

Applicant: **Simpson, Matthew**
Organisation: **International Water Management Institute**
Funding Sought: **£344,670.00**
Funding Awarded: **£344,670.00**

DIR26S2\1050

Increasing the resilience of biodiversity and livelihoods in Colombo's wetlands

Colombo's urban wetlands contain unique biodiversity that provide flood protection and numerous livelihood services. Despite this, wetland destruction continues. Although increased attention has been given to tackle wetland loss, government needs greater community engagement and biodiversity monitoring. This project develops a mechanism for aligning community wetland practices and monitoring with government policies. At the catchment scale, community best practices of wetland management, will be promoted to safeguard biodiversity, improve livelihoods and secure the well-being of 2.3 million people.

PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

Title Dr
Name Matthew
Surname Simpson
Tel (Work) + [REDACTED]
Email (Work) [REDACTED]
Address [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

CONTACT DETAILS

Title Dr
Name Priyanie
Surname Amerasinghe
Tel (Work) [REDACTED]
Email [REDACTED]
Address [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Section 1 - Contact Details

PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

Title Dr
Name Matthew
Surname Simpson
Tel (Work) [REDACTED]
Email (Work) [REDACTED]
Address [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

CONTACT DETAILS

Title Dr
Name Priyanie
Surname Amerasinghe
Tel (Work) [REDACTED]
Email [REDACTED]
Address [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

GMS ORGANISATION

| Type | Organisation |
|---------------------|--|
| Name | International Water Management Institute |
| Phone (Work) | [REDACTED] |
| Email | [REDACTED] |
| Address | [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] |

Section 2 - Title, Dates & Budget Summary

Q3. Project title:

Increasing the resilience of biodiversity and livelihoods in Colombo's wetlands

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

DIR26S1\1659

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 | Sri Lanka | Country 2 | No Response |
| Country 3 | No Response | Country 4 | No Response |

Do you require more fields?

No

Q5. Project dates

Start date:

01 May 2020

End date:

31 March 2023

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

2 years 11 months

Q6. Budget summary

| Year: | 2020/21 | 2021/22 | 2022/23 | Total request |
|----------------|-------------|-------------|------------|------------------------|
| Amount: | £147,805.00 | £104,316.00 | £92,549.00 | £ 344,670.00 |

Q6a. Do you have matched funding arrangements?

Yes

What matched funding arrangements are proposed?

The Cobra Collective CIC will provide in-kind contributions of staff time, materials, software and equipment for training, dissemination and project implementation (for example, the Collective has been granted the free use of monitoring software worth US\$ [REDACTED] a month). IWMI and other partners in Sri Lanka will provide in-kind contributions of staff time, office space, meeting rooms and fieldwork travel costs. The mobile wetland monitoring app will also be developed via a University Hackathon and financial support from Biodiversity Sri Lanka, a business forum focused on supporting biodiversity conservation.

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).

30%

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.

Please write this summary for a non-technical audience.

Colombo's urban wetlands contain unique biodiversity that provide flood protection and numerous livelihood services. Despite this, wetland destruction continues. Although increased attention has been given to tackle wetland loss, government needs greater community engagement and biodiversity monitoring. This project develops a mechanism for aligning community wetland practices and monitoring with government policies. At the catchment scale, community best practices of wetland management, will be promoted to safeguard biodiversity, improve livelihoods and secure the well-being of 2.3 million people.

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)?

No

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

| | |
|---|---|
| What year was your organisation established/ incorporated/ registered? | 01 January 1985 |
| What is the legal status of your organisation? | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Other (if selected, please explain below) |
| Other explained | International Not for Profit Research Organization |
| How is your organisation currently funded? | IWMI receives funding from the CGIAR Fund Donors as well as grants from bilateral and multilateral donor organisations. Grant revenue in 2016 was US\$35.4m, in 2017 was US\$ [REDACTED] and in 2018 was US\$ [REDACTED]. Please refer to IWMI's audited financial statements for further breakdown on funding sources. |

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

Aims A water-secure world by providing evidence-based solutions to sustainably manage water and land resources for food security, people’s livelihoods and the environment and contribute towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of reducing poverty and hunger, and maintaining a sustainable environment.

Activities Research Organization focused on:

- Improving resilience to water-related climate shocks.
- Providing insights into water and land management from field to basin scales.
- Solutions for agricultural water management.
- Identifying resilient groundwater solutions.
- Water-Energy-Food trade-off analysis.
- Incorporating ecosystem approaches into agricultural.
- Analysing biophysical/ socioeconomic processes.

Achievements IWMI, recognised as a global centre of excellence in water resources and irrigation management, receiving the Stockholm Water Award, 2012. Leads CGIAR Research Program on Water, Land and Ecosystems which combines resources of 11 CGIAR centres, numerous national/regional /international partners to provide an integrated approach to natural resource management research.

Provide details 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 | Choosing wise investments in natural and building infrastructure (Wise Up) |
| Contract Value/Project budget (include currency) | US\$ [REDACTED] |
| Duration (e.g. 2 years 3 months) | 4 years 4 months |
| Role of organisation in project | Implementing Partner - IWMI led Work Package 2.1: Eco-hydrological functions of built and natural infrastructure as sustainable adaptation solutions. IWMI also supported overall work package coordination, action learning and capacity building components. |

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

Developed, tested and demonstrated approaches to using portfolios of built and natural water infrastructure development to achieve enhanced outcomes for the multiple goals of poverty reduction, water-food-energy security, biodiversity conservation and climate resilience. The project objective was to increase adaptive capacity for climate change through consensus building.

Client/independent reference contact details (Name, e-mail)

Dr. James Dalton
Director – Global Water Programme

[Redacted contact details]

Contract/Project 2 Title

Risks and Responses to Urban Futures: Building synergies between urban development processes and peri-urban communities for enhanced ecosystem services

Contract Value/Project budget (include currency)

US\$ [Redacted]

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

3 years

Role of organisation in project

IWMI was the lead implementing agency and through the project established a regional South Asia group on peri-urban Ecosystem Services to support development of Ecosystem Services (ES) / Poverty Assessment methodologies and assess interactions in city policies and plans for resource management.

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

Project aim was to explore the intersections between ecosystem services and poverty in peri-urban areas and assess the implications for urban development. Objectives were: to improve understanding of impacts of urbanisation; investigate costs of improved food security and waste management; develop methodologies that include ecosystem services in planning.

Client/independent reference contact details (Name, e-mail)

Professor David Graham (Ecosystem Engineering)
School of Engineering

[Redacted contact details]


| | |
|--|---|
| Contract/Project 3 Title | Determination of the Environmental Water Requirements for the Upper and Inner Niger Delta |
| Contract Value/Project budget (include currency) | US\$ [REDACTED] |
| Duration (e.g. 2 years, 3 months) | 2 years 2 months |
| Role of organisation in project | Engaged by Wetlands International. IWMI was responsible for developing and implementing methodology to determine the environmental flow (E-flow) assessment. |
| Brief summary of the aims, objectives and outcomes of the project | Project aimed to determine the E-flow requirements for the Upper and Inner Niger Delta by linking the flow of water and the consequent ecosystem changes to the desired ecosystem service outputs. Project outcome was E-flows incorporated into development planning decision making for all riparian countries especially for upstream dams planning. |
| Client/independent reference contact details (Name, e-mail) | Karounga Keita Coordinator - Mali [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] |

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.


 [Financial Statements IWMI - 2018](#)


 04/12/2019

 18:10:24

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 [Financial Statements IWMI - 2017](#)

 04/12/2019

 18:09:51

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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: International Water Management Institute (IWMI)

Website address: www.iwmi.cgiar.org/

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

IWMI focuses on development research to deliver new evidence-based approaches that address key water-related challenges. IWMI has extensive technical and project delivery experience investigating water-related issues, particularly linked to institutions, livelihoods and biodiversity conservation. IWMI is a CGIAR research organisation and an IOP and on the STRP of the Ramsar Convention playing an active role in assisting contracting parties to deliver their obligations. Their expertise in working with communities to develop appropriate sustainable wetland livelihoods is crucial to effective delivery of the project. IWMI's head office is in Colombo so they are ideally placed to be the lead organisation being able to provide in-country project management, logistical, financial and technical requirements, supported by an extensive back office. IWMI staff will also be responsible for community engagement and workshop/training event organisation, stakeholder coordination and community engagement activities. They will have dedicated staff working on the project to ensure effective relationships and trust are built with the local communities through regular engagement. IWMI also have effective working relationships with all key government agencies, having worked together to deliver the recent Ramsar Wetland City Accreditation. These strong relationships will ensure effective project delivery and support communication among the community and decision makers.

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: Cobra Collective CIC (CC)

Website address: www.cobracollective.org

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

CC staff have a long and successful history of managing and working on Darwin projects. Matthew Simpson has over 6 years' experience working in Sri Lanka in wetland management and governance, natural resource management capacity building, and sustainable livelihood development. His considerable in-country experience gives him contextual knowledge of Sri Lanka's national level concerns and political/development priorities, government agency roles and responsibilities, as well as the everyday realities of communities living in Colombo's wetlands. Matthew sits on the Ramsar STRP and routinely manages large conservation and development projects, most recently £150k wetland restoration and livelihood project in Jiulongkou with 10 UK and Chinese staff. Matthew, Rebecca Woodward, Jay Mistry and Andrea Berardi, who will provide technical project support, have extensive experience of combining scientific and community knowledge systems using participatory methodologies to engage with stakeholders. CC staff will provide community engagement and wetland management technical support, monitoring network technical support and design, and participatory methods training, monitoring and evaluation. As an experienced Project Leader, Matthew Simpson will coordinate and oversee delivery of the project outputs to time and budget. He will oversee the monitoring and evaluation of the project, and be responsible for liaising and reporting to the Darwin Initiative.

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

2. Partner Name: Wetland Management Division, Sri Lanka Land Development Corporation (SLLDC), Ministry of Megapolis and Western Development

Website address: landdevelopment.lk/web/wetland-management-2/

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

SLLDC have the responsibility for managing low-lying wetland areas within Colombo. They have responsibility to ensure flood protection across the city and improvement of the environment by rehabilitating and maintaining pollution free inland water bodies. The Wetland Management Division, led by Dr. Wijyaratne, coordinates all activities related to the wetlands including direct management such as canal maintenance, invasive species management, water quality monitoring and outreach and education through the Diyasaru Wetland Park (<https://www.facebook.com/pages/category/Public---Government-Service/Diyasaru-Park-915565855256103/>) designed for communication, education and public awareness raising activities. They have been the key agency responsible for coordinating and implementing the Colombo Wetland Management Strategy and were instrumental in developing the Ramsar Wetland City accreditation together with the Ramsar Focal point, the DWC. SLLDC works closely with community groups including farmers, local councils, residents, CSOs, schools, universities and women's groups. During their day-to-day activities SLLDC have an ongoing dialogue regarding their issues and objectives. SLLDC will be responsible for providing technical support related to wetland management, the baseline assessment and liaison with community groups such as farmers, schools and residents. They will also be responsible for ensuring community best practice wetland management approaches are integrated into the Wetland Management Strategy implementation and policy guidance.

Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?

Yes

3. Partner Name:

Central Environment Authority (CEA), Ministry of Mahaweli Development and Environment

Website address:

www.cea.lk

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

CEA are the key government agency involved in the protection, management and enhancement of the environment providing regulatory responsibility over water and air quality, and the prevention of pollution. They undertake water and air quality monitoring in selected locations across Sri Lanka. CEA chair the National Wetland Steering Committee which provides overall coordination of wetland related policy. They also coordinate the National Wetland Directory of Sri Lanka and developed the National Wetland Management Policy for Sri Lanka. In protected sites they have also established local Wetland Community Committees. CEA will provide technical support related to environmental protection and monitoring to the project, particularly supporting the development of the community based monitoring system. They will also play a lead role in ensuring wetland management best practices and policy guidance developed through the project, will be embedded into national policy and guidance, through the National Wetland Steering Committee activities.

Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?

Yes

4. Partner Name:

Urban Development Authority (UDA), Ministry of Megapolis and Western Development

Website address:

www.uda.gov.lk/

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

UDA is responsible for the promotion and regulation of urban development in Sri Lanka in order to facilitate the growth of the economy whilst protecting natural and built heritage and improving the quality of life for all inhabitants. Sri Lanka, and Colombo in particular, are urbanising rapidly and the UDA are taking a key role in managing that process. They have responsibility for integrating wetland protection into the urban plans developed for Colombo. UDA have extensive experience of urban planning that integrates natural infrastructure and livelihood delivery. They have developed sustainable wetland eco-tourism facilities at Beddegana, Colombo, that allow the public to safely access wetland habitats and learn about wetland wildlife. They were also a key agency in developing the successful Ramsar Wetland City accreditation proposal. Mrs. Chandana Kalupahana is highly experienced in urban and wetland planning and will be the key project contact for UDA. UDA will provide technical support to the project on urban planning and development and as a key landowner of wetland areas across Colombo will be a key stakeholder in developing wetland management policy and guidance. They will be responsible for integrating best practice wetland management and monitoring into future urban planning for Colombo.

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

5. Partner Name: Field Ornithology Group of Sri Lanka (FOGSL)

Website address: fogsl.cmb.ac.lk

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

FOGSL have been promoting bird and nature conservation in Sri Lanka for over 40 years. They carry out a comprehensive programme of field research related to Sri Lankan wildlife and deliver nature education outreach activities. FOGSL are an affiliated partner of BirdLife International. FOGSL have been working directly with SLLDC and UDA in supporting their education programmes at wetland visitor facilities within the city. They have also coordinated a UNDP-GEF small Grants Program to pilot test the conservation of urban wetlands by utilising birds as an umbrella group and through the application of a citizen science approach in five wetlands within Colombo. The aim of the project was to build ecological awareness among citizens through collection of field data on wetland birds. The proposed Darwin project will build on this initial project and expand the approach to work directly with communities to monitor a range of biodiversity and physical characteristic parameters. Dr. Nishanthi Perera is FOGSL's key contact having extensive experience of developing citizen science biodiversity monitoring programmes. FOGSL will provide technical support related to biodiversity conservation, baseline biodiversity assessment, engagement with community groups particularly other conservation CSOs, schools and universities and the development of the monitoring programme.

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

6. Partner Name: Department of Wildlife Conservation (DWC)

Website address: www.dwc.gov.lk

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





DWC is the principle government institution responsible for the protection of wildlife resources of the country over its entire land and sea territories as the Conservation of Sri Lanka's irreplaceable indigenous flora and fauna together with their natural habitats is a national priority. DWC also bears the legal authority to establish and manage the network of Wildlife Protected Areas (WLPAs) of the country, which at present exceeds a total area of 8500 km²; 13% of Sri Lanka's land surface. DWC is also the coordinating office for the Ramsar Convention in Sri Lanka and responsible for the Ramsar Wetland City Accreditation. Mr. Manjula Amararathna, Director of Operations, is the Sri Lankan Ramsar Convention's National Focal Point and will be the key contact for the project. DWC will provide technical support related to biodiversity conservation, particularly supporting the development of community based biodiversity friendly wetland management. They will also play a lead role in ensuring wetland management best practices and policy guidance developed through the project, will be embedded into national policy and guidance particularly to support biodiversity conservation and maintenance of the Ramsar Wetland City Accreditation.





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

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.

 [All Letters of Support reduced file size](#)
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 pdf 2.93 MB

 [Cover Letter r26 Stage 2 191201](#)
 04/12/2019
 18:19:07
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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? |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|--|
| Matthew Simpson | Project Leader | 19 | Checked |
| Andrea Berardi | Technical support | 5 | Checked |
| Jayalaxshmi Mistry | Technical support | 5 | Checked |
| Rebecca Woodward | Technical support | 5 | Checked |


Do you require more fields?


Yes


| Name (First name, Surname) | Role | % time on project | 1 page CV or job description attached? |
|------------------------------|--|-------------------|--|
| Priyanie Amerasinghe | In-country Project Coordinator | 18 | Checked |
| Sanjiv De Silva | Technical support | 10 | Checked |
| Research Officer | Technical support and community engagement | 30 | Checked |
| Nimala Shantha Wijayaratne | Technical support | 10 | Checked |
| Chethika Thamarasi Gunasiri | Technical support | 7 | Checked |
| Ranushi Ransarani Siripala | Technical support | 10 | Checked |
| Isurie Dharmasoma | Technical support | 10 | Checked |
| Priyantha Dhammika Pindeniya | Technical support | 10 | Checked |

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.

 [All CVs combined 191204](#)

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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?

The Metro Colombo Catchment Wetland Management Strategy (2016) identified Colombo's wetlands as biodiversity rich with >250 plant and >280 animal species. This includes 9 nationally threatened and 11 near threatened flora, such as the tree climber *Aganope heptaphylla*, and 18 threatened and 18 near threatened fauna, such as the Fishing Cat (*Prionailurus viverrinus*). The strategy also determined that wetlands are fundamental to the well-being of the 2.3 million people of Colombo, particularly the urban poor, with 60% of households directly benefiting from wetland livelihoods and products, such as fish and rice, and 100% receiving indirect benefits from flood protection, climate cooling and pest regulation.

However, despite the widespread benefits and unique biodiversity, Colombo's wetlands are being destroyed/degraded. Since the 1980s, 60% of the wetlands have been lost, largely through infilling. The current rate of loss is approximately 1.2% per annum which would result in half being lost by 2070. The wetlands currently provide flood protection for up to a 1 in 50 year flood. If all wetlands are lost, Colombo would experience a catastrophic flood, like that experienced in 2010 with flood damages equal to 1% of Colombo's GDP, on average every year.

Wetlands are also being degraded through water and solid waste pollution. Currently, 64% of the wetland areas have bad or very bad water quality. Alien invasive species such as *Annona glabra* are a significant threat to native biodiversity.

Wetland loss and degradation are threatening Colombo's biodiversity and linked security of local livelihoods. Extensive pre-project engagement with community groups (e.g. farmers, fishers), civil society and government has resulted in calls for a catchment scale approach that: identifies and implements community best practices that maintain biodiversity and sustainable livelihoods; improves wetland monitoring to inform management and reduce flood risk; and establishes management and planning principles to enhance wetland resilience.

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)
- ☑ Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS)
- ☑ 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.

CBD: This project will support Sri Lanka deliver CBD and National Biodiversity Strategic Action Plan 2016-2022, specifically Aichi Targets: 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13 & 14 – community wetland monitoring/management that supports decision making will integrate wetland biodiversity values into Colombo’s development plans, support sustainable natural resource production, halt wetland loss and degradation, provide sustainable wetland agriculture and aquaculture; address wetland pollution and invasive alien species problems; manage wetlands as no development zones for ecosystem services, prioritise threatened species and genetic diversity and contribute to health, livelihoods and well-being; and 16, 17 and 19 – implement a participatory/community led approach that ensures fair and equitable benefits sharing; project outputs ensure local community knowledge will be integrated into planning; and the importance of Colombo’s wetlands will be shared through dissemination activities.

The project will directly contribute to fulfilling the key objectives within the National Biodiversity Strategic Action Plan 2016-2022 by: Objective 1 – ensure long-term biodiversity conservation by improving wetland management within Metro Colombo; Objective 2 – promote the sustainable use of biological resources through sustainable wetland agriculture, aquaculture and informal harvesting of wetland products best practice; Objective 3 – conserve agrobiodiversity through implementation of best practice management approaches; Objective 4 – promote equitable sharing of benefits of biodiversity through a participatory and inclusive approach; and Objective 5 – improve human well-being through an ecosystem approach to wetland management through direct engagement with all communities and stakeholders ensuring a shared understanding of the processes, functions and interactions that underpin an ecosystem approach.

A needs analysis for implementation of the national action plan indicated that capacity building, communication and outreach and resource mobilization was required. This project will provide comprehensive capacity building for partner staff in community engagement and wetland management and will build capacity within local communities to deliver sustainable wetland management approaches. The project will look to engage the private sector, through workshops and outreach, to support future wetland management and implementation activities of the Wetland Management Strategy therefore mobilizing resources to wetland biodiversity conservation.

CCC targets: The project will assist Sri Lanka fulfil its obligations under the convention and the Kyoto and Paris agreements in terms of both mitigation and adaptation. The maintenance and restoration of wetland habitats will ensure that carbon sequestration processes continue within Colombo’s urban wetlands and contribute to Nationally Determined Contributions by storing carbon. The wetlands are also part of Colombo’s adaptation strategy to cope with increased precipitation events as they provide flood protection for the city.

CMS: will collect data on migratory bird species and promote species and habitat conservation.

Ramsar: at its core the project promotes the wise use of wetlands through community led management. We will report to the National Wetland Steering Committee, through CEA, DWC, IWMI and SLLDC, so all

outputs can be integrated into national wetland planning. Metro Colombo was awarded Ramsar Wetland City accreditation (2018) and the project will support stakeholder engagement/community management required under the accreditation and under the Wetland Management Strategy (2016).

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.

The project has had direct liaison with Ramsar Focal point, the Department of Wildlife Conservation (DWC). The representative from the DWC, Mr Manjula Amararathna is included as a partner whilst also providing technical support to the project.

Q12d. Global Goals for Sustainable Development (SDGs)

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

SDG targets: 1, 2 & 3 – community led sustainable wetland natural resource management will contribute to ending urban poverty, food security, sustainable agriculture and maintaining healthy lives and well-being for Colombo's residents. The project will adopt a systems health approach to identifying best practice wetland management ensuring that management approaches reduce vulnerability and build resilience, by supporting strategies that can be implemented without ongoing external assistance, therefore directly contributing to ending poverty. Promoting local sustainable and traditional forms of agriculture, aquaculture and wetland resource harvesting will achieve food security and improved nutrition in a sustainable way; 5 - the project will ensure equitable representation of women and girls from project staff through to stakeholders. The project will use participatory video and photography techniques for community engagement providing an opportunity for all but particularly girls and women to showcase their distinctive skills and understanding. This approach is empowering in situations where women and girls are often discriminated and marginalised; and 8, 9 & 11 – promoting wetland biodiversity and natural resource/infrastructure management will deliver inclusive and sustainable economic growth and maintain resilient natural infrastructure, so the city is inclusive, safe and sustainable. The project will focus on the range of benefits wetlands provide to Metro Colombo's residents and the management approaches that maintain and share those benefits. The recognition of the importance of wetlands as key natural infrastructure, through best practice management approaches and dissemination of project results, will assist in delivering SDG 11 in particular.

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.).

Rationale and project design:

Internationally, there has been little focus on how urban wetland biodiversity supports local livelihoods and human well-being. In Metro Colombo, previous government agencies and CSO initiatives, most notably the Wetland Management Strategy 2016, highlight the urgency for a coordinated approach that focuses on community livelihood practices and monitoring. Thus, working in 19 communities across the Metro Colombo catchment, this project uses a highly participatory approach for identifying and strengthening community-led wetland management solutions, developing wetland monitoring and management principles to provide a catchment wide approach.

Methods:

The production of the Metro Colombo Urban Wetland Status Report (MCUWSR) (Output 1) will contribute to the development of identifying best practices and monitoring protocols (Output 2) and form the basis, with Output 2 results, of the management principles (Output 3) and project evaluation (Output 4). Project outputs will be disseminated through Output 5 activities.

Output 1: Baseline and training (yr1)

a) MCUWSR will involve:

- i. Data review
 - ii. Geo-spatial biodiversity/environmental analysis
 - iii. Community/government workshops to assess status and agree baseline indicators (see examples in log frame).
- b) Government and CSO training in community best practice wetland management and monitoring, where gender and youth have a special focus.

Output 2: Community management and monitoring (yr1, 2 & 3)

- a) Best Practice Identification Workshops (5 communities) - participatory methods used to identify community practices that maximise biodiversity and increase household livelihoods. Practices include: organic rice promoting biodiversity protection/flood storage; irrigation lagoon management reducing invasive species and securing, permissible extraction of medicinal/edible plants for urban poor; and Wetland Community Committee management. Practices will be assessed through a gender and youth lens to determine barriers hampering implementation. Community Champions of successful management approaches will be identified.
- b) Wetland monitoring system - design of low cost, citizen science monitoring technology infrastructure and software system, including mobile app., for 5 communities to monitor and share environmental, biodiversity and social data with stakeholders/agencies. This will lead to community-led catchment management responses, providing timely information on e.g. flooding and water pollution.
- c) Best Practice Implementation Workshops (5 new communities) - community best practices, from 2a, shared through peer-to-peer workshops and implementation supported by Community Champions.

Output 3: Wetland management principles (yr 2 & 3)

- a) Co-analysis of monitoring data and community best practices to determine wetland management principles.
- b) Decision maker workshops to create framework for integration of ongoing monitoring and management outcomes into planning.

Output 4: Evaluation (yr1, 2 & 3)

Monitoring of co-established project impact indicators used to assess progress and implement change if required (Details in logframe).

Output 5: Dissemination (yr1, 2 & 3)

a) IWMI Community Led Wetland Monitoring and Management Centre of Excellence established to embed approach within partner organizations.

b) Best Practice Dissemination Workshops (9 communities) - out-scaling of community-led approach through peer-to-peer knowledge exchange at 3 additional Metro Colombo communities and within 3 communities in 2 bordering catchments.

Project management, by IWMI and CC, will use a shared, open access platform for partners and communities to upload and view data.

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?

Audiences for the project's outputs are policy makers, local communities, wetland managers and civil society organisations involved with urban wetland management in Sri Lanka and beyond. It is essential that awareness is raised of the importance of biodiversity in underpinning ecosystem services that maintain health and well-being in an urban context.

Dissemination of the findings is a major project activity as the goal is to promote best practice urban wetland management to improve both policy and practice on biodiversity conservation, sustainable management of urban natural resources and urban planning. The project aims to engage with the intended audiences throughout the project, building on established relationships between partners, and using partners to create a network of organisations working on urban wetland management throughout Colombo and Sri Lanka. Two workshops per year have been planned to ensure the continued engagement, support and progress of the work plan. In initial engagement with the different audiences, the preferred way of receiving information will be established and followed for future communication.

Dissemination products, and their intended audiences, already planned to facilitate a national and international sharing of lessons learned include: establishment of a Centre of Excellence for Community Led Wetland Monitoring and Management to provide ongoing resources and capacity building (government and CSOs); establishment of project web pages providing outputs and information on CC and IWMI's websites (public, government and CSOs); community peer-to-peer knowledge exchanges via participatory video and information sharing at workshops (community groups); side events at Ramsar and CBD CoPs (governments and CSOs); policy briefings (government); training materials and reports (government and CSOs) and dissemination at national events such as World Wetlands Day celebrations (public). All dissemination products will provide a strong focus on promoting wetland management best practice that protects biodiversity, supports sustainable livelihoods and provides resilience against increasing threats such as flooding.

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.

At least 30 staff, including 50% women, from government partner and civil society organisations will be trained in the community best practice wetland management approach and in community-led monitoring and decision support systems. This will embed the approach across government agencies involved in wetland management and urban planning within Colombo and within partner CSOs that are in a position to support government agencies and communities in future wetland management. The establishment of the Centre of Excellence for Community Led Wetland Monitoring and Management within IWMI will provide an ongoing resource to support staff trained within the project and provide future capacity building of additional staff within key agencies.

Our explicit prioritisation of local community beneficiaries will address the imperative to develop methodologies for directly addressing issues of livelihoods, quality of life, health, safety, employment, environment and access rights. Our project will ensure that poor and marginalised stakeholders will gain greater representation and participation within decision-making on wetland protection and management through increased capacity to use participatory citizen science, increased capacity to communicate with local, national and international agencies, the establishment of management and communication networks, and increased capacity for sustainable natural resource management that can adapt to external impacts. The project will also provide the skills to enhance reciprocal bottom up empowerment among local communities, sustaining and promoting communication and exchange among different marginalised stakeholders, facilitating the establishment of intra-community networks where interaction can take place among local communities and CSOs on common problems and exchange of good practices can continue.

Improving the living conditions and developing sustainable development pathways is an essential challenge of the project. Our project will play a crucial role in developing and promoting the governance and business models for delivery of such solutions that protect biodiversity whilst generating income and better living conditions.

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.

Project partners understand the importance of gender equality and take this issue seriously. We are committed to promoting equal opportunities and to promote gender equality at all levels of participation as well as within management, implementation and dissemination. We are also committed to promoting youth involvement. We will ensure that our governance and practice adheres to equal opportunity procedures in decision-making and work allocation. In addition, we will monitor and record the involvement of women and youth in group discussions and project meetings. Women and youth will be actively encouraged to take opportunities for presenting their ideas and work, including within arenas such as stakeholder engagement and media opportunities when they arise. In practical terms, we will formally develop a Gender Equality Action Plan. This will consist of a series of actions that will be implemented and monitored to encourage the consideration of gender equality issues in decision-making:

- actively improve the gender balance in tasks, promoting gender equality and appreciation of multiple perspectives;
- applying measures to help reconcile work and private life;
- raising awareness of equal opportunities within dissemination and publications;
- actively mentoring of women, including staff and community participants; and
- diversity will be taken into account in work involving communities. For example, all aspects of community engagement, will be disaggregated according to youth and gender. We are aware that studies undertaken

in the catchment show clear gender roles in terms of accessing ecosystem services and we will consider this further in the baseline assessment. To date these trade-offs have not been previously considered in wetland management but will be used to identify best practice.

All project reporting will include gender and youth statistics. Where representation has been recorded as below our 50% target then measures will be put in place to positively improve representation.

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.

The project partnership has long-term relationships with Colombo's community groups and key government agencies. Through extensive consultation during project development, communities and government agencies have requested the need to link community initiatives and wetland management on the ground with government policy and practice. The project has been co-designed with key groups in Colombo to deliver biodiversity conservation, household livelihoods and human health and well-being improvements to secure the future for both wildlife and Colombo's residents.

Colombo short-term changes:

- Best practice sharing in 5 wetland communities (Thalangama, Madinnagoda, Kolonnawa x 2 wetlands and HeenEla), and 5 implementation and 9 dissemination communities, resulting in sustainable management interventions promoting biodiversity-friendly farming, improved household livelihoods, pollution reduction, invasive species control and flood reduction benefiting 3,800 households; ~16,720 people (7,600 women);
- 5 engaged wetland communities (200 members each), > than 50% female representation, regularly undertaking low-cost, real-time key wetland indicator monitoring, building shared understanding with decision makers of pollution, invasive species, biodiversity, flood risk and livelihood issues. Reliable data will contribute to effective management decisions;
- Co-design and agreement of wetland management principles promoting biodiversity and livelihood maintenance and halting wetland loss;
- Improved and empowered community-led wetland monitoring and management helping 2.3 million Colombo residents by providing secure resource access, increased household livelihoods, reducing pollution and providing information regarding flood risk by developing early-warning system to increase protection greater than a 1 in 50 year flood event;
- Improved community-led wetland management leading to: 100% halt in wetland loss, as communities will self-regulate infilling; invasive plant species spread such as *Annona glabra*, *Salvenia molesta* and *Eichornia crassipes* controlled; and stable or increasing populations of key animal (Fishing Cat, Otter and Crocodile etc.), bird (Stork-billed, Common, Pied and White-breasted Kingfishers, White Ibis, Lesser Whistling Teal, Purple Heron, Pheasant-tailed Jacana and Purple Swamphen etc.) and plant (*Aganope heptaphylla*, *Aponogeton crispus*, *Nymphaea nouchali* etc.) indicator species;
- Increased capacity to implement the Wetland Management Strategy, fulfil Ramsar Wetland City requirements and provide improved urban planning (30 trained government and CSO staff);
- Greater empowerment of women and youth to access wetland resources and contribute their wetland knowledge;

- Greater awareness of the influence of gender norms in wetland resource management;
- Establishment of Centre of Excellence providing training/knowledge exchange to out scale approach.

Colombo long-term changes

- Ongoing peer-to-peer learning among Colombo communities and catchments across Sri Lanka facilitated by IWMI and government agencies embedding community-led wetland monitoring and management;
- Greater community participation in wetland management providing greater representation in decision making;
- Greater sustainability in livelihood provision through improved wetland management practices providing increased food security and resilience.

Regional and international long-term changes

Over half of the world's population live in cities, disconnected from biodiversity whilst development pressures negatively impact biodiversity. This project is unique in focusing on urban wetland biodiversity and will provide an essential demonstration of how biodiversity conservation can be integrated into urban planning to underpin livelihoods and human wellbeing. Dissemination will lead to better urban planning regionally and internationally.

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 theory of change dictates that catchment wetland loss and degradation can be reduced by empowering people who are ecosystem service beneficiaries. We envisage citizens becoming wetland custodians supporting government endeavours to maintain wetland integrity.

Partners have identified the urban poor as primary project beneficiaries dependent on wetland livelihoods. Secondary beneficiaries include other communities, policy makers, government agencies and CSOs.

To deliver the project outcome we will use a participatory approach, engaging communities to identify solutions achieving biodiversity conservation and sustainable livelihoods for beneficiaries.

This will be achieved by a project output pathway built to deliver longer-term impacts:

- 1) Wetland management status assessment in terms of biodiversity and livelihoods and training in community-led approaches providing shared understanding and capacity building;
- 2) Community-led wetland management biodiversity and livelihood best practices shared and implemented, and development of wetland monitoring supporting management and decision making;
- 3) Output 2 experiences built into wetland management principles and integrated into community management and government planning;
- 4) Ongoing evaluation enabling adaptive management, ensuring effective project delivery but also that project outputs deliver impact; and
- 5) Dissemination delivering: community learning and community-led wetland management; partner training and delivery of community-led wetland management/principles; and wider dissemination beyond Colombo.





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?

We aim for the project to reach a sustainable end point, where community wetland management and monitoring is integrated into policy guidance and decision making, used to assist implementation of the Wetland Management Strategy, fulfil obligations under Ramsar Wetland City accreditation and is represented within official reporting by the Sri Lankan government under the Ramsar Convention National Reports, CBD Aichi targets, as well as SDGs. We also envisage that through long-term, in-depth and participatory engagement with wetland communities we will develop capacity for communities to take ownership over the processes of monitoring and managing wetlands.

The key government agencies, namely the SLLDC, CEA, DWC and UDA with responsibility for wetland management and urban planning, are project partners, so we will monitor and evaluate throughout the project the extent to which they are taking ownership of the outputs/processes and intervene as necessary to ensure that the benefits of the project are secured, capacity building activities are embedded, and if key staff leave, the effects are minimal. The Community Led Wetland Monitoring and Management centre of excellence, based at IWMI, will act as a resource to provide ongoing support to government departments and CSOs beyond the lifetime of the project.

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

-
-  [Metro Colombo Catchment with Wetland Extension](#)
 -  04/12/2019
 -  20:16:59
 -  pdf 2.12 MB

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.

This project will build on a number of initiatives already developed within Colombo.

The Wetland Management Strategy, produced in 2016, called for greater community and stakeholder engagement, the development of community wetland management, increased capacity for wetland management among government agencies, improved monitoring and improved governance. This project has been designed to fulfil some of the areas identified within the strategy, particularly to increase wetland management capacity, to more directly engage local communities and include them within decision making, and to improve monitoring of wetland condition and biodiversity. In addition, from the CC's experience in using this approach in numerous countries, and through the work of IWMI in Sri Lanka, collaboration between government, research institutions, civil society and communities generates impactful data and community 'buy-in' that influences policy thinking and practice at appropriate government levels, helping to

improve wetland management governance and urban planning.

FOGSL have also coordinated a small-scale project to test the conservation of urban wetlands through the application of a citizen science approach. This project will build on this and expand the approach to work directly with communities to monitor a range of biodiversity and environmental parameters.

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

No

Q21. Ethics

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

All necessary travel and subsistence costs for participants living in poverty are covered by the budget requested. Participants shall be thoroughly informed of project details, including aim, methodology, conditions of participation and intended output distribution. Participants will be informed of the limits to confidentiality. They will be reminded to only impart information that they are comfortable sharing. Where information is disclosed which raises concern for their safety or another person, or criminal activity or where poor practice is uncovered, this will be officially reported.

The project will undergo a full ethics review by IWMI/CC. A health and safety risk assessment will be undertaken, clearly explained and disseminated to all project staff. Any personal data collected will not be identified by names but by participant code numbers and pseudonyms, and kept separately.

Data will be owned by the communities in which they were obtained, with storage and access negotiated and agreed at the start of the project. Participants may request for any video recordings made to be deleted without requiring justification. Individual identities will not be revealed in data. Regular screenings to individuals and communities will ensure the highest standards of editing ethics, representation and informed consent. Video will be broadcast first to contributors, and then permission sought for broadcasting to other stakeholders and for inclusion online. All publicly available materials will be licensed under the Creative Commons "Attribution Non-Commercial No Derivatives" protocol. This implies that distribution of original material will need to have the original authors cited, the material cannot be used for profit-making purposes, and the material cannot be modified/edited/remixed without the consent of original contributors. The project partners are committed to open access data which will ensure that participants, their communities and their country have access to the project outcomes post-project, as well as co-authorship where appropriate.

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.

Corruption, if not identified and addressed, could have significant negative impacts on project activities or by undermining project output validity. The project will follow four core principles: Identify corruption risks; develop appropriate counter corruption strategy; provide resources to implement the strategy; and take action in response to corruption. The strategy includes proactive and responsive measures.

Proactive

- Create zero corruption tolerance project culture

- Deter corruption by publicising project's stance on corruption

Responsive

- Detect corruption through regular meetings and evaluation
- Implementation of whistleblower arrangements
- Fully investigate corruption referrals
- Apply sanctions including disciplinary, regulatory and criminal if required

A risk register will be finalized at project start up meetings. Currently identified risks and counter measures include:

- Beneficiary cash transfers: protocol established for custody of cash including transaction records and regular publishing of project financial information on the project website
- Project property misuse: establishment of written procedures for property use including logbooks
- Local permits, licenses, access to data: pre-arranging paperwork to remove bribery risk
- Capacity building activity per diem: No per diems will be paid for attendance
- Capacity building participant selection: Transparent criteria for eligible participants will be issued to all stakeholder groups

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.

 [R26 Darwin Budget over £100K FINAL IWMI 19
1204 FINAL](#)
 04/12/2019
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 exe 61.42 KB

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.

Our project will comprise significant engagement with local communities, government decision-makers and non-governmental organisations through extensive fieldwork, capacity building and dissemination activities. Our total Darwin budget request (£██████████) therefore reflects staff costs required for a multidisciplinary and multicultural team capable at working from local to international levels. Recognising the impact of the project, all partner institutions have generously pledged in-kind contributions in the form of matched salaries, office space, equipment and fieldwork travel/subs. We are building on existing and long-term collaborations in Sri Lanka to maximise efficiency in project delivery.

The project costs are based on previous experience of the costs of the same or similar activities such as community engagement, training workshops and staff rates, as well as logistical costs. Travel and subsistence costs have been kept as low as possible while ensuring they are sufficient to enable timely and effective delivery of project activities. UK staff members will combine travel with other projects in Sri Lanka wherever possible. Where possible, stakeholder meetings and training workshops will be hosted by the partner organisations within their premises; the main costs are catering and travel for invited participants.

CC and IWMI finance staff have considerable experience and expertise in managing large project budgets and meeting donor reporting requirements. The Project Leader, and In-country Project Coordinator are experienced in carrying out projects efficiently to budget and will review spend against budget in 6-monthly meetings to deal with any significant and/or unexpected variations.

Darwin Initiative support is critical; the major benefits from this study lie in bringing together multiple case

studies of community led wetland management illustrating the importance of urban wetland biodiversity conservation in supporting ecosystem services that maintain human health and well-being. The project has a dedicated and motivated team in place to deliver widespread benefits if funding is approved.

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.

To facilitate the participatory video activities, we will purchase tablets, microphones, hard drives, tripods, memory cards and associated accessories to be used in project activities in the communities. We will also purchase wetland monitoring equipment to be able to monitor basic biodiversity and physical characteristic parameters. At the end of the project, we anticipate that these will remain in the communities. Our previous experience has shown that once people have training in participatory video and monitoring, they are able to use the techniques for other environmental and social goals if equipment is available to them. As part of our exit strategy, we aim to develop action plans with the communities on how the equipment could be used by them, issues of storage and maintenance, and funds for repairs and replacements.

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 |
|--------------------------------|--------|--------------------|---|
| IWMI | ██████ | GBP | Workshop costs, website development and print material |
| CC | ██████ | GBP | Staff time, equipment, software, training materials and website |
| SLLDC, UDA, CEA, FOGSL and DWC | ██████ | GBP | Staff time |
| <i>No Response</i> | 0 | <i>No Response</i> | <i>No Response</i> |

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 May 2020 | Dialog Phone Company and Business Biodiversity Forum | ██████ | GBP | Mobile App development |
| No Response | No Response | 0 | No Response | No Response |
| 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.

The interests of the participating communities and project partners are at the forefront of our open access plan. We will provide a Darwin-labelled component on the CC website (www.cobracollective.org) and the IWMI website (www.iwmi.cgiar.org/) which will host project updates, multimedia resources and publications.

We will subscribe to web analytics as part of our M&E activities. All public outputs on the websites will be licensed under the Creative Commons "Attribution Non-Commercial No Derivatives" protocol as outlined under Section 18 above. The CC and IWMI websites (and associated Twitter and Facebook accounts) already have significant followings and online traffic, and we will build on this to actively engage with end-users. Monitoring data, collected by the communities, will be freely available on the dedicated website pages allowing all community members engaged in monitoring and project partners to regularly review the data recorded.

Our project partnership will lead to co-authored policy and scientific publications, and multimedia resources, which will enhance reciprocal exchange and co-production of shared knowledge (for examples, please see publications in Jay Mistry, Matthew Simpson and Andrea Berardi CV). Sri Lanka, like many other low to middle income countries, still has limited access to most scientific journals, which is a significant constraint in the uptake of scientific information by government and non-government groups. In addition, we will publish pre-print versions in open access repositories such as Academia.edu and translate key scientific papers into policy briefings.

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.

There is a limited risk that funds could be directed to non-project activities but we have mitigated against this by IWMI and CC having direct management over all funds. All expenditure receipts will be collected and monthly reporting of expenditure will be undertaken to ensure funds are spent as indicated in the project budget.

The project will adopt a zero tolerance to bribery and fraud. To achieve this aim we have committed to take the following actions:

- ensure staff who are most likely to find themselves in a position where they are asked to offer a bribe or commit fraud are aware of how to respond and deal with the situation. If the project team are unsure whether something constitutes a bribe or fraud they must discuss their concerns with the Project Leader/In-country Project Coordinator. Staff will be instructed to inform the Project Leader/In-country Project Coordinator if they are offered a bribe, asked to make one or suspect that this may happen in the future;
- ensure that all staff are aware of the policy, understand it and are given adequate training where appropriate; and
- act in an honest, ethical, professional, open and transparent manner at all times.

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:

Engaged communities of Colombo managing wetlands sustainably and delivering: a halt to wetland loss and degradation; biodiversity protection; improved direct and indirect benefits for households; and improved health and well-being.

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

Outcome:

Engaged communities monitoring wetlands, communicating to decision makers and managing their wetlands to protect biodiversity and to maintain essential wetland benefits to support the livelihoods of the urban poor.

0.1 A shared understanding among community, government and non-government agencies about wetland status, issues, management approaches, legislation and policy environment (yr 1).

0.2 a) Household livelihoods - A 20% increase in legally secure access to direct and indirect wetland benefits for at least 3,800 households (16,720 people) as a result of implementation of community best practices and management guiding principles, and 15% increase in household incomes, including those of women, from 2020 baseline for 16,700 people (yr 3).

b) Biodiversity - Wetland area maintained with no net loss from baseline; spread of invasive species *Annona glabra*, *Salvenia molesta* and *Eichornia crassipes* controlled within the 5 target wetlands from baseline and consensus framework for removal established. Populations of key plant, mammal and bird indicator species will be stable or increasing with respect to the baseline (yr 3).

c) Water management - Existing degradation of wetland hydrological

0.1 Pre- and post-workshop (Activity 1.2) questionnaires to evaluate understanding and impact of best practice community wetland management approach (yr 1 & 2).

0.2 a) Household livelihoods - Household survey data showing increase in legally secure access to direct and indirect wetland benefits, increase in household incomes, and impact indicator report published on project and partner websites (yr 3).

b) Biodiversity - Project impact indicators for biodiversity in terms of habitat area, invasive species cover and key species recorded in impact indicator report published on project and partner websites (yr 3).

c & d) Water management - Project impact indicator thresholds for water quality and flood risk from government and community water quality and water level monitoring recorded as achieved in impact indicator report published on project and partner websites (yr 3).

e) Engaged communities - Monitoring data collected by multiple

Political and economic stability in Sri Lanka enables the project to be completed [although there has been disruption at senior political levels in recent months and, now contained terrorist attacks, project partners are confident that day to day activities and project activities would not be disrupted].

Sri Lankan institutions, especially government agencies, remain committed to community led wetland management, biodiversity conservation, poverty alleviation, respect for human rights and sustainable development, and are willing to implement community wetland monitoring and management approaches to achieve these goals [project was conceived with Sri Lankan partners who have a vested interest as they are obligated to deliver the Wetland Management Strategy and maintain Ramsar Wetland City Accreditation and the project has been designed to target their priorities. The new Presidential manifesto will support wetland management as the initial spearheading, involving the decision to establish the Wetland

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| <p>functioning halted or reduced, and flood risk reduced to greater than 1 in 50 year event protection as a result of monitoring and management (by end of yr 3).</p> | <p>people in multiple locations, recorded on software platform and included within impact indicator report published on project and partner websites (yr 2 & 3).</p> | <p>Management Division in SLLDC and develop a Wetland Management Strategy, was initiated by the now President and colleagues 5 years ago. As a result, there will be a renewed interest to see these investments pay dividend in terms of biodiversity protection, flood protection and health and well-being].</p> |
| <p>d) Water quality – increased adoption of sustainable wetland production, such as rice, resulting in 50% decrease in BOD, nitrogen and phosphorous pollution (by end of yr 3).</p> | <p>0.3 Household surveys and interviews indicating understanding of management principles in target communities and adoption within community wetland committees and adopted within</p> | <p></p> |
| <p>e) Engaged communities - At least 200 community members regularly (once a week) using the environmental monitoring system and sharing results with government agencies, with significant representation of women (yr 2 & 3).</p> | <p>government agency management guidance documentation and protocols (yr 3).</p> | <p></p> |
| <p>0.3 80% of household members (including women) in target communities (13,376 people) and government agencies (80 people) having good understanding of wetland management principles (yr 2 & 3).</p> | <p>0.4 Project impact indicator report summarising project improvements implemented during the project and providing an assessment on progress regarding short-term and longer-term impacts published on project and partner websites (yr 1, 2 & 3).</p> | <p></p> |
| <p>0.4 Project impact evaluation undertaken routinely to assess progress against project baseline indicators and log frame, identification of potential improvements and implementation of them</p> | <p>0.5 Government policy updates, CSO and community project activities, assessment of peer-to-peer knowledge exchange activities, web analytics data on the use and take up of the dedicated resources such as training materials and best practice guidelines, website resource downloads, journal</p> | <p></p> |

to ensure there is effective delivery of the project and that short-term and longer-term impacts are realised (yr 1, 2 & 3).

0.5 Adoption of a community wetland management approach, within government agencies, communities and CSOs, that delivers biodiversity protection, sustainable livelihoods and improved well-being of residents.

citations, attendance numbers at dissemination side events and trained staff implementing the approach published on project and partner websites (yr 2 & 3).

Output 1:

A robust evidence base of current wetland status and management within the Metro Colombo region and trained staff in community best practice wetland management and monitoring approaches.

1.1 Key stakeholders and communities engaged in documenting existing status (yr 1).

1.2 Metro Colombo Urban Wetland Status report assessing key government, non-governmental, communities and stakeholders, information sharing networks, geo-spatial biodiversity data, ecosystem service, livelihood and well-being benefits, and risk and hazards (yr 1).

1.3 Number of staff from governmental and non-government organisations trained in the community best practice wetland management approach, including gender-inclusive methods [target: at least 30 with significant representation of women] (yr 1 & 2).

1.4. Number of staff from government and non-government organisations trained in gender-sensitive community-led monitoring and decision support systems [target: at least 30 with significant representation of women] (yr 1 & 2).

1.1 Stakeholder and community workshop gender-disaggregated attendance records. Reports from workshops. Pre- and post-workshop interviews with men and women/participatory monitoring and evaluation (yr 1).

1.2 Report published on project and partner websites (yr 1).

1.3 Training materials, presentations and reports from workshops. Pre- and post-workshop questionnaires to evaluate understanding and impact of best practice community wetland management approach (yr 1 & 2).

1.4 Training materials, presentations and reports from workshops. Pre- and post-workshop questionnaires to evaluate understanding and impact of community-led monitoring (yr 1 & 2).

Appropriate government, non-governmental staff and male and female community members are available to participate in stakeholder workshops, contribute to the baseline assessment and attend training and retain their roles during the course of the project [IWMI, SLLDC, UDA, CEA and FOGSL have long-term collaboration with relevant agencies/organisations within Sri Lanka, as well as experience of working with communities and organising events/workshops in Colombo].

Output 2:

Community wetland monitoring and management.

2.1 Number of Community Best Practices for wetland management that lead to maximizing biodiversity, and increased household livelihoods, identified and recorded [target: at least 10 examples, with significant representation of women's role in management, from 5 communities] (yr 2 & 3).

2.2 Monitoring system designed, piloted and installed [target: fully operational in 5 wetland areas with significant representation of women involved in monitoring wetland fauna and floral biodiversity, livelihood and environmental parameters] (yr 2 & 3).

2.3 Number of communities and community groups trained in wetland monitoring [target: at least 10 with significant representation from women] (yr 2 & 3).

2.4 Number of wetland areas where communities are implementing best practices [target: at least 5] (yr 2 & 3).

2.1 Participatory videos and photostories available online on project website (yr 2 & 3). Annual report on progress presented at stakeholder workshop (yr 2 & 3). Final report on Community Best Practices for Wetland Management (yr 3).

2.2 Reports detailing the monitoring system protocols, design and installed infrastructure. Data published in accessible database such as IWMI's Centre for Urban Water (www.curwsl.org) (yr 2 & 3).

2.3 Training materials, presentations and reports from workshops. Pre- and post-workshop questionnaires to evaluate understanding and impact of monitoring (yr 2 & 3).

2.4 Participatory videos and photostories available online on project website (yr 2 & 3). Annual report on progress presented at stakeholder workshop (yr 2 & 3). Project impact indicator report (yr 2 & 3).

Communities will have a continued interest in the project, and knowledge exchange will be sufficient for beneficiaries to successfully understand and apply community best practices [partners have in-depth experience of implementing peer-to-peer knowledge exchange at community level, and comprehensive evidence of effectiveness. Partners have also established community interest groups such as wetland community committees, farmer groups, self-help groups, women groups and youth groups which will be engaged through the project]. Appropriate government and non-governmental stakeholder staff are available to participate in capacity building activities and retain their roles during the course of the project [some of the relevant government agencies are partners on the project, whilst partners also have good working relationships with other stakeholders so can promote involvement in the project]. Workshop participants are willing to provide feedback on the impact of the training post-workshop [regular contact with participants will be undertaken post

workshops to ensure continuity and engagement].

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| Output 3: Development of wetland management principles to guide community wetland management. | 3.1 Analysis of monitoring data and community best practices resulting in the production of wetland management principles to guide community wetland management (yr 2 & 3). 3.2 Information chain between communities and government decision-makers established (yr 2 & 3). | 3.1 Draft principles and final principles published on project and partner websites and minuted as presented at annual project workshops and at the National Wetland Steering Committee (yr 2 & 3). 3.2 Monitoring data shared on software platform and records/reports of data recorded by decision-maker organizations (yr 2 & 3). | Appropriate government, non-governmental and community stakeholders are available and willing to participate in developing wetland management principles particularly in relation to issues such as ownership, access and benefit sharing [partners have strong relationships with other government agencies, non-government organizations and community groups and will promote open dialogue to address key issues]. |
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| Output 4: Project impact evaluation. | 4.1 Assessment of project impacts using developed project impact indicators against baseline assessment within the 10 target communities, the 9 dissemination communities and key government agencies. The baseline assessment will use comprehensive biodiversity, water quality and ecosystem service data gathered during the 2016 Wetland Management Strategy work. Evaluation components detailed in Activity 4.1 (yr 1, 2 & 3). | 4.1 Project impact indicator report published on project and partner websites (yr 1, 2 & 3). | Project indicators are robust and provide criteria suitable for assessment, including the benefits across gender and various livelihoods [A multi stakeholder process will be undertaken to develop the criteria to fully reflect community and intra-community engagement with the monitoring programme, community access to benefits, biodiversity and water management. Indicators will only be chosen if they are easy to monitor and replicable over the project period]. |
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Output 5:

Community led wetland monitoring and management including best practices disseminated regionally and internationally.

5.1 Establishment of a Centre of Excellence for Community Led Wetland Monitoring and Management within project partner and establishment of on-going programme of sharing best practice with communities as part of outreach activities of key government agency partners. (yr 3)

5.2 Number of community peer-to-peer knowledge exchange processes implemented between communities and community groups involved in wetland management in other areas of Metro Colombo and within catchments adjacent to Colombo [target: within timeframe of project at least 3 communities in Metro Colombo and 3 communities each in 2 adjacent catchments] (yr 2 & 3).

5.3 Side events at Ramsar and CBD CoPs promoting community wetland monitoring and management. Policy briefings, training materials and reports shared at national and international platforms and events [target: at least 3 events] (yr 3 and beyond).

5.4 Website, with regular posting of content [target: 2 types of content posted per

5.1 Dedicated resources such as training materials and best practice guidelines, and trained staff at IWMI able to deliver and disseminate community led wetland monitoring and management. Launch event of new centre and programme of sharing best practice. Pre- and post-training questionnaires to evaluate understanding and impact monitoring. (yr 2 & 3).

5.2 Training materials, presentations and reports from workshops. Pre- and post-workshop interviews/participatory monitoring and evaluation to evaluate understanding and impact of community best practices approach (yr 2 & 3).

5.3 Record of dissemination platforms and events such as Ramsar COP and CBD COP side-events. Downloads of resources and online activity tracked (yr 3 and beyond).

5.4 Number of postings of written and audiovisual content including participatory videos, photostories, briefings, reports and blog articles (yr 1, 2, 3 and beyond).

5.5 Number of articles

All government and non-government organizations will engage with the Community Led Wetland Monitoring and Management Centre once established [IWMI has long-term collaboration with relevant agencies/organisations within Sri Lanka, as well as experience of working with communities so is ideally placed to disseminate approaches refined within the project].

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| month] (yr 1, 2 and 3). | submitted and then published to peer-reviewed journals (yr 3 and beyond). |
| 5.5 Peer-reviewed journal articles published [target: 2 articles] (yr 3 and beyond). | |

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.

- 1.1 Review of all data related to Metro Colombo Urban Wetlands including ecological, hydrological, geo-spatial biodiversity data, ecosystem service, livelihood and well-being benefits, and risk and hazards.
- 1.2 Stakeholder and community workshops to discuss and assess existing status of Colombo wetlands from a stakeholder and community perspective (will include government agencies, local community groups, local conservation groups such as the Urban Fishing Cat Conservation Project, farmers groups, schools, universities, women's groups, CSOs – 7 workshops).
- 1.3 Production of Metro Colombo Urban Wetland Status report.
- 1.4 Production of baseline indicators to assess project activities against. The baseline indicators will include the measurable indicators for the project outcome including number of community members engaged in environmental monitoring, perceived increase in access to and importance of direct and indirect wetland benefits to households, populations and presence/absence of habitat health indicator species, degradation of hydrological functioning reduced, flood risk reduced, wetland management principles produced and dissemination activities. These will provide the core baseline indicators but through the 7 workshops for 1.2 the baseline indicators will be expanded to include indicators relevant to the stakeholder groups such as rice yields, fishing catch, habitat extent, bird species present. The workshops and subsequent consultation will refine an agreed list that communities and project partners feel will fully assess the impact of the project.
- 1.5 Produce training materials – CC has developed a comprehensive set of training materials for identifying and implementing community owned solutions through participatory methods. These will be made bespoke for the Colombo context and translated where required.
- 1.6 Training workshops in the community best practice wetland management approach, including gender-inclusive methods (1 workshop) and ongoing training during community engagement activities.
- 1.7 Training workshops in gender-sensitive community-led monitoring and decision support systems techniques (1 workshop) and ongoing training during community engagement activities.

- 2.1 Undertaking free, prior and informed consent process with key community groups engaged in the project (5 workshops).
- 2.2 Workshops with community groups to introduce community best practice wetland management approach concepts, techniques and how to identify best practice that maximises biodiversity, increases household livelihoods, increases access to direct and indirect benefits, maintains wetland area, allows judicious invasive species control, reduces flood risk and reduces agricultural pollution. Within the

workshops community best practices for wetland management will be identified and recorded using participatory video and photography (1 week to do this. 5 workshops with 10 different community groups in five locations (Thalangama, Madinnagoda, Kolonnawa wetlands x 2 and Heen Ela). Best practices will also be documented with groups in the field following the workshops particularly to identify any seasonal differences in management approaches. Best practice champions will be identified during this process.

2.3 Design of the monitoring system with key stakeholders and in particular real time flood forecasting initiatives. Agile prototyping will be undertaken in a participatory co-design approach (1 scoping workshop to produce design specification, questionnaire feedback on initial design developments, 1 prototype planning workshop and then 1 workshop to test the usability in the field).

2.4 Design and field testing of mobile App to monitor basic wetland physical, ecological and social characteristics. This will be building on the citizen science State of the World Wetlands survey undertaken in 2017 and reported at the Ramsar CoP13 in Dubai, October 2018 and the FOGSL citizen science activities within Colombo. It will involve a hackathon with University students and then development.

2.5 Training workshops for community groups in wetland monitoring approach (5 workshops in 5 wetlands (Thalangama, Madinnagoda, Kolonnawa wetlands x 2 and Heen Ela) with 10 community groups). Monitoring system will be installed in 5 wetland areas and monitoring undertaken.

2.6 Sharing of community best practices with other community groups through workshops and identification of approaches to be adopted by new communities (5 workshops with 5 community groups – 2 days each).

2.7 Implementation of community best practices with new communities (5 community groups to implement best practice in 5 wetland locations) supported by the best practice champions identified in 2.2.

2.8 Monitoring of community best practice wetland management implementation (Project partners will monitor implementation through questionnaires at 3, 6, 9 months and at 12 months through the most significant change participatory video method).

3.1 Analysis of community best practice wetland management monitoring data to determine most effective community management approach.

3.2 Development of wetland management principles to guide community wetland management (Principles will be drafted based on the project data and the community workshops then used for consultation on the proposed principles).

3.3 Production of wetland management principles on project website.

3.4 Development of software platform to share monitoring data. Hosted on CC and IWMI websites and shared with other catchment initiatives such as the early warning flood forecasting being developed by SLLDC.

3.5 Develop communication network and information chain through partner organisations to share community monitoring data on a regular basis with key government departments. Data and information will be shared through the project websites, integrated into water quality monitoring and early warning flood forecasting monitoring undertaken by SLLDC and reported regularly at the National Wetland Steering Committee meetings.

4.1 Assessment of project impacts using developed project impact indicators against baseline assessment. The agreed project baseline indicators identified in 1.4 will be determined at the start of the project and then reviewed annually to assess the impact the project is having. The annual assessment will be reported to all communities involved in the project, to project partners and published on the project websites. The assessment will take the form of household surveys to assess social (including gendered), livelihood, ecosystem service benefits and economic indicators, analysis of monitoring biodiversity indicators such as presence and absence of animal species (Fishing Cat, Otter and Crocodile etc.), bird species (Stork-billed, Common, Pied and White-breasted Kingfishers, White Ibis, Lesser Whistling Teal, Purple Heron, Pheasant-tailed Jacana and Purple Swamphen etc.), plant species (Aganope heptaphylla, Aponogeton crispus, Nymphaea nouchali etc.) and invasive species (Annona glabra, Salvenia molesta and Eichornia crassipes etc.) and physical parameter data such as water quality, habitat modification etc., reviews of workshop and project output records, satellite imagery interpretation to determine wetland and invasive species extent,

consultation with community groups and government agencies and review of the Project Equality Action plan.

5.1 Establish a Centre of Excellence for Community Led Wetland Monitoring and Management by having a dedicated open access data and resource hub on IWMI's website that shares case studies and monitoring data and trained IWMI staff that can train future staff, partner agencies and government staff in community led wetland monitoring and management.

5.2 Workshops to allow community to community knowledge and experience exchanges with 3 new Metro Colombo wetland communities and 3 communities in each of two adjacent catchments (9 workshops).

5.3 Submit applications for side events at Ramsar and CBD CoPs.

5.4 Develop policy briefings.

5.5 Produce finalised pack of training materials.

5.6 Produce final reports.

5.7 Share project outputs at national and international events (World Wetlands Day, World Environment Day etc.).

5.8 Establish and regularly update project websites hosted by CC and IWMI.

5.9 Draft and submit at least two articles to journals.


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 IWMI](#)

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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 component of the project is fully integrated into the project's planning and methodology to ensure effective monitoring of progress and impact evaluation against project indicators. Many of the project's outputs are themselves M&E products (see means of verification in the log frame), which can be used to track project progress and to inform adaptive management. Project output 4 and activity 4.1 are specifically designed to assess the impact of the project's activities and are integral to the project M&E.

The Project Leader is responsible for the project's M&E based on his previous project experience of successfully completing deliverables. The Project Leader and In-country Project Coordinator will meet formally every two months to review progress (via skype and in-person where possible). Also, whenever UK partners are in Sri Lanka, they will take the opportunity to engage with project partners and other stakeholders to discuss any issues with project progress.

At the inception meeting, the project's logical framework and associated indicators will be discussed and a detailed Theory of Change will be developed; this will involve establishing baselines, a clear and transparent process for monitoring indicators and agreement amongst partners on responsibilities for the M&E of different indicators. Then at each bi-annual project meeting, the project team will track indicators and project progress towards achieving intended outcomes, while incorporating any stakeholder input into project outputs to ensure that the project outputs are of practical and policy relevance for Sri Lanka and the international community. We will update the Theory of Change to incorporate the findings of these reviews as part of a continual process of adaptive management and action learning. At the end of the project, we will use the Most Significant Change method, recorded through participatory video, to evaluate the impact of the project at local and national level, and then link these results explicitly back to the project's log frame and indicators. At the final project meeting, the project team will evaluate each log frame indicator and review the achievements of the project at the different scales of project impact including the local, national and international levels.

Reflecting on and evaluating the ethical aspects of the project will be very important, as we will be dealing with issues of visual materials and intellectual property rights. We will re-examine our policies on data protection and handling, discuss any concerns raised by project staff, in particular on working with local communities, and reflect on the project's Gender Equality Action Plan. This will be done formally during the bi-annual project meetings, but also during core team bi-monthly meetings.

We will invite two Critical Friends to the project to review progress annually. We will discuss questions around project methodology, implementation and share Darwin reports for their advice and feedback. The invited Critical Friends will be Prof. Devaka Weerakoon, University of Colombo and Nadeera Rajapakse, Environment Specialist, World Bank who will provide this support on voluntary basis.

Total project budget for M&E in GBP (this may include Staff, Travel and Subsistence costs) £ XXXXXXXXXX

Number of days planned for M&E 133

Percentage of total project budget set aside for M&E (%) 19

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

International Water Management Institute

I apply for a grant of

£344,670.00

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


Dr. Mark Smith


Position in the organisation

Deputy Director General – Research for Development

Signature (please upload e-signature)

 [Mark Smith e-signature](#)

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Date

05 December 2019

Section 17 - Submission Checklist

Checklist for submission

| | Check |
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| 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).