



Submit by 2359 GMT on Monday 29 January 2018

## Darwin Initiative Application for Grant for Round 24: Stage 2

Before completing this form, please read both the Fair Processing Notice on pages 17 and 18 of this form and the [Guidance](#). 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>	Zoological Society of London (ZSL)
<b>Address:</b>	Outer Circle, Regent's Park
<b>City and Postcode:</b>	London; NW1 4RY
<b>Country:</b>	United Kingdom
<b>Email:</b>	
<b>Phone:</b>	

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

<b>Stage 1 Ref:</b>	<b>Title (max 10 words):</b> 4198: Steppe-up: Community-led recovery of Mongolia's iconic species and forest-steppe ecosystem  (10 words)
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#### 3. Summary of Project

Please provide a brief summary of your project, its aims, and the key activities you plan on undertaking. Please note that if you are successful, this wording may be used by Defra in communications e.g. as a short description of the project on [GOV.UK](#). Please bear this in mind, and write this summary for a non-technical audience.

**(max 80 words)**

We will establish a local protected area to promote socio-ecological resilience to support the recovery of the globally-endangered Saker falcon, Steppe eagle, Marmot and Musk deer and disincentivise over-exploitation and degradation of their threatened forest-steppe habitat, by securing the economic wellbeing and food security for the forest-steppe dependent community in Arkhangai. Scalable, equitable, community-driven initiatives will be delivered through: biological monitoring; sustainable forest management; pasture management; sustainable livelihoods and strengthened governance, providing a model for LPA expansion across the forest-steppe.

(80 words)

#### 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:</b> Mongolia	<b>Country 2:</b> NA
<b>Country 3:</b> NA	<b>Country 4:</b> NA

### 5. Project dates, and budget summary

<b>Start date:</b> 1 July 2018		<b>End date:</b> 31 March 2021		<b>Duration:</b> 2.75
<b>Darwin funding request (Apr – Mar)</b>	<b>2018/19</b> £ 146,000	<b>2019/20</b> £ 93,607	<b>2020/21</b> £ 90,345	<b>Total</b> £ 329,952
<b>Proposed (confirmed &amp; unconfirmed) matched funding as % of total Project cost</b>				<b>11%</b>

### 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>	Bhattacharya	Sundev	Norovbanzad
<b>Forename (s)</b>	Gitanjali	Gombobaatar	Davaakhuu
<b>Post held</b>	South and Central Asia Programme Manager	Head of Biological Resources Programme and Professor of Department of Biology	Co-Founder
<b>Organisation (if different to above)</b>	Zoological Society of London	National University of Mongolia	Spirit Mongolia
<b>Telephone</b>			
<b>Email</b>			

Details	Project Partner 3	Project Partner 4	Project Partner 5
<b>Surname</b>	Davaakhuu	Tsedendamba	Enkhmunkh
<b>Forename (s)</b>	Tumurkhuu	Batsugar	Zolbaatar
<b>Post held</b>	Chief Executive Officer	Executive Director	Head of Police Department in Arkhangai Province
<b>Organisation (if different to above)</b>	Arig Bank	IRIM (Independent Research Institute of Mongolia)	Police Department in Arkhangai Province of Mongolia's National Police Agency
<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).

Reference No	Project Leader	Title
24-015	Gitanjali Bhattacharya	Community conservation of Chitwan National Park's freshwater ecosystems and gharials
24-027	Heather	Applying business models to sustain socio-ecological resilience

	Koldewey	in coastal Philippines
24-016	Matthew Gollock	Sustainable community-based stewardship of freshwater resources in the Northern Philippines
23-001	Paul De Ornellas	Strengthening Cameroon's capacity to implement CITES
22-009	Hem Sagar Baral	Securing Suklaphanta Wildlife Reserve's grasslands and wellbeing of local communities
21-020	Matthew Gollock	Eels – a flagship species for freshwater conservation in the Philippines

**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><b>Lead institution and website:</b> Zoological Society of London www.zsl.org</p>	<p><b>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to lead the project): (max 200 words)</b></p> <p>ZSL is a science-based conservation charity founded in 1826. With activities and projects in over 50 countries across the globe, ZSL has a wide range of conservation expertise. ZSL has managed over 40 Darwin Initiative grants since 2000 and is currently leading on a number of large bilateral and multi-lateral grants. ZSL supports in-country protected area management effectiveness and successful community conservation interventions across Asia including in Mongolia, Russia, India and other countries.</p> <p>ZSL compiled Mongolia's CITES government report, and Convention on Biological Diversity 5<sup>th</sup> National Report under contract with the Mongolian Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MET). With fourteen years of work and permanent staff in Mongolia, ZSL has strong partnerships with individual experts, international NGOs and government bodies. We frequently work with the National University and MET. We are currently implementing an IWT Challenge Fund-funded project: 'Tackling Illegal Wildlife Trade in Mongolia through Improved Law Enforcement'.</p> <p>ZSL will lead the project, including financial management of the project and partners. ZSL will contribute technical expertise, and bring together the relevant skills to complete the project. ZSL will also provide expertise to support the LPA management authority in effective and efficient monitoring and evaluation.</p> <p><i>(194 words)</i></p>
Have you included a Letter of Support from this institution? If not, why not?	<b>Yes</b>

<p><b>Partner Name and website where available:</b></p> <p>National University of Mongolia www.num.edu.mn/en/</p>	<p><b>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): (max 200 words)</b></p> <p>The National University of Mongolia (NUM), established in 1942, is the oldest university in Mongolia. NUM has played a fundamental role in creating, promoting and strengthening Mongolian capacity in contemporary scientific research. It is a member of the International Association of Universities (IAU), University Mobility in Asia and the Pacific (UMAP) and the Eurasia Pacific University Network and maintains partnership agreements with more than 180 international universities and research organizations.</p> <p>The collaboration between NUM and ZSL began in 2003 and has grown to encompass a wide range of successful initiatives since then. It has included conducting a highly-demanded international summer field course; developing Mongolia's first comprehensive IUCN Regional Red List; producing publications such as the field guide to the mammals of Mongolia and peer-reviewed articles in the Journal of Biological Sciences; extensive, ground-breaking biological monitoring, such as camera trapping at Gobi oases; and Wild Bactrian camel population surveys.</p> <p>The professors and experts from the Department of Biology of the School of Arts and Sciences, NUM, will support the project's annual biodiversity monitoring and target species monitoring in collaboration with experts from ZSL. They will also support close engagement with government through their existing channels, including their technical advisory roles.</p> <p><i>(199 words)</i></p>
<p>Have you included a Letter of Support from this institution? If not, why not?</p>	<p><b>Yes</b></p>

<p><b>Partner Name and website where available:</b> Spirit Mongolia www.spiritmongolia.com</p>	<p><b>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): (max 200 words)</b></p> <p>Spirit Mongolia is a local NGO established by the community to assist the forest conservation group and the local herder community in the prevention of illegal wood logging, poaching and illegal nut picking, in Mogoitin Gol river Valley MGV. Currently Spirit Mongolia has initiated the organisation of community-based patrolling to mitigate intensive illegal logging and seasonal pine nut picking, and to ensure the sustainable use of natural resources, which the local community, livestock and many iconic species rely on.</p> <p>In 2016, after a determined effort from Spirit Mongolia and the local government, MGV was registered as a Local Protected Area (LPA). Spirit Mongolia are now seeking alternative livelihood options and ways to improve the local community's current economic situation through testing innovative and eco-friendly approaches such as developing an eco-tourism industry or high-end cashmere production.</p> <p>Spirit Mongolia will play an important role in the project including ensuring the active involvement of all community members in project activities across all five outputs. They will lead the development of community-level agreements, support the drafting of LPA management plans, and collaborate closely with Arig Bank to develop business models and support the implementation of Village Savings and Loan schemes (VSLAs).</p> <p><i>(197 words)</i></p>
<p>Have you included a Letter of Support from this institution? If not, why not?</p>	<p><b>Yes</b></p>

<p><b>Partner Name and website where available:</b> Arig Bank www.arigbank.mn</p>	<p><b>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): (max 200 words)</b></p> <p>Arig Bank was founded in 1997, and is Mongolia's second oldest commercial bank. Arig bank has extensive experience developing financial tools for communities and small businesses, as well as assessing business viability to make investment decisions. Arig Bank is a member of the Mongolian Sustainable Finance Programme to support Mongolian society and protect the environment through pursuing more sustainable financing models. They have consequently introduced sustainable finance principles into their banking operations, strategy and policy.</p> <p>Arig Bank are committed to Corporate Social Responsibility and have successfully implemented several associated campaigns including: household financial training; a campaign to combat air pollution; upcycling initiatives; solar energy systems; a green office model; and a washing unit for rural area kindergartens.</p> <p>In this project, Arig Bank will lead the development of sustainable and economically viable business models, as well as providing training and technical support to build the capacity of the community to effectively manage their livestock assets and financial resources. Post-project Arig Bank will maintain its close relationship with the community, providing ongoing support to enhance their financial capital and management.</p> <p><i>(178 words)</i></p>
<p>Have you included a Letter of Support from this institution? If not, why not?</p>	<p><b>Yes</b></p>

<p><b>Partner Name and website where available:</b></p> <p>Mongolia's National Police Agency (NPA) www.police.gov.mn arkhangai.police.gov.mn/</p>	<p><b>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): (max 200 words)</b></p> <p>NPA and ZSL are already working together on Mongolia's CITES reporting, under ZSL's existing IWT Challenge Fund-funded project, with NPA providing data on seizures of IWT products in Mongolia.</p> <p>The collaboration between NPA and ZSL will continue in this project. The local police department in Arkhangai will provide valuable expertise in conducting relevant training, and in patrolling to stop and reduce illegal over-exploitation of wildlife and natural resources. They will also be responsible for providing simple protocols for community members on how to handle law enforcement situations, and how to collect evidence materials while ensuring their safety and informant anonymity, as well as effectively working within the existing legal framework. NPA will work closely with the community to collate and utilise intelligence on environmental crimes, in accordance with Mongolian national law, allowing them to take appropriate legal action. NPA will provide data and statistics on investigations related to wildlife and natural resources from the project area.</p> <p>Post-project NPA will continue to provide key law enforcement support to the LPA, and will have increased capacity to engage effectively with new LPAs being formed across Central Mongolia as a result of this project.</p> <p><i>(191 words)</i></p>
<p>Have you included a Letter of Support from this institution? If not, why not?</p>	<p><b>Yes</b></p>

<p><b>Partner Name and website where available:</b></p> <p>Independent Research Institute of Mongolia www.irim.mn</p>	<p><b>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): (max 200 words)</b></p> <p>The Independent Research Institute of Mongolia (IRIM) is one of Mongolia's leading national organizations specializing in research, monitoring and evaluation (M&amp;E) and training projects. IRIM was founded in April 2008 to provide high-quality independent consulting services, and research with genuine impact.</p> <p>IRIM has 25 full-time and more than 50 part-time employees who are proficient in conducting research and training, managing projects and providing a range of other consultancy services. To date, IRIM have undertaken projects for, and cooperated with over 50 national and international organizations including ZSL, UNDP, the Asian Development Bank, and the World Bank.</p> <p>For this project IRIM will be responsible for conducting baseline and final socioeconomic surveys and will also support ZSL to conduct project M&amp;E as it relates to human wellbeing and socioeconomic metrics.</p> <p><i>(128 words)</i></p>
<p>Have you included a Letter of Support from this institution? If not, why not?</p>	<p><b>Yes</b></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. These should match the names and roles in the budget spreadsheet.

Name (First name, surname)	Role	Organisation	% time on project	1 page CV or job description attached*?
Gitanjali Bhattacharya	Project Leader	ZSL	10%	CV
<i>In recruitment – CV pending</i>	<i>ZSL-Mongolia Country Manager</i>	ZSL	10%	ToR
<i>In recruitment – CV pending</i>	<i>Mongolia Project Coordinator</i>	ZSL	50%	ToR
Jake Williams	South and Central Asia Projects Coordinator	ZSL	10%	CV
Gombobaatar Sudev	Forest-Steppe Specialist	NUM	20%	CV
Davaakhuu Norovbanzad	Rural Community Leader and Expert	Spirit Mongolia	20%	CV
Tumurkhuu Davaakhuu	Small Business and Community Enterprise Specialist	Arig Bank	10%	CV
Batsugar Tsedendamba	Socioeconomic Research Specialist	IRIM	20%	CV
<i>To be hired</i>	<i>Project Officer</i>	ZSL	100%	ToR
Munkhjargal Myagmar	Technical Specialist	ZSL	50%	CV
Myagmarsuren Shagdarjav	Administration and Logistics Support Officer	ZSL	50%	CV
Khaliun Tsog	Finance Officer	ZSL	50%	CV

**\*If you cannot provide a CV, please explain why not.**

The ZSL-Mongolia Country Manager and Project Coordinator roles are in recruitment. We will be able to share CVs shortly.

There are a number of junior and short-term staff members reflected in the budget under staff costs of partner organisations, which do not appear in the list above. These roles will support basic tasks under the project and are consequently fairly self-explanatory.

## 11. Problem the project is trying to address

Please describe the problem your project is trying to address in terms of biodiversity and 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?

(Max 300 words)

Illegal hunting, overgrazing and pastureland deterioration, and deforestation in Central Mongolia's 1660km<sup>2</sup> Mogoitin Gol river Valley (MGV) forest-steppe ecosystem imperils iconic and globally-threatened species including Saker falcon (*Falco cherrug*), Steppe eagle (*Aquila*



*nipalensis*) Siberian marmot (*Marmota sibirica*) and Musk deer (*Moschus moschiferus*)<sup>1,2,3</sup>. These species have immense cultural significance for Mongolians: the falcon is the national bird; the eagle an enduring symbol of the nomadic way of life; and the marmot and deer are the source of many traditional household products. This landscape represents one of the largest remaining intact temperate grassland ecosystems<sup>4</sup> globally, but is critically threatened by uncontrolled economic overexploitation<sup>5,6,7</sup>. Without robust interventions, the overexploitation of pastures and forests will drive fatal degradation and loss of Mongolia's critical forest-steppe ecosystem, which is already the key threat to its globally-significant wildlife and dependent local communities.

Healthy ecosystems in Arkhangai not only safeguard the future of its wildlife, but also underpin the livelihoods and socio-cultural identities of Mongolia's nomadic communities, and their resilience to climate change<sup>8</sup>. As ecosystem-degradation escalates, this resilience is eroded, undermining livelihoods of livestock herders and driving communities into poverty<sup>9</sup>. Furthermore, this drives gender inequality and a gender imbalance, with women experiencing the most severe impacts due to existing stereotypes and traditional belief systems<sup>10</sup>

The project partnership conducted an extensive pre-project threat assessment, site survey and stakeholder mapping and engagement exercise in MGV LPA. This identified the area as subject to high levels of over-exploitation and habitat loss and degradation, but also with the potential for positive transformation and a deeply committed and concerned local community keen to safeguard the forest-steppe ecosystem and traditional lifestyle. This makes it an ideal pilot site for a community-led LPA model to arrest degradation of this critical ecosystem and support recovery of culturally-significant species.

(300 words)

## 12a. Biodiversity Conventions, Treaties and Agreements

Your project must support the objectives of one or more of the agreements listed below. Please indicate which agreement(s) will be supported and describe which objectives your project will address and how. Note: projects supporting more than one will not achieve a higher score.

<b>Convention On Biological Diversity (CBD)</b>	Yes
<b>Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS)</b>	No
<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

<sup>1</sup> MET, 2016. Mongolian Multipurpose National Forest Inventory, Ulaanbaatar: Ministry of Environment and Tourism.

<sup>2</sup> MUST, 2011. Heating production and supply's current situation and future trends in Mongolia, Ulaanbaatar: Mongolian University of Science and Technology.

<sup>3</sup> IUCN 2017. *The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. Version 2017-1.*

<sup>4</sup> Reading, R.P., Bedunah, D.J. and Amgalanbaatar, S., 2006. Conserving biodiversity on Mongolian rangelands: implications for protected area development and pastoral uses. USDA Forest Service Proceedings RMRS-P-39

<sup>5</sup> National Accounts, World Bank, (2017)

<sup>6</sup> Mongolian Ministry of Food and Agriculture

<sup>7</sup> Wesche, K., Ronnenberg, K., Retzer, V. and Miede, G., 2010. Effects of large herbivore exclusion on southern Mongolian desert steppes. *Acta Oecologica*, 36(2), pp.234-241.

<sup>8</sup> AIACC, 2006 Climate Change Vulnerability and Adaptation in the Livestock Sector of Mongolia

<sup>9</sup> Bruun, O., Narangoa, L., 2011. Mongols from country to city: Floating boundaries, pastoralism and city life in the Mongol Lands. Nias Press.

<sup>10</sup> UN-REDD Mongolia National Programme 2017. ANALYSIS OF SOCIAL INCLUSION AND GENDER DYNAMIC FOR REDD+ IN MONGOLIA. Ulaanbaatar

## 12b. Biodiversity Conventions

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

(Max 500 words)

In support of Mongolia's Ministry of Environment and Tourism, the CBD and Mongolia's National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) (2015-2025), this project will contribute to Mongolia's overall biodiversity conservation goals through developing a scalable model of community-led ecosystem management, which enables sustainable resource use to conserve and enhance biodiversity and ecosystem resilience.

Deploying the CBD's 'ecosystem approach'<sup>11</sup> the project will empower key Mongolian stakeholders to achieve the CBD objectives of sustainable use and equitable benefits-sharing, through the establishment of LPA governance structures that adhere to the principles of gender equality and social inclusion (GESI). The framework for LPA expansion will ensure that lessons learnt are replicable to other key biodiversity sites across the Forest-steppe.

Specifically the project will contribute to the following **Aichi Biodiversity Targets**:

- **1: People are aware of the value of biodiversity and of steps they can take to conserve and maintain it.** Consideration of biodiversity will be embedded in local decision making, and so awareness of its value will increase, while the local community is empowered to protect it.
- **2: Biodiversity values integrated into local development and poverty reduction strategies.** The LPA model will implicitly integrate poverty reduction with biodiversity conservation by supporting communities to manage their ecosystem more sustainably and generate biodiversity-based revenue streams.
- **5: Reduced habitat loss degradation and fragmentation.** Sustainable management of natural resources through the LPA model will reduce their over-exploitation, which is driving habitat loss and degradation within MGV.
- **7: Sustainable management of areas under agriculture and forestry.** The LPA model will trial locally appropriate sustainable forest and pasture management models. Both management models will be adaptively managed utilising data from biodiversity, above-ground biomass and soil monitoring.
- **11: 17% of terrestrial areas are conserved through effectively and equitably managed protected areas (PAs).** Although Mongolia currently has 18% PA coverage<sup>12</sup>, limited resources constrain their effectiveness. The framework for the expansion of an effective and equitable LPA model will therefore make a key contribution to this objective.
- **12: Improved conservation status of threatened species.** The project will increase the local populations of Saker Falcon (*Falco cherrug*) EN, Steppe Eagle (*Aquila nipalensis*) EN, and Musk deer (*Moschus moschiferus*) VU; and will stabilise the population of recently reintroduced Siberian Marmot (*Marmota sibirica*) EN.
- **14: Ecosystems providing essential services restored, accounting for needs of local communities and the vulnerable.** The LPA model will prevent over-exploitation of critical ecosystems, so restoring vital ecosystem services. Equitable LPA governance

<sup>11</sup> <https://www.cbd.int/ecosystem/>

<sup>12</sup> [http://www.mn.undp.org/content/mongolia/en/home/operations/projects/environment\\_and\\_energy/SPAN.html](http://www.mn.undp.org/content/mongolia/en/home/operations/projects/environment_and_energy/SPAN.html)

will ensure the net benefits are fairly shared.

- **17: Implementing Mongolia's National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP).** Biodiversity monitoring conducted under the LPA model will feed into reporting against Mongolia's NBSAP, through annual workshops, to support its implementation and wider lesson learning.
- **18: Traditional knowledge and practices of local communities respected and integrated into biodiversity conservation, with their full and effective participation.** The LPA model will utilise traditional knowledge and practices under all outputs, from biological monitoring and forestry management to effective governance structures. Community members will have full ownership of all outputs.

(495 words)

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

**Yes**  **No** if yes, please give details:

ZSL has a pre-existing relationship the CBD National Focal Point Ms. Dorjsuren Ariuntuya. The project will collaborate closely and consult with her regularly report to her on project implementation including biodiversity monitoring results and project achievements.

Additionally the project's forest-steppe specialist Mr Gombobaatar Sundev, who is also the CBD National Focal Point for the Global Taxonomy Initiative, will consult with Ms. Dorjsuren Ariuntuya to ensure the project contributes efficiently and appropriately towards the CBD provisions and Mongolia's NBSAP. The project will contribute to Mongolia's NBSAP through strengthening the PA network and improving the management and capacity of PAs (Goal 5: Objectives 10 & 11) and developing community-based forest management and biodiversity protection (Goal 11: Objective 16).

(116 words)

**12d. Global Goals for Sustainable Development (SDGs)**

Please detail how your project will contribute to the Global Goals for Sustainable Development (SDGs).

(Max 250 words)

The project will support Mongolian and UK Government Commitments by contributing to the following SDG's:

- **1: no poverty**, and **8: decent work and economic growth** though sustainable pasture management integrating marmot-friendly agriculture and traditional approaches, and the development of additional income streams, targeted at marginalised groups such as women, all contributing to improved wellbeing;
- **2: zero hunger** through sustainable forest and pasture management providing greater food security;
- **5: gender equality** through embedding GESI in the design, management and benefit-sharing of all components of the project, with interventions targeted at removing systemic barriers and empowering disadvantaged groups in the community;
- **13: climate action** through sustainable forest management to ensure the carbon storage potential of forests is not lost and is enhanced where possible; and
- **15: life on land** through wildlife and ecosystem conservation and restoration, enhancement of biodiversity achieved via sustainable pasture and forest management, and positive attitudes to conservation cultivated through the LPA model.

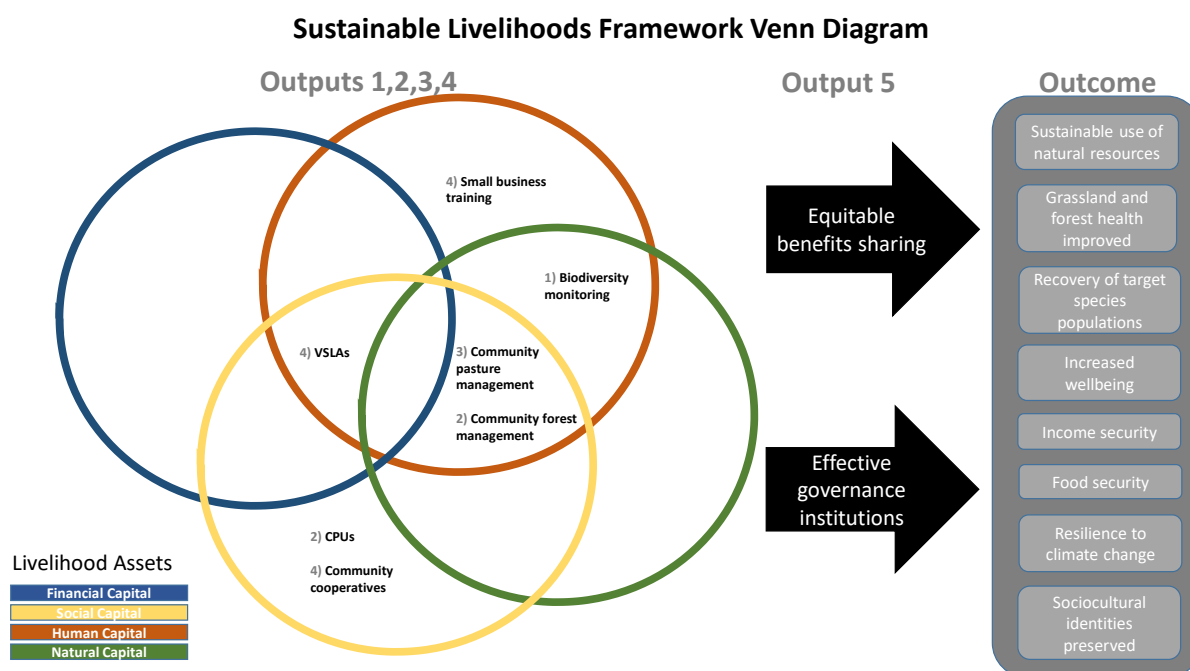
(154 words)

### 13. Methodology

Describe the methods and approach you will use to achieve your intended Outcome 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.)

The LPA model aims to intrinsically link biodiversity conservation to enhanced community livelihoods, ensuring the on-going sustainability of conservation initiatives. It does this by designing each LPA conservation intervention to explicitly enhance one or more of the key livelihood assets of the local community, as identified under DFID's sustainable livelihoods framework<sup>13</sup>. Through equitable benefit-sharing and effective governance frameworks, these enhanced assets will secure livelihoods, while delivering significant conservation benefits. See figure below:



#### Output 1 – Focal Species Recovery

With support from NUM, ZSL and Spirit Mongolia, communities will conduct annual species population monitoring surveys<sup>14,15,16</sup> for four key target species in the forest-steppe ecosystem at the project-site, with results fed into adaptive LPA management planning and NBSAP reporting.

#### Output 2 – Sustainable Forest Management

Annual forest biodiversity and woody biomass monitoring using vegetation indices will be conducted by community members. Drawing on ZSL's expertise from Nepal, Community SMART Patrolling Units (CPUs) will be established and trained to effectively patrol the forest preventing illegal logging and hunting. Four community-monitored plots will trial harvesting and

<sup>13</sup> DFID, 1999, Sustainable livelihood guidance sheets.

<sup>14</sup> Danielsen, F., Balete, D.S., Poulsen, M.K., Enghoff, M., Nozawa, C.M. and Jensen, A.E., 2000. A simple system for monitoring biodiversity in protected areas of a developing country. *Biodiversity and Conservation*, 9(12), pp.1671-1705.

<sup>15</sup> Sunde, G., Damdin, S., Osor, Sh., Potapov, E., Fox, N., 2004. Saker Falcon (*Falco cherrug milvipes* Jerdon) mortality in Central Mongolia and population threats. *Mongolian Journal of Biological Sciences* 2004 Vol. 2(2): 13-21.

<sup>16</sup> Townsend, S., Galtbalt, B., Myagmar, M., 2010. Implementation of the Wildlife Picture Index in Mongolia Khonin Nuga, Western Khentii Onon Balj, Eastern Khentii and Myangan Ugalzat National Park, Altai Sayan Region. Study Report.

thinning techniques measuring impact on above-ground biomass and species richness of invertebrates and birds<sup>17,18</sup>. In Y3, a forest management plan supporting species recovery will be produced using participatory approaches.

### **Output 3 – Sustainable Pasture Management**

Community-led pasture biodiversity monitoring will be conducted documenting invertebrate and bird richness<sup>19</sup>, and soil nutrient and compaction levels. Pasture management trials<sup>20</sup> will be conducted on experimental plots, drawing on sustainable traditional practices and modern pasture management techniques<sup>21,22</sup>. In Y3, a pasture management plan supporting species recovery will be produced.

### **Output 4 – Sustainable and Equitable Livelihoods**

Baseline and final socioeconomic surveys will be conducted, drawing metrics from the Aimag Competitiveness Index<sup>23</sup>. Three sustainable pasture and ecotourism enterprises will be developed through a GESI-focused cooperative including a cashmere enterprise providing access for communities to sell certified high-quality, ethical and sustainable cashmere. Spirit Mongolia's extensive community consultations, and detailed feasibility studies by Arig Bank's small-business team, have identified these as the most promising sustainable enterprises in the LPA. Three VSLAs, with 20 members from different households participating in each, will be established following best practice<sup>24</sup>, building on valuable lessons from recent projects led by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation in Mongolia.

### **Output 5 – Effective LPA Governance, Monitoring and Evaluation**

A community LPA management authority, enshrining GESI and democratic principles, while respecting local traditions, will be established in Y1. This institution will increasingly lead coordination of all outputs through the project, and will support the production and future management of the final LPA management plan in Y3. Overall LPA M&E will be conducted including: 'pre' and post-project threat assessments; identifying Key Performance Indicators (KPIs); and developing 'Business as Usual' scenarios using a control site, to assess project impact and identify promising sites to adopt the LPA model. Nearby communities, and government, will be engaged through exchange visits to build awareness and support for scaling the LPA model.

ZSL will lead project implementation using the Asana project management tool.

*(500 words)*

## **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 (i.e. during the life of the project) and b) in the long-term (after the project has ended). Please describe the changes for biodiversity and for people in

<sup>17</sup> FAO, 2017. UN FAO Mongolai. [Online] Available at: Mainstreaming biodiversity conservation, SFM and carbon sink enhancement into Mongolia's productive forest landscapes (FSP).

<sup>18</sup> GIZ, 2017. GIZ Mongolia. [Online] Available at: Biodiversity and adaptation of key forest ecosystems to climate change II [Accessed 29 August 2017].

<sup>19</sup> Martin, L.M., Moloney, K.A., Wilsey, B.J., 2005. An assessment of grassland restoration success using species diversity components. *Journal of Applied Ecology* 42, 327–336. doi:10.1111/j.1365-2664.2005.01019.x

<sup>20</sup> Bulgamaa, D., Budbaatar, U., Ankhtsetseg, B., Sunjidmaa, S., 2015. Mongolian Rangeland Ecological Capacity, and Results of Studying Opportunities of Using It in Rangeland Management. Swiss Agency for Development. Proceedings of Building Resilience of Mongolian Rangeland. pp 19-23

<sup>21</sup> <https://csa.guide/csa/practices#article-31>

<sup>22</sup> Tungalag, U., Maria, F.G., Batbuyan, B., Batkhishg, B., 2015. What explains positive social outcomes of community-based rangeland management in Mongolia? Proceedings of Building Resilience of Mongolian Rangeland. pp115-121

<sup>23</sup> EPCRC, 2016. Provincial Competitiveness Index Report

<sup>24</sup> Ksoll, C., Lilleør, H.B., Lønborg, J.H., Rasmussen, O.D., 2016. Impact of Village Savings and Loan Associations: Evidence from a cluster randomized trial. *Journal of Development Economics* 120, 70–85. doi:10.1016/j.jdeveco.2015.12.003

developing countries, and how they are linked. When talking about people, please remember to give details of who will benefit and the number of beneficiaries expected. 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 500 words)

**In the short term the over-exploitation of natural resources within MGVLPA will end.**

- Overgrazing will be reduced with 80% of households adopting sustainable pasture management techniques, which promote smaller goat herds as part of sustainable cashmere enterprises.
- Hunting will be prevented within the LPA through twice weekly CPU patrolling and community-driven social sanctions led by the LPA management authority.
- Illegal logging incidents will be reduced by 75% through sustainable forest management and CPU patrolling.

**As a result habitat degradation within MGVLPA will be halted and reversed.**

- Pastures will be restored in the short-term indicated by increasing soil nutrients and decreasing compaction. In the long-term pastures will be productive ecosystems with greatly increased resilience.
- Forest health will stabilise in the short-term indicated by no-further decline in above-ground biomass. In the long-term forest area, health and tree diversity will increase.

**This, in turn, will lead to the recovery of key populations of the four focal species threatened by these processes.**

- Populations of iconic bird species, Saker falcon and Steppe eagles will recover from likely less than 10 breeding pairs each, through strengthened protection in the short-term. They will provide a source population, and recover their, currently vacant, ecological roles as top predators in the long-term.
- Musk deer populations will recover from fewer than 50 individuals with protection from hunting, and pastureland restoration in the short-term; and in the long-term establish within the project-site and nearby protected areas, as a key stronghold.
- The marmot population will stabilise, following their recent site-based reintroduction and marmot-friendly pasture management, in the short-term. With population recovery in the long-term, enabling the reprisal of their role as key grassland ecosystem engineers<sup>25</sup> and prey species of target birds<sup>26</sup>.

**By empowering the community to address these key environmental drivers of poverty, and taking proactive steps under the project to alleviate it, the wellbeing of around 500 community members living in the LPA will be increased in the long-term.**

- The economic wellbeing of 60% of community members will increase in the short-term.
- Community member's income securities will increase in the short term, with an increase in livelihood diversity and 60% of households participating in VSLAs.
- Food security will increase through additional income streams, combined with sustainable pasture management, in the short-term. This will be cemented by increasing pasture productivity in the long-term.
- The local community's resilience to climate change will increase as pastures are restored, and increasing forest carbon storage will help fight climate change globally in the long-term.

<sup>25</sup> Davidson, A.D., Detling, J.K. and Brown, J.H., 2012. Ecological roles and conservation challenges of social, burrowing, herbivorous mammals in the world's grasslands. *Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment*, 10(9), pp.477-486.

<sup>26</sup> Gombobaatar, S. and Monks, E.M. (compilers), Seidler, R., Sumiya, D., Tseveenmyadag, N., Bayarkhuu, S., Baillie, J. E. M., Boldbaatar, Sh., Uuganbayar, Ch. (editors) (2011). *Regional Red List Series Vol.7. Birds*. Zoological Society of London, National University of Mongolia and Mongolian Ornithological Society. 1036 pp. (In English)

- Traditional nomadic sociocultural identities will be preserved through these changes securing the pastoral nomadic way of life for the long-term.
- Equitable sharing of all these benefits across the community will be secured in the short term (as outlined in section 15. Gender).

**The LPA achieving this will provide a model for replication of these benefits across central Mongolia.**

- The land area of Central Mongolia under effective, equitable protected area management will increase.

*(483 words)*

## **15. Gender**

All applicants must consider whether and how their project will contribute to reducing inequality between persons of different gender. Explain how your project will collect gender disaggregated data and what impact your project will have in promoting gender equality.

*(Max 300 words)*

### **Reducing inequality**

Gender inequality will be reduced within the LPA in the project period. In the longer term gender inequality will be reduced and equality promoted across central Mongolia through the scaling-up of the model pioneered here. There are three key pathways to reducing gender inequality within the LPA. Firstly, embedding GESI principles, alongside local traditions, in the governance and operations of the LPA. This will ensure that women have a role and a voice in the LPA management authority, community cooperatives, and coordination of the CPU. This will include both representation from women from all communities, and mechanisms to ensure that marginalised voices are heard, and groups empowered to participate in natural resource governance. Secondly, the project will ensure that women and members of marginalised households are involved and benefit equally from livelihood activities, and newly developed income streams. This will be achieved through cooperatives which actively require decision-making participation from all parts of society. Thirdly promoting sustainable pasture and forestry management will reduce resource scarcity and competition. This has an outsized impact on marginalised groups due to them being the first to lose access to resources through competition.

### **Collecting gender disaggregated data**

The project will conduct a range of gender disaggregated socioeconomic data collection, both to measure the impact of livelihood interventions under output 4, and to measure the overall impact of the project through the outcome indicators.

### **Promoting equality**

The project will promote equality both through the internalisation of GESI principles in LPA management, but also by more informally promoting gender awareness and equality during management training courses. Additionally, through exchange visits, community members from comparable sites targeted for potential replication will be engaged with the GESI principles underpinning the pilot LPA, initiating the process of giving social legitimacy to reform through dialogue and consultation.

*(298 words)*

## 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)

ZSL has a permanent presence in Mongolia. This provides a platform to implement the project and ensure its lasting legacy, providing ongoing technical advice and support when needed.

The pilot of the LPA in MGV will be self-sustaining by project end. Outputs 2) Sustainable forest management; 3) Sustainable pasture management; 4) Cooperatives managing new sustainable business models and VSLAs; and 5) the LPA management authority will all be fully owned by, and co-produced with, local communities from the start of the project. As the project progresses management and operations will be steadily handed over to the communities and by project end they will be self-sustaining and no longer require project inputs. Output 1) biological monitoring will continue to require technical and resource inputs, and ZSL is committed to providing these and supporting the government in effective biological monitoring across central Mongolia.

Secondly, the framework for LPA expansion will be in place by project end, with buy in from key stakeholders, both government and communities, from potential expansion sites. The process of producing official LPA guidelines will be underway and this will enable this progressive work to continue post-project, with ZSL's ongoing commitment and technical support.

(195 words)

## 17a. Harmonisation

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

(Max 200 words)

This is a new initiative. It builds on ZSL-Mongolia's previous community conservation work, and on the Ministry of Environment and Tourism's LPA project (details of which are provided below). ZSL has strong partnerships with individual experts, international NGOs and government bodies, especially the Ministry of Environment and Tourism, in Mongolia, which will be built on under this project. ZSL's work on the Mongolia's CITES government report, and Convention on Biological Diversity 5th National Report under contract with the Mongolian Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MET) provides the framework for the biodiversity monitoring work under this project, in collaboration with NUM. The existing IWT Challenge Fund-funded project: 'Tackling Illegal Wildlife Trade in Mongolia through Improved Law Enforcement' has established effective community engagement and socioeconomic survey techniques for use in Mongolia, and these will be drawn on under this project.

Arig bank's programme of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) work, including a wide range of economic development initiatives in rural communities, provides the background to the enterprise development planned in the LPA. Spirit Mongolia's achievements in engaging the local community in the LPA approach, and having the LPA officially registered pre-project are the baseline for the work planned under this project.

(198 words)



**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. Explain 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.

Mongolia's Ministry of Environmental and Tourism is implementing a related and mutually reinforcing project (2013-2018) on LPAs in Mongolia. The project, funded by GEF and UNDP is titled: "Mongolia's Network of managed resource protected areas (MRPA)". This project has successfully supported the creation of a policy environment supportive of LPA expansion, and has built the nationwide capacity to effectively manage LPAs once they are established through lesson-learning from existing LPAs.

The proposed project builds on this work by providing a proven effective and equitable LPA model, which can be incorporated into official guidelines, to strengthen the LPA network. The resulting combination of a supportive national policy environment, nationwide capacity for LPA expansion and a blueprint of an effective LPA for Central Mongolia's forest-steppe will enable a rapid increase in strategic LPA coverage in this region. Thereby the proposed project will unlock the full impact of the existing project to reduce and reverse the biodiversity and habitat degradation and loss, driven by over-exploitation, which currently imperils these ecosystems.

(167 words)

**18. Ethics**

Outline your approach to meeting the Darwin Initiative's key principles for research ethics as outlined in the [Guidance](#).

(Max 300 words)

ZSL has been working in Mongolia for the last 15 years and has an excellent track record regarding working principles.

ZSL and our partners all have existing experience at the proposed project site (MGV) and the support of the local community and government to undertake this project. When starting project activities, we will provide a full explanation of the principles and objectives behind the project and seek written Free, Prior Informed Consent (FPIC) from our target communities. Prior to the collection of any socioeconomic/personal information, the aims of the project and confidentiality arrangements of resulting data will be explained to respondents, as also required by Mongolian law on personal statistics. Respondents will be given the opportunity to opt out of the interview or survey should they desire. The Project Officer, with support from the Project Leader and Advisors, will ensure there are no adverse effects on any community members and that project interventions are pro-poor and gender aware.

ZSL's Health and Safety procedures require risk assessments and Emergency Procedures to be completed prior to initiating any activities to be delivered by ZSL staff. In-country staff are covered by national health insurance policies and by Falck Global Assistance for emergencies that may occur during their work for ZSL. ZSL staff travelling outside of their own country are covered by ZSL's central travel cover, provided by Falck Global Assistance. Our partners on this project also have high standards of health and safety requirements to which they are bound.

(246 words)

## 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 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)

Communication and knowledge sharing will play a key role in both implementing the LPA model in MGV, and working with partners and government to put the framework for the expansion of this LPA model in place, and begin the production of official guidelines. Four key target audience groups have been identified, with communication strategies outlined for each. Communication strategies will be tailored for each audience to increase engagement, such as verbal dissemination at workshops for illiterate communities, and executive briefs for senior government officials.

### **Intended audience: Local community members**

**Method of engagement:** community workshops, LPA management authority meetings

**Products/materials:** training materials, posters, management plans, minutes of LPA management authority meetings

**Intended results:** Establishing an effective and equitable community-manged LPA model in MGV. Increasing the local understanding of the long term impacts of over-exploitation on the ecosystem to promote sustainable decision-making.

### **Intended audience: Community members from other communities**

**Method of engagement:** exchange visits, community workshops

**Products/materials:** training materials, posters, management plans

**Intended results:** Engaging comparable central Mongolian communities in the project to observe the impact of the LPA model and encourage them to adopt the model in their own local area.

### **Intended audience: local and national government**

**Method of engagement:** annual workshops to feed results from LPA into NBSAP and share lessons, conferences, reports

**Products/materials:** management plans, reports, survey results

**Intended results:** Engaging the government to support the LPA model, and so put the framework in place for further expansion of the model and the production of official LPA guidelines.

### **Intended audience: national and international media**

**Method of engagement:** social media, press conferences,

**Products/materials:** press releases, project pages on ZSL and partners' websites

**Intended results:** Dissemination of project results to increase global awareness of the conservation value of Central Mongolia's forest-steppe ecosystems, as well as their importance to local communities.

(299 words)

## 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)

Building community capacity to sustainably manage their natural resources and develop more sustainable and productive livelihoods lies at the heart of this project and is built-in to all project activities. All five outputs of the project involve building local capacity at a variety of levels to carry out the relevant work. ZSL's long-term commitment to Mongolia ensures that ongoing technical support will be available as needed.

The biological monitoring will build the capacity of staff from local government environment agencies and NUM, and of community members through dedicated training sessions and through the experience of conducting biological monitoring during the project.

Establishing the sustainable forestry and pasture models will include building capacity to conduct a variety of different management techniques, and manage the experimental plots, as well as implement the sustainable management plans. These management activities will be institutionalised within LPA management and so continue post-project.

Community capacity to improve their own wellbeing, and to conduct effective business and financial management, will be built through co-producing sustainable business enterprises with the community, implementing community cooperatives to manage them, and establishing VSLAs. By institutionalising these skills within LPA management, including through the cooperatives, this capacity will continue to be exercised and increased post-project.

Finally by establishing a community-based LPA management authority community governance will be strengthened and the capacity of the community to fairly and sustainably manage their natural resources increased. By supporting the LPA management authority to lead monitoring and evaluation of LPA performance based on identified KPI's, and conduct adaptive management based on this, capacity will be maintained and increased post-project. (262 words)

## 21. Access to project information

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

(Max 250 words)

Internally, ZSL maintains an online database accessible to all staff which hosts project reports and outputs. Externally, all project outputs will be reported on ZSL's and partner's websites and disseminated via social media. Content will be provided to ZSL's and Darwin's press departments for inclusion in newsletters and press releases, as relevant. Any publications resulting from the project will be through open access peer reviewed journals (e.g. PLOS ONE). Associated costs will be covered by the overhead contributions requested.

We will disseminate information further afield through associated organisations such as the relevant IUCN specialist groups, Arig Bank, other conservation and development agencies working in Mongolia, and at related events held at ZSL's London headquarters. Data will be shared to feed into global conservation initiatives such as the [Living Planet Index](#) as well as national needs, such as the regular reporting against the NBSAP and to the CBD. Project information will be provided in the form of executive summaries for presentation to senior government officials.

It is important that we share the project's outputs with those without access to digital media. Therefore we will provide Mongolian language hard copies of reports, management plans, protocols and guidelines to communities and other stakeholders. Results will also be communicated verbally to community members through holding workshops to ensure that everyone, regardless of their literacy level, has access to this information. Necessary printing costs have been included in the budget requested. (236 words)

## Project Monitoring and Evaluation

### Measuring Impact

#### 22. Logical Framework

Darwin projects will be required to report against their progress towards their expected Outputs and Outcome if funded. This section sets out the expected Outputs and Outcome 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
<b>Impact:</b> <b>Central Mongolia's forest-steppe ecosystem safeguarded through a LPA network, with flourishing populations of globally-endangered species and local communities' wellbeing and socio-cultural traditions secured through equitable sustainable resource-use and diversified livelihoods.</b> (30 words)			
<b>Outcome:</b> 1660km <sup>2</sup> of Arkhangai's forest-steppe secured and sustainably managed as a LPA, supporting globally-endangered species' recovery, equitably safeguarding communities' culture and livelihoods, and providing a framework for replicating the LPA model.  (30 words)	0.1 Key populations of indicator species representing steppe biodiversity within the LPA are stable or increasing compared to year 1 baselines by the project end. Particularly, a) the Siberian marmot ( <i>Marmota sibirica</i> ) population remains stable, b) the Musk deer population ( <i>Moschus moschiferus</i> ) increases by 5% c) and the populations of Saker falcon ( <i>Falco cherrug</i> ) and Steppe eagle ( <i>Aquila nipalensis</i> ) increase by 10%.	<u>Annual LPA biodiversity surveys</u> feeding into LPA Management Plan and reporting against Mongolia's NBSAP (2015-2025)	The recently reintroduced marmot population is assumed to be very vulnerable at present, and achieving a stable population will present a major success but is achievable. The other 3 key species are more established so the specified population growth rates are expected as the impact of the project's interventions are felt.
	0.2 1660 km <sup>2</sup> of forest-steppe habitat safeguarded by a functional CPU under an effective LPA which achieves zero-poaching and a 75% reduction in incidents of illegal logging from project baseline (= year 1) by project end.	LPA records; CPU SMART patrol logs; Illegal logging reports produced from SMART data; SMART reports showing evidence for patrol coverage and threats encountered; 'threat assessment'	Disease outbreaks in wild populations do not occur, or occur at such a rate so as to not affect the trajectory of population recovery.

	0.3 Women and ethnically marginalized groups within the LPA community have equal representation in LPA-management decisions (baseline = year 1) by project end	<u>Socioeconomic survey</u> (baseline & project end): self-reporting by women in the LPA, verifying that women and ethnically marginalized groups have equal share of decision making in the LPA	Mongolian socio-economic climate remains stable and the community adheres to the self-imposed criteria for equal participation set to ensure balanced participation of men, women and ethnically marginalized people , e.g. set target numbers of women and men and marginalized people to equally benefit and participate in the proposed programmes and share in the decision -making process.
	0.4 At least 60% of (total = ca. 100) households within LPA show an increase in overall economic wellbeing index scores, with women and men benefiting equally within households (baseline = year 1) by project end.	<u>Socioeconomic survey</u> (baseline & project end): scores on overall economic wellbeing index, compiled from range of metrics identified in year 1	
	0.5 275km <sup>2</sup> (100%) of forest within LPA managed sustainably and showing no decline in above-ground woody biomass (baseline = year 1) by project end.	Forest management records, <u>woody biomass monitoring</u> (baseline & project end), <u>annual phenology and species richness forest plot results</u> , GIS analysis	No natural disasters, such as forest fires or disease impacting standing forest.
	0.6 Framework for the expansion of LPAs across Central Mongolia is in place, with buy-in from relevant government agencies, NGOs, and key target communities; and the process of producing official steppe-forest LPA guidelines has begun, by project end.	All protocols and management plans produced under project; recommendations on LPA framework formally received by MET	Government support for community-based conservation remains strong.
<b>Output 1:</b> Annual biodiversity monitoring programme within LPA in place providing data for informed conservation interventions,	1.1 Biodiversity monitoring plans for all key species and wider ecosystem developed for use by the annual monitoring programme, utilising local ecological knowledge, by year 1.	<u>Annual biodiversity surveys, Local Ecological Knowledge</u>	No natural disasters, such as forest fires, or particularly harsh winters ( <i>dzuds</i> ) significantly negatively impact wildlife populations.

<p>management plans and policy. Biodiversity monitoring will target key species: Saker Falcon (<i>Falco cherrug</i>) EN, Steppe Eagle (<i>Aquila nipalensis</i>) EN recently reintroduced Siberian Marmot (<i>Marmota sibirica</i>) EN, Musk deer (<i>Moschus moschiferus</i>) VU; and forest and grassland species richness.</p>	<p>1.2 Biodiversity monitoring surveys completed in year 1, 2 and 3 of the project</p>	<p>Annual and final project reports of biodiversity monitoring surveys (species richness) feeding into reporting against Mongolia's NBSAP (2015-2025) and LPA management plan</p>	
<p><b>Output 2:</b> Model of community-led sustainable forest management in place in LPA safeguarding 275 km<sup>2</sup> of vulnerable forest in Arkhangai</p>	<p>2.1 National University of Mongolia and ZSL led annual above ground biomass surveys of 275 km<sup>2</sup> of sustainably managed forest in LPA, and comparable forest in the control site, in place by year 1</p>	<p>Annual and final project reports of above ground biomass feeding into reporting against Mongolia's NBSAP (2015-2025) and LPA management plan</p>	<p>Local community members remain engaged with trialling a range of management techniques to pick those most effective and suitable to their needs.</p> <p>Techniques to maintain community engagement and tackle the risk of corruption with CPUs work effectively in the LPA context. The inclusion of individuals from a large number of households helps embed and institutionalise the CPU in community life.</p>
	<p>2.2 Forest management interventions (including harvesting and thinning techniques) defined and piloted by year 1, and informing adaptive management of LPA's forests by year 2</p>	<p>Forest management intervention plan, forest management pilot records, forest management workshop records</p>	
	<p>2.3 One Community Patrol Unit (CPU) of 40 members, divided into local patrol teams, with women actively participating in coordination roles, conducting twice-weekly SMART patrols by year 2.</p>	<p>CPU agreements and contracts, SMART reports showing patrol frequency, coverage and composition</p>	
<p><b>Output 3:</b> Model of community-led sustainable pasture management in place in LPA,</p>	<p>3.1 National University of Mongolia and ZSL led annual soil nutrient and compaction monitoring in sustainably managed LPA pasture, and control pasture, in place by year 1.</p>	<p>Annual and final project reports of grassland health monitoring feeding into reporting against Mongolia's National Biodiversity Program (2015-2025) and LPA management plan</p>	<p>Pasture management model developed in Arkhangai is appropriate to other forest-steppe ecosystems in Mongolia with similar socioeconomic and climatic features.</p>

	<p>3.2 Pasture management interventions (including reducing grazing pressure, marmot-friendly livestock management and leaving areas un-grazed to recover) defined and piloted across 5 experimental plots by year 1, and informing pasture management plan within LPA by year 2.</p>	<p>Pasture management intervention plan, marmot-friendly pasture-management recommendations, pasture management pilot records, pasture management workshop records</p>	
	<p>3.3 Sustainable grassland management system in place, utilising sustainable traditional knowledge and practices, with 80% of households (total = ca.100) participating (baseline = no grassland management system) by project end.</p>	<p>Pasture management records, grazing land use agreements</p>	<p>No serious drought years heavily impact the region, reducing the availability of water sources and grazing. In this scenario the project would revise some elements of pasture management trials to place a greater emphasis on water use. This both ensures community buy-in, by being relevant to their needs, and community wellbeing in the short-term.</p> <p>Not all households are actively engaged in livestock grazing, and some of those that are engage at very low levels, for example elderly families whose children have moved to the city. Therefore, an 80% of households participating will cover the vast majority of livestock grazing.</p>
<p><b>Output 4:</b> Holistic inclusive livelihood model, including production and access to market, in place in LPA, resulting in improved income opportunities</p>	<p>4.1 Environmentally sustainable and economically viable cashmere, dairy and ecotourism business models and other livelihoods as identified by women developed in LPA by year 1.</p>	<p><u>Business viability indicator</u> (this is a measure designed by Arig bank to assess companies attractiveness for investment), Post-LPA value chain analysis (conducted by Arig bank)</p>	<p>Local markets for cashmere and dairy, and local and global markets for ecotourism remain stable, and harsh unpredictable weather conditions don't impact goat survival or cashmere production.</p> <p>Fair and equitable benefits sharing principles enshrined in LPA management under output 5, ensure that participation in project business enterprises is available to all community members (women, old, young etc.) and that this contributes to reducing inequity.</p>

	4.2 At least 1 VSLA within LPA by year 1 consisting of ca. 20 members becoming business literate, with members representing 20% of households (total = ca. 100); 2 VSLAs representing 40% of households by year 2, and 3 VSLAs representing 60% of households, (with equal gender balance) by project end.	VSLA records demonstrating consistent engagement and attendance at VSLA meetings designed to accommodate semi-nomadic communities, <u>Socioeconomic survey (baseline &amp; project end)</u> ,	Though marginalised in household decision making, women play a significant role in household budget management. This should support both achieving an equal gender balance, and enable a high rate of uptake - increasing as VSLAs become more cemented and the benefits become more apparent.
	4.3 Livelihoods diversified from an average of 2.0 occupations per household within the LPA during the scoping survey to 2.5 by project end	<u>Socioeconomic survey (baseline &amp; project end)</u> .	Livelihood diversification occurring during the project is a result of uptake of new sustainable livelihoods and represents an improvement in communities' wellbeing and resilience.  Livelihood model developed in Arkhangai is appropriate to other forest-steppe ecosystems in Mongolia with similar socioeconomic features
<b>Output 5:</b> Effective and equitable LPA governance model in place in LPA, enabling robust monitoring and evaluation (incorporating the data from other outputs) and sustained engagement with nearby communities and local and national government	5.1 LPA management authority, composed of community members and representatives from project partners, meeting monthly and involved in coordination of all outputs, to enable their continuation post project, by year 1	LPA constitution, LPA management authority registration records, LPA management authority meeting minutes	Traditional customs and equitable and democratic principles are reconcilable within an effective institution
	5.2 KPIs, specified under other outputs, are monitored by the LPA management authority and monitoring data is fed into the LPA management plan and Mongolia's NBSAP (2015-25) to enable lesson-learning from the LPA pilot.	KPIs, LPA management plan, NBSAP reporting, meeting minutes	Government support for, interest in, and desire to take lessons from this project remains strong.



	5.3 5 relevant national and local government officials, including CBD national focal point, have visited LPA and are supporting the production of steppe-forest LPA guidelines by project end.	Government visit reports, minutes of national and local government meetings on LPA approach, project reports shared with officials	An important element of effective governance is engagement with third parties. Moreover a very important element of effective governance of this LPA, which is planned to provide a framework to scale up the LPA model across central Mongolia, is engagement with the nearby communities, local and national government which will establish this.
	5.4 15 community leaders from identified nearby community groups, resident in vulnerable areas, which are suitable for replicating the LPA approach, have conducted knowledge exchange visits to the LPA and are supportive of the model by project end.	Exchange visit reports,	Individuals carefully selected to take part in exchange visits on the knowledge exchange are suitably influential in their own communities to drive future LPA declaration and management decisions.  Engaging government officials and community leaders with the LPA approach contributes to the end goal of increasing support from each for scaling up the LPA model
<b>Activities</b>			
<p>1.1 Conduct expert workshop (including Local ecological knowledge experts) on biodiversity monitoring techniques appropriate to site and target species</p> <p>1.2 Produce Biodiversity Monitoring Plan for LPAs in Central Mongolia's Forest-Steppe Ecosystems</p> <p>1.3 Train local community members in required biodiversity monitoring techniques, also provide refresher training as needed</p> <p>1.4 Conduct annual biodiversity monitoring, covering target species and species richness of birds and invertebrates</p> <p>2.1 Conduct above-ground biomass surveys in LPA and control site</p> <p>2.2 Define and map 3-4 suitable test plots within the LPA forest area.</p> <p>2.3 Co-produce methods and management design for each test plot, based on existing options for boreal/taiga forest management, and introduce the forest management implementation and relevant practice</p> <p>2.4 Support community members to implement forest management activities defined for each test plot.</p> <p>2.5 Run a SMART recruitment workshop with LPA members to inform community of SMART and establish CPU members.</p> <p>2.6 Co-produce SMART protocol for the LPA, and provide relevant training, based on CPU member capacity</p> <p>2.7 Conduct twice weekly SMART patrols</p> <p>2.8 Produce annual logging reports from analysis of collected SMART data</p> <p>2.9 Improve signs and information boards along the LPA border and main roads</p>			

- 2.10 Conduct annual community workshop in improved adaptive forest management techniques in an iterative process as results from the trials become available
- 2.11 Co-produce final scalable forest management plan which balances forest yield and biodiversity, using annual biodiversity data and above-ground biomass data from forest management trial plots
  
- 3.1 Conduct soil nutrient and compaction surveys in LPA and control site
- 3.2 Define and map 3-4 suitable test plots within the LPA pasture area.
- 3.3 Co-produce methods and management design for each test plot, based on existing options for steppe/pasture management, with communities and introduce the pasture management implementation and relevant practice
- 3.4 Support community members to implement pasture management activities defined for each test plot.
- 3.5 Conduct annual community workshop in improved adaptive pasture management techniques in an iterative process as results from the trials become available
- 3.6 Co-produce final scalable forest management plan based on optimum biodiversity and grassland carrying capacity, using annual biodiversity data and above-ground biomass data from pasture management trial plots
  
- 4.1 Co-produce new business models, in partnership with local communities, for eco-tourism and pasture related products, utilising Arig banks' business viability analysis techniques
- 4.2 Secure access to market for ecotourism and pasture related products from the LPA through working with international and in country buyers
- 4.3 Conduct workshop to establish community cooperative for small enterprises with legal support.
- 4.4 Provide small business training and support to LPA cooperative members
- 4.5 Co-produce, with local communities, a locally appropriate VSLA protocol, and enrol initial participants
- 4.6 Deliver ongoing training and support to VSLA members, and members of the LPA community wishing to participate
- 4.7 Design socio-economic survey protocol for LPAs, using established wellbeing indices, including livelihood diversity and income
- 4.8 Conduct socioeconomic surveys in LPA and control site to collect baseline data in year 1 and project end data in year 4
  
- 5.1 Establish an effective and democratic LPA management authority following GESI principles, to meet monthly for project coordination and including community members and representatives from key partners.
- 5.2 Hold annual workshops to feed monitoring results from output 1 and other outputs to into adaptive management planning and Mongolia's reporting against its NBSAP
- 5.3 Run exchange visits for leaders from nearby community groups to observe the LPA and encourage them to establish LPAs in their own regions, also to include relevant government officials
- 5.4 Share completed set of LPA protocols, plans and reports with Ministry of Environment and Tourism to produce framework for expansion of LPA model, and basis for LPA guidelines to be published post-project.

**23. 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 (starting from Q2 July 2018)**

Please add/remove columns to reflect the length of your project. For each activity (add/remove rows as appropriate) indicate the number of months it will last, and shade only the quarters in which an activity will be carried out. The workplan can span multiple pages if necessary.

Activity	No. of months	Year 1			Year 2				Year 3			
		Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Output 1 Annual biodiversity monitoring programme within LPA in place providing data for informed conservation interventions, management plans and policy. Biodiversity monitoring will target key species and forest and grassland species richness.												
1.1 Conduct expert workshop (including Local ecological knowledge experts) on biodiversity monitoring techniques appropriate to site and target species	2											
1.2 Produce Biodiversity Monitoring Plan for LPAs in Central Mongolia's Forest-Steppe Ecosystems	9											
1.3 Train local community members in required biodiversity monitoring techniques, also provide refresher training as needed	4											
1.4 Conduct annual biodiversity monitoring, covering target species and species richness of birds and invertebrates	6											
Output 2 Model of community-led sustainable forest management in place in LPA safeguarding 275 km <sup>2</sup> of vulnerable forest in Arkhangai												
2.1 Conduct above-ground biomass surveys in LPA and control site	3											
2.2 Define and map 3-4 suitable test plots within the LPA forest area.	2											
2.3 Co-produce methods and management design for each test plot, based on existing options for boreal/taiga forest management, and introduce the forest management implementation and relevant practice	2											
2.4 Support community members to implement forest management activities defined for each test plot.	31											
2.5 Run a SMART recruitment workshop with LPA members to inform community of SMART and establish CPU members.	2											
2.6 Co-produce SMART protocol for the LPA, and provide relevant training, based on CPU member capacity	4											
2.7 Produce annual logging reports from analysis of collected SMART data	5											

2.8	Improve signs and information boards along the LPA border and main roads	4											
2.9	Conducting twice weekly SMART patrol	30											
2.10	Conduct annual community workshop in improved adaptive forest management techniques in an iterative process as results from the trials become available	3											
2.11	Co-produce final scalable forest management plan which balances forest yield and biodiversity, using annual biodiversity data and above-ground biomass data from forest management trial plots	3											
Output 3	Model of community-led sustainable pasture management in place in LPA,												
3.1	Conduct soil nutrient and compaction surveys in LPA and control site	2											
3.2	Define and map 3-4 suitable test plots within the LPA pasture area.	2											
3.3	Co-produce methods and management design for each test plot, based on existing options for steppe/pasture management, with communities and introduce the pasture management implementation and relevant practice	7											
3.4	Support community members to implement pasture management activities defined for each test plot.	24											
3.5	Conduct annual community workshop in improved adaptive pasture management techniques in an iterative process as results from the trials become available	3											
3.6	Co-produce final scalable forest management plan based on optimum biodiversity and grassland carrying capacity, using annual biodiversity data and above-ground biomass data from pasture management trial plots	3											
Output 4	Holistic inclusive livelihood model, including production and access to market, in place in LPA, resulting in improved income opportunities												
4.1	Co-produce new business models, in partnership with local communities, for eco-tourism and pasture related products, utilising Arig banks' business viability analysis techniques	21											
4.2	Secure access to market for ecotourism and pasture related products from the LPA through working with international and in country buyers	30											
4.3	Conduct workshop to establish community cooperative for small enterprises with legal support.	3											

4.4	Provide small business training and support to LPA cooperative members	3												
4.5	Co-produce, with local communities, a locally appropriate VSLA protocol, and enrol initial participants	5												
4.6	Deliver ongoing training and support to VSLA members, and members of the LPA community wishing to participate	30												
4.7	Design socio-economic survey protocol for LPAs, using established wellbeing indices, including livelihood diversity and income	4												
4.8	Conduct socioeconomic surveys in LPA and control site to collect baseline data in year 1 and project end data in year 3	4												
Output 5	Effective and equitable LPA governance model in place in LPA, enabling robust monitoring and evaluation incorporating the data from other outputs, and sustained engagement with nearby communities and local and national government													
5.1	Establish an effective and democratic LPA management authority following GESI principles, to meet monthly for project coordination and including community members and representatives from key partners.	33												
5.2	Hold annual workshops to feed monitoring results from output 1 and other outputs to into adaptive management planning and Mongolia is reporting against its NBSAP	4												
5.3	Run exchange visits for leaders from nearby community groups to observe the LPA and encourage them to establish LPAs in their own regions, also to include relevant government officials	3												
5.4	Share completed set of LPA protocols, plans and reports with Ministry of Environment and Tourism to produce framework for expansion of LPA model, and basis for LPA guidelines to be published post-project.	4												

## 24. 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 LPA management authority, consisting of community members and partner representatives, will hold monthly meetings to monitor and evaluate LPA performance, using KPIs and project indicators, and adaptively manage work plans as needed. Communications will be maintained with monthly meetings and via email and Skype/phone between ZSL Mongolia and ZSL HQ. Completion of milestones will be monitored through monthly reports submitted using ZSL's web-based system – these include activity tracking, indicator tracking, and finance tracking systems. Together these allow the different angles to successful project implementation to be monitored simply and effectively, while also enabling the information sources to be readily combined to assess overall progress and enable highly flexible adaptive management in response.

All baselines will be set in year one through the initial biodiversity, biomass, soil, and socioeconomic surveys.

Oversight of the M&E for the outcome will be the responsibility of the Project Leader, with significant experience in conducting monitoring and evaluation of large-scale projects. Crucially this includes monitoring progress towards the framework for the expansion of the LPA model, and the initiation of production of official LPA guidelines. By monitoring engagement of: members from other communities and government officials through exchange visits; and national government through annual workshops and the sharing of results, management plans, and protocols, the project leader will ensure that broad-based support for the expansion of the LPA model is being built throughout the project. Techniques will be adjusted as necessary to ensure that this is achieved.

Progress towards the goals of output 1 will be monitored through the LPA management authority, assisted by ZSL and project's technical experts. This will include both assessing the methodology developed for monitoring, and the results of the annual biodiversity monitoring. The ecological monitoring data will also feed into monitoring and evaluation of project activities across other outputs.

Progress towards outputs 2 and 3 will be monitored by the LPA management authority, via the above-ground biomass monitoring results, soil surveys, CPU's SMART patrolling records, and results from the forest and pasture management plots. The forest and pasture management plans will be produced iteratively through the process of monitoring the work conducted and adaptively managing future plans based upon it.

Monitoring output 4 will be achieved through the LPA management authority, with particular support from Arig bank to assess the viability of business models and the uptake and impact of VSLAs. Additionally the cooperatives will be monitored against their adopted GESI principles to

ensure they operate accordingly. The socioeconomic surveys at the start of the project will provide a baseline by which to assess the impact of initiatives, including on wellbeing, livelihood diversification, and women's representation in decision-making.

Output 5 will be monitored by the project manager against the effectiveness, equitability, inclusion and respect for local traditions of the LPA management authority, and its steady uptake of implementation and monitoring responsibility across the LPA.

*(474 words)*

Number of days planned for M&E	60 days (M&E of LPA progress is built into the project on an ongoing basis through output 5, and the project officer will provide on-site technical oversight on a daily basis. The 60 days represents the dedicated M&E visits by senior managers.)
Total project budget for M&E	£18,428
Percentage of total project budget set aside for M&E	5.6%

## Funding and Budget

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

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

### 25. 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)

#### **Economic use of resources in activities**

ZSL has been working in Mongolia for 15 years and is familiar with developing deliverable, cost-effective projects leveraging existing infrastructure and resources.

Staff Costs & Consultancy Costs: 29% of total staffing needs will be provided by project partners. Short-term specialist consultants will build capacity within the communities and project staff to ensure value for money, legacy and assist to scale-up. This will be particularly important in the case of the livelihoods specialist ensuring that access to market is ensured and the community empowered to sustain this in the long-term.

Overhead Costs: By using existing infrastructure, administrative costs are minimised without risk to project implementation.

Travel & Subsistence: International travel is minimal; included to cover ZSL staff costs for vital training and M&E.

Operating Costs: The site-based project officer reduces travel costs and enables greater site-level coordination and M&E; it also reduces workshop costs by enabling the project officer to informally meet with community members to seek consensus in parallel to formal workshops. The costs allocated to securing livelihoods reflect the investment to ensure sustainable income generation by communities in the long-term, thus secures long-term value for money by ensuring that project interventions have a lasting impact. Surveys will use students to minimise costs and support capacity building.

#### **Efficient achievement of outputs through activities**

Activities have been carefully designed to produce the most impactful outputs based on ZSL's past experience of community conservation, and government engagement in conservation, in Mongolia and Nepal.

#### **Effective delivery of the outcome from the outputs**

The nature of the project outputs develops community roles and builds systematic methods of management and monitoring ensures that the project will continue to provide benefits in the long term, as previous ZSL projects have, without the need for further funding, increasing value for money.

(300 words)



## 26. 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)

All capital equipment purchased during this project will remain the property of the MGV LPA upon closure of the project. This equipment will allow for the project's activities to be continued in the long term.

(35 words)

## 27. 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:

**Total match funding: £XX,XXX**

#### ZSL -

**£XX,XXX**

Salaries (£XX,XXX) of Gitanjali Bhattacharya's (project leader) salary, 10% (£X,XXX) of Jake Williams' (South and Central Asia Project Coordinator) and 20% (£X,XXX) of Gomboobataar Sudev's (Forest-Steppe specialist) is match-funded by ZSL.

#### Equipment

The office equipment required for the project is match-funded in-kind by ZSL (£X,XXX).

#### Travel

£X,XXX of international travel required under the project is match-funded by ZSL.

#### Spirit Mongolia -

**£X,XXX** Salaries

20% (£X,XXX) of Davakhuu Norovbanzad's (Rural Community Leader and Expert) salary and 10% (£X,XXX) of Tumurkhuu Davankhuu's (Small Business and Community Enterprise Specialist) salary are match-funded by Spirit Mongolia.

#### IRIM -

**£X,XXX**

Salaries (£X,XXX) of Batsugar Tsedendambe's (Socioeconomic Research Specialist) salary in years 1 and 3 is match-funded by IRIM.

(122 words)

### 27b) 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
4 January 2018	Mobicom	£X,XXX	In-kind support with text messaging engagement campaign.

**27c) None**

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

(max 100 words)

NA

**28) Financial Management Risks**

Explain how you have considered the risks and threats that may be relevant to the success of this project, including the risks of fraud or bribery.

(max 200 words)

**Fraud and bribery**

The project will follow ZSL's Fraud, corruption and anti-bribery policy, and utilise ZSL's long-term experience working in Mongolia to recognise and deal with any issues that arise. These policies are also available for partners to implement or adapt if they do not have their own.

**General Financial Management Risks**

ZSL has robust financial management systems in place, both in our country offices and the UK. Our financial policies and procedures are subject to regular review and updating, ensuring they remain appropriate for the projects we implement, as well as internal and external compliance requirements. In addition, ZSL undertake due diligence on prospective partners to ensure their finance policies and procedures are compliant with donor requirements.

**Procurement**

The project will follow standard ZSL guidelines on procurement processes to ensure sound financial management. For example, we will accept goods and services from reliable and recognised vendors with at least three quotations where required.

**Conflict or grievances**

Selection of community members for inclusion in activities will be conducted transparently. Project staff will communicate with community members, explaining clearly the selection process, criteria and grievances mechanism. ZSL's existing anti-bribery policy will be followed throughout the project.

(195 words)

## 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) and attach details of any advice you have received from them.

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

## Certification

On behalf of the trustees/company\* of **Zoological Society of London**  
(\*delete as appropriate)

I apply for a grant of **£329,952** 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 last two sets of signed audited/independently verified accounts and annual reports

<b>Name (block capitals)</b>	<b>MATTHEW HATCHWELL</b>
<b>Position in the organisation</b>	<b>Director of Conservation</b>

**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 <b>read the <a href="#">Guidance</a></b> ?	✓
Have you read and can you meet the current <a href="#">Terms and Conditions</a> for this fund?	✓
Have you provided <b>actual start and end dates</b> for your project?	✓
Have you provided your <b>budget based on UK government financial years</b> i.e. 1 April – 31 March and in GBP?	✓
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?	✓
Has your application been <b>signed by a suitably authorised individual?</b> (clear electronic or scanned signatures are acceptable)	✓
Have you included a <b>1 page CV for all the key project personnel</b> identified at Question 6 and Question 10?	✓
Have you included a <b>letter of support from your <u>key</u> partner organisations</b> identified at Question 9?	✓
Have you <b>been in contact with the FCO</b> in the project country/ies and have you included any evidence of this?	✓
Have you included a <b>signed copy of the last 2 years annual report and accounts</b> for the lead organisation?	✓
Have you <b>checked the Darwin website</b> immediately prior to submission to ensure there are no late updates?	✓

Once you have answered the questions above, please submit the application, not later than 2359 GMT on Monday 29 January 2018 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 - Fair Processing Notice

The purpose of this Fair Processing Notice is to inform you of the use that will be made of your personal data, as required by the Data Protection Act 1998.

The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) is the data controller in respect of any personal data that you provide when you complete your application, the grant acceptance and the supplier forms.

Defra will use your personal data primarily for the purpose of processing your application for Darwin Initiative funding. By submitting an application, applicants have agreed to any disclosure of the information supplied (including the content of a declaration or undertaking) which Defra considers necessary for the administration, evaluation, monitoring and publicising of the Funds (as detailed in the paragraphs below).

A completed application form signifies agreement to place certain details of successful applications (i.e. name, title, total grant value, project summary, lead organisation and location of project work) on the Darwin Initiative websites listed below. A completed application form also signifies agreement to send data on the project proposals during the application process to British Embassies and High Commissions outside the UK, including those outside the European Economic Area.

<http://www.darwininitiative.org.uk>;

<https://www.gov.uk/government/groups/the-darwin-initiative>;

Application form data will also be processed by Defra contractors dealing with Darwin Initiative administration, monitoring and evaluation (working within relevant data protection rules).

Defra may be required to release information, including personal data and commercial information, on request under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 or the Freedom of Information Act 2000. However, Defra will not permit any unwarranted breach of confidentiality nor will we act in contravention of our obligations under the Data Protection Act 1998. The Grantee shall assist and co-operate with the Department (at the Grantee's expense) to enable the Department to comply with its disclosure obligations under these enactments.

We may use information, including personal data, to test computer systems to ensure that they work effectively and efficiently and to develop new systems in order to improve efficiency and the service that we provide to you and other persons. Any use of information for testing or developing computerised systems will be conducted in a secure manner in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998 to safeguard the privacy of the information that you have supplied.

Defra's Personal Information Charter, which gives details of your rights in respect of the handling of your personal data, is on the Defra section of Gov.uk. If you don't have access to the internet, please telephone the Defra helpline 08459 33 55 77 and ask to speak to the Data Protection Officer for a copy of the Information Charter.