Applicant: **van Veen, Frank**
Organisation: **Univesity of Exeter**
Funding Sought: **£536,096.00**

DIR28S2\1022

Developing Sustainable Management of Tropical Peatlands in Southern Borneo

Borneo’s peatlands are important for biodiversity and provide numerous benefits for rural communities, but increasing frequency of wildfires owing to past degradation is destroying forest, damaging human health and causing globally-significant GHG emissions.

Peatland protection and restoration is therefore a major conservation priority. This project will improve ecosystem co-management by government and community stakeholders to enable upscaling of impactful restoration actions, effect community-led sustainable management of currently unprotected forests and develop peat-friendly livelihoods which reduce reliance on drainage and burning.

PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

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Section 1 - Contact Details

PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

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GMS ORGANISATION

Type	**Organisation**
Name	Univesity of Exeter
Phone (Mobile)	[redacted]
Email	[redacted]
Address	[redacted]

Section 2 - Title, Ecosystems, Approaches & Summary

Q3. Title:

Developing Sustainable Management of Tropical Peatlands in Southern Borneo

What was your Stage 1 reference number? e.g. DIR28S1\1123

DIR28S1\1022

Q4. Key Ecosystems, Approaches and Threats

Select up to 3 biomes that are of focus, up to 3 conservation actions that characterise your approach, and up to 3 threats to biodiversity you intend to address, from dropdown lists.

Biome 1

Tropical-subtropical forests

Biome 2

Palustrine wetlands (flooded forests, wetlands, marshes, floodplains)

Biome 3

Intensive land-use systems (agric., plantations and urban)

Conservation Action 1

Land/water management (area, invasive control, restoration)

Conservation Action 2

Education & awareness (incl. training)

Conservation Action 3

Livelihood, economic & other incentives (incl. conservation payments)

Threat 1

Natural system modifications (fires, dams)

Threat 2

Climate change & severe weather

Threat 3

Agriculture & aquaculture (incl. plantations)

Q5. Summary

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 the website.

Please write this summary for a non-technical audience.

Borneo's peatlands are important for biodiversity and provide numerous benefits for rural communities, but increasing frequency of wildfires owing to past degradation is destroying forest, damaging human health and causing globally-significant GHG emissions.

Peatland protection and restoration is therefore a major conservation priority. This project will improve ecosystem co-management by government and community stakeholders to enable upscaling of impactful restoration actions, effect community-led sustainable management of currently unprotected forests and develop peat-friendly livelihoods which reduce reliance on drainage and burning.

Section 3 - Title, Dates & Budget Summary

Q6. Country(ies)

Which eligible host 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	Indonesia	**Country 2**	*No Response*

Country 3	*No Response*	**Country 4**	*No Response*

Do you require more fields?

⦿ No

Q7. Project dates

Start date:	End date:	Duration (e.g. 2 years, 3 months):
01 June 2022	31 March 2025	2 years, 9 months

Q8. Budget summary

Year:	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	Total request
Amount:	£155,837.00	£187,449.00	£192,810.00	**£** 536,096.00

Q9. Proportion of Darwin Initiative budget expected to be expended in eligible countries: % [redacted]

Q10a. Do you have matched funding arrangements?

⦿ Yes

What matched funding arrangements are proposed?

Project partner Borneo Nature Foundation (BNF) will provide [redacted] matching funds, secured through long-term committed funding from The Orangutan Project, Global Wildlife Conservation, Danish Civil Society Fund, Re:Wild and the Arcus Foundation. University of Exeter will contribute £85K worth of PI salary costs and overheads. BNF will further make available support staff, vehicles and other equipment as in-kind contributions.

Q10b. Total confirmed & unconfirmed matched funding (£) [redacted]

Q10c. If you have a significant amount of unconfirmed matched funding, please clarify how you fund the project if you don't manage to secure this?

All matched funding is confirmed

Section 4 - Problem statement

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?

Please cite the evidence you are using to support your assessment of the problem (references can be listed in your additional attached PDF document which can be uploaded at the bottom of the methodology page).

Indonesia contains one of the world's largest expanses of tropical peatlands (15 million ha), much of it in southern Borneo (Kalimantan) where these peatlands support a rich and unique biodiversity, including globally-important populations of threatened species, notably including the largest remaining populations of critically endangered Bornean orangutans. However, large areas have been deforested and have had extensive drainage canal networks cut into the peat to convert the land for agriculture. Combined with climate-driven drought episodes, this has led to these degraded areas being very prone to wildfires during which the peat itself can burn underground for months. The resulting smoke haze has major impacts on human health and wellbeing and the carbon emissions from the fires are huge – in bad fire years they commonly exceed the annual emissions from the entire UK economy (Kieley et al., 2021). Major protected areas are also not safe from fires due to a legacy of canals left by past logging operations that dry out the peat, leaving it vulnerable to fire. Large areas of protected forest have already been lost in the last few decades. Without forest cover, the peat in these burnt areas degrades further and becomes especially prone to fire in subsequent years, causing heightened fire risk to adjacent remaining forest (Miettinen et al., 2016, Page & Hooijer, 2016).

Ultimately, poor spatial planning and ineffective or unregulated land management are the underlying causes of this problem, which exacerbates and is exacerbated by relatively high poverty levels in the region (Harrison et al., 2020). Recognising the importance of peatlands, the Indonesian government has extended a moratorium on conversion of deep-peat areas and called for improved management and restoration of degraded peatlands, to meet sustainable development goals including building resilience to climate change (RoI, 2021), whilst also reducing poverty by developing sustainable livelihoods. Implementation is needed over large spatial scales to achieve lasting impact, but capacity in Kalimantan, in terms of skills, resources and coordination, remains inadequate, despite a number of small-scale successes.

The project target area is the Katingan-Kahayan landscape which contains over 1.2 million ha of tropical peatland. Approximately half is protected as the Sebangau National Park, where increased efforts to rewet peat and reforest burnt areas are urgently required. From remote sensing analysis, we estimate that some 10% of its forest has already been lost to fire, which is likely to accelerate without intervention. The remainder of the landscape is primarily designated for plantation and smallholder agriculture, but where the government's moratorium and some recent plantation permit revocations provide opportunities to implement sustainable land-use activities that improve livelihoods and biodiversity conservation in tandem. This project will focus on both of these landscape elements, securing the protected forest and enabling the sustainable management of unprotected areas to ensure long-lasting impacts.

Section 5 - Darwin Objectives and Conventions

Q12. Biodiversity Conventions, Treaties and Agreements

Q12a. Your project must support the commitments 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.

- ☑ Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
- ☑ United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
- ☑ Global Goals for Sustainable Development (SDGs)

Q12b. National and International Policy Alignment

Please detail how your project will contribute to national policy (including NBSAPs, NDCs, NAP etc.) and in turn international biodiversity and development conventions, treaties and agreements that the country is a signatory of.

Land use change, peat and forest fires contribute 63% of Indonesia's CO2 emissions of 1,800 MtCO2e, with 47% of the increase from 2000-2012 attributed to peat fire Emissions from peatland drainage are significant, with degraded peatlands releasing an average 87.5 MtCO2e annually from 2000-2011. Indonesia's NDC commitments to reduce GHG emissions by 26% without international assistance or 41% with assistance by 2030 will be achieved in part by reducing deforestation to 0.33 Mha/yr, reforesting 12 Mha of degraded lands and rehabilitating 2 Mha of peatland. The recently expanded Peat and Mangrove Restoration Agency (BRGM) has been tasked with restoring 1.2 Mha of peatland, requesting implementation

support from the non-profit sector to meet this goal. Indonesia's National Mid-Term Development Plan aims to improve natural resource governance, promote capacity-building, increase community participation in forest management and develop fire prevention systems in Kalimantan.

Indonesia's most-recent, comprehensive NBSAP (2015-2020) contains similar objectives which our proposal aligns with, including improved conservation area management; improved production of environmentally friendly agricultural products; ecosystem conservation recovery with total area of 250,000 ha; use of local wisdom to support sustainable biodiversity management; improvement of activities dealing with climate change mitigation at local levels; human resources capacity development through formal and informal education and training; and improved community participation in biodiversity management. These activities contribute to the policy's aims to maintain populations of endangered species as a national conservation priority; to achieve restoration of degraded ecosystems; and to improve the functionality of integrated ecosystems to ensure the preservation of essential services (water, health, livelihoods).
This project aligns with two important national policies in Indonesia: the Climate Village Strategy (ProKlim) and Kemitraan Konservasi (Conservation Partnerships). The former recognises the need for all stakeholders and communities to work together to implement climate adaptation and mitigation actions, to understand their climate vulnerabilities and be empowered to take informed actions to mitigate and adapt to these. Conservation Partnerships prioritise development and empowerment of communities living around conservation areas, to facilitate traditional use of forests and for collaboration in ecosystem restoration. We will support this by creating a fire-free alliance of communities and stakeholders; creating an effective network of community fire-fighting teams coordinating with government partners; pursuing the development of peat-friendly agriculture, agroforestry and fishing practices by smallholders; and fully involving communities in habitat restoration activities.

This project works towards CBD objectives for Conservation of Biological Diversity and Sustainable Use of its Components; towards several SDGs, including: (1) No Poverty, (13) Climate Action and (15) Life on Land and provides important contributions towards the goals of the UNFCCC.

Section 6 - Method, Change Expected, Gender & Exit Strategy

Q13. Methodology

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

Our approach complements top-level initiatives by tackling both the causes and impacts of peatland degradation and habitat loss at the grassroots level, and providing the knowledge and tools to upscale these and produce measurable impacts.
This project aims to strengthen conservation management of protected and unprotected peat forests within a major landscape in Central Kalimantan. We will build on the outcome of our recently-concluded Darwin Initiative grant 25-001 that worked to mitigate peatland fires via fire-fighting networks and practical restoration, improving community participation and building local capacity; and the ongoing GCRF project 'KaLi' (on which lead applicant is PI), which focuses on research into the multiple hazards and impacts associated with drought and fire in degraded peatlands and research into the barriers to peat-friendly agriculture. UPR have participated in multiple international research projects on relevant topics, including a major focus on permaculture/aquaculture techniques on peat soils. BNF has collected a 20-year forest ecology dataset as a baseline for monitoring project outcomes for biodiversity conservation; designed impactful restoration techniques; helped communities develop social forestry projects; and built strong long-term relationships with key stakeholders in the region. Notably this includes the government's regional forest management agencies, which fully support the development of these projects and are working closely with BNF to expand efforts to an ever wider area.

Our methodology is consistent with the Indonesian Peat and Mangrove Restoration Agency's "3R's" approach, which incorporates Revegetation, Rewetting and Revitalisation (of livelihoods) in an integrated approach to address all facets of effective peatland management. Our overarching objective is to enhance regional capacity and community empowerment

to implement these activities during and beyond the project's lifetime as 'best practice' to protect peatland and peat-forest habitat.

BNF will implement project activities in Indonesia, including coordinating with government and other host-country partners. UoE will be responsible for project monitoring and evaluation, and critically, for building M&E capacity within the project partners to enable them to manage this effectively after the project ends. UPR will contribute expertise and advice to support implementation of livelihoods and restoration activities. All partners will collaborate to deliver training and research components. At the landscape level, activities will be coordinated via multi-stakeholder forums to improve synergies between government agencies, NGOs and communities, and identify conservation and training needs. Areas requiring restoration will be identified, and resources provided to rewet peat by blocking drainage channels and expanding the successful community nursery project, which provides income for participating families who grow native seedlings for replanting burnt peatland. Community socialisation, consultation, production of good practice guidelines, training workshops and integration with government strategy will accompany this. Training will include permaculture practices, with the aim to obtain additional economic benefits by diversifying and using the nurseries to grow their own crops.

The network of community fire-fighting teams and other participating stakeholders will form the basis of a new 'fire-free alliance', which will be promoted, to encourage other public and private stakeholders to commit to reduced burning and drainage in peatlands.

To improve the sustainability of local livelihoods we will apply synthesised knowledge from previous and ongoing research projects by UPR, UoE and others to promote the adoption of peat-friendly livelihoods. Prior socialisation has identified nine local smallholder cooperatives engaged in crop-farming, agroforestry or aquaculture on peat soils who are willing to participate. We will implement practical land-rehabilitation and cultivation methods, introduce crops that have shown potential in research trials, and assess environmental, yield and income variables alongside smallholder satisfaction. A parallel initiative will engage fishers to encourage reduced use of fire and develop aquaculture initiatives. The number of participants will be expanded year-to-year as the project proceeds, aiming to include all interested individuals in the target area by project-end.

To promote conservation of unprotected peat-forest we will strengthen collaboration with Forest Management Units covering this landscape, identify their training and resource needs (e.g. mapping, monitoring and patrolling capacity), and facilitate the improvement and implementation of management plans that protect biodiversity. A major part of this is assisting villages to obtain management rights over their customary forests, thus preventing habitat degradation and promoting sustainable natural resource use. This aligns with the national social forestry strategy to designate more 'Village Forests', within which no unsustainable exploitation of timber or land is permitted. We will train and support village representatives in the mapping and legal processes required for Village Forest designation, and support the creation and implementation of management plans, alongside support for sustainable livelihood development and habitat protection activities.

Q14. Capability and Capacity

How will you support the strengthening of capability and capacity in the project countries at organisational or individual levels, please provide details of what form this will take and the post-project value to the country.

Capacity building is an integral component of this project, both to achieve the desired outcome and defined exit strategy and ensure continuing contribution towards project Impact by promoting future upscaling and replication elsewhere in the region.

Institutional capacity-building for land managers and community groups includes provision of training workshops based on participatory needs analysis; in situ training on restoration, habitat protection and monitoring techniques; and mentoring for project leaders. Training will be delivered by project partners, external experts; and previously-trained community teams (i.e. fire-fighting teams, community nurseries). By training the trainers we establish support structures within communities which will help secure this capacity for the future.

We will support development of good practice guidelines, area management plans and training documents, both for and by the land managers, as a resource to secure future capacity, and will continue to encourage expert-led research, promote international research collaborations and provide opportunities tor Indonesian students, for example by joining BNF's monitoring research.

BNF and UPR, supported by international expertise, will work with farmers, other smallholders and fishers to identify and overcome barriers to sustainable livelihoods, introducing knowledge and training to reduce drainage and burning, , identifying solutions and commonalities that feedback into project activities .We will build the capacity of village communities to obtain management rights over their traditional forest areas, helping them facilitate the process and develop integrated management plans.

Within the project, UoE will focus efforts on building the M&E capacity of the Indonesian partner organisations. BNF has employed an experienced, dedicated Head of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation who will work alongside UoE to develop effective procedures, processes and methods in BNF, so in future they can directly manage this component.

Q15. Gender equality

All applicants must consider whether and how their project will contribute to reducing inequality between persons of different gender. Explain how your understanding of gender equality within the context your project, and how is it reflected in your plans.

UoE and BNF have strong commitments to promote gender equality and will fully implement their Equality, Diversity and Inclusivity policies with this proposed work. We will collect gender disaggregated data regarding all team members employed and the composition of community groups and individuals participating in this project. 58% of BNF's most senior positions are filled by women, and 37% of all employees. We endeavour to ensure fair representation of, participation by and delivery of benefits to women; and actively encourage participation by women in all activities.

Indonesia is typically a male-dominated society and this is reflected through the composition of fire-fighting teams and field monitoring teams. BNF is encouraging women to join these activities and ensure their participation on an equal basis in a sexism-free environment, and through their efforts are encouraging women to join. BNF is an active supporter of Indonesia's Kartini Day on 21 April, named after a pioneer of girl's education and women's rights in the nation's development. Education is a major barrier to participation of women, so BNF provides environmental education and university scholarships to a number of girls and young women from deprived backgrounds.

Many villages have women's cooperative groups, promoting their involvement in economic activities and helping widowed or otherwise disadvantaged women. BNF works to involve these groups in activities, for example making rattan bags for growing seedlings, which increases planting success.

The Centre for Ecology and Conservation has a strong commitment to promoting gender equality and it was the first unit at the University of Exeter to receive a Silver Athena SWAN award from the Equality Challenge Unit under the leadership of Prof Frank van Veen during his tenure as Director of Inclusivity. He is thus well placed to ensure that best practice for inclusive working practises is implemented in this project.

Q16. Awareness and understanding

How will you raise awareness and understanding of biodiversity-poverty issues in your stakeholders, including who are your stakeholders, what approaches/formats/products will you use, how you will ensure open and free access to all data, and how will you know that the messages are understood?

BNF will lead awareness-raising activities to stakeholders, which include the residents of the target communities, local and national government; the general public in Central Kalimantan and Indonesia; and a global audience of interested parties.

We reach these stakeholders through a combination of in-person events and education sessions; online webinars and social media; distribution of published materials; and by promoting a fire-free alliance. We spread understanding by promoting the biodiversity and poverty-reduction values of intact, well-managed peatlands and peat-forests; by highlighting the risks to tropical peatlands from everyday actions and the negative consequences of peatland degradation and fire to the intended audience; by demonstrating how people can make positive changes and support our mission; and by publishing research outputs.

Education for children will include BNF's successful 'Gibbon Goes to School' program, which reaches most schools in the wider Palangkaraya region to spread environmental awareness about the peat- forests on their doorstep. In villages close

to the forest, BNF runs additional after-school clubs for children of all ages, incorporating environmental learning with literacy, numeracy, art and culture, visits to the forest and involvement with reforestation initiatives.

A wider audience is reached through public exhibitions and events; in local, national and environment-focused news media, and through BNF's dual language social media.

Q17. Change expected

Detail the expected changes to both biodiversity and poverty reduction, and links between them, 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).

When talking about how people will benefit, please remember to give details of who will benefit, differences in benefits by gender or other layers of diversity within stakeholders, and the number of beneficiaries expected. The number of communities is insufficient detail – number of households should be the largest unit used.

The ongoing trend of peatland and peat-forest loss and degradation through conversion, drainage and fire in Central Kalimantan is causing severe negative impacts for biodiversity conservation, carbon emissions and local human communities, harming both public health and prospects for sustainable economic development to alleviate poverty. Poor planning, low management capacity, plus poverty and disenfranchisement of local communities are crucial underlying drivers of these trends. Our project is designed to target these drivers and establish the foundations to reverse these trends and impacts across one of the most important peat landscapes in the region. It will thus deliver substantial positive change for biodiversity conservation, climate change mitigation and progress towards SDGs locally.

We will directly implement collaborative conservation interventions and build upon past successes to begin upscaling these to deliver immediate benefits during the project period, with this upscaling and our focus on building capacity, collaborations and empowering communities contributing towards sustained longer-term continuation of activities and benefits.

In the short term, we expect to see fewer fires and thus negative impacts on biodiversity and local people associated with fires, owing to enhanced fire-fighting capacity; a greater area of land under active rehabilitation, plus changes in fire use and drainage by surrounding communities, all combining to reduce fire risk. In the longer term, we aim for these initiatives to be sustained and combined with scaled-up habitat restoration initiatives, development of practical alternative livelihood opportunities and strengthened land management structures, including the designation of Village Forests. These changes will result in reduced deforestation, enable biodiversity recovery and ensure long-lasting poverty reductions. Building from positive changes in government policy, sustainable finance sources will be identified to enable regional replication and multiply project benefits..
Positive changes arising from the project include:

(1) Enhanced conservation of peatland biodiversity in Central Kalimantan, notably the world's largest protected population of the Critically Endangered Bornean orangutan (> 6,000 individuals) in Sebangau National Park) , and significantly lower risk of catastrophic impacts from forest-fires.

(2) Potential emission savings of 27-66 tCO2/ha/yr from peat rewetting and 101-455 tCO2e for each hectare prevented from burning.

(3) Reduced haze pollution and associated negative health impacts experienced by the ~500,000 people living in the landscape.

(4) Proof of concept development of more peat-friendly approaches towards agriculture and fishing, supporting the long-term development of more resilient and sustainable local economies.

(5) Involvement of rural communities in conservation actions, and income benefits arising, through support of community-led fire-fighting teams (ca. 100 people), community nurseries (ca. 100 families), development of peat-friendly agriculture among smallholders (up to 400 individuals) and peat-friendly fishing practices (up to 40 people), .

(6) Villages obtain management rights over an anticipated cumulative 20,000 ha of customary forests, enabling sustainable community use of resources and maintenance of social and cultural values, benefiting a minimum 2,000 households.

(7) Wider public in Kalimantan learning about these issues through the project's media engagement, including social media, events and exhibitions (est. ~100,000 people).

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.

The degradation and burning of Central Kalimantan's peatlands threatens biodiversity and the wellbeing of human communities using these ecosystems. Reversing this trend requires both physically restoring the characteristics of a healthy tropical peatland ecosystem (rewetting and revegetation), preventing further degradation through fire and, moreover, developing local management capabilities and economies to enhance rather than erode ecosystem condition. Our project Outputs are therefore centred around building knowledge with local university partners and capacity amongst the government bodies responsible for land management and conservation of Forest Management Units, Sebangau National Park, and other stakeholders and communities to enable effective, sustainable conservation management. This involves targeted training, knowledge gathering, and strengthening local management rights and structures to facilitate implementation and future upscaling of conservation efforts, including physical habitat restoration and protection interventions (peat rewetting, revegetation and fire-fighting), and developing sustainable peatland economies (agriculture and fishing). The Outcomes of this enhanced management will be improved habitat condition, decreased fire risk and incidence, improved public health and more sustainable local livelihoods, which will ultimately lead to delivery of our overall project Impact: the effective local conservation leadership and management of peat-swamp forests, for the benefit of biodiversity, human health and local economies.

Q19. Exit Strategy

How the project will reach a sustainable point and continue to deliver benefits post-funding? Will the activities require funding and support from other sources, or will they be mainstreamed in to "business as usual"? How will the required knowledge and skills remain available to sustain the benefits? How will your approach, if proven, be scaled?

This project is part of a long-term commitment by BNF and partners in the region, and activities will continue after the project ends. The aim is to reverse 25 years of peatland degradation in the region and affect behaviour change amongst local communities, and this will necessarily take time. Our previous Darwin award served as a catalyst to build the current application and related projects have stemmed from it. Our partnerships are designed to endure, alongside multi-stakeholder forums, fire-fighting networks and community groups, facilitating ongoing efforts to reach long-term goals.

The project has concrete outputs that are designed to sustain the outcome. UoE are helping BNF establish rigorous M&E; ongoing training will be delivered internally, with emphasis on training the trainers to ensure continuous knowledge-sharing; and the various networks, good practice guidelines and management plans that will be developed are a resource-base designed to enshrine activities as business as usual, encouraged by and supporting the attainment of Indonesian policy goals on wise use of peatlands and community involvement in protected area management.

Specific activities will reach a sustainable point and continue to deliver benefits post-funding. The designation of Village Forest status and integration of management plans for these within the wider FMU landscape-level management plan will prevent deforestation, protect biodiversity, empowering and providing poverty reduction benefits to local communities over long timeframes. Changes to peatland agriculture and fishing techniques, once recognised as (financially) beneficial, will endure and permeate the community in the long term.

Upscaling project activities requires sustainable finance sources, such as carbon-based finance, private sector funding, or accessing government funds for social forestry and livelihoods development. Together with our local government and community partners we will explore and develop these opportunities as an important component of our ongoing work in the region.

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

DIR28-1022 map and background refs
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Section 7 - Risk Management

Q20. Risk Management

Please outline the 6 key risks to achievement of your Project Outcome and how these risks will be managed and mitigated, referring to the Risk Guidance. This should include at least one Fiduciary, one Safeguarding, and one Delivery Chain Risk.

Projects should also draft their initial risk register using the Risk Assessment template provided, and be prepared to submit this when requested if they are recommended for funding. Do not attach this to your application.

Risk Description	Impact	Prob.	Gross Risk	Mitigation Header	Residual Risk
Fiduciary Potential fraud, corruption and misappropriation of financial proceeds raised from community nursery and/or sustainable livelihood initiatives implemented (e.g. falsifying data on costs incurred or seedlings grown to increase income, family/group head not equitably sharing income among other team members, etc.).	Minor	Possible	Moderate	Training provided to community nursery and sustainable livelihood scheme members regarding effective financial (risk) management. Scheme M&E includes monthly field inspections by project partners/individuals not benefiting personally from scheme proceeds. Involvement of multiple families/groups in schemes helps identify potential outliers resulting from financial mismanagement, corruption or fraud.	Minor
Safeguarding Potential risk of exploitation or harassment of project partner's staff and community members recruited into community nursery and/or alternative livelihood schemes, with women and those who become dependent on income from these schemes (an indicator of their success from a poverty reduction perspective) being particularly vulnerable.	Major	Rare	Moderate	All project participants are committing to adhering to our exploitation, bullying and harassment policies. Partner staff members undergo criminal record checks prior to employment. Participating community members provided with procedures for reporting incidents to BNF/UoE, which will be urgently investigated, with internal disciplinary action and police referral as appropriate.	Moderate

Delivery Chain Potential for conflicts or breakdown of relationships between community members engaged in (newly implemented) CN, alternative livelihood or social forestry schemes, and project partners (BNF, UPR), and subsequent non achievement of Outputs/Outcomes.	Major	Possible	Major	Engagement and recruitment of community members into project schemes conducted under FPIC principles and procedures, with detailed a-priori agreements signed clarifying respective roles and expectations, and including dispute resolution processes. Regular correspondence, monitoring and close coordination between participating community members and BNF aids early identification and resolution of conflicts.	Moderate
Risk 4 Potential risk of fire damage to forest, replanted seedlings/areas, plus CN/alternative livelihood infrastructure, particularly if an El Niño event occurs during project period (likely, as last 2 years have experienced La Niña conditions).	Severe	Possible	Severe	Project Activities and Outputs all contribute towards Outcome of reducing this (fire) risk, including peat rewetting, development of 'peat-friendly' low-fire-risk livelihoods and establishing a regional fire-fighting network. Financial incentives obtained by community members through project activities incentivises forest/peatland protection to safeguard these benefits and thus dis-incentivises fire use.	Major
Risk 5 Government Policy changes. In January 2022, the Indonesian government revoked a large number of plantation concessions, including 5 concessions covering 46,770 ha in the Rungan landscape. This creates opportunity to secure additional forest protections in the area, but also uncertainty and risk regarding future government plans for these areas.	Severe	Likely	Severe	We are currently engaged in detailed discussions with the local government Forest Management Unit (KPH Kahayan Tengah) and other mixed stakeholder forum members to identify potential short- and longer-term implications of this decision, including regarding any potential reclassification of these areas or changes in law permitting continued conversion.	Major
Risk 6 Perpetuation and deepening of existing societal inequalities. Involvement of local community stakeholders in planning and decision making processes, plus employment of local labour for project activities, may increase gender inequality if community representatives or workers provided are male biased.	Moderate	Likely	Major	Project participants must adhere to our EDI policies, with appointment of female staff and community representatives encouraged, including in leadership positions. As Indonesian cultural norms mean it is likely most field labour will be male, alternative livelihood strategy development will be targeted towards options attractive and suitable for females.	Minor

Section 8 - Implementation Timetable

Q21. 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 Word 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.

R28-1022 Darwin_Implementation_Timetable_Template_FINAL-2
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pdf 114.43 KB

Section 9 - Monitoring and Evaluation

Q22. Monitoring and evaluation (M&E)

Describe 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**).**

M&E is an integral to this project and is built into each project component, thus enabling adaptive management and where necessary revision of targets/activities to maximise success. We will appoint a 0.5FTE post doctoral scientist to lead on data analysis and interpretation from our own M&E activities and to review the wider literature to ensure that our activities are always based on the best available evidence. Indeed, the results of our previous DI project M&E were integral in designing the current project; for example, lessons learnt from the successful trial of our community nursery scheme, allow this now to be significantly expanded under the current project, thus increasing its impact and highlighting its replication potential.

M&E will be led by UoE, incorporating input from all project partners and with data analysis and interpretation conducted jointly by UoE, UPR and BNF. Data will be collected by field staff and members of the different community schemes, or provided by project participants and beneficiaries. Relevant training will be provided by the project leaders and highly experienced field team members.

M&E will be structured around the SMART concept and assess progress towards targets regarding activity implementation. Under Activity 1.1, for example, this includes number of training sessions held and dams built.

We will measure proximate changes in the system, expected to arise from successful project activity implementation. In our example this includes using automated data-loggers, manual water depth measurement rods and flow meters at fixed locations along canals to estimate changes in water table depth, water discharge volume and rates of dry-season water drawdown comparing before and after dam construction.

We will measure ultimate changes in project Outcome, expected to arise from successfully achieving proximate impacts. For example the above efforts to restore natural peatland hydrology are expected to reduce fire prevalence, which will be monitored through monthly identification of the number of fire hotspots in the target area from MODIS satellite data

available through Global Forest Watch, plus on-the-ground records from drone flights, fire team patrols and reports submitted to fire-fighting teams from local community members. This will demonstrate impacts of changes in hydrology (and thus our canal damming efforts) on fire prevalence.

Combined with regular (re-)evaluation of Important Assumptions, this will enable ongoing assessment of project success and identification of the reasons for any failures in achieving expected results; i.e. which part of the activity-proximate-ultimate change chain has failed and thus requires remedial action/revision. For example, if the target number of dams have been built and canals blocked (implementation), but no impact on peat water levels (proximate impact) is measured and fire prevalence (ultimate impact) does not decrease, then it is most likely that the reason for failure lays in the dam building strategy design. Conversely, if damming and peat water level targets are achieved, but fire prevalence does not decrease, it is more likely that the reason for failure lies in the water level targets themselves and that these therefore require revision.

Total project budget for M&E in GBP (this may include Staff, Travel and Subsistence costs)	[redacted]
Percentage of total project budget set aside for M&E (%)	[redacted]
Number of days planned for M&E	420

Section 10 - Logical Framework

Q23. Logical Framework

Darwin Initiative projects will be required to monitor and report against their progress towards their Outputs and Outcome. 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.

- Stage 2 Logframe Template

Please complete your full logframe in the separate Word template and upload as a PDF using the file upload below. – **please do not edit the template structure other than adding additional Outputs if needed as a logframe submitted in a different format may make your application ineligible**. Copy your Impact, Outcome and Output statements and your activities below - these should be the same as in your uploaded logframe.

Please upload your logframe as a PDF document.

- R28-1022_Darwin_St2_Logical_Framework
- 31/01/2022
- 20:57:12
- pdf 93.85 KB

Impact:

Effective local conservation leadership and management of peat-swamp forests, for the benefit of biodiversity, human health and local economies.

Outcome:

Improved local capacity and stakeholder coordination enables effective implementation and upscaling of sustainable peatland/forest management, reducing forest loss, fire and carbon emissions, rehabilitating degraded peatland and improving livelihoods and wellbeing.

Project Outputs

Output 1:

Local capacity developed to implement, improve and encourage replication of peatland restoration efforts throughout the target landscape.

Output 2:

Communities develop more 'peat-friendly' agriculture and livelihoods in peatland areas and are empowered to tackle peatland fire and degradation impacts.

Output 3:

Enhancing long-term sustainable management of peatlands by local government and community stakeholders, by expanding community forest management, supporting implementation of long-term management plans, and capacity building.

Output 4:

No Response

Output 5:

No Response

Do you require more Output fields?

It is advised to have fewer 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 MSFs established comprising community, industry and government stakeholders from each FMU. Information sharing platforms established, technical support provided, and regular planning, feedback and evaluation meetings held.
1.2a Peat rewetting training delivered to BTNS, relevant resources (damming materials, monitoring equipment) provided and dams built to close drainage canals and rewet the peat.
1.2b Hydrological monitoring training conducted and stations established, including collecting pre-damming baseline data for comparison, to monitor impacts on peat water tables.
1.3a Community Nursery Program socialised to additional families invited to participate. BNF's expert reforestation staff will train each new group, providing necessary technical skills and resources to raise seedlings to minimum planting heights.
1.3b Once planting size reached, we will buy seedlings back from community nurseries, thus generating income and replant degraded areas, followed by ongoing monitoring and protection of reforestation area.
1.4a Establish Scientific Advisory Board of international and Indonesian experts, working alongside new Research Division within BNF, strengthening scientific foundations, produce Indonesian-led scientific publications, support local student development, produce good-practice guidelines and technical feedback/input to MSFs, and advise local peatland restoration efforts.
1.4b UPR supported to relaunch their Journal of Tropical Peatlands, serving as an open access repository of peer-reviewed research on all aspects of tropical peatland socio-ecology and sustainable management.
1.4c Rewetting and revegetation GPGs and M&E protocols, plus Indonesian-led journal papers produced, peer reviewed, translated, published OA, promoted through media and networks, and directly disseminated via MSFs.
2.1a Paludiculture introduced to smallholders, including socialisations and site visits to discuss suitable options. Training provided, with new crops, land rehabilitation and harvesting methods trialled, and M&E systems introduced.
2.1b M&E of success indicators collected and evaluated in Y2 with initial participating smallholders, with expected success helping recruit additional smallholders in Y3.
2.2 Fire-free alliance created via MSF, encouraging project participants and other local stakeholders to commit to reduced burning. Recognition system agreed with MSF. Work to increase concept awareness and drive acceptance as standard.
2.3a Evidence compiled from literature, expert/fisher interviews and our fish data collection (Y1). Recommendations to ensure net positive impacts of peat restoration activities on fish and fishing livelihoods created (Y2).

2.3b Above recommendations socialised with peat restoration projects and fishers (including through MSFs) in Y3. Participating local fishers engaged regarding recommendation implementation and feedback compiled to demonstrate upscaling potential.
3.1a Forest Management Units engaged to identify training and resource needs, and other barriers to effectively implement management plans which benefit biodiversity within remaining forests.Plans co-created where do not already exist.
3.1b Contributions (training, implementation, collaboration, etc.) provided to conservation and M&E activities in existing management plans (e.g. 2007-2026 Sebangau NP management plan), and appropriate additional activities proposed..
3.2a Village Forest designation facilitated in unprotected areas under Indonesia's social forestry scheme. VillageForest designation provides legal rights to villages to manage and sustainably use customary land for community benefit.
3.2b BNF's experienced social forestry team will socialise with communities, train village representatives in requirements and procedures, and support them to collect required data, complete and submit their community forest application.
3.2c Management plans describing administration and sustainable-use prepared for each Village Forest, facilitated by BNF, coordinating with FMU. Necessary management, M&E tools and training provided, including regarding sustainable livelihood and financing options.
3.3a Stakeholder r training needs identified and bespoke training plans created in Y1, and relevant external assistance acquired to cover specialist topics.
3.3b Training initiated in Y2 and extended into Y3, with coordination through the MSFs, and M&E of knowledge gain and training success assessed

Section 11 - Budget and Funding

Q24. 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 all Darwin Main should be using the over £100,000 template. Please refer to the Finance Guidance **for more information.**

- Budget form for projects over £100k

Please ensure you include any co-financing figures in the Budget spreadsheet to clarify the full budget required to deliver this project.

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.

DIR28S2-1022 Budget-over-£100k-Van Veen
31/01/2022
14:47:28
xlsx 63.99 KB

Q25. Financial Risk Management

Explain how you have assessed the risks and threats that may be relevant to the successful financial delivery of this project. This includes risks such as fraud, bribery or corruption, but may also include the risk of fluctuating foreign exchange, delays in procurement or recruitment and internal financial processes such as storage of financial data.

BNF, our key NGO partners in Indonesia, will receive [redacted] of the funds. This is in line with our commitment to empower local organisations, and for most of the work on the ground to be carried out by Indonesian staff. This further ensures that delivery of the project is robust to ongoing COVID-19 travel restrictions and uncertainty around future travel costs

associated with the pandemic. To minimise the financial risk associated with relying heavily on an external partner, we have recently carried out detailed due diligence checks with BNF. Documentation relating to this is available on request. As part of our collaboration with BNF on other projects, we already have well-established processes in place for dissemination of funds and financial reporting between our organisations.

We ensure that all our activities in Indonesia comply with the law, which includes a zero tolerance policy on bribery.

Foreign currency exchange rates are always an uncertain factor but within the bounds of fluctuations in recent years these do not represent a significant risk.

All financial processes, including the storage of financial data will be overseen by UoE's dedicated grant finance team, in compliance with relevant laws and regulations.

Q26. Funding

Q26a. Is this a new initiative or does it build on existing work (delivered by anyone and funded through any source)?

⦿ Development of existing work

Please provide details:

This is a development of existing work by BNF, UPR and partners in Kalimantan, funded through its pilot stage by grants including a UKCCU-funded Indonesian Climate Change Trust Fund project to pilot peatland restoration methods. Project expansion was catalysed through Darwin Initiative grant 25-001 with UoE, which enabled development of fire prevention activities in the target landscape, the implementation of which was supported by additional grants as matched funding.The proposed project complements and expands upon this existing work to further strengthen forest conservation in the region.

Funding through the KaLi project have allowed UoE and UPR (together with other UK and Indonesian partners) to research and implement pilot projects on potential paludiculture, permaculture and aquaculture solutions in peatlands, assessing both economic viability and peatland sustainability, and positive results will be brought to a wider implementation in this project. BNF has established an expert team to facilitate social forestry scheme implementation and management, and to engage with Forest Management Units to improve landscape management via grant funding within a neighbouring (non-peat) landscape and this expertise will be applied to this current application.

Q26b. Are you aware of any current or future plans for similar work to the proposed project?

⦿ Yes

Please give details explaining similarities and differences, and explaining how your work will be additional and what attempts have been/will be made to co-operate with and learn lessons from such work for mutual benefits.

There is a substantial body of research either completed or underway on peatland degradation impacts, restoration challenges, barriers and opportunities for sustainable peatland livelihoods, and policy issues; which provide the understanding on which our project is based.This includes the complementary GCRF-Resilience project 'KaLi', focuses on the multiple hazards associated with droughts in degraded peatlands and impacts on communities there, including researching barriers to peat-friendly agriculture which the proposed project aims to address.

There are very few projects directly implementing in situ peatland conservation activities in Kalimantan with a fully integrated approach. Two long-term projects are Rimba Makmur Utama to the west and BOSF-Mawas further east. Both of these implement reforestation, rewetting and fire-fighting activities and we share ideas, experiences and outputs for mutual benefit and lessons learnt. .

This Darwin project will be unique in Kalimantan as the only one which tackles peatland protection both inside and outside a National Park, and by empowering communities to protect and restore peatland in partnership with the National Park Agency. This project is designed to be an example for multi-stakeholder conservation in the region.

Q27. 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. If you are requesting more than 10% capital costs, please provide your justification here.

Capital items will remain with the implementing partners in Indonesia to be used for long-term monitoring of this or similar projects. This is primarily equipment to monitor restoration impacts, including biodiversity recovery in reforestation sites and hydrological recovery through peat rewetting, and will be left in place to enable long-term data collection.

Q28. Value for Money

Please describe why you consider your application to be good value for money including justification of why the measures you will adopt will secure value for money.

This project will deliver immediate, measurable conservation outputs for relatively-small expenditure, owing to long-term commitment by partners, a well-rounded theory of change and strong integration with local government and target community stakeholders. Although the area impacted by each separate intervention is necessarily relatively limited, this project prioritises capacity building across multiple stakeholders to deliver a clear upscaling and replication potential.

Costs are calculated based on known values from our extensive previous experience in the area. Comprehensive financial systems are managed by experienced local staff for accurate reporting and expenditure controls. Activities are led by Indonesian staff with the dual benefits of lower salary components compared to UK employees, and of Indonesian capacity building and empowerment. Implementing partners will contribute in-kind support, including office space, meeting rooms, vehicles and equipment.

Field activities, including restoration, sustainable livelihood and social forestry initiatives, do not require land purchase, expensive equipment or substantial infrastructure: all materials and services are sourced locally, with benefits thus channelled to low-income communities. Our past experience is that communities participate willingly and contribute resources because they are highly motivated to prevent fire, which negatively impacts them.

We will use existing research infrastructure and trained personnel for M&E purposes, with continuity of staff and management systems. The project will make use of freely available supporting data including MODIS fires, Global Forest Watch imagery, BRGM spatial information, Indonesian Meteorology Agency pollution, Provincial Health Service and other data sources.

Section 12 - Safeguarding and Ethics

Q29. 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 Partner has the following policies in place and that these can be available on request:

Please upload the lead partner's Safeguarding Policy as a PDF on the certification page.

We have a safeguarding policy, which includes a statement of our commitment to safeguarding and a zero tolerance statement on bullying, harassment and sexual exploitation and abuse	Checked
We have attached a copy of our safeguarding policy to this application (file upload on certification page)	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 share 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 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

Please outline how you will implement your safeguarding policies in practice and ensure that downstream partners apply the same standards as the Lead Partner. Please highlight any key safeguarding risks, including human rights issues, their assessment and measures to mitigate and manage them.

At the start of the project we will review both UoE's and BNF's Safeguarding Policies and relevant Codes ofConduct and Management Standards. Where we identify areas of weakness we will strengthen the policies accordingly.

All team members and participants will be verbally informed of the policies and provided with written copies. All will be made aware of their rights as well as their responsibilities. All will be encouraged to identify any project-specific safeguarding risks that need to be mitigated.

Any issues raised, anonymously or otherwise, at any point, will always be taken seriously and investigated. Safeguarding risk assessments, leading to an action plan to address issues will always follow any report of misconduct.

UoE and BNF are both committed to uphold the highest standards in this regard.

Q30. Ethics

Outline your approach to meeting the key ethical principles, as outlined in the guidance.

UoE, BNF and UPR are committed to following applicable laws and obligations in the UK and Indonesia. BNF's staff regularly liaises with the police, immigration, tax and other local authorities in Kalimantan. All field work is conducted under appropriate permissions from government and village authorities in formal collaborative agreements, according to Indonesian law.

Field activities are managed and led by Indonesian team members, many of whom are recruited from the local communities. They, along with local community partners, will be included in regular project meetings to ensure co-delivery.

Free Prior Informed Consent will be sought for project activities and data gathering from community participants. Information sheets will be prepared in the Indonesian language to facilitate this. Information will be read out and verbal approval sought in instances of limited literacy among participants.

All research activities will be subject to review by the UoE ethics committee and will not commence until approved. We guarantee that all work is carried out without discrimination on the basis of any protected characteristic.

The health and safety of all project participants is paramount. All activities are subject to risk assessments that will be regularly reviewed and updated.

Given the above, there are no specific risks associated with human rights law.

Section 13 - FCDO Notifications

Q31. FCDO Notifications

Please state whether there are sensitivities that the Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office will need to be aware of should they want to publicise the project's success in the Darwin Initiative in any country.

No

Please indicate whether you have contacted FCDO Embassy or High Commission to discuss the project and attach details of any advice you have received from them.

⦿ Yes (no written advice)

Section 14 - Project Staff

Q32. Project staff

Please identify the core staff (identified in the budget), their role and what % of their time they will be working on the project.

Please provide 1-page CVs or job description, further information on who is considered core staff can be found in the Finance Guidance**.**

Name (First name, Surname)	Role	% time on project	1 page CV or job description attached?
Frank van Veen	**Project Leader**	15	Checked
Helen Morrogh-Bernard	Post-doctoral scientist / M&E lead	100	Checked
Juliarta Bramansa Ottay	Project Leader, BNF	10	Checked
Agnes Ferisa	Head of Partnerships, BNF	25	Checked

Do you require more fields?

⦿ Yes

Name (First name, Surname)	Role	% time on project	1 page CV or job description attached?
Adhy Maruly	Head of Sebangau Programme, BNF	100	Checked
Tjatur Setiiyo Basukii	Head of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation, BNF	25	Checked
Tomi Ariyanto	Government and Stakeholder Engagement Officer BNF	25	Checked
Mohamad Burhanudin	Communication Manager BNF	25	Checked
Daniel Refly Katoppo	Habitat Restoration Manager BNF	100	Checked
Lilik Sugiarti	Social Forestry Manager BNF	50	Checked
Darmae Nasir	Project Leader, UPR	10	Checked

Kitso Kusin	Research and Partnerships Coordinator, UPR	20	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.

DIRS2-1022 CVs
28/01/2022
17:31:25
pdf 352.44 KB

Have you attached all project staff CVs?

Yes

Section 15 - Project Partners

Q33. Project partners

Please list all the Project Partners (including the Lead Partner - i.e. the partner who will administer the grant and coordinate the delivery of the project), clearly setting out their roles and responsibilities in the project including the extent of their engagement so far and planned.

This section should demonstrate the capability and capacity of the Project Partners to successfully deliver the project. Please provide Letters of Support for all project partners or explain why this has not been included.

The partners listed here should correspond to the Delivery Chain Risk Map (within the Risk Register template) which you will be asked to submit if your project is recommended for funding.

Lead partner name:	University of Exeter
Website address:	www.exeter.ac.uk

Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):	The UoE team is based at the Centre for Ecology and Conservation (CEC) one of the UK's leading Conservation Science departments in the UK. UoE will take a leading role in project strategy, monitoring and evaluation, and capacity-building components, using their expertise to ensure the project is well-coordinated and delivers lasting positive change in the capacity of all stakeholders. Frank van Veen is Professor of Ecology and Conservation. He joined the CEC in 2009, since when he has maintained a successful and diverse research portfolio with field sites across the globe. He successfully completed Darwin initiative grant 25-001 and leads a large GCRF-funded multidisciplinary consortium, each in collaboration with Borneo Nature Foundation and Indonesian academic and government partners. He will be responsible for the overall management of the project and effective grant management by dedicated staff. Dr Helen Morrogh-Bernard has more than 20 years field work experience in Indonesian Borneo. She joined Dr van Veen's research group in 2015, dedicated to advancing the quality and effectiveness of peatland conservation efforts in Kalimantan She will be responsible for overseeing project activities in Indonesia and in particular enhancing monitoring and evaluation efforts, publishing results and developing the M&E capacity of project partners.
Allocated budget (proportion or value):	[redacted]
Represented on the Project Board	⊙ Yes
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:	Borneo Nature Foundation (Yayasan Borneo Nature Indonesia)
Website address:	www.borneonaturefoundation.org

Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):	The Borneo Nature Foundation (BNF) is the primary implementing partner in Indonesia. BNF is a charitable NGO headquartered in Central Kalimantan. Their mission is to protect and preserve Borneo's rainforest ecosystems, their biodiversity and the many benefits they provide to people. BNF works to achieve this by empowering rural communities, developing sustainable landscape management and delivering research, education, training and community development to support their core habitat protection and restoration goals. Experienced, dedicated teams run programs across three major rainforest landscapes, with a strong local staff base and women in leadership positions throughout. BNF has worked in Sebangau for 20 years, being integral in the creation of the National Park and researching and piloting initiatives for landscape-level peatland restoration. BNF has forged strong links with local communities, co-developing strategies for fire-fighting, reforestation and youth education. BNF will lead all in-country activities described in this proposal, working under formal agreements with the listed local partner institutions to achieve project outcomes. BNF has collaborated with the University of Exeter since 2015, participating in joint research and training expeditions; hosting an international workshop at UoE's Cornwall Campus in 2017 to develop institutional partnerships to undertake this project and successfully implementing Darwin Project 25-001.
Allocated budget:	[redacted]
Represented on the Project Board	⦿ Yes
Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?	⦿ Yes

2. Partner Name:	University of Palangkaraya
Website address:	https://www.upr.ac.id/
Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):	The University of Palangkaraya (UPR) is a state University in the capital of Central Kalimantan province. It hosts a vibrant body of scientists and policy-advisors in the Faculty of Agriculture who are dedicated to understanding the ecology and sustainable management of tropical peatlands. They advise the regional government on peatland conservation and management issues, ensuring that best agricultural management practises for peatlands are adopted by smallholders and companies.They are long-term partners of BNF and a key partner in the UoE-led GCRF consortium. Expert on the local economics of smallholder agriculture on peatlands, Dr Darmae Nasir, is project leader for UPR's role in this project. He has previously coordinated research projects on environmentally- sustainable livelihoods development in peatland regions, studying the effectiveness of different permaculture opportunities, research which will support the implementation of peat-friendly agriculture and aquaculture initiatives by this project. His group are also active in research of fire-suppression techniques in tropical peatland and the use of drones to map the spread of fire, and on peatland hydrological-restoration techniques. UPR will be an implementation and advisory partner, as part of the multi-stakeholder forum and fire-fire alliance initiatives, and supporting the peat-friendly livelihoods activities through research and practical implementation.

Allocated budget:	[redacted]
Represented on the Project Board	⦿ Yes
Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?	⦿ Yes

3. Partner Name:	Ministry of Environment and Forestry (represented by Sebangau National Park Authority)
Website address:	https://www.tnsebangau.com/
Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):	The Ministry of the Environment and Forestry is a key stakeholder to ensure effective delivery of all activities and alignment with national strategy, and BNF maintains regular communication with them. This partnership is represented by the Sebangau National Park Authority (Balai Taman Nasional Sebangau, BTNS) which was established by the Ministry of the Environment and Forestry to manage the Park on its creation in 2004. Its responsibilities are to protect the Park from illegal activities, implement restoration, manage the boundaries, monitor forest and biodiversity, promote the Park and coordinate with communities and other stakeholders to improve the Park's protection. BNF and BTNS signed a formal Memorandum of Understanding in 2019 and agreed a work plan to develop and implement biodiversity monitoring, habitat restoration, fire prevention, education and training and capacity building across all these objectives. This project proposal aligns with and works to deliver these plans and commitments. BTNS is both a partner and beneficiary of this project, working to deliver landscape-wide habitat restoration and fire prevention activities throughout the Park boundaries, engaging in monitoring research and receiving training and coordination support to build their capacity for long-term continuation of these activities after the cessation of this project.
Allocated budget:	[redacted]
Represented on the Project Board	⦿ No
Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?	⦿ Yes

4. Partner Name:	*No Response*
Website address:	*No Response*

Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):	*No Response*
Allocated budget:	£0.00
Represented on the Project Board	◯ Yes ◯ No
Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?	◯ Yes ◯ No

5. Partner Name:	*No Response*
Website address:	*No Response*
Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):	*No Response*
Allocated budget:	£0.00
Represented on the Project Board	◯ Yes ◯ No
Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?	◯ Yes ◯ No

6. Partner Name:	*No Response*
Website address:	*No Response*
Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):	*No Response*
Allocated budget:	£0.00
Represented on the Project Board	○ Yes ○ No
Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?	○ Yes ○ No

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

No Response

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

DIR28-1022 Cover letter
31/01/2022
22:23:25
pdf 109.08 KB

DIR28-1022 letters of support
31/01/2022
20:23:08
pdf 5.26 MB

Section 16 - Lead Partner Capability and Capacity

Q34. Lead Partner Capability and Capacity

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

◉ Yes

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

Reference No	Project Leader	Title

DPLUS133	Sam Weber	Streamlining Ascension Island's Marine Turtle Monitoring Programme for long-term sustainability
DPLUS106	Nicola Weber	A Marine Turtle Action Plan for Montserrat
CV19RR18	Kim Hockings	Reducing transmission of SARS-CoV-2 to African great apes in tourism
26-014	Brendan Godley	Empowering Ivorian coastal communities to conserve biodiversity and secure livelihoods
26-018	Kim Hockings	Promoting public health in a biodiverse agroforest landscape in Guinea-Bissau
25-001	Frank van Veen	Preventing Borneo's peatland fires to protect health, livelihoods and biodiversity

Have you provided the requested signed audited/independently examined accounts?

If yes, please upload these on the certification page. Note that this is not required from Government Agencies.

⦿ Yes

Section 17 - Certification

Q35. Certification

On behalf of the

Company

of

University of Exeter

I apply for a grant of

[redacted]

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 project key project personnel, letters of support, budget, logframe, safeguarding policy 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	Frank van Veen
Position in the organisation	Professor of Ecology and Conservation

Signature (please upload e-signature)	fvv 31/01/2022 20:15:23 png 14.53 KB
Date	31 January 2022

Please attach the requested signed audited/independently examined accounts.

annualreport2019-2020
12/01/2022
12:43:59
pdf 4.56 MB

annualreport2018-2019
12/01/2022
12:43:59
pdf 3.28 MB

Please upload the Lead Partner's Safeguarding Policy as a PDF

Safeguarding Policy
12/01/2022
12:44:21
pdf 424.2 KB

Section 18 - Submission Checklist

Checklist for submission

	Check
I have read the Guidance, including the "Darwin Initiative Guidance**", "**Monitoring Evaluation and Learning Guidance**", "**Risk Guidance**" and "**Financial 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 Project Staff identified at Question 32, including the Project Leader, or provided an explanation of why not.	Checked
I have included a letter of support from the Lead Partner and partner(s) identified at Question 33, or an explanation of why not.	Checked
I have included a cover letter from the Lead Partner, outlining how any feedback received at Stage 1 has been addressed where relevant.	Checked

I have included a copy of the Lead Partner's safeguarding policy, which covers the criteria listed in Question 29.	Checked
I have been in contact with the FCDO 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 Partner, 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 the Darwin Initiative website**.**	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 the application form, including personal data, will be used by Defra as set out in the **Privacy Notice**, available from the Forms and Guidance Portal.

This **Privacy Notice must be provided to all individuals** whose personal data is supplied in the application form. Some information may be used when publicising the Darwin Initiative including project details (usually title, lead partner, project leader, location, and total grant value).