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Growing threatened trees' restoration capacity in Côte d'Ivoire's cocoa landscapes

In Côte d'Ivoire restoration deploys a sparse set of tree species and a fraction of the spectacular tree diversity of the former high conservation value forest. This project will build capability/capacity to use a wide array of indigenous, particularly threatened, through inventory of a degraded 6800 ha botanic reserve, seed collection, propagation, supporting nurseries to raise and stock a wider range of trees, and growing the market for them by raising awareness of biodiversity among cocoa and other restoration actors.

Section 1 - Contact Details

PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

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GMS ORGANISATION

Type Public limited company
Name World Agroforestry Centre
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Section 2 - Title & Summary

Q3. Title:

Growing threatened trees' restoration capacity in Côte d'Ivoire's cocoa landscapes

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

No

Please attach a cover letter.

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

- Cover letter Darwin ICRAF
- 07/11/2022
- 12:57:26
- pdf 168.88 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 Côte d'Ivoire restoration deploys a sparse set of tree species and a fraction of the spectacular tree diversity of the former high conservation value forest. This project will build capability/capacity to use a wide array of indigenous, particularly threatened, through inventory of a degraded 6800 ha botanic reserve, seed collection, propagation, supporting nurseries to raise and stock a wider range of trees, and growing the market for them by raising awareness of biodiversity among cocoa and other restoration actors.

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 | Côte d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast) | Country 2 | No Response |
| Country 3 | No Response | Country 4 | No Response |

Do you require more fields?

No

Q7. Project dates

| | | |
|--------------------|------------------|---|
| Start date: | End date: | Duration (e.g. 1 years, 8 months): |
| 01 April 2023 | 30 August 2024 | 18 months |

Q8. Budget summary

| Year: | 2023/24 | 2024/25 | Total request |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------------|
| Amount: | £0.00 | £0.00 | £ 0.00 |

Q9. Proportion of Darwin Initiative budget expected to be expended in eligible countries: % 0

Q10a. Do you have proposed matched funding arrangements?

No

Please explain why.

We have no current arrangement but are always searching given the extent of forest loss and the need to scale up planting using diversity. While this project is a finite undertaking in a small geographical area, it will have multiplier effects elsewhere as its lessons are learnt, including in other ICRAF projects across the cocoa belt.

ICRAF anticipates eventual funding of about \$█ from Global Affairs Canada for a project in Côte d'Ivoire which would have some overlapping objectives and activities with Growing threatened trees' restoration capacity in Côte d'Ivoire's cocoa

landscapes. The GAC-funded project intends look at nature-based solutions to climate change, including strengthening food systems with indigenous planting material. It has a focus on nutrition, women's empowerment and strengthening seed systems nationally. The Darwin project would foreshadow the GAC project, which can use learnings from it and may help to expand aspects.

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).

Côte d'Ivoire (CDI) has lost 90% of its hugely biodiverse humid forest since independence, largely due to cocoa cultivation. There is urgent need to build capability and capacity to restore the landscape.

The country has three forest categories. Rural forests (59% of forest, 75% of total recent forest loss) are managed by the Ministry of Water and Forests (MINEF) but belong to adjacent communities. Forêts classées (19% of forest, 21% of recent deforestation) are managed by parastatal Forest Development Corporation (SODEFOR) and can under agreement be commercially used for timber. National Parks represent 22% of remaining forest, 3% of deforestation. (Vivideconomics July 2020 data for UK Space Agency.)

The Reserve Botanique de Divo, the subject of this proposal, was created in 1975, and has similar protection status to a forêt classée. Today, all but six of CDI's 234 forêts classées have been 25-75% replaced with cocoa by communities within or adjacent to them. Recent land degradation studies by ICRAF report over 12 threatened native tree species in the cocoa landscape.

Fortunately, new laws, policies, edicts and efforts are now underway to protect and restore these formerly forested landscapes, largely with cocoa agroforestry. While the suite of trees can include up to ten indigenous species in best cases, most projects use a limited palette, a significant portion of which are exotics.

On the other hand, the hundreds of new nurseries that have sprung up to supply the millions of seedlings required are a huge opportunity to build back diversity. Currently, nursery operators source seed locally from remnant mother trees that often number just one or two, bringing huge risk of inbreeding depression and loss of genetic diversity. For species that are rare or now extinct, nursery operators often bring seed and wildlings by bus from more heavily forested areas along the border with Liberia. Removal of wildlings is a threat to these forests that are themselves under pressure; documentation and protection of seed sources are absent.

CDI has knowledgeable botanists who, if embraced by those seeking to restore forests, can help develop a new paradigm that incorporates threatened species and raises appreciation of the multiple benefits of the range of Ivorian species.

In a marker of botany's low status, CDI's botanical gardens contain a wealth of species and expertise but are absent from international networks (none accredited with BGCI). The Reserve Botanique de Divo lacked signage until 2022 when ICRAF erected one.

Seed is under resourced too. The Centre de Semences Forestières de la SODEFOR addresses timber species rather than a fuller range that might deliver ecological restoration.

CDI has a distinguished history of forestry but largely in production. There is pressing need to work with forest rangers on the botanical richness of region, why it matters, and how it can be restored.

Layers of capacity and capability development are required – from state bodies (MINEF, SODEFOR and ANADER (CDI's agricultural extension service), to cocoa companies and cooperatives, to nursery operators and their full time and casual employees, to grassroot communities.

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)
- International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA)
- Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)
- 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.

CDI has myriad national and global commitments, e.g., its Stratégie Nationale de Prévention, de Réhabilitation des Forêts and its NDCs to reduce deforestation by 70% with respect to 2015 and increase forest area by one million ha by 2030; under Bonn challenge, to restore 20% of its forest. Signatory to CBD, it has adopted 17 Aichi Biodiversity Targets: its NBSAP aims to “preserve biodiversity components and their ecological functions; assure use that is compatible with carrying capacity of ecosystem and reproductive capacity of species; allow everyone to profit from opportunities presented from biodiversity”.

Meanwhile, the most recent Stratégie et Plan d’Action pour la Diversité Biologique Nationale says that by 2020 “genetic resources of particularly important forests are inventoried”.

ICRAF, BGCI, and Centre National de Floristique (CNF) at the University of Felix Houphouët Boigny will contribute to policy execution and attainment of commitments by linking those restoring humid forest landscapes the biodiversity side of the agenda. Currently they operate in separate spheres, the first well-funded, the second far less so.

To give two examples, CDI’s Conseil Café Cacao (CCC) is supporting the planting of six million trees: diversity is not a consideration beyond the caveat that the trees must not host a cocoa disease. This misses promoting rarer species in the landscape if not in cocoa fields themselves. Cocoa industry players (e.g., Mars, Unilever, Mondelez, Cemoi, Nestle) are rolling out remediation of forest in the rural domain and forêts classées. This could link to Aichi Targets, but efforts fall short of the gamut of species needed for ecological restoration and protection of genetic diversity of indigenous species in agroforestry.

This project will build capability and capability of restoration actors at multiple levels. This linking role will move CDI towards reaching its international and national commitments and developing enriched or new ones.

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?**

Our intended capability and capacity outcome is: cocoa landscapes actors grasp importance of biodiversity and acquire skills to translate this into practical action (capability). This grows their capacity for each to play their role in high quality

ecological restoration, contributing towards our impact of a Reserve Botanique de Divo that is inventoried, characterized, and supports local communities through livelihoods in seed collection, tree nurseries and forest foods, with threatened species propagated. Further, custodians, such as women, youth, local leaders and forest rangers and those that influence its survival, such as cocoa buyers, benefit from greater capacity and capability to conserve this model template for delivering on CDI's policies and agreements.

The specific approach includes:

- i. Conducting an inventory of the Reserve Botanique de Divo, 6800 hectares, 35% forest, 22% cocoa, 20% rice in wetlands, 7% palm oil, 16% denuded.
- ii. Identifying planting niches.
- iii. Improving baseline information for native tree species, including globally threatened ones like *Cola lorougnonis*, found only in Divo.
- iv. Conservation planning for species that are found.
- v. Generating a genetically diverse supply of seedlings of native tree species available for purchase from local nurseries.
- vi. Increasing demand for genetically & species diverse native seedlings.

Native tree species information will be improved by:

- Consultation and prioritization with local communities & experts.
- Mapping seed zones to identify areas for wild seed collection, based on remaining forest areas, supported by a geneticist from BGCI's network.
- At least ten target species identified based on historic/suspected/known presence in collecting zones, suitability for restoration and agroforestry, conservation value (IUCN status) and utility to people.
- Seed monitors producing seed collecting and phenology calendars for each species.
- Nursery workers recording propagation techniques for native species, which will be published using BGCI's propagation protocol template.

Ensure a pipeline of diverse seedlings by:

- Localizing best practice seed collection and propagation curriculum and training Trainers-of-Trainers and sharing with other organizations
- Providing training in nursery management & propagation techniques to 100 people (50% women).
- Capacitating a network of nurseries.

Increase perceived value of biodiversity by:

- Sensitization of communities on preservation of protected areas, cocoa-based agroforestry, indigenous fruit trees for homestead planting, livelihoods from seed and nurseries.
- Convening national forum with government, tree planting NGOs, certifying bodies, cocoa industry, and farmer associations on genetically and biodiverse reforestation and range of species in CDI.
- Holding smaller fora with sub-groups like rangers, extension workers.

This project builds on evidence and lessons from ICRAF 2021-22 when it led planting of 250,000 trees in Divo, 76,000 with farmers (40 trees/ha) and 174,000 on degraded land in the Reserve Botanique (500 trees/ha). It found farmers hesitant about cocoa agroforestry, concerned that lumberjacks will eventually remove trees and damage cocoa, but that farmers welcome vulnerable species like *Ricinodendron heudelotii* (Akpi) with its valuable seed. In another learning, ICRAF inventories conducted in the cocoa landscape in Abengourou, Agboville, Oume, Guiglo and San Pedro found that 11 out of the 20 most common indigenous tree species were threatened with extinction.

Evidence that the project will be effective/succeed comes from the launch of the Reserve Botanique de Divo in September 2022. Attended by the highest echelons of the forestry and environment sector, leaders voiced strong commitments, and press coverage was rapturous. Success will also be contingent on careful differentiation between tree species in agroforestry systems, which must be welcomed by farmers, and those planted in other areas.

Materials needed include secateurs, plant presses, tablets, GPS, tape measures. Methods include assessment of nurseries to explore how they can manage more species and baseline knowledge prior to training. Main activities will take place within Reserve Botanique with workshops in Divo town or Abidjan.

Overall governance rests with project lead CIFOR-ICRAF, which has a large CDI team and deep knowledge of the Ivorian context, already present in the Reserve and manages a network of nursery operators. BGCI brings unparalleled expertise in threatened species and seed collection, propagation, conservation.

Providing local botanical knowledge is the role and responsibility of the Centre National de Floristique, a specialized department of the University Felix Houphouet Boigny of Abidjan, which holds the national herbarium and a botanical garden of 750 species.

A key project management tool will be a steering committee to enable adaptive management. To mitigate risk, quality engagement with the community is vital. To embed new capabilities, the project will include forest walks for engagement and education, written guides to refer to after training, and the seed training curriculum in French on line.

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?

Community members in, outside reserve, e.g., traditional, religious leaders, youth, women, cocoa, rice, oil palm farmers: identified by proximity, involvement in current project, by further community assemblies to locate without bias those who are influencers, gatekeepers, and have a particular stake. Activities: recording of indigenous knowledge, prioritization of species, seed collection, creation of reserve nursery, stewardship of areas of high biodiversity value, custodians of restored zones, support to inventory, guided walks.

Local nursery operators: ten partner with ICRAF, some with multiple nurseries. Selected fairly as role models running profitable genetically and species diverse nurseries, each employ circa 30 workers from casual to permanent. Activities: mapping of mother trees, seed collection, processing, documentation of propagation and phenology calendar, raising threatened species, trainers of trainers for other nurseries.

Staff transparently selected by rank and job role by:

- Ministry of Water and Forests (MINEF): ICRAF works with team managing reserve, the Divo regional bureau, and staff at Abidjan HQ. Activities: include conducting and disseminating results of inventory jointly so MINEF feels ownership.

- SODEFOR, parastatal in charge of forêts classées and tree seed centre. Also, OPIR, which manages parks, key partner for preservation of forest genetic resources: minimal prior work together. Activities: inter alia, mutual support on seed sources, collection and propagation.

- ANADER, CDI's extension service: active relationship. ICRAF's project office in ANADER premises in Divo town. Activities: joint approaches to sensitize farming communities on species, biodiversity.

Conseil Café Cacao, any endorsement by which can change planting practice. ICRAF in permanent contact. Activities:

Co-sponsorship of national forum.

Cocoa companies: ICRAF works with MARS, CEMOI, Barry Callebaut, Unilever, among others. Heavy economic hitters, all purchase seedlings for cocoa agroforestry. Activities: Learning visits to Reserve to trigger greater diversity of species with positive ramifications for cocoa landscape and spill over to their nurseries.

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.

According to African Development Bank, women in Cote d'Ivoire account for 68% of the labour, but receive 21% of the income from cocoa. This is a manifestation of gender inequality, the "legal, social and cultural situation in which sex/gender determine different rights and dignity for women and men, which are reflected in their unequal access to or enjoyment of rights".

ICRAF research in West Africa finds rural women are traditionally the primary domesticators of forest-based food and medicinal plants; have specialized knowledge on trees and forests, species diversity, management, use and conservation, yet are often hindered by limited access to and control over land and trees, lack of information, and workloads (Degrande and Arinloye, 2015).

In our capability and capacity work, we will seek women's perspectives and offer 50% of opportunities to females, aware that gender-related challenges might hinder participation, and we may need to proactively enable them to attend (e.g., transport).

Positively, nationwide networks of nurseries employ hundreds if not thousands of women: some nursery operators are female and have already received basic training. ICRAF's experience is that women nursery operators and rural women's organizations perform as well as and sometimes better than male counterparts.

Women partake in reforestation of the Reserve: they have food crops in the fallows where planting of trees compatible with agriculture is carried out. By weeding their plots, they also maintain the trees.

Women's participation in decision-making committees in community forest institutions, forest governance and resource sustainability are improving. Studies show results are better when women sit in community forest user groups and hold decision-making positions. According to the World Bank, women in forest communities derive 50% of their income from forests, while for men it is only a third. A focus on women is not a "nice to have" but a "must have".

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

Despite alarm, CDI's tropical forests continue to be replaced with cocoa with continued encroachment of forêts classées and loss of rural forest. Further, benefits of biodiverse cocoa agroforestry and forest landscape restoration are weakly understood. This project will disseminate awareness of threatened species and document how to collect, process and propagate species under threat, create capacity in seed collection, and increase availability of high-quality material of native species.

In the short-term:

At least 50 community members and 20 local nursery operators and members of their staff for a total of 100 – many of them youth and 50% females - will receive training on mother tree mapping and monitoring, seed collection, and propagation techniques with a greater range of trees species.

Income benefits will accrue to seed collectors through sale to nurseries, other projects or SODEFOR. The project will acquire some seed for repositories such as the Millennium Seed Bank Kew and ICRAF's gene bank. An estimated half of those trained will include seed collection among their income sources after the project.

Training will address the importance of accurate data collection and how to set up propagation trials so improvements can be recorded. Existing and new propagation information will be published online and printed for farmers using BGCI's propagation protocol template. Threatened species will be collected and cultivated to improve their future conservation status.

Increased information will be available for native threatened tree species, such as seed collecting calendars that improve forecasting of seed availability. Planting materials of native tree species will be available.

At least ten individuals – half women – from botanical institutions such as the Jardin botaniques of CNF, Adiopodoumé and Bingerville; Orchidées Bonafos-Parc Floral de Bingerville, Domaine BINI, Réserve forestière Dékpa d'Agbaou; Site de Conservation du garage de Soubré, and SODEFOR seed centre will be trained to be trainers in how to map, collect and propagate native plant species from the wild.

This project will establish a model of biodiverse nurseries and innovative seed networks that is scalable and replicable.

At least 200 individuals, including youth and women, from government, private and civil organisations will take part in workshops to understand project outputs and the value of using multiple tree species, including threatened ones for biodiversity and provision of important ecosystem services.

In the longer-term:

Seedlings will be planted, resulting in biodiverse restoration in high priority areas, conserving species, increasing farm biodiversity, and benefiting people and wildlife. Nurseries will be self-sustaining, providing permanent and seasonal incomes.

Trained trainers will train others throughout CDI. They and at least three botanic gardens will become members of BGCI supported to upload data onto the BGCI databases (e.g. PlantSearch, SheepCrm, Global Tree Portal) to increase availability of data to the wider community and access to BGCI's training materials.

The model will create a paradigm shift in CDI and be replicated by ICRAF and BGCI elsewhere, and adopted by others in countries with Bonn Challenge commitments, ensuring the potential benefits of genetically diverse restoration are fully realised for rural people.

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 Divo region hosts a dozen cocoa cooperatives, multiple companies sourcing cocoa, and organizations with forest and rural development mandates. By linking these to nurseries that can provide seedlings of native plants while also promoting the importance of using these in their restoration, the project will ensure there are institutions that purchase plants from the nurseries that have received training, so they are able to maintain their capabilities and capacity. Further, if the Conseil Café Cacao endorses planting with threatened species, a virtual upward spiral of demand will be created beyond the life of the project. Training capability and capacity will also be maintained as other regions fall into step with Divo and want collection and propagation of genetically diverse planting materials from the wild. Trainers will be able to deliver courses thereby scaling benefits.

Besides raising seedlings for planting out through partners, another way forward is preserving threatened species in safeguarded woodlots, breeding seed orchards or a concentrated botanic zone within the reserve. Propagation protocols will be openly accessible to BGCI's network through its data systems, including a under development updated version of PlantSearch that will also provide from 2023 n place to publish propagation protocols. Mterials to support what is learnt at training events will be provided to participants. Capabilities/capacity of government institutions, such as MINEF, will be sustained as they are called upon to ensure that reforested areas are mapped, managed and monitored in collaboration with communities to ensure that they do not revert to a degraded state.

A barrier to scaling up will be ensuring growth in markets for native seeds. This may require a public awareness campaign, which can arise from partnerships formed within this project – with government, private sector and NGOs. Capabilities/capacities will not wither as the challenges of the landscape will remain.

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

No Response

Section 7 - Risk Management

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>Fiduciary (financial) Due to mismanagement funds are not disbursed correctly to all partner organisations for their activities so that whole outputs cannot be completed (e.g. to Centre National de Floristique to carry out research)</p> | Major | Rare | Major | ICRAF has a rigorous financial system with disbursements according to budget. Clear and transparent financial systems will be applied, including financial reporting, and monitoring. In case of a major activity such as forest inventory, ICRAF has had positive experience working with CNF which will lead the exercise. | Moderate |
| <p>Safeguarding In fieldwork in forested areas, community members or tree climbers engaged to collect seed or raw food materials are injured or worse, and because of this, they feel unsupported refuse to collect further, impacting the ability to establish nurseries and agroforestry plots.</p> | Severe | Possible | Severe | Safety and welfare are paramount. Professional tree climbers will be employed with relevant training and insurance. Community collectors will be supported by SODEFOR and OPIR, institutions in charge of forêts classes, parks and reserves, with phone communication and support visits. No solo fieldwork will be allowed. Emergency protocols in place. | Major |
| <p>Delivery Chain Due to unfortunate events (e.g., COVID restrictions, Ebola outbreak), BGCI is unable to visit Côte d'Ivoire for the inventory, M&E and other key tasks. The same applies to local travel for ICRAF and CNF.</p> | Moderate | Possible | Major | ICRAF and BGCI supported other projects, through the COVID-19 pandemic using Zoom for meetings, M&E and training, cloud storage for sharing financial information. This demonstrates an ability to effectively manage despite travel restrictions. CNF has similar remote management skills. Nb. CDI has strong epidemic management skills. | Moderate |
| <p>Risk 4 Operational - One of the partners decides it is unable to support the project so that relevant outputs risk not being undertaken and included in project decisions and dissemination</p> | Major | Possible | Major | ICRAF, BGCI and CNF will ensure meetings and updates address issues as they arise, reducing possibility of partners leaving. BGCI has yearly grant agreements for project funds will require at least three months' notice for any partner leaving the project, providing time to address issues and identify new partners. | Moderate |
| <p>Risk 5 Operational - Staff issues including but not limited to: staff loss, recruitment problems, health or compassionate leave, issues of misconduct</p> | Major | Unlikley | Major | A project manager and team will be in place to lead and manage project activities. Roles and responsibilities are clearly defined with lines of accountability and communication. Cloud-based records will be kept arranging rapid secure transfer. Management plans will be agreed prior activities for efficiency and transparency. | Moderate |

| | | | | | |
|--|-------|------|----------|---|-------|
| Risk 6 | Major | Rare | Moderate | Staff will be briefed on how to handle the fact that the project works with communities settled since 1990s in a protected area. Staff will have a playbook which includes not referring to this or engaging in unsettling conversation. Such communities are common across CDI. This is not our prerogative. | Minor |
| Contextual - Rumours of possible expulsion of “infiltrators” from the botanical reserve might create instability and insecurity. | | | | | |

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.

- [Final ICRAF-BGCI-CNF BCF Implementation Timetable](#)
- 07/11/2022
- 18:52:00
- docx 34.31 KB

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).

ICRAF will lead the project in CDI, with a national project manager to guide activities with backup.

ICRAF and BGCI will co-lead M&E, ensuring activities are delivered according to the project plan and evaluating changes in practice and attitudes, among other things. ICRAF has a Monitoring, Evaluation, Learning and Impact Assessment unit which will advise and, as in previous Darwin Initiative projects BGCI has led, a steering committee of national and international experts, including the main project partners and stakeholders, will be established to guide the project. It will meet biannually to assess progress, including any challenges that have arisen, review the risk register, and suggest adaptive management changes as needed. The committee will have representation from academia and government, as well as the main project collaborators.

Impacts on livelihoods will be monitored through records of attendees at training events and incomes received by nursery operators.

Impacts on biodiversity will be monitored by collation of data on species collected and propagated by the nurseries by ICRAF – ensuring the number of species, number of healthy individuals propagated is easily accessible along with information on collection dates, provenance and local environmental conditions.

All project impacts on local communities will be monitored throughout the project via continuous engagement with local groups, and via the Steering Committee, ensuring these include women and other disadvantaged groups (e.g. youth) in the conversations. These consultations will give these groups the opportunity to raise concerns and contribute to project decisions, adapting project activities accordingly.

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 108

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

Outcome

Capability, capacity and commitment to restore the Botanical Forest of Divo and other areas within the cocoa landscape with native trees, including threatened tree, increased

0.1 Three government organisations and four cocoa industry organizations and governing bodies make written commitments to restore in and around the Botanical Forest of Divo using native tree species, including threatened species, by the project end

- Sign-up sheets, photographs, footage, minutes
- Catalogue of botanical institutions
- Records of capability, capacity of groups from surveys and local knowledge e.g., species ranking
- Evidence of meetings e.g., reports, action points, decisions
- Baseline and endline reports, nursery checklists, sales data
- Pre and post surveys, and joint plans developed and executed.
- Baseline study of nursery operations, species, seed sources, current practices; one endline study

0.2 20 local nurseries receiving a 50% increase in number of sales of threatened tree species' seedlings above a baseline taken at project start, by the project end

0.3 20 local nurseries and 3 botanical institutes contributing to new published and publicly available propagation protocols on BGCI PlantSearch database by the project end

Output 1

Restoration plan for Reserve Botanique de Divo jointly developed by key stakeholders, including actions to counter threats for over 12 threatened tree species known at the reserve by project end

1.1 Available information on 12 target threatened species compiled (maps of distribution, phenology, propagation attempts) by September 2023

- Inventory of Reserve and maps published and shared
- Joint plan for restoration available

1.2 Reserve species checklist created / updated with maps of locations of mother trees for 12 target threatened tree species by December 2023

1.3 Conservation plan for the 12 threatened tree species produced by the project end

Output 2

Capacity to provide native planting materials of 110 individuals from 20 nurseries and at least three botanical-natural resource-related institutions (e.g., Jardin Botanique de Bingerville improved) increased by October 2023

2.1 10 locally identified champions trained to be trainers of others in seed collection and propagation best practices by August 2023

- Training curricula, records, names, photos,
- Pre-tests, post-tests, certificates issued
- Record of species raised.
- Protocols available
- Photos, GPS coordinates of nurseries, seed sources
- Seedling order records

2.2 50 local community members from around Divo and 50 staff from 20 Divo nursery operators by October 2023

2.3 At least 20 trained nurseries propagate seedlings of at least 15 native trees

2.4 Propagation protocols developed (at least 5 of difficult/rarer species) and published on BGCI's PlantSearch database, and so accessible to others in CDI and other countries, by project end

Output 3

Three government organisations, 3 botanical institutes, 4 cocoa companies and the CDI cocoa government body commit to and support threatened tree conservation and restoration of cocoa landscapes by project end

3.1 The influential Cocoa governing body endorses commitment to incorporate threatened trees into their planting activities by project end
3.2 At least ten entities putting in orders to nurseries for native seedlings to plant in degraded areas and agroforestry systems in and around Reserve Botanique do Divo by project end
3.3 At least three Ivorian institutes become members of the BGCI network by project end and 9 of their staff receive benefits of BGCI network and accessing at least 1 of BGCI's online training tools by project end
3.4 Records of plants within institutional collections uploaded for at least three institutes to BGCI's PlantSearch database by project end

- Project results summarized and shared in document
- National forum statement
- Proof of membership in international botanical networks

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.

Output 1 Restoration plan for Reserve Botanique de Divo jointly developed by key stakeholders, including actions to counter threats for over 12 threatened tree species known at the reserve by project end

- 1.1 Steering committee established and meets bi-annually to monitor and adaptively manage the project as needed
- 1.2 Local inception workshop to consult and involve community in the project
- 1.3 ICRAF/BGCI/CNF and MINEF workshop to review current information on species and then conduct Inventory of Reserve Botanique de Divo with attention to threatened species and map land use noting forest, cultivation, wetlands inter alia.
- 1.4 Partners generate maps of land use, forest remnants, and wild seed collection zones to guide restoration approach and wild seed collection.
- 1.5 ICRAF/BGCI/CNF and relevant partners including local communities collaborate to develop a plan for restoration of the Reserve and rescue and conservation of threatened species, which may include special botanical zones (woodlots, seed orchards) within the Reserve.
- 1.6 Planning workshop held between key project partners, representatives from community groups, and other local stakeholders.
- 1.7 Reserve Botanique de Divo restoration plan agreed and published

Output 2 Capacity to provide native planting materials of 110 individuals from 20 nurseries and at least three botanical-natural resource-related institutions (e.g., Jardin Botanique de Bingerville) improved) increased by October 2023

- 2.1 Locate and select 10 individuals from botanical institutions that have a strong interest and outstanding ability in botany, seed systems and ecological restoration to be trainers of trainers
- 2.2 Survey of 20 Divo nurseries to understand baseline stocks and sales of native and threatened tree species across a month
- 2.3 Three BGCI/CNF experts train 10 selected individuals to be trainers of others in Millennium Seed Bank, Kew and BGCI best practice in seed collection and propagation for conservation use, including data collection.
- 2.4 New trainers, supported by ICRAF/BGCI/CNF, deliver training to 50 local community members in seed collection and propagation using best practice standards.
- 2.5 New trainers, supported by ICRAF/BGCI/CNF, deliver training to 50 staff of Divo nursery operators in same principles but emphasizing new topics such as seed sources, threatened species, propagation protocols, phenology, seed calendars, and running seed collection networks.

2.6 100 trained community members and nursery operators collect seed and propagate seedlings of at least 15 native tree species, including the target threatened tree species.

2.7 Assist nurseries to document their propagation protocols, at least five of which should be for more difficult/rarer species. By project end, publish protocols on line.

2.8 Re-survey of 20 Divo nurseries to understand updated stocks and sales of native and threatened tree species across a month

Output 3 Three government organisations, 3 botanical institutes, 4 cocoa companies and the CDI cocoa government body commit to and support threatened tree conservation and restoration of cocoa landscapes by project end

3.1 Promote threatened species with planting in Reserve and publicize nurseries so at least ten entities order native seedlings for degraded areas and agroforestry systems in Divo.

3.2 Hold a national forum in Abidjan with 200 people from influential bodies like Conseil Café Cacao to disseminate results and chart way forward to increase use of threatened species in restoration

3.3 Work to ensure that at least three Ivorian institutes join the BGCI network and 15 of their staff receive benefits and access online training tools

3.4 Collaborate with Ivorian botanists to ensure that records of plants in at least three institutional are uploaded

Important Assumptions:

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

1. Organisations and communities involved along cocoa value chain willing to engage with project.
2. Target native threatened tree species can be propagated, using existing information or through investigations in project.
3. External trainers/consultants able to travel to Côte d'Ivoire unhindered within project schedule (i.e. no pandemic or other restricting travel).
4. Interest in native and threatened tree use in restoration strategies grows enough to provide market for seedlings grown at nurseries
5. Institutes that join BGCI can be supported in process and to access benefits available to them and their staff and provide data back to BGCI databases.

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.

-
- [ICRAF BGCI Budget](#)
 - 07/11/2022
 - 20:45:49
 - xlsx 90.9 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 project is a new partnership in CDI between the main project partners (ICRAF, BGCI, Centre National de Floristique). ICRAF and BGCI have worked and continue to work together on projects elsewhere – including in Vietnam and Uganda – being funded by the main Darwin Initiative, and they have a concept note approved with the International Climate Initiative (IKI) and a working on the project proposal for seed and seedling systems in four countries of Sub-Saharan Africa. ICRAF has worked previously with CNF.

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.

General acquisitions such as two computers, tablets, secateurs, GPS units, tarpaulins for seed collection, stationery. National scientists will use the assets after the project end for their research work on conservation and biodiversity

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 proposal offers VFM based on:

Economy: by using the best available technical experts in seed collection, inventory, cocoa agroforestry, Ivorian botany and mapping combined with locally-led solutions with government and private sector.

Efficiency: by identifying the important information and stakeholder gaps (e.g., low appreciation of value of tree diversity and quality seed collection) in restoration in CDI and the cocoa sector, this project can focus on important and high-quality deliverables.

Cost-effectiveness: by building on existing processes initiated by ICRAF and CNF in CDI and BGCI in many countries, the project budget is kept modest while delivering essential and world class information adapted to the local level. Embedded in local structures and not parachuted in, this project can contribute significantly to biodiversity and livelihoods.

Equity: besides focusing on marginalised groups such as those with precarious tenure, this proposal is strongly supportive of CDI's botanical capacity which merits centerstage.

The project aims to create a legacy and leverage further funds.

VFM is the optimal use of resources to achieve the intended outcomes.

ICRAF and BGCI have strong budget forecasting and stringent financial management and governance, including rigorous procurement procedures. ICRAF CDI obtains competitive rates for goods and services, meaning economies. The capacity building components of this project build on decades of experience in the botanical, ecological restoration and agroforestry sectors, contributing to economy and efficiency.

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 | 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.

ICRAF has zero-tolerance for sexual exploitation, abuse, harassment, exploitation, abuse of children and adults at risk, any abuse among staff, interns or other. ICRAF's safeguarding document outlines protection against all these. Where partners do not have policies, ICRAF's policies are included in agreements. Staff working with beneficiaries receive training. Safeguarding is explained to communities; feedback actively sought. BGCI's Code of Conduct guides staff and sub-contractors and includes: Anti-bribery, corruption, harassment, bullying, money-laundering; Dignity at work, equality, diversity, inclusion; Safeguarding children, young persons, vulnerable adults; whistleblowing. BGCI staff and contractors must formally agree to conform to these.

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? |
|----------------------------|---|-------------------|--|
| Jean Claude Nzi | Project Leader | 50 | Checked |
| Cathy Watson | Communication support | 5 | Checked |
| Stephane Kouakou | Plant propagation Manager | 30 | Checked |
| Yao Konan | Co-project lead – CNF Botanist, Seed conservation and propagation trainer | 30 | Checked |

Do you require more fields?

Yes

| Name (First name, Surname) | Role | % time on project | 1 page CV or job description attached? |
|----------------------------|---|-------------------|--|
| Yao N'Guessan Olivier | Conservation Assistant - CNF | 40 | Checked |
| Cristina Coletto | Co-Project lead - BGCI | 10 | Checked |
| Herbert Ongubu | Seed conservation and propagation trainer | 4 | Checked |
| Yvette Brown | Conservation planning | 4 | Checked |
| Itxaso Quintana | Conservation assistant officer | 40 | Checked |
| Alex Hudson | Project manager - BGCI | 20 | Checked |
| Said Mutegeki | Seed conservation and propagation trainer | 4 | Checked |
| <i>No Response</i> | <i>No Response</i> | 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.

- ICRAF DARWIN CVs
- 07/11/2022
- 17:00:09
- pdf 1002.55 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: World Agroforestry (ICRAF)

Website address: <https://www.worldagroforestry.org/>

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

World Agroforestry was founded in Nairobi in 1978 as the International Centre for Research in Agroforestry (ICRAF). It has a presence in 30 countries in Sub-Saharan Africa, Asia and Latin America.

Since 2010, ICRAF Côte d'Ivoire has supported stakeholders to scale tree-based nature-based solutions and restoration of degraded cocoa, shea, and cashew nut landscapes. It has public-private partnerships with cocoa actors including Mars, Unilever, Cargill, Conseil Café Cacao, and ministries leading agriculture and forestry.

ICRAF is the lead partner because it has over a decade of experience in building nursery networks, surveilling land health (inventory), trialing payment for ecosystem services for biodiversity, species prioritization, large tree planting and climate smart systems.

It brings its longstanding support to the government to develop cocoa agroforestry and the national forest rehabilitation policy. This project offers the opportunity to strengthen capacity of national stakeholders to collect, propagate threatened species and conserve this priceless heritage in the Reserve Botanique de Divo, while availing the species for cocoa agroforestry for biodiversity restoration. Its role and responsibility will be to manage the project, bring its social capital and knowledge of the threatened tree species of the CDI cocoa landscape, and lead policy dialogue on threatened species.

International/In-country Partner International

Allocated budget (proportion or value): £0.00

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: Botanic Gardens Conservation International

Website address: <https://www.bgci.org>

What value does this Partner bring to the project?

(including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):

BGCI is the world's largest plant conservation network with over 650 member organisations in >100 countries, and >3,000 botanical and forestry organisations on our digital register. Our mission is to mobilise botanic gardens and engage partners in securing plant diversity for the well-being of people and the planet. There are an estimated 60,000 scientists, horticulturists and educators in BGCI's network, and we co-ordinate global consortia engaged in tree red listing (<https://globaltreeassessment.org/>); tree conservation (<https://globaltrees.org/>), and; ecological restoration (<https://www.erabg.org/>). BGCI led the recent State of the World's Trees report, which involved >500 contributors, highlights that at least 30% of the world's tree species are threatened with extinction and has generated threat and cleaned up spatial data for c.48,000 tree species. BGCI's main strength is its partner institutions, which have unparalleled technical knowledge relating to botanical diversity. BGCI will co-lead the co-ordinating role on this project, including sub-contracting funds, monitoring and evaluation, reporting and problem solving. BGCI will also lead collection and propagation training, as well as conservation planning. In addition, BGCI will provide technical support to the project implementing partner institutions. International support will be provided by members of BGCI's Ecological Restoration Alliance (www.erabg.org).

International/In-country Partner International

Allocated budget: £0.00

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

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

2. Partner Name: Centre National de Floristique

Website address: <https://cnf-ufhb.org/>

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

Created by presidential decree in 1975, the provision of local botanical knowledge is the role and responsibility of the Centre National de Floristique, a specialized department of the University of Université Félix Houphouët-Boigny, which holds the national herbarium of 4,257 species and a botanical garden of 750 species. It ensures the in-situ and ex-situ conservation of the Ivorian flora. This conservation is the result of numerous adapted missions throughout Côte d'Ivoire. It also ensures the selection of native tree species, including endangered species. It will further contribute to the mapping of seed stands and specific species. This partner will identify niches in which the species will be planted. An option, besides raising seedlings for planting out through partners, is preserving germplasm of the threatened species from the Botanic Reserve in the form of safeguarded woodlots, breeding seed orchards or a concentrated botanic zone with the reserve.

International/In-country Partner In-country

Allocated budget: £0.00

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

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

No Response

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.

- ICRAF Support Letters
- 07/11/2022
- 17:47:28
- pdf 2.55 MB

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 1978

What is the legal status of your organisation? Other (if selected, please explain below)

Other explained International organization, with a host country agreement in Kenya, established by charter

How is your organisation currently funded? We are funded by mostly multilateral donors, for example, the EU, as well as by bilateral donors such as BMZ, IKI, NORAD, USAID, FCDO UKPACT. We receive some philanthropy from organizations such as Salesforce, One World. We have funding from foundations such as CIFF.

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

Aims World Agroforestry ICRAF seeks solutions to five key global challenges – deforestation and biodiversity loss, climate change, broken food systems, unsustainable value chains, and inequality. We aim to transform “lives and landscapes” with our focus on trees on and around farms

Activities Our core business is generating evidence about the transformative potential of trees by conducting research in five themes: trees, climates, soils, markets and governance. We do research-in-development, trialing and assessing approaches. We merge science with local knowledge. We change national policy, conduct surveys, bring life back to soil with trees.

Achievements We help development actors from villages to Presidents have the evidence to make best decisions about global ecological crises. Achievement is use of good science for positive impact, which is often greater diversity and density of trees. It can be achieving better diets with indigenous fruits and cooking from prunings.

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 Building capacity for agroforestry tree germplasm delivery to enhance livelihoods and sustainable productivity of cocoa production systems in Cote d’Ivoire

Contract Value/Project budget (include currency)

USD [REDACTED]

Duration (e.g. 2 years 3 months) 2 years 4 months

Role of organisation in project ICRAF supported establishment of agroforestry tree species nurseries within the Pro and Espoir cooperatives; capacity building technical and financial management of nurseries; support for nurseries (cocoa/forest/ fruit trees) compatible with cocoa; Development of viable cost-effective rural entrepreneurship; Ensuring traceability of the seedlings.

Brief summary of the aims, objectives and outcomes of the project Aim – ecological remunerative cocoa. Outputs/Outcomes 88 nursery operators trained; +400,000 plants produced; 105 relay agents trained; 129 agroforestry on-farm plots (77 old orchards and 52 replanting plots) at planting densities of 37 AF trees ha in old orchards and 62 trees ha in new farms; 3 resources centres established for training in grafting and nursery basics; 2 innovations platforms and 11 local awareness raising committees on social and environmental issues established; 26 cooperatives and 129 farmers voluntarily involved in project.

Client/independent reference contact details (Name, e-mail) Client: CEMOI (French chocolatier) and Conseil Café Cacao
Alexis Assiri : [REDACTED]

Contract/Project 2 Title Cocoa Livelihoods Resilience: enhancing the resilience of smallholder cocoa farmers in Cote d'Ivoire through piloting the Adaptation Benefits Mechanism

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

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

Role of organisation in project Lead implementor

Brief summary of the aims, objectives and outcomes of the project The project is the first demonstration project in a pilot phase of the African Development Bank's Adaptation Benefits Mechanism that will enable valuation of the benefits of agroforestry for adaptation in the cocoa sector, based on a transparent measurement, reporting and verification methodology. The overall objective is to help cocoa smallholders to become more resilient to climate change in the south-western part of Côte d'Ivoire.

Client/independent reference contact details (Name, e-mail) African Development Bank (AfDB)
Liudmila Naydenova : [REDACTED]

Contract/Project 3 Title Cocoa-based agroforestry project for the remediation of degraded forest

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

Duration (e.g. 2 years, 3 months) 4 years

Role of organisation in project Mobilizing and engaging stakeholders in the restoration of targeted classified forests and surrounding buffer zones; deploying profitable agroforestry techniques to sustain and increase cocoa production; developing income-generating activities for rural women and youth

Brief summary of the aims, objectives and outcomes of the project Overall objective is to improve and sustain through agroforestry the livelihoods of cocoa-producing communities while restoring degraded cocoa landscapes in buffer zones and protected areas.

Client/independent reference contact details (Name, e-mail) Kossonou, Alphonse: [REDACTED]
Unilever

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

World Agroforestry (ICRAF)

I apply for a grant of

£200,000.00

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 Bryony Bidder

Position in the organisation

Resource Mobilization Coordinator

Signature (please upload e-signature)

- [Darwin Certification](#)
- 07/11/2022
- 17:37:24
- pdf 212.27 KB

Date

07 November 2022

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

- [ICRAF 2020 Audited Financial Statements](#)
- 07/11/2022
- 17:38:46
- pdf 5.38 MB

- [ICRAF FY' 2021 Audited Financial Statements 17 Sep](#)
- 07/11/2022
- 17:38:41
- pdf 4.89 MB

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

- [ICRAF Safeguarding Policy](#)
- 07/11/2022
- 17:37:54
- pdf 286.62 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 |
| • My budget (which meets the requirements above) | |
| • 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 |
| <p>(If copying and pasting into Flexi-Grant) I have checked that all my responses have been successfully copied into the online application form.</p> | Checked |
| <p>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.</p> | Checked |
| <p>I have checked the Darwin Initiative website immediately prior to submission to ensure there are no late updates.</p> | Checked |
| <p>I have read and understood the Privacy Notice on the Darwin Initiative website.</p> | Checked |

We would like to keep in touch!

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

Checked

Data protection and use of personal data

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

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

Project Title: Growing threatened trees' restoration capacity in Côte d'Ivoire's cocoa landscapes

| | Activity | No. of months | Year 1 (23/24) | | | | Year 2 (24) | |
|----------|--|---------------|----------------|----|----|----|-------------|----|
| | | | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q1 | Q2 |
| Output 1 | Restoration plan for Reserve Botanique de Divo jointly developed by key stakeholders, including actions to counter threats for over 12 threatened tree species known at the reserve by project end | | | | | | | |
| 1.1 | Steering committee established and meets bi-annually to monitor and adaptively manage the project as needed | 3 | | | | | | |
| 1.2 | Local inception workshop to consult and involve community in the project | 1 | | | | | | |
| 1.3 | ICRAF/BGCI/CNF and MINEF workshop to review current information on species and then conduct Inventory of Reserve Botanique de Divo with attention to threatened species and map land use noting forest, cultivation, wetlands inter alia. | 6 | | | | | | |
| 1.4 | Partners generate maps of land use, forest remnants, and wild seed collection zones to guide restoration approach and wild seed collection. | 3 | | | | | | |
| 1.5 | ICRAF/BGCI/CNF and relevant partners including local communities collaborate to develop a plan for restoration of the Reserve and rescue and conservation of threatened species, which may include special botanical zones (woodlots, seed orchards) within the Reserve. | 18 | | | | | | |
| 1.6 | Planning workshop held between key project partners, representatives from community groups, and other local stakeholders | 3 | | | | | | |
| 1.7 | Reserve Botanique de Divo restoration plan agreed and published | | | | | | | |
| Output 2 | Capacity to provide native planting materials of 110 individuals from 20 nurseries and at least three botanical-natural resource-related institutions (e.g., Jardin Botanique de Bingerville) improved) increased by October 2023 | | | | | | | |
| 2.1 | Locate and select 10 individuals from botanical institutions that have a strong interest and outstanding ability in botany, seed systems and ecological restoration to be trainers of trainers | 6 | | | | | | |

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| | | | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q1 | Q2 |
| 2.2 | Survey of 20 Divo nurseries to understand baseline stocks and sales of native and threatened tree species across a month | | | | | | | |
| 2.3 | Three BGCI/CNF experts train 10 selected individuals to be trainers of others in Millennium Seed Bank, Kew and BGCI best practice in seed collection and propagation for conservation use, including data collection. | | | | | | | |
| 2.4 | New trainers, supported by ICRAF/BGCI/CNF, deliver training to 50 local community members in seed collection and propagation using best practice standards. | 8 | | | | | | |
| 2.5 | New trainers, supported by ICRAF/BGCI/CNF, deliver training to 50 staff of Divo nursery operators in same principles but emphasizing new topics such as seed sources, threatened species, propagation protocols, phenology, seed calendars, and running seed collection networks. | 4 | | | | | | |
| 2.6 | 100 trained community members and nursery operators collect seed and propagate seedlings of at least 15 native tree species, including the target threatened tree species. | 1 | | | | | | |
| 2.7 | Assist nurseries to document their propagation protocols, at least five of which should be for more difficult/rarer species. By project end, publish protocols on line. | | | | | | | |
| 2.8 | Re-survey of 20 Divo nurseries to understand updated stocks and sales of native and threatened tree species across a month | | | | | | | |
| Output 3 | Three government organisations, 3 botanical institutes, 4 cocoa companies and the CDI cocoa government body commit to and support threatened tree conservation and restoration of cocoa landscapes by project end | | | | | | | |
| 3.1 | Promote threatened species with planting in Reserve and publicize nurseries so at least ten entities order native seedlings for degraded areas and agroforestry systems in Divo. | 1 | | | | | | |

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|-----|--|---------------|----------------|----|----|----|-------------|----|
| | | | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q1 | Q2 |
| 3.2 | Hold a national forum in Abidjan with 200 people from influential bodies like Conseil Café Cacao to disseminate results and chart way forward to increase use of threatened species in restoration | 1 | | | | | | |
| 3.3 | Work to ensure that at least three Ivorian botanical institutes join the BGCI network and 15 of their staff receive benefits and access online training tools | 5 | | | | | | |
| 3.4 | Collaborate with Ivorian botanists to ensure that records of plants in at least three institutional are uploaded | 4 | | | | | | |
| 3.5 | Support 9 staff from Ivorian botanical institutes to access BGCI online training tools | | | | | | | |