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Marine Preservation And Coastal Poor Livelihood Betterment Through Sustainable Fishing

The global food crisis and sharp local financial crisis are driving the vulnerable and poor of Lebanon to desperate conditions. This project will support livelihood of coastal poor to practice sustainable fishing and advocate marine biodiversity protection. It will also strengthen marine protected areas, and spread awareness on marine ecosystem sustainability to enhance biodiversity protection communally. Engaging stakeholders to network and document biodiversity will consolidate a participatory approach to improve sustainability of marine resources against threats and exploitation.

PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

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Section 1 - Contact Details

PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

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Type	Other
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Section 2 - Title & Summary

Q3. Title:

Marine Preservation And Coastal Poor Livelihood Betterment Through Sustainable Fishing

Q4a. Is this a resubmission of a previously unsuccessful application?


Yes

Year of unsuccessful application:	Stage of application:	Application number (if known):
2022	final	DIR28CC\1109

Please attach a cover letter.

Please include a response to any previous feedback in your cover letter.

 [Cover letter Darwin Marine 23](#)

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Q5. Summary

Please provide a brief summary of your project: the capability and capacity problem/need it is trying to address, its aims, and the key activities you plan on undertaking. Please note that if you are successful, this wording may be used by Defra in communications e.g. as a short description of the project on the website.

Please write this summary for a non-technical audience.

The global food crisis and sharp local financial crisis are driving the vulnerable and poor of Lebanon to desperate conditions. This project will support livelihood of coastal poor to practice sustainable fishing and advocate marine biodiversity protection. It will also strengthen marine protected areas, and spread awareness on marine ecosystem sustainability to enhance biodiversity protection communally. Engaging stakeholders to network and document biodiversity will consolidate a participatory approach to improve sustainability of marine resources against threats and exploitation.

Section 3 - Title, Dates & Budget Summary

Q6. Country(ies)

Which eligible country(ies) will your project be working in? Where there are more than 4 countries that your project will be working in, please add more boxes using the selection option below.

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

Do you require more fields?

No

Q7. Project dates

Start date:	End date:	Duration (e.g. 1 years, 8 months):
01 April 2023	31 March 2025	2 years

Q8. Budget summary

Year:	2023/24	2024/25	Total request
Amount:	£96,170.00	£84,120.00	£ 180,290.00

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



Q10a. Do you have proposed matched funding arrangements?

Yes

What matched funding arrangements are proposed?

Lebanon has succumbed to the worst financial and economic crisis. The native currency devaluated sharply, which makes the soliciting of funds and support from private sector impossible while establishments struggle to survive. Philanthropists and donors are overwhelmed with the dire humanitarian situation and urgent needs of people and children hanging between poverty and health catastrophes with the loss of medicine and health care and the exorbitant prices of food and goods. Under these circumstances, it is unforeseen to be able to engender financial support from another source in Lebanon. FON will contribute in-kind the equipment and material we have, which would reduce expenditures on rentals. We have also used our connections with fishermen cooperatives and NGOs to contribute the workshop meeting places as well.

Q10b. Total confirmed & unconfirmed matched funding (£)

£

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

The unconfirmed matched funding refers to rentals of workshop halls. We will approach our friends and collaborators as well as sectors of cooperatives and NGOs in the different locations to offer the halls, which they usually do judging from previous experience. If one source does not provide for free, we will check with another until we find the appropriate hall free of charge. There are many sources to be tapped, such as municipalities, NGOs, universities, schools, religious properties and even private sector.

Section 4 - Project need

Q11. The need that the project is trying to address

Please describe evidence of the capability and capacity need your project is trying to address with reference to biodiversity conservation and poverty reduction challenges and opportunities.

For example, how have you identified the need? Why should the need be addressed or what will be the value to the country? Please cite the evidence you are using to support your assessment of the need (references can be listed in a separate attached PDF document).

The global fuel and food crisis has limited access and increased prices of nutritious food. Locally produced food is equally subject to inflated prices due to high expense of biocides and fuel for irrigation and transportation. As per UNDP, poverty reached 80% of the population escalated by the severe local financial and economic crises and sharp currency devaluation. Poverty is known to induce trends of overexploitation of natural resources. The sea is a valuable natural resource, it is also a significant food source high in proteins available for coastal communities for very minor cost; with limited governance and monitoring potentials, overexploitation of the marine environment is now well observed. While several international organizations are trying to support marginalized and most affected families with cash and kind subsidies, a sustainable approach to the marine environment to support poverty reduction is lacking.

Lebanon has a shoreline of 220km on the Mediterranean Sea. The coastal zone has been subject to intensive and extensive destruction majorly by urban development into summer resorts and their complementary services; corresponding anthropogenic pressures and loss of habitats have put their toll on the fish stock and the marine environment. Decades of

overexploitation of marine riches exacerbated the degradation of the marine wealth; illegal fishing by a diversity of means and techniques is active. Clearly, marine governance and law enforcement are minimal, and the incumbent crisis devastated these potentials. Climate change dangerously intensified the adverse impacts with the arrival of types of fish from the Red Sea, such as catfish and lionfish, which are invasive, occupy the habitat of native species, and devour many fish types indiscriminately. Poverty is exerting additional pressures, but could poverty support a transformative sustainable rescue plan!

On the level of marine conservation, it is inadequate to face the level of threats. 5 marine protected areas are officially declared; the oldest is an offshore archipelago of 3 islands, which FON created. The other reserves are small stretches of the mainland coastline. 4 sites are in the pipeline for conservation. The 3 recently declared reserves (2022) need activation and support to play their role. Reserve committees are appointed to undertake protection but without financial or governance support. Vulgarized knowledge on marine ecosystem and its relatedness to sustainable livelihood is unavailable to community stakeholders. Thus, community-endorsed marine conservation and engagement are minor, contrary to terrestrial conservation. A transformative community-based conservation module that ties sustainability of livelihood to sustainability of marine ecosystem is strongly needed. Sustainable marine livelihood to reduce poverty pressures is routed in the history of our coastal communities; its resurrection promotes the significance of a viable marine ecosystem to resolve socio-economic problems and advocate marine biodiversity protection by communities for communities, and with a bottom-up approach to governance. The project proposes: a) build capabilities of youth and women of poor segments of coastal societies to live sustainably from the sea and advocate sustainable fishing in their regions, b) build capacity of communal marine conservation to restore the marine wealth.

Section 5 - Darwin Objectives and Conventions

Q12. Biodiversity Conventions, Treaties and Agreements

Q12a. Your project must support the commitments of one or more of the agreements listed below.

Please indicate which agreement(s) will be supported.

- Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
- Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS)
- 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)

Q12b. National and International Policy Alignment

Using evidence where available, please detail how your capability and capacity 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.

Nationally, the project supports the National Strategy for Marine Protection (2012) that has been partially implemented with the conservation of 3 new marine sites in 2022. Governmental processes and procedures are extremely time demanding; communal support to marine conservation would boost the process and activate the mechanism while reducing losses as happened in the terrestrial environment leading to successful examples of expanded biodiversity protection and monitoring with returned socio-economic benefits to communities especially through ecotourism. In enabling communal engagement, the project transects with the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP), which entails the protection of biodiversity and the engagement of communities, as well as, capitalizing and enhancing the benefits of ecosystem services and biodiversity.

The project relates to the CBD in appreciation of biodiversity value and protection of resources. It utilizes native biodiversity to generate and share benefits among communities and safeguard biodiversity thus complementing ABS. Under ITPGRFA, it provides a pioneering practical example of use of genetic resources for food to alleviate poverty. CMS will be better enforced with supporting the protection of migratory marine avifauna as part of the marine ecosystem and ecotourism potentials. The sandy shores of Lebanon are breeding sites for native populations of sea turtles; their conservation as threatened and significant marine biodiversity will be stressed. Importance of the protection of marine habitats of migratory birds and animals will be part of the capacity building. Enhanced conservation of biodiversity and its

employment in sustainable productive modules increases community resilience to climate change, and improve CO2 capturing; the project will surely have benefits on mitigating climate change, thereby applying the directives of the UNFCCC. Finally, the employment of biodiversity to reduce poverty integrates with SDGs 1,2,13 and 14; the project is gender sensitive supporting SDGs 5 and 10.

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

Q13. Methodology

Describe the methods and approach you will use to achieve your intended capability and capacity 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 the **main activities** will be and where these will take place.
- How you will **manage the work** (governance, roles and responsibilities, project management tools, risks etc.).
- What practical elements will be included to embed new capabilities?

FON established the first marine reserve in 1992 through community engagement and setting the legislative precedence for the declaration of a marine protected area. In 2020, FON established a pioneering artificial reef to restore the marine environment, increase biodiversity and marine productivity. FON engaged fishermen and cooperatives to protect the reef, and trained 15 diving clubs to pioneer underwater eco-tourism in the reef for new sustainable income generation. FON is creating and managing a marine nursery site. The impact of our marine preservation activities to mitigate climate change was featured in COP26 media campaign on British TV Channel 4 News (links attached). Besides, FON pioneered milestones for terrestrial conservation with first modules in orchid micro-reserve, UNESCO World Heritage – natural cultural landscape 9th in the world, cedar nature reserve, etc. FON brings over 20 years of experience at community engagement and collaboration with rural and local communities, local NGO/CSOs, local authority and private sector. We believe that community adoption for conservation is fundamental to enhanced governance particularly in our feeble governance scheme. We have and continue to employ our experiences, skills and lessons learnt at effective community engagement, needs assessments, designing effective actions and defining impactful outputs.

Capacity building constitutes an integral component of most of our projects. FON has designed numerous modules on variety of topics (biodiversity, reserves, solid waste, sustainable agriculture,..); modules included for example training material and execution of indoor and field training on endemic flora conservation with species identification manual, on migratory birds with bird catalogue, song catalogue and nest prototypes, on marine biodiversity in artificial reef and reef ecotourism. Target groups varied: school teachers, students, eco-guides, reserve managers, universities, farmers, communities,..)(FON website).

Under the dilapidating governance, our strategy is to enhance the capacity and capability of our coastal community to adopt sustainability of marine biodiversity and ecosystem to ensure sustainability of marine-based livelihood for poverty alleviation and crisis resilience.

Project design:

A- Capacity building of coastal community poor to acquire sustainable marine livelihood, and advocate marine sustainability in their communities.

a. Sustainable fishing vocational training module will be prepared. The theoretical training will teach on marine ecosystem, food chain, habitats, biodiversity, conservation, rules and regulations of fishing; it will take place at the communities. Practical training will teach efficient fishing methods, demonstrate rules of sustainable fishing and conscientious environmentally behavior ; it will be at Byblos port where our trainers are able to operate.

b. Training of 300 trainees from 15 poor coastal communities will be undertaken. 300 families will thus be enabled to secure sustainable livelihood without threatening the marine environment.

c. to multiply the benefits and spread the example, trainees/beneficiaries will be provided capacities to become trainers of their communities. They will thus play active role in their communities advocating sustainable fishing and conservation.

d. a documentary will be developed to promote long and larger outreach of impact.

B- Strengthening marine biodiversity conservation

- a. At level of reserves, the project will a) produce management plans for the 3 newly established marine reserves (Abbasieh, Enfe, Byblos) to activate their conservation. b) to engage visitors and communities on protection, divers will video-document biodiversity and significance of each reserve; c) scientists will produce the reviews.
- b. At level of community engagement to support marine conservation and sustainability, 20 awareness workshops will be conducted at 20 coastal communities engaging 600 stakeholders. Workshops will a) portray the marine ecosystem and vulnerability to threats, b) promote protection of marine biodiversity and sustainability of fishing and marine resources, c) engender support to existing reserves and those in the pipeline, and d) exchange and interact on advocating marine productivity and sustainable fishing. Target group will include fishermen, their cooperatives, local NGOs/CSOs involved with biodiversity, livelihood, socio-economic development, etc. FON team will produce the awareness material (rollups, flyers, videos, ppt presentations,..)
- c. Nationally, the project will establish the first national marine network combining stakeholders, beneficiaries and other relevant entities in order to support marine biodiversity conservation and sustainability in a participatory approach for community endorsement and a bottom-up influence of governance and policy..
- d. Nationally, a marine biodiversity database will be established with the engagement and knowledge sharing of beneficiaries and stakeholders, to promote long-term monitoring.

A capable team of ecologist, marine biologist-toxicologist, fishing expert, community officer, and film production will collaborate to provide best implementation and exposure using their qualifications and skills. The PM will divide responsibilities, initiate activities, coordinate internally and externally to support all actions. Regular team meetings will help in coordination, communication and exchange to further activities and define best practices.

Q14. How will you identify participants?

How did/will you identify and select the participants (individuals and organisations) to directly benefit from the capability and capacity building activities? What makes these the most suitable participants? How will you ensure that the selection process is unbiased, fair and transparent?

Selection of participants will be sensitively treated to reach appropriate beneficiaries. Selection criteria stipulate: 1 woman or youth (18-30 years old) per family, family has non-regular income, defined as income from unstable daily or not daily workmanship subject to stop at any destabilizing event, such as agriculture workers, carriers of goods, cleaners, etc. FON will address poor communities found in poverty zones between major coastal cities and on their outskirts. 300 trainees from at least 15 communities will participate. The 15 communities are distributed all over Lebanese coast north to south (Tripoli, Bohsas, Chekka, Enfe, Batroun, Byblos, Okaybeh, Dbayeh, Khalde, Sarafand, Damour, Saadiat, Rmaileh, Saida). To reach out to communities, FON will connect with the municipality and mayors of the poor communities directly, through "Fishing in Lebanon" hub and Ghadi NGO, in order to help select the beneficiaries and approach them. In addition, FON is in contact with fisherwomen and with women groups who will facilitate the participation of women under the selection criteria. Fisherwomen will also help encourage the engagement of women to become the providers for their families and help overcome poverty confinement. Under poverty, women bear the highest pressures to sustain food sources for the family; thus women would be pivotal at supporting sustainable fishing and marine resources. Youth are selected and encouraged to participate because they are elements of change, ready to engage in new concepts and spread their capabilities to a larger surrounding of their friends and families.

For fairness and transparency, applicants will fill a data sheet; the neediest will be selected taking into account 50% women participation. The data will be verified with the mayor or municipality. Non-selected applicants will be informed to wait for the following phase, where the beneficiaries will themselves be training their communities.

Q15. Gender equality

All applicants must consider whether and how their project will contribute to reducing inequality between persons of different gender. Explain your understanding of gender equality within the context of your project, and how is it reflected in your plans. Please summarise how your capability and capacity project will contribute to reducing gender inequality. Applicants should, at a minimum, ensure proposals will not increase inequality and are encouraged to design interventions that proactively contribute to increased gender equality.

In our latest accomplishment of the 'Concrete Artificial Reef Garden', FON has set a very important precedence for tackling gender equality in the marine sector. Through working with local communities, FON discovered that Lebanese coastal women were long active in fishing and treading the sea over many generations; these legacies transcend within families from grandmothers to daughters and granddaughters. FON highlighted this aspect in the previous documentary on the

reef garden (link referenced). Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) regional NGO asserted the uniqueness of the engagement of women at sea in Lebanon and valued the significance of exposing more this important lesson to be educational for women around the Mediterranean.

FON will also endorse the role of women in all the trainings and activities conducted under this project. 50% of beneficiaries will be women to endorse and enhance their role in marine skills and jobs. The national network, MaRe Network, established on this project will continue to endorse the role of women in all marine activities and conservation from community level to national and policy levels, and to advocate for the engagement of women in the marine and blue economy as capable skillful human resources as the capacity building on this project will assert.

In addition, FON is a women-led organization. Project management and team is largely composed of qualified ladies with a record of experience to ascertain that women can address the marine environment, which is stereotypically identified with men. Leading by example, this will encourage the engagement of women from communities.

Q16. Change expected

Detail what the expected changes to in-country capability and capacity will deliver for both biodiversity and poverty reduction. You should identify what will change and who will benefit a) in the short-term (i.e. during the life of the project) and b) in the long-term (after the project has ended) and the potential to scale the approach.

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

As outcome, the project will contribute

- to enhanced sustainability and conservation of the marine ecosystem and biodiversity through community endorsement and sustainable fishing for poverty alleviation and sustainable livelihood against overexploitation trends.

On the short-term,

1- the project will present the first marine vocational training, and the first sustainable fishing training combined.

a. Sustainable fishing means apply fishing rules to maintain sea productivity (return young catch and gravid females, safeguard habitats and biodiversity, fish to use, fish in season, similar sustainable actions)

2- the project will pioneer the first capacity building that addresses poverty alleviation employing marine resources sustainably for a sustainable livelihood.

a. As such, the project will set the first vocational approach for marine livelihood skills to combat poverty, while the general trend does not consider the marine environment a conducive or friendly environment to promote skills.

3- 300 poor families in 15 coastal communities will have a marine skilled member to provide access to nutritious food and protein source, and some food for cash exchange to support the essentials for survival.

4- 3 newly established reserves are strengthened with management plans and biodiversity documentation to support marine conservation.

5- 600 stakeholders in 20 communities will receive awareness building on significance of sustainability and conservation of marine ecosystem

At end of project,

6- Youth and women will be acknowledged as strong social entities to adopt marine capacity

a. Both target social segments, youth and women, are currently not envisaged in any marine program; this project sets a precedence.

b. The role of women as users of the sea will be for the first-time video-documented offering women self-esteem, encouragement and trust, and offering Lebanon a unique stance around the Mediterranean and with gender-based donors. The documentary will reach active stakeholders around the Mediterranean to generate a regional impact.

7- Trained beneficiaries will be enabled with capacities and capabilities to train in their communities.

a. As such, 15 communities are enabled to expand their sustainable interaction with the sea.

8- The project will mark the first national engagement of 600 trained stakeholders: 1- to spread awareness to the value of marine sustainability for coastal livelihood against poverty and hunger, 2- to help abate marine degradation at a time when marine overexploitation and destruction could be easily taking place while law enforcing agencies are inactive, and 3- to advocate marine conservation to replenish marine riches and incite more communities to demand marine protection.

9- The first inclusive national network of marine stakeholders will engage at supporting national conscientiousness for marine protection and sustainability at communal level and in a bottom-up approach to influence decision-making.

The first marine database will commence to offer simplified reference on marine biodiversity to facilitate monitoring particularly under climate change, and to provide open access to students, communities, and supporters to learn of Lebanon's riches. Impact of climate change would be better evidenced with change in behavior and time of species migration; thus, adaptation and mitigation measures would be better discerned, so would enhanced governance .

Q17. Exit Strategy

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

How will the built capability and capacity be maintained in-country? How will the new capability and capacity be replicated to strengthen additional future environmental leaders beyond the project? How will the benefits be scaled? Are there any barriers to scaling and if so, how will these be addressed? How will the materials developed during the project be made more widely accessible during and after the project?

The trained beneficiaries and communities will grow independent to support themselves. The MPAs will be strengthened to progress independently as well. Examples and evidence produced from the project will compel replication of project methodologies.

FON will develop mechanisms to sustain the use of the developed capability and capacity tools. The vocational training is expandable and replicable; FON will employ the course to serve for capacity building over larger scale. FON will showcase the training course to agencies working with poverty alleviation and livelihood, such as UNHCR, USAID, NRC and others, to adopt this course into their vocational trainings and help more coastal poor find a way of living sustainably.

The MaRe network will develop an annual action plan and start to act and advocate national commitments toward marine sustainability and protection. It will grow to act nationally, and liaise with organizations around the Mediterranean.

Augmenting communal engagement and consciousness to support a national network of marine protected areas will be captured in new proposals for marine conservation, where more communities will engage in marine protection.


The marine biodiversity online database will be under FON website and will continue to document feedback of stakeholders and the MaRe network. The database will continue to grow to encompass the largest representation of Lebanon's marine biodiversity. It will become the center for development of new projects and activities.


The social network and media will be the more active as the project progresses and thereafter, since more information will be collected from a wider base of stakeholders and beneficiaries and exposed to a wider audience as well.


Barriers to scaling up may be social, political or economic; their influence cannot be currently discerned in a region subject to heavy turmoil and varying conditions. But, FON will pursue in spite.

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

 [REFERENCES.DI](#)

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Section 7 - Risk Management

Q18. Risk Management

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

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

Risk Description	Impact	Prob.	Gross Risk	Mitigation	Residual Risk
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Fiduciary (financial) Accountant took the money, Purchase items are not really purchased or delivered, Consultant does not deliver	loss	rare	negligible	Legal actions will be taken against the risk inducer and national laws applied. FON will contribute the loss. Measures: Accountant receives only the payments of the month. Head of Operations oversees payment activities and delivery of services and goods; pay installments based on deliverables.	deficit
Safeguarding Sexual, physical, vocal abuse or discrimination for staff or participants; Personnel data leaked;	stigmatizing	rare	negligible	FON applies privacy and safeguard policies. Head of Operations is always vigilant and inspects. FON board take strict disciplinary measures and apply the enacted laws. FON will replace the abuser and continue the progress of the project. Abused will be assisted engendering help of relevant NGOs.	minor
Delivery Chain Social, political or economic crisis escalate	delay	possible	delay	Continue to operate where feasible until situation relaxes. Request extension of project time needed to accomplish the actions. FON faced the overwhelming impacts of COVID-19, extension of projects was obligatory; we followed the appropriate procedures to acquire approvals of donors. If possible at early stage, modify selected communities/beneficiaries.	none
Risk 4 Banking policies may modify to support phases of the crisis. Banks had altered their mode of operation and cash flow under the crisis. The current policy should not change but there is always risk under these conditions	constraints	possible	delay	We do not allow financial measures to risk project progress. As happened previously, FON continued to progress activities of projects as much as possible with the goodwill of our team. Use ethical and effective alternatives if available. Request extension of project activities.	none
Risk 5 COVID-19 and its variants resurge and oblige distancing or other health measures as stopping conduction of indoor workshops.	constraints	possible	restructuring	Training and awareness workshops will need to be redesigned either to be delivered outdoor or to be modified to smaller numbers of participants or use hygenic measures, or utilize online platforms to connect and communicate and deliver information; worst case, request project extension.	none
Risk 6 Fuel unavailability or increased prices may stop conduction of activities	constraints	possible	delay	We can stock fuel, deliver some activities remotely over the web with online platforms. Activities requiring person to person contact would be delayed, and an extension of project timeframe would be requested.	none





Section 8 - Implementation Timetable

Q19. Provide a project implementation timetable that shows the key milestones in project activities

Provide a project implementation timetable that shows the key milestones in project activities, linking them to your Outputs. Complete the Word template as appropriate to describe the intended workplan for your project.

[Implementation Timetable Template](#)

Please add/remove columns to reflect the length of your project. For each activity (add/remove rows as appropriate) indicate the number of months it will last, and fill/shade only the quarters in which an activity will be carried out.

 [BCF-Implementation-Timetable-Template-2022-23-FI](#)
[NAL](#)
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Section 9 - Monitoring and Evaluation

Q20. Monitoring and evaluation (M&E)

Describe how the progress of the project will be monitored and evaluated, making reference to who is responsible for the project's M&E.

Darwin Initiative projects are expected to be adaptive, and you should detail how the monitoring and evaluation will feed into the improved delivery of the project including its management. M&E is expected to be built into the project and not an 'add' on. It is as important to measure for negative impacts as it is for positive impact. Additionally, please indicate an approximate budget and level of effort (person days) to be spent on M&E (see Finance Guidance).

A qualified qualitative team member will be responsible for the monitoring and evaluation of progress, performance and impact of the project. On project process, the M&E officer will participate in and follow up on the timely delivery of activities according to project plan, the outlined process of project conduction from policies to activities, the undertaken actions to create and deliver activities, the selection and engagement of beneficiaries and communities, verification of the objectively verifiable indicators, and the respect of ethical and transparent measures. On evaluation of project impact, the M&E officer will develop post-activity evaluation forms to be filled by participants in order to evaluate the impact from the beneficiary and stakeholder end, and will participate in the activities to verify the quality of deliverables and their outreach impact. M&E officer would collect personal verbal feedback to check the response to activities, and would surely report the general atmosphere observed during events. Information collected in questionnaires will be analyzed using a suitable software SPSS or other to provide overview of responses and improve accordingly.

Regular biweekly meetings will be held convening the project team and Head of Operations for the M&E officer to provide comments and recommendations; actions and deliverables will be improved accordingly. M&E officer could also raise issues that could be amended on the spot and respective actions will be undertaken. M&E officer will also monitor the transparency of conduction of actions related to the project and report problems to Head of Operations for amendments.

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

Section 10 - Indicators of Success

Q21. Indicators of success

Please outline the Outcome and Outputs of the project and how you will show that they have been achieved by using SMART indicators and milestones.

See the Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Guidance for advice on selecting SMART indicators and milestones.

Please note that the number of participants in training is not an output, please consider how to measure the success of the training rather than participation in training.

In the table below please outline your Outcome and between 1-4 Outputs. Each statement should have between 2-3 SMART indicators and end target (figure/state/quality) including how you would evidence achievement – i.e. “Means of Verification”.

	SMART Indicator	Means of Verification
<p>Outcome</p> <p>The project will contribute to enhanced sustainability and conservation of the marine ecosystem and biodiversity through community endorsement and sustainable fishing for poverty alleviation and sustainable livelihood against overexploitation trends.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The module of sustainable fishing for poverty reduction is rendered applicable 2. Sustainable fishing is labelled for vocational training 3. engagement of 300 youth and women (50%) from coastal poor in sustainable fishing is attained 4. 15 local communities are internally enabled with 300 trained members to expand sustainable fishing practices 5. 600 community members in 20 coastal communities are engaged to support marine biodiversity protection and sustainable marine use 6. 3 new marine protected areas are strengthened to support biodiversity protection and reduce loss. 7. A National network to support governance for better protection and sustainability of marine ecosystem is established 8. National marine biodiversity database is established and rendered accessible 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Project documentation in videos/documentaries, photos and reports of all actions b. Copy of Training module and syllabus c. Participation selection sheet and list d. Testimonies of participants e. 3 management plans submitted f. Evidence of Network workshop and MoU g. Marine database link

<p>Output 1</p> <p>By 1.5 years, coastal community poor are enabled to sustain livelihood by sustainable fishing, and advocate marine sustainability in their communities</p>	<p>2. Course material for the first vocational training on sustainable fishing is developed</p> <p>3. Sustainable fishing training is internally verified tested with FON team, improved accordingly, and rendered replicable</p> <p>4. 300 new fishermen/women of coastal poor have enabled capacity to sustainably use marine biodiversity to support livelihood</p> <p>5. 150 women at least participate in training</p>	<p>b. Copy of vocational Training course material</p> <p>c. Documented evidence of verification process as minutes of trial and testing comments, attendance lists of beneficiaries</p> <p>d. beneficiary identification forms</p> <p>e. Documentary and Visual documentation of trainees participation in sustainable fishing training</p>
<p>Output 2</p> <p>By 2 years, beneficiaries/trainees who received the training practice and train their community members to sustain livelihood by sustainable fishing, and advocate marine sustainability in their communities</p>	<p>6. At least 75 trainees (25%) reported practising sustainable fishing</p> <p>7. At least 60 trainees (20%, or 4 in each of the 15 communities) offer training to community members</p>	<p>f. Communications with beneficiaries</p> <p>g. Photos and reporting of their fishing activities</p> <p>h. Video documentation of trainees participating</p> <p>i. Video documentation of trainees offering trainings</p>
<p>Output 3</p> <p>By end of year 1, conservation in marine protected areas is strengthened</p>	<p>8. 3 management plans are produced to the 3 new MPA</p> <p>9. 3 publications on significance of reserve and its biodiversity are produced each in 1000 copies</p> <p>10. 3 short 5min videos on biodiversity and habitat significance of each reserve are produced to expose to visitors and public</p>	<p>a. Copies of the management plans</p> <p>b. Copies of publications</p> <p>c. Copies of the videos</p>
<p>Output 4</p> <p>During and by end of year 2, communal engagement on marine ecosystem and biodiversity conservation is nationally strengthened, endorsed and networked</p>	<p>11. 600 members of 20 coastal community are made aware and endorse marine conservation and sustainable use</p> <p>12. At least 25 members from NGOs, cooperatives, fishermen and women establish and sign the national network</p> <p>13. At least 100 marine organisms and fish are documented in the National Marine Biodiversity Database</p>	<p>d. Visual evidence, reports and participation lists of 20 coastal community workshops</p> <p>e. Copy of national network preambles and signatories</p> <p>a. Database website link for content verification</p>

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 ACTIVITY 1.1: DEVELOP A 4-DAY INTENSIVE SUSTAINABLE FISHING TRAINING COURSE MODULE

- Develop the theoretical and practical training material to train beneficiaries on sustainable/responsible fishing. Two theoretical days will discuss the marine ecosystem, its significance, marine organisms, their habitats, life cycles, marine ecosystem sustainability and conservation, ways to improve livelihood sustainably and value of sustainability. Two practical days will teach all the techniques for fishing on shore, techniques for fishing on boat, rules and regulations pertinent to fishing, means of sustainable fishing and responsible fishing.
- Test the material within project team, verify its effectiveness, and amend accordingly.

1.2 ACTIVITY 1.2: COORDINATION AND SELECTION OF BENEFICIARIES

- Connect with municipalities and mayors, Ghadi NGO, Fishing in Lebanon hub, and women groups to help announce the project to poor coastal communities and the selection criteria,
- Announce meeting days at communities
- Collect participants forms
- Select the candidates for participation

1.3 ACTIVITY 1.3: TRAIN YOUTH AND WOMEN ON SUSTAINABLE FISHING

- Conduct trainings in 15 communities
 - o Every course cycle would take 20 members for training. The 20 members would be from the same community; if this is not available, participants of 2 neighboring communities will be combined together.
 - o Theoretical training will take place at the community itself; the meeting place will be organized with municipality or fishing cooperatives or local NGOs. The training day will be from 8am -5 pm; coffee break and food will be served. The practical training will take place in Byblos, where FON would have prepared all necessities and where our trainers are very familiar with the marine habitat and know the fish stock and routes.
- Help the trainees to become trainers through testing their practices and allowing them to repeat course material presenting the training to their trainee group.

2.1 ACTIVITY 2.1: MAINTAIN REGULAR COORDINATION TO SUPPORT BENEFICIARIES TO ENDORSE PRACTICING AND COLLECT FEEDBACK

- schedule successive coordination bimonthly with 1-2 beneficiaries per community to collect feedback on beneficiary group, unless community beneficiaries can be teamed on what's app group
- support and endorse at least 4 beneficiaries per community on training other community members
- collect documentation on beneficiary practices and training of community members.

2.2 ACTIVITY 2.2: CREATE A DOCUMENTARY ON TRAINING AND PRACTICING SUSTAINABLE FISHING TO REDUCE POVERTY OF COASTAL COMMUNITIES

- The documentary will be based on the vocational training course practices and participants. Captures and rushes will be taken during the course. The theme of the documentary is to spread a new cultural atmosphere to consolidate the value and the belief in sustainable fishing and its applicability to poverty alleviation as well as engagement of women and youth, and to deliver the positive message to counter damaging practices and overexploitation.

3.1 ACTIVITY 3.1: DEVELOP MANAGEMENT PLAN TO EACH OF THE 3 NEWLY ESTABLISHED RESERVES

- Conduct a review of the assets of the reserves in the marine and coastal ranges
- Connect with the various stakeholders and communities to define the value of the reserves from community to ministry of environment, municipality and other
- Produce a management plan that help activate the protection of the reserve and safeguard biodiversity.

3.2 ACTIVITY 3.2: BUILD CAPACITY OF THE 3 NEWLY ESTABLISHED RESERVES TO EXPOSE MARINE BIODIVERSITY VALUE TO ENHANCE CONSERVATION

- Conduct underwater survey and documentation of marine biodiversity every two months with divers filming the sightings
- Develop the findings into small publication/brochure for each reserve and produce 1000 copies of each to be offered to the reserve management committee and Ministry of Environment
- Develop a short documentary of about 5 min for each reserve. It will be exposed on FON YouTube channel and with copies for the reserve.

4.1 ACTIVITY 4.1: CONDUCT 20 COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS TO SUPPORT COMMUNAL CONSERVATION OF MARINE BIODIVERSITY AND SUSTAINABLE/RESPONSIBLE FISHING

- Prepare 1-day workshop material to spread awareness to general public on the significance of sustainable fishing and the importance of marine conservation to enhance the fish communities for the better survival of the people and engage them to the network. Workshop day is 9am to 3pm with coffee breaks and food.
- Connect with the communities with the help of municipalities, Fishing in Lebanon hub and Ghadi NGO.
 - o Engage at least 10 fishermen cooperatives in 10 of the workshops
 - o Engage at least 6 fishing groups and NGOs, other than cooperatives, and spread awareness to these groups to engender their support.
 - o Engage the marine reserves (those existing and those in the pipeline), and artificial reef communities, as well as general communities.
- Present 20 workshops at 20 communities to spread awareness and endorse engagement

4.2 ACTIVITY 4.2: DEVELOP THE NATIONAL NETWORK FOR MARINE PROTECTION AND SUSTAINABLE FISHING - THE MARINE RESPONSIBLE NETWORK (MARE NETWORK)

Conduct an initiation workshop to develop the network with representatives from the entities engaged in activity 5.1 and the beneficiaries and other stakeholders

Draft the mission, vision and plan of action in a participatory approach engaging all present parties.

4.3 ACTIVITY 4.3: DEVELOP THE FIRST OPEN DATABASE DOCUMENTING THE MARINE RICHES BASED ON COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

connect with the sustainable fishing teams to document their catches in types of species and level of abundance, date and location of the catches

developed a database website which will be a subdomain of FON website

develop the first baseline database of the marine riches of Lebanon where the information documented by the trained fishing teams will be entered and made available. The database will include the species observed, observation location and date, comments on threats or other indications; successive sightings will be included under the same species to tell the span of occurrence of species annually.

Promote the database to schools, communities, researchers in a workshop with the support of Ghadi NGO and Fishing in Lebanon hub.

Important Assumptions:

Please describe up to 6 key assumptions that, if held true, will enable you to deliver your Outputs and Outcome.

- 1- Socio-political stability is maintained and conducive of project implementation.
- 2- Social and gender barriers are not accentuated to deter poor communities from expressing individual's choices.
- 3- Public sector dilapidation does not influence the progress of the project. Project activities are designed to alienate requirements for governmental and public sector involvement to be on the safe side.
- 4- Banking system assumes stability and efficiency of furthering financial procedures.
- 5- Internet is stable to allow beneficiaries to connect with us regularly and cheaply.
- 6- Fuel prices and supply do not express exaggerated fluctuations beyond the capacity of the project to absorb.

Section 11 - Budget and Funding

Q22. Budget

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

Note that there are different templates for projects requesting under £100,000 and over £100,000. Please refer to the [Finance Guidance](#) for more information.


- [Budget form for projects under £100,000](#)
- [Budget form for projects over £100,000](#)


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


NB: Please state all costs by financial year (1 April to 31 March) and in GBP. The Darwin Initiative cannot agree any increase in grants once awarded.

Please upload the Lead Partner's accounts (or other financial evidence – see Finance Guidance) at the certification page at the end of the application form.

 FON BCF Budget over 100k MASTER Apr22

 06/11/2022

 18:22:08

 xlsx 92.07 KB

Q23. Funding

Q23a. Is this a new initiative or does it build on existing work (delivered by anyone and funded through any source)?

New Initiative

Please provide details:

This is a new initiative, but it capitalizes on earlier initiatives and accomplishments; it complements earlier efforts to attain marine biodiversity sustainability and sustainable use. For that, the approach employed in this project is rooted in the earlier successes and lessons learnt to guide a better performance. For example, fishermen cooperatives are difficult to engage, and fishermen always fear new ideas feeling it would be at their expense; however, the artificial reef garden of FON paved the way for a strong and fruitful collaboration with fishermen and fishermen cooperatives. Fisherwomen were discovered in that project as well; here we propose to provide women a larger role and scope of contribution to marine sustainability and livelihood support from the sea. Women engagement would have never been accepted without the evidence and pilot experiences to base on. Confidence that this project will lead to change of behavior toward marine biodiversity and a new vision to the connectedness of coastal communities to the marine environment on basis of sustainability as opposed to exploitation stems from the success of previous experiences that were themselves thought unattainable; yet, we scored and pioneered initiatives for the marine environment. This project will be another milestone as well.

Q23b. Are you aware of any current or future plans for similar work to the proposed project?

No

Q24. Capital items

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

We plan to purchase the equipment needed for the training of participants on fishing and for demonstrations of rules and regulations, like fishing nets. The fishing devices are for long-term use, they will continue to be part of the lab or practical part of the vocational training over all the years of offering the course. Some items are perishable as hooks and fishing lines, these will be renewed based on number of applicants to the trainings in the future.

Q25. Value for Money

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

All costs are carefully measured to be truly needed and most effective to attain the objectives. FON procurement policy will be followed unless donor provides different policies. Several quotations will be requested; lowest prices to quality will be chosen transparently. For transportation, logbooks are kept. Timesheets are maintained to reveal time allocated and progress.

It is important to realize that fuel prices are exorbitantly high currently at 1.5 \$/liter. Car breaks and maintenance have rocketed, with 400-700\$ the change of 4 breaks. Since we car-pool in private vehicles to reduce cost, our policy is to pay flat rate per Km traveled to compensate for fuel, maintenance, insurance, tear and wear. The rate is 0.4\$/km. This is the policy we applied across our projects to be fair to the service provider.

Rates of management team is equivalent to the middle range offered by other NGOs. Considering the level of activity to the quality of output needed, the rates are considered really fair. In addition, we will engender all support to help reduce the

expenses of the project, particularly with in-kind contributions.

The money value of our proposal should also be viewed in the number of people and families with salvaged livelihood at time of crisis and over long-term thereafter; it is valued in the self-employment and productivity offered to those who need it most. It provides hope that poverty alleviation is achievable with sustainable use of resources even under crisis.

Section 12 - Safeguarding and Ethics

Q26. Safeguarding

Projects funded through the Darwin Initiative must fully protect vulnerable people all of the time, wherever they work. In order to provide assurance of this, projects are required to have appropriate safeguarding policies in place.

Please confirm the Lead Partner has the following policies in place and that these can be available on request:

Please upload the Lead Partner's Safeguarding Policy as a PDF on the certification page.

We have a safeguarding policy, which includes a statement of our commitment to safeguarding and a zero tolerance statement on bullying, harassment and sexual exploitation and abuse	Checked
We have attached a copy of our safeguarding policy to this application (file upload on certification page)	Checked
We keep a detailed register of safeguarding issues raised and how they were dealt with	Checked
We have clear investigation and disciplinary procedures to use when allegations and complaints are made, and have clear processes in place for when a disclosure is made	Checked
We share our safeguarding policy with all partners	Checked
We have a whistle-blowing policy which protects whistle blowers from reprisals and includes clear processes for dealing with concerns raised	Unchecked
We have a Code of Conduct for staff and volunteers that sets out clear expectations of behaviours - inside and outside the work place - and make clear what will happen in the event of non-compliance or breach of these standards	Checked

Please outline how you will implement your safeguarding policies in practice and ensure that all partners apply the same standards as the Lead Partner. If any of the responses are "no", please indicate how it is being addressed.

Internally, Head of Operations monitors all projects and activities for good performance and conduct; he tries to correct any slight derailment as immediately as noticed first by verbal warning or discussion then by a written notice. If a major wrong conduct was remarked or discovered, then a board committee will convene and take appropriate measures. All staff and employee are well informed of FON intolerance to any conduct that contradicts its mission and values. Project employees are instructed to watch for any misconduct on activities to help correct it immediately. FON always voices its mission and values to collaborators.

Section 13 - FCDO Notifications

Q27. FCDO Notifications

Please state whether there are sensitivities that the Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office will need to be

aware of should they want to publicise the project's success in the Darwin Initiative in any country.

No

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

No

If no, why not?

We had applied previously and did not succeed, so we felt discouraged to contact the embassy before we have something concrete. On the other side, due to COVID and the general security situation, appointments are not easy and frequent. Thus, we will contact the embassy when and if we win.

Section 14 - Project Staff

Q28. Project staff

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

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

Name (First name, Surname)	Role	% time on project	1 page CV or job description attached?
Stacie Moutran	Project Leader	60	Checked
Myrna Semaan	ecologist, course development and trainer	30	Checked
Ghiwa Sabbagh	Community and data officer and trainer	60	Checked
Perla Tannous	Social media and M&E officer	60	Checked

Do you require more fields?


No

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


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


 [SUKHN Carol - CV 1page](#)

 06/11/2022

 17:26:30

 pdf 151.96 KB


 [Perla Tonyy Tannous CV](#)

 04/11/2022

 19:39:11

 pdf 269.73 KB


 [STACIE MOUTRAN1 CV](#)

 04/11/2022

 19:39:01

 pdf 132.22 KB


 [MSemaan 1 page](#)

 04/11/2022

 19:38:54

 pdf 99.74 KB

 [Ghiwa Sabbagh CV](#)

 04/11/2022

 19:37:38

 pdf 638.68 KB

Have you attached all project staff CVs?

Yes

Section 15 - Project Partners

Q29. Project Partners

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

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

Lead Partner name:

FRIENDS OF NATURE

Website address: www.f-o-n.org

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

FON has pioneered milestones for the environment of Lebanon and for marine conservation in particular. FON has created the first marine reserve, which is one of three declared in the country. We have pioneered marine restoration through artificial reef, and we are pioneering marine restoration through nursery development and management. We have a record of collaboration with stakeholders affiliated with the marine environment from fishermen to NGOs. We have proven to achieve remarkably and outstandingly the marine protection. We are highly skilled and capable; we have built a very competitive and qualitative team to attain the set outcomes. Our sustainable fishing officer is very well known for her skills and well connected to NGOs and fishing groups. Having a lady teach sustainable fishing theoretically and practically at sea offers by itself a strong standing and an important message. FON efforts for marine conservation were showcased by British TV Channel 4 in the COP26 rallying to provide a positive impact against the degrading pressures of climate change.

International/In-country Partner

In-country

Allocated budget £ [REDACTED]
(proportion or value):

Represented on the Project Board (or other management structure) Yes

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

Do you have partners involved in the Project?

Yes

1. Partner Name: Ghadi NGO

Website address: <https://www.ghadinews.net/>

What value does this Partner bring to the project?
(including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity): Ghadi NGO is a national NGO with the only green online platform in the Middle East. Ghadi is involved in production of environmental videos, documentaries, news clips, and all visual material. They have teams, equipment and the experience. In addition, they have a broad network of audience. Ghadi is well connected with all NGOs, syndicates, local and central authorities; they will be able to support at facilitating the execution of the activities of the project.

International/In-country Partner In-country

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: Fishing in Lebanon

Website address: <https://www.facebook.com/fishinginlebanon/>

What value does this Partner bring to the project?

Fishing in Lebanon is a hub, not a registered NGO. They are connected to a broad community of fishermen from amateurs to professionals; they spend a lot of time at sea. They can provide valuable information for the project and help facilitate coordination with poor communities to engage project participants. They can also provide data on marine biodiversity important for the building of the database. They will also join the marine network to benefit from their experience and their various marine contributions.

(including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):

International/In-country Partner In-country

Allocated budget: £0.00

Representation on the Project Board (or other management structure) No

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

3. Partner Name: *No Response*

Website address: *No Response*

What value does this Partner bring to the project? *No Response*

(including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):

International/In-country Partner International
 In-country

Allocated budget: £0.00

Representation on the Project Board (or other management structure) Yes
 No

Have you included a Letter of Support from this partner? Yes
 No

4. Partner Name: *No Response*

Website address: *No Response*

What value does this Partner bring to the project? *No Response*

(including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):

International/In-country Partner International
 In-country

Allocated budget: £0.00

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*

Website address: *No Response*

What value does this Partner bring to the project? *No Response*

(including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):

International/In-country Partner International
 In-country

Allocated budget: £0.00

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: *No Response*

Website address: *No Response*

What value does this Partner bring to the project? *No Response*

(including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):

International/In-country Partner International
 In-country

Allocated budget: £0.00





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.

 [Fishing Leb](#)
 06/11/2022
 17:25:43
 pdf 359.05 KB

 [support letter Darwin Marine 22](#)
 04/11/2022
 19:43:38
 pdf 144.65 KB

 [GHADIsigned](#)
 04/11/2022
 19:41:48
 pdf 124.16 KB

Section 16 - Lead Partner Capability and Capacity

Q30. Lead Partner Capability and Capacity

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

No

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

What year was your organisation established/ incorporated/ registered? 01 January 1984

What is the legal status of your organisation? NGO

How is your organisation currently funded? FON majorly relies on developing projects and soliciting funding, which is currently the only potential to follow given the situation of total collapse of the country and the private sector. Engendering funding from establishments is currently totally impeded. FON prepared a strategy to solicit private sector contribution and engagement of banking establishments, but since 2019 the situation is deteriorating, and financial means are severed. In 2023, FON will receive funding from CEPF to create a funding strategy that responds to current crisis situation and enable diversified funding sources and opportunities.

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

Aims The aim of FON is to protect biodiversity, to disseminate knowledge on the value of biodiversity for survival of mankind and the functionality of the planet on which man's survival depends, and to engage communities to consciously protect their natural heritage and employ it sustainably for livelihood and economic progress

Activities FON develops projects to support its conservation programs that consider both terrestrial and marine biodiversity. Under this main strategy, FON employs several means to support conservation from education to vulgarizing information through publications, social media and documentaries, training and capacity building, and networking

Achievements FON fathered the environmental movement as the first environmental NGO; FON created the first two nature reserves at grassroots and legislative levels; FON fathered the creation of the ministry of environment; FON pioneered marine conservation and concrete artificial reefs. FON sent a positive marine restoration message to COP26.

Provide detail of 3 contracts/projects held by the Lead Partner that demonstrate your credibility as an organisation and provide track record relevant to the project proposed.

These contracts/awards should have been held in the last 5 years and be of a similar size to the grant requested in your application.

Contract/Project 1 Title MARINE ECOSYSTEM RECOVERY THROUGH ARTIFICIAL REEF

Contract Value/Project budget (include currency) [REDACTED] euro

Duration (e.g. 2 years 3 months)	2 years and 10 months
Role of organisation in project	FON developed the project document, solicited the fund and implemented the project solely
Brief summary of the aims, objectives and outcomes of the project	The objective of the project is to enhance the recovery of the marine ecosystem and biodiversity through the creation of an artificial reef. The first 'Concrete Artificial Reef Garden' was created installing 206 reef units in an ecologically poor zone. 3 artificial reef units were ecologically designed to host biodiversity and build the food chain; the reef landscape design was established based on FAO guidelines for the Mediterranean. 5 ministries, Lebanese Army, local communities and fishermen were engaged to support and safeguard the reef. 2 documentaries on 'Friends of Nature FON' Youtube channel tell the scientific and popularized reef stories
Client/independent reference contact details (Name, e-mail)	Therese Kanaan Finance and Contracts Officer, Delegation of the European Union - Lebanon. email: [REDACTED]

Contract/Project 2 Title	Conservation of Lebanon Endemic Flora through Community Engagement
Contract Value/Project budget (include currency)	[REDACTED] \$
Duration (e.g. 2 years, 3 months)	2 years 11 months
Role of organisation in project	Prepared the project proposal, solicited the funds and implemented as main grantee with 1 subgrantee
Brief summary of the aims, objectives and outcomes of the project	The aim of the project was to uncover the conservation status of the very restricted plant endemic species, which are usually under major threats of extinction. 13 species were studied for the first time, two were found to be critically endangered. The species spread in 4 localities where important ecological systems prevail. Local communities were engaged and had their capacities built to recognize the significance of the species and their natural heritage; the four community groups became the guardians of the endemic species. Management and conservation plans were prepared for execution with local stakeholders. A documentary showcases the achievements.
Client/independent reference contact details (Name, e-mail)	Name & Position: Pierre Carret , Grant Director Email: [REDACTED]

Contract/Project 3 Title Conservation Of Biodiversity By Sustainable Agriculture Through Agroforestry Techniques And Practice

Contract Value/Project budget (include currency) [REDACTED] \$

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

Role of organisation in project FON developed the project document, solicited the fund and implemented the project solely

Brief summary of the aims, objectives and outcomes of the project The objective of the project is to reduce the impact of the main threatening anthropogenic activity on biodiversity which is agriculture. 10 arable communities and nearly 400 farmers had their capacities enhanced to move from traditional agriculture, which is exploitative to natural resource, to sustainable agriculture employing biodiversity on the farmland. Training modules were developed and distributed. A publication was prepared to distribute to farmers. A blog networked the trainees to support them on their inquiries and exchange information.

Client/independent reference contact details (Name, e-mail) Name & Position: Adnan Melki, National Coordinator SGP-UNOPS
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Have you provided the requested signed audited/independently examined accounts (or other financial evidence - see Finance Guidance)?

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

Yes

Section 17 - Certification

Q30. Certification

On behalf of the

Trustees

of

Friends of Nature

I apply for a grant of





£180,290.00

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, a cover letter, letters of support, a budget, Safeguarding Policy and project implementation timetable
- Our last two sets of signed audited/independently verified accounts and annual report (or other financial evidence – see Finance Guidance) are also enclosed.





Checked

Name	Myrna Semaan
Position in the organisation	Secretary General
Signature (please upload e-signature)	 MS sign  04/11/2022  20:01:24  pdf 42.24 KB
Date	04 November 2022





Please attach the requested signed audited/independently examined accounts or other financial evidence (see Finance Guidance)

 [FON ANNUAL REPORT 23](#)
 06/11/2022
 17:17:04
 pdf 2.36 MB

 [CEPF AUDIT REPORT 2019-2021b](#)
 06/11/2022
 17:16:00
 pdf 1.96 MB

 [ERA1 AUDIT Report FINAL](#)
 04/11/2022
 19:51:16
 pdf 2.67 MB

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

 [FON POLICIES MANUAL](#)
 04/11/2022
 19:55:23
 pdf 431.62 KB

Section 18 - Submission Checklist

Checklist for submission

	Check
I have read the Guidance, including the “Darwin Initiative Guidance”, “Monitoring Evaluation and Learning Guidance”, “Risk Management 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 my budget based on UK government financial years i.e. 1 April - 31 March and in GBP.	Checked
I have checked that our budget is complete, correctly adds up and I have included the correct final total at the start of the application.	Checked
The application been signed by a suitably authorised individual (clear electronic or scanned signatures are acceptable).	Checked
I have attached the below documents to my application:	Checked
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • My budget (which meets the requirements above) 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • My completed implementation timetable as a PDF using the template provided 	Checked
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I have included a 1 page CV or job description for all the Project Staff identified at Question 28, including the Project Leader, or provided an explanation of why not. 	Checked
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A letter of support from the Lead Partner and partner(s) identified at Question 29, or an explanation of why not. 	Checked
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I have included a cover letter from the Lead Partner, outlining how any feedback received 1 has been addressed where relevant. 	Checked
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I have included a copy of the Lead Partner's safeguarding policy, which covers the criteria listed in Question 26. 	Checked
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I have included a signed copy of the last 2 annual report and accounts for the Lead Partner (or other financial evidence – see Finance Guidance), or provided an explanation if not. 	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 been in contact with the FCDO in the project country/ies and have included any evidence of this. If not, I have provided an explanation of why not.	Checked
I have checked the Darwin Initiative website immediately prior to submission to ensure there are no late updates.	Checked
I have read and understood the Privacy Notice on the Darwin Initiative website.	Checked

We would like to keep in touch!

Please check this box if you would be happy for the lead applicant (Flexi-Grant Account Holder) and project leader (if different) to be added to our mailing list. Through our mailing list we share updates on upcoming and current application rounds under the Darwin Initiative and our sister grant scheme, the IWT Challenge Fund. We also provide occasional updates on other UK Government activities related to biodiversity conservation and share our quarterly project newsletter. You are free to unsubscribe at any time.

Project Title:

	Activity	No. of months	Year 1 (23/24)				Year 2 (24/25)				Year 3 (25/26)				Year 4 (26/27)				Year 5 (27/28)			
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Output 1	By 1.5 years, coastal community poor are enabled to sustain livelihood by sustainable fishing, and advocate marine sustainability in their communities	18																				
1.1	<u>Activity 1.1: Create a 4-day intensive sustainable fishing training course module</u>	6																				
1.2	<u>Activity 1.2: coordination and selection of beneficiaries</u>	6																				
1.3	<u>Activity 1.3: Train youth and women on sustainable fishing</u>	12																				
1.4																						
1.5																						
Output 2	By 2 years, beneficiaries/trainees who received the training practice and train their community members to sustain livelihood by sustainable fishing, and advocate marine sustainability in their communities	15																				
2.1	<u>Activity 2.1: Maintain regular coordination to support beneficiaries to</u>	9																				

Project Title:

	Activity	No. of months	Year 1 (23/24)				Year 2 (24/25)				Year 3 (25/26)				Year 4 (26/27)				Year 5 (27/28)			
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
	<u>endorse practicing and collect feedback</u>																					
2.2	<u>Activity 2.2: Create a documentary on training and practicing sustainable fishing to reduce poverty of coastal communities</u>	15																				
2.3																						
2.4																						
2.5																						
Output 3	By end of year 1, conservation in marine protected areas is strengthened	12																				
3.1	<u>Activity 3.1: develop management plan to each of the 3 newly established reserves</u>	9																				
3.2	<u>Activity 3.2: build capacity of the 3 newly established reserves to expose marine biodiversity value to enhance conservation</u>	9																				
3.3																						
Output 4	During and by end of year 2, communal engagement on marine ecosystem and	18																				

Project Title:

	Activity	No. of months	Year 1 (23/24)				Year 2 (24/25)				Year 3 (25/26)				Year 4 (26/27)				Year 5 (27/28)			
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
	biodiversity conservation is nationally strengthened, endorsed and networked																					
4.1	<i>Activity 4.1: Conduct 20 community workshops to support communal conservation of marine biodiversity and sustainable/responsible fishing</i>	15																				
4.2	<i>Activity 4.2: Develop the National Network for Marine Protection and Sustainable Fishing - The Marine Responsible Network (MaRe Network)</i>	6																				
4.3	<i>Activity 4.3: Develop the first open database documenting the marine riches based on community participation</i>	18																				
4.4																						
4.5																						
Output 5																						
5.1																						
5.2																						
5.3																						