

---

# **DIR25S2\100060**

## **Secure Wetland Ecosystems to improve livelihoods through Community Conservation Agreements**

The project will address the multiple threats to the 21,000 hectares of interlinked wetlands that are Nyamuriro swamp, Ruhuhuma valley and Lake Bunyonyi in Kabale, Kigezi region. These threats constitute mainly unregulated drainage and unsustainable extraction of products, including proposed peat extraction for electricity generation. Community Conservation Agreements will empower people (10,000 households) to enhance benefits from wetlands' ecosystem services, improve their farming practices, protect globally threatened species such as the Endangered Grey Crowned-Crane and increase carbon sequestration potential

## PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

---

<b>Title</b>	Mr
<b>Name</b>	Achilles
<b>Surname</b>	Byaruhanga
<b>Organisation</b>	NatureUganda
<b>Website (Work)</b>	
<b>Tel (Mobile)</b>	
<b>Email (Work)</b>	
<b>Address</b>	

## Section 1 - Contact Details

---

### PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

---

Title Mr  
Name Achilles  
Surname Byaruhanga  
Organisation NatureUganda  
Website (Work)  
Tel (Mobile)  
Email (Work)

Address

### GMS ORGANISATION

---

Type	General
Name	NatureUganda
Phone (Work)	
Email (Work)	
Website	
Address	

## Section 2 - Title, Dates & Budget Summary

---

### Q3. Project title:

Secure Wetland Ecosystems to improve livelihoods through Community Conservation Agreements

### What was your Stage 1 reference number? e.g. DIR25S1\100123

DIR25S1\100177

### Q4. Country(ies)

Which eligible country(ies) will your project be working in? Where there are more than 4 countries that your project will be working in, please add more boxes using the selection option below.

<b>Country 1</b>	Uganda	<b>Country 2</b>	<i>No Response</i>
<b>Country 3</b>	<i>No Response</i>	<b>Country 4</b>	<i>No Response</i>

**Do you require more fields?**

No

## Q5. Project dates

**Start date:**

01 April 2019

**End date:**

31 March 2022

**Duration (e.g. 2 years, 3 months):**

3 years

## Q6. Budget summary

Year:	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	Total request
<b>Amount:</b>	£113,338.00	£96,562.00	£90,039.00	<b>£</b> 299,939.00

**Q6a. Do you have proposed matched funding arrangements?**

Yes

**What matched funding arrangements are proposed?**

The total match funding will be £X. This includes office space for coordination of the project estimated at £X, two motorcycles estimated at £X. BirdLife International and RSPB will contribute £X towards the project, covering staff time (£X, travel costs to attend project meetings (£X) and sharing information with global network regarding protocols, lessons learned and innovations. Whereas the project will cover travel costs for Wetlands Management Department including Ramsar Centre of East Africa (RAMCEA) and Kabale District Local Government travel, they will donate their time to the project (10 days/year at £X/day, 5 people: £X/year)

**Q6b. Proposed (confirmed and unconfirmed) co-financing as % of total project cost** 14

## Section 3 - Project Summary

### Q7. 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](https://www.gov.uk). Please write this summary for a non-technical audience.**

The project will address the multiple threats to the 21,000 hectares of interlinked wetlands that are Nyamuroiro swamp, Ruhuhuma valley and Lake Bunyonyi in Kabale, Kigezi region. These threats constitute mainly unregulated drainage and unsustainable extraction of products, including proposed peat extraction for electricity generation. Community Conservation Agreements will empower people (10,000 households) to enhance benefits from wetlands' ecosystem services, improve their farming practices, protect globally threatened species such as the Endangered Grey Crowned-Crane and increase carbon sequestration potential

## Section 4 - Lead Organisation Summary

---

### Q8. Lead organisation summary

**Has your organisation been awarded a Darwin Initiative award before (for the purposes of this question, being a partner does not count)?**

No

**If no, please provide the below information on the lead organisation.**


<b>What year was your organisation established/ incorporated/ registered?</b>	01 January 1909
<b>What is the legal status of your organisation?</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> NGO
<b>How is your organisation currently funded?</b>	NatureUganda receives its funding from three sources: Membership subscription and fees plus sales of membership items (<2%). NatureUganda has over 1000 members who pay membership fees to run the organisation membership activities. Donations (~10%) from members of the general public, corporations and private sector to support specific activities of the organisation such as public awareness and education, campaigns for good causes for environmental conservation or tourism development. The biggest funding for organisation activities (almost 90%) come from project funding to research, environmental education, advocacy for good environmental policies and conservation of sites, species and habitat programmes
<b>Have you provided the requested signed audited/independently examined accounts? If you select "yes" you will be able to upload these. Note that this is not required from Government Agencies.</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes


---

Please attach the requested signed audited/independently examined accounts.


[!\[\]\(d0a1791f26d167e866e44ebbf83efebe\_img.jpg\) \*\*NU audit report FYR2016 PAGE 23-47\*\*](#)


 03/12/2018

 14:05:00

 pdf 2.98 MB


[!\[\]\(950a62bbddad88d64435fd35607dfc42\_img.jpg\) \*\*NU audit report FYR2016 PAGE 1-22\*\*](#)


 03/12/2018


 14:04:55

 pdf 4.52 MB


[!\[\]\(73002692dd5e7a64e60946be3158e719\_img.jpg\) \*\*NU audit report FYR 2017 PAGES 17-34\*\*](#)


 03/12/2018


 14:04:48

 pdf 3.43 MB

[!\[\]\(104fbf564e2e5a8fbd84f31656d114c7\_img.jpg\) \*\*NU audit report FYR 2017 PAGES 1-16\*\*](#)

 03/12/2018

 14:04:41

 pdf 3.21 MB

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

**Contract/Project 1 Title**

Integrating Livelihoods and Conservation People Partner with Nature for sustainable living

**Contract Value/Project budget (include currency)**

**Duration (e.g. 2 years 3 months)**

3 years

**Role of organisation in project**

Implementing partner; responsible for the overall implementation of all technical and financial matters of the project in Uganda including reporting and supervision and coordinating with the relevant partners

**Brief summary of the aims, objectives and outcomes of the project**

Overall goal was to improve and qualify the management of natural resources especially forested important Bird Areas , on which local livelihoods depend for food, fuel and for critical ecosystem services such as water, soil conservation and reduced vulnerability to natural disasters such as landslide and climate change

**Client/independent reference contact details (Name, e-mail, address, phone number)**

**Contract/Project 2 Title**

Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) East Africa through the Lake Victoria Catchment Environmental Education Programme (LVCEEP)

**Contract Value/Project budget (include currency)**

**Duration (e.g. 2 years, 3 months)**

6 years

---

<b>Role of organisation in project</b>	Implementing partner in Uganda; responsible for the overall implementation of all technical and financial matters of the project in Uganda including reporting and supervision and coordinating with the relevant partners
--	--

---

<b>Brief summary of the aims, objectives and outcomes of the project</b>	The project aimed to secure ecological integrity and sustainability of the Lake Victoria Catchment for the benefit of its inhabitants and biological diversity. It promoted quality education and learning, health, access to clean water and improved sanitation in schools to empower youth as a long term strategy for sustainable development
--	---

---

<b>Client/independent reference contact details (Name, e-mail, address, phone number)</b>	
---	--

---

<b>Contract/Project 3 Title</b>	Improved Livelihood through sustainable management of forest resources in and around Echuya Forest Uganda
---------------------------------	---

---

<b>Contract Value/Project budget (include currency)</b>	
---	--

---

<b>Duration (e.g. 2 years, 3 months)</b>	5 years
--	---------

---

<b>Role of organisation in project</b>	Implementing partner in Uganda; responsible for the overall implementation of all technical and financial matters of the project in Uganda including reporting and supervision and coordinating with the relevant partners
--	--

---

<b>Brief summary of the aims, objectives and outcomes of the project.</b>	The project aimed to provide a national demonstration of how to develop a sustainable source of income through collaborative Forest Management between Forest Adjacent Communities and Forestry government lead agency. It improved capacity of partners, improved incomes and livelihoods of FACs and secured ecological integrity of Echuya Forest
---	--

---

<b>Client/independent reference contact details (Name, e-mail, address, phone number)</b>	
---	--

---

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

<b>Aims</b>	NatureUganda, the East Africa Natural History Society is the oldest conservation organization in East Africa, set up in 1909 as a scientific organization with primary aim of documenting diversity of wildlife in East Africa. The mission of the organization is to promote the understanding, appreciation and conservation of nature
<b>Activities</b>	NatureUganda strategic plan 2016-2021 identifies three strategic areas; to increase understanding of Uganda's wildlife and natural resources and the threats to their sustainable management; to improve conservation and management of key species, sites, and habitats and increase membership and strengthen institutional capacity for public awareness and education
<b>Achievements</b>	Identified of 34 Key Biodiversity Areas including 10 Ramsar sites; promoted biodiversity conservation and management of species, sites and habitats working with communities through site support groups, collaborative forest management institutions and improving livelihood of people including indigenous peoples as well as advocating for good policies to protect the environment

## Section 5 - Project Partners

### Q9. Project partners

**Please list all the partners involved (including the Lead Organisation) 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 Letters of Support for each partner or explain why this has not been included.**

**N.B. There is a file upload button at the bottom of this page for the upload of a cover letter (if applicable) and all letters of support.**

**Lead Organisation name:** NatureUganda (NU)

**Website address:** [www.natureuganda.org](http://www.natureuganda.org)



**Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):**

NatureUganda (NU) is a partner of BirdLife International, a leading national NGO in biodiversity research, wetlands conservation and sustainable natural resource management with wide experience in community engagement and livelihoods.

Integration of biodiversity and improving livelihoods of communities is a key component of our work with long experience in supporting government programmes such as identification of wetlands of international importance (Ramsar sites) and working with communities in enterprise development to increase income and food security.

NatureUganda has worked in Kabale region for over 20 years supporting communities and local government to protect wetlands and forest eg promoting Nyamuriro wetland as a KBA for endemic birds and amphibians. We successfully pioneered Community Conservation Areas in Ruhuhuma north and supported the Batwa people (indigenous community) in Echuya Forest to promote their rights and improve their wellbeing in the upper catchment of Lake Bunyonyi.

For the proposed project, we will provide overall coordination of the project, lead on reporting and liaison with Darwin Initiative. NatureUganda will contribute its research expertise, skills and capacity in community conservation initiatives, development and implementation of CCAs, biodiversity and ecosystem services assessments, monitoring biodiversity, and sharing results of the projects via its national, regional and international networks

---

**Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?**  Yes

---

**Have you provided a cover letter to address your Stage 1 feedback?**  Yes

---

**Do you have partners involved in the Project?**

Yes

**1. Partner Name:** BirdLife International

---

**Website address:** [www.birdlife.org](http://www.birdlife.org)

---

**Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):**

BirdLife International is a global Partnership of NGOs striving to conserve birds, their habitats and biodiversity, working with people. The project development benefited from extensive experience in empowerment activities of local communities. Integration of biodiversity and livelihoods is a key component of BirdLife's mission. BirdLife (Secretariat and Partnership) has experience of biodiversity and agriculture (including standards setting and certification) across geographical locations. BirdLife has worked with NatureUganda, BirdLife Partner in Uganda, for over 20 years, including on policy and practical measures to conserve biodiversity in Uganda and Africa, demonstrating innovative approaches which respect and promote the land rights of communities. For the proposed project, BirdLife will provide technical support to implementation of the project, communication and dissemination of results and the project will benefit from wide experiences, lessons and knowledge from other projects in Africa. BirdLife will also contribute its communications expertise; experience drawn from its local empowerment programmes in East Africa, its experience in capacity needs assessment, skills and capacity development and training design; experience of biodiversity in agricultural systems; expertise in biodiversity and ecosystem services assessment and monitoring; and through sharing project results and tools via its regional and international networks

---

**Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?**     Yes

---

**2. Partner Name:**                      Wetland Management Department (WMD) in the Govt of Uganda, Directorate of Environmental Affairs

---

**Website address:**                      [www.mwe.go.ug/dept/wetlands-management-department](http://www.mwe.go.ug/dept/wetlands-management-department)

---

**Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):**

Wetland Management Department (WMD) is mandated to manage wetland resources and its goal is to sustain the biophysical and socio-economic values of the wetlands in Uganda for present and future generations.

Wetlands are under a lot of pressure from conversion for industrial development, settlements, agriculture, sand and mining.

WMD as national institution responsible for wetlands conservation provides technical support on wetland restoration and enforcement, clarity on laws and regulations and ensures the linkage of the proposed project activities with the National Development Plan, Sector strategic plans especially the Wetlands Sector Strategic Plan.

In this project, WMD will provide linkage of the project activities to government programmes, provide technical support in wetlands assessments, completing the Ramsar Information Sheet (RIS) and ensuring that all requirements for Ramsar site designation by the National Ramsar committee are completed. WMD will also provide technical support in demarcation and restoration of wetlands and ensure that the outcomes of the project activities are mainstreamed in government decision making processes at highest level. Through WMD that hosts Ramsar Centre of East Africa (RAMCEA), the project will tap into its mandate of building capacity and excellence in wetland management in East Africa

---

**Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?**

Yes

---

**3. Partner Name:**

Kabale District Local Government

---

**Website address:**

*No Response*

---

**Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):**

The main goal of Kabale District Local Government (KDLG) is to serve the Community through the coordinated delivery of services which focus on national and local priorities and contribute to sustainable improvement of the quality of life of the people in the District. Of the four main objectives of the District Development Plan, two relate directly to the outcome of the project. They include Objective 1; to strengthen knowledge and awareness of population towards sustainable development and Objective 4 to improve the environmental sustainability of our physical operations and development activities and enhance policies that support an effective and environmentally friendly system.

NatureUganda has worked with the District for over 15 years conserving Forests such as Echuya Forest Reserve and working on research and conservation of wetlands especially Kiruruma valley. During the project development, KDLG provided technical support on district targets for environment conservation, targets for wetlands restoration in Kabale region and ongoing government programmes in the area such as Operational Wealth Creation. KDLG will support NU to mobilise communities for restoration and demarcation of wetlands, public awareness and will provide technical support in selection of appropriate enterprises for communities guided by the district development plan

---

**Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?**  Yes

---

**4. Partner Name:** Community Rural Development (CRD)

---

**Website address:** *No Response*

---

**Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):**

CRD is a community initiative established to provide support to community in enterprise development based on improvement of land productivity. It implements sustainable development strategies and interventions that increase agricultural productivity and income generation, improve household nutrition, promote collaborative production and marketing, and improve the natural environment and adaptation to climate change.

CRD is guided by a participatory community development process using Farmer Field Schools (FFS), a methodology where communities identify issues and capabilities and design appropriate solutions. CRD ensures that individual interventions fit into the overall catchment plan and is environmentally sustainable. CRD works in three sub-counties around Lake Bunyonyi in Kabale and Rubanda district.

CRD and NatureUganda have worked closely for over 5 years in the same Kabale region sharing experiences in integration of bamboos from Echuya Forest Reserve to stabilise terraces and adapting the technologies around Lake Bunyonyi.

CRD provided technical input in regard to FFS principles and practices to improve community participation, mobilisation and shared lessons.

CRD has expertise with FFS methodology through working very closely with FAO Uganda and will provide this experience in the project implementation, provide training and leaning opportunities for the project stakeholders

---

**Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?**  Yes

---

**5. Partner Name:** *No Response*

---

**Website address:** *No Response*

---

**Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):** *No Response*

---

**Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?**  Yes  
 No

---

**6. Partner Name:** *No Response*

---

**Website address:** *No Response*

---

Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):

No Response


Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?  Yes  No


If you require more space to enter details regarding Partners involved in the Project, please use the text field below.

No Response

Please provide a cover letter responding to feedback received at Stage 1 if applicable and a combined PDF of all letters of support.


[!\[\]\(5a132f13505a6571904d622757b7a8f0\_img.jpg\) \*\*Kabale District Letter of Support\*\*](#)


 03/12/2018

 21:23:41

 pdf 868.28 KB


[!\[\]\(d5d7044e5caf6907399af2dced8d6ff8\_img.jpg\) \*\*NEMA Letter fo Support to NatureUganda\*\*](#)


 03/12/2018

 21:23:41

 pdf 286 KB


[!\[\]\(aab88c0d099e5d18d6533a97b13ec28d\_img.jpg\) \*\*CRD letter of support\*\*](#)


 03/12/2018

 21:23:40

 pdf 478.62 KB


[!\[\]\(097cdd6c9c875b64d9b8c9a2409491c4\_img.jpg\) \*\*Ministry of Water abd Environment Letter o f support\*\*](#)


 03/12/2018

 21:23:40

 pdf 64.2 KB


[!\[\]\(13163d77073735089069a7603de98433\_img.jpg\) \*\*Community Letter of Support\*\*](#)

 03/12/2018

 21:23:40

 docx 16.8 KB


[!\[\]\(987606e59d5984b3118f78a58e78d0fb\_img.jpg\) \*\*BirdLife International Support letter to Nature Uganda Darwin Project.docx \(3\)\*\*](#)


 03/12/2018


 21:23:40

 pdf 305.04 KB

[!\[\]\(e2c65d386d5c17ee5dd15ca41d5f3671\_img.jpg\) \*\*NU support letter and feedback on comments from Darwin Expert committee\*\*](#)

 03/12/2018

 21:22:27

 pdf 2.43 MB

## Section 6 - Project Staff

### Q10. Key project personnel

Please identify the core staff 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	% time on project	CV attached below?
Achilles Brunnel Byaruhanga	<b>Project Leader</b>	15	Checked
To be employed	Project Officer	100	Checked
Dianah Nalwanga	National Coordinator	10	Checked
Geofrey Akule	Finance and Administration	10	Checked


**Do you require more fields?**


Yes

Name (First name, Surname)	Role	% time on project	CV attached below?
Zeneb Musimiire	Field Supervisor	15	Checked
Jimmy Muhebwa	Field Coordinator	10	Checked
Mark Ndimu	Project Accounts Assistant	100	Checked
Adimola Adajbe	Technical Support	5	Checked

**Please provide 1 page CVs (or job description if yet to be recruited) for the Project staff listed above. Ensure the file is named clearly, consistent with the named individual and role above.**

 [Personnel CVs. pdf](#)

 02/12/2018

 20:57:58

 pdf 140.25 KB

**Have you attached all Project staff CVs?**

Yes

## Section 7 - Problem Statement & Conventions

### Q11. 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?**

We will address threats to three hydrologically-linked high-altitude wetlands in Kabale: Nyamuriro swamp (5,100ha and a KBA), Kiruruma valley (4,500ha) and Lake Bunyonyi (12,500ha) collectively representing 60% of wetlands in Kabale. (See map)

Together these wetlands support the largest number of breeding Grey Crowned-Cranes (Endangered; >100 pairs) in Uganda, and supports other globally-threatened birds such as Grauer's Rush Warbler, Papyrus Yellow-Warbler, wetland endemic Sitatunga and endemic amphibians especially two species of endemic Xenopus frogs (a local delicacy).

Wetlands are considered 'free' land or wastelands with no incentive to manage them sustainably. Until recently the main threats to these wetlands were unsustainable use such as unregulated drainage for agriculture and overharvesting of wetland resources. These wetlands have peat deposits, one of the richest reservoirs of sequestered carbon. In the long-term, exposing peat to oxidation reduces productivity, accelerating wetland drainage. Additionally, the Uganda Wetlands Atlas and Uganda Wetlands Assessment Report 2017 indicate that wetland encroachment changes the water regime, water quality and the macro-climate with negative impacts on the availability of wetlands resources, and threatens public health.

NatureUganda has worked with communities in/around the wetland complex for 5 years: raising awareness of the value of biodiversity, encouraging cattle farmers in the Kiruruma valley to set-aside habitat for breeding cranes, and supporting farmers in the Lake Bunyonyi and Nyamuriro catchments to co-exist with cranes and avoid soil erosion and encroachment on peatland. However, in 2017 the government proposed peat mining the wetlands. Local communities protested and requested assistance from NatureUganda who petitioned government (backed by a scientific study ) to show mining would be uneconomic, displace people and contribute to climate change. Although the threat has receded, it is likely to return unless we can further demonstrate that sustainable development and conservation of these wetlands is of local and national importance

**If necessary, please provide supporting documentation e.g. maps, diagrams etc., using the File Upload below:**

---

↓ **R25-darwin-stage1-map (1)**

📅 28/11/2018

🕒 10:24:29

📎 pptx 393.16 KB

## Q12. Biodiversity Conventions, Treaties and Agreements

**Q12a. 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.**

- Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
- Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)
- Ramsar Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar)

### Q12b. 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.**

The project will help Uganda fulfil its national biodiversity strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) (2015-2025) and Aichi Target commitments.



The NBSAP is a multisector plan that incorporates biodiversity conservation strategies covering all biodiversity related Conventions and related government sectors. Section 1.3 of the NBSAP states that the rate of biodiversity loss in Uganda is high and the State of Biodiversity report 2017 puts loss at between 10-11% per decade, a big concern given the downward trend of Uganda's biodiversity. NBSAP also indicates that in Uganda most wetlands occur outside protected areas and their range and quality is rapidly being eroded for agricultural land, urban settlement and industrial development with 20% of wetlands having been destroyed. In particular, the wetlands in Kabale are highland wetlands which are particularly rare in Uganda and also more important for conservation of endemic species.

Establishing CCAs will address a key objective (SO1/NBSAP) "To strengthen stakeholder co-ordination and frameworks for biodiversity management" as a mechanism to improve governance structures at community level for long term sustainable use of wetlands". The project will assess and evaluate the ecosystem services of wetlands and raise awareness and education on sustainable use (SO2/5/NBSAP: To facilitate and build capacity for research and information management) and enhance awareness and education on biodiversity issues.

The strategic objective 3 of NBSAP aims at restoration of wetlands "to reduce and manage negative impacts while enhancing positive impacts on biodiversity". The project will contribute to this objective especially in the unique high-altitude wetlands in Kabale. The project will demonstrate benefits of soil and water conservation and soil improvement activities (SO3/NBSAP: To reduce and manage negative impacts while enhancing positive impacts on biodiversity) to increase productivity of land outside the wetland and reduce pressure on wetland resources.

Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES). The Grey crowned crane is listed on Appendix II of CITES and the wetlands in western Uganda in particular Kabale constitute the largest breeding population. The species global and national action plans identify wetlands degradation and illegal global trade as the main threats. The project will address these root causes of species population decline through implementation of the action plan priorities and working with the National Focal point on national priority actions including raising the GCC as a protected species in Uganda.

Ramsar Convention on Wetlands. Resolution XII.11 and 12 calls on Parties "as appropriate to designate as Wetlands of International Importance at least one peatland area, suitable for communication, education and awareness raising about the conservation, restoration and wise use of peatlands and the services they provide, such as their role in relation to climate change, protection of habitats for rare and threatened species and provision of water supplies" We shall assess the state of biodiversity and work with the National Ramsar Committee to designate Bunyonyi wetlands as Ramsar site.

### **Q12c. Is any liaison proposed with the CBS/ABS/ITPGRFA/CITES/CMS/Ramsar focal point in the host country?**

Yes

#### **Please give details:**

NatureUganda has a long-term relationship with Focal Points of CBD, Ramsar and CITES in country. NatureUganda has developed MOUs with related agencies, focused on supporting the Government towards achieving biodiversity conservation outcomes as expressed in the Conventions. We shall liaise with the Focal Points who will help the project to mainstream the project outputs in the national development plan, feed outputs in the reporting and preparatory meetings to Conference of Parties. RAMCEA, hosted by WMD will provide an opportunity to harness its capacity building and excellence in wetlands management in the region.

### **Q12d. Global Goals for Sustainable Development (SDGs)**

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

This project will contribute to the following SDGs

- SDG 1 (Poverty): Poverty is more than the lack of income and resources to ensure a sustainable livelihood. The project will promote income generation enterprises at community and household level to increase production based on sustainable use of wetlands but also through FFS to reduce soil erosion, landslides and improve production on uplands.
- SDG 2 (zero hunger): the project will increase production on farm and improve food security through improving livelihoods and agricultural productivity for wetland adjacent communities.
- SDG 5 (Gender equality): throughout the project implementation, we shall empower communities especially women and youth to actively participate in the project activities, ensure equal opportunities and data during project implementation will be disaggregated to show progress.
- SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation), through restoration of wetlands, protecting rivers and waterways and allowing wetland vegetation to grow. The wetland system restoration and conservation will help reduce pollution, siltation and sedimentation and provide improved ecosystem services such as clean water:
- SDG 15 (life on land) through restoring and protecting habitat for many globally threatened species that are dependent on wetlands.
- SDG 13 (Climate Action): this goals call for countries to take urgent action to combat effects of climate change. We shall work with communities on wise use of wetlands and protect peat rich wetlands in the region and designation of the Ramsar will provide long term conservation of the peat wetlands.

## **Section 8 - Method, Change Expected, Gender & Exit Strategy**

---

### **Q13. 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.).**

**This may be a repeat from Stage 1, but you should update or refine as necessary.**

We will increase awareness of the value of using wetlands wisely and demonstrate how to reduce pressure by increasing agricultural productivity outside wetlands and avoid carbon emissions. Demonstration of sustainable use practices will encourage stakeholders to champion sustainable landuse/wise use of wetlands locally and provide lessons nationally. We will support government to designate the Bunyonyi wetland system as a Ramsar site and protect globally threatened species such as the Endangered Grey Crowned Crane, Uganda's national bird.

Wetland valuation

The project will apply the Wetland Ecosystem Services (WES) tool developed in the ESPA funded (DFID) Alternative Carbon Investments in Ecosystems for Poverty Alleviation (ALTER) project to evaluate baseline ecosystem services and importance for livelihoods and quantify peat stocks with impact for wetland cultivation. Future land management scenarios will be modelled to demonstrate impacts of management and climate change scenarios on WES. The ALTER project found that the Kiruruma and Nyamuriro wetlands have extensive peat stocks (>10m in depth) and drained peatlands in Kabale for potato cultivation had significant carbon dioxide emissions. We will evaluate wetland catchment carbon stocks before and after project implementation to generate a baseline/end-of-project evaluation of the long-term improvements in soil carbon sequestration brought about by wise use of the wetland.

Biodiversity assessment

Biodiversity assessment will be conducted based on the Framework for Wetland Inventory through Resolution VIII.6 of 2002 considering the international significance. A monitoring framework for biodiversity (based on indicator species especially globally threatened Species) will be established using Bird Population monitoring methodology and Local based monitoring . The methodology allows participation of communities and establishes a long-term monitoring framework. The data generated will support the

collation of information for designation of Lake Bunyonyi as a Ramsar site.

Community Conservation agreements (CCA) have been used to mobilise communities and commit to long-term protection of habitats. CCAs will be developed based on our experience in the region and in line with national policy to protect identified wetlands. NatureUganda and KDLG will facilitate the CCA process, establish pilot areas and increase capacity to manage community conserved areas through training and learning visits. Through focus group discussions and continuous monitoring process will be incentivised to deliver commitments. Rights, roles and responsibilities for communities will be articulated clearly through the CCA with oversight from local government to ensure the enforcement, coupled with improved agricultural methods outside the wetlands and better wise-use strategies of wetlands will result in better wetland management.

Wise use/sustainable use strategies and plans

The project will support communities outside wetlands through FFSs to improve farming practices. CRD are pioneers in FFS and will support the communities to adopt farming practices on uplands to increase productivity and reduce community dependence on wetland-based livelihoods. The groups (10,000 households), will commit through conservation action plans to collective actions to conserve >10,000ha of wetlands including restoration and regulating resource harvesting by demarcation and maintenance of wetland buffers along river banks. We shall demonstrate benefits of sustainable landuse management ie "produce more with less" on their own land ([www.fao.org/agriculture/ippm/programme/ffs-approach](http://www.fao.org/agriculture/ippm/programme/ffs-approach))

## Q14. 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 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.**

The projects theory of change is that by empowering communities (10,000 HH) with stronger rights, roles and responsibilities to manage Kabale wetlands combined with improving their agricultural practices will make them advocates for wetland conservation, ultimately improving quality of wetland habitats and reducing pressure on biodiversity. This combined with the assessment of wetland ecosystem services and biodiversity will secure local government to integrate in their development plans and national decision makers to support their conservation. In the long-term: Conserved wetlands with restored habitats for threatened species will sustainably provide ecosystem services to improve the livelihoods of communities and mitigate against the causes of climate change across Uganda.

More specifically, communities will be empowered to manage wetlands with expanded source of incomes from their wise-use and increased productivity through good agricultural practices in the wetland catchments. The communities will restore the degraded area of the wetlands based on Wetlands Conservation Plans developed with respect to signed CCAs where communities be empowered by and commit to the long-term protection and wise use of wetlands. This will make it much harder for outside interests to develop unsustainable projects within the community conserved wetland areas.

Communities will improve soil fertility in uplands using organic manure and reducing soil erosion through soil and water conservation measures. FFS will be established as a mechanism to support restoration of fertility of uplands and provide alternative areas for production of food crops.

Short-term the project will provide training to 1000HH (5000 people) as direct beneficiaries constituted of at least 50% women/girls as change agents and empowered to become the protectors of the wetland resources for long-term environmental and social outcomes. The secondary beneficiaries will be based on

use of ecosystem services such as water and benefits from tourism services. Tourism operations will be established and tour guides trained around Lake Bunyonyi to increase awareness of tourism opportunities available and provide employment especially young people by project end. This activity is expected to benefit more than 500 HH by end of the project.

Bunyonyi wetlands system will be designated as a Ramsar site which will provide long-term sustainability of the wetland resources, protection of ecosystem services, conservation and protection of endangered & endemic biodiversity. The Ramsar designation requires that any activity will not change the ecological character of the wetland. Therefore, the designation will protect the peatlands from exposure to oxidation and/or change of land use. Similarly restoration of wetland areas will raise water table levels, restoring natural habitats leading to avoided losses of soil carbon through oxidation. The avoided losses of carbon from the peat soils and the increased carbon sequestered in the upland hillslopes will have long-term positive impact on climate change. Targeted wetland area is 10,000ha.

A monitoring framework for indicator species will be developed to provide information on the impact of the project on biodiversity over the project period

## Q15. 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.**

The government of Uganda is committed to equal opportunities with policies, programmes and legal frameworks with partner support to protect women and girls. However, implementation of these is slow and women still face challenges including their ability to participate effectively in decision making and leadership, discrimination and marginalization due to slow change in attitudes about women in Ugandan society and cultural practices.

This project will ensure that gender is mainstreamed in all its aspects by ensuring equal opportunity for men, women and youth especially in the management and sharing benefits from project livelihood interventions. Tailored women empowerment and livelihood activities will be implemented especially in activities such as FFS and governance in the CCAs.

BirdLife has developed a position paper on conservation and gender, and implemented projects in Eastern Africa (where NatureUganda participated) targeting gender inclusion. This experience will be mainstreamed right from consultations in ecosystem assessments, monitoring, and development of CCAs and selection of enterprises. The CCA will identify the number of women and men represented on management committees, and ensure balanced responsibilities. In meetings, quorum, roles and decision will consider disaggregation of gender. In addition, affirmative action will be considered in enterprise selection and work with local government to guide on gender focused enterprises development based on the district development plans

## Q16. 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?**

Sustainability will be achieved by empowering community institutions, and establishing governance mechanism through CCAs that will support conservation of wetlands into the long-term and the FFS that will support sustainable use of uplands. As intact wetlands are demarcated and areas of degraded wetlands restored the communities gain in confidence and experience and land rights over the restored areas. An increase in productivity will bring economic benefit and livelihood improvements. Involvement of local and

government agencies and private sector will ensure access to technical support and established market for community produce.

The project's impact will continue through: strengthened CBOs with the capacity for sustainable use of land with support from local government and built mechanisms such as FFS to support community in long-term. . The outcome will be ensuring ownership and commitment to expanding the approach to new areas. We will seek to influence the National Wetlands agency and implementation of Wetlands Sector Strategic Plan 2015-2025 providing opportunities to embed the project lessons into national development planning processes. The designation of the Ramsar site will ensure the ecological integrity of the site is maintained in long-term, in addition to NatureUganda's long-term commitment to conservation of the site beyond the project period

**Please provide supporting documentation e.g. maps, diagrams etc., using the File Upload below:**

*No Response*

## Section 9 - Existing works, Ethics & Safeguarding

---

### Q17a. Harmonisation

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

Development of existing work

**Please give details:**

The project originated as an appeal for support from local communities for wetlands management and conservation after reduced productivity and ecosystem services, loss of biodiversity, decline of materials for domestic use and a proposal for peat extraction for electricity generation.

The project is new but builds on 20 years of NatureUganda work in the region with communities and government agencies (local and national) to secure wetland habitats for biodiversity in the region. We will link with our other conservation project protecting the Echuya forest catchment of Lake Bunyonyi. The project will also link with local government development activities including Operation Wealth Creation supporting communities to increase production on their land through provision of input and training. The project will also harmonise with central government programme funded by Green Climate Fund that focuses on restoration of priority wetlands in the country. Other relevant initiatives on wetlands which this project will harmonise with are outlined under partner experience in Question 9 especially supporting implementation of local government plans and National wetlands policy.

Finally the project will exploit partnership with local governments, and build on already successful African Crane Programme in the region with experience in implementing CCAs

**Q17b. Are you aware of any other individuals/organisations/projects carrying out or applying for funding for similar work?**

Yes

**If yes, please give details explaining similarities and differences. 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.**

As noted above (17a), there are (past and ongoing) initiatives on wetland conservation especially by CSOs and government programmes on wetlands. Whereas these are general in nature, this project focuses on a critical ecosystem for biodiversity and community survival through.

- strong links to Local and National governments, providing a firm basis for sustainability and long-term

impact.

- research component to strengthen evidence base for wetlands and peat conservation as a mechanism to improve biodiversity conservation.
- the multi-institution collaboration involving government at national and local levels, private sector, international and national NGOs and local communities

## Q18. Ethics

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

The project will meet all relevant legal obligations, follow ethical principles of respect for persons, beneficence and justice, and apply social safeguards principles in accordance with BirdLife's policy on conservation and human rights, social assessment framework for projects <https://www.birdlife.org/worldwide/programme-additional-info/conservation-and-rights>

The project will be led by NatureUganda having a long history and experience of working successfully with communities through site support groups, Collaborative Forest Management (CFM) including Indigenous Communities at Echuya Forests Reserve and Bwindi National Park (both forests are catchment areas of the targeted wetlands). NatureUganda has championed the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities in other projects. In this project we shall work closely with local community groups and HHs obtaining all necessary permissions, ensuring that the rights and needs of the people affected are properly solicited, respected and addressed. Through close collaboration with communities and their organisations we will ensure that full account is taken of traditional knowledge based on our previous experiences the project will respect, acknowledge and apply the traditional knowledge of the people in Kabale with respect to wetland conservation, restoration and carbon sequestration initiatives.

Free, Prior and Informed Consent will be obtained from all communities involved in the project, to ensure they are fully aware of the purpose and context, with opportunities to undertake collective decision-making and to give their consent and views throughout. The project will adopt participatory approaches and promote gender inclusivity.

The research elements of this project will be registered with Uganda's National Council of Science and Technology ([www.uncst.go.ug/research-ethics-committee](http://www.uncst.go.ug/research-ethics-committee)), with their reporting requirements and protocols followed

## Q19. Safeguarding

(see Guidance Note 3.8)

**Projects funded through the Darwin Initiative must fully protect vulnerable people all of the time, wherever they work. In order to provide assurance of this, we would like projects to ensure they have the appropriate safeguarding policies in place. Please tick the box to confirm you have relevant policies in place and that these can be available on request.**

Checked

## Section 10 - Biodiversity & Project Information

---

### Q20. 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?**

The project will raise awareness about habitat loss for biodiversity, the loss of ecosystem services from wetlands and the potential for wetlands to contribute to livelihoods improvement of communities, climate change resilience and biodiversity conservation.

Project experience and knowledge will be shared with the private sector and extension agencies through technical fact sheets and posters, to encourage replication across regions in Uganda. Wetlands Management Department and Local Government will benefit from successful approach that can save other wetland in the region or country. Fact sheets will also be used in community meetings and web-based dissemination. Project reports will be shared with government agencies especially Focal points for CBD, Ramsar and CITES to utilise in reporting on implementation and preparations of meetings including COPs.

Project results and lessons will be shared nationally through NatureUganda national events including public talks, quarterly newsletter (the Naturalist). NatureUganda organises a conservation conference every two years and the next will be in 2020. The project will reach over 200 students and 50 lecturers/ professors annually, through lectures, conferences, and research or survey reports.

We shall endeavour to reach the local audience through local Radio stations (FM) especially Voice of Kigezi (VOK) which broadcasts in local languages and use the same on feedback from communities through radio talk shows and debates where members of project stakeholders will participate.

Regionally and internationally, project results and lessons will be shared through the BirdLife Partnership especially through regional Council for the Africa Partnership meetings and the local empowerment programmes , utilising web-based news stories, case studies in publications, technical workshops and policy meetings

## **Q21. 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.**

The project will support capacity development at these levels:

Individuals. Through training and learning (exchange) visits, capacity will be built for sustainable wetlands management, and increased production on land outside wetlands. Individuals will also be trained in wetland related laws and their rights in protecting the habitat for the benefit of the communities.

Community institutions. Through institutional strengthening and training of Community Conservation Associations, Farmer Field Schools, local based monitoring for biodiversity, the project will build capacity of existing groups and community institutions. This will enable them to effectively manage wetland areas and increase production of food and increased income. As above, peer learning from other groups will be encouraged through exchange visits. Working with the district Community Development Office , the project will incorporate building capacity and empowering women's role in these institutions.

Individual researchers within NatureUganda and project partners Will benefit from working with technical experts at NatureUganda and experts from partners such as BirdLife. Field staff will enhance skills in survey methods (biodiversity, measuring carbon stocks, and ecosystem services), statistical analysis and report writing.

NGOs and government. Through collaborative work, this project will raise awareness and build skills among NGOs and government to work with wetlands adjacent communities. Capacity will be built for wetlands conservation and management through workshops based on the project's evidence-based research and through experienced consultants

In all cases, emphasis will be on experience-based learning, so that knowledge and skills are applied and become embedded in individuals and institutions, securing capacity in the long-term

## **Q22. Access to project information**

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

Drawing on NatureUganda’s experience of working with the communities in Kabale and working in wetland areas across the country, guidance materials and documentation for local communities will be audience-appropriate (in language and reflecting literacy levels) and non-technical. Communication with the local communities will need to be predominantly oral but visual posters illustrating conservation concepts will be used. Costs of printed materials for raising awareness among decision-makers, NGOs, students and others are included in the budget.

All the project’s outputs and materials will be made freely available through existing websites and other portals, principally those of NatureUganda and project partners including BirdLife International which is accessed by over 120 partners across the world.

Information will be disseminated through NatureUganda quarterly membership newsletter accessed by over 3000 members and through monthly public talks attended by over 100 participants. Efforts will be made to hold public talks at the Universities in the project area.

Information will also be disseminated in the District through radios such as Voice of Kigezi an FM radio broadcasting in the district and as appropriate through coverage by national newspapers or televisions where NatureUganda has good collaborations.

Project results and lessons will be shared regionally and internationally through the BirdLife Partnership’s communication channels, including the BirdLife World Congress. The budget includes £4000 for international travel to enable our project staff to attend and present results

## **Section 11 - Logical Framework**

---

### **Q23. 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.

**Impact:**

Conserved wetlands with restored habitats for threatened species sustainably provide ecosystem services to improve the livelihoods of communities and mitigate against the causes of climate change

---

<b>Project summary</b>	<b>Measurable Indicators</b>	<b>Means of verification</b>	<b>Important Assumptions</b>
------------------------	------------------------------	------------------------------	------------------------------

---



**Outcome:**

10,000 households benefit from the wise use of wetlands and ecosystem services, mainly water, biodiversity and secure long-term conservation of the three wetlands in Kabale

1. 40% of 10,000 households show improved wellbeing (eg. access to water, better health, and benefits from wetlands etc) due to project intervention by end of project.

2. Improved biodiversity scores as determined by IBA monitoring showing no further loss on baseline levels.

3. Lake Bunyonyi and surrounding wetlands designated as Ramsar site BEOP

1 Baseline, annual and end of project reports

2. Baseline, annual and end of project biodiversity (IBA) monitoring reports.

3. Minutes of the National Ramsar Committee endorsing the Ramsar designation of the Bunyonyi wetlands

-Stable political environment is maintained

We think this will hold true because there has been political stability for over three decades

-Project interventions in sustainable farming practices, alternative incomes and CCAs will reduce impact on wetlands.

Holds true because with clearer rights, roles and responsibilities for communities, articulated through a CCA and supported by improved agricultural methods outside the wetlands and better methods to wise-use of wetlands will result in better wetland management

**Output 1:**

1. Wetland ecosystem values known and availed to local and national decision-makers

1.1. Comprehensive ecosystem valuation report available and shared with national lead agencies and Conventions Focal points to inform national policy implementation and reporting by end of yr2  
1.2. Synthesis and summary reports and graphics on the value of wetland services and 10,000 leaflets in local language distributed to residents by end of yr2.  
1.3. Local district council members discuss the valuation report to integrate results into local government development plans by end of yr2.  
1.4. The quantity of peat carbon stocks in the project area assessed by end of yr 2.  
1.5. The relative impact of different farming practices and conservation activities on emissions assessed by end of yr 2

1.1. Valuation report available and shared  
1.2. Reports, graphics and leaflets depicting the wetland values.  
1.3. Minutes of local and national assembly debates on wetlands management in Kabale  
1.4., 1.5. Report on peat carbon stocks and impact of conservation activities on emissions

*No Response*

**Output 2:**

2. Wetlands biodiversity assessed, indicator species monitored and data obtained and used to evaluate Ramsar status of the sites to enable designation

2.1. Biodiversity assessment reports available and indicator species identified by end of Yr2  
2.2. Synthesis and analysis of the data against Ramsar criteria and support the Govt with completion and submission of the Ramsar Information Sheet (RIS) to the Ramsar Secretariat  
2.3. A monitoring framework for biodiversity developed and administered throughout the project period to provide information on impact of project on biodiversity

2.1. Baseline and biodiversity reports highlighting international significant elements of the wetlands  
2.2. Ramsar Information sheet (RIS) completed and submitted to the national Ramsar focal point  
2.3. Minutes of the National Ramsar Committee (NRC)  
2.4 Monitoring reports for indicator species eg. Grey-crowned Crane

National government remains committed to wetlands conservation

We think this will hold true because government is in process of reviewing wetlands policy and laws and wetlands agencies has committed to providing support to the project implementation

**Output 3:**

3. Community stakeholders engaged in the implementation of Community Conservation Agreements to sustainably manage and wisely use wetlands

3.1 Ten community groups trained in the setup, management and governance of Community Conservation Agreements (CCAs) by end of Yr1  
3.2 At least 500 community group members have a good understanding of the laws and regulations regarding protection and wise-use of wetlands by end of yr 2  
3.3 Ten CCAs representing ten community groups signed between communities and district government authorities by EOP  
3.4 Ten community groups implementing conservation activities and biodiversity monitoring guided by Conservation Action Plans by end of yr 2

3.1 a Training and evaluation reports showing disaggregation of gender involvement  
3.1b Charter describing the governance and management of CCAs and action plans on achieving the targets of CCAs  
3.2 Reports on Training and pre and post training interview  
3.3 Signed CCAs documents between community groups engaged and local government authorities  
3.4a Conservation action plans in place  
3.4b Biodiversity (IBA) monitoring reports re: indicator species

Local politics remain conducive and good cooperation from stakeholders including communities  
We think this will hold true because local councils have been supportive of NatureUganda and community stakeholders and local government have provides support letters to the project which indicates commitment to conservation of wetlands. Also the clearer rights, roles and responsibilities for communities, articulated through a CCA with oversight from local government to ensure its enforcement coupled with improved agricultural methods outside the wetlands and better methods to wise-use of wetlands will result in better wetland management

**Output 4:**

4. Wise use/sustainable use strategies and plans developed, demonstrated and adopted to improve community livelihoods

4.1 A baseline report on upland soil quality in the study area assessed to inform establishment of FFSs by end of Yr1  
4.2. Three farmer field schools established and demonstrating benefits of soil and water conservation (SWC) and soil improvement activities by end of yr2.  
4.3 Ten community groups (1000 HH) trained in and using appropriate SWC methods, adopt soil fertility improvement practices, establish fodder banks in the uplands to reduce their dependence on wetland-based livelihoods BEOP  
4.4 1,000 HH (5,000 people) trained and practicing sustainable farming practices that do not expose peat wetlands to oxidation and excessive drying. BEOP  
4.5 At least 20% community group members establish sustainable enterprises, in particular ten 'zero-grazing' goat rearing units and fourteen modern beekeeping units by end of yr2.  
4.6 Tourism operations established around Lake Bunyonyi as a result of increased awareness and improved status as Ramsar site and tourism association registered to support tourism services BEOP

4.1 Baseline study report  
4.2/ Farmer Field school reports showing governance and demonstration activities  
4.3 Baseline, annual and end of project enterprise reports  
4.4 Farmer field schools reports showing improved income generation and showing gender roles  
4.5 Monitoring reports showing improved soil productivity as a result of manure from goats and Soil and water conservation activities  
4.6. Report on tourism related interventions by the project

The rainfall patterns remain conducive for farming

Communities are receptive to new methods of farming and alternative livelihoods: We think this will hold true as recent experience show it will especially working with local experts with support from local government relevant departments, affirmative action in enterprise selection and learning visits to support communities

Political stability allows foreign tourists to visit the region  
We think this will hold true because tourism is critical foreign exchange earner for the country and all efforts are made to ensure security and safety of visitors.

With improved status of wetlands as Ramsar site, increased publicity, sufficient tourists visit the area and provide employment opportunities for the tourism operators

**Output 5:**

5. Lessons from management of wetlands in Kabale shared at national, regional and international levels for future replication to protect high altitude wetlands

5.1 Project communications plan in place end of yr1.  
 5.2. At least 2 Learning visits annually to/from other communities outside the project area to share expertise and experiences throughout project  
 5.3 Project outcomes and lessons shared in at least 5 forums, local radio/TV programmes in local language and print media BEOP  
 5.4 At least one paper on wetlands management through Community Conservation Agreements published in a refereed journal  
 5.5. Publicity materials on the project results including newsletters, posters and policy briefs circulated BEOP

5.1a Communications plan and its monitoring and evaluation schedule  
 5.1b Materials and scripts used in communications  
 5.2 Reports of learning visits  
 5.3 Reports on forums attended and radio programmes aired  
 5.4 Article accepted by a refereed journal  
 5.5. Publicity materials produced and available

Lessons learnt from project inspire wetlands conservation in the region  
 We think this holds true because of government commitment to conservation of wetland and also the realisation of the decline of ecosystem services such as water when such habitats are lost

**Do you require more Output fields?**

**It is advised to have less than 6 Outputs since this level of detail can be provided at the Activity level.**

No

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

**The word count for each individual activity should be no more than 25 words.**

## Activity details

---

**Activity Number**

1.1. Conduct ecosystem valuation of the three targeted wetlands; Kiruruma, Nyamuriro, Bunyonyi

**Activity Details**

There are three interconnected wetlands, however known differently locally with the different names. Whereas communities and local governments are aware to the importance of those wetlands, there is no information available on the ecosystem services that the local governments can use to integrate into the local government development plans. The ecosystem valuation will provide the local governments and the central government to material to design better

policy and activities to implement that support communities, biodiversity and achievement of development. In Uganda wetlands were described as wastelands or wasted lands that were breeding areas for mosquitoes. In the 1950s and 1960s government supported locals to drain some of the wetlands but it was an error that caused damage to habitats and loss of ecosystem services. This project provides an opportunity to reverse the trend and the ecosystem valuation is the beginning step to raise awareness of the importance of wetlands to government and local community partners. This information will also provide a baseline for the implementation of the planned livelihood initiatives and habitat conservation measures planned.

## Activity details

### Activity Number

1.2. Develop and disseminate materials for public awareness on the values of the wetland resources

### Activity Details

based on the ecosystem valuation and biodiversity assessments planned, there will be material to design public awareness materials for communities and government both at local and national level. material will be developed targeting different audiences including local community targeted materials in local language. Fortunately the three systems are located in a region where only one local language is used. This will be a big opportunity in consistency and clarity of the message to all people partners. Communicating effectively to the partners on the values of wetlands to people and biodiversity will be extremely important to buy-in the stakeholders at local and government level.

## Activity details

### Activity Number

1.3. Organise dialogue meetings with local councils to raise awareness of wetland resources and their values

### Activity Details

In Uganda, districts and sub counties are the front line institutions to implement government plans, ie district development plans and sub county development plans. The prioritization of the activities in the plans are made by local councils ie district council or sub county councils. These two institutions are very important in the implementation and integration of the project activities in their plans especially in the understanding the value of wetlands. Th Councillors represent the communities who will be supported by the project and therefore bringing them on board is very important for the project especially in the first and second year so that they can continue to support the project interventions even when the project is ended. .

## Activity details

### Activity Number

1.4. Assess the quantity of peat carbon stocks in the project area

#### **Activity Details**

Peat wetlands are important natural ecosystems with high value for biodiversity conservation, climate regulation and human welfare. In this region wetlands provide many services including water, materials for thatching and crafts for domestic use and income generation. However the hills have been degraded and erosion has washed away the top soils leaving the community with less options but to "follow the soil in the wetlands". This has caused large scale drainage of the wetlands and exposing peat which quickly oxidizes releasing carbon to the atmosphere.

The ALTER project found that (i) drained peatlands in Kabale for potato cultivation had significant carbon dioxide emissions. (ii) the Kiruruma and Nyamuriro wetlands have extensive peat stocks (>10m in depth). (iii) The over-use of peat soils can result in complete loss of peat and exposure of the underlying, unusable base-clay. To avoid this, the wetland assessment will quantify peat stocks and predict the impact of wetland cultivation including associated reductions in CO2 emissions.

### **Activity details**

#### **Activity Number**

1.5. Assess the impact of different farming practices and conservation activities on emissions

#### **Activity Details**

Whereas focus will be made on the wetland systems, baseline assessment will also be made on the uplands to understand the impact of the farming practices on the emissions. Summarily will be made of the conservation activities at the beginning of the project and the end to determine the impact of the project on the wetlands especially reducing the emission from the peat lands. Studying the different farming practices will provide baseline upon which the impact of the project will be determined.

### **Activity details**

#### **Activity Number**

2.1. Assess biodiversity of the wetlands and identify the indicator species

#### **Activity Details**

We shall assess biodiversity of the sites as baseline and also the need to identify indicator species to monitor. The information obtained from the assessment will be baseline and subsequent monitoring will provide information on which the impact of the project will be determined on biodiversity conservation. Also Information from the assessment will be used in completing the Ramsar Information Sheet (RIS) as part of the process in the designation of Lake Bunyonyi as a Ramsar ste.



## Activity details

### Activity Number

2.2. Synthesise and analyse data against Ramsar criteria and complete the Ramsar Information Sheet (RIS) for the National Ramsar Committee

### Activity Details

The Ramsar designation will require completing the Ramsar Information Sheer (RIS). The three wetlands have not been surveyed before except Nyamuriro section which was surveyed for only birds. In this project we shall survey the wetland for various taxonomic groups including birds, plants, insects, amphibians, fish and mammals. It is important that we understand the wetlands very well before any proposition is made. Already Nyamuriro is an Important Bird Area (IBA). Information obtained will be used to propose the site for the designation as a Ramsar site. Uganda is the national expert on birds and will survey birds. Also NatureUganda has working groups composed of members especially professionals from the University who are interested in particular subjects or groups of species. These groups will be supported to survey the other taxonomic groups. The biodiversity survey will take place in the first quarter of the project to provide baseline information for implementing other activities of the project.

## Activity details

### Activity Number

2.3. Develop a monitoring framework for indicator species to provide information on impact of project on biodiversity throughout the project period

### Activity Details

Based on the biodiversity surveys conducted, information for the Ramsar information will be obtained. In addition indicator species for monitoring of the wetlands will be identified. The indicator species will be based on the threat status and profile for monitoring. It is important to note that we want to establish a monitoring process that will involve local communities (citizen science) . Therefore a species lke the Grey Crowned Crane, a national bird that is recognized by all would be a good indicator for this purpose. We shall monitoring the numbers, breeding and flocking (behavioral activity) to determine the most critical areas for the species.to determine the population trends and the impact of the project on the species and or wetlands. To achieve this process a monitoring framework will be developed together with stakeholders (local communities an local government partners). The selection of the indicator species will be critical to ensure that monitoring will continue even when the project has ended. Bird guides on Lake Bunyonyi will be trained to monitor species for tourism development but also provide information to the project.

## Activity details

### Activity Number

3.1 Train ten community groups in the setup, management and governance of Community Conservation Agreements (CCAs)

### Activity Details

Communities are our frontline groups in the project implementation. We shall train the community members in governance of the project activities especially the CCAs. Community conservation areas are "multiple-use protected areas" that are widely used throughout the world to allow for improved conservation outcomes while providing for the sustainable use of natural resources. However we must build the capacity of the partners and empower them especially the local communities to effectively participate and engage in the CCAs governance. Ten community group will be selected as the nucleus of the CCA implementation and will act as trainers of trainers for any other group that will adopt the process.

## Activity details

### Activity Number

3.2 Organise a workshop for every community group covering at least 500 community group members to promote good understanding of the laws and regulations regarding protection and wise-use of wetlands

### Activity Details

In order to be good partners, community members will have to understand the legal regime we shall be operating in. Working with Wetlands management Department the lead agency for wetlands, we shall raise awareness of the laws and regulations governing wetland conservation in the country. The communities will have to understand their responsibilities and rights and WMD will highlight the needs and requirements for the wetlands conservation, management and restoration. Where possible additional support in terms of information and collaboration with government programs will be made

## Activity details

### Activity Number

3.3 Facilitate development of CCAs and ten MOUs signed between communities and district authorities

### Activity Details

Natureuganda and Kabale district local government will facilitate development of the CCAs. The objectives of the proposed Community Conservation Area are identified and are in accordance with sound conservation practices; (b) the boundaries of any proposed Community Conservation Area are accurately identified; and

(c) consent and approval are obtained from all parties having rights and interests in any land that is to be included in the proposed Community Conservation Area; and

(d) An appropriate conservation, protection or management plan is developed for the area to insure the achievement of identified conservation objectives.

When the above conditions are available then the CCA can be established and an MOU developed between the community and local government which articulates the roles and responsibilities of the parties, enforcement mechanisms and penalties where appropriate. This MOU sets the relationship of the two parties but also sets priorities for conservation and sustainable use of the habitats.

## Activity details

### Activity Number

3.4 Facilitate and support ten community groups (ten workshops) to develop and implement Conservation action plans

### Activity Details

## Activity details

### Activity Number

4.1. Assess the baseline of upland soil quality in the study area, prior to the establishment of the farmer field school by end of Yr1

### Activity Details

Kabale and indeed the large part of Kigezi region is a hilly area with wetlands in valley bottoms. At the same time Kabale has a population density of over 300 people per km<sup>2</sup> the highest in Uganda and this has reflected on pressure on land. Because of over use of land in uplands, soil erosion and poor management, the land on hillsides has lost productivity. Subsequently communities have moved to lowland (wetlands) to grow food. One community member in Nyamuriro wetland when asked why they cultivate in wetlands summed up this problem "all our soils have been washed down and we are following our soils into the wetland". Therefore strategies to conserve wetlands must at the same time address poor land management, soil erosion and reduced productivity in uplands. To achieve this we shall conduct a baseline study to determine the soil quality on the hill sides to provide information on developing appropriate intervention. We shall determine challenges of soil erosion, loss of soil fertility and appropriate recommendation on the rejuvenation of land made. We shall work with district soil scientists and agricultural department to advise on this study since they have been involved in other similar work in the region when determining beneficiaries of Operation Wealth Creation, a government programme meant to improve income generation and create wealth at HH level.

## Activity details

### Activity Number

4.2. Establish three farmer field schools and demonstrating benefits of soil and water conservation (SWC) and soil improvement activities

### Activity Details

Farmer Field Schools (FFS) consist of groups of farmers who get together to study a particular approach or intervention to protect their land. The topics covered in FFS can vary from conservation agriculture, organic agriculture, animal husbandry, and soil husbandry, to income generating activities such as handicrafts. FFS provide opportunities for learning by doing. It teaches basic agricultural and management skills that make farmers experts in their own farms. FFS is a forum where farmers and trainers debate observations, experiences and present new information from outside the community.

We establish FFS to help farmers learn how to organize themselves and their communities and empowering farmers with knowledge and skills to manage their own farmlands. The overall goal is for the farmers to produce more on less

land and reduce the need to go to and cultivate in the wetlands. Three FFS will be established one in each of the wetland catchment areas (Nyamuro, Kiruruma and Bunyonyi). FFS are learning centers and communities will have exchange/learning visits in these areas to share knowledge and experience and learn by doing.

## Activity details

### Activity Number

4.3 Train ten community groups (1000 HH) in using appropriate SWC methods, adopt soil fertility improvement practices and establish fodder banks in the uplands to reduce their dependence on wetland-based livelihoods

### Activity Details

NatureUganda has extensive experience in soil and water conservation based on the Echuya conservation programme in the same landscape. The purpose is to protect land on the hillsides, reduce soil erosion and increase productivity. Some of the techniques include terracing, fodder banks which produces fodder for animals and holds the soils from being washed away by rain. These techniques will be employed to protect the soil and work with communities to improve productivity. In FFS a recommendation of raring goats for manure has been given. In the project we have provided for an initial programme to provide goats to the community members for income generation but principally for provide organic manure to rejuvenate fertility of the land. This multipronged strategy of SWC and organic manure to increase productivity will be utilized.

## Activity details

### Activity Number

4.4 Train 1,000 HH (5,000 people) in sustainable farming practices that do not expose peat wetlands to oxidation and excessive drying

### Activity Details

See 4.3

## Activity details

### Activity Number

4.5 Support atleast 20% community group members to establish sustainable enterprises, in particular ten 'zero-grazing' goat rearing units and ten modern beekeeping units

### Activity Details

In addition to the sustainable farming practices, we shall work with the communities on sustainable enterprises. In particular two enterprises were identified based on good practice from elsewhere. The first is zero grazing of goats.

Goats are known to produce the best organic manure, multiply relatively quickly and have readily available market. This enterprise will be promoted starting with plot farmers to demonstrate this enterprise .

The second enterprise is apiculture or bee keeping. Again this has been tested elsewhere including by NatureUganda as low cost, low maintenance and high value products for the community. However this has also multiple benefits in the community especially pollination. Therefore keeping bees does not bring income through production of honey but contribute to the increased productivity of the land. We provide communities will pilot bee hives and develop a learning centre for other communities. Note that wetlands shall be good areas to implement this project as a sustainable or wise use measure.

## Activity details

### Activity Number

4.6 Support the establishment of tour guiding operations and train guides around Lake Bunyonyi to increase awareness of tourism opportunities available and provide employment

### Activity Details

On tourism, there is growing interest on Lake Bunyonyi as a tourism destination both for domestic and international tourism. A number of facilities for accommodation and campsites have been developed and have become a favourable for tourists who are travelling to Bwindi Impenetrable National Park for Gorilla tracking. The designation of the site as Ramsar site will raise the profile with lead agencies in tourism (Uganda Tourism Board) and tour operators of the lake and surrounding wetlands. Already NatureUganda has been supporting birding groups on the Lake and have invited operators into guides training based on our other projects. During this project we shall raise the tourism profile of the lake, train tour guides and support them to register as a tourism association. By improving the skills of tour operators, by registering and recognising and supporting them with basic materials such as boat, binoculars, guidebooks, we expect improved capacity to attract and manage tour groups visiting the area. This would increase tourists groups from less than ten annually to estimated 2 visiting groups per month and rising to over 4 in peak periods (Sept-Dec). This will increase potential for employment especially of youth in tourism industry

## Activity details

### Activity Number

5.1 Develop a communications plan for the project

### Activity Details

Natureuganda already has a communication strategy for the organization. In this we shall develop a communication strategy for the project so that appropriate materials and channels of communication are clearly developed for well identified audience. This strategy will be developed together with all partners (consultative) and the partners share roles and responsibilities.

## Activity details

---

### Activity Number

5.2 Organise learning visits to other communities outside the project area to share expertise and experiences

### Activity Details

We shall identify good examples in various interventions where our community members will learn from. These examples may be within the landscape or may be outside the landscape. We shall then organize learning (exchange visits) visits for community members to those programmes or project. All exchange visits will be discussed with the community members and agreement reached on the best learning visit that is required by the members before such a visit takes place.

## Activity details

---

### Activity Number

5.3 Share project outcomes, experiences and lessons in at least 5 meetings and forums

### Activity Details

we shall organize meetings at local community level, district level and national level to share project experiences. In particular government institutions to integrate project outcomes into the government development plans. We shall also take opportunity of other meetings that may happen in the district to share materials or presentations. Our main target will be the subcounty and district council where priorities for development in the districts take place.

## Activity details

---

### Activity Number

5.4 Publish at least one paper on wetlands management through Community Conservation Agreements in a refereed journal

### Activity Details

## Activity details

---

### Activity Number

5.5. Develop and disseminate publicity materials on the project results including newsletters, posters, policy briefs

### Activity Details

All materials to produced were mentioned in the log frame. Care will be made to produce the right materials for specified audience. For example poster targeting communities will be made in local language and policy briefs for district councils and national technical audiences. Natureuganda has been working in this area and has good knowledge of how to target materials for various audiences.

## Activity details

### Activity Number

5.6. Raise awareness on the outcomes and results of the project through radios, TVs and public print media

### Activity Details

## Section 12 - Implementation Timetable

### Q24. Provide a project implementation timetable that shows the key milestones in project activities


Please complete the Excel spreadsheet linked below to describe the intended workplan for your project.

#### Implementation Timetable Template

Please add 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 fill/shade only the quarters in which an activity will be carried out. The workplan can span multiple pages if necessary.

 [Project Implementation Timetable Book1](#)

 02/12/2018

 06:20:54

 xlsx 14.13 KB

## Section 13 - Monitoring and Evaluation

### Q25. Monitoring and evaluation (M&E) plan

**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. Additionally, please indicate an approximate budget and level of effort (person days) to be spent on M&E (see "Finance for Darwin and IWT Guidance").**

M&E will be undertaken by the NatureUganda team which has many years' combined experience of project management, relevant subject knowledge and expertise, – including biodiversity monitoring; and socio-economics (See CVs). Additional expertise on assessment of carbon stocks will be provided by locally based expert who has experience in peat studies and carbon stocks knowledge of the area, in East Africa region and in Asia region.

Monitoring methods will be established to evaluate project progress, outputs and impact at appropriate intervals using the timetable (above) and Logframe Indicators. Mixed methods (quantitative and qualitative – e.g. group interviews, household surveys, ecosystem assessments, monitoring frameworks) will be used at key project stages and efforts will be made to disaggregate information by gender (where applicable) and key socioeconomic variables . Project impact will be measured using 4 outcome indicators:

0.1 Household/community income and wellbeing survey reports (livelihoods and wellbeing measures identified through participatory surveys, focus groups and qualitative methods)

Socio-economic surveys will establish a baseline for key indicators, e.g. income. Wellbeing analysis and basic necessities surveys will be used to identify priorities of socially differentiated groups. Owing to the difficulty of establishing controls (sample size, confounding factors, ethics) we will use mainly qualitative methods (e.g. Most Significant Change ) to assess project impact on livelihoods and wellbeing.

0.2 Baseline, bi-annual and end of project biodiversity monitoring reports and reports of threat/ state of wetland surveys.

A monitoring framework for biodiversity (based on indicator species identified) will be established using Bird Population monitoring methodology and Local based monitoring . The methodology allows participation of communities and establishes a long-term monitoring framework. The data generated will support the collation of information for the designation of Lake Bunyonyi as a Ramsar site and continuous monitoring.

0.3. Ten community conservation agreements completed and signed and under implementation

NatureUganda has considerable experience with CCAs in wetlands and the key area will be to establish compliance monitoring framework so that impact of the CCAs in wetlands and species and improvement of wellbeing of community ie income levels from baseline can be measured. Baseline, mid-term and end of project surveys of the distribution, population of indicator species, within and outside wetlands areas, will be used to assess biodiversity impact .

0.4. Concept for sustainable livelihoods

The assessment of upland soil condition will be conducted and summary reports and maps (including dataset) on the wetland soil properties, use and modelling outputs will also be done and will feed into the development and strengthening of CCAs and FFs. These will then be used by NatureUganda and partners to explore long-term and sustainable livelihood support and as baseline dataset to be referred to in future evaluations and measure of progress on improvements on community wellbeing.

The project management team comprised of project partners will analyse M&E results against outputs and towards outcomes continually, adjusting project delivery as necessary. Monitoring will allow disaggregation of data (on gender) and rapid feedback to identify any negative impacts, and ensure those most vulnerable are not adversely affected



Total project budget for M&E (this may include Staff and Travel and Subsistence Costs)

---

Number of days planned for M&E	120
Percentage of total project budget set aside for M&E	3

---

## Section 14 - Funding and Budget

---

### Q26. Budget

**Please complete the Excel spreadsheet linked below, which provides the Budget for this application. Some of the questions earlier and below refer to the information in this spreadsheet.**





**[Darwin and IWT Budget Template](#)**

**Please refer to the [Finance for Darwin/IWT Guidance](#) for more information.**

**NB: Please state all costs by financial year (1 April to 31 March) and in GBP. The Darwin Initiative cannot agree any increase in grants once awarded.**

**Please upload your completed Darwin Budget Form Excel spreadsheet using the field below.**

---

 **[Budget\\_St2\\_-\\_Darwin\\_R25\\_IWT\\_R5\(1\)\\_Dec\\_2018\\_final](#)**  
 03/12/2018  
 21:28:57  
 xls 126.5 KB

### Q27. Value for Money

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

Budget calculation:

- Staff, national travel and consultancy costs reflect NatureUganda's existing rates and known costs in Uganda
- International travel costs are based on current prices
- Workshop and training costs reflect NatureUganda's experience of similar events.
- Equipment costs and printing are based on recent quotes (for similar materials) in Kampala or Kabale (district town)

Value for money

- Most key project staff are existing NatureUganda employees and NatureUganda has well established links with in-country project partners especially local government, national government (WMD) and CRD and

have long standing partnership with communities and therefore project start-up time and costs will be minimal

- The project will integrate with existing wetland conservation initiatives and institutional processes, research and monitoring, working with local government and national lead agency WMD, maximising resource efficiency
  - A project Management committee (voluntary steering committee except for travel expenses) will be established, drawn from key project partners and organisations which this project seeks to reach, helping to integrate lessons, avoid replication, and maximise synergy.
  - For significant purchases, the project will adopt standard financial practice and obtain at least three quotes
  - Day-to-day project management will be implemented by field staff based in Kabale, and thus avoid costly travel from NatureUganda headquarters in Kampala
  - Management and technical support will also be provided by BirdLife Regional Office in Nairobi
  - Staff from government and private sector partners will provide input as an in-kind contribution
  - NatureUganda will use existing vehicles and other essential equipment, except where explicitly required eg Motorcycles to ease movement in the rugged and hilly terrain of Kabale to reach all project beneficiaries
- Significant assumptions  
The budget assumes a relatively stable economic and Uganda shilling so no significant effect on prices. If the value of the Uganda shilling changes significantly we will need to review the budget/activities accordingly

## Q28. 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.**

The project will acquire two motorcycles to support the three wetland systems and a boat to support the tour operations on the lake. Note that NatureUganda will avail two more motorcycles in co-funding to cover three wetlands and as well as office administration needs. The boat will also be used by NatureUganda teams during the monitoring/surveys and the tour guides association will not only use it to provide tourism services but will also be trained to provide long-term support to monitoring species in the Ramsar site. We shall also acquire two computers (a laptop for workshop and trainings and desktop for office), a printer and a PowerPoint project for use by the project office. After the project these will remain the property of NatureUganda and will be used to support ongoing conservation work

## Q29. Match funding (co-financing)

**Are you proposing co-financing?**

No

**If you are not proposing co-financing, please explain why.**

We have tried to leverage support from partners based on support letter and already secured co-funding, and from other ongoing activities from NatureUganda. Continued effort will be made to seek more matched funding from partners if new initiatives are developed during the course of the project

## Q30. Financial Risk Management

**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.**

NatureUganda is governed by an Executive Committee which oversees NatureUganda programmes including technical and financial supervision. The project will also establish Project management committee that will support the implementation team at project level. These committees support the implementation

team to ensure all resources of the project are utilised for the purpose they were planned. NatureUganda has an Operations Manual that details administration and financial guidelines/ policies and clearly spells out that NatureUganda is a bribery and corruption free organisation, and has very punitive sanctions against any malpractices.

A full time accounts assistant has been budgeted to provide financial management support to the project. The Assistant will be supported by the regional Finance and Administration Officer and NatureUganda overall Finance and Administration Director. The three levels of supervision will reduce any risks to the project in terms of finances.

An M&E plan has been developed that will provide a mechanism for monitoring technical project progress and measured against the financial expenditure. The Executive Director of NatureUganda who is the lead person on the project will provide leadership and overall supervision of the project

## Section 15 - FCO Notifications

---

### Q31. FCO Notifications

**Please put an X in 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.**

Unchecked

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

Yes (no written advice)

## Section 16 - Certification

---

### Q32. Certification

**On behalf of the**

Company

**of**

NatureUganda

**I apply for a grant of**

£299,939.00





**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 have uploaded CVs for project principals and letters of support.**

- I have uploaded our most recent signed audited/independently verified accounts and annual report.

Checked

<b>Name</b>	Achilles Brunnel Byaruhanga
<b>Position in the organisation</b>	Executive Director
<b>Signature (please upload e-signature)</b>	 <b><u>Achilles Byaruhanga signature 1</u></b>  02/12/2018  06:23:18  gif 16.46 KB
<b>Date</b>	03 December 2018

## Section 17 - Submission Checklist

### Stage 2 Application - Checklist for submission

	<b>Check</b>
Have you read the Guidance (including Guidance for Applicants and Finance for Darwin and IWT Guidance)	Checked
Have you read, and can you meet, the current Terms and Conditions for this fund?	Checked
Have you provided actual start and end dates for your project?	Checked
Have you provided your budget based on UK government financial years i.e. 1 April - 31 March and in GBP?	Checked
Have you checked that your budget is complete and correctly adds up?	Checked
Has your application been signed by a suitably authorised individual?	Checked
Have you uploaded a 1 page CV for all the Project Staff on this project, including the Project Leader?	Checked
Have you uploaded a letter of support from the main partner(s) organisations?	Checked
Have you included a cover letter from the lead organisation, outlining how any feedback received at Stage 1 has been addressed?	Checked
Have you been in contact with the FCO in the project country/ies and have you included any evidence of this?	Checked

Have you uploaded a signed copy of the last 2 years annual report and accounts for the lead organisation? Checked

---

Have you checked the Darwin website to ensure there are no late updates? Checked

---

Have you read and understood the Privacy Notice on GOV.UK? Checked

---

**We would like to keep in touch! Please check this box if you would be happy for the lead applicant (Flexi-Grant Account Holder) and project leader (if different) to be added to our mailing list. Through our mailing list we share updates on upcoming and current application rounds under the Darwin Initiative and our sister grant scheme, the IWT Challenge Fund. We also provide occasional updates on other UK Government activities related to biodiversity conservation and share our quarterly project newsletter. You are free to unsubscribe at any time.**

Checked

## **Data protection and use of personal data**

Information supplied in this application form, including personal data, will be used by Defra as set out in the latest copy of the Privacy Notice for Darwin, Darwin Plus and the Illegal Wildlife Trade Challenge Fund available [here](#). This Privacy Notice must be provided to all individuals whose personal data is supplied in the application form. Some information, but not personal data, may be used when publicising the Darwin Initiative including project details (usually title, lead organization, location, and total grant value) on the GOV.UK and other websites.

Information relating to the project or its results may also be released on request, including under the 2004 Environmental Information Regulations and 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 General Data Protection Regulation (Regulation (EU) 2016/679).