

Applicant: **Nawaz, Muhammad Ali**
Organisation: **Snow Leopard Foundation**
Funding Sought: **£235,678.00**

DIR31S2\1018

Safeguarding Biodiversity in the Karakoram Landscape through community-based conservation

Human-wildlife conflict (HWC), poaching, habitat degradation, and climate change pose significant threats to biodiversity of the Karakoram range. The project addresses these issues by empowering local communities, HWC mitigation and compensation measures. Additionally, the project focuses on livelihood enhancement through women-led micro-enterprises, organic farming, alongside conservation education and advocacy initiatives.

The implementation of these activities will safeguard 942,500 hectares of habitat and benefit 8,000 households across 17 valleys by diversifying income sources, empowering women, and ensuring food security.

PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

Title	Dr
Name	Muhammad Ali
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Organisation	Snow Leopard Foundation
Website (Work)	www.slf.org.pk
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Section 1 - Contact Details

PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

Title	Dr
Name	Muhammad Ali
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Organisation	Snow Leopard Foundation
Website (Work)	www.slf.org.pk
Tel (Work)	
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Address	

GMS ORGANISATION

Type	Community interest company (CIC)
Name	Snow Leopard Foundation
Phone (Work)	
Email (Work)	
Website (Work)	https://slf.org.pk/
Address	

Section 2 - Title, Ecosystems, Approaches & Summary

Q3. Project title

Safeguarding Biodiversity in the Karakoram Landscape through community-based conservation

Please upload a cover letter as a PDF document.

-  [SLF Cover Letter DIM 2024](#)
-  01/12/2024
-  14:53:36
-  pdf 1.67 MB

What was your Stage 1 reference number? e.g. DIR31S1\1123

DIR31S1\1581

Q4. Response to Stage 1 feedback

You must explicitly set out how and where you have addressed all the comments/feedback in the application form: briefly restating the feedback point, then clearly setting out how you have responded to it in the application.

Identified the following areas which may help you to strengthen your application at Stage 2:

Feedback: the only involvement of the Wildlife Department seems to be with the Livestock Insurance Schemes (LIS) payments. Greater active engagement could help foster closer relations between them and communities which is important for sustainability;

Response: The Wildlife Department will actively be engaged in wildlife research initiatives under the project to ensure close alignment with the department's conservation priorities. Furthermore, the project aims to enhance the Wildlife Department staff's skills in wildlife assessment tools, thereby contributing to the region's conservation efforts. Field staff stationed at project sites will play an integral role, participating in community interactions and implementing and monitoring project activities. (Responded in Q15. Methodology)

Feedback: the sustainable model on which the LIS is based is not entirely clear. Reference is made to a seed grant and to profits from the grant. Please provide more detail on how the model has been working to date;

Response: To mitigate economic losses, livestock insurance schemes are implemented, with households paying registration fees and premiums into a centralized community-managed fund. Fund management committees with SLF, CBOs, and Wildlife Department representatives investigate and verify livestock predation claims and determine payouts. SLF will provide initial seed funding to support these schemes complimented by the community shares through registration fees collected from each participating household. These funds are then deposited in a joint bank account with a signatory from CBO, SLF, and Wildlife Department. The profit earned by the end of the year is used to compensate the predation affectees nominated by the LIS management committee. (Responded in Q15. Methodology)

Feedback: more reference to the outcomes of the current project might be helpful;

Response: Key achievements of the 2022-2024 Darwin Initiative Project included the construction of 24 predator-proof corrals to safeguard 19,200 sheep and goats and the introduction of livestock insurance schemes in 12 valleys. The project also facilitated the vaccination of 250,000 livestock and empowered 108 women artisans to create Snow Leopard Enterprises (SLE) products. Furthermore, 536 community members were trained in entrepreneurship, financial management, wildlife surveying, and conservation education. In support of wildlife research, over 1,000 genetic samples were collected for snow leopard population estimation, while wild ungulate assessments were conducted across 98,000 km² and 57 valleys. (Responded in Q15. Methodology).

Feedback: there is a concern that the Outcome and Outputs may be too ambitious;

Response: The project is based on SLF's experiences implementing similar activities in the country's snow leopard range. So, SLF is expected to achieve the planned targets.

The snow leopard program is working with 40,000 households in 50 valleys spanning 30,075 km² across Himalaya-Karakoram-Hindukush ranges. Ecosystem health program involves biannual vaccination of 400,000 livestock to eradicate prevailing contagious diseases and help increase livestock-based income. Wildlife research conducted over 40,000 km² from 2006-2024 stands out for its groundbreaking scope and methodologies in ecological studies. SLF has established 63 predator proof corrals which are protecting about 35,000 livestock from predators. Forty valleys have livestock insurance schemes being managed by the CBOs, SLF and provincial Livestock Departments. There are five greenhouses providing off-season crops. Over the past decade, SLF has built close relationships with communities and developed best practices for individual programmes, funded by Darwin Initiative and private grants and donations.

Feedback: the application does not provide a clear plan of how it will make evidence widely and publicly available;

Response: The project results will be widely circulated and made publicly available through a monthly newsletter, SLF's website, and digital/social media posts. (Q25b. Standard Indicators)

Feedback: the logframe should be strengthened:

Response: The project log frame has been significantly strengthened by incorporating comprehensive details on the number of beneficiaries, which enhances clarity and impact assessment. SMART indicators for planned activities have been expanded to provide specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-bound benchmarks, clearly outlining the anticipated results and long-term impacts. The alignment of indicator numbers with corresponding Means of Verification ensures transparency and facilitates robust monitoring and evaluation. Additionally, the timing for baseline development has been specified where necessary, providing a clearer framework for tracking progress. The log frame now also includes detailed descriptions of new project activities, further contributing to the coherence and effectiveness of our strategic approach. (See the updated log frame submitted).

Feedback: ensure it captures details on the number of beneficiaries and baselines;

Response: Most of the outputs have added details on the number of beneficiaries and baselines.

Feedback: match the numbering of indicators with the means of verification for ease of understanding;

Response: The numbering of all indicators has been matched with the means of verification in the project's updated log frame.

Feedback: the number of households is the biggest unit to be used: please add this to where the number of communities is cited, as appropriate;

Response: The number of households has been added to the log frame where the number of communities was cited.

Feedback: for each indicator, ensure baselines are included or state if, and by when, they are to be established by the project.

Response: Baselines have been included for each indicator, and the locations where the project will establish them have been described.

Q5. 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

Polar-alpine

Biome 2

Freshwater Realm (Rivers and streams)

Biome 3

No Response

Conservation Action 1

Land / Water Management

Conservation Action2

Species Management

Conservation Action 3

Livelihood, Economic & Moral Incentives

Threat 1

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

Threat 2

Human intrusions & disturbance (recreation, war)

Threat 3

Climate change & severe weather

Q6. Summary of project

Please provide a brief non-technical summary of your project: the problem/need it is trying to address, its aims, and the key activities you plan on undertaking.

Human-wildlife conflict (HWC), poaching, habitat degradation, and climate change pose significant threats to biodiversity of the Karakoram range. The project addresses these issues by empowering local communities, HWC mitigation and compensation measures. Additionally, the project focuses on livelihood enhancement through women-led micro-enterprises, organic farming, alongside conservation education and advocacy initiatives.

The implementation of these activities will safeguard 942,500 hectares of habitat and benefit 8,000 households across 17 valleys by diversifying income sources, empowering women, and ensuring food security.

Section 3 - Countries, Dates & Budget Summary

Q7. Country(ies)

Which eligible host country(ies) will your project be working in?

Country 1	Pakistan	Country 2	<i>No Response</i>
Country 3	<i>No Response</i>	Country 4	<i>No Response</i>

Do you require more fields?

☒ No

If you are proposing to work in an Upper Middle Income Country (see Annex A), please demonstrate your case for support with reference to one or more of the criteria in Section 2.8.

No Response

Q8. Project dates

Start date:

01 June 2025

End date:

31 March 2028

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

2 years 9 months

Q9. Budget summary

Year:	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	Total request £
Amount:	£54,537.00	£112,715.00	£68,426.00	£0.00	£0.00	£ 235,678.00

Q10. Do you have matched funding arrangements?

☒ Yes

Please ensure you clearly outline your matched funding arrangement in the budget.

Q11. If you have a significant amount of unconfirmed matched funding, please clarify how you will deliver the project if you don't manage to secure this?

NA

Q12. Have you received, applied for, or plan to apply for any other UK Government funding for your proposed project or similar project?

☒ Yes

Please provide details.

If you have received, applied for or plan to apply with similar projects, explain how your activities are distinct and complementary.

We have secured funding from the Darwin Initiative for the project "Community-based Conservation of Snow Leopard and Its Habitat in Pakistan" (reference number DIR28S2\1038), which is now in its final year. This three-year initiative has laid a strong foundation for conservation efforts. The proposed follow-up project will expand protection to an additional 942,500 hectares of habitat and engage 8,000 households across 17 new valleys. Focusing on community empowerment, nature-based solutions, and conservation education, it aims to mitigate key threats to snow leopards, their prey, and their ecosystems.

Additionally, we are collaborating on a regional project, "Empowering Communities and Rangers for Protection of Asia's Mountain Wildlife," funded by IWTCF (IWTEXR9S2\1001) and implemented in Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, and Pakistan. Building on past successes, this initiative will introduce innovative approaches such as greenhouses, organic farming, and honeybee keeping to enhance food security, empower women, and improve local livelihoods.

Section 4 - Problem statement

Q13. 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 multi-dimensional poverty**.

The mountain ecosystems of northern Pakistan host biodiversity of global importance. However, growing human and livestock populations are increasing pressure on these natural resources, leading to ecological degradation. Competition for forage between livestock and wild ungulates, poaching, and unmanaged grazing are prevalent issues. As prey species decline, livestock become more vulnerable to snow leopard attacks, often resulting in retaliatory killings of up to eight snow leopards annually. Climate change exacerbates these challenges, causing fodder and water shortages and spreading diseases that affect both livestock and wildlife. Economic losses from predation and disease average \$119 to \$600 per household annually, contributing to low livestock productivity and income. Limited livelihood options, particularly for women, intensify poverty and strain the fragile ecosystem.

Using proven strategies, implementing community empowerment, biodiversity conservation, and livelihood improvement measures is crucial to safeguard species, ecosystems, and local livelihoods. Since 2008, SLF has collaborated with communities in over 50 valleys, fostering biodiversity conservation through public-private partnerships as part of its snow leopard program, with significant success. Developed in consultation with local men and women, this project will tackle the ecological and socio-economic factors driving ecosystem degradation and species decline. By employing tested, gender-sensitive, and integrated conservation-linked livelihood measures at the landscape level, it aims to create lasting ecological and economic benefits.

Section 5 - Darwin Objectives and Conventions

Q14. Biodiversity Conventions, Treaties and Agreements

Q14a. Your project must support the commitments of one or more of the agreements listed below. Please indicate which agreement(s) will be supported.

- ☒ Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
- ☒ Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS)
- ☒ Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)
- ☒ Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS)
- ☒ United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
- ☒ Global Goals for Sustainable Development (SDGs)

Q14b. 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**.

This project aligns with many national policies and targets set to achieve international biodiversity and development conventions, treaties, and agreements. The objectives of Pakistan's National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) include addressing the root causes of biodiversity loss, reducing direct pressures on biodiversity, safeguarding ecosystems, species, and genetic diversity, and enhancing the benefits derived from biodiversity and ecosystem services. This project aligns with these objectives and contributes to Aichi Biodiversity Targets (ABTs) 1, 5, 7, 12, 14, and 18, as well as to several articles of the CBD: Articles 7, 8, 11, 12, and 17. It addresses biodiversity loss by promoting sustainable use, conserving ecosystems, protecting threatened wildlife and their habitats through in-situ conservation, and enhancing conservation-linked livelihoods. The project empowers CBOs with the skills and resources needed for effective biodiversity management, integrates conservation efforts across landscapes, and produces key data on snow leopards and wild ungulates raising

biodiversity awareness and training local stakeholders in environmental education.

The project contributes to Pakistan's NDCs by supporting actions such as establishing wildlife corridors and collaboratively managing protected areas to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, including minimizing the use of chemical fertilizers. It supports the National Climate Change Policy 2021 and National Adaptation Plan (NAP) 2023 through biodiversity investments, resilience-building initiatives, food security efforts, and GHG reductions. Wildlife conservation measures further align with the National Wildlife Policy 2021.

Additionally, the project supports the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources, particularly Articles 8, 9, and 22, by protecting threatened species like snow leopards and wild ungulates, expanding the knowledge base on these species, sharing best practices, and engaging local communities in conservation efforts. The project promotes sustainable livelihoods and locally relevant solutions to human-snow leopard conflict.

The initiative advances multiple Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including:

- SDG 2, Target 2.4: Promoting sustainable food production and resilient agriculture.
- SDG 5, Target 5.B: Empowering women through technology and livelihood initiatives.
- SDG 13, Target 13.3: Building capacity to combat climate change.
- SDG 15, Targets 15.4, 15.5, 15.7, and 15.C: Conserving mountain-ecosystems, halting biodiversity loss, preventing species extinction, ending poaching, and empowering communities.

The project also aligns with the Global Snow Leopard and Ecosystem Protection Program (GSLEP) and Bishkek Declaration, ratified by 12 snow leopard range countries in 2013. It aims to ensure healthy populations of breeding snow leopards with secure prey and connectivity. Focusing on the Karakoram-Pamir Landscape, which hosts one of the highest densities of snow leopards, SLF collaborates closely with Pakistan's focal points for CBD and GSLEP for biodiversity conservation initiatives.

The project will enhance conservation efforts for species listed under CITES, including snow leopards, blue sheep, ibex, and lynx. By increasing tolerance for snow leopards and their prey, the project aims to reduce retaliation killings and curb illegal wildlife trade. Since snow leopards traverse international borders, the conservation efforts support the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals.

Furthermore, livestock vaccination and wildlife protection measures contribute to climate change adaptation, aligning with Article 4.1(b) of the UNFCCC.

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

Q15. 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.).

The proposed project builds on valuable lessons learned from past Darwin Initiative grants (2014-2015 and 2022-2024) in Chitral and Gilgit-Baltistan, where SLF engaged local communities, especially women, in conservation. These projects covered 29 valleys, directly benefiting over 40,000 households across 50 valleys and 30,075 km². The current initiative will expand to engage an additional 56,000 people from 8,000 households across 17 communities in Gilgit-Baltistan.

Key achievements from the 2022-2024 Darwin Initiative Project include the construction of 24 predator-proof corrals, protection of 19,200 sheep and goats, the introduction of livestock insurance schemes across 12 valleys, vaccination of 250,000 livestock, and training of 108 women artisans to produce Snow Leopard Enterprises (SLE) products. Additionally, 536 community members received training in entrepreneurship, financial management,

wildlife surveys, and conservation education. Over 1,000 genetic samples were collected for snow leopard population estimation and wild ungulate assessments across 98,000 km² and 57 valleys.

This project will build upon these successes by continuing to address human-wildlife conflict through safety nets, including 10 livestock insurance schemes, predator-proofing 13 corrals, and vaccinating 140,000 animals biannually. It will also support women-led enterprises and expand conservation education programs. SLF has conducted extensive ecological research on snow leopards and their prey, collaborating with provincial wildlife departments, academia, and local communities, and will extend this research to an additional 9,391 km².

Project activities are grounded in community-driven, co-designed models. Interviews and field surveys collect baseline data on socioeconomic conditions, household income, livestock mortality, and community attitudes. Ungulate population trends are assessed through surveys, and snow leopard population estimates are derived from non-invasive genetic sampling.

SLF works to strengthen Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) and Women's Organizations (WOs), which sign conservation agreements to protect snow leopards, their wild prey, and their habitat. Capacity-building activities support CBOs, equipping them with management training and enabling them to implement livestock vaccination programs and construct predator-proof corrals. These initiatives help safeguard 7,000 animals, with SLF providing expertise and materials while communities contribute labor and maintenance.

Livestock insurance schemes are implemented to mitigate economic losses, with households paying registration fees and premiums into a centralized community-managed fund. Fund management committees, including SLF, CBOs, and Wildlife Department representatives, investigate and verify livestock predation claims and determine payouts. SLF will provide initial seed funding to support these schemes complemented by the community shares through registration fees collected from each participating household. These funds are then deposited in a joint bank account having a signatory from CBO, SLF, and Wildlife Department. The profit earned by the end of the year is used to compensate the predation affectees nominated by the LIS management committee.

SLF also promotes income-generating activities linked to conservation. Women artisans receive training in SLE, producing products such as embroidered cushions, wallets, bags, and carpet shoes, which increase their monthly income by [REDACTED]. These products are sold through an SLE outlet in Gilgit, and marketed across Pakistan, and internationally via the Snow Leopard Trust.

Greenhouses and organic farming address agricultural challenges in the project area, particularly at elevations above 2,500 meters. The recommended greenhouses, constructed with durable GI pipes, are designed to withstand harsh conditions and measure 40 feet long, 20 feet wide, and 9 feet high. Training community members will be provided with solar dryers capable of drying 50 kg of fruit daily for fruit processing.

Educational initiatives also support the project. Teachers are trained in conservation education, and students in local schools participate in Nature Clubs, implementing action plans developed during their training. Nature study camps are organized to provide practical experience for the students. These initiatives will be reinforced by the development of thematic educational materials.

Additionally, the project plans to build the capacity of Wildlife Department staff in wildlife assessment tools, further strengthening the region's conservation efforts. The field staff of the Wildlife Department stationed in the project sites will be taken on board during the community interactions and implementation and monitoring of all project activities. Through these activities, the project seeks to promote sustainable coexistence between local communities and wildlife, ensuring long-term benefits for both conservation and livelihoods.

Q16. Capability and Capacity

How will the project support the strengthening of capability and capacity of identified local and national partners, and stakeholders during its lifetime at organisational or individual levels? Please provide details of what form this will take, who will benefit (noting GESI considerations), and the post-project value to the country.

CBOs and WOs are responsible for selecting trainees. By the project's end, these organizations will manage the operation and maintenance of corrals and greenhouses and oversee Livestock Insurance Schemes. SLF will support this transition by providing training in community financial management, monitoring, record-keeping, livestock vaccination for Ecosystem Health Workers (EHWs), and fruit processing for women.

Establishing or strengthening women-led CBOs for Snow Leopard Enterprises (SLEs) creates income-generating

opportunities linked to conservation, empowering women as earners and promoting gender equity. The Wildlife Department's input on predator-proof corrals, greenhouses, and solar dryers, along with their role as signatories in agreements and members of livestock insurance committees, will build their capacity to manage these initiatives.

Teacher training in conservation education will help educators promote awareness beyond the project's duration. Similarly, nature study camps will enhance students' understanding and commitment to biodiversity conservation. Wildlife Department staff and academic partners will receive training and participate in double-observer surveys to monitor wild ungulate populations. These efforts will equip stakeholders with skills to carry out future conservation initiatives.

CBOs will be linked with various stakeholders and programs, such as the Green Pakistan Programme and other donor-funded projects, to advance broader development and conservation goals at the valley level. Community members will learn livestock management and disease prevention from EHWs, reducing animal losses and increasing productivity and income. The project aims for at least 42% female participation in training programs.

Q17. Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI)

All applicants must consider whether and how their project will contribute to promoting equality between persons of different gender and social characteristics. Please include reference to the GESI context in which your project seeks to work. Explain your understanding of how individuals may be disadvantaged or excluded from equal participation within the context of your project, and how you seek to address this. You should consider how your project will proactively contribute to ensuring individuals achieve equitable outcomes and how you will ensure meaningful participation for all those engaged.

In the project areas, women manage domestic responsibilities such as family and livestock care, vegetable gardening, crop weeding, apricot processing, and producing milk products and handicrafts. With literacy rates around 40%, many women hold valuable Indigenous conservation knowledge but lack significant decision-making power in households and communities. They face limited access to natural resources and socio-economic services and are underrepresented in planning and governance structures. However, some women are beginning to participate in Community-Based Organizations (CBOs), engage in small businesses, and acquire new skills like computer literacy.

This project integrates gender equality through a comprehensive gender mainstreaming approach. Gender-disaggregated data guides the planning of initiatives, and the project prioritizes establishing and strengthening Women's Organizations (WOs). Women are actively encouraged to join CBO leadership, participate in decision-making, and manage key initiatives like livestock insurance, Snow Leopard Enterprises (SLE), greenhouses, and solar dryers. The Snow Leopard Foundation (SLF) has established a business center in Gilgit city to market products crafted by women artisans, enhancing their economic empowerment.

To ensure gender inclusion, approximately 40% of beneficiaries are women, tracked through gender-based monitoring indicators. Livelihood initiatives are tailored to support women, and targeted project communications highlight women's achievements. Female project staff engage directly with women, facilitating active participation in planning and implementation. SLE empowers women economically and increases their influence within households and communities.

The project also provides gender sensitization training for staff and emphasizes women's engagement through dedicated Field Organizers who connect CBOs with stakeholders. Women benefit from livestock vaccinations, insurance, predator-proof corrals, and solar dryers. Girls participate in nature camps and training sessions, including women from academia, government, and local communities, ensuring wide-reaching gender inclusion.

Q18. Change expected

Detail the expected changes and benefits to both biodiversity and multi-dimensional poverty reduction, and links between them, that this work will deliver. You should identify what will change and who exactly will benefit a) in the short-term (i.e. during the life of the project) and b) in the long-term (after the project has ended).

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

Local communities in the project area face the challenges of coexisting with large carnivores, as these predators pose significant threats to their livelihoods. The proposed project aims to address the direct threats to biodiversity, ecosystems, and local livelihoods in agropastoral settings. Economic benefits derived from ecosystem services provide up to approximately [REDACTED] per household annually, with average annual earnings from pastoral activities estimated at [REDACTED] per household. As demonstrated by similar projects in surrounding communities, predator-proof corrals, and livestock vaccinations help safeguard livestock - critical income sources for local families.

This project will safeguard an additional 100,000 livestock through Livestock Insurance Schemes (LIS), which compensate families for animals lost to predators. As a self-sustaining model, LIS will continue beyond the project's lifespan. Predator-proof corrals alone protect around 7,000 animals from mass predation events, reducing significant economic losses.

Empowering 100 women across 10 valleys through handicraft initiatives diversifies income, adding approximately [REDACTED] per month per family and advancing gender equity. Efforts in piloting greenhouses, organic farming, and fruit preservation with 27 community members (40% women) will boost agricultural productivity, raising annual incomes by about [REDACTED] per family. These agricultural improvements are expected to scale, creating more educational and health opportunities.

The project will reduce livestock losses from predation and disease—valued at [REDACTED] per year, respectively—by 90% and 50%, greatly mitigating economic setbacks for families in alpine ecosystems.

Empowering communities and involving them in conservation, poaching, and illegal wildlife trade will be eliminated in the project areas. This comprehensive approach protects biodiversity, reduces human-wildlife conflict, and enhances the health and productivity of livestock.

Approximately 8,000 rural families, or 56,000 individuals, benefit from these interventions, including women (40%), Indigenous people, the poor, the disabled, and other disadvantaged groups. These community members gain economic stability and adopt zero-tolerance attitudes toward poaching. The project's commitment to gender mainstreaming ensures equal access to benefits.

Environmental education is strengthened through training for 26 teachers (50% women), while 60 youth (50% girls) engage in nature clubs and study camps to deepen conservation awareness. Wildlife Department staff and academic partners—46 in total, with equal gender representation—receive training and equipment for ongoing monitoring of snow leopard and prey populations. Conservation education campaigns foster a culture of resource stewardship, inspiring future generations.

The success of these initiatives can be replicated in neighboring valleys through community funding or donor support facilitated by SLF. The project fosters resilience, leadership, and sustainable conservation by empowering local communities to manage human-wildlife conflict. Reliable snow leopard and wild prey population estimates support community-led initiatives and national conservation policies, contributing to stable predator and prey populations across 17 valleys.

Q19. Pathway to change

Please outline your project's expected pathway to change.

This project addresses critical threats to biodiversity and ecosystems within 17 valleys of the Karakoram Landscape under the umbrella of snow leopard conservation. Key challenges include human-wildlife conflict, poaching, habitat degradation, and climate change. It reduces pressure on natural resources by empowering local communities, enhancing governance structures, and promoting women's active participation.

Predator-proof corrals and livestock vaccination improve livestock health and reduce losses from predators and disease. Livestock insurance schemes, implemented in collaboration with the Parks and Wildlife Department (PWLD) and local communities, provide compensation for predation-related losses. The project establishes microenterprises, offers handicrafts and fruit processing training, and introduces solar dryers and market linkages. Greenhouses for organic farming of fruit, forest plants, and vegetables enhance agribusiness

productivity and income.

Conservation contracts signed prohibit killing snow leopards, increase community tolerance, and reduce poaching. Capacity building for Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) in financial management ensures the long-term sustainability of these interventions. Training the PWLD and academic partners in wildlife surveys enhances monitoring and reporting on ungulate and carnivore populations.

Environmental education integrated into schools raises awareness and empowers youth as environmental advocates. Collectively, these efforts stabilize snow leopard populations, increase community income, and contribute to a growing knowledge base in biodiversity conservation.

Q20. Sustainable benefits and scaling potential

Q20a. How will the project reach a point where benefits can be sustained post-funding? How will the required knowledge and skills remain available to sustain the benefits? How will you ensure your data and evidence will be accessible to others?

The project's strategy fosters sustainable public-private partnerships, empowering local communities as the primary stakeholders. Engaging government institutions—wildlife, forest, livestock, agriculture departments, and district administrations—in project management further ensures project sustainability. Key interventions, such as predator-proof corrals and livestock insurance schemes, are designed to be community-managed post-project, with corrals maintained as needed and insurance schemes funded through profits from a co-funded seed grant. Artisans trained in handicrafts will complete production cycles by the project's end, using a portion of sales profits to support conservation in their valleys. Community-based wildlife monitoring systems cultivated will continue with the support of the relevant government institutions. The Snow Leopard Foundation (SLF) will continue collaborating with communities, linking them to government and nonprofit partners to expand conservation efforts. Successful outcomes and best practices will be shared widely to encourage replication.

Q20b. If your approach works, what potential is there for scaling the approach further? Refer to Scalable Approaches (Landscape, Replication, System Change, Capacitation) in the guidance. What might prevent scaling, and how could this be addressed?

The project's integrated landscape management approach, fostered through public-private partnership, offers strong potential for scaling. The stakeholders engaged can provide ongoing technical and financial support to local communities to enhance conservation efforts. The project's strategies can be adopted nationally and across other snow leopard range countries by documenting and sharing best practices and lessons learned. Potential barriers to scaling may include limited funding and institutional capacity and building strategic partnerships with government agencies, NGOs, and international donors would be crucial. Additionally, advocacy and awareness campaigns can secure broader support and investment in scaling successful conservation models.

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

 [Project valleys map, LIS Diagram, References](#)

 22/11/2024

 11:40:30

 pdf 419.32 KB

Section 7 - Risk Management

Q21. Risk Management

Please outline the 7 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, two Safeguarding, and one Delivery Chain Risk.

Risk Description	Impact	Prob.	Gross Risk	Mitigation Header	Residual Risk
Fiduciary (financial): funds not used for intended purposes or not accounted for (fraud, corruption, mishandling or misappropriated). Misappropriation of project funds	Minor	Rare	Minor	SLF maintains a comprehensive financial documentation and whistle-blower policy. A trained Accountant tracks and files all expenditures, receipts, and deposits, which are verified by a committee. The office is monitored by security cameras, and annual audits are conducted by an independent third-party accountant.	Minor
Safeguarding: risk of sexual exploitation abuse and harassment (SEAH), or unintended harm to beneficiaries, the public, implementing partners, and staff. Unintended harm to staff	Insignificant	Rare	Minor	SLF's safeguarding policy addresses risks to the health, safety, and security (HSS) of beneficiaries, the public, partners, and staff. It protects against Sexual Exploitation, Abuse, and Harassment (SEAH) and prevents unintended harm. The policy enforces strict measures and ensures prompt action against violations, maintaining a secure and respectful environment.	Minor
Safeguarding: risks to health, safety and security (HSS) of beneficiaries, the public. Implementing partners, and staff. Staff safety and welfare measures may not be taken by the SLF.	Insignificant	Rare	Minor	SLF provides health and life insurance for staff and their families. Staff receive yearly raises to account for inflation and cost of living. SLF has a written safeguarding policy and incidents of harassment, violence, exploitation, or abuse result in termination and/or legal action.	Minor
Delivery Chain: the overall risk associated with your delivery model Efforts to engage womenfolk and vulnerable people among the community in project activities and benefits may be resisted by the communities, resulting in gender bias and an insufficient focus being given to the needs and priorities of women and vulnerable people.	Minor	Possible	Minor	Gender equity and participation will be promoted using culturally sensitive approaches to ensure community support. A female staff will help establish/strengthen women's community-based organizations in each valley. M&E will track women and vulnerable group involvement, guiding inclusivity advocacy and capacity-building. Women's skills will be developed as planned.	Minor

Risk 5 Donor may not be providing timely funds and season of implementing activities is lost.	Moderate	Un-likely	Minor	Utilizing SLF's internal resources to ensure timely delivery of project activities & reimbursing the expenditures from the funds received.	Minor
Risk 6 Flash floods, Glacier Lake Outburst Floods (GLOFs) & extreme weather events.	Moderate	Likely	Minor	The project team will use adaptive management strategy while planning and executing project interventions.	Minor
Risk 7 Inter and intra community conflicts	Moderate	Likely	Minor	Formation of CBOs/ Valley Conservation and Development Organizations (VCDOs). Arranging monthly meetings of CBOs/VCDOs. Visit by SLF staff in most of the CBOs/VCDOs to resolve the community conflicts, if any.	Minor

Q22. Project sensitivities

Please indicate whether there are sensitivities associated with this project that need to be considered if details are published (detailed species location data that would increase threats, political sensitivities, prosecutions for illegal activities, security of staff etc.).

☒ No

Section 8 - Workplan

Q23. Workplan

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

 [Project Workplan](#)

 22/11/2024

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Section 9 - Monitoring and Evaluation

Q24. Monitoring and evaluation (M&E)

Describe how the performance 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.

SLF is responsible for the project's M&E. Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) plans are developed for the project duration and annually using participatory processes and tools. M&E frameworks and methodologies are prepared and shared with the project's monitoring team, which includes the Deputy Director, SLF, Regional team for GB. and M&E Officer.

During project formulation, inputs were taken from communities and relevant government departments, including Wildlife, Livestock, and Agriculture. Participatory monitoring of the project initiatives/activities and outputs involving communities and relevant Departments will occur .

During the first 6 months of the project, gender-disaggregated data is collected by project staff on socio-economic, demographic, and ecological factors, available natural resources and its uses, pastures, capacities, livestock holdings, production and grazing patterns, attitude/perceptions and local behavior towards predators, wild ungulates and environmental threats, climate change and its relation to livelihoods, natural disasters' occurrence during the last 3 years, occupations of the community members and household incomes. Before starting field activities through the VCDOs/CBOs, their organizational and financial management, monitoring, and record-keeping capacities would be assessed. Their capacities would be built based on the gaps identified. The VCDO/CBOs forms Monitoring committees to monitor the physical infrastructure activities' implementation, including predator-proof corrals and greenhouses. The SLF Engineer will monitor such activities at least 3 times during implementation. The SLF Head office and regional office staff will conduct monitoring visits and prepare reports. Monthly activities will be reported in the newsletter and shared with the main stakeholders. Bi-annual and annual reports are prepared and shared with the donor.

All formal training is monitored at the individual training level. Based on the objectives and planned sessions of the training, pre-tests are taken at the start and post-tests after the training is completed. The training effectiveness is assessed by collecting input from the participants at the end of the training on prescribed formats.

Biodiversity surveys and monitoring will be done under the supervision of relevant experts from SLF and SLT. Results are discussed in their joint meetings. Local Wildlife staff and community members will be trained and involved in wildlife surveys to foster long-term community-based snow leopard and environmental monitoring and stewardship.

The M&E costs include staff time to implement the project's monitoring plan, requisite portion of field operations, travel, accommodation, and food costs. Project outcome and impact assessment will be conducted during the second and third years of the project. The finance section of SLF and the internal auditor will assist in monitoring the project's financial performance. The project activities are audited each year through a third party, and based on the audit guidelines, the program's implementation and monitoring are improved. During the last quarter of the completion of this project, it will be audited and a report shared with the donor.

SLF has an online database and impact sheet shared with SLT to monitor project progress on monitoring indicators and impacts. Project risks and issues noted during implementation will be monitored and documented on the risk register.

Total project budget for M&E (£)	
(this may include Staff and Travel and Subsistence Costs)	
Total project budget for M&E (%)	
(this may include Staff and Travel and Subsistence Costs)	
Number of days planned for M&E	430

Section 10 - Logical Framework & Standard Indicators

Q25a. 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 will measure progress against these and how we can verify this.

 Project Logframe

 01/12/2024

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 pdf 193.41 KB

Impact:

Mountain biodiversity and local livelihoods are safeguarded across 942,500 hectares of area in the Karakoram Landscape by promoting human-wildlife coexistence, empowering communities, gender mainstreaming, and multi-dimensional poverty reduction measures.

Outcome:

Viable population of snow leopards and wild ungulates in 17 valleys by reducing livestock losses of 8,000 households, improving their livelihood, and cultivating positive attitudes towards wildlife.

Project Outputs

Output 1:

HWC and livestock losses due to diseases and depredation in 17 project valleys reduced through livestock vaccination, predator-proof corrals, and livestock insurance schemes.

Output 2:

Conservation linked income generating initiatives implemented to reduce HWC, increase income, empower women and improve community attitude towards wildlife conservation in 17 valleys and a new Protected Area added.

Output 3:

A cadre of community activists trained, equipped, and functionalized as a response team in project areas for managing CBOs, livestock disease prevention, conducting wildlife surveys, protecting livestock from predator attacks and creating awareness for biodiversity conservation.

Output 4:

Impact of conservation initiatives on the distribution and abundance of wild ungulates and snow leopards understood.

Output 5:

No Response

Do you require more Output fields?

☒ 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 Attend meetings of already established Community-based Organizations (CBOs).
- 1.2 Establish new CBOs as per project requirements and attend meetings to raise awareness for community

mobilization and gender empowerment

1.3 Baseline surveys regarding population, socio-economic parameters, problems in crops/livestock, valleys/HHs engaged in conservation/livelihood, women engaged in handicrafts, communities' attitudes towards conservation through PRA.

1.4 Conduct meetings with communities for baseline surveys regarding livestock losses inside corrals, insurance coverage, population and illegal killing of wild ungulates and SL.

1.4 Conduct end-line surveys of household income at the valley level.

1.5 Identify and procure livestock vaccines as per vaccination protocol and medicine for ectoparasites as per feedback from the Gilgit-Baltistan (GB) Livestock Department.

1.6 Vaccinate 40,000 cattle/ yak and 100,000 goat/sheep for Black Quarter, Enterotoxaemia, Foot and Mouth, Caprine Pox, Lumpy Skin Disease, or other necessary vaccines or medicines for protection against ectoparasites recommended by the Livestock Department.

1.7 Monitor, collect, and compile data, and make payments to the Ecosystem Health Workers

1.8 Approve selected sites, prepare feasibility and cost estimates for construction of 13 additional predator-proof corrals

1.9 Sign agreements with the/CBOs for the construction of Predator-proof corrals

1.10 Provide payment to the account of CBOs in instalments for the construction of Predator-proof corrals

1.11 Monitor the construction of corrals by the CBOs

1.12 Prepare completion reports of corral construction

1.13 Sign agreements with the CBOs for 10 livestock insurance schemes (LISs)

1.14 Open bank account for LISs

1.15 Monitor collection of community share (registration fee and premium payments) by the CBOs for LISs

1.16 Form a committee for the provision of compensations to community members for livestock losses due to predators

1.17 Provide project share for LISs to CBOs

1.18 Monitor corral usage and LIS progress on an annual basis

2

2.1 Develop and provide selection criteria for different trainings of men and women community members to CBOs to identify the relevant community members

2.2 Determine the income of families of persons selected for SLE, fruit processing training, and establishment of greenhouses before implementation of the activity

2.3 Sign agreements for Snow Leopard Enterprises (SLE) with/CBOs

2.4 Provide 10 days of training to 100 women selected by CBOs for SLE

2.5 Order and purchase SLE products from women on need basis to be sold through Snow Leopard Trust (SLT) and private companies/entrepreneurs.

2.6 Provide SLE products' payments to SLE participants.

2.7 Sign agreements for Off-season vegetable cultivation with CBOs.

2.8 Select vendors and establish greenhouses on farms of farmers selected by CBOs

2.9 Link the beneficiary farmers with the agriculture department to get guidance for off-season crop cultivation and growing of fruit/forest saplings through organic techniques.

2.10 Conduct farmer field day to demonstrate organic farming in greenhouses.

2.11 Provide solar drying units to the women trained for fruit processing

2.12 Initiate fruit processing by utilizing solar dryers by 20 families

2.13 Identify utilization of trained skills from SLE and fruit processing 6 months after training

2.14 Determine income increase as a result of SLE, fruit processing, and off-season crop cultivation on an annual basis.

2.15 Conduct awareness-raising sessions in 17 project valleys regarding the importance of snow leopards and other predators in the ecosystem to enhance public tolerance of large carnivores in their valleys.

2.16 Monitor predation of snow leopard and its prey through interaction with CBOs

2.17 Conduct meetings with GB Wildlife Department to develop/share mapping to declare a protected area.

3

- 3.1 Conduct 2-days training workshop for 20 community activists (13 men & at least 7 women) in community/financial management, record keeping and importance of wildlife conservation
- 3.2 Engage 20 community conservation champions (13 men & at least 7 women) in dialogue with communities
- 3.3 12-days Livestock protection and production training for 20 persons selected by CBOs.
- 3.4 Provide 2-days Fruit processing training to 20 women selected by CBOs
- 3.5 Conduct 3-days training for 24 teachers (12 men and 12 women in year 2) for conservation and training skills
- 3.6 Establish/ strengthen Nature clubs in 12 valleys
- 3.7 Conduct 2-days nature study camps for 60 students (30 boys and 30 girls)
- 3.8 Conduct one day workshops teaching wildlife survey techniques for 34 Wildlife Department staff (all men; 20 in year 1, 14 in yr. 2), 8 members of academia (4 men & 4 women in yr. 2) in wildlife survey techniques for ungulates, eDNA and collaring, that 70% are effectively conducting wildlife surveys 6 months after training,
- 3.9 Develop a video documentary on conservation topics and disseminate among stakeholders
- 4
- 4.1 Provide relevant equipment/materials and conduct ungulate surveys in 17 project valleys through trained persons in collaboration with Wildlife Department
- 4.2 Analyze the ungulate survey results, prepare ungulate population trends, wild prey indices and the report
- 4.3 Provide relevant materials and collect at least 300 genetic samples of wildlife during surveys through trained persons in collaboration with Wildlife Department
- 4.4 Record and store the collected samples after proper processing
- 4.5 Identify Labs for analysis of at least 300 genetic samples and make agreements with them
- 4.6 Send the stored 300 genetic samples to Labs for analysis
- 4.7 Collect data from conservation champions on the of killing of predators and wild herbivores
- 4.8 Prepare a scientific paper on conservation or species stock assessment and send to scientific journals for publication
- 4.9 Respond to the queries of scientific journals
- 4.10 Release at least 30 posts on digital/ social media
- 4.11 Develop monthly newsletter and circulate among stakeholders through digital media.

Q25b. Standard Indicators

Standard Indicator Ref & Wording	Project Output or Outcome this links to	Target number by project end	Provide disaggregated targets here
DI-A01: Number of people in eligible countries who have completed structured and relevant training	Outcome indicator 0.7/ outcome, output indicator 2.2, 2.4/ output 2, output indicator 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 3.7/ output 3	226	82 Men (44 IPLC) 144 Women (140 IPLC)
DI-A04: Number of people reporting that they are applying new capabilities 6+ months after training	Outcome indicator 0.7/ outcome, output indicator 2.2, 2.4/ output 2, output indicator 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 3.7/ output 3	164	74 Men (44 IPLC) 90 Women (90 IPLC)
DI-C02: Number of new conservation or species stock assessments published	Output 4.5/output 4	1	One fauna

DI-C08: Number of Media related activities	Output 4.7, 4.8/ output 4	60	30 posts on digital/ social media & 30 monthly newsletters
DI-D01a: Area under Sustainable Management Practices	Output indicator 2.3/ output 2	3	3 hectares of T4 Savannas and grasslands & T6 Polar/Alpine biome
DI-D01c: Area newly designated as protected areas or other effective conservation measures (OECMs)	Output indicator 2.6/ output 2	1,000	1,000 hectares of T4 Savannas and grasslands & T6 Polar/Alpine biome
DI-D03a: Number of people with Sustainable Livelihoods created or protected	Outcome indicator 0.4/ outcome, output indicator 1.1, 1.2, 1.3/Output 1, output indicator 2.2, 2.3, 2.4/Output 2, output indicator 3.3/Output 3	7,120	120 women (120 IPLC) 7,000 men (7,000 IPLC)
DI-D03b: Number of people with improved income	Outcome Indicator 0.7, 0.8, 0.9/ outcome, output indicator 1.1, 1.2, 1.3/Output 1, output indicator 2.2, 2.3, 2.4/Output 2	130	103 women (70 IPLC) 27 men (27 IPLC)
DI-D07: Number of threatened species with improving conservation status	Outcome indicator 0.1/ outcome	1	One animal
No Response	No Response	No Response	No Response
No Response	No Response	No Response	No Response
No Response	No Response	No Response	No Response
No Response	No Response	No Response	No Response
No Response	No Response	No Response	No Response

If you cannot identify three Standard Indicators you can report against, please justify this here.

No Response

Section 11 - Budget and Funding

Q26. Budget

Please complete the appropriate Excel spreadsheet, which provides the Budget for this application and ensure the Summary page is fully completed. Some of the questions earlier and below refer to the information in this spreadsheet.

Q27. Alignment with other funding and activities

This question aims to help us understand how familiar you are with other work in the geographic/thematic area, and how this proposed project will build on or align with this to avoid any risks of duplicating or conflicting activities.

Q27a. Is this new work or does it build on existing/past activities (delivered by anyone and funded through any source)?

- ☒ Development of existing/past activities

Please provide details:

Currently, the snow leopard program engages 40,000 households in 50 valleys spanning 30,075 km² across Himalaya-Karakoram-Hindukush ranges. The program addresses human-wildlife conflicts through creating safety nets (livestock insurance), reducing livestock losses (predator-proofing of corrals), and conservation education and introducing several livelihood improvement initiatives to reduce dependence on natural resources and inculcate wildlife-friendly attitudes in communities, including snow leopard enterprises, conservation tourism, provision of alternate energy sources, fodder cultivation, fruit tree plantations, apiculture, fruit processing, water management, off-season crop cultivation etc.

Ecosystem health program involves biannual vaccination of 400,000 livestock to eradicate prevailing contagious diseases and help increase livestock-based income. Wildlife research conducted over 40,000 km² from 2006-2024 stands out for its groundbreaking scope and methodologies in ecological studies.

This project builds on long-term efforts by Snow Leopard Foundation (SLF) and partners to support pastoralist communities living with predators. Over the past decade, SLF has built close relationships with communities and developed best practices for individual programmes, funded by Darwin Initiative and private grants and donations.

Our partner, Snow Leopard Trust (SLT) oversees implementation of similar projects in Mongolia, India, and Kyrgyzstan. In all locations including Pakistan, results have been encouraging at both improving livelihoods and reducing retaliatory killing.

Q27b. Are you aware of any current or future plans for work in the geographic/thematic area to the proposed project that may duplicate or cut across this proposed project?

- ☒ Yes

Please give details explaining similarities and differences, and explaining how your work will be additional, avoiding duplicating and conflicting activities and what attempts have been/will be made to co-operate with and share lessons learnt for mutual benefit.

The Government is implementing the Strengthening Protected Areas Management System in Gilgit-Baltistan (GB) and the Protected Areas Initiative of the Green Pakistan Program. The focus is on protected areas management and infrastructure development, while our project will support species-based management by addressing the losses that carnivores generate in communities living around the protected areas. Snow leopards have large ranges exceeding formally Protected Areas; thus, working in these buffer zones is critical. The government is also implementing the Green Climate Fund-funded, Scaling-up of Glacier Lake Outburst Floods Risk Reduction in Northern Pakistan project to strengthen public services to address the damages glacier outbursts often cause in GB by helping communities in interventions to mitigate the damage. Its focus is different from our project. Integrated Carnivores Conservation Program, GB, developed by SLF, is also under consideration by the government. We will collaborate with the Wildlife Department for the implementation of this project.

Q28. 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). Why is it the best feasible project for the amount of money to be spent?

Ensuring cost-effective support for rural communities to coexist with large predators is always challenging. Traditional top-down approaches, such as relocating villagers from tiger reserves in India, have proven to be costly, ineffective, and often controversial. In contrast, the Snow Leopard Foundation's (SLF) approach focuses on bottom-up strategies that empower communities to take ownership of conservation initiatives.

This project maximizes value for money by building on SLF's long-established partnerships with local communities. It implements well-tested, collaborative programs in regions where SLF already has strong relationships, ensuring efficiency and effectiveness in project delivery. By engaging communities directly, the project fosters long-term sustainability, ensuring conservation efforts continue well beyond its lifespan. The Darwin-funded project will benefit approximately 56,000 people across 17 remote communities. It will reduce threats to endangered species, including snow leopards, argali, ibex, and blue sheep, and improve community livelihoods. Evaluation of the project's impact will provide valuable insights into the effectiveness of interventions and their broader consequences on livelihoods, attitudes, and wildlife abundance. These lessons will inform best practices for balancing conservation and livelihood needs, helping shape national and global conservation strategies.

Furthermore, the project aligns with broader landscape-level conservation initiatives, such as the Global Snow Leopard Ecosystem Protection Program (GSLEP), which covers over 500,000 square kilometers. By contributing to these larger efforts, the project has the potential to attract future funding from governments and international bodies, such as the Global Environment Facility (GEF), ensuring that the benefits of this initiative continue to grow.

Q29. Capital items

If you plan to purchase capital items with Darwin Initiative 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.

A laptop is planned to be purchased to support SLF's ongoing monitoring efforts after the project concludes. SLF will use it to track and evaluate project initiatives, ensuring continued support for Valley Conservation and Development Organizations (CBOs) even after the project's closure.

Section 12 - Safeguarding and Ethics

Q30. Safeguarding

All projects funded under the Biodiversity Challenge Funds must ensure proactive action is taken to promote the welfare and protect all individuals involved in the project (staff, implementing partners, the public and beneficiaries) from harm. In order to provide assurance of this, projects are required to have specific procedures and policies in operation.

Please outline how your project will ensure:

(a) beneficiaries, the public, implementing partners, and staff are made aware of your safeguarding commitment and how they can confidentially raise a concern,

(b) safeguarding issues are investigated, recorded and what disciplinary procedures are in place when allegations and complaints are upheld,

(c) you will ensure project partners also meet these standards and policies.

Indicate which minimum standard protocol your project follows and how you meet those minimum standards, i.e. CAPSEAH, CHS, IASC MOS-PSEA. If your approach is currently limited or in the early stages of development, please clearly set out your plans to address this.

The Snow Leopard Foundation (SLF) and its partner, Snow Leopard Trust (SLT), both have comprehensive safeguarding and whistle-blower policies in place to protect against various risks, including staff welfare, abuse of vulnerable individuals, sexual exploitation and harassment, child labor, and protection violations. As the implementing organization for this project, SLF will assess safeguarding risks specific to the project's activities and take proactive measures to mitigate them. These measures will include clear protocols for addressing any incidents related to abuse or exploitation. Any violations by employees or associated individuals will be handled according to SLF's disciplinary procedures, which could lead to termination. In more severe cases, the matter will be reported to the relevant law enforcement authorities immediately. SLF will maintain a detailed register to track safeguarding concerns raised and the actions taken in response. Annual safeguarding reports will be prepared to monitor and ensure adherence to the safeguarding framework. SLF will apply the IASC's six core principles on sexual exploitation and abuse, along with the IASC Minimum Operating Standards on protection from sexual exploitation and abuse, to guide its actions. To ensure ongoing commitment to safeguarding, SLF will hold yearly staff meetings to train team members on safeguarding policies and discuss any emerging issues. These sessions will reinforce the importance of safeguarding and ensure that all staff members are equipped to implement and uphold these standards throughout the project. This robust safeguarding strategy is designed to ensure a safe environment for all beneficiaries, staff, and partners involved in the project, and to foster a culture of respect and accountability.

Defra recommend you appoint a safeguarding focal point to ensure the project's PSEAH work is taken forward. This can be a separate member of staff or a current member of staff who spends a proportionate amount of time for safeguarding and PSEAH activities. Please name this individual here - this person should also be included in your overall staff list at Q33 and in your budget.

[REDACTED]

Q31. Ethics

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

This project is grounded in over a decade of successful partnerships with rural communities, emphasizing ethical practices through respectful collaboration. At its core, the project fosters local empowerment by enhancing communities' abilities to manage biodiversity conservation. SLF has established strong relationships with CBOs, regularly engaging with them to confirm community buy-in and secure informed consent. Participatory techniques guide the development of community-based activities, ensuring local knowledge and priorities are central to project design.

SLF adopts the PARTNERS Principles model of community engagement, developed by Dr. Charudutt Mishra, Executive Director of Snow Leopard Trust (SLT). These principles offer a robust framework for community-based conservation, ensuring inclusivity, respect, and ethical decision-making. The project will nurture community conservation leaders, strengthening local capacity for conflict management and enhancing long-term sustainability.

Ethical considerations, including health and safety, will be addressed at the project's outset. A kickoff meeting with all partners will ensure that field staff adhere to mutually agreed standards for protocols. Throughout the project, ongoing monitoring will ensure that ethical standards are maintained, ensuring the well-being of all stakeholders. This commitment to ethical practice guarantees that the project benefits all stakeholders in a transparent and accountable manner.

Section 13 - British Embassy or High Commission Engagement

Q32. British embassy or high commission engagement

It is important for UK Government representatives to understand if UK funding might be spent in the project country/ies.

Please indicate if you have contacted the relevant British embassy or high commission to discuss the project and attach details of any advice you have received from them. Please note that some embassies or high commissions may not be able to respond to you but your project will not be penalised for a lack of response.

☒ Yes

Please attach evidence of request or advice if received.

-  email to BHC
-  22/11/2024
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Section 14 - Project Staff

Q33. 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.

Name (First name, Surname)	Role	% time on project	1 page CV or job description attached?
Dr. Muhammad Ali Nawaz	Project Leader	10	Checked
Dr. Hussain Ali	Regional Coordinator for GB	50	Checked
Dr. Jaffar Ud Din	Project Coordinator	15	Checked
Muhammad Younus	Social Organizer-GB	70	Checked

Do you require more fields?

☒ Yes

Name (First name, Surname)	Role	% time on project	1 page CV or job description attached?
Kamran Ali	Regional Operations Officer-GB	40	Checked
Ms. Tehseen Sadaqat	Research Associate	20	Checked
Ms. Mehak Zahra	SLE Outlet saleswoman-GB	100	Checked
Ms. Asifa Khatoon	SLE Coordinator-GB	100	Checked

Mr. Tayyab Shahzad	Senior Manage, Development & Monitoring	30	Checked
Mr. Muhammad Shahid Tanveer	Manager, Finance	20	Checked
No Response	No Response	No Response	Unchecked
No Response	No Response	No Response	Unchecked

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

 [CVs staff](#)
 25/11/2024
 12:59:47
 pdf 1.35 MB

Have you attached all project staff CVs?

☒ Yes

Section 15 - Project Partners

Q34. Project Partners

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

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 order of the letters must be the same as the order they are presented in below.

Lead Organisation name:	Snow Leopard Foundation (SLF)
Website address:	https://slf.org.pk/

Why is this organisation the Lead Organisation, and what value to they bring to the project? (including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):

Snow Leopard Foundation (SLF) is the lead implementer for the project. SLF will be responsible for coordinating all project activities, training field implementers, project monitoring and evaluation, data management, dissemination of project results and learning including scientific articles, reporting, financial tracking, and capacity building with national and provincial stakeholders.

Since its inception in 2008, the Snow Leopard Foundation has fostered science-based research and research-based conservation of wildlife and its habitat under the umbrella of snow leopard conservation in Pakistan. The dedicated and versatile team of the Foundation, composed of experienced ecologists and conservationists, has been implementing an integrated conservation program in more than 50 valleys in the snow leopard range in collaboration with the federal and provincial governments, academia, conservation institutions, and local communities. With numerous scientific publications on snow leopards, sympatric carnivores, their wild prey, and habitat under its belt, the SLF team has built the capacity of hundreds of wildlife professionals, postgraduate students, and community members in ecological research and management of human-wildlife conflict, over the years.

International/In-country Partner: ☒ In-country

Allocated budget (proportion or value): 

Representation on the Project Board (or other management structure): ☒ Yes

Have you included a Letter of Support from the Lead Organisation? ☒ Yes

Do you have partners involved in the Project?

☒ Yes

1. Partner Name: International Snow Leopard Trust (SLT)

Website address: <https://snowleopard.org/>

What value does this Partner bring to the project? (including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):	Founded in 1981, the International Snow Leopard Trust (SLT) is a recognized world leader in snow leopard research and community-based conservation, and has worked closely with Snow Leopard Foundation since its inception in 2008. SLT is co-financing the project [REDACTED] and will provide technical support in project monitoring and implementation, resource development and mobilization, and dissemination of information. Snow Leopard Enterprise (SLE) is SLT's flagship conservation-linked livelihood improvement program. SLT will purchase handicrafts from the SLE groups trained through this project at fair prices and re-sell to an international market. Profits will be re-invested into the beneficiary communities through bonuses at the end of the year when no snow leopards have been killed. SLT has collaborated with local nonprofit organizations in India, Mongolia, Kyrgyzstan, and Pakistan to build predator-proof corrals, survey wildlife populations, start livestock insurance schemes, create wildlife reserves, and implement conservation education for youth.
International/In-country Partner:	☒ International
Allocated budget:	[REDACTED]
Representation on the Project Board (or other management structure):	☒ Yes
Have you included a Letter of Support from this partner?	☒ Yes

2. Partner Name:	Gilgit-Baltistan Parks and Wildlife Department
Website address:	https://fwegb.gov.pk/parks-and-wildlife/
What value does this Partner bring to the project? (including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):	GB Parks and Wildlife circle functions under the Forest's, Park's, Wildlife and Environment Department of the Government of Gilgit-Baltistan. The circle is the line department which maintains custodian and management mandate for conservation of wildlife and its habitat to improve economic benefits locally, while improving ecological services globally. The aim is to focus on conservation of wildlife and habitat, in close collaboration with local communities, NGO's, other concerned departments, and ministries. The department provides its legal, technical, and financial support to community-based institutions and other key partners for conducting research, conservation and sustainable management activities on the basis of availability of natural resources in the vicinity. The Parks and Wildlife circle, with the help of its key partner organizations, has successfully initiated and conducted trophy hunting programs in Gilgit-Baltistan, utilizing the revenue for the betterment of the local communities.
International/In-country Partner:	☒ International
Allocated budget:	[REDACTED]

Representation on the Project Board (or other management structure):	☒ No
Have you included a Letter of Support from this partner?	☒ Yes

3. Partner Name:	Ministry of Climate Change and Environmental Coordination
Website address:	https://mocc.gov.pk/
What value does this Partner bring to the project? (including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):	Monitoring the activities at the field level to assess the alignment of project initiatives and results with the National Biodiversity Targets since Ministry of Climate Change and Environmental Coordination is the focal point for biodiversity and climate change related international conventions including CBD, Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS), CITES, RAMSAR and UNFCCC.
International/In-country Partner:	☒ In-country
Allocated budget:	
Representation on the Project Board (or other management structure)	☒ No
Have you included a Letter of Support from this partner?	☒ Yes

4. Partner Name:	No Response
Website address:	No Response
What value does this Partner bring to the project? (including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):	No Response
International/In-country Partner:	☐ International ☐ In-country
Allocated budget:	No Response
Representation on the Project Board (or other management structure):	☐ Yes ☐ No
Have you included a Letter of Support from this partner?	☐ Yes ☐ No

5. Partner Name:	No Response
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Website address:	<i>No Response</i>
What value does this Partner bring to the project? (including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):	<i>No Response</i>
International/In-country Partner:	☐ International ☐ In-country
Allocated budget:	<i>No Response</i>
Representation on the Project Board (or other management structure):	☐ Yes ☐ No
Have you included a Letter of Support from this partner?	☐ Yes ☐ No

6. Partner Name:	<i>No Response</i>
Website address:	<i>No Response</i>
What value does this Partner bring to the project? (including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):	<i>No Response</i>
International/In-country Partner:	☐ International ☐ In-country
Allocated budget:	<i>No Response</i>
Representation on the Project Board (or other management structure):	☐ Yes ☐ No
Have you included a Letter of Support from this partner?	☐ Yes ☐ No

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

No Response

Please provide a **combined PDF** of all letters of support.

 [Support Letters from lead and partners](#)
 01/12/2024
 15:20:27
 pdf 2.85 MB

Section 16 - Lead Partner Capability and Capacity

Q35. Lead Organisation Capability and Capacity

Has your organisation been awarded Biodiversity Challenge Funds (Darwin Initiative, Darwin Plus or Illegal Wildlife Trade Challenge Fund) funding before (for the purposes of this question, being a partner does not count)?

☒ Yes

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

Reference No	Project Leader	Title
29-023	Dr. Muhammad Ali Nawaz	Community-based conservation of snow leopard and its habitat in Pakistan
No Response	No Response	No Response
No Response	No Response	No Response
No Response	No Response	No Response
No Response	No Response	No Response
No Response	No Response	No Response

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

☒ Yes

Section 17 - Certification

Certification

If this section is incomplete the entire application will be rejected.

Please note if you do not upload the relevant materials below your application may be made ineligible.

On behalf of the

Company

of

Snow Leopard Foundation

I apply for a grant of

£235,678.00

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

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

- I have enclosed CVs for key project personnel, cover letter, letters of support, a budget, logframe, Safeguarding and associated policies, and project workplan.

- Our last two sets of signed audited/independently verified accounts and annual report (covering three years) are also enclosed.

Checked

Name	Dr. Muhammad Ali Nawaz
Position in the organisation	Director/ Chief Executive Officer
Signature (please upload e-signature)	 Ali signature  02/12/2024  05:52:21  pdf 181.49 KB
Date	02 December 2024

Please attach the requested signed audited/independently examined accounts.

 [SLF-APR 2021-22_Final](#)

 01/12/2024

 16:34:24

 pdf 2.19 MB

 [2023-24 SLF Pakistan Annual Report](#)

 01/12/2024

 16:11:24

 pdf 1.21 MB

 [2022-23 Pakistan Annual Report](#)

 01/12/2024

 16:10:55

 pdf 2.04 MB

 [Audited Account 2023-2024](#)

 22/11/2024

 06:56:17

 pdf 2.9 MB

 [Audit Account-2022-2023](#)

 22/11/2024

 06:56:11

 pdf 3.26 MB

 [Audit Report-2021-2022](#)

 22/11/2024

 06:56:05

 pdf 2.83 MB

Please upload the Lead Partner's Safeguarding Policy, Whistleblowing Policy and Code of Conduct as a PDF. Optionally you can also upload your Health, Safety and/or Security policy or Security Plan here.

 [SLF - Health Safety Policy.](#)

 22/11/2024

 10:08:34

 pdf 147.35 KB

 [SLF - Code of Conduct](#)

 22/11/2024

 10:08:29

 pdf 169.11 KB

 [SLF Whistleblowing Policy.](#)

 22/11/2024

 10:08:22

 pdf 137.22 KB

 [Snow Leopard Foundation Safeguarding Policy.](#)

 22/11/2024

 10:08:16

 pdf 219.14 KB

Section 18 - Submission Checklist

Checklist for submission

	Check
I have read the Guidance, including the “Darwin Initiative Guidance”, “Monitoring Evaluation and Learning Guidance”, “Standard Indicator Guidance”, “Risk Guidance”, and “Finance Guidance”.	Checked
I have read, and can meet, the current Terms and Conditions for this fund.	Checked
I have provided actual start and end dates for the project.	Checked
I have provided the 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:	
• a cover letter from the Lead Organisation	Checked
• a completed logframe as a PDF using the template provided and using “Monitoring Evaluation and Learning Guidance” and “Standard Indicator Guidance”.	Checked
• a budget (which meets the requirements above) using the template provided.	Checked
• a signed copy of the last 2 annual report and accounts (covering three years) for the Lead Organisation, or provided an explanation if not.	Checked
• a completed workplan as a PDF using the template provided.	Checked
• a copy of the Lead Organisation’s Safeguarding Policy, Whistleblowing Policy and Code of Conduct (Question 30).	Checked
• a copy of the Lead Organisation’s Health, Safety and/or Security policy or Security Plan (Question 30)	Checked
• 1 page CV or job description for all the Project Staff identified at Question 33, including the Project Leader, or provided an explanation of why not, combined into a single PDF.	Checked
• a letter of support from the Lead Organisation and partner(s) identified at Question 34, or an explanation of why not, as a single PDF.	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
The additional supporting evidence is in line with the requested evidence, amounts to a maximum of 5 sides of A4, and is combined as a single PDF.	Checked
(If copying and pasting into Flexi-Grant) I have checked that all my responses have been successfully copied into the online application form.	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 Biodiversity Challenge Funds. We also provide occasional updates on other UK Government activities related to biodiversity conservation and share our regular 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 organisation, project leader, location, and total grant value).

Project Title: Safeguarding Biodiversity in the Karakoram Landscape through community-based conservation

Project Log-frame

Project Summary	SMART Indicators (including disaggregated targets)	Means of Verification	Important Assumptions
Impact: Mountain biodiversity and local livelihoods are safeguarded across 942,500 hectares of area in the Karakoram Landscape by promoting human-wildlife coexistence, empowering communities, gender mainstreaming, and multi-dimensional poverty reduction measures.			
Outcome: Viable population of snow leopards and wild ungulates in 17 valleys by reducing livestock losses of 8,000 households, improving their livelihood, and cultivating positive attitudes towards wildlife.	0.1 By the end of the project, the number of HWC incidents (livestock depredation by large carnivores, poaching of wild ungulates and snow leopards) in 17 project valleys reduced by at least 90% from baseline, saving about 11% of livestock holdings resulting in improved conservation of snow leopard. Baseline: Livestock depredation by large carnivores' costs ~USD 250 per household per year Livestock depredation by large carnivores: To be determined during the first year of the project Illegal killing of snow leopards: To be determined during the first year of the project Illegal killing of wild ungulates: To be determined during the first year of the project	0.1.1 Annual reports from field teams highlighting the number of communities approached, champions identified, meetings held, schemes adopted and conservation contracts signed. 0.1.2 Field visit reports of visits to valleys. 0.1.3 Baseline and final survey reports for relevant communities highlighting livestock vaccinated, corral improvements, involvement in insurance programmes, registration fee and premium payments, and involvement in handicraft production, sales, and price received. 0.1.4 Baseline and annual reports of predation events reported for each of the 17 communities and those serving as controls. 0.1.5 Baseline and annual reports of illegal killing of SL and wild herbivores from 17 project communities and 3 control	0.1 A development initiative would not negatively impact the overall goal of conserving wildlife and its habitat and involving local communities to sustain such efforts. 0.2 National or GB-level Policy changes will not negatively alter the effectiveness of project outputs and outcome 0.3 Communities and other relevant stakeholders remain willing to engage in collaborative, multi-pronged conservation management initiatives, own the initiatives, and contribute their share for project initiatives 0.4 Project benefits are distributed equitably among men and women members and available to disadvantaged groups in the communities. 0.5 Conflicts between communities and other stakeholders are not negatively impacting project implementation.

Project Title: Safeguarding Biodiversity in the Karakoram Landscape through community-based conservation

		communities, incorporating information from long-term community contacts (key informants), community champions, protected area staff, and records from wildlife departments.	0.6 There is no unrest due to natural disasters or socio-political situations that prevent work with communities. Based on experience and our sustained field presence, we expect occasional delays but not a cessation of our work. 0.7 Pakistani and online markets for handicrafts and livestock products remain sustainable
0.2 By the end of the project, the population of wild ungulates remains stable / increases against the baseline confirmed through field surveys in the project sites. Baseline: Population of ungulates: Ibex 1,921, population of other ungulates will be determined during 1st. year	0.2.1 Reports from wildlife surveys for wild ungulates (double observer techniques).		
0.3 By the end of the project, a viable population of snow leopards will be confirmed through field surveys in the project sites. Baseline Estimated population of snow leopards in Pakistan: 100-150	0.3.1 Reports from wildlife surveys for assessment of snow leopard population and density (genetic sampling and analysis).		
0.4 By the end of the project, 8,000 households in 17 valleys are engaged in biodiversity conservation and sustainable livelihood programs. Baseline to be established in yr. 1.	0.4.1 Baseline and final survey reports for sample households in sample communities measuring household income and attitudes towards conservation interventions, predators and ungulates.		
0.5 By the end of the project, all the project valleys are	0.5.1 Project Completion Report		

Project Title: Safeguarding Biodiversity in the Karakoram Landscape through community-based conservation

	engaged in multiple conservation programs. Baseline to be established in yr. 1.		
	0.6 By the end of the project, insurance programs will provide about 30% of the market value for livestock lost to carnivore predation in 17 project valleys. Baseline to be established in yr. 1.	0.6.1 Baseline and final survey reports of market value for livestock lost to carnivore predation compensated by LIS	
	0.7 By the end of the project, the number of women trained and engaged in handicrafts will be increased from 0 to 100, and their family income will increase by at least PKR 60,000 per year in project valleys. Baseline: Average HH income in project valleys to be established in yr. 1.	0.7.1 Baseline and final survey reports for sample households among LIS trainees measuring household income 0.5.1 Project Completion Report	
	0.8 By the end of the project number of people growing off-season organic crops increased from 0 to 7 and their family income increased by at least PKR 60,000 per year in project valleys. Baseline: 0.	0.8.1 Baseline and final survey reports for sample households among beneficiaries of greenhouses measuring household income 0.5.1 Project Completion Report	
	0.9 By the end of the project number of people with improved fruit processing increased from 0 to 20 and their family income increased by at least PKR 30,000 per year in project valleys.	0.9.1 Baseline and final survey reports for sample households among fruit processing trainees measuring household income 0.5.1 Project Completion Report	

Project Title: Safeguarding Biodiversity in the Karakoram Landscape through community-based conservation

	Baseline: 0.		
	0.10 By the end of the project, men and women in the project communities will have a measurable enhancement in positive attitudes towards wildlife conservation as compared to valleys with no interventions, measured through a questionnaire survey. Baseline attitude to be established in yr. 1.	0.10.1 Qualitative questionnaire baseline and final survey reports of the attitude of men and women community members towards conservation.	
Outputs: 1. HWC and livestock losses due to diseases and depredation in 17 project valleys reduced through livestock vaccination, predator-proof corrals, and livestock insurance schemes	1.1. Socio-economic baseline developed for project valleys during the first year of the project. 1.2. Vaccination of 40,000 cattle/ yak and 100,000 goat/sheep for Black Quarter, Enterotoxaemia, Foot and Mouth, or other necessary vaccines and medicine used for protection against ectoparasites as recommended by the Livestock Department, twice (spring and autumn seasons) in a year resulting in sustained livelihoods.	1.1.1 Report and database of baseline socio-economic survey. 1.2.1 Annual Livestock Vaccination Reports. 1.2.2 Project annual progress reports 0.5.1 Project Completion Report	1.1 Field implementers, especially women will remain with the organizations for long enough to provide better coordination in managing community-based conservation project initiatives. 1.2 Local communities remain interested in livestock vaccination, corrals, handicrafts, and insurance as good options for mitigating human-wildlife conflicts and leadership within the community remains cohesive enough to manage multi-pronged programmes 1.3 Local community-based institutions would establish an effective institutional mechanism

Project Title: Safeguarding Biodiversity in the Karakoram Landscape through community-based conservation

	1.3. 13 additional corrals built (2 corrals in year 1, 3 in year 2 & 8 in year 3), protecting 7,000 livestock by project end, over baseline of 13 corrals in project valleys to save about 2% of livestock holdings in communities per annum from predation resulting in sustained livelihoods. 1.4. Additional 100,000 livestock in 10 communities protected through insurance schemes by project end (2 in year 1 and 4 in year 2 and 4 in year 3), over baseline of 5 valleys and 15,000 livestock resulting in sustained livelihoods. 1.5. 17 new conservation contracts (8 in year 1 and 9 in year 2) signed for 17 communities by Year 2. The baseline for indicators 1.2 to 1.5, to be established in yr. 1.	1.3.1 Agreements signed with VCDs/CBOs for corral construction. 1.3.2 Corral completion reports. 1.2.2 Project annual progress reports 1.4.1 Agreements signed with VCDs/CBOs for Livestock Insurance schemes. 1.4.2 Reports of compensation to community members from LISs 1.8 Annual livestock predation reports. 1.5.1 Signed contracts of conservation schemes like corrals, LISs, etc.	to facilitate conservation outcomes. 1.4 Project interventions will focus on short to mid-term benefits to avoid long gestation period that would not be conducive to winning community support for conservation
2. Conservation linked income generating initiatives implemented to reduce HWC, increase income, empower women and improve community attitude towards wildlife conservation in 17 valleys and a new Protected Area added.	2.1. 100 households in 10 communities (25 in year 1, 50 in year 2 & 25 in year 3) trained in 10 days of SLE training and engaged in production, and 50% of this start selling quality handicrafts 6 months after training, receiving profits under the umbrella of Snow Leopard Enterprises by project end, over	2.1.1 Agreements/ Conservation contracts signed with VCDs/CBOs for handicrafts/SLE. 2.1.2 Notes, attendance sheets, and report of SLE Training. 2.1.3 Programme data, stories, field reports, and receipts collected by SLF to monitor	2.1 Communities remain interested in handicrafts and organic farming as good options for mitigating conflicts. 2.2 GB government is willing to approve the plan and declare the identified valley as a Protected area.

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	baseline of 0 households resulting in increased income by PKR60,000 per year. 2.2. Off-season crops and fruit/forest saplings grown through organic farming in 7 greenhouses (3 in yr. 2 and 4 in yr. 3) resulting in an increased income of 7 families by PKR60,000 per year & increased 2.5 hectares under sustainable management and land restoration. 2.3. Fruit processing initiated in year 2 by 20 trained women community activists utilizing solar drying units 6 months after training resulting in increased income of 20 families by PKR30,000 per year. 2.4. By the end of the project, awareness initiatives	handicraft production and purchases. 2.1.4 Handicrafts' production and sale reports. 1.2.2 Project annual progress reports 0.11 Baseline and final survey reports for sample households among LIS trainees measuring household income 0.5.1 Project Completion Report 2.2.1 Agreements signed with VCDs for greenhouses 2.2.2 Greenhouses' completion reports 0.13 Baseline and final survey reports for sample households among beneficiaries of greenhouses measuring household income 2.3.1 Agreements signed with VCDs for fruit processing 2.3.2 Notes, attendance sheets, and report of fruit processing Training. 0.13 Baseline and final survey reports for sample households among fruit processing trainees measuring household income 0.8 Baseline and final survey reports for sample households in	
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Project Title: Safeguarding Biodiversity in the Karakoram Landscape through community-based conservation

	implemented so that men and women in the project communities have increased acceptance of SL and other predators. 2.5. By the end of the project, an additional Protected Area with 1,000 hectares declared by the Wildlife Department in year 3 resulting in improved land restoration. Baseline for indicators 2.1 to 2.5, to be established in yr. 1.	sample communities measuring household income and attitudes towards conservation interventions, predators, and ungulates. 2.5.1 Draft map and relevant information provided to the government to declare a Protected area 2.5.2 Response letters from the Wildlife Department regarding approval of a new protected area. 2.5.3 Notification of the government to declare a Protected area	
3. A cadre of community activists trained, equipped, and functionalized as a response team in project areas for managing CBOs, livestock disease prevention, conducting wildlife surveys, protecting livestock from predator attacks and creating awareness for biodiversity conservation.	3.1 20 community activists (at least 40% women) have increased capacities for community/financial management, record keeping, monitoring, and wildlife conservation after getting the 2-days training in Year 1 and are successfully managing the CBOs' finances and records 6 months after training (Year 2). 3.2 20 community activists trained for community/financial management, and record-keeping have worked as community conservation champions (at least 40% women)	3.1.1 Project notes, attendance sheets and reports of training for community activists in community/financial management, monitoring, record keeping, and wildlife conservation. 3.2.1 Minutes of field staff meetings with conservation champions to keep a record of their involvement in community discussions. 3.2.2 Field visit reports	3.1 Capacities of the community groups will be adequate after the training to execute the task. 3.2 Effective community champions identified within a reasonable amount of time 3.3 Community champions are supporting CBOs to implement a wildlife conservation agenda in the respective valleys.

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	actively engaged in dialogue with 20 communities 6 months after training to guide them for project initiatives, sensitize them for conservation of snow leopard and its wild prey and managing VCDs/CBOs by end of year 2. 3.3 Livestock vaccination conducted by 20 Community members trained as Ecosystem Health Workers in 12 days of Livestock protection and production training in yr. 2. 3.4 20 Community members (at least 50% women) trained for 2-day fruit processing training in yr. 2. 3.5 24 teachers (12 men and 12 women; in year 2) have increased capacities for conservation and training skills through 3-day teachers training and each disseminated the learned skills among 20 students by end of year 3. 3.6 Capacity of 60 students (at least 50% participation from girls) increased towards biodiversity conservation through engagement in nature study camps by the end of year 3.	3.3.1 Project notes, attendance sheets, and reports of training/refreshers for Ecosystem Health Workers delivered to Community members 2.8 Notes, attendance sheets and report of fruit processing Training. 3.5.1 Project notes, attendance sheets, and reports of teachers' training. 3.6.1 Project notes, attendance sheets and reports of nature study camps. 3.3 Field visit reports	
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Project Title: Safeguarding Biodiversity in the Karakoram Landscape through community-based conservation

	3.7 By the end of the project, 34 Wildlife Department staff (20 in yr. 1 & 14 in yr. 2) trained in year 1, 8 academics (at least 50% women) trained in yr. 2, in wildlife survey techniques for ungulates, eDNA, that 70% are effectively conducting wildlife surveys 6 months after training. Baseline for indicators 3.1 to 3.7, to be established in yr. 1. 3.8 By the end of the project, resource materials including a video documentary on conservation topics developed and disseminated among stakeholders, resulting in an increased understanding of stakeholders on snow leopard conservation. Baseline: 0	3.7.1 Reports of Wildlife Survey Training. 3.8.1 Resource material on conservation topics developed for stakeholders. 3.8.2 Video documentary and report of its dissemination to stakeholders. 3.8.3 Post-training response forms from field staff and stakeholders receiving different training	
4. Impact of conservation initiatives on the distribution and abundance of wild ungulates and snow leopards understood.	4.1 By the end of Year 1, baseline ungulate populations determined through field surveys in all 17 project valleys. 4.2 By the end of the project, ungulate population trends and wild prey indices will be determined by comparing baseline data to field survey data collected in Year 1.	4.1.1 Reports of field surveys of wild ungulates (double observer techniques). 4.2.1 Ungulate population trends and wild prey indices.	4.1 300 or more genetic samples of snow leopards are detected for collection and analysis. 4.2 Project management can identify, document, and disseminate the best practices.

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	4.3 By the end of the project, 300 genetic samples (25 in yr. 1, 30 in yr. 2 & 25 in yr. 3) will have been collected and analysed (in yr. 3) to determine a reliable SL population estimate in the 17 project valleys. 4.4 By the end of the project, reported killings of predators and wild herbivores will be reduced by 50% in participating households and communities. 4.5 By the end of the project, one conservation or species stock assessment published as a peer-reviewed paper. 4.6 By the end of the project, one best practice will have been documented and shared with stakeholders. 4.7 By the end of the project, 30 posts released on digital/ social media and a monthly newsletter was circulated among stakeholders. Baseline for indicators 4.3 to 4.7, to be established in yr. 1.	4.3.1 Reports of field surveys of genetic sample collection. 4.3.2 Reports of Genetic Analysis 4.4.1 Reports of surveys of killing of Snow leopards and wild ungulates 4.5.1 Papers submitted for peer review and publication. 4.6.1 Report of best practice and its dissemination to stakeholders. 4.7.1 Media reports	
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Project Title: Safeguarding Biodiversity in the Karakoram Landscape through community-based conservation

Activities (each activity is numbered according to the output that it will contribute towards, for example, 1.1, 1.2, and 1.3 are contributing to Output 1. Each activity should start on a new line and be no more than approximately 25 words.)

- 1.1 Attend meetings of already established Community-based Organizations (CBOs).
- 1.2 Establish new CBOs as per project requirements and attend meetings to raise awareness for community mobilization and gender empowerment
- 1.3 Baseline surveys regarding population, socio-economic parameters, problems in crops and livestock, valleys/HHs engaged in conservation/livelihood, women engaged in handicrafts, communities' attitudes towards conservation through PRA.
- 1.4 Conduct meetings with communities for baseline surveys regarding livestock losses inside corrals, insurance coverage, population and illegal killing of wild ungulates and SL.
- 1.4 Conduct end-line surveys of household income at the valley level.
- 1.5 Identify and procure livestock vaccines as per vaccination protocol and medicine for ectoparasites as per feedback from the Gilgit-Baltistan (GB) Livestock Department.
- 1.6 Vaccinate 40,000 cattle/ yak and 100,000 goat/sheep for Black Quarter, Enterotoxaemia, Foot and Mouth, Caprine Pox, Lumpy Skin Disease, or other necessary vaccines or medicines for protection against ectoparasites recommended by the Livestock Department.
- 1.7 Monitor, collect, and compile data, and make payments to the Ecosystem Health Workers
- 1.8 Approve selected sites, prepare feasibility and cost estimates for construction of 13 additional predator-proof corrals
- 1.9 Sign agreements with the/CBOs for the construction of Predator-proof corrals
- 1.10 Provide payment to the account of CBOs in instalments for the construction of Predator-proof corrals
- 1.11 Monitor the construction of corrals by the CBOs
- 1.12 Prepare completion reports of corral construction
- 1.13 Sign agreements with the CBOs for 10 livestock insurance schemes (LISs)
- 1.14 Open bank account for LISs
- 1.15 Monitor collection of community share (registration fee and premium payments) by the CBOs for LISs
- 1.16 Form a committee for the provision of compensations to community members for livestock losses due to predators
- 1.17 Provide project share for LISs to CBOs
- 1.18 Monitor corral usage and LIS progress on an annual basis
- 2
- 2.1 Develop and provide selection criteria for different trainings of men and women community members to CBOs to identify the relevant community members
- 2.2 Determine the income of families of persons selected for SLE, fruit processing training, and establishment of greenhouses before implementation of the activity
- 2.3 Sign agreements for Snow Leopard Enterprises (SLE) with/CBOs
- 2.4 Provide 10 days of training to 100 women selected by CBOs for SLE

Project Title: Safeguarding Biodiversity in the Karakoram Landscape through community-based conservation

- | | |
|------|--|
| 2.5 | Order and purchase SLE products from women on need basis to be sold through Snow Leopard Trust (SLT) and private companies/entrepreneurs. |
| 2.6 | Provide SLE products' payments to SLE participants. |
| 2.7 | Sign agreements for Off-season vegetable cultivation with CBOs. |
| 2.8 | Select vendors and establish greenhouses on farms of farmers selected by CBOs |
| 2.9 | Link the beneficiary farmers with the agriculture department to get guidance for off-season crop cultivation and growing of fruit/forest saplings through organic techniques. |
| 2.10 | Conduct farmer field day to demonstrate organic farming in greenhouses. |
| 2.11 | Provide solar drying units to the women trained for fruit processing |
| 2.12 | Initiate fruit processing by utilizing solar dryers by 20 families |
| 2.13 | Identify utilization of trained skills from SLE and fruit processing 6 months after training |
| 2.14 | Determine income increase as a result of SLE, fruit processing, and off-season crop cultivation on an annual basis. |
| 2.15 | Conduct awareness-raising sessions in 17 project valleys regarding the importance of snow leopards and other predators in the ecosystem to enhance public tolerance of large carnivores in their valleys. |
| 2.16 | Monitor predation of snow leopard and its prey through interaction with CBOs |
| 2.17 | Conduct meetings with GB Wildlife Department to develop/share mapping to declare a protected area. |
| 3 | |
| 3.1 | Conduct 2-days training workshop for 20 community activists (13 men & at least 7 women) in community/financial management, record keeping and importance of wildlife conservation |
| 3.2 | Engage 20 community conservation champions (13 men & at least 7 women) in dialogue with communities |
| 3.3 | 12-days Livestock protection and production training for 20 persons selected by CBOs. |
| 3.4 | Provide 2-days Fruit processing training to 20 women selected by CBOs |
| 3.5 | Conduct 3-days training for 24 teachers (12 men and 12 women in year 2) for conservation and training skills |
| 3.6 | Establish/ strengthen Nature clubs in 12 valleys |
| 3.7 | Conduct 2-days nature study camps for 60 students (30 boys and 30 girls) |
| 3.8 | Conduct one day workshops teaching wildlife survey techniques for 34 Wildlife Department staff (all men; 20 in year 1, 14 in yr. 2), 8 members of academia (4 men & 4 women in yr. 2) in wildlife survey techniques for ungulates, eDNA and collaring, that 70% are effectively conducting wildlife surveys 6 months after training, |
| 3.9 | Develop a video documentary on conservation topics and disseminate among stakeholders |
| 4 | |
| 4.1 | Provide relevant equipment/materials and conduct ungulate surveys in 17 project valleys through trained persons in collaboration with Wildlife Department |
| 4.2 | Analyse the ungulate survey results, prepare ungulate population trends, wild prey indices and the report |
| 4.3 | Provide relevant materials and collect at least 300 genetic samples of wildlife during surveys through trained persons in collaboration with Wildlife Department |

Project Title: Safeguarding Biodiversity in the Karakoram Landscape through community-based conservation

- | | |
|------|--|
| 4.4 | Record and store the collected samples after proper processing |
| 4.5 | Identify Labs for analysis of at least 300 genetic samples and make agreements with them |
| 4.6 | Send the stored 300 genetic samples to Labs for analysis |
| 4.7 | Collect data from conservation champions on the of killing of predators and wild herbivores |
| 4.8 | Prepare a scientific paper on conservation or species stock assessment and send to scientific journals for publication |
| 4.9 | Respond to the queries of scientific journals |
| 4.10 | Release at least 30 posts on digital/ social media |
| 4.11 | Develop monthly newsletter and circulate among stakeholders through digital media. |