD by contributing to **Aichi Strategic Goal C**: 'To improve the status of biodiversity...' specifically **Aichi Biodiversity Target 12** and **Strategic Goal D** 'Enhance the benefits...' specifically **Aichi Target 15** by restoring 100 hectares of threatened&degraded lowland-forest habitat and undertaking three reintroductions of two Critically-Endangered paradise-flycatcher species to increase their numbers and conservation status (identified as priorities in the Seychelles and Mauritius NBSAP's [Mauritius SO 2(c); Seychelles SG 3-Objective 3.2; SG 4-Objective 4.2].

We will contribute to **Aichi Strategic Goal E**: 'Enhance implementation...' specifically **Aichi Target 19** by galvanising knowledge-exchange across 4 WIO countries via formal [5x MSc/PGDiploma's] and informal [11x regional skills-exchanges] training to c.15 individuals from Madagascar/Comoros/Mauritius&Seychelles [Seychelles SG5-Objectives 5.3&5.4].

This project assists in supporting implementation of the Nagoya Protocol on ABS, specifically **Article 21** 'Awareness -raising' and **Article 22** 'Capacity' by providing targeted-training via taught modules to all 5 recipients of Scholarships on MSc/PGDiploma courses on: the importance of the Nagoya Protocol and its Objectives; modern DNA techniques; taxonomic skills for assessing genetic resources; facilitation of inclusive stakeholder participation in decision making (particularly indigenous/local communities).

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

**Yes if yes, please give details:**

This project proposal was developed in close collaboration with the CBD national focal point for Seychelles Mr Denis Matatiken who will be a member of the Project Steering Committee, ensuring his continued input and liaison throughout the project. The ABS (Nagoya Protocol) national focal point for Seychelles Minister Didier Dogley (Minister for Environment, Energy and Climate Change) has also been updated on this project. Project reports will be circulated to the Minister and to equivalent authorities in the other countries to keep them informed of project progress.

## 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.).



**CONSULTATION:** The PI visited all main project partners (including British High Commissions in Mauritius and Seychelles) in 2015 to ensure regional training needs could be tailored to restoration and reintroduction needs locally.

**PROJECT MANAGEMENT:** The project will be overseen by a Project Steering Group (PSG) comprising PI, Project Officer (PO=Seychelles citizen) and representatives from partners SNPA, MWF, DCT and Dahari, who will ensure effective Monitoring and Evaluation via 3-monthly Skype meetings and reports delivered by the PO to PSG, and highest enforcement of Darwin's ethics principles. PO has 20-years' experience in avian reintroductions and habitat restoration on Seychelles/Mauritius. PI has a 22-year track-record of successful collaboration with MWF and Durrell on Mauritius and with several organisations on Seychelles including SNPA. **Roles & Responsibilities:** PI/PO will work closely with SNPA and MWF to coordinate reintroductions, associated habitat restoration and accessibility of all project outputs. Both organisations have the necessary Government support for proposed activities. **Field management:** PO will manage two habitat restoration labourers to ensure Curieuse habitat objectives are met on time, and two fieldworkers (1 Seychelles seconded to SNPA; 1 Mauritius seconded to MWF passerine team) to undertake the reintroductions and associated monitoring. **Reintroductions:** On Seychelles, ~25 birds from La Digue will be released onto Curieuse Island (286 hectare, SNPA-managed protected area) and ~25 onto Félicité (privately-owned 268 hectare island). On Mauritius, ~30 birds will be reintroduced to Ferney field-site. Reintroduced populations will be intensively monitored following protocols developed during Darwin Project 15-009. **Habitat restoration:** 50 hectares of Seychelles' native woodland has been rehabilitated on Félicité during last 5 years and will continue under this project providing an ideal environment for 'situated-learning' by project participants. Some flycatcher habitat exists on Curieuse; restoration of a further ~20ha will be conducted by project team.

**GALVANISING SKILL-SHARING:** Three integrated tools will ensure skill-sharing, impact beyond flycatchers and, via an *alumni* network/legacy, a strong exit strategy. **(i) Three scholarships on the *Postgraduate Diploma in Endangered Species Recovery*** delivered by DCT Ltd will be invested in Comoros and Mauritius; this 6-month PGDip, validated by DICE/Kent, comprises a series of week-long modules taught by international experts alongside structured field experience at MWF field-sites, providing unique '*situated learning*' at the heart of some of the worlds' iconic conservation success stories. **(ii) Eleven exchange visits** between Comoros/Madagascar/Seychelles/Mauritius will supplement this PGDip training to deliver targeted field experience tailored to individual needs. **(iii) Two DICE/University of Kent MSc/MRes studentships** will build capacity and develop research skills tailored to individual needs (on Madagascar, an MRes linked to Madagascan pochard; on Seychelles an MSc linked to flycatcher reintroductions). **Supporting the Nagoya Protocol:** Recipients of all five scholarships will receive formal postgraduate training directly aimed at the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-Sharing, including training in *modern DNA techniques, taxonomic skills for assessing genetic resources, building technical capacity, and inclusive stakeholder participation* (JG and JC teach precisely these topics on PGDip in Mauritius and on DICE MSc; <https://www.kent.ac.uk/courses/modulecatalogue/modules/DI877>) (meeting 3 of 5 Targeted Capacity Areas of the Strategic Framework).

#### 14. Change Expected

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.

**SHORT-TERM CHANGE AND BENEFITS:**

1. **1** critically-endangered (CR) species and **1** recently-prioritised highly-endangered sub-species of paradise flycatcher will have extinction risk reduced via:
  - (a) **3** reintroductions implemented to establish additional populations, fulfilling Species Action Plan recommendations by Seychelles' and Mauritius government authorities.
  - (b) **100** hectares of habitat restored-providing new habitat for **80-100** more flycatcher pairs.
  - (c) Management plan for flycatcher habitat on La Digue to (i) reduce current habitat loss and (ii) enhance state owned habitat management.
  - (d) Increased awareness by local Seychellois and Mauritian public of the value of their endemic biodiversity and enhanced national pride in their nations' conservation successes.
2. **5** people from **4** LDC/middle income countries will receive:
  - (a) University postgraduate training and internationally-recognised qualifications (PGDip, MSc/MRes) in biodiversity conservation.
  - (b) Total **22** months *in-situ* field experience and exposure to cutting-edge techniques in habitat restoration and reintroduction ('situated learning' via **11** regional exchange-visits + PGDip training) disseminated by field experts.

**LONG-TERM CHANGE AND BENEFITS:**

1. **2** flycatcher species substantially closer to down-listing due to reintroduction and habitat restoration (if the **2** SPF reintroductions are successful SPF will be downgraded on IUCN red-list from CR to Endangered at next species assessment).
2. Seychelles: enhanced track-record in flycatcher conservation, from **1** to **3** successful reintroductions, with increased government commitment to long-term habitat restoration programmes on **3** islands (Felicite, Curieuse and La Digue).
3. Mauritius: enhanced skills in flycatcher reintroduction and habitat restoration, and enhanced eco-tourism prospects for local landowners.
4. Sustainable legacy of **7** people (involving **2** LDCs) with increased capacity, employment prospects and skill-sets to recover endangered species and habitats and to apply these qualities to precipitate further conservation success stories in recipient home countries.
5. **4** Indian Ocean countries (including **2** LDCs) with **15** local personnel each with substantial field conservation experience outside their home country.

**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.

This project contributes to the Global Goals for Sustainable Development (SDG) **#4 Quality Education**, **#8 Decent Work and Economic Growth** and **#15 Life on Land** as detailed below:

#### **ALLEVIATING POVERTY IN COMOROS (LDC) AND MADAGASCAR (LDC):**

- **2x** low income Comorian nationals obtain internationally recognised Postgraduate Diploma in Endangered Species Recovery from renowned conservation training organisation Durrell Conservation Academy (validated by the University of Kent) (SDG 4)
- **2x** low income Comorian nationals obtain English language proficiency certificates from officially recognised English Language school (SDG 4)
- **1x** low income Malagasy obtains internationally recognised MRes in biodiversity management from University of Kent.
- **5x** low income Comorian nationals and **4x** low income Madagascar nationals with increased capacity, employment prospects and skill-sets to recover endangered species and habitats and to apply these skills to precipitate further conservation success stories back home in the Comoros and Madagascar (SDG 4,8,15)
- **5x** low income Comorian nationals and **4x** low income Malagasy acquire substantial field conservation experience outside their home country
- **25x** low income Malagasy (including 13 women) and **30x** low income Comorians (including 15 women) acquire a greater understanding of endangered species and habitat recovery methods as a result of attending **6** presentations/workshops designed and led by MRes/PGDip recipients upon completion of studies (SDG 4)
- **1x** priority habitat and/or threatened species restoration programme designed and initiated by PGDip recipients upon return Comoros (with the ongoing support of local project partner Dahari) (SDG 15)
- **1x** priority habitat and /or threatened species restoration programme designed and initiated by MRes recipient upon return Madagascar (with the ongoing support of project partner DWCT in Madagascar).

#### **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?

We have strong evidence that once people are recruited into the conservation sector and receive training, they tend to stay for the long-term; therefore the risk of losing trained staff is minimal (e.g. of **6** project fellows recruited and trained on a recently-completed Darwin project in Seychelles, **5** are still employed with their host organisations)

This project was devised in close collaboration with local organisations in each host country to ensure it included their priorities, thereby building in **sustainable end-points and a clear exit strategy**; consequently it is likely project-trained staff will be kept on by these organisations post-project to continue to implement this priority work. For example:

- Mascarene paradise-flycatcher reintroduction is a priority for MWF who are committed to long-term monitoring/maintenance of this translocated population post-project.
- Seychelles paradise-flycatcher reintroductions are a high priority for Seychelles and SNPA, who are committed to SPF long-term recovery post-project.
- Dahari in Comoros and DWCT in Madagascar will select candidates for MSc/PGDip scholarships from amongst existing staff ensuring (i) staff are employed post-project and (ii) the organisation benefits from increased staff capacity.
- The **11** skills transfer/exchange recipients will be existing staff within partner organisations thus maximising benefit and retention of new skillsets.

**17a. Harmonisation**

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

This project is a new initiative, but we are using a previous successful Darwin project (#15-009; *where we pioneered Seychelles paradise-flycatcher habitat restoration and reintroduction methods*), as a springboard for translocating the skills we developed and honed in Seychelles across 4 countries of the wider Indian Ocean region. In doing so, we will translocate those recipes of success - habitat restoration and practical reintroduction skill-sets - across the region to roll-out lasting conservation impact.

We are establishing a regional training, skills-sharing and support network that will produce skilled ecosystem restorers who can – with their acquired know-how and the support of their local partner organisation - push forward with priority habitat restoration and species translocation in their home country.

**17b. Are you aware of any other individuals/organisations/projects carrying out or applying for funding for similar work? No**

If yes, please give details explaining similarities and differences 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.

No. However, *Félicité Island Development Ltd* in Seychelles is restoring degraded lowland native forest over a large area of Félicité Island as part of a back-to-nature, high-end tourism development where invasive exotic vegetation is being removed and replaced with native woodland vegetation for all landscaping. This initiative and our proposed project are mutually beneficial: our proposed Darwin project brings added benefit to the Félicité Island Development project by reintroducing flycatchers to Félicité, adding value to their tourism product and to their habitat restoration by reintroducing a key former part of the island's biodiversity. In return, Félicité Island Development's large investment in native woodland restoration benefits our project by providing the necessary habitat on Félicité to enable us to reintroduce flycatchers under this project. We have discussed this project with Félicité Island Developers who are very supportive (see Letter of Support) and are looking forward to working together for our mutual benefit and to improve SPF conservation status. Our project habitat restoration fieldworkers will benefit from practical training with the experienced Félicité Island restoration team.

**18. Ethics**

Outline your approach to meeting the Darwin Initiative's key principles for research ethics as outlined in the guidance notes.

Our project has been carefully developed with Darwin's seven key principles of good and ethical practice in mind.

1. The project meets the relevant legal and ethical obligations of all countries concerned.
2. Appropriate integration of high-quality science (through scientific mentoring provided by DICE and Durrell) alongside practical skills-based activities will ensure development of entirely usable protocols for habitat restoration and translocation that are long-lasting. The School of Anthropology and Conservation, of which DICE is a part, can draw upon a strong track-record of expertise in recognising the importance and value of local practices alongside strong scientific principles.
3. Free and Prior Informed Consent of participating stakeholders has been a core value of the project's development over the past six years (since the conclusion of project 15-009). Kent's School of Anthropology and Conservation has a rigorous internal protocol that reviews research ethics on a project-by-project basis; Stage 1 and 2 are already reviewed and approved. All advocacy regarding membership of stakeholder groups will respect the rights, privacy and safety of all people involved and impacted.

4. DICE will enforce the University of Kent's Health and Safety policy on all project staff, regardless of nationality. Strict risk assessments will be conducted to conform to Kent's H&S and insurance policies. The DICE-led Project Steering Group will ensure all procedures are closely followed.  
SAC has a strong research ethic together with an extensive amount of experience in conducting high-quality multidisciplinary studies and training where intellectual detachment is vital. All publications will be multi-authored (representing appropriate national involvement). All student researchers will be closely mentored and encouraged to publish their research.
5. The Project Steering Committee will include strong leadership and participation from all host country partners to ensure perspectives, interests, well-being, health and safety are properly addressed.

### 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?

1. We are creating an international network of regionally trained conservation practitioners across **4** countries.
2. DCT –The Durrell training hub in Mauritius has recently developed and maintains an email list, *Facebook* page and social media to encourage and inform a thriving network of *alumni* and other interested people across the region and beyond. We will use their media communications outlets to keep the wider conservation community informed of what we are achieving.
3. A project *Facebook* page will be launched where all project partners will regularly post commentary of project activities, learning experiences and progress.
4. The project will have a dedicated page on all **5** project partner websites.
5. The recipients of the **5x** MSc/MRes/PGDips scholarship funded by this project will - upon return to their home county - design and present a minimum of **10x** (min 2 each) presentations to host country partner staff, the wider conservation community including government officials, and other key local stakeholders. The aim of these presentations is to disseminate information and know-how on ecosystem rehabilitation methods (habitat and species), how realistic and achievable these initiatives can be, and how they can have enormous benefits to both people, the environment and threatened species. They will include a locally relevant example (e.g. the project they will plan and implement under this Darwin project -see Question box 15) to illustrate their know-how with a locally relevant example. Presentations will be delivered to minimum of **100** individuals (**≥50%** female).
6. Postgraduate candidates will be selected based on both their ability to make a difference with the skills they gain during their training, and their ability to influence policy (for example the Seychelles MSc candidate, Mr Ronley Fanchette, is Director of the Wildlife, Trade and Conservation Section in the Ministry of Environment, ideally-positioned to influence policy).

### 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.

**CAPACITY BUILDING AT INDIVIDUAL LEVEL:**

This project will equip **15** individuals from Madagascar/Mauritius/Seychelles/Comoros with the understanding, skills and access to information, knowledge and training that will enable them to effectively manage and restore species and habitats through:

1. **1x** MRes for Malagasy conservation practitioner at DICE, University of Kent, UK. MRes research tied to the Madagascar pochard recovery programme.
2. **1x** MSs for Seychelles conservation practitioner at DICE, University of Kent, UK. MSc research project tied to Seychelles paradise-flycatcher reintroductions
3. **3x** Diploma in Endangered Species Recovery at the new Durrell Conservation Training hub in Mauritius (validated by University of Kent, UK), for 2x Comorians and 1x Mauritian conservation practitioners.
4. **11x** skills exchange and knowledge transfer training visits between Madagascar, Seychelles, Comoros and Mauritius to 'live' project habitat restoration and species reintroduction initiatives

**CAPACITY BUILDING AT ORGANISATION LEVEL:**

At an organisational level the partnerships forged during the development of this project will mature over the 3-year course of this project to form a regional network of non-government and parastatal organisations:

1. Partnerships give local NGO's access to: knowledge and skills; innovative and proven methodologies; networking and funding opportunities that individually they may not be aware of or able to access
2. Human resource development of local partner staff (as detailed above) will also have a positive effect on organisational development and productivity as staff will have increased ability and performance.

**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.

**1x Gold** open access publication in the journal *Biological Conservation* describing results and findings from this project. The Gold Open Access Fee for *Biological Conservation* is USD XXX excluding tax.

**1x Gold** open access publication in *Biodiversity and Conservation* detailing results and findings from this project. The Gold open access fee for *Biodiversity and Conservation* is USD XXX (excluding tax).

All other outputs will be uploaded onto the University of Kent's KAR (Kent Academic Repository) where they can be downloaded in accordance with publisher copyright.

**Darwin funding requested: £4,567**

**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 funding:**

<b>DICE/Kent:</b> PI staff time, overheads and office space, contribution to audit fees	£XXX
<b>SNPA (Seychelles):</b> Staff time, transport, housing & office facilities on Curieuse	£XXX
<b>Félicité Island (Seychelles):</b> Habitat staff, transport, accommodation and meals	£XXX
<b>MWF (Mauritius):</b> Logistics, office facilities and staff time in Mauritius	£XXX
<b>Dahari (Comoros):</b> Logistics staff time and in-country support	£XXX
<b>DCT (Mauritius, Madagascar):</b> Logistics, staff time & in-country support	£XXX
<b>Project Officer (Seychelles):</b> office facilities, private vehicle use	£XXX
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>£318,271</b>

**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.

<b>Date applied for</b>	<b>Donor organisation</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Comments</b>
n/a			

**22c) None**

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

n/a
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## 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
<p><b>Impact:</b> (Max 30 words) Four Indian Ocean countries including two LDC's and three SIDS expertly restoring their endemic biodiversity with continual improvement sustainably supported by a regional network of training and skill-sharing opportunities.</p>			
<p><b>Outcome:</b> (Max 30 words) Increased capacity to conserve Indian Ocean species and habitats through skill-sharing, capacity-building and <i>in-situ</i> learning on three reintroduction and habitat restoration initiatives for two endemic birds enabling their reduced extinction-risk.</p>	<p>1.1 Two additional Seychelles paradise flycatcher (SPF) populations established and breeding (productivity exceeding mortality) on Curieuse and Félicité islands, Seychelles by end of year 3</p> <p>1.2 One new Mascarene paradise flycatcher (MPF) population established and breeding (productivity exceeding mortality) at Ferney, Mauritius by end year 3</p> <p>1.3 SPF recommended for down-listing from Critically Endangered to Endangered on the IUCN red-list at the next assessment (by end year 3)</p> <p>1.4 Government reports to CBD</p>	<p>1.1 Project annual reports</p> <p>1.2 SNPA/MWF reintroduction progress reports</p> <p>1.3 Recommendation letters to IUCN red-list authority</p> <p>1.4 Government reports to CBD</p>	<p>Relevant Governments remain stable and continue to view habitat and species conservation as a priority and provide the necessary permissions (and island access) to undertake project activities.</p> <p>No adverse climatic/stochastic events (e.g. cyclones) preventing timely completion of this project.</p>
<p><b>Outputs:</b> 1. Increased regional capacity of WIO SIDs and LDCs (Seychelles, Comoros Mauritius, Madagascar) to research, monitor, manage and restore threatened terrestrial habitats and species</p>	<p>1.1 Three local conservation practitioners complete Postgraduate Diploma in Endangered Species Restoration at DCT regional training hub in Mauritius (years 2 &amp; 3)</p> <p>1.2 Two local conservation practitioners complete MSc/MRes in Conservation Science &amp; Manag<sup>t</sup> at DICE, University of Kent, UK (years 1-2 &amp; 2-3)</p> <p>1.3 Eleven regional skills transfer and cross fertilisation exchanges</p>	<p>1.1 PGDip graduation certificates</p> <p>1.2 MSc graduation certificates</p> <p>1.3 Training exchange trip reports from hosting partner NGOs (8 exchanges by project participants; 3 by PO; total=11).</p>	<p>Trained staff (MSc/PGDip/ skills exchange participants) remain with local partners throughout and after the project finishes, to continue to implement what they have learned and to form an initial <i>alumni</i> who foster a learning network across Indian Ocean.</p>



Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
	undertaken between Mauritius, Madagascar, Seychelles and Comoros to work for c. 1 month each on project activities including bird reintroductions and habitat restoration projects (throughout project)		
2. Improved conservation status of two WIO threatened paradise flycatcher species (SPF in Seychelles and MPF in Mauritius) through habitat restoration, conservation reintroductions, and refined management practices.	2.1 c.20 hectares of lowland native broad-leaved forest habitat restored on Curieuse, c.60ha on Felicite (Seychelles) and c.20ha at Ferney (Mauritius) (ongoing throughout project). 2.2 c. 25 SPF reintroduced to Félicité Island (year 2) 2.3 c. 25 SPF introduced to Curieuse Island (year 3) 2.4 c.30 MPF reintroduced to Ferney (year 2) 2.5 2x Updated participatory species conservation assessments and action plans for SPF and MPF produced (including realistic management recommendations for both remnant and reintroduced populations) (year 3)	2.1 Habitat restoration progress reports and images 2.2 reintroduction progress reports Felicite 2.3 Curieuse reintroduction progress reports 2.4 Fernay reintroduction progress reports 2.5a 2x Species conservation assessment and action plan documents 2.5b SAP implementation progress reports	Relevant Governments and NGO;s continue to collaborate to rehabilitate and protect relevant species and habitats
3.Improved understanding of paradise flycatcher resilience and adaptability in partially restored habitats	3.1 Research by management approach to all 3 reintroductions with intensive post release monitoring of survival and breeding success of released individuals, as well as other environmental/habitat variables	3.1a reintroduction monitoring and research reports 3.1b 2x peer reviewed scientific manuscripts resulting directly from this project work published	Editors accept papers for publication
4. Projects restoring critical habitats and/or species initiated in Comoros and Madagascar as a direct result of this project	4.1 Projects (x2) designed and implementation underway in Madagascar (x1) and Comoros(x1) (year 3)	4.1a Project concept documents 4.1b Project implementation progress reports	Relevant government permissions are granted enabling project implementation
<p><b>Activities</b> (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) <b>0.</b> Activities relate to project management activities.</p> <p>0.1 Project Steering Group set-up (by month 3) and meet (may be virtually) bi-annually throughout the duration of the project to monitor and evaluate progress and plan ahead</p> <p>0.2 Project staff hired in a timely manner (Seychelles field biologist in month 13; Mauritian field biologist by month 2, Seychelles habitat restoration fieldworkers by month</p>			

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
<p>2)</p> <p>0.3 Annual, ½ year and final reports submitted to Darwin Initiative in a timely manner</p> <p>1.1 2x Comorians successfully complete English language training course in Madagascar prior to embarking on PGDip in Mauritius</p> <p>1.2 1x Mauritian national and 2x Comoros nationals successfully complete UKC accredited PGDip's in endangered species restoration at DCT regional training hub in Mauritius</p> <p>1.3 1x Madagascar national and 1x Seychelles national successfully complete MRes/MSc in biodiversity management at DICE, University of Kent/ UK</p> <p>1.4 11x regional skills transfer and x-fertilisation exchange visits undertaken by local field staff between Comoros, Seychelles, Mauritius and Madagascar to actively participate in live <i>in-situ</i> project activities including bird translocations and habitat restoration</p> <p>1.5 10x presentations on terrestrial habitat and species restoration to local partner staff, stakeholders, government officials &amp; wider conservation community in Seychelles, Mauritius, Madagascar, Comoros</p> <p>2.1 Restore c.20 hectares of lowland native broad-leafed woodland habitat on Curieuse (Seychelles), c.60ha on Felicite (Seychelles) and c.20ha at Ferney (Mauritius)</p> <p>2.2 Survey of remnant flycatcher populations in Mauritius and Seychelles to estimate current population sizes and identify suitable areas to source individuals for translocations</p> <p>2.3 Translocate 25 SPF to Félicité Island</p> <p>2.4 Translocate 25 SPF to Curieuse Island</p> <p>2.5 Translocate c.30 MPF to Ferney</p> <p>2.6 Produce updated participatory species conservation assessments and action plans for SPF and MPF (including realistic management recommendations for both remnant and reintroduced populations) and gain relevant government endorsements</p> <p>3.1 Undertake intensive post-release monitoring of survival and breeding success of released individuals + other environmental/habitat variables at all 3 release sites and at source populations, and analyse to provide quality M&amp;E data to inform current and future reintroduction best practice and interventions if necessary</p> <p>3.2 Two open access publications on project research and findings accepted for publication in high quality peer reviewed journals (eg: Biological Conservation and Biodiversity and Conservation)</p> <p>4.1 Design and start implementing a project restoring critical habitat and/or species in Madagascar led by Madagascar project partner Durrell and recipient of project MRes scholarship</p> <p>4.2 Design and begin implementing a project restoring critical habitat and/or species in Comoros led by Comoros partner Dahari and the Comorian recipients of project PGDip scholarships</p>			

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	
<i>Project management activities</i>														
0.1	Project Steering Group set-up ( by month 3) and meet (may be virtually) bi-annually throughout the duration of the project to monitor and evaluate progress and plan ahead	ongoing												
0.2	Project staff hired in a timely manner (Seychelles field biologist in month 13; Mauritian field biologist by month 2, Seychelles habitat restoration fieldworkers by month 2)													
0.3	Annual, ½ year and final reports submitted to Darwin Initiative in a timely manner													
Output 1	<i>Increased regional capacity of WIO SIDs and LDCs (Seychelles, Comoros Mauritius, Madagascar) to research, monitor, manage and restore threatened terrestrial habitats and species</i>													
1.1	2x Comorians successfully complete English language training course in Madagascar prior to embarking on PGDip in Mauritius	6 months												
1.2	1x Mauritian national and 2x Comoros nationals successfully complete UKC accredited PGDip's in endangered species restoration at DCT regional training hub in Mauritius	18 months												
1.3	1x Madagascar national and 1x Seychelles national successfully complete MRes/MSc in biodiversity management at DICE, University of Kent/ UK	24 months												
1.4	11x regional skills transfer and x-fertilisation exchange visits undertaken by local field staff between Comoros, Seychelles, Mauritius and Madagascar to actively participate in live <i>in-situ</i> project activities including bird translocations and habitat restoration	11 months												
1.5	10x presentations to local partner staff, stakeholders, govt officials & wider conservation community in Seychelles, Mauritius, Madagascar, Comoros on terrestrial habitat and species restoration	4 months												

Output 2	<i>Improved conservation status of two WIO threatened paradise flycatcher species (SPF in Seychelles and MPF in Mauritius) through habitat restoration, conservation reintroductions, and refined management practices</i>													
2.1	Restore c.20 hectares of lowland native broad-leaved woodland habitat on Curieuse (Seychelles), c.60ha on Felicite (Seychelles) and c.20ha at Ferney (Mauritius)	ongoing												
2.2	Survey of remnant flycatcher populations in Mauritius and Seychelles to estimate current population sizes and identify individuals for translocations	6 months												
2.3	Translocate 25 SPF to Félicité Island	1 month												
2.4	Translocate 25 SPF to Curieuse Island	1 month												
2.5	Translocate c.30 MPF to Ferney	2 months												
2.6	Produce updated participatory species conservation assessments and action plans for SPF and MPF (including realistic management recommendations for both remnant and reintroduced populations) and gain relevant government endorsements	12 months												
Output 3	<i>Improved understanding of paradise flycatcher resilience and adaptability in partially restored habitats</i>													
3.1	Undertake intensive post-release monitoring of survival and breeding success of released individuals + other environmental/habitat variables at all 3 release sites and at source populations, and analyse to provide quality M&E data to inform current and future reintroduction best practice and interventions if necessary	Ongoing after translocations												
3.2	Two open access publications on project research and findings accepted for publication in high quality peer reviewed journals (eg: Biological Conservation and Biodiversity and Conservation)	8 months												
Output 4	<i>Projects restoring critical habitats and/or species initiated in Comoros and Madagascar as a direct result of this project</i>													
4.1	Design and start implementing a project restoring critical habitat and/or species in Madagascar led by Madagascar project partner Durrell and recipient of project MRes scholarship	12 months												
4.2	Design and begin implementing a project restoring critical habitat and/or species in Comoros led by Comoros partner Dahari and the Comorian recipients of project PGDip scholarships	12 months												

## 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.

**Project infrastructure and management:** A Project Steering Group (PSG) consisting of the named key project personnel i.e. Project Leader (Dr Jim Groombridge), PO (Rachel Bristol) and the key representative from each host country partner (Jamie Copsey-DCT, Hugh Doulton-Dahari, Flavien Joubert-SNPA, Vikash Tatayah-MWF) will be set up within the first 3 months of the project and will meet (virtually–via Skype) at least 6-monthly to monitor and evaluate project progress against the project logframe, logic and SMART indicators and to take decisions to adapt project activities if necessary to improve outcomes and to plan ahead. Project staff (field biologists and habitat restoration fieldworkers) will be initially line managed and mentored by their host country partner line managers and overall by the PO. The PO will liaise closely with host country line managers to ensure alignment of goals and activities.

The PO will provide the PSG with regular written and verbal updates to enable informed assessment project progress, effectiveness and output delivery. The necessary data to ensure SMART M&E will be collected by the PO and the two project field biologists (Teasha & TBI). 10% of these 3 project staff's time has been allocated to M&E data collection, analysis and interpretation and as such 10% of their salaries has been allocated to M&E in the appropriate budget line in the accompanying project budget Excel spreadsheet, rather than in the staff salaries project line, in order to accurately reflect expenditure.

### **Measuring and evaluating impact:**

Specific M&E that will be undertaken to measure and evaluate project impact is:

**Output 1:** Collection of reviews from DCT trainers, MSc supervisors, host country partners PL, and PO on the impact of MSc/PGDip training and regional skill sharing and knowledge transfer exchanges visits on the recipients and the change in the quality of their work output post-training.

**Output 2:** Areas of habitat rehabilitated and survival and growth of replanted trees will be measured at all 3 restoration sites.

**Output 3:** Detailed monitoring of survival of released individuals, breeding activity, productivity of all 3 reintroduced populations. Productivity and survivorship of released birds will be measured against existing data for both source populations and against data generated from previous Darwin project #15-009. Data on environmental and habitat variables will also be measured and used to explain potential differences in survival and productivity of reintroduced and source populations.

**Output 4:** Collection of reviews from host country partners and other host country officials on the importance and expected impact of projects initiated in Madagascar and Comoros as a direct result of this project.

Three regional flights and subsistence costs have been budgeted for the PO to visit Madagascar, Mauritius and Comoros for M&E trips to carry out data collection and verification. No additional equipment is required for M&E data collection.

Total budget for M&E	£17,200
Percentage of total budget set aside for M&E	3%

## 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.

**BUDGET DEVELOPMENT:** A comprehensive budget was calculated by making a detailed spreadsheet of all project implementation costs then using current exchange rates to calculate cost in Pounds-Sterling. Costs were then transferred to the Darwin Initiative budget form under the correct Darwin Budget headings.

**COST EFFECTIVE:** This project capitalises on existing infrastructure to raise capacity regionally which substantially reduces costs. Mauritius now hosts a superb new training-hub in the form of the Durrell Conservation Academy's Mauritius branch (Durrell Conservation Training Limited), providing a world-class and regionally relevant postgraduate training course at extremely strong value for money. The translocation of local know-how and expertise across the region to **4** Indian Ocean countries (including two LDC's and three SIDS) is a cost-effective way of up-scaling regional capacity in biodiversity restoration whilst ensuring maximum relevance. **76% of requested Darwin funds will be invested in the 4 host countries and a further 21% on MSc training for host country personnel at UK universities** thereby maximising the project's financial impact across the Indian Ocean. Steering group and other routine meetings will largely be undertaken by Skype minimising the travel budget required to maintain strong project management.

**LONG-LASTING EFFECTS:** Project partners have committed substantial **£318,271** matching funding; confirming their buy-in on the project which (i) minimises the project risks and (ii) ensures the project will be sustainable. Successful implementation of this project will cement the regional partnerships forged and nurtured during project development and implementation due to shared biodiversity restoration needs thereby supporting a sustainable and long-lasting mutually beneficial regional network.

**ASSUMPTIONS:** We have assumed that (i) host country currencies and the host county-GBP exchange rates will remain relatively stable and (ii) flights and course fees will not increase more than 3 % per year.

### 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)

1. The motorbike and helmet will be given to Mauritian Wildlife Foundation to continue the MPF recovery programme
2. The binoculars, mist nets, ringing and playback equipment will be given to MWF and SNPA to carry on with the paradise flycatcher monitoring programmes
3. The chainsaw, nurse and nursery equipment (spades, hoses, etc) will be given to SNPA to continue with habitat restoration activities on Curieuse Island, Seychelles.

## 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)** [see attached *Letter of Support* from British High Commissioners for all four countries]; followed up by skypecall with Project Leader.

## CERTIFICATION

On behalf of the company of University of Kent

I apply for a grant of **£306,364** 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)

<b>Name (block capitals)</b>	RUTH WOODGER
<b>Position in the organisation</b>	Research Contracts Manager

**Signed\*\*** PDF (see attached *Signature page* as scanned pdf) **Date:** 30/11/2015

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

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](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**. 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.