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# **DIR29CC\1157**

## **Building Capacity for Reciprocal Watershed Agreements in the Tropical Andes**

In the last ten years, more than a hundred municipalities from across the Andes have experimented with an innovative form of incentive-based conservation: Reciprocal Watershed Agreements (RWA). This project will build capacity and capability to adapt and improve the RWA model to finance biodiversity management. The facilitating organizations (Natura (Bolivia), CVC (Colombia), IBC (Peru), and ETAPA (Ecuador)) will also build their and their partners capacity to use the RWA model more effectively to support conservation of Key Biodiversity Areas.

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## Section 1 - Contact Details

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### PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

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### CONTACT DETAILS

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### GMS ORGANISATION

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Type Local charity organisation  
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## Section 2 - Title & Summary

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### Q3. Title:

Building Capacity for Reciprocal Watershed Agreements in the Tropical Andes





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

Yes

Year of unsuccessful application:	Stage of application:	Application number (if known):
2021	1	DIR28CC\1016

Please attach a cover letter.

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

-  [Cover letter Reciprocal Watershed Agreements DIR29 CC 1157](#)
-  07/11/2022
-  23:38:29
-  pdf 157.08 KB

## 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.

In the last ten years, more than a hundred municipalities from across the Andes have experimented with an innovative form of incentive-based conservation: Reciprocal Watershed Agreements (RWA). This project will build capacity and capability to adapt and improve the RWA model to finance biodiversity management. The facilitating organizations (Natura (Bolivia), CVC (Colombia), IBC (Peru), and ETAPA (Ecuador)) will also build their and their partners capacity to use the RWA model more effectively to support conservation of Key Biodiversity Areas.

## 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	Bolivia	Country 2	Colombia
Country 3	Ecuador	Country 4	Peru

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:	£96,600.00	£102,828.00	£ 199,428.00

## 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?

The four consortium members will provide a confirmed total of £[REDACTED] of match funding, primarily in terms of salary support and overhead costs. In terms of salary support, Fundacion Natura Bolivia will provide £[REDACTED] IBC will provide £[REDACTED] CVC will provide £[REDACTED] and ETAPA will provide £[REDACTED]. In addition, CVC will provide £[REDACTED] and ETAPA will provide £[REDACTED] in overhead support.

One of the outcome indicators of the project is to access financing of £[REDACTED] from local governments. This financing is not yet confirmed -- indeed, the objective of Activity 2.3.1 is to access this financing. However, Fundacion Natura Bolivia guarantee to pay this additional amount as matched funding if the the local governments are unable to provide such match. In other words, the £[REDACTED] to pay for economic development projects is guaranteed as match funding, either from the local governments, or in the worst case scenario, from Natura Bolivia.

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

£[REDACTED]

### 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?

Not applicable. All £[REDACTED] is confirmed, as explained above.

## 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 most biodiverse Protected Areas around the world are severely under-financed. A recent study of 282 state-owned protected areas in Africa that support lions, concluded that available funding only satisfied 10-20% of management needs. In total, the funding gap for Africa's PAs with lions was ~USD 1.5 billion per year.

Like many countries in the African tropics, Bolivia is rich in natural resources but poor in the financial resources required to manage its biodiversity. For example, Bolivia's Amboró National Park hosts 10% of the bird species on planet earth (the

same number as in the entire country of Costa Rica). Park authorities currently count on one vehicle to move staff around its 636,000 hectares. Natura Bolivia pays for the car's petrol, while the Bolivian government pays only for the salaries of the 25 park guards. Around Amboró are hundreds of small communities, the home of thousands of poor subsistence farmers and their families, many of whom clear forest next to the park to plant crops. Downstream of the Amboró Protected Area (PA) are 2 million people who depend on the PA for their water.

Reciprocal Watershed Agreements (RWA) are a mechanism by which the water users who benefit from conservation can help upstream communities in and around a Key Biodiversity Area and its buffer zone cover their costs of conservation. In practice, this means providing residents with development projects such as honey or fruit production or irrigation systems, in exchange for written 5- or 10-year commitments to protect their watersheds, forests and wildlife.

Such agreements have been able to support management of Key Biodiversity Areas. In Bolivia Natura has helped municipal governments sign agreements with 22,000 families in 80 municipalities, providing \$500,000 worth of development projects annually, in exchange for community commitments to protect almost 500,000 hectares of forest. For example, in the municipality of Yapacani, to the north of Amboró National Park, water users have given 465 peasant families who live in the park's buffer zone \$120,000 worth of development projects to conserve 12,000 of diverse lowland tropical rainforest for 10 years.

Reciprocal Watershed Agreements support in financing Key Biodiversity Area management is not limited to Bolivia. Since 2010, consortium partners in Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru have signed Agreements with landowners in another 30 municipalities, helping finance the conservation of biodiverse PAs such as Ecuador's Cajas National Park (Ramsar site and KBA) and Peru's Oxapampa-Asháninka-Yánesha Biosphere Reserve (home of the endemic *Ctenophryne barbatula* (EN))

Despite these initial successes, and the model's clear potential for scale-up, many implementers of Reciprocal Watershed Agreements lack basic information on how best to design their programs. Where should agreements be signed? With whom? Under what conditions? How can RWA support KBA management goals? How can women's needs be prioritized?

In short then, the wisdom of 10 years of experiences of consortium partners in managing Reciprocal Watershed Agreements that support PA management has yet to be synthesized and presented in way that can facilitate more effective design and implementation of the RWA model.

## Section 5 - Darwin Objectives and Conventions

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### Q12. Biodiversity Conventions, Treaties and Agreements

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

**Please indicate which agreement(s) will be supported.**

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

### Q12b. National and International Policy Alignment

**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.**

Our contribution to Bolivian National policies will be through the knowledge we generate and the people we train.

Bolivia's NBSAPs under the CBD are outlined in the 2019-2030 National Biodiversity Strategy. Within Strategic Line 3 we will help with the "Maintenance of environmental functions and Living Well in harmony with Mother Earth, by promoting regional, sub-national and local actions for the conservation of ecosystems and species of flora and fauna under threat" and in the Transversal Lines: "contribute to ecosystem-based adaptation as a strategy for socio-ecological resilience to

climate change in life systems” and “Adjusting programs to gender equality to ensure the equitable participation of women in Integral Management and Sustainable Biodiversity”

As part of its NDCs under the UNFCCC Bolivia expects to achieve a series of objectives in mitigation and adaptation by 2030. By training a new generation of managers who can use the conservation agreements tool for watershed management, we will specifically help “increase in a holistic manner the adaptation capacity and systematically reduce the hydric vulnerability in the country” and provide a “Significant improvement of social participation for local water management” and “Increase food production under irrigation.

In terms of forests and protected area management we will “increase the capacity of joint adaptation and mitigation through the comprehensive and sustainable management of forests” by “increasing forest areas with integrated and sustainable community management approaches” and “strengthening environmental functions (carbon capture and storage, organic matter and soil fertility, biodiversity conservation and water availability)”.

Our cooperation agreement with the government’s “Mother Earth Authority” commits Natura to provide “Technical and coordination support for the preparation of Bolivia’s NDCs”, specifically through the “Technical, logistical and coordination support for the assignment of municipalities of to the Joint Mechanism for Adaption and Mitigation”.

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

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### Q13. Methodology

**Describe the methods and approach you will use to achieve your intended 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?

Our project is outcome is to improve Key Biodiversity Area management through the signing of enhanced versions of voluntary Reciprocal Watershed Agreements (RWA) with local landowners. The project arose from a reflection amongst partners that each of us are undertaking series of activities – supporting management of protected areas and designing and financing Reciprocal Watershed Agreements – that could be dependent and complementary. We realized that melding these processes could provide a powerful synergy for simultaneously managing and financing some of the world’s most important conservation areas.

Given that much of our work is through our networks of more than 120 municipalities and other institutions, we decided that the best way to build all our capacities was to first ascertain what we know about using Reciprocal Watershed Agreements in and around protected areas and then build from this base to propose a new model. We proposed to then build the capacity of the next generation of partners and then to have them pilot the new conservation agreements/protected area management model.

We will base our methodology on our experiences with the partners whose capacity we have developed over the last decade. Between Natura, CVC, IBC and ETAPA we have implemented Reciprocal Watershed Agreements on more than 600,000 hectares and are trying to finance the management of another 4 million hectares of Key Biodiversity Areas.

The three project outputs consist of:

1. Refining our Reciprocal Watershed Agreements model and adapting it to improve Key Biodiversity Area Management

2. Enhancing the capacity of consortium staff and our local partners through training courses in how to implement and Reciprocal Watershed Agreements, and

3. Helping protected area staff and partners successfully finance and implement Reciprocal Watershed Agreements

For Output 1, we will first bring together our existing partners for an in-person and virtual workshop to share lessons, review the literature and learn from each other how best to design, develop, implement, and monitor conservation agreements, and to get sustainable financing for protected area management. We will describe our findings and turn them into a written document and a training course syllabus. We will then turn this syllabus into a training course program (for both in-person and virtual modalities) that will be taught for university credit (note that each consortium member already has a local university partner in-country)

For Output 2 we will invite consortium staff, partners, government authorities and other local institutions to apply for the training program. The one-week in person training in “Reciprocal Watershed Agreements for Key Biodiversity Area Management” will be held three times, training at least 100 participants, who will be selected through an open call for applications. We will provide personal mentoring for at least 75 participants as they develop their conservation agreement program proposals and help at least 20 workshop participants to finalize and present their financing proposals to funding agencies and governments. Simultaneously we will launch and manage a peer learning network to enhance post workshop interactions and learning,

Output 3 comprises the practical element to embed new capabilities into KBA management. For this output, we will help workshop participants to incorporate conservation agreements into the programmatic framework of their protected areas, and to assist at least five participants in setting up conservation agreements around their PAs.

All activities will take place in Bolivia, Colombia, Peru, and Ecuador, unless an international partner is unable to travel, in which case their involvement will be virtual.

Natura Bolivia will coordinate the project and lead field implementation support. CVC, ETAPA and IBC will facilitate their partners to learn best practice and the “state of the field” of Reciprocal Watershed Agreements and Key Biodiversity Area management financing. The four consortium members will jointly design and implement the first training workshops and take the draft course design and turn it into a university for-credit programme.

We will ensure that at least 50% of the trainees and pilot implementors are female and that 50% of faculty and mentors are female.

Risks will be tracked and managed by a team of representatives of each institution, who will also form the project governing body. This body will guide implementation, ensuring that all laws and donor requirements are followed, and that outputs and activities are completed on schedule.

Our ideal learning and training delivery model will require international travel by partners from the four partner countries. Further Covid induced restrictions would limit our ability to implement this model. We will mitigate this risk by designing both in-person and virtual versions of the training.

## **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?**

There are two main components to this project: 1) compiling lessons from previous experiences in using conservation agreements related to Key Biodiversity Area management, and 2) training a cadre of local partners to implement an improved version of these agreements in the future.

Participants for the first component will comprise of the existing partners of the consortium members (i.e., Natura, CVC, ETAPA and IBC). Selection will be direct, based on the expert assessments of Vargas, Suarez, Huaman and Bustamante of which of their existing institutional partners will be best able to contribute to lesson learning, and how to best meld RWA and KBA management.

Participants in the training/mentoring, will be selected through an open, fair, and transparent call for applications.

Selection will be based on the quality of the application, the probability that the applicant will be able to develop and conservation agreement program in/around their protected area, institutional letters of support, and the area's biological importance. Although the process will be competitive, we will however, prioritize applications from indigenous and under-represented demographics, including women. This prioritization will be mentioned in the Call for Applications.

We will also prioritize applicants who will be working close to high biodiversity PAs. Consortium members have already used RWA to support the financing of PAs that are also Key Biodiversity Areas, including Yanuncay-Yanasacha and Cajas-Mazán (Cajas National Park) (Ecuador), the Cordillera Yanachaga (Oxapampa Asháninka Yánesha Biosphere Reserve) (Peru), Serranía de Aguarague and Yungas Inferiores de Amboró (Aguarague and Amoro National Parks) (Bolivia) and the Farallones de Cali National Park (Colombia). We will prioritise the training of existing and new partners who work around these PAs and also encourage applications from organizations working in other KBAs such as Alto Calima and Río Dagua in Colombia's Valle de Cauca and Bolivia's Cordillera de Sama and Azurduy.

## 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.**

We will endeavour to have at least 50% female trainees and pilot implementors and will advertise the training programme as such. We will also ensure that 50% of faculty and mentors are female. Three of our six core team members are female. We recognize that this will not promote gender equality, but this is an internal policy of Natura, that where possible, females make up at least 50% of team members.

Recognizing that in the often-male dominated culture of Latin America, women's and especially girl's voices are rarely heard, we will have a trained gender consultant, Natalia Araujo, at the workshops to ensure that women are supported, and their needs and perspectives prioritized.

In terms of the Reciprocal Watershed Agreements that we promote, support and mentor, we will follow Natura' standard operating practices. The traditional development projects that such agreements could favour focus on improving crop yields and productivity invariably benefit men. The projects that our conservation agreements support will be different. We will ensure that trainees target compensation forms that benefit women, such as beehives and other tools for honey production. In addition, we will work with the trainees to help them prioritize signing agreements with females and promote a strategy that does not sign agreements just with males, but rather guarantees that a female is a co-signer on all agreements.

## 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**

The Reciprocal Watershed Agreements model appears to be applicable across many different landscapes (see, for example Darwin Project DARNV004, which is applying the model in the Comoros), but our project will focus on mega diverse cloud forests of the tropical Andes, such as those in Bolivia's Amboró- and Colombia's Farallones de Cali National Parks i.e., the tropical-subtropical forest biome. We will also support trainees working in woodlands, savannas, and grassland biomes. Our actions will focus on land protection and management and livelihood, economic and other incentives. The threats we will address are biological resource use and natural system modifications.

Our project outcome is to improve the management of five Key Biodiversity Areas through the signing of enhanced versions of voluntary Reciprocal Watershed Agreements with local landowners. The short-term beneficiaries of the project are 100 protected area staff and their local partners who will be trained in how to design and implement the agreements.



At least 50% of these beneficiaries will be female. We expect that by project-end, at least five of these trainees will have built their capacity sufficiently to have been able to implement RWA with communities around their protected areas.

At the local scale, at least 100 local families will benefit from these pilot agreements, receiving \$20,000 worth of development projects such as improved irrigation and cattle management systems, and fruit tree production. These projects will help the farmers both conserve their forests and water supplies and diversify their income sources and thus increase their resilience to climate change.

In terms of biodiversity conservation, in the short term, by signing conservation agreements we will improve management of at least 10,000 hectares around five Key Biodiversity Areas. These KBAs will be concentrated in the Tropical Andes Forest biome and so will enhance protection of some of the world's most biodiverse forests. Such small areas, by definition, will only be pilots, but they will serve as examples to the other trainees about what is possible and how to do it.

Two of the greatest challenges for the effective management of KBAs in Latin America is getting buy-in and participation from local actors and establishing financial mechanisms that contribute to covering the areas' management costs. Our evidence suggests – and we expect that this project will show – that conservation agreements can be integrated into the management of Key Biodiversity Areas to contribute to resolving both challenges.

By documenting our lessons and experiences we will help other institutions implement and improve the conservation agreements model. Upon project completion, additional beneficiaries will comprise institutions that are able to use the newly created knowledge and implement their own agreement programs, and the individual landowners and community members who will benefit from such replication and scale up.

Finally, by interacting with, and learning from each other the four project consortium institutions (Natura, CVC, ETAPA, and IBC) will increase our own capacity to implement more effective RWA around KBAs in the future.

## **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?**

Our first output is to document the best practices of incentive-based community-led conservation, refine the Conservation Agreement model, and adapt it to enhance Key Biodiversity Area Management.

These activities will result in a document and associated training tools – a series of global public goods – that we will share amongst and will use in future training sessions with, our 150 + partners. These partners are currently wrestling with designing, developing, and financing protected areas and so there is high potential for an immediate global impact for this output.





Our task post-project, and hence our exit strategy, will be to continue to promote, present and discuss the results of this lesson learning. We are already active in hundreds of municipalities, so we have high leverage to promote take-up. We will also work with our other capacity-building partners, such as the Kinship Conservation Fellows, to build our learning and results into their programs.

More directly, our second output is to build the capacity and capability of 100 conservation professionals, to implement the new RWA model. Partners will provide follow up to these trainees post-project to help as and when needed as they develop their agreements.

In some ways, our entire project is designed as an exit strategy: our objective is to move away from RWA and KBA management being funded and implemented by us! Our vision is a future in which we exit the implementation, guiding and financing space, and focus instead on supporting our partners, and their partners to design develop and finance their own conservation agreement programmes.

We would also hope to work with Darwin post project to develop a partnership in which the lessons and experiences of all our 150+ implementing institution partners, plus the 150 + local governments with which we work, can help other Darwin grantees.

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

-  [Supplementary Information Reciprocal Watershed Agreements DIR29CC 1157](#)
-  07/11/2022
-  23:30:01
-  pdf 127.5 KB

## Section 7 - Risk Management

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### 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
<p><b>Fiduciary (financial)</b></p> <p>Partners, especially program participants who are not staff, misuse funds or payments are not accounted for</p>	moderate	rare	low	<p>Natura has a secure and proven accounting and safeguards system, that has been approved by donors including [REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>	minor
<p><b>Safeguarding</b></p> <p>Participants will travel significantly (to and from workshops and in their projects) along potentially dangerous roads, resulting in risk of accidents causing death or serious injury</p>	moderate	rare	low	<p>Natura’s travel policies require no travel after dark, respect of speed limits, defensive driving, and vehicle tracking in real time using GPS. We will also take out accident insurance policies for all participants.</p>	minor

<p><b>Delivery Chain</b></p> <p>Our ideal learning and training delivery model requires international travel by partners from different countries. Further Covid induced restrictions will limit our ability to implement this model</p>	major	possible	moderate	<p>Design both in-person and virtual versions of the training. The latter will be less effective, and a hybrid will likely not work. We would thus hold in-person training for participants who can travel (e.g., Bolivians), and virtual for those who cannot (e.g., internationals). Mentoring will work in both formats</p>	moderate
<p><b>Risk 4</b></p> <p>Sexual or other harassment or abuse of participants and project staff</p>	minor	unlikely	low	<p>All participants will have to read and sign our safeguards policy. We will identify and publicise the contact details of a female project staff member to be the point of contact for complaints and concerns, to whom anonymous complaints can be made.</p>	minor
<p><b>Risk 5</b></p> <p>Negative national government policies, such as on settlements in protected areas or opposition to REDD increase</p>	moderate	possible	moderate	<p>We have a cooperation agreement with Bolivia's National Parks Service so will be able to work with PA's regardless of political machination -- as we have been doing successfully since 2005. Also, the pilot projects can be set up close to, not in PAs, further reducing dependence on government policy.</p>	minor
<p><b>Risk 6</b></p> <p>Municipal governments do not provide the expected funding for trainee's pilot</p>	moderate	possible	moderate	<p>In our other programs, Natura is able to annually leverage \$250,000 of municipal funds for conservation. We therefore think that we can manage this risk using our existing fund-raising teams and process. However, if local funds cannot be raised for the pilots, Natura has guaranteed to provide the required funds.</p>	minor

## 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.**

## 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).**

Monitoring and Evaluation of the project will be led by staff from all of the partner institutions led by Carmen Suarez to ensure independence and inter-institutional checks and balances. We will monitor six aspects of the project:

Results: Carmen Suarez will be responsible for ensuring that the project is on track against intended milestones and targets and will scan for and track unintended consequences. This will be undertaken primarily through virtual interviews and follow up with trainees.

Activities and Organisational: Dennis Huaman will monitor implementation of activities to ensure that they occur according to the pre-defined work plan. At the same time, she will be tracking the internal capacity of each of the partner institutions in their use and management of funds, and their performance in undertaking activities and delivering expected results. This will be undertaken through written and verbal reports from each institution's staff.

Compliance, situation/context and financial: Natura's Accountant (Osvaldo Sanchez, financed through match) will ensure that the project complies with all laws and ensures that we meet Darwin's and other ethical and safe-guarding requirements. Sanchez will also monitor risks and assumptions, as well as political and institutional factors that influence project progress. Finally, Sanchez will track the use of inputs for activities and the forecasting of costs and budget monitoring, ensure that there are clear and audited accounting procedures, and adequate safeguards to prevent fraud and corruption. This will be undertaken through visits to Natura's offices and verbal and written reports from Natura's administrative and accounting team.

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

**Percentage of total project budget set aside for M&E** [REDACTED]

**Number of days planned for M&E** 20

## 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><b>Outcome</b></p> <p>Management of five Latin American Key Biodiversity Areas is improved through the signing of Reciprocal Watershed Agreements with local landowners</p>	<p>0.1. Capabilities: Knowledge and skills of 100 protected area staff and partners (at least 50% of whom are female) have been developed for the implementation of Reciprocal Watershed Agreements (by October 2023, baseline 0 staff trained) (KPI: Extent to which intervention is likely to lead to Transformational Change, 10 trainees are able to sign conservation agreement projects implemented by March 2025, baseline 0 trainees)</p> <p>0.2. Financing: At least \$20,000 in new funding to finance agreements is accessed by training programme participants (by December 2024, baseline \$0)</p> <p>0.3. Threat reduction: Management is improved on 10,000 hectares around 5 Protected Areas by putting them under conservation agreements (KPI: Number of hectares where deforestation has been avoided; 10,000 by March 2025, baseline 0 hectares under agreements; and KPI: Net change in greenhouse gas emissions; 7 million tCO<sub>2</sub>e by March 2025, baseline 0 tCO<sub>2</sub>e emissions reduced, KPI Number of people whose resilience has been improved; 100 families by March 2025, baseline 0 families)</p>	<p>0.1. Survey interviews with training participants in which they detail what they have learned about applying the Reciprocal Watershed Agreements Model, and how they will implement their knowledge, contracts with agreement holders</p> <p>0.2. Confirmation of financing letters or contracts</p> <p>0.3. Maps of areas under agreements, confirmation of location and size from relevant jurisdictional (local, state or national) government, standard carbon calculations using carbon content per hectare</p>

**Output 1**

1. The Reciprocal Watershed Agreements model is refined and adapted to enhance Management of Key Biodiversity Areas (KBA)

1.1. One document is published and distributed that describes a new KBA focused version of the Reciprocal Watershed Agreements model (by October 2023, baseline 0 models designed)  
 1.2. Two training workshops are designed (one for in-person and one for virtual learning) to build capacity for managing watersheds within and close to KBAs through Reciprocal Watershed Agreements (by December 2023, baseline 0 workshops designed)

1.1. Published document in printed and PDF format  
 1.2. Training course program published in printed and PDF format

**Output 2**

2. Capacity of consortium staff and their local partners is enhanced through training courses in how to implement and finance the refined Reciprocal Watershed Agreements model

2.1. 100 consortium staff and local partners are trained to manage KBAs through Reciprocal Watershed Agreements (by July 2024, baseline 0 trainees)  
 2.2. Proposals to implement Reciprocal Watershed Agreements in or around KBAs are developed by 75 training course participants (by October 2024, baseline 0 proposals)  
 2.4. Experiences and lessons learned on the use of Reciprocal Watershed Agreements for KBA management are shared by a network of consortium staff and associates (by March 2025, baseline 0 networks)

2.1. Training course attendance records  
 2.2. Technical Proposals  
 2.3. Financing proposals  
 2.4. Network design document, participation in network through google groups records, Whatsapp messages, and phone, webinar and zoom call records

**Output 3**

3. Consortium partners and trainees successfully implement the refined Reciprocal Watershed Agreements model

3.1. Reciprocal Watershed Agreements are implemented or being negotiated in or around 5 Key Biodiversity Areas (by March 2025, baseline 0 Protected Areas)  
 3.2.1. 100 families have signed a Reciprocal Watershed Agreement and have received an economic development project in exchange for their conservation commitment (by March 2025, baseline 0 families)  
 3.2.2. Reciprocal Watershed Agreements worth \$20,000 have been signed (Value of agreements signed by December 2024, baseline \$0)

3.1. Written confirmation by local, state or national government officials  
 3.2. Signed agreements describing delivery of economic development projects and maps showing location and polygon size

**Output 4**

*No Response*

*No Response*

*No Response*

**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.**

- 1.1.1. Hold partner meetings to share lessons.
- 1.1.2. Review literature (published articles and internal documents, and reports by each partner's associates).

- 1.1.3. Draft new document, share for reviews and revise.
- 1.1.4. Share document with external reviewers for comments.
- 1.1.5. Publish finalized version of document and disseminate.
- 1.2.1. Design in-person training program based on published document.
- 1.2.2. Design virtual training program based on published document.
- 2.1.1. Discuss project with KBA managers and government authorities and invite them and their staff to apply for the training.
- 2.1.2. Select participants through open call for applications.
- 2.1.3. Hold training workshops.
- 2.2.1. Provide individual mentoring to 75 participants as they develop their conservation agreement program proposals
- 2.3.1. Help at least 20 workshop participants to finalize and present their Reciprocal Watershed Agreement financing proposals to funding agencies and governments
- 2.4.1. Review literature and internal partner documents to learn lessons about network design.
- 2.4.2. Develop, disseminate for review, and finalize publication that describes learning network for Reciprocal Watershed Agreements as support for Key Biodiversity Areas Management
- 2.4.3. Support network participants in their peer-learning process
- 3.1.1. Mentor the workshop participants ( Implementers ) who will be setting up Reciprocal Watershed Agreements around their KBAs.
- 3.1.2. Assist Implementers in final design of their agreements, building on the consortium partner's experiences of more than 7,000 community and individual agreements signed in 4 countries
- 3.2.1. Support and mentor Implementers, virtually or with site visits, to overcome political and technical implementation challenges

### **Important Assumptions:**

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

We assume that:

- 1. The existing basic Reciprocal Watershed Agreements model, that has been used by project partners to benefit 30,000 people, and protect 500,000 hectares, can be refined/focused to improve Key Biodiversity Area management
- 2. Training will help partners/associates to better implement the model.
- 3. Agreement financing is available. We know of various potential sources, which during the short timeframe of the project, will most likely be from local governments.
- 4. Local communities will agree to sign and implement Reciprocal Watershed Agreements. We have already signed agreements in many municipalities: Natura, 80; CVC 14; ETAPA, 7; and IBC, 5.

## **Section 11 - Budget and Funding**

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### **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.**

---

 [1157 Natura Bolivia Budget 2023](#)

 07/11/2022

 03:57:11

 xlsx 94.05 KB

## Q23. Funding

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

Development of existing work

**Please provide details:**

This project builds directly on partners' existing training programmes on conservation agreements and protected area management. Between 2010 to 2018 Natura held 23 iterations of the Watershared School, training and 610 participants in the implementation of Watershared Agreements. Participants included sub-national government officials and technicians, representatives of water service providers, leaders from indigenous and peasant communities and other decision makers from 103 municipalities of Bolivia, and from Mexico, Peru, Costa Rica, United States, Ecuador, Belize, Colombia, and Argentina. These trainings led directly to the creation of independent water funds and programs in 30 municipalities. this project will build on these experiences to incorporate lessons learned from a decade of implementation of Reciprocal Watershed Agreements in Colombia, Ecuador and Peru and the experiences in Consortium Partners in Protected Areas management.

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

Yes

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

We are not aware of any current or future for plans similar work by other organizations. The Kinship Conservation Fellows program (<http://www.kinshipfellows.org>) and the Conservation Strategy Fund (CSF) (<https://www.conservationstrategy.org>) hold trainings for mid-career professionals on market-based incentives and economics for conservationists respectively. However, neither focus – as we will – on building learning networks of practitioners or on mentoring trainees to help them have conservation impact.

We have close relationships these institutions – three Natura staff are Kinship Fellows, and a Natura staff member (Dr. Nigel Asquith) directs the Kinship program, while two Natura staff are CSF graduates. Lesson learning from the Kinship and CSF networks will all allow us on build on the knowledge and work of both.

The uniqueness of our approach though, will be to meld two themes – Reciprocal Watershed Agreements and KBA management – into one capacity building program that then takes a further step by mentoring trainees as they apply their new knowledge to implement agreements in and around the protected areas where they work.

## 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.**

Not applicable

## 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.**

This project will build on and take advantage of decades worth of intellectual property of Consortium partners on Reciprocal Watershed agreements, and Key Biodiversity Area management. ETAPA and CVC have agreed to match-fund the costs of their participation in this project. The project will thus receive the expertise of these institutions and partners at zero cost. We will ensure activity value for money in four ways:

**Economy:** our trainings will be undertaken and most of our costs will be incurred in Bolivia, one of the cheapest countries in South America. All international salaries and their and partners airfares will be paid for by participants' own institutions. The workshops will be held in a small town (Samaipata) instead of an expensive city and venue/workshop services will be bid for in a competitive process.

**Efficiency:** We will benefit from Natura's experiences running week-long training workshops and will take advantage of our experiences in procuring transport, meals, and accommodation. Experience shows that learning occurs best in workshops of ~30 so we will hold three such workshops, rather than workshops that have more or fewer participants. We will take advantage of communication technology to allow virtual mentoring.

**Effectiveness:** we expect to have significant leverage and replication potential, as we will be training young professionals who will return to their institutions to implement, repeat, and copy what they have learned.

**Equity:** 50% of our trainees will be female

## Section 12 - Safeguarding and Ethics

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### 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.**

<b>We have a safeguarding policy, which includes a statement of our commitment to safeguarding and a zero tolerance statement on bullying, harassment and sexual exploitation and abuse</b>	Checked
<b>We have attached a copy of our safeguarding policy to this application (file upload on certification page)</b>	Checked
<b>We keep a detailed register of safeguarding issues raised and how they were dealt with</b>	Checked
<b>We have clear investigation and disciplinary procedures to use when allegations and complaints are made, and have clear processes in place for when a disclosure is made</b>	Checked
<b>We share our safeguarding policy with all partners</b>	Checked
<b>We have a whistle-blowing policy which protects whistle blowers from reprisals and includes clear processes for dealing with concerns raised</b>	Checked

**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.**

Our safeguards policy applies to our staff and partners and beneficiaries. Just as all new Natura staff are required to read, be trained in, and agree to the safeguard policy, all potential partners are required to be bound by safeguard policy before they are accepted as partners. Acceptance requires a commitment to enforce the agreement with next level partners, meaning that there is a cascade effect of all partners and sub-partners agreeing to be bound by the principles. Our main implementation tool is continual retraining and reminding of staff/partners of their commitment to safeguard and other best practices.

## 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.**

Yes (no written advice)

## 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?
Maria Teresa Vargas	Project Leader	33	Checked
Richard Estrada	Training School Director	33	Checked
Carmen Suarez	Communication Expert	50	Checked
Gloria Suarez	Colombia Lead	25	Checked





**Do you require more fields?**

Yes

Name (First name, Surname)	Role	% time on project	1 page CV or job description attached?
Dennis Huaman	Peru Lead	35	Checked
Marco Bustamante	Ecuador Lead	25	Checked
No Response	No Response	0	Unchecked
No Response	No Response	0	Unchecked
No Response	No Response	0	Unchecked
No Response	No Response	0	Unchecked
No Response	No Response	0	Unchecked
No Response	No Response	0	Unchecked

**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.**

 [Reciprocal Watershed Agreements Natura Bolivia DIR 29CC 1157 CV 2023](#)  
 07/11/2022  
 21:50:14  
 pdf 143.27 KB

**Have you attached all project staff CVs?**

Yes

## Section 15 - Project Partners

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### 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:** Fundacion Natura Bolivia

**Website address:** [www.naturabolivia.org](http://www.naturabolivia.org)

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

For almost twenty years, Natura has pioneered the use of incentive-based conservation. Our watershed agreement model has been discussed, revised, improved upon, and piloted in countries as far apart as Argentina, Kenya, India and the Comoros. In addition to directly training staff from more than 100 local governments, Natura and our academic colleagues have published the results of our experiences in more than 15 peer-reviewed articles in international journals. Our institutional focus is on a tight circle of implementation, with learning, publication and training then leading to improved implementation and replication. This is the spirit in which we will undertake this project. Natura's role in the project will comprise project leadership and management, with specific responsibility for organizing the workshop trainings, and mentoring the Bolivian trainees. We have significant experience raising money from local governments for conservation – averaging \$ [REDACTED] per year for the last five years – so we will work with the trainees to get local funding for the projects that they implement post-workshop.

**International/In-country Partner**

In-country

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

£ [REDACTED]

**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:**

Corporacion Autonoma Valle de Cauca (CVC)

**Website address:**

<https://www.cvc.gov.co/acuerdos-reciprosos-por-el-agua>

**What value does this Partner bring to the project?**

**(including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):**

The Corporacion Autonoma Valle de Cauca (CVC) is the government entity in charge of managing the renewable natural resources and the environment of the Department (State) of the Valle del Cauca (an area more than 2/3 the size of Belgium). As the highest environmental authority and in alliance with social actors, CVC promotes a healthy environment, contributing to the improvement of the population's quality of life, and competitiveness of the region within the framework of sustainable development. CVC has been implementing Reciprocal Watershed Agreements (ARA) in 14 municipalities for more than a decade. CVC is the Project Lead in Colombia and will be responsible for sharing the lessons of successful watershed agreements in 14 Colombian municipalities and applying them elsewhere. CVC will also be responsible for providing the perspective of a government institution to all project partners.

**International/In-country Partner**

In-country

**Allocated budget:** ██████████

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

---

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

---

**2. Partner Name:** Instituto del Bien Comun (IBC)

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**Website address:** <https://ibcperu.org/en/guardianes-del-agua-firmaron-acuerdos-de-conservacion-con-la-municipalidad-provincial-de-oxapampa/>

---

**What value does this Partner bring to the project?**  
**(including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):**

The Instituto del Bien Comun (IBC) is a Peruvian non-profit civil association founded in 1998 that works with rural communities and regional and national government institutions in the Peruvian Amazon to provide greater care for the commons: the resources and spaces held in common such as rivers, lakes, forests, fisheries, natural protected areas, and community territories. These resources and spaces are central to the livelihood of Amazonian peoples, both indigenous and non-indigenous, especially in this age of a changing global climate. Their conservation and sustainable use contributes to the well-being of these peoples as well as that of all Peruvians. IBC is the Project Lead in Peru and will be responsible for sharing the lessons from successful watershed agreements in 5 Peruvian municipalities and applying them elsewhere. IBC will also be responsible for providing the perspective of a locally based not-for-profit, to all project partners.

---

**International/In-country Partner**  In-country

---

**Allocated budget:** ██████████

---

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

---

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

---

**3. Partner Name:** ETAPA ((Empresa de Telecomunicaciones, Agua Potable, Alcantarillado y saneamiento de Cuenca)

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**Website address:** <https://www.etapa.net.ec/noticias/detalle/id/2798/contenido/acuerdos-mutuos-por-el-agua-para-proteger-los-ecosistemas-de-regulacion-hidrica>

---

**What value does this Partner bring to the project?**

**(including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):**

ETAPA (Empresa de Telecomunicaciones, Agua Potable, Alcantarillado y saneamiento de Cuenca) is a public utilities company owned and operated by the city of Cuenca, Ecuador. The company provides public services, including water to the 500,000 residents of the city. As part of ensuring a clean water supply ETAPA manages the 28,500-hectare Cajas National Park, and has been implementing of Reciprocal Watershed Agreements (or, Mutual Watershed Agreements as they are known in Cuenca) for more than a decade. ETAPA is the Project Lead in Ecuador and will be responsible for sharing the lessons from successful watershed agreements in 7 Ecuadorian municipalities and applying them elsewhere. ETAPA will also be responsible for providing the perspective of a city-run water utility that manages a protected area, to all project partners.

**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

**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

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**6. Partner Name:** *No Response*

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**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


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

*No Response*

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

 [Reciprocal Watershed Agreements Natura DIR29CC 11](#)  
[57 Letters of Support](#)  
 07/11/2022  
 21:54:41  
 pdf 693.28 KB

## Section 16 - Lead Partner Capability and Capacity

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### 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)?**

Yes

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

Reference No	Project Leader	Title
IWT109	Nigel Asquith	Preventing the extinction of Bolivia's Critically Endangered Red-fronted Macaw
DARNV006	Nigel Asquith	Replenishing Bolivia's Water Footprint: Scaling Watershed Conservation through Public-Private Partnerships
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>

**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**

Fundacion Natura Bolivia

**I apply for a grant of**

£199,428.00

**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





<b>Name</b>	Maria Teresa Vargas
<b>Position in the organisation</b>	Executive Director
<b>Signature (please upload e-signature)</b>	 <a href="#">Signature Certification Natura Bolivia</a>  06/11/2022  03:04:29  pdf 24.24 KB
<b>Date</b>	07 November 2022

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

 [AUDIT NATURA BOLIVIA 2020](#)  
 06/11/2022  
 03:10:58  
 pdf 476.67 KB

 [Natura Bolivia Audit 2021](#)  
 06/11/2022  
 03:10:03  
 pdf 500.02 KB

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

 [Natura Safeguarding policy](#)  
 06/11/2022  
 03:05:26  
 pdf 130.96 KB

## Section 18 - Submission Checklist

### Checklist for submission

	Check
<b>I have read the Guidance, including the “Darwin Initiative Guidance”, “Monitoring Evaluation and Learning Guidance”, “Risk Management Guidance”, and “Finance Guidance”.</b>	Checked
<b>I have read, and can meet, the current Terms and Conditions for this fund.</b>	Checked
<b>I have provided actual start and end dates for the project.</b>	Checked

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"> <li>• My budget (which meets the requirements above)</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• My completed implementation timetable as a PDF using the template provided</li> </ul>	Checked
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>	Checked
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A letter of support from the Lead Partner and partner(s) identified at Question 29, or an explanation of why not.</li> </ul>	Checked
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I have included a cover letter from the Lead Partner, outlining how any feedback received 1 has been addressed where relevant.</li> </ul>	Checked
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I have included a copy of the Lead Partner’s safeguarding policy, which covers the criteria listed in Question 26.</li> </ul>	Checked
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>	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.

Unchecked

### **Data protection and use of personal data**

Information supplied in the application form, including personal data, will be used by Defra as set out in the **Privacy Notice**, available from the [Forms and Guidance Portal](#).

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

	Activity	No. of months	Year 1 (23/24)				Year 2 (24/25)			
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
<b>Output 1</b>	<b>1. The Reciprocal Watershed Agreements model is refined and adapted to enhance KBA Management</b>									
1.1.1.	Hold partner meetings to share lessons	1								
1.1.2.	Review literature (published articles and internal documents), and reports by each partner's associates.	1								
1.1.3.	Draft new document, share for reviews and revise.	1								
1.1.4.	Share document with external reviewers for comments.	1								
1.1.5.	Publish finalized version of document and disseminate.	2								
1.2.1.	Design in-person training program based on published document.	2								
1.2.2.	Design virtual training program based on published document.	2								
<b>Output 2</b>	<b>Capacity of consortium staff and their local partners is enhanced through training courses in how to implement and finance the refined Reciprocal Watershed Agreements model</b>									
2.1.1.	Discuss project with Directors of KBAs and government authorities and invite them and their staff to apply for the training.	1								
2.1.2.	Select participants through open call for applications.	2								
2.1.3.	Hold training workshops.	2								

	Activity	No. of months	Year 1 (23/24)				Year 2 (24/25)			
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
2.2.1.	Provide individual mentoring to 75 participants as they develop their conservation agreement program proposals	3								
2.3.1.	Help at least 20 workshop participants to finalize and present their Reciprocal Watershed Agreement financing proposals to funding agencies and governments	3								
2.4.1.	Review literature and internal partner documents to learn lessons about network design.	1								
2.4.2.	Develop, disseminate for review, and finalize publication that describes learning network for "Reciprocal Watershed Agreements as support for KBA Management"	2								
2.4.3.	Support network participants in their peer-learning process	12								
<b>Output 3</b>	<b>Consortium partners and trainees successfully implement the refined Reciprocal Watershed Agreements model</b>									
3.1.1.	Mentor the workshop participants ("Implementers") who will be setting up Reciprocal Watershed Agreements around their Key Biodiversity Areas.	6								
3.1.2.	Assist implementers in incorporating Conservation Agreements into annual operational planning	6								
3.2.1.	Support and mentor Implementers, virtually or with site visits, to overcome political and technical implementation challenges	15								