

Applicant: **Meier, Holly**
Organisation: **Rainforest Foundation, Inc.**
Funding Sought: **£199,658.00**

DIR31CC\1294

Strengthening Brazilian Indigenous Peoples' Capacities to Protect the Amazon Rainforest

Deforestation and illegal mining in the Brazilian Amazon is leading to biodiversity loss and threatening Indigenous peoples who live in and rely on primary rainforests. In the Yanomami Indigenous Territory—the largest swath of rainforest under Indigenous control in the world—the Ye'kwana people face safety and health crises caused by outside threats, primarily illegal mining interests, which also cause deforestation. This project will strengthen the capacity of the Ye'kwana people and their representative association to monitor and protect their forest territories.

CONTACT DETAILS

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Strengthening Brazilian Indigenous Peoples' Capacities to Protect the Amazon Rainforest

Section 1 - Contact Details

CONTACT DETAILS

Name	Holly
Surname	Meier
Organisation	Rainforest Foundation, Inc.
Tel (Work)	
Email (Work)	
Address	

GMS ORGANISATION

Type	Organisation
Name	Rainforest Foundation, Inc.
Phone	
Email (Work)	
Website	
Address	

Section 2 - Title & Summary

Q3. Project Title

Strengthening Brazilian Indigenous Peoples' Capacities to Protect the Amazon Rainforest

Please attach a cover letter as a PDF document.

 [RFUS-Cover Letter](#)

 21/10/2024

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

☒ No

Q5. Summary of project

Please provide a brief non-technical 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.

Deforestation and illegal mining in the Brazilian Amazon is leading to biodiversity loss and threatening Indigenous peoples who live in and rely on primary rainforests. In the Yanomami Indigenous Territory–the largest swath of rainforest under Indigenous control in the world–the Ye'kwana people face safety and health crises caused by outside threats, primarily illegal mining interests, which also cause deforestation. This project will strengthen the capacity of the Ye'kwana people and their representative association to monitor and protect their forest territories.

Section 3 - Title, Dates & Budget Summary

Q6. Country(ies)

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

Country 1	Brazil	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 2025	31 March 2027	2 years

Q8. Budget summary

Darwin Initiative Funding Request	2025/26	2026/27	Total request
(1 Apr - 31 Mar) £	£123,975.00	£75,683.00	£199,658.00

Q10. Do you have proposed matched funding arrangements?

☒ Yes

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

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

No Response

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

☒ Yes

Please give details.

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

RFUS applied for Darwin Initiative Main funding for 2024 but was not invited to submit a full application. The project we submitted for Main funding and the project being submitted for Capability and Capacity funding are distinct. The project for Main funding was to enhance Indigenous-led forest monitoring in Peru by adding biodiversity monitoring into an existing deforestation monitoring program. This project is focused on institutional and technical capacity strengthening for an Indigenous organization in the Brazilian Amazon.

Section 4 - Project need

Q13. 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.

Protecting tropical rainforests is essential for biodiversity, as these ecosystems house about two-thirds of terrestrial biodiversity while covering less than 10% of the Earth's land surface (Giam et al., 2017). However, deforestation is escalating in critical areas like the Amazon, the world's largest rainforest (Albert et al., 2023). Brazil has lost 17% of its historic Amazon rainforest, and in 2023 alone, it saw a loss of 1.1 million hectares of primary forest (CBD; Jong, 2024). Large-scale agriculture is the primary driver of this deforestation, but illicit mining also contributes, leading to forest degradation, water pollution, and violence against Indigenous communities. From 2012 to 2023, at least 401 environmental defenders were killed in Brazil (Global Witness, 2024).

Indigenous peoples play a vital role in rainforest conservation and biodiversity protection. Research indicates that forests managed by Indigenous groups in the Amazon function as significant carbon sinks (Baragwanatha & Bayib, 2020; Dawson et al., 2021). In Brazil, Indigenous territories protect 13.8% of the land, but these areas are frequently encroached upon illegally, posing threats to both the forests and their inhabitants (IWGIA, 2024). Supporting Indigenous peoples and their territorial protection is crucial for halting further environmental destruction in the Amazon and safeguarding both people and biodiversity.

This project supports the Associação Wanasseduume Ye'kwana (Seduume), the representative Indigenous organization for the Ye'kwana people, in enhancing their capacity to manage their territory and leading to outcomes in forest protection and biodiversity conservation. The Ye'kwana live in one of the most vulnerable regions within the Yanomami Indigenous Territory (TIY), which encompasses 9.6 million hectares—the largest rainforest area under Indigenous control globally. This rugged and remote region is primarily accessible by boat

or plane but is severely threatened by illegal mining and resulting mercury pollution, particularly in the Uraricoera and Auaris river basins where the Ye'kwana live.

In recent years, the Ye'kwana have faced significant challenges from the invasion of miners, leading to increased spread of disease, including COVID-19, which has resulted in a public health crisis with numerous fatalities. Between October 2018 and December 2022, deforestation in the TIY due to illegal activities surged by over 300%, with illegal mining impacting 5,054 hectares and affecting 60% of the territory's population (Hutukara Yanomami Association, 2023). Although President Lula's administration removed over 20,000 miners from the Yanomami territory in January 2023, illegal mining remains a concern, impacting forests, climate, biodiversity, safety, and public health. To address these pressing issues, Seduume and the Ye'kwana must strengthen their territorial protection.

This project supports multi-dimensional poverty reduction among the Ye'kwana people. Although Brazil is an Upper Middle-Income country, Indigenous peoples in Brazil experience disproportionately high poverty rates of 96 percent (World Bank, 2022). Rainforest loss exacerbates this problem and threatens the economic sustainability of the Ye'kwana, who rely on intact forests for their livelihoods.

The need for this project was identified through discussions with Seduume in Brazil and through RFUS's 35 years of experience in Brazil working with Indigenous partners to protect rainforests.

Section 5 - Darwin Objectives and Conventions

Q14. Biodiversity Conventions, Treaties and Agreements

Q14a. Your project must support the commitments of one or more of the agreements listed below.

Please indicate which agreement(s) will be supported.

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

Q14b. National and International Policy Alignment

Using evidence where available, please detail how your capability and capacity project will contribute to national policy (including NBSAPs, NDCs, NAPs etc.) and in turn international biodiversity and development conventions, treaties and agreements that the country is a signatory of.

Brazil is a signatory of the SDGs, and this project contributes to SDGs 13 (Climate action), 15 (Life on land), 16 (Peace, justice and sustainable institutions), and 1 (No poverty). As the Seduume organization is strengthened, the Ye'kwana people will have increased capacity and capability to protect their territories from deforestation, which contributes to the protection of biodiversity and life on land (SDG 15) as well as addresses the climate and biodiversity crises through nature-based solutions (SDG 13). This project strengthens an Indigenous institution and increases the inclusion of women in territorial governance (SDG 16). Finally, the project contributes to the reduction of multidimensional poverty directly through providing skills to Indigenous forest monitors who will use new knowledge and technical ability to support their livelihoods and also indirectly by protecting rainforests that provide for the long-term economic viability of Indigenous communities (SDG 1).

This project's contributions to SDGs 13 and 15 also support the commitments of the UNFCCC and CBD, as the project advances nature-based climate mitigation by strengthening Indigenous peoples' capacity to conserve and protect biological diversity in the world's largest tropical rainforest. The project supports Brazil's nationally determined contributions (NDCs), particularly in line with the country's commitment to adaptation and mitigation co-benefits through sustainable forestry. By protecting forests that sequester large amounts of carbon, this project also contributes to avoided emissions because if forests are lost, Brazil's emissions would

increase and its carbon storage would decrease, negatively impacting Brazil's ability to meet its NDC mitigation targets.

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

Q15. 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.

This project aims to strengthen the capability and capacity of the Ye'kwana people and their representative Indigenous association, Seduume, to monitor and protect their forest territory, approximately 926,418 hectares. Activities in the project complement the Brazilian government's forest protection actions and expand institutional and individual capacity to protect the Yanomami Indigenous Territory (TIY). Seduume and allied organizations have conducted joint monitoring work with government agencies, who look to Indigenous organizations for ground-truthed information to inform their efforts. The project is divided into two capacity-building components.

1. Institutional strengthening of Seduume

In recent years, Seduume has made progress toward strengthening its organization, including through building an effective group of leaders who interact with government agencies and allies, and providing support to member communities. This project will build on previous work and advance the organization's inclusion of women, network-building, communication, and administrative capacities. Activities include:

- Training workshops for 12 Ye'kwana women to involve them in Seduume management and operations, to be held at Seduume headquarters in Boa Vista, Brazil. Seduume is working to have women develop and manage projects based on their valuable knowledge and skills relating to farming and food production, basketry, and beadwork, which are needed to strengthen the well-being and livelihoods of the Ye'kwana.
- Workshops that strengthen capacities on planning, report writing, and monitoring. An in-country consultant with expertise in these areas will teach these skills while supporting the completion of these tasks by Seduume staff. The workshops will take place at Seduume's headquarters in Boa Vista.
- 10th Elective General Assembly of Seduume will bring together 150 participants from across the TIY for five days to advance projects to protect forests. It will be held in the Fuduuwaadunnha community, which will provide greater access for those living in the territory to share knowledge and opportunities for dialogue with government representatives who attend.

2. Strengthening territorial monitoring capabilities

An Indigenous forest monitoring network is critical to combating illegal mining that is harming people, ecosystems, and wildlife in the TIY. Historically Indigenous forest monitors have investigated forest threats on foot, but this is increasingly dangerous and many monitors have experienced violence. Moreover, Ye'kwana complaints about illegal incursions have been discredited due to insufficient evidence. This part of the project

will strengthen monitors' safety practices as well as enhance the technical skills needed for monitoring including utilizing technology, mapmaking, and maintaining equipment. The methodology used for tech-enabled monitoring will be similar to RFUS's Rainforest Alert methodology, which was shown to reduce deforestation by 52% during a control study of Indigenous communities in the Peruvian Amazon (Slough et al., 2021). Trainings will be held in the remote TIY unless otherwise noted and provided by Instituto Socioambiental (ISA), a Brazilian civil society organization that has been supporting Indigenous partners on territorial protection since 1994. Activities include:

- A workshop on safety, non-violent communications, and first aid for 20 Indigenous forest monitors over 15 days. Participants will develop a deep understanding of the principles of security and non-violent approaches, improve communication and conflict mediation skills, and strengthen the ability to deal with situations of risk and violence in a safe and effective manner.
- A training for 4 Ye'kwana forest monitors on technology-based forest monitoring, which includes how to operate and effectively utilize data from drones, satellite images, and cameras to detect and provide evidence of forest threats. This training will strengthen the Ye'kwana people's ability to produce evidence to send to government agencies involved in monitoring the territory. Remote monitoring will also reduce risks to the monitors reporting on potentially more dangerous situations.
- A mapmaking training to the 4 Ye'kwana forest monitors who attended the technology workshop. This will be held at the Boa Vista headquarters. Participants will learn how to turn the drone and satellite data into visual representations that demonstrate territorial threats to government agencies. (Monitors do not confront illegal actors due to safety and because legal authority to do so resides with the government.)
- A boat maintenance training to 12 Ye'kwana forest monitors. The Yanomami Indigenous Territory is vast, and providing the skills needed to repair and maintain their boat when monitoring the territory is essential for the safety of monitors and continuity of the program.

Seduume will be the primary implementers of the project, with RFUS performing an advisory and technical backstopping role. Seduume will have a project advisory board who will provide governance support, including decision-making and oversight. A project manager from Seduume will ensure the project is proceeding according to plan, objectives are on track, and communication is effective.

Q16. How will you identify participants?

How did/will you identify and select the participants (individuals and/or 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? How have you incorporated GESI considerations in identifying participants?

The Ye'kwana people and Seduume are crucial actors in protecting the Yanomami Indigenous Territory. RFUS has partnered with Seduume for two years to support their territorial management and institutional capacity building. RFUS worked with Seduume to develop this project to build on the organization's strengths and focus on the Ye'kwana's self-identified goals and priorities. This project provides an opportunity to support Seduume in building capacity in ways they have already identified they would like to focus on, including ensuring the effective participation of women within the organization, strengthening organizational governance and administrative capabilities, and strengthening the skills and resources for the Indigenous forest-monitoring network.

As noted prior, Seduume has identified expanding the participation of women to be a priority. Through previous conversations, Seduume staff have identified Ye'kwana women who are interested in participating more in the organization as well as in projects in their communities that advance territorial protection and Ye'kwana well-being. When determining the participants for the women's workshop, Seduume will first prioritize Ye'kwana women who are living in Boa Vista in order to reduce transportation costs.

Participation in the general assembly, the maximum decision-making body of the Ye'kwana, is open to all Ye'kwana and Yanomami living in the region. Most who attend have a leadership role in their communities (e.g.,

teacher, healthcare worker, traditional leader, young activist, or communicator). Relevant government officials from the agencies responsible for health, education, forest protection, justice, and Indigenous peoples also attend, as do NGO and Indigenous allies.

Participants in the four activities to strengthen the territorial monitoring will be Ye'kwana women and men who have taken an active role in territorial defense, either as a community leader, or in interacting with government agencies. Some will have more experience with technology; some will have more traditional knowledge of the land.

Q17. Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI)

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

RFUS seeks a transformative approach to GESI in its work and actively takes steps to provide inclusive and meaningful participation of marginalized groups, especially Indigenous peoples (IPs), local communities (LCs), women, and youth.

This project was co-designed by RFUS and Seduume to produce results for the Ye'Kwana people, biodiversity, and forest protection. To ensure local ownership, RFUS takes its lead from partners, co-designing and implementing projects and programs alongside local organizations and communities, while actively evaluating, learning, and sharing results.

Seduume leadership have identified involving more youth in forest monitoring as a priority for their organization. Most forest monitors are youth (under age 25), so the activities around strengthening the monitoring network will directly affect youth. Importantly, youth engagement in forest monitoring and strengthening their capabilities allows them to build marketable skills in forest protection that can support their livelihoods beyond the scope of the grant.

Similarly, Seduume wants to expand the participation of women within the organization, on the board of directors, and in the activities the organization carries out. In exchanges with other peoples and in relations with the Indigenous Council of Roraima (CIR) in Roraima, Seduume has realized it is important to have the participation of Ye'kwana women in the Indigenous movement and is taking steps to encourage this and remove barriers, including within this project. Many Ye'kwana women have expressed interest in learning about the Indigenous movement to strengthen the association's work.

Q18. Change expected

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

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

This project increases the Ye'kwana people's capacity to protect their forest lands and to meet their basic needs through continued access to their territory and the natural, cultural, and economic resources it provides them.

This project directly benefits approximately 1,000 Ye'kwana people who live in the four communities Seduume represents and who rely on intact rainforests for their homes and livelihoods.

In the short term, this project will better protect critical ecosystems in the Brazilian Amazon because a key Indigenous organization in the Yanomami Indigenous Territory, Seduume, will be strengthened and better able to support communities in territorial protection efforts. Seduume staff will increase skills around network-building, communications, monitoring, and reporting.

Additionally, in the short-term, project activities will contribute to multi-dimensional poverty reduction by strengthening Indigenous livelihoods through supporting 20 community forest monitors in enhancing their skills to advance in forest monitoring jobs. Moreover, 12 Ye'kwana women who participate in structured trainings will be better equipped to contribute their skills (e.g., crafting, farming) to the advancement of their people and communities.

In the long-term, the Ye'kwana people are able to better protect the Yanomami Indigenous Territory from illegal mining by having the ability to monitor their territories using technology and to gather the evidence that government agencies need to take action. The network of community members is stronger and collaboration among the communities, civil society organizations, and government agencies has increased due to the discussions and problem-solving that occurred at the biennial assembly.

Finally, the change this project leads to will scale over time, as those who participated in the trainings and workshops will continue to use newfound capabilities for years to come and also be able to teach others in their communities these skills and knowledge.

Q19. Sustainable benefits and scaling potential

How will the project reach a point where the benefits of strengthened capability and capacity can be sustained post-funding?

How will the capability and capacity be retained and remain available to deliver benefits in-country after the project? Is there potential for the new capability and capacity to renew itself or deliver additional capability and capacity, for example by building future environmental leaders beyond the project?

This project will enhance the capability and capacity of Seduume and the Ye'kwana people to protect their territory, and the benefits will continue long after the project is complete. The project will allow Seduume to grow as an organization and be better equipped in the future to serve its Indigenous communities and support the protection of the rainforest.

After this project, Seduume and individual community members will have enhanced skills and knowledge they can apply to monitor and protect natural resources, manage financial resources, maintain the Indigenous community monitoring network, work with government agencies to act on territorial threats, and incorporate women's knowledge and roles. Because the project is rooted in improving the skills, knowledge, and network of the Ye'kwana people, results will continue after the project, as skills and knowledge will continue to be applied to protect rainforests and the multiple networks enhanced—Ye'kwana communities, forest monitors, Seduume and governmental agencies—will continue to operate. In this way, benefits will scale over time and have the potential to have far-reaching impact beyond the grant period.

Furthermore, because of the skills transferred in this project, forest monitors will have enhanced livelihood opportunities. They will be able to use the skills they learned in the technology-based monitoring, safety, boat maintenance, and mapmaking workshops to continue as paid forest monitors with Seduume or with different government agencies, which also have paid monitoring roles.

The project will also be advanced through support from RFUS and other partners to build two monitoring surveillance centers that will house the tools needed to implement new forest monitoring skills, and therefore

support monitoring program continuation. These centers and skills combined will support the protection of the vast Yanomami Indigenous Territory.

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

 [RFUS-Supporting Documentation](#)

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Section 7 - Risk Management

Q20. Risk Management

Please outline the 7 key risks to achievement of your Project Outcome and how these risks will be managed and mitigated, referring to the Risk Guidance. This should include at least one Fiduciary, two Safeguarding, and one Delivery Chain Risk.

Risk Description	Impact	Prob.	Gross Risk	Mitigation	Residual Risk
Fiduciary (financial): funds not used for intended purposes or not accounted for (fraud, corruption, mishandling or misappropriated). Defra funding is not properly used or managed.	moderate	unlikely	minor	RFUS has a robust financial management system in place and a track record of fiscal responsibility and effective grant management . During the project, financial staff and project staff review budgets and expenditures and serve as a checks and balances.	minor
Safeguarding: risk of sexual exploitation abuse and harassment (SEAH), or unintended harm to beneficiaries, the public, implementing partners, and staff. Women taking part in trainings or other project activities could be subjected to SEAH by other participants.	minor	rare	minor	RFUS and partners will share safeguarding policies and expectations with participants. RFUS will support Seduume in taking steps to respond to potential risks in culturally sensitive ways. RFUS has co-designed and implemented such protocols with Indigenous communities implementing monitoring in Peru successfully.	minor

Safeguarding: risks to health, safety and security (HSS) of beneficiaries, the public. Implementing partners, and staff. Seduume and Ye'kwana leaders are threatened by and experience violence from illegal miners in their territories.	moderate	possible	moderate	One of this project's aims is to enhance Seduume's capacities to ensure safety of the Ye'kwana people, in particular monitors, and therefore project implementation will reduce this risk. Safety and security protocols will be implemented and a safety and security training is one of the key workshops included.	minor
Delivery Chain: the overall risk associated with your delivery model. A low number of participants participate in trainings and other project activities, leading to reduced capacity and long-term impact.	moderate	unlikely	minor	As the representative Indigenous organization for the Ye'kwana people, Seduume is in close contact with the four communities it serves and has already identified interest from community members wanting to participate. Additionally the project will provide resources to ensure that participants are able to travel to the training.	minor
Risk 5 Fires, drought, and other climate disturbances affect the Ye'kwana's health and livelihoods to the point planned activities are no longer able to occur.	moderate	unlikely	medium	This risk is nature-dependent and outside the control of the project team or beneficiaries. RFUS and Seduume will be guided by safety and emergency protocols to mitigate the risk of harm to partners and participants.	moderate
Risk 6 Community health issues take priority and limit capacity to fulfill this project.	moderate	possible	minor	RFUS and Seduume will be guided by safety procedures and all efforts will be made to ensure the health and safety of community members participating, including using PPE when necessary.	minor
Risk 7 Government agencies are not willing to cooperate with or use information from Seduume monitoring.	minor	unlikely	minor	This project is focused on capacity strengthening, so not dependent on relationships with government agencies. Seduume and allied organizations, including ISA, have working relationships with relevant government agencies, and this project is designed to reinforce Seduume's capacity to work with them more effectively.	minor

Q21. Project sensitivities

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

☒ Yes

Please provide brief details.

As described above, there are security risks to the Ye'kwana leaders and monitors engaged in territorial protection. Enhancing their safety and security is central to the capacity strengthening foreseen in this project. We believe that international recognition of their work will provide them with added security. Nonetheless, some of the information gathered by the monitoring program, and information about the monitoring program itself (rather than the training workshops this project will support) may well be sensitive, and we/Seduume will ask that that remain confidential.

Section 8 - Workplan

Q22. Workplan

Provide a project workplan that shows the key milestones in project activities.

 [RFUS-Workplan](#)

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Section 9 - Monitoring and Evaluation

Q23. Monitoring and evaluation (M&E)

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

Darwin Initiative projects are expected to be adaptive, and you should detail how the monitoring and evaluation will feed into the 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).

The project will be monitored by Seduume staff through ongoing exchanges with the project advisory board. RFUS will maintain regular communication via phone, email, and remote meetings with the team and project coordination. At least two visits per year will be carried out by the local coordinator of the RFUS Brazil program. Seduume will utilize their planning meetings for in-depth assessment and review of the project and lessons learned to date, making any adjustments necessary based on this information to make sure the project continues to meet its goals. In addition, Seduume staff will monitor each activity by tracking participants and performing end of activity surveys to ensure capacities have been strengthened and also to report on in the project and standard indicators.

At the end of the first year, an internal evaluation of the project and collective planning of the activities for the second year will take place in the planning and monitoring workshop, with the project team and RFUS advisors. RFUS's monitoring and evaluation specialist will provide guidance and resources to Seduume staff, and will be available to provide any necessary capacity strengthening or support in this area, including organizational

development. He will also be helping Seduume create the survey instruments that will be used to evaluate each training session or workshop.

RFUS will coordinate the communication with the Darwin Initiative, and will oversee and forward reports following appropriate guidelines.

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

Section 10 - Indicators of Success & Standard Indicators

Q24a. 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.

	SMART Indicator	Means of Verification
Outcome The Indigenous organization Seduume and the Indigenous forest monitoring network in the Yanomami Indigenous Territory are strengthened, leading to enhanced protection of critical ecosystems in the Brazilian Amazon.	1 organization strengthened	End of project survey
	22 Ye'kwana community members have increased their capacities for forest protection	End of training and workshop surveys
	4 communities in the Yanomami Indigenous Territory have strengthened monitoring programs	Record of which communities trained community monitors are from
Output 1 Seduume organization and community members have expanded capacities on network building, collaboration, women's involvement, planning, monitoring, and reporting.	5 staff at Seduume have expanded capacities and skills on planning, monitoring, and reporting	
	12 Ye'kwana women have increased knowledge on participation in territorial governance and organizational leadership.	End of project reflection session End of workshop survey
	150 Ye'kwana community members increase network-building and knowledge through assembly	End of assembly report

	20 Ye'kwana community forest monitors reporting increased safety and security	
Output 2 Indigenous forest monitors trained on safety, tech-enabled forest monitoring, mapmaking and boat maintenance.	4 Ye'kwana forest monitors have increased skills to perform tech-enabled forest monitoring and mapmaking 12 Ye'kwana community members have increased skills to perform boat maintenance	End of training surveys (for all indicators)
Output 3 <i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>
Output 4 <i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>

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 Coordinate participation and preparation of women attending the women's capacity-building workshop, and support them in travel arrangements
- 1.2 Develop and conduct women's capacity-building workshop on territorial management and organizational leadership
- 1.3 Design and conduct survey to measure outcome of women's training
- 1.4 Design and run the planning, monitoring, and report writing workshops
- 1.5 Design and conduct survey to measure planning, monitoring, and report writing workshop outcomes
- 1.6 Design, plan, and run the 10th Elective General Assembly (150 people, year 1)
- 1.7 Send communications to four Ye'kwana communities to build awareness of assembly and invite participation
- 1.8 Support travel arrangements and preparation for general assembly participants
- 1.9 Develop a report on the assembly to be shared with allies, donors, and government agencies
- 1.10 Hold end of project reflection session and final report writing
- 2.1 Purchase equipment needed for trainings for territorial monitors
- 2.2 Support travel arrangements for monitors coming from communities within the Yanomami Indigenous Territory
- 2.3 Plan and conduct security and non-violent communications training
- 2.4 Design and conduct post-training survey on security and non-violent communications
- 2.5 Plan and conduct training on tech-enabled forest monitoring
- 2.6 Conduct post-training survey on tech-enabled forest monitoring
- 2.7 Plan and conduct boat maintenance training
- 2.8 Conduct post-training survey on boat maintenance workshop
- 2.9 Plan and conduct mapmaking workshop
- 2.10 Conduct post-training survey on mapmaking workshop

Important Assumptions:

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

- Indigenous peoples are committed to forest protection and are the best guardians of the forests.
- Indigenous organizations faithfully represent the interests of their constituent communities.
- Ye'kwana community members are interested in participating in capacity-building workshops and trainings.
- Participants are not prevented from engaging in activities due to community emergencies (e.g., health, fires).

Q24b. Standard Indicators

Standard Indicator Ref & Wording	Project Output or Outcome this links to	Target number by project end	Provide disaggregated targets here
e.g. DI-A01: Number of people in eligible countries who have completed structured and relevant training	e.g. Output indicator 3.4 / Output 3	e.g. 60	e.g. 30 non-indigenous women; 30 non-indigenous men
DI-A03: Number of local or national organisations with enhanced capability and capacity	Outcome	1	1 Indigenous organization
DI-A01: Number of people in eligible countries who have completed structured and relevant training	Output 1 / Output 2	182	42 Indigenous women; 140 Indigenous men
DI-D01: Area of land or sea under ecological management	Outcome	926,418 hectares	Country: Brazil; Biome: Tropical-subtropical forests; Management type: Forest management
No Response	No Response	No Response	No Response
No Response	No Response	No Response	No Response
No Response	No Response	No Response	No Response
No Response	No Response	No Response	No Response
No Response	No Response	No Response	No Response
No Response	No Response	No Response	No Response
No Response	No Response	No Response	No Response
No Response	No Response	No Response	No Response
No Response	No Response	No Response	No Response

No Response

No Response

No Response

No Response

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

No Response

Section 11 - Budget and Funding

Q25. 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.

 [RFUS-Final Budget](#)

 21/10/2024

 16:47:46

 xlsx 98.53 KB

Q26. Alignment with other funding and activities

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

Q26a. Is this new work or does it build on existing/past activities (delivered by anyone and funded through any source)?

☒ Development of existing/past activities

Please provide details:

The TIY, the size of Portugal, remained isolated until recently. In 2004, Yanomami leader Davi Kopenawa established the Hutukara Yanomami Association, sparking organization among the Yanomami and Ye'kwana communities. Since then, seven associations, including Seduume, have formed to represent various groups, focusing on areas heavily impacted by illegal mining.

Between 2018 and 2022, Seduume implemented practices to improve administrative control with support from advisors and the Instituto Socioambiental (ISA). This project builds upon that foundation to further strengthen Seduume's capacity for territorial protection.

In 2024, Seduume, Hutukara, and the Roraima Indigenous Council (CIR) conducted their first drone operation training workshop. This initiative expanded training for Ye'kwana youth to gather accurate data on illegal mining hotspots in the Uraricoera and Auaris river basins. Continued training, included in this proposal, is vital due to the complexity of drone technology and participants' limited access to technology.

The Brazilian government is constitutionally obligated to protect Indigenous lands. Seduume collaborates with agencies like FUNAI, Brazilian Army, the National Force, Brazilian Institute of Environment and Renewable Natural Resources, Brazilian Ministry of the Environment's administrative arm, and Ministry of Indigenous Peoples to combat illegal mining, recognizing that community involvement is essential for effective on-the-ground monitoring (Araújo, 2024).

Q26b. Are you aware of any current or future plans for work in the geographic/thematic area to the proposed project?

Ⓞ Yes

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

Two monitoring hubs are being built in the TIY in 2025, along the Auaris and the Uraricoera river basins, both strategically positioned in terms of the influx of gold miners. FUNAI is building one, and Seduume and ISA are planning to build another. Key to the success of the monitoring program is the collaboration between Seduume, ISA, other Yanomami associations, and FUNAI, which brings in other government agencies as relevant. The centers will serve as bases for territorial monitors to gather, analyse, and share information that will assist in monitoring efforts. The centers will host computers and have internet access that will obtain satellite data that will then be provided to monitors who will investigate threats. The centers will also serve as hubs for data analysis and report development, with reports being shared with the relevant government agencies for action. (Important to note: Indigenous monitors only document invasions; they do not address the miners or illegal invaders themselves).

This funding proposal for Darwin Initiative funding will complement these additional projects. The proposed project will support Ye'Kwana monitors in developing the skills and knowledge needed to effectively utilize the centers and operationalize territorial monitoring.

Q27. Value for Money

Please demonstrate why your project is good value for money in terms of impact and cost-effectiveness of each pound spend (economy, efficiency, effectiveness and equity). Why is it the best feasible project for the amount of money to be spent?

The initial investment for this project was designed to build a lasting network of Indigenous forest monitors and protectors. By strengthening the Seduume organization and the network of Ye'kwana forest monitors, this project will lead to lasting, effective management of areas of the Yanomami Indigenous Territory, especially those that are critical river access points for illegal miners.

The proposed project will support necessary training for the effective utilization and implementation of an advanced forest monitoring program that is being invested in outside the scope of this proposal, including the construction of two monitoring hubs. Additionally, the project has secured some in-kind support for training facilitation, making the project even more cost-effective.

Furthermore, because this project strengthens Seduume's governance and administrative capacities, as an additional outcome, Seduume will be positioned to apply for and manage more funding in the future, which will not only increase the value of this initial investment but also contribute to the global climate movement's goal to increase direct finance to Indigenous peoples.

Q28. 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.

Three capital items need to be purchased, all of which support the strengthening of Seduume's territorial monitoring network. First, to support the technology-enabled territorial monitoring training, we need to purchase a smartphone for each of the participants (4) who need to learn the technology during the training. The second and third capital costs are the aluminum boat and outboard motor. Forest monitoring occurs in the vast territory that is the Yanomami Indigenous Territory and as such travel needs to occur by boat to make movement throughout the territory possible. One of the activities is to provide boat maintenance training. The monitoring program is in a buildout stage and the boat has not yet been obtained for the program. Having this

equipment will ensure monitors have adequate training and skill needed to perform the maintenance and effectively monitor their territory.

Section 12 - Safeguarding

Q29. Safeguarding

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

Please outline how your project will ensure:

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

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

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

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

RFUS's policies are well aligned with many aspects of the CAPSEAH, CHS, and IASC MOS-PSEAs protocols. Our policies ensure individuals are protected and their welfare is promoted in line with US national and several US state laws. Policies are embedded within three RFUS documents: Employee Handbook (Sections 2.3, 2.4, 3.1, 3.2, 5.1, 5.4, 5.5), Staff Security Policy, and the Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation Prevention Policy. Whistleblower Protections are posted on RFUS's website to ensure accessibility by staff, partners, and the broader public. If awarded funding from the Darwin Initiative, RFUS is willing and able to adjust our policies to ensure full alignment standard protocols.

RFUS staff are trained annually on these policies and are required to sign off on the Employee Handbook, which includes the Code of Conduct and Standards of Conduct. All RFUS staff are required to report violations of the Code of Conduct and upon investigation violations can result in discipline up to and including termination of employment.

RFUS shares safeguarding policies with partners. In Peru, we conduct workshops on safeguarding policy with partners each year, and a number of partners have requested RFUS support to create their own. As part of our due diligence process in Brazil and other countries, RFUS has requested safeguarding (and other) policies, and in some cases has helped partners develop them.

RFUS provides partners information on our whistleblower and conflict of interest policies. RFUS staff have also supported partners in building procedures and responding to situations as they arise, as relevant. RFUS has supported partners in responding in culturally sensitive ways to situations that may pose risks, e.g., ensuring that women monitors are accompanied by family members, or that their work is focused in the office instead of in the field.

Defra recommend you appoint a safeguarding focal point to ensure the project's PSEAH work is taken forward. This can be a separate member of staff or a current member of staff who spends a proportionate amount of time for safeguarding and PSEAH activities. Please name this individual here - this person should also be included in your overall staff list at Q31 and in your budget.

[REDACTED]

Section 13 - British Embassy or High Commission Engagement

Q30. British embassy or high commission engagement

It is important for UK Government representatives to understand if UK funding might be spent in the project country/ies. Please indicate if you have contacted the relevant British embassy or high commission to discuss the project and attach details of any advice you have received from them. Please note that some embassies or high commissions may not be able to respond to you but your project will not be penalised for a lack of response.

☒ Yes

Please attach evidence of request or advice if received.

-  [RFUS-British Embassy request](#)
-  21/10/2024
-  16:29:19
-  pdf 103.01 KB

Section 14 - Project Staff

Q31. Project staff

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

Name (First name, Surname)	Role	% time on project	1 page CV or job description attached?
Christine Halvorson	Project Leader	10	Checked
Christopher Jarrett	Monitoring and evaluation support	5	Checked
Francisco Larra-Bujalance	PSEAH safeguarding	5	Checked
Julio David Magalhães	Supervising Seduume staff team, monitoring and evaluation lead	43	Checked

Do you require more fields?

☒ Yes

Name (First name, Surname)	Role	% time on project	1 page CV or job description attached?
Edmilson Stephen Magalhães	Supporting women's inclusion and community participation, organizing project logistics	45	Checked

Robivaldo Magalhães Gimenes	Administrative and financial management, preparing financial reports, overseeing procurement	43	Checked
Administrative and Financial Assistant (to be recruited)	Supporting preparation and organization of financial reports and documentation	40	Checked
Logistics Assistant (to be recruited)	Supporting project logistics and procurement activities	40	Checked
No Response	No Response	No Response	Unchecked
No Response	No Response	No Response	Unchecked
No Response	No Response	No Response	Unchecked
No Response	No Response	No Response	Unchecked

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

 [RFUS-Seddume-CVs](#)

 21/10/2024

 17:15:35

 pdf 456.09 KB

Have you attached all project staff CVs?

☒ Yes

Section 15 - Project Partners

Q32. Project Partners

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

Lead Organisation name: Rainforest Foundation, Inc. (RFUS)

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

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

RFUS has supported Indigenous partners in protecting their rainforest territories for 35 years and has worked in Brazil since 1988. RFUS brings a depth of experience in capacity building support through forming strategic partnerships with Indigenous peoples' and local communities' organizations, and often serving as fiscal sponsor to pass funds through to partners that may otherwise not be able to access the funding. RFUS also brings incredible value through its technical, organizational, and political expertise, which allows the organization to provide strategic capacity strengthening and technical support on the ground to advance institutions and projects. Additionally, we bring a track record of securing and managing large government grants. Christine Halvorson, Project Leader, has been working in Brazil with Indigenous peoples for 25 years and brings extensive expertise in institutional strengthening, land management planning, titling, and policy to the project.

RFUS's value in this project is the deep relationship with Seduume and allied organizations, Hutukara and ISA, with whom we've been working for decades. Our history working in Brazil with Indigenous partners to support territorial control and forest protection, and our expertise and experience in institutional strengthening make RFUS a valuable lead organization.

International/In-country Partner ☒ International

Allocated budget (proportion or value): £90,080.00

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: Associação Wanasseduume Ye'kwana (Seduume)

Website address: Seduume does not have a website

What value does this Partner bring to the project?	Seduume, a registered organization in Brazil, represents the rights and interests of the Ye'kwana people living in Brazil. The organization is headquartered in Boa Vista, the capital city of the state of Roraima. Seduume was created to support dialogue with non-Indigenous organizations and organize actions against threats to the territory, such as mining.
(including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):	In recent years, Seduume has built several partnerships with Indigenous organizations in Roraima, especially with HUTUKARA and CIR, and with non-indigenous organizations, such as ISA, the Museu do Índio, UFMG, UFRR and the Berlin Museum, working mainly for Ye'kwana education, the appreciation of traditional knowledge and protection against mining invasions. Additionally, Seduume has built critical partnerships with government agencies that are ultimately responsible for protecting Brazil's forests and removing violators of Indigenous territories.
International/In-country Partner	☒ In-country
Allocated budget:	
Representation on the Project Board (or other management structure)	☒ Yes
Have you included a Letter of Support from this partner?	☒ Yes

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

3. Partner Name: *No Response*

Website address: *No Response*

What value does this Partner bring to the project?

No Response

(including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):

International/In-country Partner ☐ International
☐ In-country

Allocated budget: *No Response*

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

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

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: *No Response*

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

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

5. Partner Name: *No Response*

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:

No Response

Representation on the Project Board (or other management structure)

☐ Yes
☐ No

Have you included a Letter of Support from this partner?

☐ Yes
☐ No

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:

No Response

Representation on the Project Board (or other management structure)

☐ Yes
☐ No

Have you included a Letter of Support from this partner?

☐ Yes
☐ No

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.

Section 16 - Lead Partner Capability and Capacity

Q33. Lead Organisation Capability and Capacity

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

☒ No

If no, please provide the below information on the Lead Organisation.

What year was your organisation established/ incorporated/ registered?	01 January 1988
What is the legal status of your organisation?	☒ NGO
How is your organisation currently funded?	Numerous income streams fund RFUS’s work. Currently, our organization receives grant funding from private foundations and government agencies, both within the United States and internationally. Grant funding makes up roughly 61% of RFUS’s annual revenue. RFUS receives approximately 35% of its revenue from individual donors. RFUS also receives a small amount of funding from corporations that align with our work.

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

Aims	RFUS’s purpose is to support Indigenous and traditional peoples of the world’s rainforests in their efforts to protect their environment and uphold their rights by assisting them in securing the natural resources necessary for their long term well-being and managing these resources, and developing the means to protect their rights.
Activities	RFUS’s land rights programs strengthen our partners’ legal, technical, and advocacy capacities to advance their land rights. Territorial monitoring programs provide tools, training, and resources to Indigenous peoples to map, monitor, and secure their territories. Institutional Strengthening programs enhance governance, communications, administrative, and financial capacities of our partners.
Achievements	Throughout its 35 years of operation, RFUS has helped protect over 16 million hectares of land through land management and forest monitoring. RFUS has helped secure legal recognition of over 17 million hectares of land, including decades-long, precedent-setting titling work that led to supreme court victories in Brazil and Panama.

Provide detail of 3 contracts/projects held by the Lead Organisation 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	Protecting Forests and Rights in Guyana
Contract Value/Project budget (include currency)	
Duration (e.g. 2 years 3 months)	3 years
Role of organisation in project	In Guyana, RFUS has spent nearly two decades forging ties with the organizations included in the project. As lead organization, RFUS served as project facilitator, providing support for planning, communications, advocacy, mapping, and monitoring. RFUS also provided institutional strengthening support in these areas, as well as financial management and governance.
Brief summary of the aims, objectives and outcomes of the project	The project's aims were to partner with three Indigenous district councils in Western Guyana (North Pakaraimas, South Rupununi, and Upper Mazaruni) and the Amerindian Peoples Association to assist with securing land rights and protecting forests in the critical Guiana Shield ecosystem. Objectives are to support the completion of territory management plans and bring more than 4 million hectares under enhanced protection. The project saw numerous outcomes, including strengthening Indigenous district councils regarding decision-making, transparency, and accountability. With expanded capacities from this project, the SRDC was able to secure a \$2 million dollar grant this year to continue advancing forest protection.
Client/independent reference contact details (Name, e-mail)	Amerindian Peoples Association / Jean LaRose, Executive Director, Amerindian Peoples Association,

Contract/Project 2 Title	Forest Monitoring in Roraima, Brazil
Contract Value/Project budget (include currency)	
Duration (e.g. 2 years, 3 months)	1 year
Role of organisation in project	RFUS supported long-time partner Indigenous Council of Roraima (CIR) in enhancing their existing forest monitoring program with additional technology. RFUS provided project management and oversight, logistics support, and capacity building training to achieve the grant objectives and ensure a successful project.

Brief summary of the aims, objectives and outcomes of the project	The project aimed to protect forests through strong Indigenous territorial management in Roraima, Brazil, by strengthening and expanding Indigenous-led forest monitoring programs, and as a result reduce deforestation. The primary objective was to enhance the monitoring of 2,183,723 hectares of Indigenous territories for forest crimes. Outcomes include: 23 community forest patrollers (9 female, 14 male) gained technical skill and knowledge in tech-enabled forest monitoring, CIR departments gained increased capacity and capability to use technology and direct information flows to advance effectiveness of monitoring, and three data hubs were upgraded with enhanced equipment that better supports nature crime detection.
--	--

Client/independent reference contact details (Name, e-mail)	Indigenous Council of Roraima (CIR) / Ivo Macuxi, attorney at CIR, [REDACTED]
--	---

Contract/Project 3 Title	B'atz Local Institutional Strengthening Regional Localworks
Contract Value/Project budget (include currency)	[REDACTED]
Duration (e.g. 2 years, 3 months)	3 years

Role of organisation in project	RFUS led administrative and financial management of the multi-year government grant, including reporting and managing subgrants to Indigenous partners. RFUS provided institutional strengthening support by leading trainings and workshops and supporting partners in performing steps that advanced their governance and financial structures.
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Brief summary of the aims, objectives and outcomes of the project	The objective of this project was to expand and consolidate the regional structure of the Mesoamerican Alliance of Peoples and Forests (AMPB) to support its member organizations in Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and Panama through numerous institutional strengthening pathways. This project has led to numerous outcomes including the strengthening of AMPB's regional structures and other Indigenous organizations on the sub-national and national levels; strengthening the Coordination of Territorial Women Leaders through the drafting of a new Regional Gender and Climate Change Plan; and supporting the buildout, launch, and consolidation of the Mesoamerican Territorial Fund, a direct financing mechanism.
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Client/independent reference contact details (Name, e-mail)	Mesoamerican Territorial Fund / Maria Pia, Managing Director of the Mesoamerican Territorial Fund, [REDACTED]
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Have you provided the requested signed audited/independently examined accounts (or other financial evidence as indicated in the Finance Guidance)?

☒ Yes

Section 17 - Certification

Q34. Certification

If this section is incomplete the entire application will be rejected.
Please note if you do not upload the relevant materials below your application may be made ineligible.
On behalf of the

Company

of
Rainforest Foundation, Inc.

I apply for a grant of
£199,658.00

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, logframe, theory of change, Safeguarding and associated policies, and project workplan.
- 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	Suzanne Pelletier
Position in the organisation	Executive Director
Signature (please upload e-signature)	 RFUS-Signature Page  21/10/2024  17:01:05  pdf 49.84 KB
Date	21 October 2024

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

 RFUS-Audit-Financials-2022  17/10/2024  17:36:44  pdf 381.65 KB	 RFUS-Audit-Financials-2023  17/10/2024  17:36:44  pdf 264.04 KB
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Please upload the Lead Organisation's Safeguarding Policy, Whistleblowing Policy and Code of Conduct as a PDF. Optionally you can also upload your Health, Safety and/or Security policy or Security Plan here.

Section 18 - Submission Checklist

Checklist for submission

Ensure you submit this application on	Check
I have read the Guidance, including the “Darwin Initiative Guidance”, “Monitoring Evaluation and Learning Guidance”, “Standard Indicator Guidance”, “Risk Guidance”, and “Finance Guidance”.	Checked
I have read, and can meet, the current Terms and Conditions for this fund.	Checked
I have provided actual start and end dates for the project.	Checked
I have provided the budget based on UK government financial years i.e. 1 April – 31 March and in GBP.	Checked
I have checked that our budget is complete, correctly adds up and I have included the correct final total at the start of the application.	Checked
The application been signed by a suitably authorised individual (clear electronic or scanned signatures are acceptable).	Checked
I have attached the below documents to the application: • a cover letter from the Lead Organisation.	Checked
• a budget (which meets the requirements above) using the template provided.	Checked
• a signed copy of the last 2 annual report and accounts for the Lead Organisation (or other financial evidence – see Finance Guidance), or provided an explanation if not.	Checked
• a completed workplan as a PDF using the template provided.	Checked
• a copy of the Lead Organisation’s Safeguarding Policy, Whistleblowing Policy and Code of Conduct (Question 29).	Checked
• a copy of the Lead Organisation’s Health, Safety and/or Security policy or Security Plan (Question 29)	Checked
• 1 page CV or job description for all the Project Staff identified at Question 31, including the Project Leader, or provided an explanation of why not, combined into a single PDF.	Checked
• a letter of support from the Lead Organisation and partner(s) identified at Question 32, or an explanation of why not, as a single PDF.	Checked
I have been in contact with the FCDO in the project country/ies and have included any evidence of this. If not, I have provided an explanation of why not.	Checked
The additional supporting evidence is in line with the requested evidence, amounts to a maximum of 5 sides of A4, and is combined as a single PDF.	Checked

(If copying and pasting into Flexi-Grant) I have checked that all the responses have been successfully copied into the online application form.	Checked
I have checked the Darwin Initiative website immediately prior to submission to ensure there are no late updates.	Checked
I have read and understood the Privacy Notice on the Darwin Initiative website.	Checked
Ensure you submit this application on Flexi-Grant.	

We would like to keep in touch!

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

Checked

Data protection and use of personal data

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

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