

Applicant: **Dawson, Jeff**
Organisation: **Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust**
Funding Sought: **£290,410.00**
Funding Awarded: **£290,410.00**

DIR26S2\1027

27-004 Building future resilience for communities and wildlife in Ambondrobe

Impoverishment is driving unsustainable natural resource use and habitat degradation in Madagascar. This project aims to improve the wellbeing of nature-dependent communities in Ambondrobe and therefore alleviate pressure on the natural environment. In nine villages, this project will promote Climate Smart Agriculture to improve food security, implement community finance schemes to enable financial independence, improve access to reproductive healthcare and strengthen local governance. Concurrent community reforestation and patrolling efforts will restore habitats and prevent further deforestation in the core zone.

Section 1 - Contact Details

PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

Name Jeff
Surname Dawson
Organisation Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust
Tel (Work) [REDACTED]
Email (Work) [REDACTED]
Address [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
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GMS ORGANISATION

Type	Charity/ trusts
Name	Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust
Phone (Work)	[REDACTED]
Email (Work)	[REDACTED]
Address	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Section 2 - Title, Dates & Budget Summary

Q3. Project title:

27-004 Building future resilience for communities and wildlife in Ambondrobe

What was your Stage 1 reference number? e.g. DIR26S1\100123

DIR26S1\1671

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.

Country 1

Madagascar

Country 2

No Response

Do you require more fields? No**Q5. Project dates****Start date:**

01 April 2020

End date:

31 March 2023

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

3 years

Q6. Budget summary

Year:	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	Total request
Amount:				£ 290,410.00

Q6a. Do you have matched funding arrangements? Yes**What matched funding arrangements are proposed?**

Matched Funding in Year 1 will come from existing Durrell funds (£█████ Confirmed), GEF Ardeola funds (█████ Confirmed) and Guernsey Overseas Aid (£█████ Unconfirmed) and USAID Mikajy (£█████ Unconfirmed). In Years 2 and 3 matched co-funding will come from Durrell (£█████ Confirmed) in addition to further grants which will be sought to support and expand project activities in Ambondrobe.

Q6b. Proposed (confirmed and unconfirmed) matched funding as % of total project cost (total cost is the Darwin request plus other funding required to run the project).

23%

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.

Impoverishment is driving unsustainable natural resource use and habitat degradation in Madagascar. This project aims to improve the wellbeing of nature-dependent communities in Ambondrobe and therefore alleviate pressure on the natural environment. In nine villages, this project will promote Climate Smart Agriculture to improve food security, implement community finance schemes to enable financial independence, improve access to reproductive healthcare and strengthen local governance. Concurrent community reforestation and patrolling efforts will restore habitats and prevent further deforestation in the core zone.

Section 4 - Lead Organisation Summary

Q8. Lead organisation summary

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

Yes

If yes, please provide details of the most recent awards (up to 6 examples).

Reference No	Project Leader	Title
IWT074	Jeff Dawson	Cracking wildlife smuggling in Madagascar
IWT03	Andrew Terry	Breaking the chain: Combating the illegal trade in ploughshare tortoises.
18009	Dr Glyn Young	Saving the Madagascar Pochard: the world's most endangered duck
18018	Andrew Terry	Enabling Montserrat to save the Critically Endangered mountain chicken
17025	Dr Richard Young	Building evidence and capacity to conserve Hispaniola's endemic land mammals
15005	Dr Glyn Young	Conservation of the Mangrove Finch (<i>Cactospiza heliobates</i>)

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.

Yes

Please attach the requested signed audited/independently examined accounts.

 [DWCT 2017 Report and Financial Statement](#)
 05/12/2019
 15:47:35
 pdf 1.88 MB

 [DWCT 2018 Report and Financial Statement](#)
 05/12/2019
 13:48:01
 pdf 5.21 MB

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 the Lead Organisation and 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: Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust

Website address: www.durrell.org

Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust was founded as a charitable trust in 1963 by pioneering conservationist and author, Gerald Durrell, and is headquartered at Jersey Zoo.

Our strategies focus on saving species, restoring their habitats and working closely with local people and partners to find sustainable solutions for long-term management. Durrell has had a permanent presence in Madagascar since the establishment of the Ampijoroa Chelonian Captive Breeding centre in 1986, and operates under an Accord de Siege with the Government of Madagascar. Durrell Madagascar currently has a team of 65 full time staff delivering species conservation and rural development initiatives in four regions: Alaotra-Mangoro, Sofia, Boeny and Menabe. Programmes are managed by Madagascar Programme Director, Richard Lewis, from a central office in Antananarivo. Strategic, logistic and technical support is provided by Durrell's Head of Field Programmes and Head of Conservation Knowledge in the UK. At site level the project will be overseen by the Ambondrobe PA Manager (to be recruited as part of this work) and Ambondrobe Project Officer based at Ambondrobe. A dedicated M&E team with permanent staff in Madagascar and the UK will be responsible for these elements of the project.

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: Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MEDD)

Website address: None

Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): DREDD (the regional Director of environment and sustainable development) Menabe is responsible for implementing the environmental and sustainable development policy across the region and ensuring governance of laws and regulations in relation to the Ambondrobe PA including forest patrol law enforcement.

DREDD aims to sustainably manage natural resources in partnership with stakeholders, including NGOs, local associations and other government services so people and wildlife benefit simultaneously long-term. DREDD also controls the exploitation, utilisation and commercialisation of forest resources and oversees the management of all protected areas and restoration activities.

As President of the PA steering committee (Comite d'Orientation et de Suivi), DREDD provides tangible support to PA managers, updating them with environmental policy and key government strategies. At the District level, DREDD is represented by the Chief Cantonement of Environment and Forests who is an environmental police officer that can directly enforce laws in case of illegal activities.

DREDD will be provided with information on infringements and illegal activities within the PA so appropriate law enforcement measures can be taken. DREDD helps with implementation of local development activities towards improved human well-being and social cohesion and reduced poverty. In addition, DREDD will help with training, monitoring, surveillance, and public awareness.

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

2. Partner Name:	Ministry of Agriculture, Farming and Fisheries (MAP)
Website address:	None
Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):	<p>DRAEP (the Regional Director for Agriculture, Farming and Fisheries) Menabe aims at improving agriculture and farming techniques towards increased production and higher well-being at village and household level. Often with greater budget and resources than the other government services, DRAEP is active in rural areas, including remote places such as Ambondrobe. DRAEP supports farmers to boost their agriculture production by providing innovative techniques, improved seeds and modern equipment.</p> <p>During the last few years DRAEP has been trying to implement a sustainable landscape approach in order to adopt appropriate agriculture techniques that address climate change issues (e.g. increase in temperature and decrease in rainfall). DRAEP is taking the lead in finding the best strategic and political approach towards sustainable agricultural activity including water management and protection of soil fertility.</p> <p>DRAEP is also managing fishery activities by controlling and enforcing fishing regulations (legal mesh size, closed fishing period, card for fishers, non-fishing zones, reference for canoe etc). Only the associations that receive official permits from DRAEP can practice commercial fishing in an approved lake or river.</p>

Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes
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3. Partner Name:	Groupe de Semi-Direct de Madagascar (GSDM)
Website address:	None

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

The GSDM (Groupe de Semi-Direct de Madagascar), created in 2000, is a national platform supported by the FAO whose mission is to promote the adoption of Climate Smart Agriculture within the framework of national standards in Madagascar. The overall objective of the GSDM is to support the scaling up of the diffusion of Conservation Agriculture and the Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) in Madagascar with a view to promoting sustainable agriculture and protecting the environment in the face of natural resource depletion and climate change.

Particularly, GSDM will assist and guide the development of strategic and technical direction for the implementation and dissemination of CSA techniques in the project area. Building on GSDM's experiences, GSDM will support the development of strategies and action plan for the implementation and dissemination of these techniques by stakeholders and local communities. GSDM with its expertise will strengthen the capacities of Durrell's staffs on the CSA techniques. In addition, GSDM will oversee the implementation of the CSA techniques at the Farmer Field School sites and will provide technical and strategic advice to Durrell and the communities to ensure effective uptake of the techniques and to resolve constraints linked to the application of the cropping techniques.

Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?

Yes

4. Partner Name:

Graine de Vie (GdV)

Website address:

www.grainedevie.org

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

Graine de Vie is an NGO based in Belgium whose main objective is to ensure the compensation of the ecological footprint of the inhabitants of industrialised countries by planting trees in developing countries.

In order to ensure the monitoring and development of reforestation, the NGO's strategy is to set up nurseries in the planting sites and to train local people to manage them. To achieve these objectives, the members of the NGO are committed to working on a voluntary basis to ensure that all funds are used directly and entirely for the management of nurseries and tree planting. In addition all paid nursery and tree planting workers are employed from local communities to ensure benefits reach the local population.

For the past two years, Graine de Vie has been a Durrell partner in two conservation sites; Alaotra and Menabe Antimena.

For this project, Graine de Vie will be responsible for providing seeds for reforestation activities; setting up village nurseries and providing training to local nursery workers and to Durrell staff. Graine de Vie will assist also local communities during tree plantation and will support Durrell's team to develop strategies to ensure tree planting follow-up and control.

Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?

Yes

5. Partner Name:

Marie Stopes Madagascar (MSM)

Website address:

www.mariestopes.org

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

Marie Stopes Madagascar was created in 1992 and is a branch of Marie Stopes International. MSM has been working with national government and non-governmental partners to provide a full range of sexual and reproductive health services including contraception, maternal health and screening for sexually transmitted infections and HIV.

Currently, Marie Stopes Madagascar covers 22 regions of Madagascar with plans to expand the current distribution channels and is always looking for ways to reach more people to further the mission of improving access to education in family planning.

In the implementation of the project, MSM will be in charge of providing family planning services at the village level and providing the necessary medical staffs to deliver the services. MSM will also train Durrell staff on basic reproductive health and family planning information and knowledge to enable Durrell staff to have the necessary background and information to undertake efficient outreach and communication at community level and with the project's stakeholders.

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

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.

 [Darwin R26 Stage 2 Letters of Support](#)
 05/12/2019
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 pdf 1.94 MB

 [Darwin R26 St2 Durrell Cover Letter](#)
 05/12/2019
 13:55:13
 pdf 366.75 KB

Section 6 - Project Staff

Q10. Key project staff

Please identify the key project personnel on this project, their role and what % of their time they will be working on the project.

Please provide 1 page CVs for these staff, or a 1 page job description or Terms of Reference for roles yet to be filled. These should match the names and roles in the budget spreadsheet.

If your team is larger than 12 people please review if they are core staff, or whether you can merge roles (e.g. 'admin and finance support') below, but provide a full table based on this template in the pdf of CVs you provide.

Name (First name, Surname)	Role	% time on project	1 page CV or job description attached?
Jeff Dawson	Project Leader	8	Checked
Richard Lewis	Madagascar Programme Director	8	Checked
Juliette Veloso	Ambondrobe Protected Area Manager	50	Checked
Hanitra Rakotojaona	Conservation Livelihoods and Rural Development Project Manager	10	Checked

Do you require more fields?

Yes

Name (First name, Surname)	Role	% time on project	1 page CV or job description attached?
To be hired	Ambondrobe Project Manager	100	Checked
To be hired	Ambondrobe Social Coordinator	100	Checked
To be hired	Ambondrobe Agricultural Technician	100	Checked

Rachael Gerrie	UK M&E Officer	5	Checked
Rado Rasamison	Madagascar M&E Officer	10	Checked
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	0	Unchecked
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	0	Unchecked
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	0	Unchecked

Please provide 1 page CVs (or job description if yet to be recruited) for the project staff listed above as a combined PDF.

Ensure the file is named clearly, consistent with the named individual and role above.

📎 [Darwin R26 St2 CVs and Job Descriptions](#)
 📅 05/12/2019
 ⌚ 15:29:10
 📄 pdf 1.04 MB

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?

In countries that are desperately poor, Durrell recognises the fundamental link between rural community wellbeing and the conservation of the natural environments they depend on. Eighty percent of Madagascar's 25.6 million people are living in rural communities with limited access to tools or methods of sustainable natural resource use. Across much of Madagascar, including Ambondrobe, this has led to a continuing cycle of severe environmental degradation, loss of natural resources, reduced biodiversity and further reduction in human wellbeing.

Durrell began working in Ambondrobe in 1998, leading to the designation of the 7,000Ha lake-forest complex as a Protected Area in 2015. As designated PA Manager, Durrell works with local communities to address the principal threats of slash and burn agriculture, illegal logging, marsh clearance and invasive water hyacinth. These negatively impact human wellbeing and threaten endemic biodiversity, including the Critically Endangered Madagascar side-necked turtle. Situated in the dry west of the country, climate change is also an increasing threat.

This project will replicate a model of sustainable rural development activities already being implemented by Durrell at three other sites across Madagascar under a Jersey Overseas Aid funded project to 2022. It will enable communities in Ambondrobe (6400 people in 1000 households) to break the cycle of environmental destruction. The provision of skills training, support and resources will improve food security, financial prosperity, and reproductive health, and enable more robust governance at the local level. In doing so, the

pressure that communities exert on Ambondrobe's natural resources will be reduced. Alongside practical habitat restoration efforts and community-led patrolling, these activities will reduce and begin to reverse the trend of destruction. Activities will help ensure Ambondrobe's ecosystems provide essential and sustainable services to communities, leading to increased human well-being and ensuring threatened species are more resilient to anthropogenic threats and climate change.

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.

- Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
- Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS)
- International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA)
- Ramsar Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar)
- Convention on Climate Change (CCC)
- Global Goals for Sustainable Development (SDGs)

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.

This project demonstrably supports CBD objectives by promoting and facilitating sustainable use of natural resources (Target 3, also ITPGRFA), fair and equitable sharing of benefits from the utilisation of natural resources (Target 16, also ABS), and the transfer of appropriate knowledge and technologies to embed agricultural and Protected Area management practices that minimise adverse impact on biodiversity (Target 11). Restoration and habitat protection activities will reduce loss of these habitats (Target 5), help ensure ecosystems provide essential services (Target 14), enhance ecosystem resilience (Target 15) and protect populations of threatened species (Target 12), namely the Critically Endangered Madagascar fish eagle and Madagascar side-necked turtle, and the Endangered Madagascar pond heron. This project has been developed in direct reference to the strategic objectives of Madagascar's National Biodiversity and Action Plan 2015-2025.

Lac Ambondrobe and the surrounding watershed is a designated Ramsar site. In line with the Ramsar Convention mission, this project promotes the wise use of wetlands through sustainable implementation of environmentally sound agricultural practices (including use of short-cycle, disease and drought resilient genetic varieties), which increase household nutrition, crop yield and income whilst alleviating pressures on wetland habitats and dependent species.

Reforestation activities, in addition to ameliorating deforestation through the promotion of Climate Smart Agriculture techniques, directly supports the objectives of the UN's Framework Convention on Climate Change. During the course of the project, we aim to replant 60 Ha of forest using a variety of native species using seeds sourced from within the Protected Area itself and grown in community-led nurseries. These actions will help Madagascar to achieve its national goals of 1% annual reforestation for all Protected Areas and contribute to long-term goals of stabilising greenhouse gas concentrations (CCC Article 2) whilst ensuring that food production is not threatened and economic development is able to proceed in a sustainable manner for the world's poorest communities.

Farmer Field School, Village Saving and Loan Associations and good-governance training activities address measures outlined in Article 9 of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture. As a result of these activities, traditional knowledge relevant to plant genetic resources for food and agriculture will be protected and integrated into novel methods of cultivation to produce higher yields, the right to equitably participate in sharing benefits arising from the utilisation of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture will be secured, and local association members' ability and confidence to participate in making decisions on matters related to the conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture will be strengthened.

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

Yes

If yes, please give details.

Durrell is in constant contact with the CBD, CITES and Ramsar Focal Points over this project and other work Durrell is conducting in Madagascar. Durrell is part of the National Ramsar Committee

Q12d. Global Goals for Sustainable Development (SDGs)

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

Project activities aim to help alleviate poverty and increase food security for some of Madagascar's most rural communities (SDGs 1,2). Through our partnership with Marie Stopes Madagascar, we aim to improve reproductive health of women aged 15-49 across 9 communities in Ambondrobe through improved knowledge of and access to long-term family planning methods (SDG3). As a result, women will be given greater freedom of choice regarding family size which will in turn increase opportunities for women to participate in business and entrepreneurial activities. Training will be provided through VSLAs and income generating opportunities created through participation in regional and national fairs (SDG5). Community-led patrolling and habitat restoration activities e.g. nursery staffing and replanting, will create employment opportunities and training through VSLAs will promote small business development and innovation (SDG9). Newly constructed offices will strengthen visibility and authority of local associations and provide meeting spaces and infrastructure in support of small business operation.

Reforestation activities and complementary Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) activities will reduce the rate of deforestation, helping to preserve habitats for species and helping to combat climate change in the long term (SDG 13,15). Reforestation, reed-phragmites planting and CSA activities to reduce chemical agricultural inputs will all contribute to improving the quality of Lac Ambondrobe providing benefits to species and people (SDG14). This project represents a meaningful and consultative partnership between Durrell, local government, regional NGOs and local communities and will contribute to achieving peace, justice and strong institutions through capacity building, patrol provision and good-governance training (SDG16,17).

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 have analysed historical and existing initiatives and are building on or taking work already done into account in project design. Please cite evidence where appropriate.
- The rationale for carrying out this work and a justification of your proposed methodology.
- How you will undertake the work (materials and methods).
- How you will manage the work (roles and responsibilities, project management tools, etc.).

Five core interventions will improve community wellbeing and protected area management to ensure Ambondrobe's forest and wetlands are protected; providing vital ecosystem services, improved ecological resilience and havens for threatened species.

1) Community-led habitat protection and restoration: Durrell will coordinate weekly community-led patrols of core forest zone. Patrollers will be trained to use SMART patroller interface, reducing analysis time and improving accuracy. Four community-run nurseries will produce saplings for reforestation in (20Ha/year; 60Ha total). GdV will provide expert guidance. Community-led reed planting (10Ha/year) and water hyacinth clearance (5Ha/year) will restore lake habitat, providing improved spawning grounds for fish and better lake access for fishing.

2) Improving food security with Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA): baseline agricultural surveys in Y1 will capture agricultural productivity, food security and nutritional health data. Supported by GSDM, c.160 people will be trained per year from Yr2 in CSA techniques including integrated agriculture-livestock and pest management, and organic fertilizer use via Farmer Field Schools. Climate-resilient and highly nutritional crop varieties will be provided with uptake and impact assessed at each Yr-end. Market vegetable gardens will be established in four primary schools and the secondary school, staffed by CSA trained Parents' Associations.

3) Building financial independence through Village Savings and Loans Associations (VSLA): assess feasibility of establishing VSLAs in each community in Yr1. Following feasibility assessment, three pilot VSLAs will be established. Each will complete one cycle (8-12 months) and assessment by end Yr2, following five steps: 1) group is formed; 2) contributions to fund are pooled; 3) group decides which loans to award; 4) loans repaid with small amount of interest; 5) group carries out audit. VSLAs will be established in nine communities by project-end. Four Women's Associations exist in Ambondrobe, producing agricultural products. Members will be supported to participate in the Annual Regional Fair and an assessment of market value chains for local products completed by end Yr2.

4) Improving reproductive health: undertaken by MSM. Basic health assessments, workshops, meetings and home visits within the nine villages in Y1 promoting uptake of modern, long-term contraceptive measures (100% women age 15-49). Local Community Health Volunteers identified and trained from Yr2 in all villages to lead activities.

5) Good governance and social cohesion: Local association and fokontany leaders consulted to establish training needs and develop 'Good Governance' curriculum in Yr1. Training implemented during Yr2 and assessed in Yr3. Offices and noticeboards for the four local associations renovated by end Yr2. These offices will also act as village halls and will be an important space where people can meet during the rainy season, store equipment and shelter during cyclones. Most illegal activity in the area is from young men. Annual football competitions will be run to improve social cohesion within this group and wider community.

Household surveys (minimum 30/village) undertaken in Yr1 and Yr3 to collect baseline data used to assess impact, overseen by Durrell's dedicated M&E team, with staff in Madagascar and UK. UK and Madagascar senior management will manage the project according to Open Standards for Conservation.

Q14. 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?

Raising awareness of the potential worth of biodiversity when managed sustainably is central to this project. We will communicate the value of biodiversity to communities in a number of ways. Through Farmer Field Schools (FFS) we will share knowledge of how Climate Smart Agriculture techniques can improve crop yields in land currently under cultivation, improving nutrition and increasing income for farming families. Knowledge dissemination will take the form of in-the-field training at demonstration plots established by each FFS. The FFS model encourages knowledge exchange between community members as, having received initial training, FFS members provide support to other farmers to uptake CSA techniques. Via FFS and Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLA) meetings, we will promote and support access to natural resource markets for local producers, demonstrating the value inherent in the sustainable commodification of natural resources.

Through the establishment and continuation of community-led habitat restoration and patrolling activities, this project attaches value to the protection of the natural environment and ensures that communities are the direct beneficiaries of these efforts. 200+ community members will be employed in marsh replanting, reforestation and patrolling activities throughout the project.

Fokontany offices will be renovated and signboards erected to display information (in pictures and words) relating to the management of the Protected Area and communicating the project's activities and successes. We anticipate that activities under output 5 relating to good governance and social cohesion will have a positive impact on the number of decision/regulations made concerning the management of natural resources at the local, commune and regional level. Under this objective, we will identify local association leaders, conduct a training needs assessment, and co-develop and deliver a good governance training curriculum, which includes approaches to Protected Area management with a focus on the potential worth of natural resources to communities when managed sustainably.

Q15. 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.

This project builds capacity under each output. 28 patrollers will receive training in the use of smartphones for data entry and the SMART/Cybertracker software. They will also participate in personal safety and security training for patrolling. This training will be delivered by Durrell project staff and supported by the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development. The delivery of a good governance curriculum will enhance local leaders' capacity to effectively manage the Protected Area. This curriculum will be co-developed following a training needs assessment to ensure that training is locally, socially and culturally situated, and addresses the specific needs of Ambondrobo's local associations. This approach will ensure that learning and impact are relevant and sustainable post-project.

Through the establishment of Farmer Field Schools, at least 320 farmers will gain knowledge of Climate Smart Agriculture techniques and have the skills to apply them in their own cropland. The members of five

Parents' Associations will also receive training to enable school vegetable gardens to be cultivated using CSA techniques. Coupled with training in personal financial management through the creation of VSLA groups, the capacity of local producers to generate and manage income from sustainable crop production will be significantly enhanced.

Nine community members will be recruited and trained as Community Health Agents by Marie Stopes Madagascar. CHAs will be voluntary and trained to assist with MSM community visits and Durrell sensitisation days and outreach communications. Having a trained CHA present in each community ensures that knowledge, advice and support around reproductive health and family planning services is available to the community outside of MSM's regular visits. All of the training elements of this project will focus on the embedment knowledge and skills within communities so that capacity effective Protected Area governance and natural resource management is secured for the future.

Q16. Gender equality

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 sex disaggregated data and what impact your project will have in promoting gender equality.

Durrell is committed to the principle of equal opportunities and gender equality across all levels of the organisation including the operation of our regional offices and the delivery of our international field programmes. Durrell's Equal Opportunities Policy is outlined in full in the employee handbook, accessible to all employees, and recognises our obligations under the Codes of Practice published by the Equality and Human Rights Commission. In line with this policy, any recruitment made through the project will be open to female candidates and there will not be any discriminatory conditions placed on any persons that would restrict equality. Our commitment to gender equality is reflected in our appointment of key project staff, 50% of which are female and 50% are male.

We anticipate this project will directly contribute to reducing inequality between persons of different gender through the following initiatives: good governance training for local associations, Farmer Field Schools, Village Saving and Loan Associations and provision of improved access to family planning. Currently, one local association has c.40% female membership, whereas the remaining three have less than 10%. Working with association leaders and members to encourage female participation, we will aim for at least 40% female representation in each association by project end. Of 160 farmers to be trained in FFS, we will actively seek an increase in current levels of female participation to over 30% and 60% female participation across all village VSLA groups by project end. To measure this, we will collect data on participation and attendance of women in key activities including training, meetings, and workshops for which we will produce gender disaggregated statistics. We will also increase access to reproductive healthcare and information improving choices available to women regarding family planning, enabling communities to support and empower women to become more active in income-generating activities.

Q17. 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.

This project aims to improve community wellbeing in Ambondrobe by implementing sustainable rural development activities that will alleviate pressures on the natural environment. Skills training, support and resources provision will ameliorate food security and nutrition of families, better inform on the reproductive health of women, and improve financial prosperity and governance of local communities. The wellbeing of c.6400 people in 1,000 households across nine villages in Ambondrobe is improved. A minimum of 300 households will gain access to Climate Smart Agriculture techniques and site appropriate, highly nutritional and drought resilient crop varieties; providing initial benefits of increased yields, income and improved nutritional diet. VSLA establishment in nine communities will begin to give people greater financial independence, the ability to save and financially plan, making them more resilient to economic shocks. Four existing Women Associations will be strengthened through supported participation in regional fairs giving them access to market value chains for their local agricultural goods. Women and girls represent c.3000-3500 of Ambondrobe's community. Women of reproductive age will be given access to reproductive health choices, guided by trained Local Community Health Volunteers, enabling them to make decisions about family size long-term.

Madagascar continues to suffer from failing governance, low economic development, limited investment and widespread corruption. Most of the population in Madagascar lives in rural areas and access to novel methods of sustainable resource use is limited, which increases biodiversity loss, reduces natural resources and further impacts human wellbeing. We anticipate that poverty alleviation in Ambondrobe will benefit local biodiversity and natural resources in the long-term. Activities will remove pressures on the natural environment and ensure that local ecosystems provide essential and sustainable services to communities, leading to increased human wellbeing and improved biodiversity resilience.

Community-led lake restoration activities will plant 10Ha of reed-phragmites and remove 5Ha of invasive water hyacinth per year, benefitting fish reproduction, improving access for fishing and improving habitat quality for threatened species including Madagascar pond heron and Madagascar side-necked turtle. We expect deforestation rates in the core zone of the PA to be reduced due to community-led patrolling and improvements in governance and social cohesion. Effective community associations and local governance ensuring a healthy, resilient lake and forest ecosystem sustaining thriving populations of native wildlife and vital ecosystem services to local communities. Four established nurseries receiving support to produce saplings to plant a total of 60Ha (20Ha/year) and actively restore forests, contributing to Madagascar's commitment of 1% reforestation per year by 2030. Embedment of CSA techniques across whole community means agriculture continues in an environmentally sound manner providing resilience against the impacts of climate change. Increased financial security leads to establishment of small businesses in the area, creating employment opportunities and economic growth, which in turn will have positive impact on socio-economic wellbeing.

Q18. Pathway to change

Please outline your project's expected pathway to change. This should be an overview of the overall project logic and outline how you expect your Outputs to contribute towards your overall Outcome and, longer term, your expected Impact.

Our pathway to change for this project has been developed based on a Theory of Change which Durrell identified through another community focussed project (see attached document). Designed as a scalable model this is based on four major areas of intervention, reflected in Outputs 2-5 of this project; food security, financial management, reproductive health and good governance. For this particular site in Ambondrobe we have added tackling decreasing social cohesion to Output 5. We plan to use social contracts (reciprocal agreements where Durrell supports communities by improving access to development

resources in exchange for commitments to responsible management of natural resources) alongside promoting social events (including football competitions) to improve social cohesion and reduce the number of illegal activities which result in the exploitation of natural resources.

Output 1 is focused on community-led planting and clearance, promoting lake restoration which will improve the marsh area (important for species and local reed-crafts) and maintain clear water systems (important for fishermen). Improving community-led patrols through training in SMART methods and provision of equipment and uniforms will enable infractions to be identified and acted upon quicker i.e. reported to authorities. Combined with restoration activities, this will reduce deforestation rate in the core zone.

Q19. 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?

This project represents part of a larger programme of complementary conservation and rural development activities in Ambondrobe, to which Durrell is committed. Work in Ambondrobe began in 1998, leading to the designation of a 7,000Ha lake-forest complex PA in 2015 for which Durrell is the designated manager. Whilst we anticipate Durrell's presence in Ambondrobe for a prolonged period of time, all of our interventions are designed to find sustainable, locally applicable and implementable solutions for long-term PA management.

Capacity building components are conducted in a way that skills are embedded within local groups. FFS and VSLA training models have been created so that the trainees become the trainers; ensuring benefits are retained in the long-term. Development and implementation of a bespoke good governance-training curriculum, which will be designed in consultation with local association members and based on a training needs assessment, will ensure that knowledge gaps are filled and that capacity is built in established PA management frameworks that will remain in operation post-project. Providing initial impetus and infrastructure for initiatives (e.g. establishing MSM/CHVs; starting VSLAs/building offices) will mean fewer resources are required to keep these activities in existence after this project's timeline.

If necessary, please provide supporting documentation e.g. maps, diagrams, references etc., as a PDF using the File Upload below:

-
-  [Additional docs Map and Theory of Change_D arwin R26_St2](#)
 -  05/12/2019
 -  15:23:10
 -  pdf 313.67 KB

Section 9 - Existing works, Ethics & Safeguarding

Q20a. Harmonisation

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

Please give details.

Many components of this project are new to our work in Ambondrobe and replicate Durrell's current programme of conservation livelihoods initiatives taking place in three regions of Madagascar, funded by Jersey Overseas Aid (2017-2022). In 2018, this project trained 805 farmers enabling 137Ha of crops to be cultivated under CSA techniques; created 18 Village-Loan-Saving-Associations and trained 297 members in personal financial management principles; provided contraceptive healthcare to 124 women and trained 10 rural healthcare providers; identified all local associations and their leaders, and began to develop a good-governance training curriculum. This programme of work was designed to be replicable across Madagascar's rural communities and Ambondrobe has been selected as the next most suitable site for implementation.

Through a Helmsley Charitable Trust funded project to March 2020, we sought to establish effective management mechanisms in three NPAs, including Ambondrobe. Local associations have been reinvigorated and community-patrolling capacity has been increased. This proposal will continue to build patrolling capacity through training in the use of tablets/smartphones for data collection and the SMART patroller interface. These tools have already been implemented successfully in two other PAs in Madagascar that Durrell manages, Menabe-Antimena and Baly Bay, greatly improving the accuracy and efficiency of patrolling.

Q20b. Are you aware of any other individuals/organisations/projects carrying out or applying for funding for similar work?

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.

We are aware of just one project which is working to provide short-term contraceptive products in Ambondrobe. Through this proposed project and our partner Marie Stopes we will provide more comprehensive, permanent and modern long-term family planning services for people living in the remote areas of Ambondrobe which will compliment these existing short-term provisions.

Q21. Ethics

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

Durrell Madagascar has worked successfully with more than 170 communities in five long-term field sites for over 30 years. In 2015 we helped to establish three new protected areas, each of which is community co-managed. Our community-led approach to conservation is successful because of our close working relationships with each community built on supporting the involvement and development of the local associations, respect for traditional practices and customs and ensuring that the wellbeing and interests of the communities are protected through all project activities.

Before initiating any project activities we will seek the permission of the communities through initial community meetings to engage them in the project research and activities. Before and each time we conduct activities which requires collection or retention of personal data (such as household surveys) we acquire specific permissions from the persons involved. Each household is also given a unique code enabling us to process and manage data anonymously. We also ensure we gain additional informed consent from persons answering questions on their reproductive health. All data on reproductive health is collected anonymously and asked in a place where people feel comfortable to talk openly.

In line with our organisational policies, all activities conducted as part of this project will be designed to conform to EU GDPR requirements of the UK Data Protection Act 2018. Due regard will be taken in respect of ensuring compliance with proportionality and necessity considerations, and associated risk assessments will be conducted.

Q22. Corruption

Explain how you have considered any risk of corruption that may affect the success of this project, and how you plan to manage this.

Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust is committed to promoting and maintaining the highest level of ethical standards in relation to all organisational activities. Durrell has an anti-bribery policy and procedures document, which is signed by all permanent and temporary members of staff operating both within the UK and overseas. Maintaining lawful practices is of paramount importance, Durrell therefore has a zero-tolerance policy towards bribery and corruption and is committed to acting fairly and with integrity in all of its dealings and relationships and implementing and enforcing effective systems to counter bribery. There is strong internal scrutiny to mitigate the risk of fraud.

To avoid risks associated with corruption or the risk of bribery affecting patrollers engaged through this project, each patroller will receive guidance and support from Durrell staff trained in anti-bribery mechanisms as well as training in personal safety and general security. To safeguard against the potential theft or corrupt use of community savings through the VSLA groups, we will assist members in conducting regular audits and facilitate verbal 'good-faith' agreements to be put in place between community members.

Q23. Safeguarding

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, projects are required to have appropriate safeguarding policies in place. Please confirm the lead organisation has the following policies in place and that these can be available on request:

We have a safeguarding policy, which includes a statement of your commitment to safeguarding and a zero tolerance statement on bullying, harassment and sexual exploitation and abuse	Checked
We keep a detailed register of safeguarding issues raised and how they were dealt with	Checked
We have clear investigation and disciplinary procedures to use when allegations and complaints are made, and have clear processes in place for when a disclosure is made	Checked
We have shared our safeguarding policy with downstream partners	Checked
We have a whistle-blowing policy which protects whistle blowers from reprisals and includes clear processes for dealing with concerns raised	Checked

We have a Code of Conduct in place for staff and volunteers that sets out clear expectations of behaviours - inside and outside the work place - and make clear what will happen in the event of non-compliance or breach of these standards

Checked

Section 10 - Funding and Budget

Q24. Funding and budget

Please complete the appropriate Excel spreadsheet, which provides the Budget for this application. Some of the questions earlier and below refer to the information in this spreadsheet. Note that there are different templates for projects requesting over and under £100,000 from the Darwin budget.

- [Budget form for projects under £100,000](#)
- [Budget form for projects over £100,000](#)

-

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

N.B: 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.

 [Darwin R26 Stage 2 Budget FINAL](#)

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Q25. 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.

Every effort has been made to ensure our staff recruitment and training model is as cost-effective as possible. A Training Needs Assessment combined with the use of Durrell's competency register ensures training is targeted and efficient and represents value for money by filling knowledge and capacity gaps within existing PA management frameworks with a view to long-term skills retention. The FFS and VSLA group training model has been developed to have maximum capacity-building impact by encouraging knowledge sharing among community members outside of facilitated training sessions. Where possible we recruit and train specialist and highly skilled personnel in-country and at the project site to minimise extensive national and international travel and to increase levels of staff retention post-project.

The four community nurseries are already complete and capable of producing saplings to reforest c.20Ha per year. All costs associated with the nurseries will therefore go directly into production, resulting in direct

conservation impact from project outset.

Fokontany offices have multiple uses and will be a lasting legacy for Darwin, playing an important role in the continuity of social cohesion. As such, renovated offices can be used as a village hall by local associations and community groups, becoming an important space where people can meet during rainy season, to be used as stores to care for equipment, shelters during cyclones etc. To ensure best value for money is acquired the construction contracts will be assigned using a tender process.

Intensive research has already taken place into the most efficient, cost effective and capable boat engine models. Already used on another project, the Tohatsu MX40D3L-EX 40CV has proved less expensive than previous models, is very efficient on long journeys and cost-effective over short journeys. The best deal will be researched and levied by knowledgeable local staff at time of purchase.

Q26. 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.

Funding from the Darwin Initiative will be used to purchase a new boat engine for the Durrell project boat and build an office for each of the four local community associations. The boat engine will remain with the Ambondrobe project after completion. The four local association offices will be utilised during and post project by the local associations and fokontany as a hub for local governance and administrative issues as well as a focal point for community decision making.

Q27. Match funding (co-financing)

Are you proposing co-financing?

Yes

Q27a. Secured

Provide details of all funding successfully levered (and identified in the Budget) towards the costs of the project, including any income from other public bodies, private sponsorship, donations, trusts, fees or trading activity, as well as any your own organisation(s) will be committing.

Donor Organisation	Amount	Currency code	Comments
Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust	██████	GBP	Remainder of permanent project staff salaries for duration of project.
Global Environment Fund (Ardeola)	██████	GBP	Jan-Dec 2020; waterbird surveys at Lac Ambondrobe.
No Response	0	No Response	No Response
No Response	0	No Response	No Response

Q27b. Unsecured

Provide details of any matched funding where an application has been submitted, or that you intend applying for during the course of the project. This could include matched funding from the private sector, charitable organisations or other public sector schemes. This should also include any additional funds required where a donor has not yet been identified.

Date applied for	Donor Organisation	Amount	Currency code	Comments
01 July 2019	Guernsey Overseas Aid	██████	GBP	Contribution to staffing costs; elements of outputs 2 and 3; Jan-Dec 2020
01 July 2019	USAID Mikajy	██████	GBP	Patrolling salaries and equipment; Jan-Dec 2020
No Response	No Response	0	No Response	No Response
No Response	No Response	0	No Response	No Response

Do you require more fields?

No

Section 11 - Open Access and Financial Risk Management

Q28. Outputs of the project and Open Access

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

To increase the impact of the project, regular communications on Durrell's social media channels will be made to improve awareness around project outputs in the national and international media. Training materials developed under this project (e.g., SMART training, good governance curriculum, Farmers Field School implementation guide) will be freely available to other institutions and communities in the fokontany offices. Mapping and reports on Cybertracker patrolling (SMART patrols) will be made available to local/national governments on a regular basis so law enforcement measures can be taken more quickly. Hyacinth removal is a management action that will be reported to Conservation Evidence (conservationevidence.com), providing an example that supports habitat restoration and having a direct contribution to global conservation practice.

Q29. 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.

Project funds will be received at our Headquarters in Jersey and be monitored by our Head Office finance team. Project disbursements will be made directly from there to Durrell's account in Madagascar, where expenditure will be managed by our Malagasy Finance Team. All expenditure will be managed following our administrative handbook, which requires multiple quotes for large expenditures, management of receipts, monitoring of cash balances, and bank account reconciliations. All project expenditure is audited as part of Durrell's annual audit process, and the project expenditure will be audited specifically at the end of the project. There is strong internal scrutiny to mitigate the risk of fraud. Any necessary per diem payments for staff or dignitary travel etc. will be made on attendance and require signed participation records.

Section 12 - Logical Framework

Q30. 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:

Improved community well-being and protected area management is ensuring Ambondrobe's dry forest and wetlands are protected providing vital ecosystem services; improved ecological resilience and havens for threatened species.

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
------------------------	------------------------------	------------------------------	------------------------------

Outcome:

The wellbeing of c.6400 people in 1000 households across 9 fokontany is enhanced and negative impacts on natural environment decreased in Ambondrobe by 2023.

0.1 Area of dry forest by end Yr3 is at least 5,300Ha (current area 5,467Ha) representing a decrease in deforestation rate from current 2.1% to less than 1%

0.2 Improve area of quality marsh within 50Hectares by 60% from 2020 baseline

0.3 Populations of threatened Madagascar Pond Heron and Madagascar side-necked turtle at least same in 2022/23 compared with 2020 baseline

0.4 Subjective well-being indicators (Global Person Generated Index; % households who are satisfied with life; % who feel their actions are worthwhile; % who felt anxious yesterday; % who felt happy yesterday) improved by end Yr3

0.5 Measures of food insecurity (assessed via Household Food Insecurity Access; Months of Adequate Household Food Provisioning and the Food Consumption Score Nutritional Quality Analysis scales) in intervention villages improved by end Yr3

0.6 By project-end, 100% of women aged 15-49 in nine villages are aware of long-term family

0.1 Global Forest cover data (Yr1 and Yr2); satellite imagery; ground-truthing; drone footage (Yrs1-3)

0.2 Satellite imagery; drone footage; ground-truthing

0.3 Annual population surveys in 2020 and 2022/23

0.4 Household surveys in Yr1 and Yr3

0.5 Household surveys in Yr1 and Yr3

0.6 Household surveys in Yr1 and Yr3; MSM visit reports; CPR data.

0.7 Household surveys in Yr1 and Yr3

0.8 Household surveys in Yr1 and Yr3

No significant reduction in current level of political stability.

Landsat etc. continue to offer imagery for free and it is readily available to us.

Safety of field staff and local communities is maintained – no serious threats or incidents to staff and villagers.

Engagement from local communities towards the goals of the PA and rural development activities does not decrease negatively impacting recruitment of community staffing.

planning methods and
how to access
reproductive healthcare
services

0.7 The proportion of
households who believe
they have the power to
influence decision
making in their
communities has
increased by end Yr3

0.8 Improved economic
independence and
resilience (% of
households using VSLAs
to manage their savings
and value of savings)
has increased by end
Yr3

Output 1:

Improved community engagement reduces negative impacts on and is actively restoring lake and forest habitat by 2023.

1.1 In each year of the project, 12 patrols per month are undertaken across 1440Ha forest and lake within Ambondrobe PA

1.2 4 village patrol groups (28 patrollers) trained in use of smartphone devices and SMART/Cybertracker patrolling software by end Yr1

1.3 10Ha phragmites marsh replanted each year to improve quality of 50ha marsh area by 60% by Y3; total 30Ha restored by Yr3

1.4 5Ha invasive water hyacinth removed from lake each year

1.5 Maintain current levels of sapling production across four community nurseries to enable 20Ha reforestation per year; 60Ha total

1.6 20Ha replanted Yr1; 20Ha replanted Yr2; 20Ha replanted Yr3

1.1 Monthly SMART patroller reports

1.2 Training attendance records; training reports

1.3 Photographs; planting reports

1.4 Photographs; reports

1.5 Nursery reports

1.6 Planting records; photographs

No significant reduction in current level of political stability.

Safety of field staff and local communities is maintained – no serious threats or incidents to staff and villagers.

Engagement from local communities towards the goals of the PA does not decrease negatively impacting recruitment of community staffing.

Environmental conditions do not change so that they negatively impact reforestation activities e.g. increased cyclone activity, lack of rains/prolonged drought.

Output 2:

Provision of Climate Smart Agriculture training through Farmer Field Schools leads to increased crop yields, improving income generation and food security for over 300 households whilst reducing harmful environmental impacts by 2023.

2.1 Agricultural productivity, chemical inputs and crop varieties have been assessed for all 9 fokontany by end of 2020

2.2 160 farmers trained via Farmer Field Schools (FFS) in Yr2 and Yr 3 (320 total) (>30% female participation)

2.3 Farmers adopt improved agricultural techniques and are cultivating climate resistant crops and highly nutritional crop varieties on a greater proportion of their land

2.4 Cropland managed using chemical pesticides and fertilizers has decreased from Y1 to Yr3

2.5 Agricultural yields and income for famers growing new crops has increased from Y1 to Y3.

2.6 Vegetable gardens established at 4 primary schools and 1 secondary school by end Yr2 and producing crops by end Yr3

2.1 Agricultural surveys

2.2 FFS attendance records (aggregated by gender); training reports

2.3 Annual agricultural surveys; household surveys

2.4 Annual agricultural surveys; household survey results

2.5 Annual agricultural surveys; household survey results. Yields are measured in kg/ha and income by the proportion of crop sold

2.6 Community surveys; reports from school Parents' Associations; annual agricultural surveys

Environmental conditions change to negatively impact growing seasons and crop productivity e.g. increased cyclone activity, lack of rains/prolonged drought.

Output 3:

3. Sustainable financial tools and market-based opportunities are developed for 9 fokontany and reach at least 270 individual members (60% of which are women) by 2023.

3.1 By end 2020 feasibility of implementing a VSLA in each village is established through expert advice and interviews

3.2 By Yr2 end, 3 pilot VSLA with over 60% female participation will have completed one full cycle with progress assessed by membership and value of savings

3.3 By end Yr3 VSLAs operational in all 9 fokontany accounting for approx. 10% of adult population in each village, of whom 60% are women

3.4 12 members from the 4 local Women's Associations attend regional fair in Morondava each year of project

3.5 Market value chains for local products and services identified by end Yr2

3.1 Results of workshop; household savings survey; villagers' testimonies; final report

3.2 VSLA documents and annual report

3.3 VSLA documents and annual reports

3.4 List of participating members in regional fair

3.5 Socio-economist report

Feasibility study shows not feasible due to insecurity reasons – keeping cash in a centralized and known location is not safe.

Savers cannot be engaged in the schemes and therefore the schemes are not viable.

Community members default on the commitments to the VSLA during the process. To prevent this, a verbal agreement is established between members and unanimous agreement is needed regarding the amount members must pay in each month.

Theft of project savings occurs during implementation.

Output 4:

All households across 9 fokontany in Ambondrobe have access to reproductive health support by 2023 to make choices concerning family planning and household wellbeing.

4.1 By end Yr1, MSM community health workers have established contact and organized initial workshops in the 2 communes reaching people in 9 fokontany

4.2 By end Yr2, active reproductive health programs are operational in the 2 communes reaching people in 9 fokontany

4.3 By end Yr2, a Community Health Volunteer Training Program (CHV) has been launched, with the first volunteers promoted by communities in Yr2 and trained in Yr3

4.4 100% of females aged 15-49 in 9 fokontany have access to regular (quarterly) reproductive health clinics by end Yr3; all women aged 15-49 are aware of contraceptive choices and where to access them

4.1 Meeting and attendance records; feedback interviews with communities

4.2 Reports provided by MSM summarizing actions, community reception and CPR

4.3 Workshop attendance records; CHV identification, CHV attendance records

4.4 Reproductive health indicators e.g. CPR, ASC training records, household survey results, MSM visit records.

Community members do not react negatively to reproductive health interventions.

Financial or other circumstances do not force MSM to withdraw from the project partnership during project implementation.

Output 5:

Local governance capacity and community cohesion is increased across 4 local associations (193 community members) through the provision of capacity building, improved local association infrastructure and social events.

5.1 By end Yr1, a good governance training curriculum, focused on community leaders, has been developed through the evaluation of 4 local associations and their primary needs.

5.2 By end Yr2, training programme delivered and impact assessed in Yr3

5.3 By end Yr2, 4 administration offices have been built and have information boards showing Protected Area regulations, patrol updates etc. in words and images.

5.4 % of households participating in local associations has increased at end Y3 cf. Yr1.

5.5 Number of decisions supporting development and environment at the local, commune and regional level has increased at end Y3 cf. Yr1.

5.6 180 people from the 9 fokontany engaged in annual football competitions each year.

5.1 Evaluation reports; training curriculum printed.

5.2 Course attendance; post-training assessments

5.3 Photographs of fokontany offices and noticeboards in use.

5.4 Household surveys Y1 and Y3

5.5. Meeting minutes; records of bylaws passed.

5.6 Participation records; photos; football competition results.

No significant reduction in current level of political stability

Safety of field staff and local communities is maintained – no serious threats or incidents to staff and villagers

Willingness to engage from local associations and fokontany chiefs.

The government contributes towards office building costs.

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, 1.3 are contributing to Output 1.

Outcome monitoring activities

- 0.1 Undertake household surveys in Year 1 and Year 3
- 0.2 Undertake annual population surveys of key species Madagascar Pond Heron and Madagascar side-necked turtle
- 0.3 Undertake annual assessment of forest cover and marsh quality

Output 1

- 1.1: Undertake community patrols 3-days per week from the 4 local associations in Ambondrobe to record incidences of illegal activity all year. Throughout project
- 1.2: Monthly evaluation of community patrols to feedback and improve performance. Throughout project
- 1.3: Processing and analysis of data by Durrell's data team in Tana. Ongoing throughout project
- 1.4: Production of and dissemination of SMART reports to wider Durrell team, Government and law enforcement agencies. Throughout project
- 1.5: Train local community patrollers in use of SMART/Cybertracker software in Yr1. Undertake refresher training in Yrs2 and 3
- 1.6: Plant 10Ha phragmites reed each year (November)
- 1.7: Undertake water hyacinth clearance annually (November)
- 1.8: Undertake weekly nursery maintenance
- 1.9: Undertake annual tree planting (February)
- 1.10 Monitor planted areas

Output 2

- 2.1 Recruit Ambondrobe Agricultural technician
- 2.2: GSDM train Durrell staff in climate smart techniques including suitable crop options. September– November (Yr1)
- 2.3: Develop Ambondrobe work plan with support from GSDM. September– November (Yr1)
- 2.4: Identify, create and structure FFS groups in each association. September– November (annually)
- 2.5: Train and support FFS groups in techniques. November – end project
- 2.6: Implementation of agricultural techniques. December – end project
- 2.7: Establish school vegetable gardens. September– November (annually)
- 2.8: Annual agricultural surveys

Output 3

- 3.1 Recruit Ambondrobe Social Coordinator to lead process
- 3.2 Assess the feasibility of establishing VSLA's in Ambondrobe
- 3.3 If feasible, train Ambondrobe staff in VSLA process
- 3.4 Establish pilot VSLA groups and train members in VSLA process
- 3.5 Monthly meetings with VSLA groups to track progress through the full cycle
- 3.6 Roll out VSLA to all other fokontany
- 3.7 Take members of the Women's associations to annual regional fair in Morondava
- 3.8 Research and identify market value chains for locally produced products

Output 4

- 4.1 Develop an operational plan with MSM
- 4.2 Organise community information meetings on reproductive health in each fokontany
- 4.3 Collect baseline information and health assessment
- 4.4 Appoint community health workers and carry out reproductive health clinics
- 4.5 Community Health Volunteer Training Program developed and launched
- 4.6 Collate monthly reports from MSM

Output 5

- 5.1 Evaluation of four local associations and assessment of needs undertaken
- 5.2 Develop training curriculum based on evaluation and needs assessment
- 5.3 Deliver training programme to community leaders
- 5.4 Undertake an assessment of impact of training programme
- 5.5 Establish agreements and protocols with communities for construction of association offices
- 5.6 Identify contractor to construct offices
- 5.7 Procure materials and construct offices and noticeboards
- 5.8 Monthly meetings with local associations
- 5.9 Organise and hold annual football competition

Section 13 - Implementation Timetable

Q31. Provide a project implementation timetable that shows the key milestones in project activities

Provide a project implementation timetable that shows the key milestones in project activities. Complete the Excel spreadsheet template as appropriate to describe the intended workplan for your project.

Implementation Timetable Template

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

 [Darwin R26 - Stage 2 - Implementation Time table FINAL](#)
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Section 14 - Monitoring and Evaluation

Q32. 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 Guidance for Darwin/IWT](#)).

The M&E system was built around results chains for each intervention during project development. By doing this, we were able to fully integrate M&E throughout and identify the most valuable outputs, outcomes and indicators to guide the project. To ensure M&E is incorporated into project delivery and management we will be processing, analysing and sharing data with the project team on an ongoing basis. We will hold regular steering group meetings throughout the year and undertake a full review at the end of each year to discuss lessons learned (including unanticipated negative impacts) and make evidence-based decisions about the year ahead, adapting our activities where necessary .

Project M&E will be led by our M&E officer in Madagascar and working closely with M&E officer in the UK. For this project, we plan to recruit an additional M&E assistant in Madagascar to support with day-to-day data processing and management. Regular data collection will be led by Durrell staff based in Ambondrobe and household surveys will be completed by specially recruited investigators. All personnel responsible for data collection will be trained by our M&E officer based in Madagascar.

We have already developed and implemented similar surveys and data collection protocols for the JOA project, which will be refined for use in Ambondrobe. The household survey, completed in year 1 and 3, will be our primary method of collecting data relating to our highest-level indicators, including subjective well-being and food security. In each village, 30 households will be randomly selected and invited to take part in the survey. One of our key indicators of well-being is the Global Person Generated Index, a participatory evaluation approach which first asks people to define their own well-being before measuring it. In year 3, this indicator is expanded to capture individual perceptions of the cause-effect relationship between the project and well-being. This will provide us with a much greater insight into what people value as well as the extent to which the project has had a positive or negative impact on well-being. Any potential negative impacts will also be captured during yearly workshops with communities to openly discuss project outcomes. The agricultural surveys will take place twice per year, once during the dry crop season and once during the wet crop season. Progress reports, attendance records and patrol data will be collected on an ongoing basis by Durrell staff and sent to the M&E assistant in Madagascar for processing. To monitor changes in forest and marsh cover we will be generating maps from satellite data. It can take up to a year for satellite data to be available for use, so we will also be using ground truthing and drones to better understand project impacts within a shorter timeframe.

Total project budget for M&E in GBP (this may include Staff, Travel and Subsistence costs)	£ [REDACTED]
Number of days planned for M&E	1,713
Percentage of total project budget set aside for M&E (%)	8

Section 15 - FCO Notifications

Q33. FCO Notifications

Please state whether 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.

No

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

Q34. Certification

On behalf of the

Trustees

of

Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust

I apply for a grant of

£290,410.00

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 enclosed CVs for key project personnel, letters of support, budget and project implementation timetable (uploaded at appropriate points in application).
- Our last two sets of signed audited/independently verified accounts and annual report are also enclosed.

Checked

Name Jeffrey Dawson

Position in the organisation Acting Head of Field Programmes

Signature (please upload e-signature)  [Jeff Dawson e-signature](#)
 05/12/2019
 15:17:17
 png 9.25 KB

Date 05 December 2019

Section 17 - Submission Checklist

Checklist for submission

	Check
I have read the Guidance, including "Guidance Notes for Applicants" and "Finance Guidance".	Checked
I have read, and can meet, the current Terms and Conditions for this fund.	Checked
I have provided actual start and end dates for the project.	Checked
I have provided my budget based on UK government financial years i.e. 1 April - 31 March and in GBP.	Checked
I have checked that our budget is complete, correctly adds up and I have included the correct final total at the start of the application.	Checked
The application been signed by a suitably authorised individual (clear electronic or scanned signatures are acceptable).	Checked
I have included a 1 page CV or job description for all the key project personnel identified at Question 10, including the Project Leader, or provided an explanation of why not.	Checked
I have included a letter of support from the the Lead Organisation and main partner organisation(s) identified at Question 9, or an explanation of why not.	Checked
I have included a cover letter from the Lead Organisation, outlining how any feedback received at Stage 1 has been addressed where relevant.	Checked
I have been in contact with the FCO in the project country/ies and have included any evidence of this. If not, I have provided an explanation of why not.	Checked
I have included a signed copy of the last 2 annual report and accounts for the Lead Organisation, or provided an explanation if not.	Checked
I have checked the Darwin website immediately prior to submission to ensure there are no late updates.	Checked
I have 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 organisation, 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).