



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:	Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS)
Address:	Center for Global Conservation, 2300 Southern Boulevard
City and Postcode:	Bronx, NY 10460
Country:	United States of America
Email:	
Phone:	

2. Stage 1 reference and Project title

Stage 1 Ref: 3144	Title (max 10 words): "Securing marine fisheries, livelihoods and biodiversity in Myanmar through co-management."
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3. Project description (not exceeding 50 words)

(max 50 words)

Building on emergent political, legal and economic transformations to support fishing communities and government authorities establish a co-management plan for Thandwe District coastline in Myanmar. Planning will improve governance and sustainability of inshore fisheries by introducing practices that recover stocks, increase income and food security, while mitigating threatened species bycatch.

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: Republic of the Union of Myanmar (also known as Myanmar or Burma)	Country 2: N/A
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5. Project dates, and budget summary

Start date: 01 April 2016	End date: 31 March 2019	Duration: 3 years, 0 months		
Darwin request	2016/17 £101,332	2017/18 £96,836	2018/19 £101,702	Total request £299,870
Proposed (confirmed & unconfirmed) matched funding as % of total Project cost				29%
Are you applying for DFID or Defra funding? (Note you cannot apply for both)		DFID		

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	Callow	Aung Aung	Maung Maung
Forename (s)	Martin	Naing	Kyi
Post held	Marine Technical Advisor, WCS Myanmar Program	Coalition Facilitator	Chairman
Organisation (if different to above)	Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS)	Pyoe Pin (PP)	Rakhine Coastal Association (member of Myanmar Environment and Rehabilitation Network (MERN))
Department	WCS Myanmar Program	Fisheries and Resource Governance	Resource Governance
Telephone			
Email			

Details	Project Partner 3	Project Partner 4	Project Partner 5
Surname	Hnin Yu	U Myint	Aung Kyaw
Forename (s)	Shwe	Shwe	Thein
Post held	Program Manager	District Fishery Officer	Strategic Advisor
Organisation (if different to above)	Rakhine Fisheries Partnership (RFP)	Department of Fisheries	Pyoe Pin (PP)
Department	Sittwe Branch	Thandwe District, Rakhine Region	Fisheries and Resource Governance
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
22-016	Ambroise Brenier	Securing livelihoods, health and biodiversity through seascape-scale sustainable fisheries co-management
22-014	Janet Gibson	Maximizing Benefits of Marine Reserves and Fisheries Management in Belize
22-011	Miguel Leal	Conserving biodiversity by improving farming practises and livelihoods in Hoima
22-008	Tom Clements	Diversifying Indonesian fisheries to protect elasmobranchs and alleviate poverty
21-004	Lilian Painter	Sustainable ranching and participatory land use planning in Bolivia and Paraguay
20-014	Ross Sinclair	Conserving biodiversity and reducing poverty through wildlife-friendly farming in Cambodia

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?	1895						
What is the legal status of your organisation?	<table> <tr> <td>NGO</td> <td>Yes</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Government</td> <td>No</td> </tr> <tr> <td>University</td> <td>No</td> </tr> </table>	NGO	Yes	Government	No	University	No
NGO	Yes						
Government	No						
University	No						
How is your organisation currently funded?	<p>(Max 100 words)</p> <p>WCS receives support from a diverse group of government and private sources (individuals, foundations, corporations). Our top government and agency partners include the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the British government, the Norwegian government, the Global Environment Facility (GEF), World Bank, United Nations Development Program (UNDP), and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). Foundation supporters include the Liz Claiborne and Art Ortenberg Foundation, Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, and Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation.</p>						
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.

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)

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.

<p>Lead institution and website:</p> <p>Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) <i>Myanmar Program</i></p> <p>www.wcs.org</p>	<p>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to lead the project): (max 200 words)</p> <p>WCS is a US-based non-profit conservation organization that works in almost 60 countries and four oceans. WCS has been working in Myanmar since 1993, and was instrumental in the creation and expansion of several protected areas, including the country's first marine and aquatic protected areas. WCS collaborates with the Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry, the Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development and local civil society to assess the status of Myanmar's ecosystems and build capacity for wildlife conservation and natural resource management. WCS has engaged the Department of Fisheries for over ten years on freshwater and marine projects, and has utilised its long-standing relationships to obtain inputs to - and support for - this project from local partners.</p> <p>WCS led project development with local partners and technical support from WCS's global marine conservation experts' network. During implementation, WCS will provide technical expertise, project oversight and knowledge management. WCS will draw upon local expertise and relationships with government partners, and also leverage institutional capacity for activities like the participatory monitoring and gender studies. WCS will hire a biologist/socio-economist to engage local partners Pyoe Pin, the Rakhine Fisheries Partnership and the Rakhine Coastal Association in fieldwork and community engagement activities.</p>
<p>Have you included a Letter of Support from this institution?</p>	<p>Yes</p>

<p>Partner Name and website where available:</p> <p>Pyoe Pin (PP) programme</p> <p>https://www.britishcouncil.org/partner/track-record/pyoe-pin</p>	<p>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): (max 200 words)</p> <p>The Pyoe Pin programme, was formed in 2012 and supports local organizations, government departments, MPs, civil society groups, private sector and individuals to work cooperatively in meeting the needs and inspirations of Myanmar people. Through establishing coalitions of interest, Pyoe Pin undertakes a range of activities that contribute to furthering the basis for democratic and accountable governance within Myanmar. Through its work, the Rakhine Fisheries Partnership (RFP) has been established, with members including fishing communities, civil society organisations, NGOs, MPs, Government officials, the private sector and educational institutions. Pyoe Pin's work with the RFP focuses on reversing recent declines in the fisheries sector, and the RFP played an important role in the 2014 process that led to the drafting of the Rakhine State Freshwater Fisheries Law. The RFP is also engaged in promoting linkages between other states and regions in Myanmar including the Union level ministries and neighbouring countries.</p> <p>Pyoe Pin has been involved in discussion with WCS regarding project design and formulation. During implementation, Pyoe Pin will provide advice on State and Union level policy and governance issues, ensuring that projects activities are consistent with and contribute to the further development of Rakhine's fisheries and natural resources development frameworks.</p>
<p>Have you included a Letter of Support from this institution?</p>	<p>Yes</p>

<p>Partner Name and website where available:</p> <p>Rakhine Fisheries Partnership (RFP)</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XiWNBSqBLWQ</p>	<p>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): (max 200 words)</p> <p>On June 1st 2013, a group of 30 stakeholders from the fishery section came together to discuss how the Rakhine fisheries sector could be sustained and further developed. The participants involved representatives from government, private, civil society, education institutions and local communities. The key organizations under RFP are Rakhine Thahaya Association (Northern Rakhine), Rakhine Coastal Association (Southern Rakhine (Thandwe, Kyentali and Gwa), Network Activities Group (Delta, Union Level), Ministry For Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development (MLFRD), Department of Fisheries, Myanmar Fisheries Federation.</p> <p>It was agreed that the complexity of inter-related issues that have resulted in this decline, requires the formation of a partnership of stakeholder organisations and prominent individuals, committed to work on finding and implementing solutions to sustaining and reinvigorating the development of the fisheries sector.</p> <p>The partnership agreed to work together to achieve nine key objectives that would benefit the fishery sector as a whole. The nine objectives includes; Improved fisheries policies and legislation, Increased willingness to follow fisheries laws, Greater transparency in revenue collection from fisheries, Increased participation of communities in fisheries management, Reduced conflicts in the fisheries sector, Improved market attractiveness, Increased conservation of natural resources, Improved diversified livelihoods and Better informed public on Fisheries issues.</p>
<p>Have you included a Letter of Support from this institution?</p>	<p>Yes</p>

<p>Partner Name and website where available:</p> <p>Department of Fisheries (DoF)</p> <p>http://www.mlfrd.gov.mm</p>	<p>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): (max 200 words)</p> <p>The Department of Fisheries (DoF) is responsible for the development of the fishery sector in Myanmar. Responsibilities include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conservation and rehabilitation of resources; 2. Promotion of research; 3. Collection and compilation of statistics and information; 4. Sustainability of resources. <p>The DoF in Rakhine is the host of, and the main coordinating body of the RFP. Consultations with the RFP members, ensures that the DoF remains fully aware of stakeholder concerns and priorities in the fisheries sector. The DoF also uses the RFP to disseminate information related to the sector.</p> <p>The DoF has been involved from the outset in project design. Staff from district and township offices have accompanied WCS and Pyoe Pin staff on project scoping trips to Rakhine (June and November, 2015) and have been instrumental in ensuring the project design reflects national and sub-national interests. Of particular importance to the project are the township offices in Thandwe, Gwa and Kyentali. DoF will play a vital role in project implementation, through providing support for data collection and sharing, co-management planning and with regard to communicating project progress to other States and Regions, and at the Union level. They will also provide technical support to training courses and workshops.</p>
<p>Have you included a Letter of Support from this institution?</p>	<p>Pending: owing to the recent national election, internal government processes decelerated – however, WCS meetings at Union and State levels have taken place, and a letter has been requested. We are informed a support letter will be available shortly.</p>

<p>Partner Name and website where available:</p> <p>Rakhine Coastal Association (RCA)</p> <p>http://www.rakhineconservation.org</p> <p>https://www.facebook.com/RCA.Araikan/</p>	<p>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): (max 200 words)</p> <p>Rakhine Coastal Association, (RCA) is a non-profit organization, established in 2007 focusing on natural resource conservation and sustainable resource governance by promoting a environmental friendly livelihoods in Gwa, Kyentali and Thandwe Townships. Since its establishment, RCA has worked with BANCA/OIKOS on Coastal Environmental Sustainability (2010-2013); MERN on Coastal Livelihoods and Environmental Assets Restoration in Rakhine (2011-2014); and with MERN on a Forest Fund Facility Project (2015 -2016). RCA also works closely on a community forestry model with an aim to enhancing the balance of ecological well-being and human well-being through community-based forestry conservation. In 2014, RCA became one of the key member organizations under the Rakhine Fisheries Partnership. Through this involvement it is bringing to RFP its considerable experiences in establishing and managing community forestry and fisheries.</p> <p>RCA have been involved in discussions and scoping visits with Pyoe Pin and WCS over the formulation of the project proposal. During project implementation RCA will focus on stakeholder mobilisation, community fisheries monitoring and management and the promotion of the establishment of community fisheries centres.</p>	
<p>Have you included a Letter of Support from this institution?</p>		<p>Yes</p>

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?
Martin Callow	Project Leader	Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS)	10%	Yes
U Mya Than Tun	Marine Conservation Coordinator	WCS	30%	Yes
To be hired	Marine Biological/ Socio-Economic Officer	WCS	100%	Yes
Aung Aung Naing	RFP Coalition Coordinator	Pyoe Pin	25%	Yes
Aung Kyaw	Strategic Advisor	Pyoe Pin	10%	Yes
To be hired	Fisheries Improvement Partnership Coordinator	Pyoe Pin / WCS (shared)	100%	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)

As the world's 10th largest fishing power, Myanmar is dependent on fisheries economically (GDP 3.5%) and as a source of protein (43% of animal proteins consumed). Despite fisheries' importance, Myanmar has limited capacity for sustainable management. A recent University of Washington global analysis of fisheries governance systems labeled Myanmar the least effective. Overexploitation, encouraged by poor regulations, weak rule of law and enforcement and unsustainable fishing techniques, has resulted in drastic declines of stocks. Norway's 2014 marine survey showed that pelagic stocks are currently 10% of their 1979 biomass, with similar estimates for inshore fisheries. Inshore fisheries are of particular concern, currently over capacity and non-compliant with closed seasons (DoF).

Along Thandwe District's coastline, Rakhine State, over 80% of people are directly or indirectly involved in small-scale fisheries for livelihoods and subsistence, but are rarely involved in decision-making or planning processes. Although there are limited independently collected data on catch, landings or socio-economic trends, fisher interviews conducted by WCS in May 2015 suggested a >50% drop in catch over the past 5 years, particularly in sardine, anchovy and mackerel. There is also evidence of inshore fisheries bycatch, including a range of globally threatened species like dugongs, turtles, sharks and rays, though information is guarded and poorly documented. Compounding these problems, Rakhine is ranked second in Myanmar's States and Regions in terms of poverty, with 78% of the population poor and concentrated along the coast. Not least, there are emergent threats, and opportunities, created by the ongoing political transformations and the development of the offshore oil and gas sector.

Myanmar's coastal communities and marine biodiversity remain drastically under-resourced with respect to the challenges faced. At this critical juncture in the country's history action is required now to ensure a sustainable future for communities and the ecosystems upon which they depend.

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
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)

The project aligns with the CBD's Strategic Plan for Biodiversity (2011-2020) and will directly contribute to three of CBD's goals:

B) Reduce direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use: By creating a participative co-management process to develop new knowledge on sustainable fisheries, communities will be incentivized and empowered to support more sustainable practices that minimise pressures on biodiversity.

C) Improve the status of biodiversity: Co-management practices will secure new approaches to fisheries, which, in turn, will provide the means with which to minimise impacts on marine vertebrates.

D) Enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity: Inclusive project design and delivery will provide the mechanism for members of the RFP and RCA to access and benefit from the social, economic and environmental upsides generated by the project.

In addition, the project contributes to CBD Aichi targets 6 (Fisheries) by supporting local and national level opportunities to scale sustainable fisheries co-management, and 11 (Protected Areas) by seeking to understand if and where new marine protected areas might be designed and implemented.

The project supports Myanmar's draft National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP), which states, "by 2020, at least 8 states/regions have approved laws allowing for community and/or co-managed fisheries".

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

Yes. WCS has strong relationships with the following focal points and will invite them to all local and national workshops and meetings as part of our emphasis on knowledge management and exchange.

- **CITES Scientific Authority (Fish and Aquatic Plants):** Dr. Htun Thein, Assistant Director, Department of Fisheries
- **CITES Scientific Authority (Terrestrial Wildlife and Plants):** U Win Naing Thaw, Director of Nature and Wildlife Conservation Division
- **CITES Management Authority/CBD Primary National Focal Point:** Dr. Nyi Nyi Kyaw, Director General of the Forest Department

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.)

WCS will lead the three components of this project in partnership with PP, RFP and RCA. The project will likely focus on the inshore small-scale fishery in Kyentali, between Thandwe and Gwa townships in Rakhine State, and will provide a model for other States and Regions in Myanmar.

1. Data collection: Since baseline data for Myanmar's inshore fisheries is currently unavailable and desperately needed, WCS will use key informant interviews, semi-structured interviews, voluntary GPS tracking and focus group discussions to map current inshore effort for the target fishery and inform a participatory data collection system on catch and landings. Project partners will train fishing communities and district officials to assist with information collection on areas fished, fisher numbers, time-at-sea, weather, fishing and handling methods, gear used, species, length and sale price, resulting in a baseline catch per unit effort (CPUE) that will allow us to determine progress towards desired outcomes. Basic Necessities Surveys will be used to assess socio-economic conditions and measure the contribution of inshore fisheries to local livelihoods. A study will be conducted by partners to outline the structure and stakeholders along fisheries value chains, with a particular focus on gender roles, to help us understand

which commodities are most important for the poor and how best to integrate women and other disadvantaged groups into decision-making processes, thus ensuring that decisions do not unintentionally lead to increased poverty, gender bias or other disadvantages.

Thus using baseline data (once established) and regular participatory monitoring (fishery catch and socio-economic surveys), the project will develop a mechanism in the first year through which we can measure the long-term impact of co-management on building social capital, fisheries recovery and bycatch reduction. The mechanism will be designed to be sustainable after the project ends, and any records of compliance/infractions will be provided to RFP and RCA members to ensure transparency and accountability and allow for adaptive co-management.

2. Outreach and engagement in governance: RFP, RCA, WCS and PP will engage a broad suite of community and government stakeholders through (1) An annual forum held to share collected data and ensure decision-making processes are open and equitable, and (2) Training workshops implemented to improve stakeholder engagement, accountability and compliance with management rules. The project will actively encourage the participation of women and other underrepresented groups in decision-making processes, addressing governance issues associated with a historical top-down management approach.

3. Development and implementation of fishery co-management plan: WCS and PP will use biological and socio-economic information from stakeholder engagement workshops to help the RFP and RCA design and adopt an effective, collaborative co-management plan that includes participatory input controls (e.g. number of fishers, gear/practice conditions, seasonal/spatial restrictions, fishing days at sea) and output controls (e.g. catch and size limits) for small-scale fisheries, with the goal of improving CPUE, value capture and sustainability for fishers. WCS will oversee the implementation of this plan during the second two years of the project, tracking socioeconomic and environmental indicators, with PP, RFP and RCA disseminating lessons learned from this model through established fora.

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.

(Max 300 words)

The project will build capacity for co-management of sustainable inshore small-scale fisheries along a 170km stretch of coastline in Thandwe District, southern Rakhine State (including an important community fish landing site - Kyentali). Traditional fishers (primarily men) and fish-workers who process the fish (primarily women), will be direct beneficiaries of the project, which will also improve the technical, legal, social, economic and political capital and effectiveness of the RFP and RCA. For example, the poor coastal fishers in Kyentali Township will be represented in fishery decision-making and planning processes and be empowered with the necessary skills and knowledge to prevent further loss of their fishing livelihoods.

The project will reverse the decline of inshore small-scale fishery catches. With the RFP and RCA, WCS and PP will enable the first systematic participative acquisition of biological and socio-economic data for the fishery, and empower communities and government to design evidence-based, sustainable input and output controls. In turn, sustainable and efficient practices will increase catch value and improve fisher and fish-worker incomes, shielding communities from the risk of increased poverty. Open dissemination of information will guard against inequitable fisheries management tradeoffs, such as between fisher profits and the wellbeing of women fish-workers. Bycatch mitigation practices will safeguard biodiversity, for example the vulnerable dugong (particularly at risk), degraded populations of endangered green and loggerhead turtles, and juvenile sharks and rays that are commonly brought to shore.

The demonstration-site project will also start building national capacity for fisheries co-management through documentation of the partnerships successes and challenges, and

increased participation in annual meetings. We will demonstrate how inclusive and democratic decision-making processes can reduce poverty and thus boost support for sustainable resource governance. By sharing the lessons generated from this project, communities and government will support national goals to implement fisheries co-management.

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)

For Thandwe (population 113,000), Kyentali (population 11,000) and Gwa Townships (10,000 population), as for much of Rakhine State, few demographic details are available, although Rakhine is one of the poorest regions in Myanmar. In Rakhine State almost 600,000 people are involved in capture fisheries and/or aquaculture, while 150,000 are involved in other stages of the value chain, including processing, wholesale and export. However, none of these people have as yet been actively involved in the management of their fisheries resources. Many coastal households are totally dependent on fishing and in many villages 80-90% of households are engaged in fishing. With such a high dependence on fishing, these coastal households are highly susceptible to continued fisheries depletion. Through the RFP and RCA representatives, the project will ensure that these fragile households are actively engaged in participatory co-management and recovery of their fisheries resources. RFP and RCA will also ensure that migrant workers, mostly from within Rakhine, are project beneficiaries. Migrant workers account for a sizeable number of boat crew in villages in Thandwe District. In Gwa the migrant fish worker population is reported to be around 5,000 people, about 50% of the total population.

The project's gender-balanced and participatory approach will improve gender equity. Feedback through the adaptive co-management process ensures that any adopted practices are empowering for and not disadvantageous towards women. This is particularly important as there are 1,114 females per 1,000 males (for Rakhine State), and a large proportion of women are engaged in the local (post-catch) fisheries sector.

Ultimately, the project will improve fishery yields and associated revenues, boost social capital and develop democratic resource governance mechanisms, an opportunity that is now available owing to changing governance structures in the country including the decentralization of power from the Union level to States and Regions.

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)

This project will initiate a powerful local dialogue on the benefits of sustainable fisheries co-management through the establishment of co-management agreements and the launch of robust governance mechanisms. However, it is unlikely that by the end of the project there will no longer be a need to support these communities, especially given the current void of effective fisheries management in the region. However, through our long-term partnership with and investment in the RFP and RCA, extending beyond the project duration, the project will foster multi-stakeholder resource stewardship that will ultimately contribute to boosting the efficacy of local governance systems and the long-term sustainability of the inshore fisheries. Similarly, with the co-management approach designed to include participation from civil society, government and the private sector, it will bolster the social support and network systems within the project focal area, progressing towards local stewardship of fishery resources and

partnership durability.

By securing and increasing fishery productivity, the project will demonstrate to local communities that participatory co-management practices benefit them by increasing revenues and food security. We expect this will provide strong incentives to the communities to continue engaging the RFP and RCA and supportive of co-management at the end of the project.

17a. Harmonisation

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

Owing to years of political isolation, Myanmar has received limited support for conservation and sustainable use of marine resources. This has begun to change: particularly, international studies of coral ecosystems in the Myeik archipelago have begun. WCS, which has long been working with the Myanmar government with a primary focus on terrestrial conservation, is now investing more heavily in marine conservation - specifically, building the scientific foundation for marine spatial planning and MPA management (supported by the Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust), an initiative that anchors this WCS-led support to Rakhine State wild-capture marine fisheries co-management. The proposed project builds the specific data needs, capacity and local governance necessary at a local level to ensure successful, long-term implementation of the larger-scale planning efforts.

The project also builds upon Pyoe Pin's and the Rakhine Fisheries Partnership's recent successes trialling the development of freshwater fisheries co-management in Rakhine (supported by the Department for International Development, Swedish International Development Agency, and the Danish International Development Agency). Especially important is that the Rakhine State Freshwater Fisheries Law (2014) was passed and a considerable amount of know-how and trust has developed among members of the RFP, which the project will build upon.

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

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. Not applicable.

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)

WCS management systems ensure adherence to labour, finance, banking and registration regulations specific to each of the nearly 60 countries where we work, alongside US government regulations and donor compliance requirements. WCS is legally registered in Myanmar, operating under MoUs with the Myanmar Government.

WCS participates in the Conservation Initiative on Human Rights (http://www.iucn.org/about/work/programmes/social_policy/sp_themes/hrande/scpl_cihr/).

WCS has also initiated a review of human rights issues in the places where we work. Our Internal Review Board ensures that research carried out by our programmes protects the rights of human subjects.

Our partnerships with local people strive to understand, value, and apply traditional knowledge to addressing biodiversity, resource management, and poverty alleviation challenges. This contributes to local efforts to improve human wellbeing by affirming cultural identity in the face of rapid change, while making explicit our shared interest in finding alternatives to dominant approaches to economic development. These principles apply to our engagement with community and government entities in Myanmar. In Myanmar, WCS is the longest established conservation NGO and has been at the forefront of efforts to help resource-dependent

communities protect their livelihoods.

WCS has a Duty of Care policy that details obligations of employees and the institution to create an environment of safety and concern in the fulfilment our mission, including access to medical care; insurance policies; and crisis management procedures.

WCS is committed to building credible and independent science-based understanding of biological diversity and ecosystem integrity and their centrality to the quality of human life. WCS is a leading sponsor of scientific research, and our staff are among the world's most prolific in generating peer-reviewed publications.

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)

A central project goal is participative capture and dissemination of new information to support fisheries co-management. Thus, raising awareness of the benefits of marine biodiversity conservation is crucial for the project's success.

The RFP will provide the platform from which new knowledge is developed and shared, and offers a trusted mechanism to engage with community fishing members, fisheries-related businesses and government officials. The project will deliver training sessions such that data collection methods reach appropriate members of the partnership, including the male fishers and female fish-workers, ensuring a gender balance representative of the value chain within Myanmar. As new information from surveys is gathered, outreach events will be conducted to make that information available to the RFP, RCA and its members. Reports, proceedings and awareness materials (including on-bycatch reduction) will be produced and distributed through various channels (including meetings, workshops and print and social media in local language), including to other NGOs working on marine and coastal issues in Myanmar. A core output will be a participative co-management plan that is owned and adopted by fishers in the RFP and RCA. Similarly, an annual forum will provide the mechanism for fishers and relevant government representatives directly involved in this project to share knowledge with others, thus gaining broader commitments for co-management practices across Myanmar. All lessons learned will be documented and information shared directly with officials at both State and Union level government, thereby facilitating a vertical dialogue on co-management.

The project's impact-monitoring results will be used to demonstrate the effectiveness of fisheries co-management for poverty alleviation and fisheries productivity improvement. Lead project staff will be involved in national and international events so the results of the project can be shared with the global marine science and conservation community. Social media will also be utilised to communicate project learning.

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)

One of WCS's core strategies and strengths is our ability to build the technical capacity of our national staff, partner organisations and local institutions or government agencies. In parallel, Pyoe Pin is focused on strengthening governance capacity of local organisations for constructive social change. In the context of this project and the partners' combined strategic mandates, WCS and Pyoe Pin will work together to support the development of the RFP and RCA governance capacity for sustainable fisheries co-management, which will see us working with members who include the Department of Fisheries (DoF), Myanmar Fisheries Federation (MFF), village representatives, and private sector businesses.

Specifically, training sessions will be provided as part of the project's participative approach. RFP and RCA members will be trained in the use of fisher catch/log forms so that contemporary data will be secured and utilised to understand, discuss and monitor the transition process towards co-management. A new hire will be recruited from a national university, trained by a WCS technical advisor in appropriate biological and socio-economic monitoring techniques, and will be responsible for ensuring the capacity of participating fishers is of consistent standard. Pyoe Pin's expertise at facilitating community and partnership dialogue will enable the transfer of skills and expertise, such that the RFP' and RCA's capacity for advancing co-management will be boosted. Aside from these formal approaches to building capacity, our approach will see us build strong relationships with fishing communities and RFP and RCA members such that important tacit knowledge and capacity transfer will naturally occur.

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)

WCS is working with the Helmsley Charitable Trust to develop a national Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) strategy for Myanmar, which will necessitate a review of existing and emerging national marine data management practices. Learning from this Darwin project on fisheries catch and effort will be openly shared with the MSP process.

The Darwin project data will be submitted to the Myanmar Information Management Unit (MIMU: <http://www.themimu.info>) and its Information Management Network, which brings together information management focal points from across a wide variety of agencies to strengthen the quality of information for evidence-based and effective development and humanitarian policy. Similarly, the project will submit its data to the Myanmar Environmental Information Portal (MEIP: <http://meip.gms-eoc.org:8080>), which aims to capture the complete picture of environmental state, trend and decision making in Myanmar. Data will also be made available to WCS's own www.myanmarbiodiversity.org (under construction).

No specific costs are sought from Darwin for data sharing purposes as data can simply be submitted to the aforementioned MIMU and MEIP open access platforms. WCS's work to develop a MSP process will also provide a means with which to ensure that the data generated from this project will be securely housed and openly available for decision making purposes, particularly important when it comes to safeguarding social and environmental systems that are potentially threatened by the numerous offshore oil and gas assets being explored along Rakhine state.

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:

Helmsley Charitable Trust: Spearheading Marine Conservation in Myanmar: A national program for marine spatial planning and fisheries reform: £35,949; 2015-2017.

DFID: Support to Pyoe Pin programme, Phase II: £43,853.

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
August 2015	Blue Moon Fund	£41,716 (WCS award)	A project focussed on "Building Thriving Fisheries in Myanmar"
Forthcoming	DFID	To be determined	Pyoe Pin is having various donor discussions concerning a Phase III programme.
Forthcoming	Various oil and gas exploration and production companies (BG Group; Chevron; Shell) already operating offshore of Rakhine State.	To be determined	Various discussions have already taken place - to leverage the private sectors data (from current seismic surveys), coupled with social investments in sustainable fisheries management and marine conservation.

22c) None

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

(max 100 words)

Not applicable.

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>Impact: (Max 30 words) Myanmar's inshore fisheries are sustainably co-managed to recover depleted stocks, boost value capture, and minimise unintended catch of threatened species, while supporting food security, diverse and resilient livelihoods.</p>			
<p>Outcome: (Max 30 words) An inshore fishery co-management plan is implemented in Rakhine State, Myanmar, ensuring sustainable livelihoods and improved income for local fishing communities, reducing bycatch and providing a scalable resource governance model.</p>	<p>0.1 By 2019, 25% of fishers from our focus area (assuming Kyentali is chosen = 420 participating people) document a 5-10% increase in CPUE compared to 2016 baselines.</p> <p>0.2 By 2019, more than 25% (420 people) of the small-scale fishing fleet of Kyentali Township, including a proportionally representative number of women, are actively engaged with resource governance decision-making processes. (2016 Baseline = 0).</p> <p>0.3 By 2019, annual socio-economic surveys demonstrate a 5% increase in participating fisher (N=420) and associated fish-worker (N=unknown, TBD) incomes against 2016 baselines.</p> <p>0.4 By 2019, bycatch of marine vertebrates (dugong and marine turtles) decreased by between 10% and 30% compared to 2016 baselines.</p>	<p>0.1 Fisher catch/log forms completed and submitted to WCS/RFP for CPUE analysis. Data will be disaggregated by gender.</p> <p>0.2 RFP/RCA meeting attendance records (including gender records) and documented support for decisions.</p> <p>0.3 Annual socio-economic surveys and reports demonstrate trends towards improvements in value capture and fishers and fish-workers livelihoods. Data will be disaggregated by gender.</p> <p>0.4 Fish landings survey data and fisher interviews.</p>	<p>0.1. That communities and the newly emerging government (under the leadership of the National League for Democracy) are willing and able to actively participate in co-management.</p> <p>0.2 That fisheries are capable of recovering within project timeframe to secure improvements in CPUE and social-economic returns.</p> <p>0.3. That no natural disasters impact the coastal communities and no socio-political unrest emerges.</p> <p>0.4. That market prices do not fluctuate so much that value capture is degraded.</p>

<p>Outputs:</p> <p>1. A gender-sensitive participatory planning process has led to the development and adoption of a co-management plan for coastal fisheries in Thandwe District in Rakhine State.</p>	<p>1.1 By 2017, more than 50% of the RCA members (current RCA members in Kyentali = 40, but this is expected to rise by 2017), which includes a proportionally representative number of female fish-workers, have pledged support for a participative co-management plan.</p> <p>1.2 By 2018, a suite of sustainable fisheries input and output controls are designed by the RFP/RCA.</p> <p>1.3 By 2019, between 50-75% of participating fishers within the target geography are compliant with the co-management plan.</p>	<p>1.1 RFP meeting notes demonstrate consensus, gender balance and commitments to co-management.</p> <p>1.2 Co-management plan and input/output controls and documented endorsement from RFP/RCA.</p> <p>1.3 Record of RFP/RCA meeting attendance and reported management infractions. Data will be disaggregated by gender.</p>	<p>1.1 That communities and fishers feel empowered by this governance framework and want to participate (and do not feel disenfranchised by historical government policies).</p> <p>1.2 That government remains stable over the lifecycle of the project and does not enact conflicting policies.</p> <p>1.3 DOF maintains support for co-management.</p>
<p>2. Baseline data is available and routine participatory collection of additional data is integrated into the governance mechanisms for co-management.</p>	<p>2.1 By 2017, baseline fisheries, socio-economic and value-chain monitoring data is available for >30% of the participating small-scale fleet and associated fish-workers/households.</p> <p>2.2 By the end of Year 1, fisheries and socioeconomic data has been circulated via the first RFP/RCA stakeholder workshop.</p> <p>2.3 Co-management planning process receives annual inputs from collaborative monitoring data.</p>	<p>2.1 Baseline fisheries, socio-economic and value-chain data records available. Data will be disaggregated by gender.</p> <p>2.2 Stakeholder workshop proceedings.</p> <p>2.3 Co-management planning process adaptive management updates.</p>	<p>2.1 That communities and government are willing to participate in collaborative monitoring.</p> <p>2.2 That the value chain is traceable / transparent</p> <p>2.3 That training workshops are sufficient to generate a consistent quality of participative data / inputs.</p>
<p>3. A strategy to reduce unintended bycatch of marine vertebrates has been developed and implemented by local fishing communities.</p>	<p>3.1 By 2017, baseline marine vertebrate bycatch data increases from 0 to more than 20% of participating fishers.</p> <p>3.2 By 2017, areas to protect from fishing have been identified and agreed to by 30% of participating small-scale fishers in our focal area.</p> <p>3.3 By 2018, bycatch reduction devices</p>	<p>3.1 Landings survey data and fisher interviews reports.</p> <p>3.2 Participative temporal-spatial mapping (and GPS spot tracker) records demonstrate potential areas for protection.</p> <p>3.3 Bycatch reduction practices active and documented / filmed. Data will be</p>	<p>3.1 That fisher interviews provide accurate information.</p> <p>3.2 That fishers will be unguarded with respect to providing insights into spatial-temporal bycatch.</p> <p>3.3 That appropriate bycatch reduction devices and practices will be adopted and that support can be generated for</p>

	or practices are adopted by more than 30% of participating small-scale fishers in Kyentali (more than 125 people).	disaggregated by gender.	marine vertebrate protection. 3.4 That fishers act honestly when reporting compliance.
4. Lessons learned from fisheries co-management planning and practices are shared to boost national fisheries resource governance capacity.	4.1 By 2018, RFP/RCA members document key lessons learned to date. 4.2 By 2018, the annual forum hosts community and government officials from at least two other districts, states or regions. 4.3 By 2019, 2 alternative districts, states or regions pledge to support the implementation of fisheries co-management.	4.1 Lessons learned documented. 4.2 Meeting membership lists demonstrate interest for co-management of small-scale fisheries in other areas. 4.3 Minutes of meetings held in other districts, states or regions.	4.1 That Union Government support for co-management continues to persist. 4.2 That Union Government policies continue to permit the devolution of management responsibility to states and regions.
<p>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)</p> <p>1.1 RFP/RCA stakeholder meetings to discuss challenges and propose and design the fisheries co-management planning process. [Led by PP, supported by WCS].</p> <p>1.2 Site-based / fisher village meetings to ensure awareness and uptake of the emergent input/output controls and adaptive management processes (legal framework, monitoring, compliance, reporting). [Led by PP, supported by WCS].</p> <p>1.3 Co-management plan developed and ratified by members of the RFP/RCA/fishing communities. [Led by PP, supported by WCS].</p> <p>2.1 Training in fisheries (catch, compliance, etc.), socio-economic and value-chain data collection provided to members of the RFP/RCA/fishing communities. [Led by WCS, supported by PP].</p> <p>2.2 Participative measurements of ecological and socioeconomic criteria through fish landing monitoring, semi-structured/key informant interviews, household and market/value-chain surveys. [Led by WCS, supported by PP].</p> <p>2.3 Consultative meetings with RFP/RCA members/fishing communities to present survey results and discuss the design of adaptive management actions. [Led by WCS, supported by PP].</p> <p>3.1 Rapid assessment boat based field survey to determine the presence and conservation status of dugong and other marine invertebrates known to be caught as by-catch in coastal fisheries in Rakhine. [Led by WCS].</p> <p>3.2 Community workshops held to discuss and agree spatial and gear modifications / practices to minimise impacts on dugong and marine turtles. [Led by WCS, supported by PP].</p> <p>3.3 Participative reports of by-catch reductions presented at consultative meetings with RFP/RCA members/fishing communities. [Led by WCS, supported by PP].</p> <p>4.1 Communicate project results, impacts and lessons learned at state, region and union levels through the annual forum. [Led by PP, supported by WCS].</p> <p>4.2 Conduct site visits to other states and regions to share lessons directly with other fisheries partnerships (e.g. in Ayeyarwady region). [Led by PP, supported by WCS].</p> <p>4.3 Promulgate project learning to an international audience through attendance at IMPAC4 (Chile) and social media channels. [Shared by WCS and PP].</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 (2016/17)				Year 2 (2017/18)				Year 3 (2018/19)			
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Output 1 A gender-sensitive participatory planning process has led to the development and adoption of a co-management plan for coastal fisheries in Thandwe District in Rakhine State.													
1.1 RFP/RCA stakeholder meetings to discuss challenges and propose and design the fisheries co-management planning process. [Led by PP, supported by WCS].	2	X	X										
1.2 Site-based / fisher village meetings to ensure awareness and uptake of the emergent input/output controls and adaptive management processes (legal framework, monitoring, compliance, reporting). [Led by PP, supported by WCS].	3		X		X								
1.3 Co-management plan developed and ratified by members of the RFP/RCA/fishing communities. [Led by PP, supported by WCS].	2					X							
Output 2 Baseline data is available and routine participatory collection of additional data is integrated into the governance mechanisms for co-management.													
2.1 Training in fisheries (catch, compliance, etc.), socio-economic and value-chain data collection provided to members of the RFP/RCA/fishing communities. [Led by WCS, supported by PP].	3		X		X				X				X
2.2 Participative measurements of ecological and socioeconomic criteria through fish landing monitoring, semi-structured/key informant interviews, household and market/value-chain surveys. [Led by WCS, supported by PP].	33		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
2.3 Consultative meetings with RFP/RCA members/fishing communities to present survey results and discuss the design of adaptive management actions. [Led by, supported by PP].	3				X				X				X
Output 3 A strategy to reduce unintended bycatch of marine vertebrates has been developed and implemented by local fishing communities.													
3.1 Rapid assessment boat based field survey to determine the presence and conservation status of dugong and other marine invertebrates known to be caught as by-catch in coastal fisheries in Rakhine. [Led by WCS].	3	X				X				X			

3.2	Community workshops held to discuss and agree spatial and gear modifications / practices to minimise impacts on dugong and marine turtles. . [Led by WCS, supported by PP].	3		X			X			X			
3.3	Participative reports of by-catch reductions presented at consultative meetings with RFP/RCA members/fishing communities. [Led by WCS, supported by PP].	3				X				X			X
Output 4	Lessons learned from fisheries co-management planning and practices are shared to boost national fisheries resource governance capacity.												
4.1	Communicate project results, impacts and lessons learned at state, region and union levels through the annual forum. [Led by PP, supported by WCS].	3				X				X			X
4.2	Conduct site visits to other states and regions to share lessons directly with other fisheries partnerships (e.g. in Ayeyarwady region). [Led by PP, supported by WCS].	3					X				X		X
4.3	Promulgate project learning to an international audience through attendance at IMPAC4 (Chile) and social media channels. [Shared by WCS and PP].	10			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	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)

The project will be governed and monitored by a core partner team (CPT) led by senior staff from WCS and Pyoe Pin. The team will meet bi-annually to review project objectives, assumptions and risks, completed and planned activities, and discuss the roles and responsibilities of each partner. This approach will be a vital tool to strengthen collaboration between project partners and ensure that partners are adequately briefed and understand their level of commitment in the project.

Using the project logical framework, detailed annual workplans will be developed at these meetings for each output. During those meetings progress, risks and issues will be monitored based on the completion of each activity and delivery of each output. Between CPT meetings, progress will be monitored through activity reports, emails and phone/Skype calls, and periodic on site visits.

WCS's success as one of the most effective international conservation NGOs relies both on its ability for implementing conservation and credibly measuring and reporting our conservation impacts over time. As part of the project (Activity 2.2) we will use a suite of participatory marine indicators for the purposes of monitoring the ecological and socioeconomic impacts of co-management. Our monitoring programme is designed to assess whether co-management achieves its conservation and poverty reduction objectives. Specifically we will address data gaps to develop a baseline and monitor area-based fishing effort, fisher numbers, time at sea, weather, fishing and handling methods, gear used, species, length and sale price, creating a baseline catch per unit effort (CPUE) to determine progress towards project outcomes.

Key informant interviews, semi-structured interviews, voluntary GPS tracking and focus group discussions will also help to map inshore effort for the target fishery and collect data on catch and landings. This will be supported by WCS staff/WCS consultant and conducted by community members/citizen scientists/government officials towards empowering ownership of co-management practices. To measure trends in threats (especially dugong and marine turtles from destructive and illegal fishing) we will develop site-based and standardized measures of by-catch as well as conduct vessel-based rapid assessments of marine invertebrates.

Similarly, participatory surveys of socio-economic conditions in fish-worker households (using a protocol such as the Household Basic Necessities survey) will help determine the contribution of inshore fisheries to local livelihoods and food security. A study will also be conducted to determine the stakeholders and genders involved in, and the structure of, the fisheries value chain. These data combined will enable us to assess co-management management effectiveness and socio-economic impacts (households wealth etc.).

In addition, we will capture, document and disseminate knowledge generated by the implementation of project thanks to co-funding from Helmsley Trust and DFID. Specifically we will focus on lessons learned and best practices that will provide crucial knowledge in the design and implementation of future projects aiming to proliferate the potential of co-management to support poverty reduction and biodiversity conservation.

Total budget for M&E	£3,691
Percentage of total budget set aside for M&E	1%

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)

WCS consistently prioritises efficiency and value for money in our field programmes to maximize our impact. Budget allocations and assumptions are informed by two decades of work on the ground in Myanmar. WCS has a low indirect cost, and we provide much of the basic infrastructure (i.e. office space, office equipment, vehicles) thereby maximizing the impact of the Darwin funding. Additionally, the local staff already have strong, well-established relationships with Pyoe Pin and with government fisheries officials. This will guarantee buy-in from local partners and a smooth implementation of fisheries co-management activities and a quick delivery of results and impacts.

We will also use Darwin funding to leverage additional funding, with **29%** of the project’s total direct cost to be covered by other partners. The Darwin project will provide critical funding (primarily for staff, travel and operating costs), which will support the integration of technical and governance expertise between WCS and Pyoe Pin that in turn will directly benefit the coastal poor along Rakhine’s coast. Thanks to the Darwin project, the partners will initiate fisheries co-management and will be mobilised to also monitor, document and disseminate impacts, lessons learned and best practices to foster adaptive management. Partners will also be able to scale the project impacts by promulgating the approach and its benefits for biodiversity conservation and poverty reduction throughout Myanmar.

Finally, in order to independently verify the responsible, efficient, and transparent use of project funds by WCS and its partners, a financial auditor will be hired to review all expenses at the end of the 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)

No. Not applicable.

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)

A meeting was held with Anthony Preston (Head of Prosperity) on the 16th November 2015. Particular points of discussion focussed on Foreign and Commonwealth Office support for the proposed multi-stakeholder approach and embedding democratic decision making into co-management planning processes. In addition, WCS's work engaging with the private sector (offshore Oil and Gas companies, including Shell, Chevron, BG Group and Ophir) to encourage responsible operational practices and to harness a willingness to share the marine and coastal data (collected during their current seismic operations) was supported. For security purposes, WCS will engage further with offshore private sector actors so as to harmonise approaches with regard to potential chance observance of migrant vessels.

CERTIFICATION

On behalf of the trustees/company* of

(*delete as appropriate)

I apply for a grant of £ 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)	
Position in the organisation	

Signed**

Date:

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 ?	Yes
Have you provided actual start and end dates for your project?	Yes
Have you indicated whether you are applying for DFID or Defra funding? NB: you cannot apply for both	Yes
Have you provided your budget based on UK government financial years i.e. 1 April – 31 March and in GBP?	Yes
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?	Yes
Has your application been signed by a suitably authorised individual ? (clear electronic or scanned signatures are acceptable)	Yes
Have you included a 1 page CV for all the key project personnel identified at Question 10?	Yes
Have you included a letter of support from the <u>main</u> partner organisations identified at Question 9?	Yes
Have you been in contact with the FCO in the project country/ies and have you included any evidence of this?	Yes
Have you included a signed copy of the last 2 years annual report and accounts for the lead organisation?	Yes
Have you checked the Darwin website 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 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.