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## **DIR28S2\1093**

### **Sustainable management of wetlands and grasslands: enhancing biodiversity and livelihoods**

Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve IBA harbours 26 globally threatened bird species and important for grassland and wetland dependent bird species. Local communities living close to KTWR are dependent on natural resources for their livelihoods and use natural resources unsustainably. Therefore, this project aims to promote sustainable use of natural resources, reduce threats to wetland and grassland dependent bird species and improve well-being of local communities through involving local communities in sustainable management of these resources and sustainable livelihood enhancement programs.

## PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

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<b>Title</b>	Mrs
<b>Name</b>	Ishana
<b>Surname</b>	Thapa
<b>Organisation</b>	Bird Conservation Nepal
<b>Tel (Work)</b>	[REDACTED]
<b>Email (Work)</b>	[REDACTED]
<b>Address</b>	[REDACTED]
	[REDACTED]
	[REDACTED]
	[REDACTED]

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## Section 1 - Contact Details

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### PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

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Title Mrs  
Name Ishana  
Surname Thapa  
Organisation Bird Conservation Nepal  
Tel (Work) [REDACTED]  
Email (Work) [REDACTED]  
Address [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

### GMS ORGANISATION

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Type Local charity organisation  
Name Bird Conservation Nepal  
Phone (Work) [REDACTED]  
Email (Work) [REDACTED]  
Website [REDACTED]  
Address [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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## Section 2 - Title, Ecosystems, Approaches & Summary

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### Q3. Title:

Sustainable management of wetlands and grasslands: enhancing biodiversity and livelihoods

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

DIR28S1\1583

### 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

Savannas and grasslands

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#### Biome 2

Freshwater (streams, rivers and lakes)

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#### Biome 3

Tropical-subtropical forests

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### Conservation Action 1

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

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### Conservation Action 2

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

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### Conservation Action 3

Education & awareness (incl. training)

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### Threat 1

Biological resource use (hunting, gathering, logging, fishing)

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### Threat 2

Human intrusions & disturbance (recreation, war)

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### Threat 3

Residential & commercial (incl. tourism) development

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## 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.**

Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve IBA harbours 26 globally threatened bird species and important for grassland and wetland dependent bird species. Local communities living close to KTWR are dependent on natural resources for their livelihoods and use natural resources unsustainably. Therefore, this project aims to promote sustainable use of natural resources, reduce threats to wetland and grassland dependent bird species and improve well-being of local communities through involving local communities in sustainable management of these resources and sustainable livelihood enhancement programs.

## Section 3 - Title, Dates & Budget Summary

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### 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** Nepal  
**1**

**Country** *No Response*  
**2**

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

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

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**Do you require more fields?**

No

## Q7. Project dates

**Start date:**

01 June 2022

**End date:**

31 March 2025

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


2 years, 10 months

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## Q8. Budget summary

Year:	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	Total request
<b>Amount:</b>	£79,024.00	£78,568.00	£75,259.00	<b>£</b> 232,851.00

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

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**Q10a. Do you have matched funding arrangements?**

Yes

**What matched funding arrangements are proposed?**

Taiwan Forestry Bureau has provided support to conduct Bengal Florican survey in the project site. Toyota Green Fund has donated Toyota Hilux vehicle for IUCN red list species research and conservation work. Danida funded People Partner with Nature program will contribute to some of the staff cost. Thus, time of three BCN staffs (advocacy, communication and research), use of BCN vehicle, office space and facilities, and audit expenses will be in-kind supports to the project by Bird Conservation Nepal.

**Q10b. Total confirmed & unconfirmed matched funding (£)** 

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**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?**

*No Response*

## Section 4 - Problem statement

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**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).**

Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (KTWR) of Nepal was declared Nepal's first Ramsar site in 1987 and is an Important Bird and Biodiversity Area (IBA). KTWR is considered one of the most important wetlands for migratory as well as resident bird species in Asia. A total of 526 bird species has been recorded in the area out of which 26 are globally threatened species. Wetlands and grasslands constitutes major area of KTWR. The wetlands, that includes oxbow lakes, submerged areas,

manmade ponds with seepage water, marsh lands are crucial feeding and breeding habitat for a number of resident and migratory birds, mammals, fishes and invertebrates. The total number of migratory water birds has dropped from around 50,000 in 1990s to less than 5000 in 2021. The highest and almost last remaining population of critically endangered Bengal Florican is found in the Sachharum species dominated short grassland area of the Reserve. A total of 14,865 households with 84,423 individuals live in KTWR buffer zone. Local livelihoods in the KTWR buffer zone are based on fisheries, farming, animal husbandry, wage and salaried labour, and remittances. The majority of people living in the buffer zone are poor, and thus are more dependent on the ecosystem for fuelwood, thatch grass, timber, grasses, fish and typha plant and current resource use in and around KTWR is unsustainable. According to the management plan of KTWR (2018-2022), feral cattle and livestock grazing in the reserve pose constant threat to wildlife conservation including illegal fishing, collection of wild harvested goods as well as causing human wildlife conflict. The project aims to reduce pressure on natural resources of KTWR ultimately reducing threats to threatened birds through regularly monitoring of populations and threats, sustainable use of natural resources, improved management and restoration of wetlands and grasslands. Engagement of local communities in diverse livelihood schemes; providing fish ponds to the local communities who solely depend on fishing; awareness, advocacy and trainings on sustainable harvesting of natural resources to conserve threatened birds as well as regular monitoring of threats in KTWR will contribute sustainable use of natural resources, reduce pressure in aquatic and grassland ecosystem and benefit threatened bird species. Moreover, the project aims to improve well-being of local communities through sustainable use of wetlands and grasslands; nature-based income generation activities and empowering women and indigenous people in project area.

## Section 5 - Darwin Objectives and Conventions

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### 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)
- Ramsar Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar)
- 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.**

The project aims to support the implementation of KTWR management Plan (2018-2022) through improved management and restoration of wetlands and grasslands and halting decline of threatened bird populations in KTWR and its buffer zone. The project will contribute to the CBD objectives and Aichi Biodiversity targets through sustainable use and management of wetland and grassland ecosystem, reducing direct pressure on wetland and grassland dependent bird species and improving their population status and capacity building of local communities to monitor threats and population of threatened birds and manage wetlands and grasslands. For the management of wetland biodiversity NBSAP has set out one of its strategy (WB Strategy C) as enhancement of wetland biodiversity-livelihood linkages and the project aims to contribute this through creation of wetland-based sustainable livelihood options to the local communities in KTWR. The project will contribute to achieve the targets 2,3 5 and 9 of draft Post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework through following activities:

Target 2,3- Community involvement in effective and equitable management and restoration of grasslands and wetlands in KTWR.

Target 5- Sustainable use of grassland and wetlands resources in KTWR.

Target 9- Benefits through sustainable use of wetlands and grasslands provided to most vulnerable local communities in KTWR.

Similarly, the project's contribution in achieving SDGs and targets are:

Target 1,2 – generation of additional income to local communities and access to good for poor and marginalized communities from the one household one fish pond program.

Target 5- women empowerment through women entrepreneurship and women-led cooperatives.

Target 8,10- financial vulnerability reduced through women-led cooperatives and income generation activities.

Target 12- improved management of wetlands and restoration of grasslands in buffer zone of KTWR reduces human-wildlife conflicts and reduce pressure over the resources in KTWR.

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

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### 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.).

We have been following the evidence and lesson learnt from two projects having similar scope of work- grassland and wetland management for well-being of local communities which were carried out in Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve in 2006-2009 (DI 15-014) and carried out in Suklaphanta National Park in 2015-2018 (DI 22-009). Various efforts have been carried out worldwide to manage wetlands for the well-being of communities as well as to safeguard threatened bird species. Benefit sharing mechanism is one of the aspect that needs to be considered while implementing livelihood support projects. One household one fish pond program as well as sustainable harvesting mechanism in this project has been proposed based on the lesson learnt from the project (DI 15-014). The project provided fish ponds to the Malaha community (an indigenous fishing people) solely depend on capturing fish from the river, which is their only source of income and the communities have been sustainably earning from fish farming reducing pressure on the river ecosystem. Similarly, institutionalizing the activities performed by local communities for the well-being of themselves as well as for the threatened bird species is important for the sustainability of conservation works. Establishment of new women-led cooperatives, community-managed grasslands sitting under the umbrella of buffer zone management committee have been proposed based on the lesson learnt from the project (DI 22-009). Cooperatives in Nepal are believed to better utilize the income of rural communities as well as build better social relationships and understanding.

For efficient and effective implementation of the project, a field office will be set up at KTWR, two full time staffs (one Project Officer and one Project Assistant) will be recruited. Project Leader and Project Manager will coordinate the project implementation at central level and visit the project sites frequently. Project Manager will coordinate overall implementation, manage project data collected from project site, prepare timely reports for the projects and prepare journal articles for publication. Finance and Admin Head at BCN will implement safety procedures during project execution, prepare financial plans and keep financial records of the project. Participatory annual planning done in collaboration with project partners and local stakeholders and implementation of project done according to the agreed plan.

Following the standard monitoring methods, annual monitoring of globally and nationally threatened habitat specialist species: Bengal Florican (CR), Yellow-breasted Bunting (CR), Lesser Adjutant (EN), Palla's Fish Eagle (EN), Bristled Grassbird (VU), Swamp Florican (VU), Grey-crowned Prinia (VU), Grey-headed Fish Eagle (CR), Indian Courser (EN), Northern Pintail (EN), Cotton Pygmy Goose (VU) and Short-eared Owl (VU) will be done during the project period. In addition, the annual migratory water bird census will be conducted with more capacity.

Coordination and collaboration with Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve, Buffer zone management committee, local government, Alternative Energy Promotion Centre (British Embassy has NREP program with AEPC for collaboration) and local communities done to identify and select households to support livelihood program and supports are provided to local communities to enhance their livelihood activities that they had already been practicing to maximize local ownership and accountability to manage operations. Basically local communities will be benefitted through one household- one fish pond program (500 HHs), management of grasslands and natural wetlands (2000 HHs), use of alternative energy (Biogas/ Improved cooking stoves/e-cooking) and supports on stall feeding (grass cutting machines) (500 HHs) and through women entrepreneurship (100 HHs).

Two grassland each of >100 hectares will be restored in buffer zone of KTWR through clearing shrubs and trees with the supports from local communities and left for grasses to grow naturally restricting grazing of domestic animals in the restored grasslands. Every year, the grasses are harvested and the area cleared for new grasses to grow. Local communities will be benefitted through grass harvested from restored grassland. Similarly, cleaning of invasive weeds such as water hyacinth and removal of silt deposition done in natural wetlands (at least 300 hectares) and are left

undisturbed to benefit wetland dependent birds. Local communities are provided with various options for making their livelihood such as fish pond and local cooperatives as well as a provision made in their plan to harvest fish from restored wetlands and share the benefit from harvesting to local communities. The project will support grassland and wetland management committees to develop their own plan which includes plans starting from restoration of grasslands and wetlands and their long-term operation. Though the existing management plan of KTWR includes restoration and conservation of grasslands and wetlands and plans to involve local communities, it doesn't specify specific plans of local communities.

## **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.**

The project primarily aims to restore wetlands and grasslands in the buffer zone of KTWR, improve management of wetlands and grasslands inside the reserve in order to create safe habitats for threatened birds. The project plans to enhance capacity of local conservation organizations and groups, local youths, local government as well as KTWR staffs. Trainings on monitoring of populations and threats of threatened birds will be provided to reserve game scouts, buffer zone community forest guards, representatives from buffer zone community forests, local conservation organizations, university students and local youths. Trainings on restoration and management of wetlands and grasslands provided to local conservation groups, buffer zone management committee members, buffer zone community forest user committee members, women and indigenous people in the project area. Similarly, local women are also trained on co-operatives and entrepreneurship. Local communities including women and indigenous people will also be trained on aquaculture to establish and run fish ponds and sustainable use of natural resources including sustainable fishing. Ensuring adequate capacity at community level is critical to establish long-term and sustainable grass roots support for conservation of natural resources and is great asset for the country. Building capacity of KTWR staffs, buffer zone management committees, buffer zone community forest user committees, local conservation groups, university students and local youths on monitoring populations and threats to threatened birds, sustainable use of natural resources including sustainable fishing, restoration and management of grasslands and wetlands will have longer positive impacts on conservation of threatened bird species in KTWR. It is anticipated that the trained personnel will continue using their skills for the conservation of threatened birds with minimal technical support from BCN beyond the project period too.

## **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.**

The project will improve women's position in management as well as sustainable use of grasslands and wetlands in buffer zone of KTWR. The project focuses on reducing local communities' time in collecting natural resources and engaging them to generate income through nature based income generation activities and it is anticipated that 60% beneficiaries benefitting from the sustainable use of grasslands and wetlands will be women. Moreover, development of women entrepreneurship and establishment of women-led cooperatives contribute in women empowerment creating an opportunity to generate income, make savings, mobilize cooperative funds and make decisions. It is also believed to reduce human-wildlife conflict in KTWR which benefits women more as they are more vulnerable due to their involvement in harvesting wild goods.

## **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?**

Conservation of threatened birds while maintaining safe habitats for them is the prime objective of the project. The anthropogenic activities that have been doing harm to the ecosystem are poverty driven in case of KTWR as local communities are based on natural resources from the reserve for their living. The project aims to raise these biodiversity-



poverty issues with KTWR authorities, local government, buffer zone user committees and users, buffer zone community forest user committees and users, local conservation groups, university students and local youths through meetings, awareness trainings, distribution of leaflets highlighting the urgent need of conservation of threatened bird species and their habitats and through radio programs.

The project will also engage in marking international days like world wetland day, world environment day and welcome to the birds.

The project activities and findings are made available to wider audience through BCN website, social media and through articles on daily national newspapers. Key findings of the project as well as lesson learnt are made available to the wider audience through journal articles. Furthermore, the project will also share the project findings through policy dialogue at national level.

## **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 project will involve KTWR authorities, buffer zone management committee and representatives from local government to prepare annual plan of the project implementation so as to maximize the results of the project as well as sustain the positive outcomes of the project. The project provides opportunities to buffer zone users including women, indigenous people and local youths to enhance their livelihoods through sustainable management of grasslands and wetlands while benefitting threatened bird species in KTWR.

The expected changes that the project will bring are:

Happening of regular annual monitoring of threatened wetland and grassland bird species and their threats till the project period and continue as regular activity beyond the project period too.

KTWR game scouts (20) and buffer zone community forest guards/representatives from buffer zone community forest user committees (50) will be trained on monitoring of threatened wetland and grassland bird species and their threats.

Grassland and wetland management plans developed.

KTWR staffs (10), buffer zone community forest user committee members (50), local conservation group/NGOs members (50) and university students (20) trained on managing natural wetlands and grasslands.

Natural wetlands (300 hectare) and grasslands (200 hectare) restored, managed by local communities and resources from the restored wetlands and grasslands used sustainably by local communities (beneficiaries 2000 households) so as to benefit threatened birds.

Local poor communities including indigenous wetland dependent communities are benefitted through trainings and one household one fish pond program (500 households including 250 indigenous fishing tribes' households), use of alternative energy source (Biogas/ Improved Cooking Stoves/e-cooking) and supports on stall feeding (500 households), trainings on women entrepreneurship (handicrafts making) and establishment of three women-led cooperatives (100 women). These livelihood support program will contribute to increase at least 50% of annual income of 5500 households and the communities benefitted will contribute in sustainable use of natural resources including sustainable fishing and reduce pressure in KTWR benefiting threatened bird species as well as grassland and aquatic ecosystem in KTWR.

## **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 local communities residing close to KTWR are highly dependent on natural resources of the reserve for their living. Local communities practice cattle rearing, farming and fishing for making their livelihoods. We plan to provide trainings to local communities on sustainable use of natural resources, provide opportunities of livelihood supports through fish ponds, entrepreneurship trainings and restoration of wetlands and grasslands in buffer zone prioritizing poor, indigenous people and women. Additionally, supports are provided to use biogas/improved cooking stoves and practice stall feeding to their animals. Poor, indigenous people and women are key users of natural resources from the reserve and are mostly

benefitted through the project. Availability of livelihood support in their own homes or in buffer zone, engagement with income-generation activities, provision of biogas/improved cooking stoves which consumes less firewood or dried animal dung, promotion and supports for stall feeding of their animals and conservation message from trainings will lower human pressure as well as grazing pressure inside the reserve which will benefit grassland as well as wetland habitats inside the park. Moreover, effective management of restored grassland as well as wetlands in the buffer zone will benefit both local communities and threatened birds and their habitats.

## 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?**

The development of the project has been done to leave the self-sustaining system beyond the project period. The project activities involve the components of capacity building of local institutions such as local conservation organizations, buffer zone user committees, buffer zone community forest user committees and establish few long term committees such as wetland management committee, grassland management committee, women cooperatives and they are capacitated. The restoration of grasslands and wetlands in buffer zone of KTWR and responsibility of management provided to local communities established new management committees sitting under umbrella of buffer zone user committees will continue the sustainable management of grasslands and wetlands benefitting both local communities and threatened bird species and their habitats beyond the project period too. The project will provide trainings on sustainable use of natural resources including sustainable fishing as well as aquaculture and this will remain with local communities and they are believed to use the skills gained beyond the project period too. Similarly, the project provides capacity building trainings on monitoring of threatened birds’ population and their threats to KTWR staffs, forest guards/buffer zone community forest user committee members in monitoring of population as well as threats to threatened birds so that monitoring of threatened birds and their threats will continue beyond the project period too with minimal technical supports from BCN. The successful approaches of contribution towards conservation of threatened birds and their habitats and reduction of poverty in the project site will be shared through national newspaper articles, BCN website, social media and journal article. BCN along with project partners and other conservation organizations in Nepal and in other place of globe will replicate the successful approaches in implementation of other conservation-poverty reduction projects.

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

*No Response*

## Section 7 - Risk Management

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### 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
<b>Fiduciary</b> There is a risk that project stakeholders might tend to receive personal benefits from the project	minor	possible	moderate	Attempts are made to make the project activities fair and transparent	minor

<b>Safeguarding</b> There is a risk that surveyors might be attacked by wildlife inside Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve during annual population monitoring surveys of threatened birds	major	possible	major	All safety measures are followed and surveys inside the reserve done in group of more than five people	minor
<b>Delivery Chain</b> There is a risk that project staff might leave organization during the project period	major	possible	major	Project plans and strategy shared among the project staffs and implemented in a participatory way in order to fulfil the gap by other team members and guide new team members if any team member leaves	moderate
<b>Risk 4</b> There is a risk that travel restriction due to pandemic might obstruct staff movement hindering the project activities	moderate	likely	major	Attempts are made to do online communications with project stakeholders and postpone the activities that are not possible without physical movements	major
<b>Risk 5</b> There is a risk that local communities might not actively participate in awareness events or capacity building trainings	moderate	unlikely	moderate	Regular communication with local communities done, build rapport within the communities and motivate communities to the conservation work	minor
<b>Risk 6</b> There is a risk that local communities might not share the benefits from grasslands and wetlands equally	moderate	possible	major	Participatory management plans developed including equal benefit sharing mechanism and shared among stakeholders, practice equal sharing mechanism during the project period	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-Darwin Implementation Time table 28 January 2](#)

[022](#)

 31/01/2022

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## Section 9 - Monitoring and Evaluation

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### 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](#)).**

Monitoring and evaluation are the integral part of the project. Social Welfare Council as a government body in Nepal monitors the project performance and BCN has set up a system to externally evaluate performance of the projects and financial audit of the project in order to maximize the efficiency as well as outputs of every projects. The measurable indicators in the log frame are the major basis for the monitoring and evaluation.

A central level evaluation and monitoring committee will be formed in the leadership of Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation (DNPWC) which includes representatives from BCN, Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve and KTWR buffer zone council. The committee will monitor the project yearly and evaluates the project at the end of the project on the basis of indicators as well as process of project implementation. Project leader will organize annual meetings and Project Manager will report to the Project Leader and the evaluation and monitoring committee.

Project Manager and field staffs collect timely data of project implementation and monitor the project implementation regularly on the basis of implementation timeline in every six months.

Key elements of M&E are as follows:

Output 1: Number of cattle grazing in KTWR decreased by year 3 on the baseline data of year1; improved management of wetlands and grasslands takes place inside the reserve and population of threatened bird species in the KTWR stops declining.

Output 2: Local communities lead the restoration of wetlands (at least 300 hectares) and grasslands takes place in buffer zone of the KTWR (at least 200 hectares) and management plans for managing the restored wetlands and grassland for the conservation of threatened birds are in place and management works are progressing according to the management plan.

Output 3: One fish one pond program initiated and at least 500 households are benefitted through the program; 2000 households are benefitted through the restoration of wetlands and grasslands; 500 households benefitted through use of alternative energy (improved cooking stoves) and stall feeding promotion supports; 100 women benefitted through women entrepreneurship program. At least 50% of annual income of 3100 households in the project area increased by year3 (against 1year baseline).

Output 4: 300 individuals out of 380 individuals taking licence for fishing practice sustainable fishing (use fishing methods to leave young fishes so that fish stock is not depleted in rivers and wetlands) in KTWR by year 3 and number of representation from women and indigenous people in local organizations committee increased by 20% by year 3 (baseline of year1).

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



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

█

Number of days planned for M&E

90

## 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.**

 [Logical Framework Darwin 27 January 2022](#)  
 31/01/2022  
 18:10:12  
 pdf 142.99 KB

#### Impact:

Grassland and Wetland ecosystem are protected and restored in KTWR with populations of grassland and wetland dependent bird species remaining stable and poverty of local communities alleviated.

#### Outcome:

Sustainable use of grasslands and wetlands with reduced threats for the populations of grassland and wetland dependent bird species contributing well-being of 5500 households.

### Project Outputs

#### Output 1:

Threats to threatened bird species in Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve and its buffer zone reduced through improved management of grassland and wetlands inside the reserve; restoring grasslands and restoring wetlands in buffer zone area.

#### Output 2:

Capability and capacity of KTWR staffs, buffer zone community forest user committee members, local conservation group/NGOs members, university students on managing grassland and wetland for creating safer habitats enhanced.

#### Output 3:

Sustainable livelihood enhancement program in place to support local communities' well-being as for example one household one fish pond program, women entrepreneurship, community-managed grasslands and wetlands.

#### Output 4:

Sustainable use of natural resources promoted through involvement of women, indigenous people and local communities in decision-making processes.

#### 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 Organize three annual planning workshops with KTWR management authorities, Buffer zone management committee members, Buffer zone community forest user committee members and representatives from local conservation groups in the project site.
- 1.2 Hold project start-up as well as regular meetings with relevant local stakeholders to discuss on achieving project objectives.
- 1.3 Establish BCN Field Office close to KTWR office and operation till the project ends.
- 1.4 Recruit two project field staffs for the execution of the project in Field Office.
- 1.5 Carry out trainings on monitoring of population and threats to threatened bird species to KTWR staffs, forest guards and buffer zone users.
- 1.6 Conduct participatory monitoring of globally threatened and nationally threatened bird species namely Bengal Florican, Yellow-breasted Bunting, Lesser Adjutant, Palla's Fish Eagle, Bristled Grassbird, Swamp Francolin, Grey-crowned Prinia, Grey-headed Fish Eagle, Indian Courser, Northern Pintail, Cotton Pygmy Goose and Short-eared Owl and their threats based on approved methodology annually.
- 1.7 Carry out awareness events, produce and distribute conservation leaflets and run radio programs on importance of biodiversity and reducing threats to threatened birds in KTWR among local communities.
- 1.8 Write-up and publish two research articles on i) population monitoring of threatened birds and ii) threats to threatened birds in peer-reviewed journal.
- 2.1 Carry out capacity building trainings to KTWR staffs, buffer zone users and local conservation groups on management of wetlands and grasslands.
- 2.2 Engage two M.Sc. students to study on wetland and grassland dependent birds and their threats.
- 2.3 Carry out workshops to develop participatory management plans and restoring grasslands and natural wetlands and develop management plans.
- 2.4 Identify areas suitable for restoration of grasslands and wetlands in buffer zone of KTWR.
- 2.5 Restoration of natural wetlands and grasslands (at least 2 of >100 hectares) in buffer zone of KTWR.
- 2.6 Formation of a fully representative committee sitting under buffer zone user committee to manage the grasslands restored.
- 2.7 Formation of a fully representative committee sitting under buffer zone user committee to manage the wetlands restored.
- 2.8 Carry out observation tours for representatives from local government, buffer zone, community forest user groups, local conservation groups and local youth groups to demonstrate community managed grasslands and community managed biodiversity conservation initiatives.
- 3.1 Carry out trainings to local communities on aquaculture to establish fish pond in their homes (500 individuals including indigenous fishing tribes).
- 3.2 Prioritize households based on the wealth ranking from the socio-economic survey as well as on the basis of indigenous fishing tribes for providing supports to enhance their livelihoods.
- 3.3 Initiate one household one fish pond program (for at least 500 households including 250 households of indigenous fishing tribes) in the project area.
- 3.4 Carry out Socio-economic survey in year 1 at start of the project and in year 3 towards the end of the project. (M and E)
- 3.5 Carry out familiarization visits to build rapport as well as understand the socio-economic processes in the project area.
- 3.6 Carry out trainings on women entrepreneurship and co-operatives.
- 3.7 Initiate alternative energy program (supports to install biogas plant/improved cooking stove) and promote stall feeding with supporting hand machines to cut grasses in their home in project area.
- 3.8 Establish three women-led cooperatives and support them with initial seed fund.
- 3.9 Organize observation tours to women-led cooperative members to demonstrate functioning of best women run cooperatives.
- 4.1 Carry out sensitization workshops to local women and indigenous people on role of women and indigenous people in natural resource management.
- 4.2 Carry out trainings on sustainable fishing techniques and sustainable harvesting of all other natural resources to

fishing license holders and local communities visiting the reserve frequently.

4.3 Carry out community workshops to local communities' leaders, members of buffer zone user committees and members of buffer zone community forest user committees on sustainable fishing and sustainable use of natural resources.

4.4 Organize observation tours to women and indigenous people of the project area to community managed important conservation areas.

4.5 Carry out trainings to Buffer zone user committee and buffer zone community forest user committee members to integrate sustainable use of natural resources and conservation of threatened birds in operation plans of buffer zone community forests.

4.6 Work with Buffer Zone Community Forest User Committees to revise their operational plans including sustainable use of natural resources and conservation of threatened birds.

4.7 Carry out surveys on fish stocks in Koshi river in year 1 at the start of the project and in year 3 towards the end of the project. (M and E)

4.8 Based on the local level practice, make recommendations to wildlife reserve authorities on reducing collection of natural resources from the reserve.

## Section 11 - Budget and Funding

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### 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.**

 [Budget-over-£100k-Dec21-updated BCN 30 January 2022](#)  
 31/01/2022  
 18:18:28  
 xlsx 77.52 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.**

BCN has established a financial system in which two signatories are required (one from staff and one from executive committee) for any transactions or financial decisions to minimize financial risk from fraud, bribery or corruption. Project activities are reassessed and necessary change requests are made if significant fluctuations occur in foreign exchange rates. Since our all Purchase / Income / Expenditures / Liabilities are in local currency we have no significant risk of fluctuating foreign exchange rates. Consequently, we did not have any Hedging strategy. The project will follow the BCN Policies i.e. Financial Policy / Administration (Procurement) Policy / Human Resource Policy as well as project document

during execution of the project. Therefore, there is no Procurement or recruitment delays. Generally Accepted Accounting Practices is applied. Our filling process starts from Voucher, Journal and then Ledger. Our Accounting System accurately records all financial transactions, and ensures that these transactions are supported by Invoices/bills, receipts and other supporting documents as required. BCN Accountant will keep the systematic details of each and every expenditure occurred in the financial software during project implementation and audited annually.

## 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 project build on the past project executed in KTWR in 2006-2009 (DI 15-014). The project assisted local communities in managing buffer zone wetlands for sustainable livelihoods benefitting wetland biodiversity and reducing the pressure on resources within KTWR.

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

No

## 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.**

Project's budget for capital items is about 3% of total project budget. The capital budget that the project plans to purchase are: one electric bike and one electric scooter, two laptops, one camera and one printer/scanner for field office at Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve. These capital items will remain at BCN and will be used by other projects of BCN after the project ends.

## 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.**

Bird Conservation Nepal has accomplished numerous successful conservation projects in Nepal and has experience with cost effective ways of delivering successful conservation projects which we are trying to implement in this project as well. Thus the budget calculated are based on our prior experience of project implementation from various projects of BCN, current market and field assessments. Field office will be set up in the project site for the efficient and effective use resources reducing travel time of staffs from BCN to project site. Salaries of three BCN staffs, use of central office space and consumables, use of BCN vehicle and annual audit costs are in-kind supports of BCN.

The project plans to enhance skills and knowledge of local communities and institutions on managing wetlands and grasslands for the conservation of threatened birds so that conservation works would continue in future and is a very good value for money. We believe that the capacity enhancement of these people and organizations definitely will have longer positive impacts towards the conservation of threatened bird species and their habitats. The engagements of local communities in project implementation contributes in minimizing the cost as well as increase efficiency of the project. Moreover, the project aims to benefit around 5500 households residing in buffer zone of KTWR through wetland and grassland management, use of alternative energy sources, stall feeding, women cooperatives and entrepreneurships which will contribute in poverty reduction of the poor local residents in the project area.

## Section 12 - Safeguarding and Ethics

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### 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.**

<b>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</b>	Checked
<b>We have attached a copy of our safeguarding policy to this application (file upload on certification page)</b>	Checked
<b>We keep a detailed register of safeguarding issues raised and how they were dealt with</b>	Checked
<b>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</b>	Checked
<b>We share our safeguarding policy with downstream partners</b>	Checked
<b>We have a whistle-blowing policy which protects whistle blowers from reprisals and includes clear processes for dealing with concerns raised</b>	Checked
<b>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</b>	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.**

BCN's staff are bind to follow the safeguarding policy along with other policies through the staff contract. All the new staff are given induction on the safeguarding policy at the time of joining the organizing. We have a lead person for the safeguarding who the staff should report for any incident.  
BCN has made mandatory for all its local partners to have safeguarding policy to go into any MoU or contracts and ensure its good practice while implementing the MoU or contract.

### **Q30. Ethics**

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

The project will be implemented in the project area following all the legal as well as ethical procedures and values in Nepal as well as Defra's key principles for ethics. BCN has been working in Nepal for the conservation of birds and their habitats since 39 years meeting all legal and ethical obligations with an excellent track record of working principles and we do follow experience from past projects regarding legal and ethical considerations in Nepal. We will seek written free prior informed consent (FPIC) while working with local communities and respect local social values and norms in the project area. It is ensured that the target communities will get meaningful gains from the project without any negative impacts on local communities.

The project will respect social norms and values, rights of local communities and value indigenous and traditional knowledge during execution of project activities.

The project staffs along with other involved in project execution will follow high standards of health and safety procedures during the project implementation.

## Section 13 - FCDO Notifications

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### 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, advice attached

Please attach details of any advice you have received.

 [FCO feedback](#)

 31/01/2022

 18:34:33

 pdf 892.52 KB

## Section 14 - Project Staff

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### 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?
Ishana Thapa	Project Leader	15	Checked
Khadananda Paudel	Project Manager	40	Checked
No Response	Project Officer	100	Checked
No Response	Project Assistant	100	Checked

Do you require more fields?





Yes

Name (First name, Surname)	Role	% time on project	1 page CV or job description attached?
Pratikchha Srivastava	Head of Finance and Admin	30	Checked

No Response	No Response	0	Unchecked
No Response	No Response	0	Unchecked
No Response	No Response	0	Unchecked
No Response	No Response	0	Unchecked
No Response	No Response	0	Unchecked
No Response	No Response	0	Unchecked
No Response	No Response	0	Unchecked

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

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

 Combined CV darwin project 28 January 2022  
 31/01/2022  
 18:41:52  
 pdf 790.67 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.**

<b>Lead partner name:</b>	Bird Conservation Nepal
<b>Website address:</b>	www.birdlifeneal.org
<b>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):</b>	Bird Conservation Nepal (BCN), BirdLife International partner is the leading organization in Nepal, focusing on conservation of birds, their habitats and sites. It has impressive experiences on successful implementation of many projects related to biodiversity, ecosystem services and livelihood like "Integrating Livelihood and Conservation: People Partner with Nature", "Understanding, Assessing and Monitoring of ecosystem services for better biodiversity conservation". BCN will be responsible for overall administration and delivery of the project in coordination with stakeholders, provide necessary trainings and carry out research and monitoring activities.

Allocated budget (proportion or value): ██████████

---

Represented on the Project Board  Yes

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

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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:** Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (KTWR)

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**Website address:** <https://koshitappu.gov.np/>

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**Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):** (Max 200 words)  
Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve office is the main government authority responsible for the overall management of KTWR. KTWR was established in 1976 with the aim of conserving Wild Water Buffalo, providing refuge to migratory birds and sustaining wise use of wetlands. Koshi Tappu was declared a Ramsar site, a wetland of international significance in 1987. KTWR has been implementing numerous activities for the conservation of birds and their habitats in partnership with BCN including conservation of Bengal Florican and wetland birds in KTWR. KTWR office will ensure administrative collaborations, permissions for the proper implementation of the project and technical assistance.

---

**Allocated budget:** ██████████

---

Represented on the Project Board  Yes

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

---

**2. Partner Name:** Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve Buffer Zone Management Committee

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**Website address:** *No Response*

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

(Max 200 words)

Buffer Zone was declared in Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve in 2004 which covers an Area of 173 sq. km. Buffer Zone Management Committee (BZMC) is the apex body of buffer zone institution. There are 469 buffer zone user groups, 9 buffer zone user committees and 1 buffer zone management committee for planning and implementation of buffer zone programs. BZMC has been working in partnership with BCN for the conservation of birds and their habitats in Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve through various bird conservation projects. Buffer zone management committee will support in restoration of wetlands and grasslands; in enhancing capacities of buffer zone users and buffer zone community forest users on monitoring populations and threats of threatened birds and in sustainable livelihood enhancement program.

**Allocated budget:**

██████████

**Represented on the Project Board**

Yes

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

Yes

**3. 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

**4. Partner Name:**

*No Response*

**Website address:**

*No Response*

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

---

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

---

**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

---

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**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.**

 [BCN cover letter](#)

 31/01/2022

 18:53:33

 pdf 748.53 KB

## Section 16 - Lead Partner Capability and Capacity

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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)?**

No

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

**What year was your organisation established/ incorporated/ registered?** 01 January 1982

---

**What is the legal status of your organisation?**  NGO

---

**How is your organisation currently funded?** Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB), UK has been supporting with the core operating funds of BCN. Besides these, various projects on conservation of birds and their habitats have been supported by RSPB, BirdLife International, BirdLife Denmark and DAI: International Development.

---

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

**Aims** Bird Conservation Nepal (BCN) is dedicated to the conservation of birds, their habitats in harmony with the people. We focus on establishing sustainable livelihoods with local stakeholders through judicious use and restoration of natural resources to protect bird, biodiversity and ecosystem.

---

**Activities** BCN activities focused on conservation of species and habitat through people's participation and support in livelihood activities. Additionally, regularly updating the status of Nepal's birds and safeguarding Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas. Also, awareness and advocacy with government and concerned organisation.

---

**Achievements** Conservation of critically endangered Vultures in Nepal with population recovery of threatened White-rumped vulture and recently Nepal has been declared as world's first Vulture Safe Zone. The biodiversity and ecosystem services chapter has integrated in operational plan of more than 200 community forests with strong advocacy.

---

**Provide details of 3 contracts/projects held by the lead partner 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** Vulture Conservation Program

---

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

---

**Duration (e.g. 2 years 3 months)** One Year (January 2021 to December 2021)

---



<b>Role of organisation in project</b>	Bird Conservation Nepal vulture conservation activities incorporate a range of actions including overseeing support to the Conservation Breeding Programme, release activities, tracking of tagged captive and wild vultures and the Vulture Safe Zone activities as well as other awareness and advocacy work throughout Nepal.
<b>Brief summary of the aims, objectives and outcomes of the project</b>	The aim of the project is to contribute to the recovery of the vulture population in Nepal. The Overall Objective is to evaluate the safety of Nepal's Vulture Safe Zone, vulture conservation breeding program, release them with satellite tag and monitoring of tagged birds, Vulture nest colony monitoring, pharmacy survey and awareness/advocacy. The outcome of the project is to validate the Vulture safe zone, restore and maintain the viable wild vulture population in Nepal.
<b>Client/independent reference contact details (Name, e-mail)</b>	Chris Bowden SAVE programme Manager Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) [REDACTED]
<b>Contract/Project 2 Title</b>	Integrating Livelihoods and Conservation – People Partner with Nature for Sustainable Living (PPN) Phase III
<b>Contract Value/Project budget (include currency)</b>	[REDACTED]
<b>Duration (e.g. 2 years, 3 months)</b>	4 years (January 2022-December 2025)
<b>Role of organisation in project</b>	The organization focuses on programme management, sharing of knowledge, and partner capacity to work strategically with the integration of conservation, livelihoods and human well-being. The organization emphasizes on building capacity, independency, networking skills and engagement through training, facilitation and exposure to civil society groups and local conservation groups.
<b>Brief summary of the aims, objectives and outcomes of the project</b>	The overall Objective of the Programme is to 'Reduce the destruction of forested IBAs and contribute to the realisation of best participatory forest management practices for the benefit of all'. The outcome of the project refers to achieve improved management of natural resources, especially forested 'Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas', on which local livelihoods depend for food, fuel, etc. and for critical ecosystem services, such as water, soil conservation and reduced vulnerability to natural disasters such as landslides, and climate changes.
<b>Client/independent reference contact details (Name, e-mail)</b>	DANIDA / CISU - Dansk Ornitologisk Forening (DOF)  Reference Contact: Thomas Lehmborg, International Program Manager Dansk Ornitologisk Forening (DOF) / BirdLife Denmark [REDACTED]
<b>Contract/Project 3 Title</b>	Biodiversity Conservation through Community Mobilisation and Building Sustainable Livelihoods in selected Important Birds Area (IBAs) in Nepal

<b>Contract Value/Project budget (include currency)</b>	[REDACTED]
<b>Duration (e.g. 2 years, 3 months)</b>	11 months (1 June 2018 to 30 April 2019)
<b>Role of organisation in project</b>	The organization focuses to empower poor, rural communities to conserve biodiversity and manage ecosystem services for sustainable livelihoods. In addition, emphasized on LCG strengthening at the focal sites, and support LCG network nationally and created opportunities for local people living in or around 3 IBAs in Nepal.
<b>Brief summary of the aims, objectives and outcomes of the project</b>	The overall objective is to empower local conservation groups(LCGs) for biodiversity conservation and sustainable livelihood in Important bird and biodiversity areas and mainstream biodiversity and ecosystem services in community forest and protected area plan. The outcome of the project includes involving LCGs in diversifying sustainable livelihood to decrease the pressure on the natural resources, awareness, fund raising, planning of sustainable community enterprises, database maintenance, branding and marketing of IBA.
<b>Client/independent reference contact details (Name, e-mail)</b>	Norwegian Ornithological Society Frode Falkenberg's [REDACTED]

**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**

Trustees

**of**

Bird Conservation Nepal

**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

<b>Name</b>	Ishana Thapa
<b>Position in the organisation</b>	Chief Executive Officer
<b>Signature (please upload e-signature)</b>	 <a href="#">ishana sig</a>  31/01/2022  19:27:04  pdf 175.72 KB
<b>Date</b>	31 January 2022

**Please attach the requested signed audited/independently examined accounts.**

-  [Final audited financial report 27 Jan 2022](#)
-  31/01/2022
-  19:29:15
-  pdf 4.24 MB

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

-  [BCN Safeguarding Policy](#)
-  31/01/2022
-  19:29:54
-  pdf 1.05 MB

## Section 18 - Submission Checklist

### Checklist for submission

	<b>Check</b>
<b>I have read the Guidance, including the "Darwin Initiative Guidance", "Monitoring Evaluation and Learning Guidance", "Risk Guidance" and "Financial Guidance".</b>	Checked
<b>I have read, and can meet, the current Terms and Conditions for this fund.</b>	Checked
<b>I have provided actual start and end dates for the project.</b>	Checked
<b>I have provided my budget based on UK government financial years i.e. 1 April – 31 March and in GBP.</b>	Checked
<b>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.</b>	Checked
<b>The application been signed by a suitably authorised individual (clear electronic or scanned signatures are acceptable).</b>	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).