
DIR29S2\1070

Rights of Wetlands Operationalisation for Biodiversity and Community Resilience

Despite recognition that wetlands deliver multiple benefits, particularly for the poor and marginalized, widespread wetland loss and deterioration continues contributing to climate destabilisation and biodiversity declines. New approaches are required for wetland conservation and to sustain wetland benefits. This project will facilitate the operationalisation of the Rights of Wetlands approach in different country contexts, embedding the right for a wetland to function and exist through community management, legal instruments and governance frameworks leading to successful biodiversity conservation and poverty alleviation.

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Rights of Wetlands Operationalisation for Biodiversity and Community Resilience

Section 1 - Contact Details

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Section 2 - Title, Ecosystems, Approaches & Summary

Q3. Title:

Rights of Wetlands Operationalisation for Biodiversity and Community Resilience

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

DIR29S1\1294

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

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

Biome 2

Freshwater (streams, rivers and lakes)

Biome 3

Brackish tidal systems

Conservation Action 1

Land/water protection (area/resource/habitat)

Conservation Action 2

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

Conservation Action 3

Law & policy (legislation, regulations, standards, codes, enforcement)

Threat 1

Agriculture & aquaculture (incl. plantations)

Threat 2

Pollution (domestic, commercial, agricultural)

Threat 3

Natural system modifications (fires, dams)

Q5. Summary of project

Please provide a brief summary of your project: the problem/need it is trying to address, 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.

Despite recognition that wetlands deliver multiple benefits, particularly for the poor and marginalized, widespread wetland loss and deterioration continues contributing to climate destabilisation and biodiversity declines. New approaches are required for wetland conservation and to sustain wetland benefits. This project will facilitate the operationalisation of the Rights of Wetlands approach in different country contexts, embedding the right for a wetland to function and exist through community management, legal instruments and governance frameworks leading to successful biodiversity conservation and poverty alleviation.

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 Sri Lanka**Country 2** Guyana**Country 3** Kenya**Country 4** Bolivia**Do you require more fields?** Yes**Country 5** Ecuador**Country 6** *No Response***Country 7** *No Response***Country 8** *No Response***Q7. Project dates**

Start date: 01 June 2023 **End date:** 31 March 2026 **Duration (e.g. 2 years, 3 months):** 2 years, 10 months

Q8. Budget summary

Year:	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	Total request
Amount:	£211,272.00	£204,338.00	£184,090.00	£0.00	£599,700.00

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



Q10a. Do you have matched funding arrangements?

Yes

What matched funding arrangements are proposed?

Specific partners will be providing a proportion of staff costs as in-kind contributions. In addition, an online participatory engagement training course, online platform for training, Zoom Pro meeting hosting, office facilities/room hire and datasets will be provided by specific partners. Additional funding will also be made available through ongoing interventions such as Wetland International's Source to Sea and Mangrove Capital Africa programmes.

Q10b. Total confirmed & unconfirmed matched funding (£)

£

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

Not applicable

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. What is the need, challenge or opportunity?

For example, what are the drivers of biodiversity loss that the project will attempt to address? Why are they relevant, for whom? How did you identify these problems? Please cite any evidence you are using to support your assessment of the problem (references can be listed in a separate attached PDF document).

The drive for economic growth, based on unbridled consumerism, continues to dominate wetland use and associated biodiversity loss, with existing strategies for wetland conservation failing. Up to 87% of global wetlands have been lost, contributing to an average decline of 84% in freshwater species populations and 36% decline in coastal/marine species populations since 1970. Biodiversity loss, ecosystem degradation and climate destabilisation constitute connected global emergencies that worsen poverty, and now require transformative approaches, including ethical/legal paradigm shifts. Just as it took an ethical shift, from that of a thing or property, to recognise the rights of children, women, Indigenous Peoples, Black and Ethnic Minorities to confront child labour, human trafficking, slavery, and other human rights abuses, a similar ethical shift is required to alter the downward trajectory for wetlands.

Addressing ethical and legal drivers of biodiversity loss and resulting poverty, Rights of Nature is gaining increased support as a solution, representing a paradigm shift in ethics, policy, law and practice, consistent with many Indigenous Peoples' and local communities' views and increasingly championed by courts, legislatures and international institutions. This framework supports behavioural change in how we interact with Nature/biodiversity, supporting improved management. The shift is radical: from nature being considered a property and commodity, to Nature becoming a rights-bearing entity, resulting in a significant advance in protecting and conserving biodiversity. In most legal frameworks, an environmental lawsuit can be filed only if human injury or loss is proven in connection to degradation of the person's environment (*locus standi*). Within a 'Rights of Nature' framework, one can sue on an ecosystem's behalf, without connection to direct personal injury. Rights of Nature has also advanced to support a position where harm is averted rather than holding those to account post injury (precautionary principle). Although some national governments have legislated for Rights of Nature approaches (e.g. 2008 Ecuadorian Constitution, 2010 Law of Mother Earth in Bolivia, 2018 Colombia Supreme Court recognizing the right of the Amazon to exist), in practice, these have been undermined by other legal mechanisms still promoting a commodified, proprietary approach to nature (e.g. 'Payments for Ecosystem Services' which, when applied, still approach wetland management and governance in piecemeal ways, such as a focus on floodwater attenuation, creating perverse financial incentives that could undermine other wetland functions). A 'Rights of Nature' approach promotes a holistic strategy that protects the integral functioning of a wetland, including safeguards for its constituent species and beneficial human activities that support poverty alleviation.

Project partners have proposed a 'Universal Declaration of the Rights of Wetlands', consistent with the 1982 World Charter for Nature (www.rightsofwetlands.org) and produced draft guidance on operationalisation (Appendix 1). The project goal is to facilitate the operationalisation of our Rights of Wetlands approach in different country contexts, embedding the right of a wetland to function and exist through community activism and management, ethical framing, policy and legal instruments and governance frameworks, and demonstrating how a more holistic and morally driven relationship with wetlands can deliver successful biodiversity conservation and poverty alleviation.

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)
- Ramsar Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar)

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

Q12b. National and International Policy Alignment

Using evidence where available, 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.

CBD: We will support project countries to deliver CBD / National Biodiversity Strategic Action Plans and future post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) target obligations. Specifically Aichi Targets: 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14 – community management and legal frameworks will integrate wetland biodiversity values into countries' development plans, support sustainable resource use, address wetland loss and degradation; address wetland pollution and invasive alien species problems; prioritise threatened species and contribute to health, livelihoods and well-being; 16, 17, 18, 19 – implement a community and legal approach, ensuring fair and equitable benefits sharing and ensure local community knowledge is integrated into planning and legal frameworks; and wetland knowledge is disseminated; GBF Target 2 & 3 – Rights of Wetlands will provide a framework for countries to achieve restoration and protected areas targets.

The project will help fulfil key objectives within country NBSAPs through a shared understanding and implementation of the Rights of Wetlands approach that supports: long-term biodiversity conservation and restoration; sustainable resource use; and equitable sharing of ecosystem service benefits.

A needs analysis for implementation of national action plans indicated that capacity building, communication and resource mobilization was required. This project will provide capacity building for government staff in community engagement and social and environmental rights and will build capacity within local communities to deliver sustainable wetland management within a Rights of Wetlands approach.

UNFCCC targets: The project will assist countries to fulfil obligations in mitigation and adaptation. The maintenance and restoration of wetland habitats will ensure that carbon sequestration processes, flood retention, water quality and supply, and storm protection benefits will be maintained. It will also lobby for the inclusion of wetlands in National Determined Contributions (NDCs). The Paris Agreement (Article 4, paragraph 2) requires each Party to prepare, communicate and maintain successive nationally determined contributions (NDCs) that it intends to achieve. Wetlands store a disproportionate amount of the world's soil carbon, as they occupy 5% - 8% of land surface while storing approximately 30% of the world's soil carbon. Release of soil carbon from peatlands poses an imminent threat to stabilizing the climate.

Ramsar: The project promotes the wise use of wetlands through the Rights of Wetlands approach. We will report to National Wetland Steering Committees and integrate into national wetland policies and legislative frameworks. We will also promote mainstreaming of the Rights of Wetlands approach in the development of wetland management plans.

SDG targets: 1, 2, 3 – sustainable wetland management will contribute to ending poverty, food sovereignty, sustainable agriculture and maintaining well-being. Identifying best practice wetland management approaches will reduce vulnerability, build resilience, achieve food security and improved nutrition; 5 - community engagement through participatory visual techniques is empowering in situations where women and girls are often marginalised; 8, 9, 11 – promoting wetland biodiversity and natural resource management will deliver inclusive economic sustainability; 14 – promoting sustainable and wise use of salt water wetlands; 15 – promoting protection, restoration and sustainable use, halting and reversing land

degradation, and halting biodiversity loss.

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 reflected on and incorporated **evidence and lessons learnt** from past and present similar activities and projects in the design of this project.
- the specific approach you are using, supported by **evidence** that it will be effective, and **justifying why you expect it will be successful** in this context.
- how you will undertake the work (activities, materials and methods)
- what will be the **main activities** and where will these take place.
- how you will manage the work (governance, roles and responsibilities, project management tools, risks etc.).

We have compiled and studied examples of Rights of Nature, Rights of Rivers, and Rights of Wetlands implementation successes (Appendix 2, Rights of Nature Evidence, and https://www.publish.csiro.au/mf/acc/MF20219/MF20219_AC.pdf), which allowed us to formulate a wetlands-specific mechanism for implementing Rights of Nature and to develop draft operationalisation guidance (Appendix 1).

Recognition of wetlands' rights supports the provision of benefits essential to human well-being, poverty alleviation and to biodiversity. The Declaration states that wetlands possess rights to: exist; their ecologically determined location in the landscape; natural, connected and sustainable hydrological regimes; ecologically sustainable climatic conditions; naturally occurring biodiversity; regeneration and restoration; integrity of structure, function and evolutionary processes; fulfil natural ecological roles in the Earth's processes; and be free from pollution and degradation. Recognition and implementation of these rights acknowledges a wetland's ecological catchment location and interconnectedness and is seen as an essential step in efforts to stop wetland loss and deterioration.

This project will innovate by operationalizing these principles using participatory engagement techniques and Covid-19 safe working in Bolivia (Pampas del Yacuma), Ecuador (Bobonaza River), Guyana (North Rupununi Wetlands), Kenya (Tana River Delta) and Sri Lanka (Colombo Wetlands) to provide implementation guidance at community management and government policy levels for all eight 'rights' within the Rights of Wetlands Declaration (Appendix 3 & 4). These countries represent a range of experience in acknowledging Rights of Nature, as well as a diverse degraded/protected, urban/rural and Indigenous/local community wetland contexts.

Robust evidence base Contextualisation of Rights of Wetlands in the five countries to establish a baseline, best practice and shared understanding. Country-specific reviews on wetland ethical/spiritual views, management, policy, legislation and governance to determine how 'Rights of Wetlands' principles can enhance existing approaches and identify and share best practices that support/implement the Rights of Wetlands principles using participatory video. Content analysis will be undertaken at the start / end of the project to provide a baseline and project impact respectively.

Building community, CSO and government capacity in the Rights of Wetlands approach. There will be two elements to the training: firstly, in community engagement and community wetland management using

established online courses, and secondly, in country-specific social and environmental rights and Rights of Wetlands online courses. These will be made available in English, Spanish, Tamil and Sinhala.

Knowledge exchange and advocacy for the Rights of Wetland. Knowledge exchange will be facilitated through sharing the participatory videos of best practices between at least two communities in each of the five countries. At the same time, we will facilitate and evaluate video-mediated dialogues between decision-makers (duty bearers) and local communities (right holders) to engage national agencies and officials to incorporate a Rights of Wetlands approach and support compatible governance and management practices at national level.

Dissemination and upscaling of the Rights of Wetlands. Methodological and policy-relevant lessons from the project will be developed into Rights of Wetlands practical guidance, such as online toolkits and peer-reviewed journal articles, to support in-country policy implementation, best practice management and be shared at national and international conferences and events such as Ramsar and CBD CoPs and a project online International Rights of Wetlands Event. We have already consulted with CBD and Ramsar National Focal Points at, COP14 and COP15, but will continue the dialogue to disseminate the project outputs and promote wider international uptake of the Rights of Wetlands approach.

Developing a formal communication exchange network for the Rights of Wetlands. The network will begin with dialogue and exchange between project partners and key stakeholders, but as the project progresses and the contextualization activities are completed, wider country-level stakeholders from community, CSO and government will be identified and invited to join the network, and to participate in project activities such as the capacity building and video-mediated dialogues.

Roles and responsibilities. At the project start, a work plan will be agreed between partners, including roles and responsibilities. This will form the basis of a formal partner agreement. The project leaders will liaise with in-county coordinators on a regular basis and formally assess progress every two months.

WIK, CC – Overall project management. Project impact evaluation, reporting and coordination.

CC - Participatory engagement learning capacity building.

CELDF - Legislation and policy reviews, social and environmental rights two-way learning capacity building.

WI, CC - Governance and communication frameworks, and legislation and policy reviews.

WIK, IWMI, NRRDB, WSU, UCdB – In-country technical and logistical delivery and community and stakeholder engagement.

MoESL - Coordination with Sri Lankan government agencies.

ATAYAK & PAB - Community management approaches and worldviews review. Stakeholder and community engagement in Ecuador/Bolivia.

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, who will benefit, and the post-project value to the country.

At least 125 government, CSO and Indigenous/local leaders, including 50% women, will be trained in participatory community engagement, social/environmental rights, community wetland management and Rights of Wetlands. This training will enable organisations to improve their methods of engaging wetland communities, and better facilitate how Rights of Wetlands is used and integrated within programmes and policies.

At the 5 case-study sites, we will engage community members through participatory video, thus training them in methods and techniques for recording, reflecting and disseminating best practice examples for

wetland community management. In addition, we will facilitate community peer-to-peer knowledge exchange processes in at least 2 communities in each of the 5 countries, thus building skills in communication, leadership, team management and confidence.

Successful Rights of Nature implementation (Appendix 2 - Rights of Nature Evidence) have established guardians for the ecosystem, and local communities have gained decision-making roles in stewardship. The project will enhance knowledge transfer and communication through video-mediated dialogues and by establishing networks where local communities, CSOs and government can discuss and share common problems and exchange good practices. This increased capacity to communicate with agencies will ensure that wetlands and local communities gain greater representation and participation within decision-making.

As a whole, we envisage that the project will enhance the capacities of all project partners and stakeholders. For example, staff linked to NEMA, Kenya will better understand the policy arena, constraints and opportunities for Rights of Wetlands integration. Community/practitioner researchers e.g. Sarayaku will improve their research and community engagement skills, so as to independently develop and run conservation/development projects. Through our training courses, participatory video and video-mediated dialogue processes, advocacy work, and national and international dissemination, the project will build capacity and facilitate ethical and legal shifts in valuing and perceiving Nature, particularly recognising wetlands as living beings with rights.

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. Please summarise how your project will contribute to reducing gender inequality. Applicants should, at a minimum, ensure proposals will not increase inequality and are encouraged to design interventions that proactively contribute to increased gender equality.

Project partners are committed to promoting equal opportunities, gender equality and youth involvement at all levels of organization and participation as well as within management, implementation and dissemination. We will ensure that our governance and practice adheres to equal opportunity procedures in decision-making and work allocation. In addition, we will monitor and record the involvement of women and youth in project activities, such as workshops and participatory video. Women and youth will be actively encouraged to take opportunities for presenting their ideas and work, including within arenas such as stakeholder engagement, video-mediated dialogues and media opportunities as they arise.

In practice, we will develop a series of actions that will be implemented and monitored to encourage the consideration of gender equality issues in decision-making:

- actively improve the gender balance in tasks, promoting gender equality and appreciation of multiple perspectives;
- apply measures to help reconcile work and private life;
- raise awareness of equal opportunities within dissemination activities;
- actively mentor women, including staff and community participants;
- diversity will be considered in work involving communities. For example, all aspects of community engagement will be disaggregated according to youth and gender. We are aware that studies undertaken in several project countries show clear gender considerations in terms of wetland management and governance, and in social and environmental rights. We will consider these in our country-level reviews, baseline assessments and community engagement activities;
- monitoring of gender issues at the regular project meetings (see M&E Q22), and if representation is < 50%, then measures to improve representation will be enacted.

Q16. Awareness and understanding

How will you raise awareness and understanding of biodiversity-poverty issues in your stakeholders, including who your stakeholders are, 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?

Project stakeholders and audiences are policy makers, government regulators, local communities, wetland managers and CSOs involved with wetland and water management, development and agriculture in the five project countries and beyond. It is essential that awareness is raised of the intrinsic Rights of Wetlands (including wetland biodiversity) and the importance of that biodiversity in underpinning how wetlands maintain health and well-being, and contribute to poverty alleviation.

Dissemination is a major project activity to promote a Rights of Wetlands approach to improve both policy and practice in biodiversity conservation, sustainable management of natural resources and planning. We aim to engage with the intended audiences throughout the project, building on established relationships between partners, and using partners to create a network of organisations working on Rights of Wetlands management throughout the five countries. Two workshops per year have been planned to ensure the continued engagement, support and progress of the work plan. In initial engagement with the different audiences, the preferred way of receiving information will be established and followed for future communication.

A dissemination strategy will be developed to confirm local audiences and appropriate dissemination methods. Dissemination products already planned to facilitate a national and international sharing of lessons on the Rights of Wetlands include: establishment of project web pages providing updates and outputs (public, government and CSOs); a strong social media presence through partner Facebook and Twitter accounts; community peer-to-peer knowledge exchanges via participatory video and information sharing at community workshops; community, CSO and government communication network meetings; online International Event (public, government and CSOs); side events at Ramsar and CBD CoPs (governments and CSOs); toolkits and policy briefings (communities, government and CSOs); training materials and reports (communities, government and CSOs) and dissemination at national events such as World Wetlands Day celebrations (public).

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) and the potential to scale the approach.

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 partnership has long-term relationships with community groups and key government agencies in all five countries which we have engaged with to discuss Rights of Wetlands. A project assessment has identified a need to strengthen wetland rights and empower community management so wetland functioning, biodiversity benefits, and benefits related to poverty alleviation such as improved water quality and supply, flood and storm damage prevention, food provision and wildlife habitat, localized cooling, air quality improvement, carbon sequestration, and mental and physical health and well-being are

retained. Better coordination between community wetland management and government policy will lead to better outcomes for wetlands and biodiversity, empower community management and promote sustainable livelihoods.

Short-term changes:

- Increased capacity of Indigenous/local leaders, CSOs and government to understand and implement social and environmental rights, Rights of Wetlands approach and participatory engagement techniques (25 people per country – 125 total);
- Increased awareness in communities of 5 wetland landscapes (Bobonaza River, North Rupununi Wetlands, Pampas del Yacuma, Colombo Wetlands, Tana River Basin) of sustainable best practice management and healthy wetland/human interventions promoting Rights of Wetlands, addressing wetland loss and degradation, supporting biodiversity-friendly livelihoods, improved household incomes, pollution reduction etc. (4,000 households, ~18,000 people including 9,000 women);
- Increased capacity of stakeholders at all levels in 5 countries to practically apply the Rights of Wetlands approach in management and policy implementation using project toolkits (25 people per country – 125 total);
- Establishment of Rights of Wetlands community, CSO and government communication network in 5 countries (1 per country, 5 in total);
- Increased capacity of Indigenous/local leaders and CSOs for research and communications, developing partnerships with decision-makers, getting insights on solutions, and developing advocacy resources;
- Greater community participation in wetland management providing greater representation in decision-making;
- Improved valuing of Nature, as presented by IPBES Values Assessment (2022), where local and national decision-makers recognise living 'from', 'with', 'in' and 'as' relationships with Nature through better practices of engagement, agenda setting, policy implementation and programme planning and delivery.

Long-term changes

- Ongoing peer-to-peer learning among wetland communities across and between each country, facilitated by local partners and government agencies, embedding Rights of Wetlands management best practice and healthy wetland/human relations;
- Establishment of participatory video-mediated dialogue for knowledge exchange between communities and decision-makers;
- Implemented legislation recognising the Rights of Wetlands leading to greater protection for wetland habitats and the communities that rely on them;
- Wetlands management-related policies and legal frameworks recognising Rights of Wetlands leading to greater wetland biodiversity protection and improved community resilience;
- Greater sustainability in well-being and livelihood provision through improved wetland management practices providing increased resilience and food security.

International long-term changes

Best practice Rights of Wetlands principles and toolkits will be designed so they can be disseminated to countries adjacent to project countries, the wider Ramsar Convention and CBD network, and the Rights of Nature community, leading to better wetland planning and protection regionally and internationally. This project will provide ground-breaking case studies and best practices especially for non-riparian wetlands (but also for riparian wetlands), which can be shared globally.

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 why and how you expect your Outputs to contribute towards your overall Outcome and, longer term, your expected Impact.

The project is built on recognition that a Rights of Wetlands cultural and behavioural shift leading to policy and management implementation will halt wetland loss and degradation and that healthy wetlands underpin biodiversity conservation and poverty alleviation. This ethical shift can be disseminated and enacted through capacity and awareness building, policy and legislation changes, establishing governance and communication networks, and local wetland management that fundamentally recognises wetlands as living entities with rights and that those rights should be maintained.

To deliver change, the project impact trajectory (Appendix 6) includes: contextualisation of Rights of Wetlands in 5 countries to establish baseline, best practice and shared understanding (O1); this will be built upon through community, CSO and government level capacity building to open individuals and organisations to a different way of appreciating, interacting with and managing wetlands (O2); community to community and community to CSO and government dialogues and networks will be established to embed the approach (O3); and lobbying, dissemination and training in Rights of Wetlands and principles, toolkits and other products will provide resources for beneficiaries to implement the approach within 5 countries and beyond (O4). We will thus empower beneficiaries to defend the wetlands upon which we all depend.

Q19. Exit Strategy

How will the project reach a sustainable point and continue to deliver benefits post-funding?

How could post-project scaling of the approach (if proven) be delivered: through new finance or through uptake by stakeholders or other mechanisms? Are there any barriers to scaling and how will these be addressed?

How will the required knowledge and skills remain available to sustain the benefits?

We aim for the project to reach a sustainable end point, where Rights of Wetlands and community wetland management is integrated into policy and legislative guidance and decision making, used to assist implementation of local wetland management and is represented within delivery and official reporting by project country governments under the Ramsar, NDCs, CBD GBF targets, as well as SDGs. A Ramsar COP14 side event, on Rights of Wetlands, and ongoing discussions with country delegations established contracting party support for a Draft Resolution on Rights of Wetlands at COP15 so the project will directly support this submission during and beyond the project lifetime. We envisage that long-term, in-depth and participatory engagement with the target wetland communities will develop capacity for communities to take ownership over the processes of managing wetlands and safeguarding Rights of Wetlands and continue dialogue with government.

Key government agencies in each country will be engaged throughout the project and we will monitor and evaluate the extent to which they are taking ownership of the outputs/processes and intervene as necessary to ensure that the benefits of the project are secured, capacity building activities are embedded, and if key staff leave, the effects are minimal. The Rights of Wetlands Legal, Policy, Governance and Communication (RoWLPGC) principles and toolkit and the Rights of Wetlands Wetland Management and Community Advocacy (RoWWMCA) principles and toolkit, and associated training and dissemination, including an ongoing online resource, will ensure Rights of Wetlands resources will be available and will support delivery beyond the lifetime of the project and support delivery in other regions and countries.

Capacity building through supporting development of wetland management plans and institutional strengthening of relevant institutions such as the wetlands management committees and water-users associations will ensure institutionalisation of the Rights to Wetlands approach at a local level.

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

[Appendix 7 - Additional Project Partner Detail](#)
 12/12/2022
 17:38:10
 pdf 108.06 KB

[Appendix 6 - Pathway to change diagram](#)
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[Appendix 5 - Project Visual Plan](#)
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[Appendix 4 - Project case studies](#)
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[Appendix 3 - Project locations](#)
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[Appendix 2 - Rights of Nature Evidence](#)
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[Appendix 1 - Rights of Wetlands Operationalis
 ation Guidance](#)
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 pdf 2.13 MB

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
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Fiduciary

Partners have excellent fiduciary track records over decades. However, organisations reliant on project funding may experience short-term cash flow challenges, and there is a risk that project funding is directed towards the support of core costs. Project equipment and resources (e.g. transportation budget) may also be used on non-project activities.

Moderate

Unlikely

Moderate

Ongoing disbursement of funding reliant on partners meeting activity and project delivery as monitored informally in weekly meetings and formally in monthly reports supplemented with evidence. If challenges emerge, project funding and responsibilities reallocated to other partners or new partners.

Minor

Safeguarding

Partners are already implementing safeguarding best-practice. However, we always need to prepare for rogue individuals that may break codes of practice.

Moderate

Unlikely

Moderate

In addition to partner safeguarding policies and practices, the project will implement its own protocol explicitly highlighting safeguarding within internal and external activities, e.g. community FPIC process will discuss safeguarding and will have safeguarding as a key component of the FPIC form.

Minor

Delivery Chain

Operational capacity of in-country partner staff and support infrastructure (internet connectivity, communications network) is variable.

Moderate

Possible

Major

Delivery Chain Risk Mapping will implement monitoring processes and implement capacity building support. Contingencies will be established in order to manage infrastructural challenges.

Moderate

Risk 4

In-country civil unrest, natural disasters or emergence of disruptive Covid-19 variants. The socio-economic impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic have resulted in an increase in poverty, inequalities and rising costs of living. This may trigger civil unrest within project countries. Project countries are also vulnerable to extreme weather events (e.g. flooding).

Major

Likely

Severe

Partners have institutional memory of adversity (e.g. extreme 2005 Colombo floods, ongoing Covid pandemic), developing effective mechanisms to mitigate and adapt to disruption. This includes ability to work flexibly in different locations at short notice, to manage activities remotely through communication tools, and to pivot resources to other tasks/partners/countries.

Moderate

Risk 5

Attacks and pressure on in-country 'rights of wetlands' implementors. Project partners and communities may be subject to attacks and pressure from parties intent on destroying wetlands for economic gain.

Major

Unlikely

Major

Partners are highly experienced in strategies for environmental protection, establishing an appropriate balance between delivering effective change while minimising risks to staff and participants.

Moderate

Risk 6

Escalating project costs. Runaway inflation and mitigation strategies for challenges result in project budget not able to cover all envisaged activities

Moderate

Possible

Major

Project budget already has contingencies built into it forecasting moderate cost escalations. Some project costs could be reduced e.g. reducing number of individuals undertaking international travel, which would allow redistribution of budgets while minimising impact on project deliverables.

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.

 BCF Implementation Timetable Template 20
22-23 FINAL ROW 221212
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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).

(Max 500 words)

The M&E component of the project is fully integrated into the project's planning and methodology (see Appendix 5 - Project Visual Plan) to ensure effective monitoring of progress and impact evaluation against project indicators. Many of the project's outputs are themselves M&E products (see means of verification in the logframe), which can be used to track project progress and to inform adaptive management.

The Co-Leads are responsible for the project's M&E based on their previous project experience of successfully completing deliverables. The Project Co-Leads and In-country Project Coordinators will meet formally online every two months to review progress. Also, whenever project leaders are in country, they will take the opportunity to engage with project partners and other stakeholders to discuss any issues with project progress.

At the inception meeting, the project's logical framework and associated indicators will be discussed, and a more detailed Pathway to Change will be developed; this will involve establishing baselines, a clear and transparent process for monitoring indicators and agreement amongst partners on responsibilities for the M&E of different indicators. Then at each bi-annual project meeting, the project team will track indicators and project progress towards achieving intended outcomes, while incorporating any stakeholder input into project outputs to ensure that the project outputs are of practical and policy relevance for the target countries and the international community. We will update the Pathway to Change to incorporate the findings of these reviews as part of a continual process of adaptive management and action learning. At the end of the project, we will use Participatory Video Monitoring and Evaluation, to evaluate the impact of

the project at local and national level, and then link these results explicitly back to the project's logframe and indicators. At the final project meeting, the project team will evaluate each logframe indicator and review the achievements of the project at the different scales of project impact including the local, national and international levels.

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

We will have an Advisory Committee to review progress annually, and provide an independent report on potential improvements and project successes. The Advisory Committee will consist of wetland, environmental legal and Rights of Nature specialists including, for example, Professor Dan Spencer, Environmental Ethicist, University of Montana and Professor Max Finlayson currently Co-Chair of the Society Wetland Scientists' Wetland Concerns committee.

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	60

Section 10 - Logical Framework

Q23. Logical Framework (logframe)

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](#)

The **logframe template** (N.B. there is a different template for Stage 1 and Stage 2) needs to be downloaded from Flexi-Grant, completed and uploaded as a PDF within your Flexi-Grant application – **please do not edit the logframe template structure (other than adding additional Outputs if needed) as this may make your application ineligible.**

Please upload your logframe as a PDF document.

[BCF St2 and Single Stage Logical Framework Template 2022-23 FINAL ROW 221212](#)

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pdf 141.72 KB

Impact:

Wetland loss and degradation addressed using a Rights of Wetlands approach delivering improved community wetland management, legal protection and more effective governance frameworks resulting in biodiversity conservation and poverty alleviation.

Outcome:

Demonstrate how the Rights of Wetlands approach can be transformed from concept into a sustainable practice in five countries using participatory, legal and advocacy processes.

Project Outputs

Output 1:

Robust Evidence Base of Rights of Wetlands in Five Countries.

Output 2:

Increased Capacity for Rights of Wetlands Implementation

Output 3:

Rights of Wetlands Knowledge Exchange and Advocacy

Output 4:

Up-scaling and Dissemination

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 Online start-up workshop to outline Rights of Wetlands approach and project activities and to co-develop baseline indicators to assess project activities against – all partners and key stakeholders. The baseline indicators will build on the logframe and include the measurable indicators for the project outcome. These will provide the core baseline indicators but through the 10 workshops for 1.4 the baseline indicators will be expanded to include indicators relevant to the stakeholder groups. The workshops and subsequent consultation will refine an agreed list that communities and project partners feel will fully assess the impact of the project.

1.2 Initial review of all available information related to Rights of Wetlands, social and environmental rights and wetland management approaches in each of the five project countries and an assessment made about the likelihood of each country and communities to adopt a Rights of Wetlands approach.

1.3 Online and offline questionnaire to key stakeholders and community groups regarding wetland health (biodiversity, water quality, water regime, drivers of wetland health change, threats etc.), sustainable livelihoods, Rights of Wetlands, social and environmental rights and wetland management approaches in each of the five project countries. Questionnaire will be undertaken at the start and end of the project to assess project impact and see whether drivers of change and threats have been removed or reduced.

1.4 Online or offline follow-up stakeholder and community workshops to discuss in more detail existing social and environmental rights from a stakeholder and community perspective and project impact indicators (will include government agencies, local community groups, local conservation groups etc, farmers groups, schools, universities, women's groups, CSOs – 2 x workshops per country).

1.5 Annual project meetings to review project progress and to evaluate impact with partners and key stakeholders.

1.6 Production of community management approaches and worldviews review, legislation and policy review and governance and communication frameworks review reports for each country.

1.7 Undertaking free, prior and informed consent process with key community groups engaged in the project (2 workshops x 5 countries (10 total)).

1.8 Regional workshops with community groups to introduce Rights of Wetlands, community wetland management approach concepts, techniques and how to identify best practice that maximises biodiversity, increases household livelihoods and resilience, increases access to direct and indirect benefits, whilst maintaining and restoring wetland area and health. Within the workshops best practices for wetland management will be identified and visioning of future wetland/human relations will be recorded using participatory video and photography. (3 workshops x 5 countries (Pampas del Yacuma, Bolivia, Bobonaza River, Ecuador, North Rupununi Wetlands, Guyana, Tana River Basin, Kenya, Colombo Wetlands, Sri Lanka)). Best practices will also be documented with groups in the field following the workshops particularly to identify any seasonal differences in management approaches.

1.9 Key stakeholder workshops to identify best practice in legislation and policy, and governance and communication frameworks regarding Rights of Wetlands (2 workshops x 5 countries (10 total)). Participatory videos will be used to record these examples to share with other project partners and wider.

1.10 Undertake a review of Rights of Wetlands usage within current environmental and development policies and strategies in 5 countries, to provide baseline in year 1 and impact in year 3.

2.1 Produce training materials – CC has developed a comprehensive set of training materials for community engagement and community wetland management through participatory methods. These will be made bespoke for each country context and translated where required. Additional social and environmental rights and Rights of Wetlands training materials will also be developed.

2.2 Training in community engagement through participatory methods, including gender-inclusive methods (Online training and 1 x face-to-face workshops in five countries) and ongoing training during community engagement activities.

2.3 Training workshops in social and environmental rights and Rights of Wetlands (Online training and 1 x face-to-face workshops in five countries) and ongoing training during community engagement activities.

3.1 Sharing of community wetland best practices, recorded in Activity 1.8, with other community groups through workshops in 5 countries (2 workshops x 5 countries – 2 days each).

3.2 Establishment of video-mediated dialogue network meetings between local communities as rights holders and government representatives as duty bearers to create awareness on the Rights of Wetlands approach and to establish a formal, on-going communication network in each country (1 x video-mediated dialogue process in each country and 1 x communication network meeting in 5 countries).

4.1 Development of a Dissemination and Communication Strategy that identifies key audiences and methods to reach them (1 x partner online meeting) during and beyond the project.

4.2 Establishment of project website pages.

4.3 Analysis of community best practice wetland management to determine the most effective community advocacy and management approaches sympathetic to a Rights of Wetlands approach and future healthy wetland/human relations.

4.4 Analysis of legal, governance and communication best practice to determine the most effective legal, policy, governance and communication approaches sympathetic to a Rights of Wetlands approach and future healthy wetland/human relations by mapping and collation of relevant policies and legal frameworks and a gap analysis in relation to Rights of Wetlands.

4.5 Development of policy briefings.

4.6 Production of RoWLPGC principles and toolkits (Principles and toolkits will be drafted based on the project data, videos recorded and the workshops then used for consultation before being finalised and published on project websites).

4.7 Production of RoWWMCA principles and toolkits including best practice management approaches (Principles and toolkits will be drafted based on the project data and videos and the workshops then used for consultation before being finalised and published on project websites).

4.8 Training in Rights of Wetlands principles and toolkits. (Online course with 2 x follow-up workshops for each country).

4.9 Dialogue with communities, CSOs, NGOs, governments and the private sector to disseminate gap analysis, policy briefs and share RoWWMCA and RoWLPGC principles and toolkits in 5 countries.

4.10 Identify and support (if possible depending on opportunities in country context) formulation of at least one policy/legislation/strategy/plan on wetlands management.

4.11 Submission of applications for side events at Ramsar and CBD CoPs and distribution of project outputs to all National Focal Points and other key stakeholders identified in the Dissemination Strategy and produce a Draft Resolution for the Ramsar COP15.

4.12 Hold online International Rights of Wetlands Event to promote project outputs.

4.13 Draft journal articles.

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 the Lead Partner's accounts at the certification page at the end of the application form.

 [BCF-Budget-over-100k-MASTER-Apr22 ROW A
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Q25. Funding

Q25a. Is this a new initiative or does it build on existing work (delivered by anyone and funded through any source)?

- New Initiative

Please provide details:

This is a first-of-its kind project, however it is an outgrowth of the growing global Rights of Nature (RON) movement (project partner CELDF is a global RON leader), which, when implemented appropriately, is achieving conservation and restoration of nature/biodiversity goals in a number of countries (Appendix 2 - Rights of Nature Evidence), and has often done so by working collaboratively with Indigenous Peoples and local communities. Further, this project is an outgrowth of years of collaboration among Society of Wetland Scientists members to address the climate and biodiversity emergencies, the result of which was development of the Universal Declaration of the Rights of Wetlands (proposed as a paradigm-shifting approach to changing the current downward trend of wetlands, their biodiversity and the benefits they deliver that support sustainable development) and an ongoing collaboration with the Kichwa Indigenous Peoples of Sarayaku, Ecuador, a partner on this project. It also builds on two significant Darwin Initiative projects; the traditional knowledge Guyana project that developed methodologies and guidance for integrating traditional knowledge into policy that this project will utilise; and the community wetland management project (Colombo, Sri Lanka) that recognizes best practice and bridges a gap between community actions and government policy.

Q25b. 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.

While there are other examples of efforts to implement Rights of Nature, including some addressing Rights of Wetlands which we will continue to research for lessons, both positive and negative, we know of no other project or effort that aims to implement Rights of Wetlands in five different countries and with the organizational structure that this project embodies. Team members include leading Rights of Wetlands authors and members of the Community Environmental Legal Defense Fund (CELDF). CELDF works with local communities around the world to implement Rights of Nature and works collaboratively with other Rights of Nature organizations such as the Global Alliance for Rights of Nature (GARN) and the Earth Law Center, and thus are well-apprised of activities in the Rights of Nature sphere. The Kichwa People of Sarayaku, Ecuador (project partners and globally recognized RON leaders), have developed the Kawsak Sacha Declaration of the Living Forest, which recognizes the living beingness of the forest and all jungle beings, proposes legal recognition of Mother Earth (<https://kawsaksacha.org/> and <https://www.iucn.org/news/mexico-central-america-and-caribbean/201808/sarayaku-people-present-declaration-preserve-territory-and-nature>), and recognizes connections between the living forest and human well-being. This project supports their work and shares their best practices and lessons learned with other participating communities and the larger world.

Q26. Capital items

If you plan to purchase capital items with Darwin funding, please indicate what you anticipate will happen to the items following project end. If you are requesting more than 10% capital costs, please provide your justification here.

To facilitate the participatory video activities, we will purchase tablets and associated accessories to be used in project research and training. At the end of the project, we anticipate that these will remain in the communities. Our previous experience has shown that once people have training in participatory video, they are able to use the technique for other environmental and social goals if equipment is available to them. As part of our exit strategy, we aim to develop action plans with the communities on how the equipment could be used by them, issues of storage and maintenance, and funds for repairs and replacements.

Q27. Value for Money

Please demonstrate why your project is good value for money in terms of impact and cost-effectiveness of each pound spend (economy, efficiency, effectiveness and equity). Please make sure you read the guidance documents, before answering this question.

Our project will comprise significant engagement with Indigenous/local communities, government decision-makers and civil society organisations through fieldwork, capacity building and dissemination activities. Our total Darwin budget request (£599,700) therefore reflects staff costs and field assistants required for a multidisciplinary and multicultural team capable of working from local to international levels. Recognising the impact of the project nationally and within intergovernmental agreements such as Ramsar, many partner institutions have generously pledged in-kind contributions in the form of matched salaries, office space, equipment, training, IT support and fieldwork travel/subs. We are building on existing and long-term in-country collaborations to maximise efficiency in project delivery.

The costs of implementing project activities are based on previous experience of the costs of similar

activities such as community engagement, training workshops and staff rates, as well as logistical costs. Field travel and subsistence costs have been kept as low as possible, while ensuring they are sufficient to enable timely and effective delivery of project activities. UK staff members will combine travel with other projects in countries wherever possible. Most of the training will take place online, but where face-to-face stakeholder meetings and training are necessary, they will be hosted by partner organisations within their premises.

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

Section 12 - Safeguarding and Ethics

Q28. 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 all 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 and strengthen your safeguarding policies in practice and

ensure that all partners apply the same standards as the Lead Partner. If any of the responses are “no”, please indicate how it is being addressed.

We will adopt a zero-tolerance approach to inaction in respect of any form of abuse, exploitation or harassment, and are committed to ensuring a survivor-centred approach is taken towards any injured parties. At the start of the project and as part of the Partners Agreement, we will include practical measures to implement safeguarding policies to ensure that everyone on the project is working to the same minimum expectations. This will include reporting and managing malpractice or breaches of the codes of conduct, ensuring effective communication of safeguarding measures to partners and communities, minimising risks through appropriate recruitment practices and training.

Q29. Ethics

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

All necessary travel and subsistence costs for the participants living in poverty are covered by the budget requested. Participants shall be thoroughly informed of project details, including aim, methodology, conditions of participation and intended output distribution. We will follow the Right of Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) processes stated in the 2007 United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. The project will undergo a full ethics review at WIK, and permissions from relevant agencies will be obtained in each country. A health and safety risk assessment will be undertaken, and any personal data collected will be identified by participant codes and kept separately.

Data will be owned by the communities in which they were obtained, with storage and access negotiated and agreed at the start of the project. Regular screenings of video material to individuals and communities will ensure the highest standards of editing ethics, representation and informed consent. All publicly available materials will be licensed under the Creative Commons "Attribution Non-Commercial No Derivatives" protocol. The project partners are committed to open access research to ensure that project participants, their communities and their country have access to outputs post-project, as well as co-authorship where appropriate.

Section 13 - FCDO Notifications

Q30. 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

Q31. 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?
Matthew Simpson	Project Leader	30	Checked
Titus Wamae	Project Co-leader, policy and advocacy	1	Checked
Lilian Nyaega	Project coordination and management	7	Checked
Jepchumna Rongoei	Budget management and financial reporting	2	Checked

Do you require more fields?


Yes


Name (First name, Surname)	Role	% time on project	1 page CV or job description attached?
Shawlet Cherono	Project assistant (community engagement)	2	Checked
Ritesh Kumar	Strategic support	1	Checked
Andrea Berardi	Technical Expert	8	Checked
Jayalaxshmi Mistry	Technical Expert	8	Checked
Rebecca Woodward	Technical Expert	15	Checked
Claudia Nuzzo	Technical Expert	14	Checked
Ben Price	Technical Expert	7	Checked
Kai Huschke	Technical Expert	11	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.

 [CVs Combined](#)

 12/12/2022

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Have you attached all project staff CVs?

Yes

Section 15 - Project Partners

Q32. 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: Wetlands International Kenya (WIK)

Website address: <https://africa.wetlands.org/en/>

As lead partner, WIK will provide overall project management delivering logistical and financial coordination. This will be managed by the project co-lead Titus Wamae, supported by co-lead Matthew Simpson (CC). WIK will also provide in-country project coordination providing technical and logistical delivery and community and stakeholder engagement in Kenya.

They will provide support and technical advice for the Rights of Wetlands review in Kenya, support for the development of training materials and programmes, and support for the analysis and production of the Rights of Wetlands principles and toolkits. They will lead community and stakeholder engagement activities within Kenya including: undertaking a free, prior and informed consent process; training in community engagement, social and environmental rights and Rights of Wetlands; regional workshops to introduce Rights of Wetlands; facilitate participatory video identification of best practice; facilitate sharing of community wetland best practices; facilitate video-mediated dialogue process and network meetings; and deliver training in the Rights of Wetlands principles and toolkits.

Titus Wamae is an experienced policy and advocacy professional and will provide coordination in Kenya of technical reviews and community and government engagement activities. He will also be responsible for technical and financial reporting. Ritesh Kumar will provide technical and strategic support.

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

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:

Community Environmental Legal Defense Fund (CELDF), USA

Website address:

www.celdf.org

CELDF will lead the legislation, policy, governance and communication reviews for each country and support the development of social & environmental training courses.

They will also support the production of the Rights of Wetlands principles and toolkits and wider dissemination activities.

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

CELDF staff have extensive legal and communication expertise, particularly in relation to the rights of nature and ecosystems: Ben Price is an experienced community rights expert; Terry Lodge is an experienced attorney in relation to human and nature rights; Kai Huschke is an experienced organizational consultant, strategic planner and has extensive experience of social justice advocacy; and Kai Huschke will be responsible for financial and technical reporting.

Allocated budget: £ [REDACTED]

Represented on the Project Board Yes

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

2. Partner Name: Wetlands International Global Office, Netherlands (WI)

Website address: www.wetlands.org

Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): Wetlands International Global Office will provide support to the governance and communication frameworks and legislation and policy reviews. They will also be a key partner in the development of Rights of Wetlands principles and toolkits and in disseminating project outputs. Chris Baker will be responsible for coordinating their activities.

Allocated budget: £0.00

Represented on the Project Board Yes

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

3. Partner Name: Cobra Collective (CC), UK

Website address: www.cobracollective.org

CC will provide project coordination support to WIK and provide technical support to all country teams.

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

They will provide support and technical advice for the Rights of Wetlands reviews, training programme development and delivery, and Rights of Wetlands principles and toolkits production. They will provide project staff community engagement, community wetland management and Rights of Wetlands training. They will support community and stakeholder engagement activities in all countries including: free, prior and informed consent process support; in-country training in community engagement, social and environmental rights and Rights of Wetlands support; regional workshops to introduce Rights of Wetlands support; participatory video identification of best practice support; sharing of community wetland best practices support; video-mediated dialogue process and network meetings support; and support the delivery of training in the Rights of Wetlands principles and toolkits.

Matthew Simpson will be Project Co-Lead and support project technical and financial reporting and is responsible for CC reporting. He is a highly experienced project manager having led multiple international projects including two Darwin Initiative projects. Jay Mistry, Andrea Berardi, Rebecca Woodward, Gillian Davies and Claudia Nuzzo are experts in community engagement and natural resource management and will provide comprehensive support to activities within each country.

Allocated budget: £ ██████████

Represented on the Project Board Yes

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

4. Partner Name: International Water Management Institute (IWMI), Sri Lanka

Website address: www.iwmi.cgiar.org

IWMI will provide in-country project coordination providing technical and logistical delivery and community and stakeholder engagement in Sri Lanka.

They will provide support and technical advice for the Rights of Wetlands review in Sri Lanka, support for the development of training materials and programmes, and support for the analysis and production of the Rights of Wetlands principles and toolkits. They will lead community and stakeholder engagement activities within Sri Lanka including: undertaking a free, prior and informed consent process; training in community engagement, social and environmental rights and Rights of Wetlands; regional workshops to introduce Rights of Wetlands; facilitate participatory video identification of best practice; facilitate sharing of community wetland best practices; facilitate video-mediated dialogue process and network meetings; and deliver training in the Rights of Wetlands principles and toolkits.

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

Matthew McCartney is an experienced natural resource manager and hydrologist and will provide coordination in Sri Lanka of technical reviews and community and government engagement activities. He will also be responsible for partner technical and financial reporting. He will manage a highly experienced team of community engagement experts including Dr. Priyanie Amerasinghe, Chaturangi Wickramaratne and Radheeka Jirasinha who have community and government contacts.

Allocated budget:

£ [REDACTED]

Represented on the Project Board

Yes

Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?

Yes

5. Partner Name:

Ministry of Environment (MoESL), Sri Lanka

Website address:

www.env.gov.lk/web/index.php/en/

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

MoESL will support the legislation, policy, governance and communication review in Sri Lanka. They will also support the production of the Rights of Wetlands principles and toolkits and wider dissemination activities.

MoESL staff have extensive expertise in the policy and legal framework in Sri Lanka and will provide the link to other key government agencies, in particular those that have regulatory, jurisdictional and operational responsibility for wetlands. Mrs Pathma Abeykoon is an experienced environmental and policy expert and will help facilitate project activities in Sri Lanka.

Allocated budget: £0.00

Represented on the Project Board Yes

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

6. Partner Name: North Rupununi District Development Board, (NRDDB), Guyana

Website address: www.nrddb.org

NRDDB will provide in-country project coordination providing technical and logistical delivery and community and stakeholder engagement in Guyana.

Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): They will provide support and technical advice for the Rights of Wetlands review in Guyana, support for the development of training materials and programmes, and support for the analysis and production of the Rights of Wetlands principles and toolkits. They will lead community and stakeholder engagement activities within Guyana including: undertaking a free, prior and informed consent process; training in community engagement, social and environmental rights and Rights of Wetlands; regional workshops to introduce Rights of Wetlands; facilitate participatory video identification of best practice; facilitate sharing of community wetland best practices; facilitate video-mediated dialogue process and network meetings; and deliver training in the Rights of Wetlands principles and toolkits.

Deirdre Jafferally is an experienced community based natural resource management researcher and will provide coordination in Guyana of community and government engagement activities. She will also be responsible for partner technical and financial reporting. Ivor Marslow is Executive Director of NRDDB and will be responsible for community engagement activities.

Allocated budget: £ ██████████

Represented on the Project Board Yes





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





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





We have an additional four project partners that we cannot include in the form above so their details are in Appendix 7. The names of the four additional partners are:

- ATAYAK - Asociación de Yachak del Pueblo de Sarayaku, Ecuador
- Worcester State University (WSU), USA
- Universidad Católica de Bolivia "San Pablo" (UCdB), Bolivia
- Practical Action in Bolivia (PAB)

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

 [Letters of Support Combined File number 2](#)
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 pdf 4.12 MB

 [Letters of Support Combined File number 1](#)
 12/12/2022
 21:19:32
 pdf 5.07 MB

 [Cover Letter r29 Stage 2 V1 221208](#)
 12/12/2022
 17:26:49
 pdf 239.72 KB

Section 16 - Lead Partner Capability and Capacity

Q33. Lead Partner Capability and Capacity

Has your organisation been awarded Darwin Initiative, Darwin Plus or Illegal Wildlife Trade Challenge Fund 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 2011

What is the legal status of your organisation?

Ⓞ NGO

How is your organisation currently funded?

We actively mobilise resources to ensure that we achieve set out goals and objectives in different landscapes as outlined in the organisation's Strategic Intent.

In Kenya and Eastern Africa, we are directly funded through grants by donors that include the Swedish International Development Agency, Swiss Development Cooperation and the Dutch government (Ministry of Foreign Affairs). We are also funded by Private foundations like DOB Ecology. This funding covers project implementation as well as administrative costs.

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

Aims

Our vision is to conserve and restore wetlands and their values for people and nature. We will do this by: inspiring (creating conditions for action); mobilising (enabling action and creating conditions for upscaling solutions); and upscaling (increasing the scale of our impact by enabling others to implement solutions).

Activities

These include science, policy and practice interventions related to biodiversity conservation, resilience building, conflict resolution, food and water security and conserving wetland carbon stocks.

Achievements

The portfolio of the Wetlands International office has grown and we have established a track record in wetlands conservation and management across a range of wetland ecosystems. Partnerships have been established with different partners including government, knowledge institutes and other civil society organisations within and beyond the region.

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 Biodiversity Conservation and Utilisation of Ecosystem Services in Wetlands of Transboundary Significance in the Nile Basin

Contract Value/Project budget (include currency) ████████ Euros

Duration (e.g. 2 years 3 months) 2 years, 8 months (December 2018 - July 2021)

Role of organisation in project

Led the development of Management and Conservation plans for Sango Bay - Minziro (Uganda and Tanzania), Semliki (Uganda and the Democratic Republic of the Congo) and Sio-Siteko (Uganda and Kenya) as wetlands of transboundary significance in the Nile Basin.

The organisation also coordinated partners and consultants from the focus countries.

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

Objective: Strengthen the technical and institutional capabilities for the sustainable management of Nile Basin transboundary wetlands.

Outcomes:

- Developed know-how and capacities of key stakeholders in planning for protecting ecosystem services and sustainable utilisation of the transboundary wetlands
- Developed monographs which serve to improve knowledge about the functions, uses and economic values associated with the ecosystem services provided by wetlands
- Developed and lobbied for the adoption of Transboundary Wetland Management Plans for the three wetland landscapes including the integration of strategies that promote the human rights to water.

Established Transboundary Wetland Management Committees for transboundary wetland cooperation and commitment.

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

Eng. Isaac Alukwe
Regional Coordinator, Nile Basin Initiative/Nile Equatorial Lakes Subsidiary Action Program (NELSAP)

████████████████████

Contract/Project 2 Title

Partners for Resilience II

Contract Value/Project budget (include currency)

██████████ Euros

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

5 years (2016- 2020)

Role of organisation in project

Wetlands International Kenya led on Ecosystem Management and Restoration (EMR) domain aimed at building resilience of communities along the Ewaso Ng'iro river basin against climate-related disaster risks such as droughts and flooding through ecosystem-based approaches for sustenance and restoration of healthy ecosystems especially wetlands.

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

The project aimed at building and strengthening community resilience in Kenya by integrating Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), Climate Change Adaptation (CCA), and Ecosystem Management and Restoration (EMR) – referred to as Integrated Risk Management (IRM).

Outcomes include: Strengthened the capacity of water/wetlands local governance institutions to collaboratively manage water resources and resolve conflicts and disputes; enhanced community resilience through mainstreaming integrated risk management in wetlands management plans; enhanced community participation in decision making related to investments within the Ewaso Ng'iro river basin; enhanced protection of the livelihoods of vulnerable communities along Ewaso Ng'iro river basin in Kenya.

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

Maren Striker, Global Coordinator Partners for Resilience (PfR)



Contract/Project 3 Title

Watershed - Empowering Citizens

Contract Value/Project budget (include currency)

Euros €

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

5 years (2016 - 2020)

Role of organisation in project

Led the consortium composed of IRC, Simavi, and Akvo in advocating for an ecosystem-based approach to ensure water providers, governments and the private sector take responsibility for sustainable and equitable delivery of water and better management of water resources.

We also provided technical and financial oversight of sub-grantees.

The programme contributed efforts to the delivery of improvements in the governance and management of water, sanitation and hygiene services as well as of the water resources on which they draw by strengthening civil society's capacity for lobbying and advocacy.

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

Outcomes:
- Strengthened the capacity of CSOs to lobby and advocate for improvements in water governance;
- Established Multi-Stakeholder Platforms to dialogue waters resource management issues and dispute resolution over water resource utilisation.
- Championed the adoption of landscape approaches in decision-making processes, including county policies, plans and programmes

Developed knowledge products demonstrating the need to act, and feasible approaches.

Client/independent reference contact details (Name, e-mail) Pim Van Der Male
First Secretary, Food Security and Water, Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Nairobi Kenya
[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

Certification

On behalf of the

Trustees

of

Wetlands International Kenya

I apply for a grant of

£599,700.00

I certify that, to the best of our knowledge and belief, the statements made by us in this application are true and the information provided is correct. I am aware that this application form will form the basis of the project schedule should this application be successful.





(This form should be signed by an individual authorised by the applicant institution to submit applications and sign contracts on their behalf.)

- I have enclosed CVs for project key project personnel, cover letter, letters of support, a 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 Titus Wamae

Position in the organisation Regional Policy and Advocacy Officer

Signature (please upload e-signature)  [Titus Wamae Signature](#)
 12/12/2022
 17:49:50
 jpg 19.35 KB

Date 12 December 2022

Please attach the requested signed audited/independently examined accounts.

 Audit FS 2021	 Audit FS 2020
 12/12/2022	 12/12/2022
 17:54:13	 17:52:37
 pdf 2.91 MB	 pdf 4.14 MB

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

 [Wetlands International Safeguarding Information](#)
 12/12/2022
 17:50:51
 pdf 637.86 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 attached the below documents to my application <ul style="list-style-type: none">• my completed logframe as a PDF using the template provided	Checked
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• my budget (which meets the requirements above)	Checked
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• my completed implementation timetable as a PDF using the template provided	Checked

I have included a 1 page CV or job description for all the Project Staff identified at Question 31, 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 32, 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 28.	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 Initiative 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).

Rights of Wetlands Operationalisation for Biodiversity and Community Resilience

Activity	No of months	Year 1 2023 / 2024												Year 2 2024 / 2025												Year 3 2025 / 2026												Beyond Project
		Q1			Q2			Q3			Q4			Q1			Q2			Q3			Q4															
		May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar		
Project meetings																																						
Project Team Meetings (Co-leads and In-Country Project Coordinators)	18																																					
Advisory Board Meetings	7																																					
Output 1																																						
1.1 Online Start-up Workshop	1	1 x W																																				
1.2 Rights of Wetlands Review	3																																					
1.3 Stakeholder and Community Questionnaire	1																																					
1.4 Stakeholder and Community Workshops (2 per country)	2																																					
1.5 Annual Stakeholder Project Meetings	3																																					
1.6 Country Rights of Wetlands Review Reports	2																																					
1.7 Community Consent Process	7																																					
1.8 Rights of Wetlands Community Participatory Video Workshops	7																																					
1.9 Legal, Policy, Governance and Communication Stakeholder Workshops	7																																					
1.10 Rights of Wetlands Usage Impact Review	4																																					
Output 2																																						
2.1 Training Materials Production	6																																					
2.2 Community Engagement Training	4																																					
2.3 Community Social and Environmental Rights and Rights of Wetlands Training	4																																					
Output 3																																						
3.1 Community Best Practice Sharing	3																																					
3.2 Video-mediated Dialogue Network Meetings	5																																					
Output 4																																						
4.1 Development of Dissemination and Communication Strategy	1																																					
4.2 Establish and Update Project Website Pages	35																																					
4.3 Community Best Practice Wetland Management Analysis	4																																					
4.4 Legal, Policy, Governance and Communication Best Practice Analysis	4																																					
4.5 Development of Policy Briefings	2																																					
4.6 RoWLPGC Principles and Toolkits Production	2																																					
4.7 RoWWMCA Principles and Toolkits Production	2																																					
4.8 Rights of Wetlands Principles and Toolkits Training	3																																					
4.9 Dialogue with communities, CSOs, NGOs, governments and the private sector	23																																					
4.10 Identify and support formulation of policy /legislation/ strategy/ plan on wetlands management	24																																					
4.11 Ramsar and CBD CoP Side Event Applications and Draft Resolution for Ramsar COP	9																																					
4.12 Hold online International Rights of Wetlands Event	1																																					
4.13 Draft and submit at least two articles to journals	2																																					

Project Title: Rights of Wetlands Operationalisation for Biodiversity and Community Resilience

Project Summary	SMART Indicators	Means of Verification	Important Assumptions
<p>Impact: Wetland loss and degradation addressed using a Rights of Wetlands approach delivering improved community wetland management, legal protection and more effective governance frameworks resulting in biodiversity conservation and poverty alleviation</p>			
<p>Outcome: Demonstrate how the Rights of Wetlands approach can be transformed from concept into a sustainable practice in five countries using participatory, legal and advocacy processes</p>	<p>0.1 Declaration to uphold the Rights of Wetlands by stakeholders in respect to their wetland landscape [target: 1 x Declaration in each of the 5 countries] (yr 3).</p> <p>0.2 Use of Rights of Wetlands principles and practical approaches in community and government policies and activities [target: increased usage in all 5 countries above baseline] (yr 1,2 & 3).</p> <p>0.3 Establishment of formal communication exchange network among community, CSOs and government agencies in relation to Rights of Wetlands [target: 1 communication network per country] (yr 3).</p> <p>0.4 Best practice principles and toolkits for Rights of Wetlands included within the policy arena of other countries [target: at</p>	<p>0.1 Stakeholder wetland declarations published on partner websites and within media (yr 3).</p> <p>0.2 A report on the content analysis of national, CSO and local policy/documents to see usage of key project approaches (yrs 1 and 3).</p> <p>0.3 Number of organisations joining and attending network meetings (Pre- and post- meeting questionnaires and evidence to assess improved communication and impact of Rights of Wetlands (yr 1, 2 & 3).</p> <p>0.4 Web analytics data on the use and take up of the dedicated resources such as best practice toolkits and published policies, legislation and guidance from identified countries. Responses of CBD and Ramsar National Focal Points (yr 3).</p>	<p>Political and economic stability in all five countries enables the project to be completed [although there has been some political disruption in some of the project countries, project partners are confident that day to day activities and project activities would not be disrupted].</p> <p>COVID-19 travel and engagement restrictions [the project has been designed so that many activities including workshops and training can be undertaken online or as downloadable offline digital content, so accessible even for remote communities. This overcomes travel restrictions and reduces the overall carbon impact and cost of the project. Some face-to-face meetings are needed, particularly with communities, but in-country partners and their staff are in a position to undertake the activities].</p> <p>In-country institutions, especially government agencies, remain committed to community-led wetland</p>

Project Title: Rights of Wetlands Operationalisation for Biodiversity and Community Resilience

Project Summary	SMART Indicators	Means of Verification	Important Assumptions
	<p>least 1 additional country adopts Rights of Wetlands approach] (yr 3).</p>		<p>management, biodiversity conservation, poverty alleviation, respect for human rights and sustainable development, and are willing to implement Rights of Wetlands approaches to achieve these goals [project was conceived with in-country partners and through discussion with government agencies who have a vested interest as they are obligated to deliver biodiversity conservation and sustainable development goals and the project has been designed to target their priorities.].</p>
<p>Outputs: 1. Robust Evidence Base of Rights of Wetlands in Five Countries</p>	<p>1.1 Community management approaches and worldviews review – Production of country specific review of current community management, traditional knowledge and worldviews [target: 1 report per country (5 total)] (yr 1).</p> <p>1.2 Legislation and policy review – Production of country specific review of current social and environmental legislation and policy [target: 1 report per country (5 total)] (yr 1).</p> <p>1.3 Governance and communication frameworks review – Production of country specific community and national governance and communication frameworks</p>	<p>1.1 Online questionnaire results that report on wetland health, sustainable livelihoods, legal and management approaches including number of respondents and stakeholder and gender-disaggregated attendance records for community workshops in each country (x 5). Reports from workshops. Pre- and post-workshop interviews with men and women/participatory monitoring and evaluation (yr 1).</p> <p>1.2 & 1.3 Translated community management approaches and worldviews review, legislation and policy review and governance and communication</p>	<p>Appropriate government, non-governmental staff and male and female community leaders are available to participate in stakeholder workshops and have access to online questionnaire, to be able contribute to the contextualisation assessment and retain their roles during the course of the project [Project partners have long-term collaboration with relevant agencies/organisations within each country, as well as experience of working with communities and organising events/workshops and arranging digital access in their respective countries].</p>

Project Title: Rights of Wetlands Operationalisation for Biodiversity and Community Resilience

Project Summary	SMART Indicators	Means of Verification	Important Assumptions
	<p>review assessed against Rights of Wetlands Governance Principles [target: 1 report per country (5 total)] (yr 1).</p> <p>1.4 Number of Rights of Wetlands best practice examples that support wetland health, biodiversity, sustainable livelihoods etc. for wetland community management and legal implementation [target: at least 3 from 5 countries (15 total) examples, with significant representation of women's role in management] (yr 2 & 3).</p>	<p>frameworks review reports for each country published on project and partner websites (15 reports) (yr 1).</p> <p>1.4 Participatory videos available online on project website (yr 2 & 3).</p>	
<p>2. Increased Capacity for Rights of Wetlands Implementation</p>	<p>2.1 Number of people (staff from governmental, non-government organisations, and local and Indigenous leaders) trained in community engagement and community wetland management including gender-inclusive methods [target: at least 25 per country (125 total) with significant representation of women] (yr 1 & 2).</p> <p>2.2 Number of people (staff from governmental, non-government organisations, and local and Indigenous leaders) trained in social and environmental rights and Rights of Wetlands [target: at least 25 per country (125 total) with significant</p>	<p>2.1 Training materials, presentations and reports from workshops. Pre- and post-workshop questionnaires to evaluate understanding and impact of community engagement and community wetland management (yr 1 & 2).</p> <p>2.2 Training materials, presentations and reports from workshops. Pre- and post-workshop questionnaires to evaluate understanding and impact of social and environmental rights and Rights of Wetlands (yr 1 & 2).</p>	<p>Appropriate government and non-governmental stakeholder staff and, local and Indigenous leaders are available to participate in online and in-person capacity building activities and retain their roles during the course of the project [Project partners have long-term collaboration with relevant agencies/organisations within each country, as well as experience of working with communities and organising training programmes and arranging digital access in their respective countries].</p> <p>Workshop participants are willing to provide feedback on the impact of the training post-workshops and</p>

Project Title: Rights of Wetlands Operationalisation for Biodiversity and Community Resilience

Project Summary	SMART Indicators	Means of Verification	Important Assumptions
	representation of women] (yr 1 & 2).		online courses [regular contact with participants will be undertaken post workshops and after online questionnaires to ensure continuity and engagement].
3. Rights of Wetlands Knowledge Exchange and Advocacy	<p>3.1 Number of community peer-to-peer knowledge exchange processes implemented between communities and community groups involved in wetland management [target: within timeframe of project at least 2 communities in each of the 5 countries and all results shared with all countries] (yr 2 & 3).</p> <p>3.2 Number of video-mediated dialogues between local communities and relevant decision makers. [target: 1 per country. Total 5] (yr 3).</p>	<p>3.1 Stakeholder and community workshop gender-disaggregated attendance records. Reports from workshops. Pre- and post-workshop interviews with men and women/participatory monitoring and evaluation (yr 2 & 3).</p> <p>3.2 Pre and post evaluation of screenings of participatory videos to decision makers to assess response and actions. Records of community meetings to discuss decision maker feedback (yr 3).</p>	Appropriate government and non-governmental stakeholder staff and, local and Indigenous community leaders and members are available to participate in participatory engagement activities [Project partners have long-term collaboration with relevant agencies/organisations and community groups within each country, and experience of using participatory engagement techniques to identify successful management, governance and communication approaches].
4. Up-scaling and Dissemination	4.1 Best practice Rights of Wetlands Legal, Policy, Governance and Communication (RoWLPGC) principles and toolkit developed from evidence from 5 countries [target: 1 x principles and toolkit with country examples] (yr 1 & 2).	4.1 Draft and final online RoWLPGC principles and toolkits, made bespoke from Rights of Wetlands Operationalisation Templates that have already been produced, published on project and partner websites and minuted as presented at	Communities will have a continued interest in the project, and knowledge exchange will be sufficient for beneficiaries to successfully understand and apply Rights of Wetlands best management practices [partners have in-depth experience of implementing peer-to-peer

Project Title: Rights of Wetlands Operationalisation for Biodiversity and Community Resilience

Project Summary	SMART Indicators	Means of Verification	Important Assumptions
	<p>4.2 Rights of Wetlands Wetland Management and Community Advocacy (RoWWMCA) principles and toolkit [target: 1 x principles and toolkit with country examples] (yr1, 2 & 3).</p> <p>4.3 Number of people (staff from governmental, non-government organisations, and local and Indigenous leaders) trained in Rights of Wetlands principles and toolkits [target: at least 25 per country (125 total) with significant representation of women] (yr 3).</p> <p>4.4 Side events at Ramsar and CBD CoPs promoting Rights of Wetlands. Toolkits, policy briefings, training materials and reports shared at national and international platforms and events and distributed to National Focal Points [target: at least 3 events] (yr 3 and beyond).</p> <p>4.5 Online International Rights of Wetlands Event to promote project outputs [target: 1 event] (yr 3).</p>	<p>annual project workshops (yr 1, 2 & 3).</p> <p>4.2 Draft and final online RoWWMCA principles and toolkits published on project and partner websites and minuted as presented at annual project workshops (yr 2 & 3).</p> <p>4.3 Training materials, presentations and reports from workshops. Pre- and post-workshop questionnaires to evaluate understanding and impact of Rights of Wetlands principles and toolkits (yr 3).</p> <p>4.4 Record of dissemination platforms and events such as Ramsar CoP and CBD CoP side-events. Downloads of resources and online activity tracked (yr 3 and beyond).</p> <p>4.5 Recording of online event and attendance records. Downloads of resources and online activity tracked (yr 3 and beyond).</p> <p>4.6 Number of postings of written and audiovisual content including participatory videos,</p>	<p>knowledge exchange at community level, and comprehensive evidence of effectiveness. Partners have also established community interest groups such as Indigenous and local groups, wetland community committees, farmer groups, self-help groups, women groups and youth groups which will be engaged through the project].</p> <p>All government and non-government organizations will engage with Rights of Wetlands governance and communication principles and toolkits [Project partners have long-term collaboration with relevant agencies/organisations in all countries, as well as experience of working with communities so are ideally placed to disseminate approaches refined within the project].</p>

Project Title: Rights of Wetlands Operationalisation for Biodiversity and Community Resilience

Project Summary	SMART Indicators	Means of Verification	Important Assumptions
	<p>4.6 Website pages, with regular posting of content [target: 2 types of content posted per month] (yr 1, 2 and 3).</p> <p>4.7 Peer-reviewed journal articles published [target: 2 articles] (yr 3 and beyond).</p>	<p>briefings, reports and blog articles (yr 1, 2, 3 and beyond).</p> <p>4.7 Number of articles submitted and then published to peer-reviewed journals (yr 3 and beyond).</p>	
<p>Activities</p> <p>1.1 Online start-up workshop to outline Rights of Wetlands approach and project activities and to co-develop baseline indicators to assess project activities against – all partners and key stakeholders. The baseline indicators will build on the logframe and include the measurable indicators for the project outcome. These will provide the core baseline indicators but through the 10 workshops for 1.4 the baseline indicators will be expanded to include indicators relevant to the stakeholder groups. The workshops and subsequent consultation will refine an agreed list that communities and project partners feel will fully assess the impact of the project.</p> <p>1.2 Initial review of all available information related to Rights of Wetlands, social and environmental rights and wetland management approaches in each of the five project countries and an assessment made about the likelihood of each country and communities to adopt a Rights of Wetlands approach.</p> <p>1.3 Online and offline questionnaire to key stakeholders and community groups regarding wetland health (biodiversity, water quality, water regime, drivers of wetland health change, threats etc.), sustainable livelihoods, Rights of Wetlands, social and environmental rights and wetland management approaches in each of the five project countries. Questionnaire will be undertaken at the start and end of the project to assess project impact and see whether drivers of change and threats have been removed or reduced.</p> <p>1.4 Online or offline follow-up stakeholder and community workshops to discuss in more detail existing social and environmental rights from a stakeholder and community perspective and project impact indicators (will include government agencies, local community groups, local conservation groups etc, farmers groups, schools, universities, women’s groups, CSOs – 2 x workshops per country).</p> <p>1.5 Annual project meetings to review project progress and to evaluate impact with partners and key stakeholders.</p> <p>1.6 Production of community management approaches and worldviews review, legislation and policy review and governance and communication frameworks review reports for each country.</p> <p>1.7 Undertaking free, prior and informed consent process with key community groups engaged in the project (2 workshops x 5 countries (10 total)).</p> <p>1.8 Regional workshops with community groups to introduce Rights of Wetlands, community wetland management approach concepts, techniques and how to identify best practice that maximises biodiversity, increases household livelihoods and resilience, increases access to direct and indirect benefits, whilst maintaining and restoring wetland area and health. Within the workshops best practices for wetland management will be identified and visioning of future wetland/human relations will be recorded using participatory video and photography. (3 workshops x 5 countries (Pampas del</p>			

Project Title: Rights of Wetlands Operationalisation for Biodiversity and Community Resilience

Project Summary	SMART Indicators	Means of Verification	Important Assumptions
<p>Yacuma, Bolivia, Bobonaza River, Ecuador, North Rupununi Wetlands, Guyana, Tana River Basin, Kenya, Colombo Wetlands, Sri Lanka)). Best practices will also be documented with groups in the field following the workshops particularly to identify any seasonal differences in management approaches.</p> <p>1.9 Key stakeholder workshops to identify best practice in legislation and policy, and governance and communication frameworks regarding Rights of Wetlands (2 workshops x 5 countries (10 total)). Participatory videos will be used to record these examples to share with other project partners and wider.</p> <p>1.10 Undertake a review of Rights of Wetlands usage within current environmental and development policies and strategies in 5 countries, to provide baseline in year 1 and impact in year 3.</p> <p>2.1 Produce training materials – CC has developed a comprehensive set of training materials for community engagement and community wetland management through participatory methods. These will be made bespoke for each country context and translated where required. Additional social and environmental rights and Rights of Wetlands training materials will also be developed.</p> <p>2.2 Training in community engagement through participatory methods, including gender-inclusive methods (Online training and 1 x face-to-face workshops in five countries) and ongoing training during community engagement activities.</p> <p>2.3 Training workshops in social and environmental rights and Rights of Wetlands (Online training and 1 x face-to-face workshops in five countries) and ongoing training during community engagement activities.</p> <p>3.1 Sharing of community wetland best practices, recorded in Activity 1.8, with other community groups through workshops in 5 countries (2 workshops x 5 countries – 2 days each).</p> <p>3.2 Establishment of video-mediated dialogue network meetings between local communities as rights holders and government representatives as duty bearers to create awareness on the Rights of Wetlands approach and to establish a formal, on-going communication network in each country (1 x video-mediated dialogue process in each country and 1 x communication network meeting in 5 countries).</p> <p>4.1 Development of a Dissemination and Communication Strategy that identifies key audiences and methods to reach them (1 x partner online meeting) during and beyond the project.</p> <p>4.2 Establishment of project website pages.</p> <p>4.3 Analysis of community best practice wetland management to determine the most effective community advocacy and management approaches sympathetic to a Rights of Wetlands approach and future healthy wetland/human relations.</p>			

Project Title: Rights of Wetlands Operationalisation for Biodiversity and Community Resilience

Project Summary	SMART Indicators	Means of Verification	Important Assumptions
<p>4.4 Analysis of legal, governance and communication best practice to determine the most effective legal, policy, governance and communication approaches sympathetic to a Rights of Wetlands approach and future healthy wetland/human relations by mapping and collation of relevant policies and legal frameworks and a gap analysis in relation to Rights of Wetlands.</p> <p>4.5 Development of policy briefings.</p> <p>4.6 Production of RoWLPGC principles and toolkits (Principles and toolkits will be drafted based on the project data, videos recorded and the workshops then used for consultation before being finalised and published on project websites).</p> <p>4.7 Production of RoWWMCA principles and toolkits including best practice management approaches (Principles and toolkits will be drafted based on the project data and videos and the workshops then used for consultation before being finalised and published on project websites).</p> <p>4.8 Training in Rights of Wetlands principles and toolkits. (Online course with 2 x follow-up workshops for each country).</p> <p>4.9 Dialogue with communities, CSOs, NGOs, governments and the private sector to disseminate gap analysis, policy briefs and share RoWWMCA and RoWLPGC principles and toolkits in 5 countries.</p> <p>4.10 Identify and support (if possible depending on opportunities in country context) formulation of at least one policy/legislation/strategy/plan on wetlands management.</p> <p>4.11 Submission of applications for side events at Ramsar and CBD CoPs and distribution of project outputs to all National Focal Points and other key stakeholders identified in the Dissemination Strategy and produce a Draft Resolution for the Ramsar COP15.</p> <p>4.12 Hold online International Rights of Wetlands Event to promote project outputs.</p> <p>4.13 Draft journal articles.</p>			