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Science communication and community mobilisation for forestation and poverty reduction.

Science communication and community mobilization model for forestation and poverty reduction in the extreme water scarcity conditions of Uzbekistan. Innovation addresses challenges of desertification, water scarcity, sandstorms, and poverty by bridging the gap between scientific achievement and common knowledge, rural development, and poverty reduction. The project will test best practices of natural precipitation collection and distribution such as swales and water capturing and releasing soil additives to grow much needed forests of endemic trees for carbon sequestration, forage, and food.

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Science communication and community mobilisation for forestation and poverty reduction.

Section 1 - Contact Details

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GMS ORGANISATION

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Section 2 - Project Summary, Ecosystems, Approaches and Threats

Q3. Title


Science communication and community mobilisation for forestation and poverty reduction.


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


No


Please attach a cover letter.

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

 [Cover Letter to Darwin Innovation from Zamin Foundation](#)

 07/11/2022

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Q5. Key Ecosystems, Approaches and Threats

Please select up to 3 biomes that are of focus, up to 3 conservation actions that characterise your approach, and up to 3 threats to biodiversity you intend to address, from dropdown lists.

Biome 1

Deserts and semi-deserts

Biome 2

Intensive land-use systems (agric., plantations and urban)

Biome 3

Freshwater (streams, rivers and lakes)

Conservation Action 1

Land/water protection (area/resource/habitat)

Conservation Action 2

Land/water management (area, invasive control, restoration)

Conservation Action 3

No Response

Threat 1

Climate change & severe weather

Threat 2

Pollution (domestic, commercial, agricultural)

Threat 3

No Response

Q6. Summary of project

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

Please write this summary for a non-technical audience.

Science communication and community mobilization model for forestation and poverty reduction in the extreme water scarcity conditions of Uzbekistan. Innovation addresses challenges of desertification, water scarcity, sandstorms, and poverty by bridging the gap between scientific achievement and common knowledge, rural development, and poverty reduction. The project will test best practices of natural precipitation collection and distribution such as swales and water capturing and releasing soil additives to grow much needed forests of endemic trees for carbon sequestration, forage, and food.

Section 3 - Dates & Budget Summary

Q7. Project Country(ies)

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

Country 1 Uzbekistan

Country 2 No Response

Country 3 No Response

Country 4 No Response

Do you require more fields?

No

Q8. Project dates

Start date:
01 April 2023

End date:
31 January 2025

Duration (e.g. 1 year, 8 months):
1 year, 9 months

Q9. Budget Summary

Darwin Funding Request	2023/24	2024/25	Total request
(Apr - Mar) £	██████████	██████████	██████████

Q10. Proportion of Darwin Initiative budget expected to be expended in eligible countries: %

████

Q11a. Do you have proposed matched funding arrangements?

Yes

What matched funding arrangements are proposed?

Zamin International Public Foundation will seek matched funding from national donors for minor expenses and in-kind contributions as part of community mobilization.

Q11b. Total confirmed & unconfirmed matched funding (£)

████

Q11c. 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?

████ total - matched funding from the Parliamentary small grants commission and crowd funding.

████ - matched funding for open access publishing about project impact and lessons learnt. Potentially these costs will fall in the last financial year of the project and possibly beyond the close of the project, therefore matched funding is sought for these costs.

████ - Syrdarya field office costs: rent fee is from matched funding

Zamin Public Foundation will rely on voluntary activities and in-kind contributions from stakeholders to complete main project activities.

Section 4 - Darwin Objectives and Conventions

Q12. Problem the project is trying to address

Please describe the evidence of the problem your project is trying to address in terms of biodiversity and its relationship with poverty. What is the need, challenge or opportunity?

For example, what are the drivers of loss of biodiversity that the project will attempt to address? Why are they relevant, for whom? How did you identify these problems? Please cite the evidence you are using to support your assessment of the problem (references can be listed in a separate attached PDF document).

More than 85% of the double land-locked Uzbekistan is occupied by deserts and semi-deserts, the rest of the country lacks green cover and keeps losing it. Climate change exacerbates poverty, and poverty affects vulnerable youth, women, families, communities located in such areas more than others. The return of migrant workers is added to the post-pandemic economic difficulties making lack of employment opportunities acute. There are food security and water security issues across the region of Central Asia and are more acute in the affected areas. For decades, top-down administrative command system, extensive commercial farming of cotton depleted natural resources – water and soil in particular – and caused impoverishment of communities and harsh air pollution.

This project will pilot a model based on science communication and community mobilisation for forestation and poverty reduction in the extreme water scarcity conditions of Uzbekistan. Innovation addresses challenges of desertification, water scarcity, sandstorms, and poverty by bridging the gap between scientific achievement and common knowledge, rural development, and poverty reduction. The project will test best practices of natural precipitation collection and distribution such as swales and water capturing and releasing soil additives to grow much needed forests of endemic trees for carbon sequestration, forage, and food.

Despite having long and dry summers Uzbekistan has a certain amount of precipitation, which runs off due to lack vegetation and special water stopping relief. Irrigation engineers will create planting depressions (similar to zai pits) <https://www.greener.land/index.php/product/zai-pits/> . The young trees and shrubs will be planted at proper depth in manmade low spots. Engineers will use natural slopes making them more prominent. Properly made these pits will retain water longer around the plants instead of having the rainfall and melting snow quickly running off.

These allow selected plants a rainwater advantage even when the water moves away from other plants. They should prove useful and efficient in drylands as they have been used successfully in the Sahel of Africa. It's significantly greening with the natives' efforts. Swales are manmade ponds that allow for water to seep into soil (<https://www.permaculturenews.org/2017/08/01/storing-water-landscape-swales-ponds-primer/>). They are great on slopes because these ponds slow rain/storm water. They allow the maximum amount of water to permeate where it is driest. The banks are used for planting. These 'ponds' serve to capture and eventually fill up with organic material keeping the soil moist. These then become planting terraces. They have several benefits: hilltops and hillsides hydrate better. They reduce the excess water downstream that in return reduces flooding, reduce the need for irrigation and labor, increase land productivity, reduce damage to land, people, etc. The innovation will be built upon such resources as Lancaster B. (2013) Rainwater Harvesting (a set of two books); Geoff Lawton, a dryland expert who has taught dryland techniques in Australia, Africa and the Middle East; Permaculture Design Magazine (US publication) comes out every other month on all sorts of conscientious topics regarding low tech resiliency; Shepard M. (2013) Restoration Agriculture. Communities will be informed and have hands-on training during the implementation

Q13. Biodiversity Conventions, Treaties and Agreements

Q13a. 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)

Q13b. National and International Policy Alignment

Using evidence where available, please detail how your 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.

Global Goals for Sustainable Development (SDGs):

In 2018, Uzbekistan adopted the national SDG Roadmap with 16 national SDGs and 125 corresponding targets to be achieved by 2030. The project will contribute to the following SDGs:

SDG1: Poverty reduction: eradicate extreme low-income.

SDG2: Food security through creating windbreaker forest belts to prevent soil erosion.

SDG3: Better health with climate change mitigation through afforestation, biodiversity, poverty reduction.

SDG4: lifelong learning opportunities for all.

SDG5 and SDG8: Stimulation of entrepreneurship, women and youth, establishment of endemic tree nurseries and seed collection, obtaining international grants, fund-raising: Inclusive and sustainable economic growth: trained individuals and households will participate in the economic growth.

SDG6: protect and restore water-related ecosystems: forests, aquifers:

SDG7: Once the trees grow radical roots and reach aquifers, solar panels, batteries can be used by communities. SDG9: SDG10: SDG11: SDG12: SDG13: SDG: 15 SDG16: SDG17

Section 5 - Method, Innovation, Capability & Capacity

Q14. Methodology

Describe the methods and approach you will use to achieve your intended 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 will these take place.
- How you will **manage the work** (governance, roles and responsibilities, project management tools, risks etc.).

Please make sure you read the guidance documents, before answering this question.

Uzbekistan has gained a positive experience of forestation of the dried bottom of the Aral Sea, which is a reliable national precedent to be replicated in a more community-centred country-wide intervention. In the Aralkum, a new desert in Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan, which appeared due to agricultural mismanagement and cotton monoculture practiced in the times of the Soviet Union, as of today, endemic trees, mostly saxaul have been planted on 1,524,000 ha using the aerial seedball plantation and manual sapling plantation methods for the pasture-protective, ameliorative-forage afforestation. Both effective techniques have been well documented by the Research Institute of Forestry of Uzbekistan, which is a partner organization for this project. This research institution has the necessary capability to develop small scale (and large scale) maps of dynamic forestation for Uzbekistan till 2030, which will take into consideration the chemical composition of the soil, water availability and suitable endemic vegetation with the emphasis on deciduous trees and alley crops of perennial food and forage vegetation, such as tamarisk and other bee friendly plants. Importantly, this action will be community-based and will create numerous income generation opportunities through transformational entrepreneurship for women and men.

The project will take place in the Syrdarya region of Uzbekistan. We will engage the expertise of Geoff Lawton's organization <https://www.discoverpermaculture.com/> and other available experts, who can advise on the suitable rain water retention and distribution techniques and provide hands-on training. The innovation will be built upon practices which have proved to be beneficial in similar conditions in other countries. We will prepare Uzbek and Russian (if necessary) translations of such resources as Lancaster B. (2013) Rainwater Harvesting (a set of two books); Geoff Lawton, a dryland expert who has taught dryland techniques in Australia, Africa and the Middle East; Permaculture Design Magazine (US publication) comes out every other month on all sorts of conscientious topics regarding low tech resiliency; Shepard M. (2013) Restoration Agriculture.

Communities will be informed, organized, and receive hands-on training during the implementation of the innovative model.

This project will prepare communities and stakeholders for the upscaled bigger project on diversity restoration and poverty reduction "green belt" project of endemic forestation along the 175 km border between Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, and Tajikistan, which will serve as a windbreaker amidst the semi-deserts. It will improve the livelihoods of 300,000 local people, who live on less than \$5 per day.

Q15. Innovation

Please specifically outline how your approach or project is innovative.

Is it the application of a proven approach in a distinctly different geography/issue/stakeholder (novel to the area), or in a different sector (novel to the sector), or an unproven approach in any sector (novel to the world)?

There are several innovative elements in the model, which we will implement. 1) Science communication to bridge the gap between the existing knowledge (on using water saving techniques (Zia pits, swales), Raincatcher biodegradable water-capturing and slow water release hydrogel crystals combined with humus nutrients) and current practices mainly inherited from command-administrative system, which depleted natural resources and caused poverty and exacerbated climate change consequences for this part of the world – arid and semi-arid lands of Uzbekistan. 2) Community mobilization model for forestation and poverty reduction in the extreme water scarcity conditions of Uzbekistan. This method of governance will gradually replace the remnants of the former command system and strengthen people's sense of ownership and their motivation for change. 3) Forestation with endemic trees and plants, which have food and forage value as well as being bee-friendly – mulberry trees, buckthorn, camelthorn,

tamarisk, etc. - will restore the biodiversity and strengthen the sustainability of the planted forests. The innovation addresses challenges of desertification, water scarcity, sandstorms, and poverty by bridging the gap between scientific achievement and common knowledge, rural development, and poverty reduction. The project will test best practices of natural precipitation collection and distribution such as swales and water capturing and releasing soil additives to grow much needed forests of endemic trees for carbon sequestration, forage, and food.

Manipulation of landscape for water retention and use of additives to preserve moisture had been used for centuries and in many cultures.

Q16. Capability and Capacity

How will you support the strengthening of capability and capacity in the project countries at organisational or individual levels? Please provide details of what form this will take, who will benefit, and the post-project value to the country.

The project will bring best practices and dryland expertise gained under similar conditions in Australia, Africa, and the Middle East <https://www.discoverpermaculture.com/>
Structured courses and programmes will be adapted to Uzbekistan, translated into Uzbek and Russian. Local community specialist teams will be trained in planning and implementation of the irrigation and tree planting activities. And on-the-job training will be continued at the implementation stage.

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

No Response

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

Q17. Gender equality

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

Gender equality is a key to eliminating poverty. According to the UN Human Development Report, gender-based disadvantage has at least three dimensions: reproductive health, empowerment, and the labour market. This project addresses empowerment through providing access to income generation for the disadvantaged households and communities.

The project will target families in the communities where since the collapse of the Soviet Union it became a tradition for men to become migrant workers in Russia, Kazakhstan, and other destinations leaving their families behind for long periods of time. There are many stories where female members joined their men leaving children behind, where school-leavers joined elder family members and became migrant workers too. Some migrant workers were more successful and luckier than others sending home much needed remittances; others were less lucky and sustained work-related injuries, became incapacitated through old age and poor health while working abroad under poor occupational safety and health conditions or lost their jobs, were deported, started new families in Russia or Kazakhstan and left their families in Uzbekistan for good or simply did not return without any explanation. In many such cases, women and girls suffered disproportionately from the extended absence or complete loss of the male breadwinners,

from poverty, which affected their families and compromised their prospects of education and decent jobs.

Next to women, children suffered from the repercussions of poverty and labour migration, such as dysfunctional families where poverty narrowed their choices of education and vocational training. In March 2022, Cotton Campaign, an international ethical cotton watchdog, lifted boycott of the Uzbek cotton, acknowledging that Uzbekistan stopped systemic forced labour. A few years earlier, systemic use of child labour was stopped as well. Until then, there were generations of people who spent their best years picking cotton for little or no payment, poor health.

Q18. Awareness and understanding

How will you raise awareness and understanding of biodiversity-poverty issues in your stakeholders, including who your stakeholders are, what approaches/formats/products will you use, how you will ensure open and free access to all data, and how will you know that the messages are understood?

Awareness raising and learning about biodiversity-poverty nexus will start from project management training for project staff and stakeholders in the project steering committee. Further on, it will be part of all training programmes for beneficiaries. The project communications specialist together with editor/webmaster will create online and social network presence to publish regular updates on the number of trees and other vegetation planted by communities, project will develop and disseminate stories and other materials aimed at raising the awareness of communities in the Syrdarya region and throughout Uzbekistan on the biodiversity-poverty nexus, prepare and disseminate regular press-releases, and updates on the project progress. The purpose of the information campaign is to instill a culture of caring attitude to all components of the environment, understanding their role and contribution to sustainable development, food security, income generation, strong economy, public health. Stakeholders are the State committee of forestry, State committee of ecology, Ministry of Water Resources, Ministry of makhalla and elderly generation, Ministry of Labour, local authorities.

The project implementation establishes create step-by-step, replicable processes that harmonize project execution and

coordination across teams. Training programmes, awareness-raising, information campaign through social media and mass media, afforestation, cocoon production, permaculture skills, tree-propagation, risk management will be thoroughly documented, monitored, and evaluated to create knowledge base for upscaling and replication in the future.

Creation and maintenance of the interactive website on the project progress and tree planting. The website will be used for the current and future tree-planting for public monitoring of the condition of newly planted forests.

Monitoring and evaluation will collect feedback from project partners and beneficiaries. These activities will show if the messages are understood and what we need to do to improve understanding.

Q19. Change expected

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

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

Changes to biodiversity and poverty reduction and links between them.

Outcome: what will change: communities will learn how to improve their living conditions while improving their habitat in collaboration with the local authorities using traditional and innovative approaches. A new forest belt will be grown by communities along the border between Uzbekistan and neighbouring Kazakhstan and Tajikistan, which will fulfill several functions: 1) serve as a windbreaker protecting farm fields from strong desert winds, preventing erosion of the soil; 2) leaves of the planted mulberry trees will be a sustainable renewable source of forage for silk worms between 875,000 and 1,000,000 trees will be grown using; 3) humidify the micro-climate and mitigate the consequences of climate change, such as sandstorms and dust-storms, create carbon sinks; 4) biodiversity will grow and make the new forest sustainable; 5) at least 5,000 trained people, of which at least 70% are women between 25 and 50 years of age, between will propagate the same endemic trees beyond the grown green belt – in their streets, land plots, creating community gardens wherever possible to benefit from the trees, 6) solar energy will be used for capillary irrigation from the newly built artesian wells along the belt. Once the trees reach ground water table and the capillary irrigation of the forest is no longer needed, solar panels can be reoriented to the local electricity needs of the communities. 7) improvement of the soil along the green belt will lead to alley cropping of perennial or annual legumes and grass fodder, which will strengthen food security of the communities and serve as a good example to many other communities. 8) At least 1,000 tree nurseries are set up. At least 100 cooperatives are formed from at least 5,000 self-employed and home-based seasonal entrepreneurial entities.

The project monitoring and evaluation will collect data on the factual beneficiaries disaggregating data by gender, by age, by the number of beneficiaries, number of households.

In the short term, the minimum target is 5,000 households whose family members will be trained in permaculture skills, tree propagation, silk cocoon production, setting up home-based seasonal or permanent businesses and organizing thereof into cooperatives and forming clusters together with the silk manufacturing companies. During the first two years of the project the mulberry leaf fodder for silkworms will be procured from the existing trees before the newly planted trees grow the canopies. The forest belt grown by the project and the community gardens grown by the communities on the margins of the project will fully satisfy the needs of the cocoon producers in mulberry leaves for silkworms. The communities will contribute to the growth of the regional silk cocoon production indicators. Communication campaign will disseminate the information about the goals and outcomes of the project, thus raising awareness in many communities across the country that poverty reduction is possible through such an effort. The leadership of the country will view silk cocoon industry as a viable alternative to cotton, which depletes water resources irreversibly.

Q20. Pathway to change

Please outline your project's expected pathway to change, including how your outcome can be scaled. This should be an overview of the overall project logic and outline why and how you expect your Outputs to contribute towards your overall Outcome and, longer term, your expected Impact.

This should directly relate to your overall project's Theory of Change which must be uploaded alongside your application. See the separate [Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Guidance](#) for further information on your Theory of Change.

1) natural precipitation stocking and re-distribution, biodegradable nutritional slow water-release additives to soil, planting trees and other vegetation in the created zia pits and use of swales will educate a new culture of relationship with natural resources; 2) propagation of forage and food trees and bee-friendly plants will be a sustainable renewable source of forage for silk worms; silk cocoon production is a traditional income generation activity, which can be raised to a new level. Up to a million trees can be propagated in a more sustainable way; 3) that many trees will mitigate the consequences of climate change, such as sandstorms and dust-storms, create carbon sinks; 4) biodiversity will increase and make the new forests sustainable; 5) at least 500 trained people, of which at least 70% are women between 25 and 50 years of age and their households will apply water saving planting techniques and propagate more endemic trees beyond the green belt creating community gardens wherever possible to benefit from the trees, 6) improvement of the soil along the green belt will lead to alley cropping of perennial or annual legumes and grass fodder, which will strengthen food security of the communities.

Q21. Exit strategy

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

Will the innovation be mainstreamed into “business as usual” to continue to deliver the benefits? How will the required capability and capacity remain available to sustain the benefits? How will your approach, if proven, be scaled? Are there any barriers to scaling and if so, how will these be addressed?

Exit strategy relies on the creation of institutional entrepreneurial frameworks of specialists who can train others and help disseminate this experience on a commercial scale. They can create self-employed jobs, cooperatives or join existing entities to engage in productive employment. Households engaged in cocoon production as a result of mulberry tree propagation can form home-based entrepreneurial units, cooperative networks of producers, build strong procurement chains with textile companies and subsequently form clusters with the silk manufacturing company/companies.

Section 7 - Risk Management

Q22. Risk Management

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

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

Risk Description	Impact	Prob.	Gross Risk	Mitigation	Residual Risk
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Fiduciary (financial)

Zamin Foundation has a proper Trustee Board, which oversees the fiduciary risks. Fiduciary honesty is of critical importance due to the national high level of the Foundation. Reputation is the most highly valued asset for the Foundation. We regularly discuss all technical issues in the operational meetings with financial manager.

medium medium medium

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low

Safeguarding

Uzbekistan has a mixture of traditional values and Soviet era gender equality in the workplace whereby it is normal to have women in managerial as well as assistant positions and having mixed gender staff is very normal.

medium medium medium

Zamin Foundation has a Safeguarding Policy, which will also be part of the project management training at the start of the project.

low

Delivery Chain

First year, when new tree saplings are propagated from branch cuttings - mulberry leaves will be procured to the newly trained households. Branches will be used for tree propagation and each household will start a nursery once leaves.

medium medium medium

Mulberry leaves will be procured until the households become fully sustainable in fodder growth. Additional mulberry trees will be grown in community gardens and streets and carefully looked after.

low

Risk 4	Trees might not grow as fast as we plan or too many trees will require replacement while saplings are propagated.	medium	medium	medium	Training, communication campaign, and awareness raising activity will stress the importance of doubling the effort beyond the forest belt and plant trees creating communal gardens, in the streets (traditional feature), in the available land plots. Communities will appreciate the importance of every tree and will never cut another tree.	low
Risk 5	Not enough households may endure the training and we may lose people at the end of the training program.	medium	medium	medium	We will enlist more people to the training programme so that we end up with 500 households ready to learn irrigation technique and plant trees and produce silk cocoons. Our pre-training communication and awareness raising, community organising will yield the desired results.	low
Risk 6	Trees maybe poorly looked after and dry off.	medium	medium	medium	All trainee teams will have team leaders, community activists, and informal leaders. During the entrepreneurship training: home-based entrepreneur, cooperatives, clusters the oversight teams will be formed.	low

Section 8 - Implementation Timetable


Q23. Provide a project implementation timetable that shows the key milestones in project activities


Provide a project implementation timetable that shows the key milestones in project activities. Complete the Word template as appropriate to describe the intended workplan for your project and upload this below as a PDF.


[Implementation Timetable Template](#)


Please add/remove columns to reflect the length of your project. For each activity (add/remove rows

as appropriate) indicate the number of months it will last, and fill/shade only the quarters in which an activity will be carried out.

 [BCF Implementation Timetable Template Zamin Foundation 06 11 22](#)

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Section 9 - Monitoring and Evaluation



Q24. Monitoring and evaluation (M&E)

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

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

Monitoring and Evaluation team of the Zamin Foundation will conduct internal monitoring on a monthly basis through multilateral dialogues with beneficiaries and stakeholders and analysis of the feedback from training.

at the end of the project there will be Independent Final Evaluation and Annual independent examination/audit of funds

Total project budget for M&E (this may include Staff and Travel and Subsistence Costs)	
Percentage of total project budget set aside for M&E	
Number of days planned for M&E	24

Section 10 - Logical Framework


Q25. Logical Framework (logframe)


Darwin Initiative projects will be required to monitor and report against their progress towards their Outputs and Outcome. This section sets out the expected Outputs and Outcome of your project, how you expect to measure progress against these and how we can verify this.


[Logframe Template](#)


Please complete your full logframe in the separate Word template and upload as a PDF using the file upload below - please do not edit the logframe template structure (other than adding additional Outputs if needed) as this may make your application ineligible. On the application form, you will be asked to copy the Impact, Outcome and Output statements and activities - these should be the same as in your uploaded logframe.

Please upload your logframe and Theory of Change as a combined PDF document.

 [Zamin Foundation BCF St2 and Single Stage Logical Framework Template 2022-23 FINAL](#)

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Impact:

Poverty reduction through science communication, community mobilisation, forestation in semi-arid areas of Syrdarya region of Uzbekistan

Outcome:

Poverty reduction

Project Outputs

Output 1:

Households trained in zia pits and swale creation, tree propagation, silk cocoon production, and setting up home-based entrepreneurship and cooperatives.

Output 2:

500 families with previously trained family members in 10 communities engage in tree propagation of mulberry tree saplings grown from cuttings of the procured mulberry branches.

Output 3:

Knowledge base built and communication campaign raised communities' awareness of climate change mitigation, biodiversity, and poverty reduction.

Output 4:

No Response

Output 5:

No Response

Do you require more Output fields?

It is advised to have less than 6 Outputs since this level of detail can be provided at the activity level.

No

Activities

Each activity is numbered according to the Output that it will contribute towards, for example 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 are contributing to Output 1.

Activities (each activity is numbered according to the output that it will contribute towards, for example 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 are contributing to Output 1. Each activity should start on a new line and be no more than approximately 25 words.)

1.1 Project inception.

1.3. Project team trained in project management.

1.4 Setting up project steering committee consisting of project partners: State Committee for Forestry, Ministry of Water Resources, Farmers Association, State Committee for Environment, Ministry of Mahalla and regular quarterly meetings.

1.5 Project launch conference

1.6 Training of Trainers for training programmes in (1) permaculture and tree propagation skills, (2) cocoon production skills, (3) home-based income generation and setting up community-based cooperatives.

1.7 Development of training materials in partnership with the Scientific Research Institute of Forestry

1.8 2-day Training Programmes in (1) permaculture and tree propagation skills, (2) cocoon production skills, (3) home-based income generation skills and setting up community-based cooperatives.

1.9 Formation of groups with the help of the local department of the Ministry of Mahalla in 10 communities, where on average 50 persons will be trained. Sign-up of trainees and their allocation to groups of 25 persons. 2 groups in each community/location.

1.10 Preparation of premises with the help of community leaders in 10 communities. 500 youth, women, men from vulnerable communities trained in total.

1.11 Organizing and conducting seed collection, production of seedballs, seedlings, saplings, propagation of seedlings from seeds and saplings from tree cuttings.

1.12 Procurement of humus, other materials, and tools. Procurement of seeds, tree cuttings if not enough seeds or tree cuttings can be procured locally – in partnership with the Forestry Committee

1.13 Digging shallow swales for seasonal water retention and forest fire prevention. Preparation of the soil for planting trees and other vegetation. Planting trees and other vegetation, looking after them. Creating tree nurseries, practising permaculture skills.

2.1 Collect feedback from beneficiaries, course participants, collect and prepare stories, real-life cases and lessons learnt for knowledge sharing.

2.2 Organize and maintain telegram chats for communication and coordination of project participants:

1) Project team

2) Trainers

3) Community group leaders

2.3 Social media coverage: regular updates on the Zamin Foundation page and special page of the project. Press releases, publications in mass media.

2.4 Communication with the British Embassy – on the quarterly basis.

2.5 Creation and maintenance of the interactive website on the project progress and tree planting. The website will be used for the current and future tree-planting for public monitoring of the condition of newly planted forests.

2.6 Multilateral community dialogues on the project progress and dissemination of the newly acquired knowledge and skills and way forward.

2.7. M&E

2.8 Independent Final Evaluation

2.9 Annual independent examination/audit of funds

2.10 Open access publishing about project impact, lessons learnt beyond the close of project.

Section 11 - Budget and Funding

Q26. Budget

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





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

- [Budget template for projects under £100k](#)
- [Budget template for projects over £100k](#)

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

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

Please note the next section is about the financial aspects of your project, rather than technical elements.

 [BCF Budget Zamin Foundation 06 11 22](#)
 07/11/2022
 23:46:41
 xlsx 88.09 KB

Q27. Funding

Q27a. Is this a new initiative or does it build on existing work (delivered by anyone and funded through any source)? Please give details.

New Initiative

Please give details.

Reflection upon the past and present similar activities. The desert and semi-desert afforestation in China, India, African continent, Israel, and the dried Aral Sea bottom forestation in Uzbekistan have certain similarities in that they rely on both natural precipitation and artesian wells, which supply ground water with capillary irrigation using water saving technologies. It is not uncommon to use atmospheric water condensation units as well as hydrogel added to the soil to absorb precipitation and release water when it is most needed. Plantation of tree saplings and aerial plantation of seedballs are the techniques successfully implemented in Africa, India, China, and other places, which were also applied in the afforestation of the dried bottom of the Aral Sea, now called Aralkum, the newest of the 25 deserts of Central Asia. In fact, aerial seedball plantation was by far the most effective technique used in the Aralkum forestation project in the locations, which are out of the reach of communities, far from towns and

villages. This experience is well documented by the Research Institute of Forestry of Uzbekistan and was publicized in the mass media of Uzbekistan on a few occasions. Alley cropping of bee friendly crops is also piloted in

Q27b. Are you aware of any current or future plans for similar work to the proposed project?

No

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.

Laptops [REDACTED]

Laser printers [REDACTED]

Q29. 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).

This is probably the highest value for money in tree planting projects.

Section 12 - Outputs, Open Access, Ethics & Safeguarding

Q30. Safeguarding

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

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

We have a safeguarding policy, which includes a statement of our commitment to safeguarding and a zero tolerance statement on bullying, harassment and sexual exploitation and abuse	Checked
We have attached a copy of our safeguarding policy to this application	Checked
We keep a detailed register of safeguarding issues raised and how they were dealt with	Checked
We have clear investigation and disciplinary procedures to use when allegations and complaints are made, and have clear processes in place for when a disclosure is made	Checked
We share our safeguarding policy with all partners	Checked

We have a whistle-blowing policy which protects whistle blowers from reprisals and includes clear processes for dealing with concerns raised Checked

We have a Code of Conduct in place for staff and volunteers that sets out clear expectations of behaviours -- inside and outside the work place – and make clear what will happen in the event of non-compliance or breach of these standards Unchecked

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

Zamin Foundation has a Safeguarding Policy.

Q31. Ethics

Outline your approach to meeting the key principles of good ethical practice, as outlined in the guidance.

The aim of the Zamin International Public Foundation’s organization safeguarding policy is to provide an environment where all can work safely. We will take every reasonable step to minimise risk while providing demanding and enjoyable teamwork while performing charitable activities, programme development, project management, awareness raising, and training activities at our own premises and the premises of our partners and beneficiaries.

Section 13 - FCDO Notifications

Q32. FCDO notifications

Please state if you think that there are sensitivities that the Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office will need to be aware of should they want to publicise the project’s success in the Darwin Initiative in any country.

Yes

Please indicate whether you have contacted FCDO Embassy or High Commission to discuss the project and attach details of any advice you have received from them. If you have not, please say why not.

No

Why not?

We intend to contact the FCDO Embassy in Tashkent once we win a grant competition.

Section 14 - Project Staff

Q33. Project staff

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

be working on the project.

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





Name (First name, surname)	Role	% time on project	1 Page CV or job description attached?
Tamila Alieva	Project Leader	80	Checked
Zinoviy Novitsky	Permaculture Trainer	80	Checked
Eshdovlat Suvonov	Silk Cocoon Production Trainer	80	Checked
Vadim Sokolov	Irrigation Specialist Trainer	80	Checked

Do you require more fields?

No

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

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

 [Zamin Foundation Resumes 06 11 22 Innovati on](#)
 07/11/2022
 23:57:13
 pdf 150.97 KB

Have you attached all project staff CVs?

Yes

Section 15 - Project Partners

Q34. Project Partners

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

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

The partners listed here should correspond to the Delivery Chain Risk Map (within the Risk Register template) which you will be asked to submit if your project is recommended for funding.

Lead Partner name: Zamin International Public Foundation


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

Why is this organisation the Lead Partner, and what value to they bring to the project?

Zamin Foundation is nation-wide NGO, very influential and experienced in building social partnership between communities, civil society and government.

(including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):

International/In-country Partner In-country

Allocated budget (proportion or value): 


Represented on the Project Board Yes


Have you included a Letter of Support from the organisation? Yes


Do you have partners involved in the project?


No

Please provide a combined PDF of all letters of support.

 [Cover Letter to Darwin Innovation from Zamin Foundation](#)

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 00:24:39

 pdf 68.84 KB

Section 16 - Lead Partner Track Record

Q35. Lead Partner Capability and Capacity

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

No

Please provide the below information on the Lead Partner.

What year was your organisation established/ incorporated/ registered?

01 January 2020

What is the legal status of your organisation?

NGO

Other explained

No Response

How is your organisation currently funded?

national and international donors, private donations

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

Aims

Our main goal is to promote the sustainable development of the country and improve the living standards of the population.

Activities

Zamin Foundation focuses on long-term, strategic, and sustainable projects by supporting:

- environmental protection;
- projects to monitor air pollution, restore soil and ensure access to drinking water;
- innovative developments and financing projects in the social sphere;
- improved living and learning conditions for children with a hearing impairment.

Achievements

2000 children with hearing impairments received 2 hearing kits each. At least 8 specialised schools have been equipped with new assistive technologies. Cochlear implanting operations helped hundreds of children to recover hearing ability. 15, 000 schoolchildren and 1,500 teachers environmental awareness programmes in Eco-Schools. 5 ha of degraded land ameliorated.

Provide detail of 3 contracts/projects held by the Lead Partner that demonstrate your credibility as an organisation and provide track record relevant to the project proposed. These contracts/awards should have been held in the last 5 years and be of a similar size to the grant requested in your

application.

Contract/Project 1

Title "Fertile Earth"

Contract value/Project budget (include currency) [REDACTED]

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

Role of organisation in project Lead partner

Brief summary of the aims, objectives and outcomes of the project "Fertile Earth" sustainable farming pilot project in Qashqadarya region with EU and World Bank on introduction of new water-, energy- and soil-saving technologies.

Client/independent reference contact details (Name, e-mail) Ms. Tatyana Yugai, Landscape Design Association; +998901879125; ECO-Ali.uz@yandex.ru

Contract/Project 2

Title Clean Water

Contract value/Project budget (include currency) [REDACTED]

Duration (e.g. 2 years, 3 months) 1 year

Role of organisation in project Lead partner

Brief summary of the aims, objectives and outcomes of the project 16 schools in the Bukhara region were provided with clean drinking water – a joint project of the Zamin Foundation, "UzSuvTaminot" Ministry of Water Resources, and UNICEF.

Client/independent reference contact details (Name, e-mail) Khamit Kadirbekov, Social Entrepreneur, kadirbekov@gmail.com; tel.:+998901860287

Contract/Project 3 Title treatment and rehabilitation of people with hearing impairments over 5 years old

Contract value/Project budget (include currency) [REDACTED]

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

Role of organisation in project Lead partner

Brief summary of the aims, objectives and outcomes of the project Within the framework of the project of the Zamin Foundation and RSSPMC Pediatrics "Program for the treatment and rehabilitation of people with hearing impairments over 5 years old", 45 operations are planned in 2022, including 39 for cochlear implantation and 6 for bone conduction, which will be performed by the world's leading otosurgeons (surgery to the (middle and inner) ear).

Client/independent reference contact details (Name, e-mail) Ms. Nazifa Kamalova, NGO Istiqlol Avlodi, +998915648181; email: djizzak2013@gmail.com

Have you provided the requested signed audited/independently examined accounts?

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

No

If no, please provide details

in progress

Section 17 - Certification

Q36. Certification

On behalf of the

Trustees

of

Zamin International Public Foundation

I apply for a grant of

[REDACTED]

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 Policy and project implementation timetable.
- Our last two sets of signed audited/independently verified accounts and annual report (or other financial evidence - see Financial Guidance) are also enclosed.





Checked

Name	Svetlana Rakhimova
Position in the organisation	Communications Consultant
Signature (please upload e-signature)	 Signature  08/11/2022  00:04:42  jpg 9.09 KB
Date	07 November 2022

Please attach the requested signed audited/independently examined accounts.

No Response

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

 [Zamin Foundation Safeguarding Policy](#)
 08/11/2022
 00:05:22
 pdf 189.17 KB

Section 18 - Submission Checklist

Checklist for submission

- | | |
|---|---------|
| I have read the Guidance, including the "Guidance Notes for Applicants", "Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning 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 my project. | Checked |

I have provided my budget based on UK government financial years i.e. 1 April – 31 March and in GBP.	Checked
I have checked that the budget is complete, correctly adds up and I have included the correct final total at the start of the application.	Checked
The application has been signed by a suitably authorised individual (clear electronic or scanned signatures are acceptable).	Checked
I have attached the below documents to my application:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • my completed logframe as a PDF using the template provided 	Checked
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • my 1 page Theory of Change as a PDF which includes the key elements listed in the guidance 	Checked
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • my budget (which meets the requirements above) 	Checked
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • my completed implementation timetable as a PDF using the template provided 	Checked
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 page CV or job description for all the Project Staff identified at Question 32, including the Project Leader, or provided an explanation of why not. 	Checked
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a letter of support from the Lead Partner and partner(s) identified at Question 33, or an explanation of why not. 	Checked
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a cover letter from the Lead Partner, outlining how any feedback received at Stage 1 has been addressed where relevant. 	Checked
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a copy of the Lead Partner’s safeguarding policy, which covers the criteria listed in Question 29. 	Checked
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a signed copy of the last 2 annual report and accounts for the Lead Partner, or provided an explanation if not. 	Checked
(If copying and pasting into Flexi-Grant) I have checked that all my responses have been successfully copied into the online application form.	Checked
I have been in contact with the FCDO in the project country(ies) and have included any evidence of this. If not, I have provided an explanation of why not.	Checked
I have checked the Darwin website immediately prior to submission to ensure there are no late updates.	Checked
I have read and understood the Privacy Notice on the Darwin Initiative website.	Checked

We would like to keep in touch!

Please check this box if you would be happy for the lead applicant (Flexi-Grant Account Holder) and

project leader (if different) to be added to our mailing list. Through our mailing list we share updates on upcoming and current application rounds under the Darwin Initiative and our sister grant scheme, the IWT Challenge Fund. We also provide occasional updates on other UK Government activities related to biodiversity conservation and share our quarterly project newsletter. You are free to unsubscribe at any time.

Checked

Data protection and use of personal data

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

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

Project Title: *Forestation, biodiversity restoration, and poverty reduction in semi-deserts and deserts of the Syrdarya region of Uzbekistan.*

Guidance – please delete before submitting

to describe the intended workplan for your project. Quarters are based on UK FYs (1 April – 31 March - Q1 therefore starts April 2023).

Please add/remove columns to reflect the length of your project. For each activity (add/remove rows as appropriate) indicate the number of months it will last, and shade only the quarters in which an activity will be carried out. The activity numbers should correspond to the activities in your logical framework (logframe). The workplan can span multiple pages if necessary.

This template covers multiple Biodiversity Challenge Funds schemes, so ensure you check the eligible dates/project length for the scheme you are applying to and feel free to delete later years if not applicable for your project.

	Activity	No. of months	Year 1 (23/24)			Year 2 (24/25)				Year 3 (25/26)				Year 4 (26/27)				Year 5 (27/28)			
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q1	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3
Output 1.	Project inception. 500 volunteers (1 person per family) with youth, women, men of different age groups trained in zia pits and swale building, permaculture methods including tree seed collection, seed ball manufacturing, growing tree seedlings and saplings from tree cuttings, planting and taking care of planted trees, cocoon production. Between 875,000 and 1,000,000 trees planted with seeds, seedlings, and saplings.	3	1																		
1.1.	Project team trained in project management.	1																			

Project Title: *Forestation, biodiversity restoration, and poverty reduction in semi-deserts and deserts of the Syrdarya region of Uzbekistan.*

	Activity	No. of months	Year 1 (23/24)				Year 2 (24/25)				Year 3 (25/26)				Year 4 (26/27)				Year 5 (27/28)			
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
1.2.	Setting up project steering committee consisting of project partners: State Committee for Forestry, Ministry of Water Resources, Farmers Association, State Committee for Environment, Ministry of Mahalla and regular quarterly meetings.	21																				
1.3.	Training of Trainers for training programmes in (1), permaculture and tree propagation skills, (2) cocoon production skills, (3) home-based income generation and setting up community-based cooperatives. Development of training materials in partnership with the Scientific Research Institute of Forestry	1																				
1.4	2-day Training Programmes in (1) zia pit and swale building, permaculture and tree propagation skills, (2) cocoon production skills, (3) home-based income generation and setting up community-based cooperatives. Formation of groups with the help of the local department of the Ministry of Mahalla in 10 communities, where on average 50 persons will be trained. Sign-up of trainees and their allocation to	2																				

Project Title: *Forestation, biodiversity restoration, and poverty reduction in semi-deserts and deserts of the Syrdarya region of Uzbekistan.*

	Activity	No. of months	Year 1 (23/24)				Year 2 (24/25)				Year 3 (25/26)				Year 4 (26/27)				Year 5 (27/28)			
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
	groups of 25 persons. 2 groups in each community/location. Preparation of premises with the help of community leaders in 10 communities. 500 youth, women, men from vulnerable communities trained in total.																					
1.5	Organizing and conducting seed collection, production of seedballs, seedlings, saplings. Procurement of humus, other materials, and tools. Procurement of seeds, tree cuttings if not enough seeds or tree cuttings can be procured locally – in partnership with the Forestry Committee	21																				
1.6	Digging shallow swales for seasonal water retention and forest fire prevention. Preparation of the soil and zia pits for planting trees and other vegetation. Planting trees and other vegetation, looking after them. Harvesting mulberry leaves for silk cocoon forage. Creating tree nurseries, practising permaculture skills.	4																				
1.7	M&E	3																				

Project Title: *Forestation, biodiversity restoration, and poverty reduction in semi-deserts and deserts of the Syrdarya region of Uzbekistan.*

	Activity	No. of months	Year 1 (23/24)				Year 2 (24/25)				Year 3 (25/26)				Year 4 (26/27)				Year 5 (27/28)			
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Output 2	500 families with trained family members in 10 communities conduct the first season of tree propagation of mulberry tree saplings grown from cuttings of the procured mulberry forage branches.	7																				
2.4	Tree saplings grown for planting. Tree saplings planted and looked after by the communities																					
2.5	M&E																					
Output 3	Knowledge base building. Communication campaign																					
3.1	Collect feedback from beneficiaries, course participants, collect and prepare real-life cases and lessons learnt for knowledge sharing.																					
3.2	Organize and maintain telegram channels for communication and coordination of project participants: 1) Project team 2) Trainers 3) Group leaders																					

Project Title: *Forestation, biodiversity restoration, and poverty reduction in semi-deserts and deserts of the Syrdarya region of Uzbekistan.*

	Activity	No. of months	Year 1 (23/24)				Year 2 (24/25)				Year 3 (25/26)				Year 4 (26/27)				Year 5 (27/28)			
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
3.3	Social media coverage: regular updates on the Zamin Foundation page and special page of the project. Press releases, publications in mass media.																					
3.4	Communication with the British Embassy – on the quarterly basis.																					
3.5	Creation and maintenance of the interactive webpage on the Zamin Foundation website on the project progress and tree planting. The website will be used for the current and future tree-planting for public monitoring of the condition of newly planted forests.																					
3.6	Multi-lateral community dialogues on the project progress and dissemination of the newly acquired knowledge and skills and way forward.																					
3.7	M&E																					
	Independent Final Evaluation																					
	Annual independent examination/audit of funds																					
	Open access publishing about project impact, lessons learnt beyond the close of project.																					

Project Title: Science communication and community mobilisation for forestation and poverty reduction.

Project Summary	SMART Indicators	Means of Verification	Important Assumptions
Impact: Poverty reduction through science communication, community mobilisation, forestation in semi-arid areas of Syrdarya region of Uzbekistan. (Max 30 words)			
Outcome: (Max 30 words) Poverty reduction	0.1 At least 500 households trained in silk cocoon production, tree propagation and permaculture skills, and participate in planting and looking after the trees. 0.2 At least 500 households set up tree nurseries and permaculture farmsteads. 0.3 At least 500 households produce silk cocoons and sell them to the textile manufacturing factories. 0.4 By the end of the project, between 875,000 and 1,000,000 new young endemic deciduous trees grown including mulberry trees, which produce forage for the silk cocoon industry. 0.5 At least 500 home-based self-employed persons and/or informal seasonal entrepreneurs are registered.	0.1 Progress reports. Qualitative and quantitative disaggregated M&E data on the number of trained beneficiaries participating in productive home-based self-employment 0.2 Progress report reveals behavioural and attitudinal change in communities. 0.3 Beneficiaries' report on the count and condition of plants. 0.4 Progress reports reflect the number of home-based, farm-based entrepreneurs, the number of cooperatives created by the new entrepreneurs for sustainable poverty reduction and community mobilisation effort.	Local economic development authorities understand that there is a strong need to develop silk cocoon industry in Uzbekistan, while the mulberry tree population, which provides forage for silkworms is rather scarce. Due to low income, there will be a sufficient number of households eager to participate in the project activity to improve their financial situation and acquire transferable soft skills.
Outputs: 1. Households trained in zia pits and swale creation, tree propagation, silk cocoon production, and setting up home-	1.1 In the 1 st quarter of the project, at least 500 households trained in irrigation technique 1.2 In the 1 st quarter of the project, 500 households engage	1.1 Progress reports. 1.2 Workshop feedback reports Etc.	

Project Title: Science communication and community mobilisation for forestation and poverty reduction.

<p>based entrepreneurship and cooperatives.</p>	<p>in tree propagation and silk cocoon production skills learning. 1.3. In the 1st quarter of the project, at least 500 households trained in setting up home-based entrepreneurship and cooperatives. At least 100 tree nurseries are set up. Etc.</p>		
<p>Activities (each activity is numbered according to the output that it will contribute towards, for example 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 are contributing to Output 1. Each activity should start on a new line and be no more than approximately 25 words.)</p> <p>1.1 Project inception.</p> <p>1.3. Project team trained in project management.</p> <p>1.4 Setting up project steering committee consisting of project partners: State Committee for Forestry, Ministry of Water Resources, Farmers Association, State Committee for Environment, Ministry of Mahalla and regular quarterly meetings.</p> <p>1.5 Project launch conference</p> <p>1.6 Training of Trainers for training programmes in (1) permaculture and tree propagation skills, (2) cocoon production skills, (3) home-based income generation and setting up community-based cooperatives.</p> <p>1.7 Development of training materials in partnership with the Scientific Research Institute of Forestry</p> <p>1.8 2-day Training Programmes in (1) permaculture and tree propagation skills, (2) cocoon production skills, (3) home-based income generation skills and setting up community-based cooperatives.</p> <p>1.9 Formation of groups with the help of the local department of the Ministry of Mahalla in 10 communities, where on average 50 persons will be trained. Sign-up of trainees and their allocation to groups of 25 persons. 2 groups in each community/location.</p> <p>1.10 Preparation of premises with the help of community leaders in 10 communities. 500 youth, women, men from vulnerable communities trained in total.</p>			

Project Title: Science communication and community mobilisation for forestation and poverty reduction.

<p>1.11 Organizing and conducting seed collection, production of seedballs, seedlings, saplings, propagation of seedlings from seeds and saplings from tree cuttings.</p> <p>1.12 Procurement of humus, other materials, and tools. Procurement of seeds, tree cuttings if not enough seeds or tree cuttings can be procured locally – in partnership with the Forestry Committee</p> <p>1.13 Digging shallow swales for seasonal water retention and forest fire prevention. Preparation of the soil for planting trees and other vegetation. Planting trees and other vegetation, looking after them. Creating tree nurseries, practising permaculture skills.</p>			
<p>Outcome: (Max 30 words)</p> <p>2. Climate change mitigation through endemic forestation and biodiversity restoration</p>	<p>0.1 Windbreaker forest strip planted and grown 175 km long, 10 m wide.</p> <p>0.2 Etc.</p>	<p>0.1 By the end of the project, communities report a more agreeable micro-climate and biodiversity –birds, insects, small animals making home in the new forests.</p> <p>0.2 Etc.</p>	<p>Creating mulberry forests or gardens along with other endemic deciduous trees will mitigate climate change</p>
<p>Outcome: (Max 30 words)</p> <p>3. Changes in behaviour, attitudes, perception of biodiversity-poverty nexus, sustainable knowledge, skills, and behaviors as a result of the project.</p>	<p>0.1 0.2 Etc.</p>	<p>0.1 0.2 Etc.</p>	
<p>Outputs:</p> <p>3. 500 families with previously trained family members in 10 communities engage in tree propagation of mulberry tree</p>	<p>1.1 875 000 to 1 million trees planted first year</p> <p>1.2 Depending on the condition of the saplings, new ones are planted to replace the dead ones.</p> <p>Etc.</p>	<p>1.1 Progress report</p> <p>1.2 Field visits, visits to households</p> <p>1.3 Collection of field reports from households</p>	

Project Title: Science communication and community mobilisation for forestation and poverty reduction.

saplings grown from cuttings of the procured mulberry branches.			
Outcome: (Max 30 words) 4. The awareness of communities and people of Uzbekistan raised on biodiversity-poverty nexus, income generation from forestation and climate change mitigation.	0.1 Workshop feedback collected from each workshop, analysed, reports compiled, case-studies, lessons learnt formulated and social media, at least 10 mass media publications prepared. 0.2 Three group chats/TG/or channels created with discussion functions. 0.3 Etc.	0.1 0.2 Etc.	
Outputs: 1. Knowledge base built and communication campaign raised communities' awareness of climate change mitigation, biodiversity, and poverty reduction.	1.1 1.2 Etc.	1.1 1.2 Etc.	
Activities: 4.1 Collect feedback from beneficiaries, course participants, collect and prepare stories, real-life cases and lessons learnt for knowledge sharing. 4.2 Organize and maintain telegram chats for communication and coordination of project participants: 1) Project team 2) Trainers 3) Community group leaders 4.3 Social media coverage: regular updates on the Zamin Foundation page and special page of the project. Press releases, publications in mass media. 4.4 Communication with the British Embassy – on the quarterly basis.			

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4.5 Creation and maintenance of the interactive website on the project progress and tree planting. The website will be used for the current and future tree-planting for public monitoring of the condition of newly planted forests.

4.6 Multilateral community dialogues on the project progress and dissemination of the newly acquired knowledge and skills and way forward.

4.7. M&E

4.8 Independent Final Evaluation

4.9 Annual independent examination/audit of funds

4.10 Open access publishing about project impact, lessons learnt beyond the close of project.