

#### **DARFW046 Ref 4437**



### Submit by 2359 GMT on Thursday 4 January 2018

### **Application for Darwin Fellowship Programme Round 24**

Before completing this form, please read both the Fair Processing Notice on pages 9 and 10 of this form and the <u>Guidance</u>. Where no word limits are given, the size of the box is a guide to the amount of information required. Information to be extracted to the database is highlighted blue.

#### 1. Name and address of Lead Organisation

(NB: Notification of results will be by email and addressed to the Project Leader listed in Section 5)

| Name of Lead<br>Organisation &<br>Address: | Botanic Gardens Conservation International (BGCI) |
|--|---|
| Project Leader<br>Name:                    | Paul Smith  |
| E-mail:                                    |   |
| Phone:                                     |   |

#### 2. Name and official address of proposed Darwin Fellow

(include email and telephone details where available)

| Name:    | Manuel Ruiz |
|----------|-------------|
| Address: |             |
| E-mail:  |             |
| Phone:   |             |

#### 3. Project dates, duration and total Darwin Initiative Grant requested

| Proposed start date:     | 1-7-18 Durat | ion of project: | 8 months | End date: | 31-3-19 |
|--------------------------|--------------|-----------------|----------|-----------|---------|
| Darwin funding requested |              |                 |          |           |         |

#### 4. Summary of proposed Fellowship i.e. Outcome and expected Outputs and Impact

(Max 100 words)

The primary output of this project is a multidisciplinary research paper which highlights the need for supportive and enabling policies, increased funding and focused guidance to improve the role that *ex situ* plant conservation centres play in complementing *in situ* conservation of plant diversity, particularly in the context of dramatically changing climate, and concomitant pressures on biodiversity. The impact of this research will be to raise awareness about *ex situin situ-* climate change connections and dynamics, and inform national and international policy making processes to improve decision-making, strategy and project development.

#### 5. Principals in the Project

Please give the details of the individuals from the Lead Organisation (and other institutions if relevant) who would be directly involved in supervising/working with the Darwin Fellow. Please provide a one page CV for each of these named individuals. You may copy and paste this table if you need to provide details of more individuals.

| Details                                  | Project Leader   | Other expert                                 | Other expert                           |
|--|--|--|--|
| Surname                                  | Smith  | Galbraith                                    | Halewood                               |
| Forename(s)                              | Paul   | David  | Michael                                |
| Post held                                | Director   | Head of Science                              | Senior Legal Advisor                   |
| Institution<br>(if different<br>to Lead) | Botanic Gardens<br>Conservation<br>International<br>(Richmond, U.K.) | Royal Botanical Gardens<br>(Ontario, Canada) | Bioversity International (Rome, Italy) |
| Telephone/<br>Skype                      |  |  |  |
| Email                                    |  |  |  |

### 6. Describe briefly the aims, activities and achievements of the Lead Organisation. (Large institutions please note this should describe your unit or department)

(Max 150 words)

Botanic Gardens Conservation International (BGCI) is an international networking organisation linking botanic gardens and arboreta around the world. BGCI's mission is to mobilise botanic gardens and engage partners in securing plant diversity for the well-being of people and the planet. BGCI has an agreement with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity to support the implementation of the CBD at local, national and regional levels, with a particular focus on the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation. BGCI provides support to botanic gardens in many different ways: we are an **advocate** for the botanic garden community, promoting the role of botanic gardens in plant conservation policy, practice and education; we **connect people**, co-ordinating efforts and bringing people together to exchange ideas; we are a **knowledge hub**, providing training, learning resources and professional support; and we provide **funding** and **technical support** to efforts aimed at saving plants.

## 7. Describe briefly the aims, activities and achievements of the proposed Darwin Fellow's employing organisation.

(Large institutions please note this should describe your unit or department)

The Peruvian Society for Environmental Law's (SPDA, 1986) goal is to support sustainable development through the rule of law and an interdisciplinary approach, and by providing a set of tools to promote social change. Initially with a focus in Peru, it has over time gained presence both regionally and internationally. It has partnered and collaborated with many institutions including IUCN, Forest Trends, WRI, USAID, FAO, WIPO, CI, Welthungerhilfe and WCS. SPDA has been recognized with achievement awards from the MacArthur Foundation and France Libertes among others. Its Biodiversity Program in particular has focused on work such as policy and institutional developments supportive of *in situ* conservation, adaptation to climate change by small Andean/Amazon communities, food security, sustainable use of genetic resources, protected areas and climate change. SPDA is very well positioned to mainstream research conclusions into policy and other social processes nationally and internationally.

# 8. Describe briefly the proposed Fellow's current role within their organisation and their link to a Darwin project (if applicable), including the project reference number, his/her role in that project and any ongoing involvement.

If the Fellow has no link to a Darwin project please discuss their involvement in implementing the biodiversity conventions, treaties and agreements supported by the Darwin Initiative.

#### (Max 200 words)

Manuel is an attorney and researcher with over 25 years of experience in biodiversity conservation. He has worked closely with botanic gardens, seed banks, and Consultative Group of International Agricultural Research Centres (CGIAR) throughout his career as part of the Peruvian Society for Environmental Law (SPDA) and as a consultant. Manuel was an early Darwin Fellow at Kew Gardens (1998-99), working on a project on the repatriation of seeds. botanical samples, etc., under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). He has also interacted with important ex situ centres (e.g. International Potato Centre, Missouri Botanical Garden, the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew and national seed banks in many countries. Manuel has been very active in the implementation of the CBD and the FAO International Treaty. He is a Peruvian delegate to CBD COP and international meetings and advises governments and institutions throughout Latin America, particularly on plant genetic resources and national biodiversity plans. Before submitting this proposal, Manuel consulted extensively with experts who encouraged him to undertake this research given its environmental and development dimensions, including Walt Reid (Packard Foundation), Susan Bragdon (former Bioversity International Legal Advisor, currently with the UN Quakers), David Galbraith (Royal Botanic Gardens) and others.

#### 9. Provide a concept note for the Darwin Fellowship. This should include:

#### 9a. A clear outline of the aim and objectives of the Fellowship

The CBD explicitly acknowledges that *ex situ* conservation of biodiversity is complementary to *in situ* efforts, e.g. the creation of natural protected areas, protection of cultural and natural monuments, and conservation activities beyond legally protected zones. Emphasis in funding and overall attention has therefore overwhelmingly been placed on *in situ* conservation strategies and actions. However, climate change has transformed the situation, gravely impacting ecosystems and biodiversity in general. This calls for much more integrated approaches to conservation, including through increased participation of *ex situ* centres in providing research (e.g. on climate resilience), data and information, storage capability, and biological materials to support *in situ* conservation (e.g. reintroduction). Through his research, Manuel will contribute to re-shaping this narrative, and placing *ex situ* centres in a much more visible position to positively engage with *in situ* conservation initiatives. His analysis will use the scientific and technical capabilities of *ex situ* conservation centres to revise institutional, policy and legal frameworks where appropriate. Manuel will primarily undertake an international analysis, but with direct implications for national contexts, *particularly in developing countries where resources are limited*.

The Fellowship key objectives are to:

- a) demonstrate the need for better understanding on how *ex situ* centres can interact with *in situ* conservation efforts.
- b) demonstrate how climate change disruptions in particular, demand a much closer interaction and complementarity between *ex situ* and *in situ* conservation, through sound policy and legal mandates,
- c) analyse whether current international conventions and instruments, adequately reflect the critical role which *ex situ* centres play (and could play) in the conservation of biodiversity and sustainable development.

The major output of this research will be a policy paper to be published in an international peerreviewed journal. In addition, the research findings will be widely disseminated at national, regional and international meetings.

#### 9b. The role of the Lead Organisation, and others where relevant (including contacts)

(Max 300 words)

Botanic Gardens Conservation International (BGCI) is the leading botanic garden organisation in the world, with a membership of over 500 institutions in more than 100 countries. It coordinates the largest global plant conservation network, and aims to collect, conserve, characterise and cultivate samples from all of the world's plant species as an insurance policy against their extinction in the wild and as a source of plant material for human innovation, adaptation and resilience. The BGCI network of botanic gardens includes globally significant *ex situ* collections covering approximately a third of known plant diversity; world class seed banks, glass houses, tissue culture infrastructures and technical knowledge networks covering all aspects of plant conservation policy, practice and education.

BGCI has a programme on integrated plant conservation which looks at some aspects of improving *ex situ* and *in situ* interactions, and has the most comprehensive data sources on *ex situ* collections, skills and facilities in the world's botanic gardens and arboreta.. As such, BGCI will serve as the Lead Organization and support and provide guidance to Manuel in his overall research and outreach to key contacts in botanic gardens and seed banks. For a period of one month or so, BGCI will host Manuel in the UK. Dr Paul Smith, Director of BGCI, will be the key person guiding Manuel's research. Manuel will also interact with Bioversity International (Michael Halewood) to cover CGIAR Centres and also contact other key experts he knows from previous interactions (e.g. Cary Fowler, Pamela Anderson, etc.). Manuel has also been in touch with David Galbraith (Royal Botanic Garden Ontario) who has provided and will continue to offer valuable guidance.

# 9c. Where appropriate, how the Fellowship will contribute towards biodiversity conservation and, where relevant, poverty alleviation

i.e. what the expected Outcome of the Fellowship will be, with regard to the higher goals of the Darwin Initiative.

(Max 300 words)

Manuel will publish a narrative-changing research paper in a peer reviewed international journal, the results of which will be promoted at national, regional and international meetings. It is expected that his research findings will help to precipitate changes among funding agencies, international negotiators (e.g. CBD, FAO IT and UNCCC), and conservationists, particularly the urgent need to re-think the relationship between *in situ* and *ex situ* conservation. Manuel hopes to demonstrate convincingly that the key factor driving the re-evaluation of this relationship is climate change and its profoundly disruptive effects on *in situ* conservation at different levels, particularly wild plant species and plant genetic resources for food and agriculture. In addition to its direct impacts, other important factors impacting loss of biodiversity, including fragmentation of habitats and loss of pollinators and seed dispersers are exacerbated by climate change.

This research has direct relevance to the Darwin Initiative's high level objectives supporting developing countries in their efforts to implement the CBD and the ITPGRFA, and focuses specifically on climate change, one of the key threats to biodiversity identified by the Darwin Initiative. It will also directly address the following two high level Darwin Initiative themes:

- protection or enhancement of ecosystems, species or genetic resources through in-situ or ex-situ conservation or remedying environmental damage;
- integration of biodiversity and ecosystem services within host country development objectives and economic decision making, through institution building, capacity development, strengthening regulatory and policy frameworks or research

At the national level this research will contribute to making the case for a national botanic garden. Even though it is one of the most biodiverse countries in the world, Peru has no national botanic garden, nor centralized seed repository. The results of this research will also be highly relevant to neighbouring Andean countries, such as Bolivia, Colombia and Ecuador.

# 10. Legacy. Provide information on how the Darwin Fellow will utilise, promote and disseminate the benefits of the Fellowship on return to his/her home country. Will a strategy be developed during the Fellowship to ensure this is achieved?

(Max 200 words)

Manuel is planning a three-pronged approach to communicating and disseminating the results of his research. At the national level, both in Peru and Latin American countries which he visits regularly, Manuel will personally present the results of his research in meetings with key government officials and stakeholders; he will also use SPDA's award winning Communications Program to disseminate and promote his research. Manuel will personally translate his research document into Spanish for use in Latin America. At the international level, Manuel and BGCI will broadly disseminate and present the research results, for example, during CBD COP or other relevant meetings which may coincide with Manuel's travel. Finally, the results of this research will be published, in English, in an international peer-reviewed journal. The global implications of his research merit considerable efforts to reach the widest possible range of audiences, including funding agencies. BGCI will use its broad network of institutions to further disseminate the research results and the Darwin Initiative will be acknowledged in all dissemination outputs.

11. How will the Fellowship assist the Fellow's organisation and/or local communities and/or home country in working towards the objectives (or implementation) of the Conventions, Treaties and Agreements supported by the Darwin Initiative? Please refer to specific Articles or cross cutting themes as appropriate.

(Max 200 words)

Given the nature of the proposed research, Manuel's work will assist not only Peru but other countries in implementing actions regarding *in situ/ex situ* conservation and climate change adaptation/mitigation. In the case of Peru, his research will contribute to the implementation of Peru's National Biodiversity Strategy and the Action Plan for Climate Change Adaptation of Small Andean Communities, both of which align themselves with Article 5 of the ITPGRFA, Target 13 of Strategic Goal C of the Aichi Targets, and Goal 15 of the SDGs. SPDA is also engaging in national processes with government agencies (Congress, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of the Environment, INIA, etc.) and civil society, including Andean and Amazon communities, to find ways to create better interaction between policies and science and technical foundations. Manuel's research is exactly the type of input which needs to permeate national debates on climate change and conservation at different levels. SPDA's Communication Program will contribute with mainstreaming (through short clips, interviews and outreach) research results and promote the publication both nationally and regionally, particularly in the Andean community (Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru) where the impacts of climate change on biodiversity are particularly pronounced.

# 12. What collaboration has there been with the Darwin Fellow to date in developing the proposal, and what collaboration is planned for the duration of the Fellowship?

Where relevant, describe any consultation or collaboration by the proposed Fellow within his/her own country.

(Max 200 words)

Manuel first approached BGCI a few months ago seeking some advice and guidance regarding the idea of working on a document to explore the connections between *ex situ* centres and *in situ* conservation of biodiversity as impacted by climate change. Since that time, he has been discussing this idea and seeking funding opportunities. The Darwin Fellowship represents an excellent opportunity to provide the basic support required to undertake this research. BGCI has offered to host Manuel and provide him with space at its offices when he travels to the UK. BGCI has also offered to facilitate contacts among its wide range of member organizations and will contribute its own expertise and knowledge on the role of *ex situ* conservation. Manuel has also discussed the relevance and potential of his research idea with colleagues at RBG Kew, Bioversity and the International Potato Centre. He plans to submit drafts for peer review to them. In the context of CGIAR centres, Manuel's research can help make the case for closer attention to how *ex situ* centres focused on seed for food and agriculture can contribute to conservation and communities' livelihoods in the context of climate change challenges.

#### 13. Where will the Darwin Fellow be based?

Please be specific with organisational details and dates (where more than one location).

(Max 200 words)

Manuel will do most of his research between Lima and Liberia (Costa Rica) and a small period of time in the UK, at BGCI. From July 1, 2018 (starting date of the Fellowship) to October 30, 2018 Manuel will undertake the planning, organization and initial research steps, including contacting experts, reviewing literature and drafting of the basic structure of the research paper. This will be undertaken at SPDA, in Lima. From December 1, 2018 to January 31, 2019, Manuel will continue his research based in Liberia, Costa Rica where he will be moving for a sabbatical period with his family. Manuel plans to travel to the UK, to BGCI, from February 1, 2019 to March 1, 2019 to consolidate his research with BGCI, Kew Gardens and key experts. Manuel will return to Lima on March 2/3, 2019 and continue his research at SPDA where he plans to conclude his paper by May 31, 2019. In addition, Manuel would like to travel to the CBD COP to be held in Egypt at the end of 2018, to contact and interview key stakeholders and experts who will be present.

### 14. Provide a programme of work, including key milestones, through the duration of the Fellowship

For each activity (add/remove rows as appropriate) indicate the number of months it will last, and shade only the months in which an activity will be carried out. The workplan can span multiple pages if necessary.

| Activity   | Duration |   |   |   | 2 | 018/1 | 9 |   |   |   |   |   | 2019 | /2020 |   |   |
|--|----------|---|---|---|---|-------|---|---|---|---|---|---|------|-------|---|---|
|  |          | J | Α | S | 0 | N     | D | J | F | M | Α | M | J    | J     | Α | S |
| General preparation for the research (initial contact with experts, review of relevant literature, interaction with BGCI)  – Lima, Peru  |          |   |   |   |   |       |   |   |   |   |   |   |      |       |   |   |
| Development of a draft outline of the research document, and consultation with key experts (collaborators – David Galbraith, Michael Halewood and Lead Organization - BGCI (Paul Smith) – Lima, Peru |          |   |   |   |   |       |   |   |   |   |   |   |      |       |   |   |
| Drafting process of research paper - Lima, Peru  |          |   |   |   |   |       |   |   |   |   |   |   |      |       |   |   |
| Participation in COP 14 of the CBD - Egypt   |          |   |   |   |   |       |   |   |   |   |   |   |      |       |   |   |
| Drafting process of research paper (cont.) - Liberia, Costa Rica   |          |   |   |   |   |       |   |   |   |   |   |   |      |       |   |   |
| Stay in the UK, at BGCI offices for review of research and fine tuning – London, UK  |          |   |   |   |   |       |   |   |   |   |   |   |      |       |   |   |
| Final adjustments and submission of research paper – Lima, Peru  |          |   |   |   |   |       |   |   |   |   |   |   |      |       |   |   |
| Translation of document into Spanish – Lima, Peru  |          |   |   |   |   |       |   |   |   |   |   |   |      |       |   |   |
| Presentation of document (meeting/venue to be decided)   |          |   |   |   |   |       |   |   |   |   |   |   |      |       |   |   |
| Tentative travel to the UK to present research (TBD)   |          |   |   |   |   |       |   |   |   |   |   |   |      |       |   |   |

#### 15. Costs

Using UK Government Financial Years i.e. April 2018 – March 2019 etc., please set out your budget for the Fellowship

|   | Unit cost                      | No of months  |                        | No of months |         | Total | Total |
|---|--------------------------------|---|------------------------|--------------|---------|-------|-------|
|   |                                | 2018/19   | 2019/20                | 2018/19      | 2019/20 |       |       |
| Fellow's Subsistence contribution                 | n                              |   |                        |              |         |       |       |
| London based                                      |                                |   |                        |              |         |       |       |
| UK (outside London)                               | _                              |   |                        |              |         |       |       |
| Ort (outoido Editadii)                            |                                |   |                        |              |         |       |       |
| Overseas  |                                |   |                        |              |         |       |       |
|   | Lead orga                      | nisation's co   | sts                    |              |         |       |       |
| UK  |                                |   |                        |              |         |       |       |
| Overseas  |                                |   |                        |              |         |       |       |
| Total Fellow and Host of                          | costs                          |   |                        |              |         |       |       |
| Travel costs to Fellowship location               | on (up to £2,0                 | 000)  |                        |              |         |       |       |
| Return airfare                                    | Details: Lib                   | eria – Londoı   | n – Lima               |              |         |       |       |
| Travel to/from airports                           |                                | nsport to and<br>eria, London                                 |                        |              |         |       |       |
| Visas, insurance, medical cover etc.              |                                | a to UK, Assi<br>ally valid insu                              |                        |              |         |       |       |
| Additional travel costs (up to £50                | 00 local trave                 | OR £1,500   | for internation        | nal travel)  |         |       |       |
| Purpose of additional travel                      | Details: Par                   | ticipation in (   | CBD COP                |              |         |       |       |
| Airfares/train fares                              | Sheik) – Lir<br>this air ticke | na – El Cairo<br>ma - Part of tl<br>et (UKP 1<br>Fellowship A | ne cost of<br>) can be |              |         |       |       |
| Travel to/from airports/stations                  |                                | તાં to airports ત<br>nue (Sharm લ                             |                        |              |         |       |       |
| Subsistence costs (inc number of days and rates)* | subsistence<br>covered by      | t of the cost e (UKP (UKP) of Fellowship A (estimated (days)  | can be<br>pplicant's   |              |         |       |       |
| Visas etc.  | Details:                       |   |                        |              |         |       |       |
| Total travel costs                                |                                |   |                        |              |         |       |       |
| Fees and training costs                           |                                |   |                        |              |         |       |       |
| Academic fees                                     | Details:                       |   |                        |              |         |       |       |
| English language training costs**                 | Details:                       |   |                        |              |         |       |       |
| Total fees  |                                |   |                        |              |         |       |       |
|   |                                |   |                        |              |         |       |       |

<sup>\*</sup>for advice on rates please call the Darwin Application Unit 0131 440 5181

\*\*these costs are ring-fenced and should be surrendered if not used.

| 16  | Other sources | of funding. | nrovida | alictah | and | amounts |
|-----|---------------|-------------|---------|---------|-----|---------|
| IO. | Other sources | oi iunaina: | provide | uetalis | anu | amounts |

| (approximately UKP   | ommodation and food costs during CBD COP 14 to be held in Egypt as well as part of the air travel which exceeds the amount offered by tely UKP . These funds will be financed through SPDA.   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|
|  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| FCO Notification   |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Commonwealth Office will                                   | u think that there are sensitivities that the Foreign and need to be aware of should they want to publicise details of the resultant work in the UK or the Darwin Fellow's home   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | er you require a visa to undertake this Fellowship. If you require a ifficulty in being granted a visa?   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| (max 100 words)  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | vian nationals entering the UK. There should be no problem in as resided in London before and travelled there many times over the   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Certification  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| application are true and the form will form the basis of t | 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. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| I enclose one page CVs fo Guidance.                        | r project principals and letters of support as requested in the   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Name (block capitals)                                      | Paul P. Smith   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Position in the organisation                               | Secretary General (CEO)   |  |  |  |  |  |  |

If this section is incomplete the entire application will be rejected. You must provide a real (not typed) signature. You may include a pdf of the signature page for security reasons if you wish. Please write PDF in the signature section above if you do so.

Date:

Signed

4<sup>th</sup> January 2018

#### Fellowship Application - Checklist for submission

|   | Check |
|---|-------|
| Have you provided actual start and end dates for the Fellowship?  | Yes   |
| Have you provided your budget based on UK government financial years i.e. 1 April – 31 March?   | Yes   |
| Have you checked that your budget is complete, correctly adds up and that you have included the correct final total on the top page of the application?     | Yes   |
| Has your application been signed by a suitably authorised individual? (clear electronic or scanned signatures are acceptable. Please do not type your name) | Yes   |
| Have you included a 1 page CV for the proposed Fellow and the experts listed in Section 5?  | Yes   |
| Have you provided the relevant letters of support?  | Yes   |
| Have you read the Guidance?   | Yes   |
| Have you read and can you meet the current Terms and Conditions for this fund?  | Yes   |
| Have you checked the Darwin website immediately prior to submission to ensure there are no late updates?  | Yes   |

Once you have answered Yes to the questions above, please submit the application, not later than 2359 GMT on Thursday 4 January 2018 to <a href="mailto:Darwin-Applications@LTSI.co.uk">Darwin-Applications@LTSI.co.uk</a> using the name of the proposed Fellow as the subject of your email. If you are e-mailing supporting documentation separately please include in the subject line an indication of the number of e-mails you are sending (e.g. whether the e-mail is 1 of 2, 2 of 3 etc.).

#### **Data Protection Act 1998 - Fair Processing Notice**

The purpose of this Fair Processing Notice is to inform you of the use that will be made of your personal data, as required by the Data Protection Act 1998.

The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) is the data controller in respect of any personal data that you provide when you complete your application, the grant acceptance and the supplier forms.

Defra will use your personal data primarily for the purpose of processing your application for Darwin Initiative funding. By submitting an application, applicants have agreed to any disclosure of the information supplied (including the content of a declaration or undertaking) which Defra considers necessary for the administration, evaluation, monitoring and publicising of the Funds (as detailed in the paragraphs below).

A completed application form signifies agreement to place certain details of successful applications (i.e. name, title, total grant value, project summary, lead organisation and location of project work) on the Darwin Initiative websites listed below. A completed application form also signifies agreement to send data on the project proposals during the application process to British Embassies and High Commissions outside the UK, including those outside the European Economic Area.

http://www.darwininitiative.org.uk;

https://www.gov.uk/government/groups/the-darwin-initiative;

Application form data will also be processed by Defra contractors dealing with Darwin Initiative administration, monitoring and evaluation (working within relevant data protection rules).

Defra may be required to release information, including personal data and commercial information, on request under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 or the Freedom of Information Act 2000. However, Defra will not permit any unwarranted breach of confidentiality nor will we act in contravention of our obligations under the Data Protection Act 1998. The Grantee shall assist and co-operate with the Department (at the Grantee's expense) to enable the Department to comply with its disclosure obligations under these enactments. We may use information, including personal data, to test computer systems to ensure that they work effectively and efficiently and to develop new systems in order to improve efficiency and the service that we provide to you and other persons. Any use of information for testing or developing computerised systems will be conducted in a secure manner in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998 to safeguard the privacy of the information that you have supplied. Defra's Personal Information Charter, which gives details of your rights in respect of the handling of your personal data, is on the Defra section of Gov.uk. If you don't have access to the internet, please telephone the Defra helpline 08459 33 55 77 and ask to speak to the Data Protection Officer for a copy of the Information Charter.