Darwin Plus: Overseas Territories Environment and Climate Fund
Project Application Form

Submit by **2359 GMT Monday 29 August 2016**

Please read the Guidance before completing this form.
Information to be extracted to the database is highlighted blue. Blank cells may render your application ineligible

Basic Data

1. Project Title (max 10 words)	**Oceanographic influences on the St Helena pelagic ecosystem**		
2. UK OT(s) involved	St Helena	**Letter of support from OT government attached?**	Yes
3. Start Date:	1st July 2017		
4. End Date:	30th June 2019		
5. Duration of project (no longer than 36 months)	24 months		

Summary of Costs	**2017/18**	**2018/19**	**2019/20**	**Total**
6. Budget requested from Darwin	£112,896	£103,744	£31,298	£247,938
7. Total value of matched funding	£19,718	£30,825	£7,706	£58,249
8. Total Project Budget (all funders)	£132,614	£134,569	£39,004	£306,187
9. Names of Co-funders	St Helena Government (SHG), British Antarctic Survey (BAS), South Atlantic Environmental Research Institute (SAERI)			

10. Name, address and contact details of lead applicant organisation (responsible for delivering outputs, reporting and managing funds)*	Environment and Natural Resources Directorate, St Helena Government, St. Helena Island, SAO, STHL 1ZZ.

* Notification of results will be by email to the Project Leader named in Question 12

11. Type of organisation of Lead applicant. Place an x in the relevant box.													
OT GOVT	X	UK GOVT		UK NGO		Local NGO		International NGO		Commercial Company		Other (e.g. Academic)	

12. Partners in project. Please provide details of the partners in this project and provide a CV for the individuals listed. You may copy and paste this table if necessary

Details	Project Leader	Project Partner 1	Project Partner 2
Surname	**Clingham**	**Thorpe**	**Phillips**
Forename(s)	**Elizabeth**	**Sally**	**Richard**
Post held	**Marine Conservation Officer**	**Ecosystem Modeller**	**Seabird Ecologist**
Institution (if different to above)	**St Helena Government**	**British Antarctic Survey**	**British Antarctic Survey**
Department	**Environment and Natural Resources Directorate**	**Ecosystems**	**Ecosystems**
Telephone/Skype			
Email			
Details	**Project Partner 3**	**Project Partner 4**	**Project Partner 5**
Surname	**Brickle**		
Forename(s)	**Paul**		
Post held	**Director**		
Institution (if different to above)	**South Atlantic Environmental Research Institute (SAERI**		
Telephone/Skype			
Email			

13. Has your organisation been awarded Darwin Initiative funding before (for the purposes of this question, being a partner does not count**)? If yes, please provide details of the most recent awards (up to 6 examples).**

Reference No	Project Leader	Title
DPLUS039	**Elizabeth Clingham**	**Sustainable development and management of St Helena's fisheries and marine tourism**
DPLUS020	**Isabel Peters**	**St. Helena baseline assessment: A foundation for effective environmental management**
DPLUS024	**Shayla Ellick**	**Darwin Fellowship – MRes Carbon sequestration in community forests, St Helena**
DPLUS029	**Lourens Malan**	**Securing St Helena's rare cloud forest trees and associated invertebrates**
19-031	**Tony Weighill**	**Mapping St Helena's marine biodiversity to create a Marine Management Plan**

14. If your answer to Q13 was No, provide details of 3 contracts previously held by your institution that demonstrate your credibility as an implementing organisation. These contracts should have been held in the last 5 years and be of a similar size to the grant requested in this application. (If your answer to Q13 was Yes, you may delete these boxes, but please leave Q14)

15. Key Project personnel

Please identify the key project personnel on this project, their role and what % of their time they will be working on the project. Please provide 1 page CVs for these staff, or a 1 page job description or Terms of Reference for roles yet to be filled. Please include more rows where necessary.

Name (First name, surname)	Role	Organisation	% time on project	1 page CV or job description attached?
Elizabeth Clingham	Project Leader	ENRD, St Helena Govt.	70%	Yes
Vacant	Project officer	ENRD, St Helena Govt.	100%	Yes
Vacant	Fieldworker and data clerk	ENRD, St Helena Govt.	50%	Yes
Annalea Beard	Marine conservation Assistant/Seabird project lead	ENRD, St Helena Govt.	50%	Yes
Sally Thorpe	Oceanographic support	BAS	15%	Yes
Richard Phillips	Seabird tracking & foraging support	BAS	5%	Yes
Paul Brickle	Project steering	SAERI	2%	Yes
Ilaria Marengo	GIS and database	SAERI	5%	No
Rachael Shreeve	Zooplankton analysis and training	Consultant	10%	Yes

Project Details

16. Project Outcome Statement: Describe what the project aims to achieve and what will change as a result. (30 words max). You can copy and paste from Q26.

Establish a basic understanding of the seasonal operation of pelagic ecosystem that underpins St Helena's fisheries and tourism industries and evaluate how oceanography influences that system.

17. Background: (What is the current situation and the problem that the project will address? How will it address this problem? What key OT Government priorities and themes will it address? (200 words max)

St Helena is an isolated oceanic island in the South Atlantic. The island, together with two major seamounts in the 200 nm maritime zone, provides oases in an otherwise oligotrophic region. These oases attract globally important megafauna, such as whale sharks, humpback whales and migratory tunas, whilst the island itself is home to a range of breeding seabirds.

To date research has been undertaken on the whale sharks, seabirds and tunas, but little has been done to investigate the pelagic ecosystem that supports them or understand the role of the island and seamounts in enhancing productivity.

As part of the blue-belt initiative, St Helena is planning to declare a Category VI Sustainable use MPA in the entire maritime zone in early 2017. A key-part of ensuring sustainability is to understand the pelagic ecosystem and how seasonal or long-term changes in that system will impact the abundance and distribution of the whale sharks and fish on which the economy of the island depends.

This project will address key priorities for DP Round 5, including (i) improving conservation and management of the marine environment; (ii) developing ecosystem approaches to marine management, (iii) promoting sustainable fisheries; and (iv) developing data systems on biodiversity.

18. Methodology: Describe the methods and approach you will use to achieve your intended outcomes and impact. Provide information on how you will undertake the work (materials and methods) and how you will manage the work (roles and responsibilities, project management tools etc). Give details of any innovative techniques or methods. (500 words max)

We propose to use remotely sensed and field data to investigate the oceanography and the pelagic ecosystem of the waters around St Helena to investigate direct and indirect links to the abundance and distribution of key megafuana.

Remotely sensed data will be obtained from the EU Copernicus Marine Environment Monitoring Service and NASA amongst others to provide a regional context to the marine environment at St Helena and will include:

(i) Sea-surface temperature (OSTIA daily mean and monthly mean, near real-time data)
(ii) Sea-surface height
(iii) Ocean colour (Chlorophyll; 4 km resolution, near real-time data)

The long period of data availability will allow assessment of the seasonal and longer-term trends in the physical marine environment.

A monthly sampling programme will be established to collect temperature and salinity data from six locations on the shelf edge around St Helena (Fig. 1) to characterise the sub-surface ocean. A conductivity-temperature depth probe (CTD, Valeport mini) will be deployed to 500 m at each location. Zooplankton samples will be collected using a 1 m 250 um net towed in the upper 100 m close to dawn and dusk at three locations on the leeward (NW) side of the island. The selected locations are in deep water (> 200 m) and close to traditional tuna fishing grounds. Additional locations may be added to coincide with seabird foraging locations or significant fish aggregations.

Zooplankton will be preserved in buffered saline formalin and will be analysed microscopically to determine the most abundant species (> 5% by number or mass). An identification guide will be developed for the principal zooplankton species and, once worked up, samples and specimens will be offered to the Natural History Museum in London.

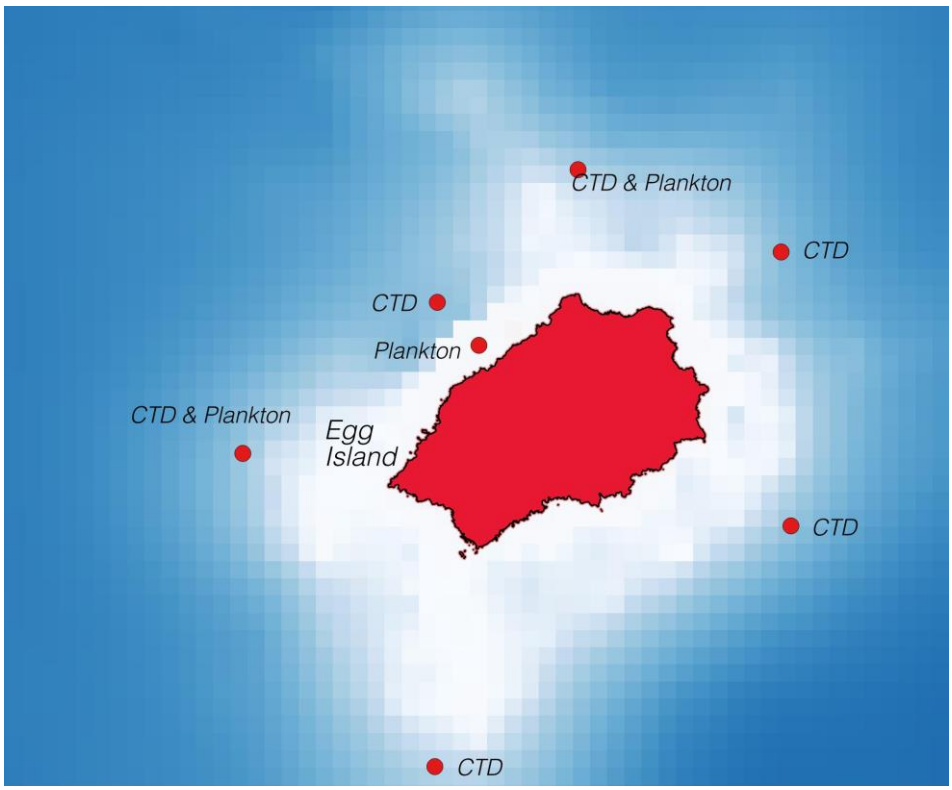
Monthly sampling of bait-fish species (*Scomber japonicus*, *Decapterus spp.* and *Selar crumophthalmolicus*) will be undertaken to determine seasonal abundance and diet. These species will be

collected by fishermen during bait fishing. A minimum of 200 will be collected each month, ideally with 100 from each species present. Length, sex and reproductive condition will be determined and stomachs frozen for later microscopic analysis.

Using cutting-edge geographical positioning system (GPS) and global location sensing (GLS), we will examine the distribution and at-sea activity of Madeiran storm petrels (*Oceanodroma castro*) (MSP); a previously untracked species and brown noddies (*Anous stolidus*) (BRN) in the South Atlantic. Ground nesting BRN and MSP breeding in the artificial nest chamber network will be targeted on Egg Island; an accessible small offshore island. 40 GPS (Pathtrack nanofix and miniR+8) and 20 GLS (Migrate Technology) will be deployed onto breeding and non-breeding birds through two seasons. During fieldwork spontaneous regurgitates from handled birds will be collected and identified to the species level. This will enable diet composition and abundance of dominant prey species to be identified.

A database and GIS system will collate all the data, including additional data on abundance and distribution of whales, whale sharks and tuna. This will facilitate evaluation of direct and indirect links between oceanography and distribution of key species.

Figure 1. Sampling locations



19. How does this project:
a) Deliver against the priority issues identified in the assessment criteria
b) Demonstrate technical excellence in its delivery
c) Demonstrate a clear pathway to impact in the OT(s)
(500 words max)

The project will deliver against four of the priority areas in the assessment criteria:

(i) *Improving the conservation, protection or management of the marine environment around the UK OTs.* The project will help understand the pelagic ecosystem that underpins the marine environment of St Helena, which will contribute to the local management of fish stocks and facilitate better management of the marine environment.

(ii) *Developing ecosystem-based initiatives for the conservation and sustainable use of the terrestrial and marine environments.* This represents the first attempt to understand the marine environment that underpins fisheries and marine tourism in order to establish a more ecosystem-based approach to marine and fisheries management.

(iii) *Promoting sustainable fisheries within the UK Overseas Territories.* The pelagic ecosystem is key to the St Helena tuna fishery in a number of ways. It supports both the baitfish fishery and the tuna themselves. Understanding the structure and variability of the system will help facilitate better management.

(iv) *Developing data systems on biodiversity to help develop policies and management plans.* The project will develop database and GIS systems to quantify and map the pelagic biodiversity and use that information to inform management decisions and policies.

Technical Excellence:

The project will bring together the technical expertise of British Antarctic Survey staff with important questions for St Helena. BAS staff will advise, mentor and train St Helena Marine Section staff in new methods of data collection and analysis to ensure high quality outputs and ensure the project has a long-term legacy.

Pathway to impact:

Individuals and institutions with large amounts of experience and expertise in conducting high quality pelagic ecosystem research and conservation science have formed a partnership to deliver this project.

The project will deliver key baseline data on the pelagic ecosystem around St Helena needed for gauging future change and effective fisheries and marine management. Fishing is an important recreational and commercial activity on St Helena, so evidence-based decision-making will contribute significantly towards sustainable local economic development.

It will leave a significant legacy in terms of local capacity, data management systems and national governance to be sustained long after the project.

20. Who are the **stakeholders** for this project and how have they been consulted (include local or host government support/engagement where relevant)? Briefly describe what support they will provide and how the project will engage with them. (250 words max)

This project has been formulated directly as a result of research priorities identified in the St Helena Marine Management Plan (MMP), which has been subject to recent public / stakeholder consultation and will underpin the declaration of a Category VI MPA in St Helena's 200 nautical mile zone in early 2017.

The MMP outlines a range of policies and strategies, designed to ensure the long-term sustainable management of the St Helena maritime zone. All key stakeholders, including fishing industry, marine tourism and both local and international NGOs provided comments on the draft plan and recognise the importance of managing the marine environment.

The plan, which has been revised following the consultation, recognises that recent work has greatly enhanced scientific knowledge of the inshore benthic fauna and, more recently, the biology of the exploited fish. However, the near-shore benthic area is a tiny fraction of the St Helena maritime zone and that zone is highly dependent on the pelagic ecosystem, about which very little is known.

The active engagement of St Helena's local stakeholders is essential to the success of the project and this will be achieved by involving fishermen and marine tour operators in practical aspects of the work. Project staff will also regularly brief the Fishermen's Association and Marine Tourism operators and visiting scientists will give public presentations on their work and it's significance to St Helena. Local dissemination will be enhanced through regular articles in the local newspapers, radio interviews and web and Facebook pages.

21. Institutional Capacity: Describe the implementing organisation's capacity (and that of partner organisations where relevant) to deliver the project.
(500 words max)

St Helena Government Environmental and Natural Resources Directorate (**ENRD)**
ENRD is responsible for environmental management for St Helena Government. The ENRD is divided into two divisions and the Marine Section form part of the Environmental Management Division. Marine Section staff has been involved in previous Darwin Plus projects, including DPLUS039 and the earlier project to "Mapping St Helena's biodiversity to create a Marine Management Plan".

In kind staff time will be provided by:

- Three Marine Conservation Staff
- Administrative, IT, HR and logistical infrastructure

This section leads through creation and implementation of policy and regulation, and provides advice, underpinned by clear, transparent, evidence-based research.

British Antarctic Survey
BAS is one of the six research centres of the Natural Environment Research Council and is the leading UK institute for research into polar environments. With a staff of over 500 and a budget of over £50 million per annum, it is one of the foremost international practitioners in this field. Currently BAS science is organised into six research programmes within the strategic framework, Polar Science for Planet Earth. The Ecosystems programme involves 40 staff members and was built on expertise and experience developed over several decades. At the highest level, the programme is designed to deliver integrated, inter-disciplinary research, monitoring and survey. By focusing on critical science problems, including the abilities of species and ecosystems to adapt to long-term change, and the impacts of climate variability and harvesting, the programme seeks to improve our understanding of fundamental environmental issues. In addition, the science provides important inputs for national and international policy makers.

South Atlantic Environmental Research Institute (SAERI)

SAERI is a Falkland Islands initiative. It aspires to be a world renowned, well branded environmental research institute. SAERI has the infrastructure and capacity to conduct environmental research throughout the South Atlantic from the equator to the Antarctic. SAERI's director is an established marine scientist with many years' experience managing and co-ordinating multi institutional research projects. SAERI has expertise in marine biodiversity, fisheries, GIS and geospatial statistics, marine spatial planning and the evaluation of ecosystems services. It also has a wide network of collaborating intuitions from which to draw expertise.

APPLICANTS SEEKING £100,000 OR OVER CAN PROCEED TO QUESTION 26

APPLICANTS SEEKING LESS THAN £100,000 ARE NOT REQUIRED TO COMPLETE THE LOGICAL FRAMEWORK AT QUESTION 26 HOWEVER YOU MAY FIND IT A USEFUL EXERCISE TO HELP YOU STRENGTHEN YOUR PROJECT

26. LOGICAL FRAMEWORK

Darwin Plus projects will be required to report against their progress towards their expected outputs and outcome if funded. 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.

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
Impact: The St Helana marine ecosystem is sustainably managed, supporting key fishing and marine tourism industries. (Max 30 words)			
Outcome: Establish a basic understanding of the seasonal operation of pelagic ecosystem that underpins St Helena's fisheries and tourism industries and evaluate how oceanography influences that system.	0.1 St Helena's population, particularly fishing and marine sector, understand the significance of the ocean system that surrounds the island. 0.2 Management of the St Helena maritime zone utilises the greater understanding of the pelagic ecosystem developed in the project.	0.1 Records of newspaper articles, radio interviews, talks and presentations. 0.2 Revised Marine Management Plan includes consideration of pelagic system, with direct reference to this project.	
Outputs: **1**. Capacity building, with ENRD staff trained in oceanographic data collection methods, plankton sampling and data analysis.	1.1 St Helena staff able to operate CTD, and undertake basic data analysis independently 1.2 St Helena staff able to identify key plankton species in plankton samples and fish diets.	1.1. SHG staff training hours logged by BAS staff and independently collected data cross-checked. 1.2. As part of training process, SHG staff will undertake plankton ID tests. Sub-set of subsequent samples will be checked by consultant.	1.1 Travel arrangements for BAS staff and consultants can be organised for appropriate time.
2. Characterisation of seasonal patterns in physical and biological oceanography and the role of the island / seamounts in enhancing productivity.	2.1. Report published on SHG website 2.2. Paper published in peer review journal	2.1. Report available on SHG / project website. 2.2. Paper submitted to peer review journal; paper published.	2.1. CTD has no technical issues. As equipment failure (e.g. CTD) could take a while to repair / replace.

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
3. Characterisation of seasonal patterns in zoolplankton abundance and biodiversity	3.1. St Helena zooplankton guide prepared. 3.2. Report on zooplankton diversity and abundance published on SHG website 3.3. Zooplankton seasonality paper prepared for peer-review journal.	3.1. Guide to be available via SHG and project websites. 3.2. Report published on SHG and project websites. 3.3. Paper submitted to journal; paper published	
4. Seasonal abundance, life history and feeding ecology of bait fish established.	4.1 Sampling programme established and data / stomachs collected and analysed. 4.2 Report on baitfish ecology published on SHG website. 4.3. Paper submitted to peer-reviewed journal.	4.1. Project meetings to verify status of sampling programme and ensure it is up to data. 4.2. Report available on SHG and project websites. 4.3 Paper submitted to journal; paper published	4.1 Fishermen assist with sample collection.
5. Long-term oceanographic and plankton monitoring programme established.	5.1. Long-term sampling programme manual prepared for implementation at the end of this project.	5.1. Sampling programme approved by ENRD and protocol published on website.	5.1. SHG are willing to fund / support monitoring programme.
6. Foraging ecology of two seabird species established and analysed with oceanographic data	6.1 40 GPS loggers and 20 GLS loggers deployed on breeding MSP and BRNs through two seasons on Egg Island 6.2 Diet compositions and, important prey constituents identified. 6.3 Analysis of foraging ecology data in relation to oceanographic parameters and authoritative scientific paper published	6.1 GPS loggers retrieved and maps produced and published online of at sea distribution and foraging range of breeding MSP and BRNs Spatial data added to global seabird tracking datasets online. 6.2 Prey species list and pie charts of diet compositions published online. 6.3 Publication of article in a peer reviewed journal	6.1. GPS loggers will be retained and retrieved from the seabirds. 6.2. Both species will regurgitate prey freely.

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
7. Database linked to GIS established for collation of oceanographic and biodiversity data.	7.1. Database and GIS established and made publicly available.	7.1 Database available via website for public access.	7.1. Appropriate web-based infrastructure to support public GIS and database.
8. Summary of seasonal patterns in the St Helena pelagic ecosystem prepared to inform review of Marine Management Plan and MPA	8.1. Summary report provided to SHG and paper prepared for peer-reviewed journal. 8.2 Documented public talks, newspaper articles, plus pamphlet produced.	8.1. Report to SHG for inclusion in review of Marine Management Plan. 8.2. Paper prepared for peer-review journal.	8.1. This will be final part of the project and potentially require input from scientists after the end of the funded period to finalise paper.

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)

1.1. St Helena staff will be trained to operate the CTD and to undertake basic analysis of oceanographic data (satellite and CTD).

1.2. St Helena staff will be trained to undertake plankton trawls and to identify and quantify catches.

2.1. Remote sensed data will be acquired and analysed to investigate the role of St Helena and the seamounts in influencing physical and biological oceanography.

2.2. CTD monthly sampling programme established and continues throughout the project.

2.3. CTD data will be analysed to ground truth remote sensed data and to determine seasonal and spatial variability in the depth of the mixed layer and water mass properties.

2.4. Oceanographic data will be summarised in a report for SHG and stakeholders and a paper prepared for submission to peer-review journal.

3.1. Zooplankton samples will be collected from 3 locations on a monthly basis (for 18 months).

3.2. Zooplankton guide prepared to help analyse plankton samples and fish stomach contents.

3.2. Zooplankton samples will be identified (focussing on most abundant species) and quantified to look at seasonal and spatial patterns.

3.3. Zooplankton analysed in relation to oceanographic data and report and paper prepared.

4.1. Sampling programme for bait-fish (*Decpaterus* spp., mackerel and scad) established with 200 fish sampled for length, sex and stage each month and stomachs retained from 50 fish per month.

4.2. Stomach contents identified using knowledge gained from plankton sampling and using plankton guide.

4.3. Inter-specific, seasonal and ontogenetic patterns in the diet investigated and linked to food availability.

4.4. Report and paper prepared on bait-fish ecology.

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
5.1. Oceanographic and plankton sampling programme reviewed to determine appropriate long-term monitoring programme. 5.2. Long-term monitoring programme designed and established. 6.1a Deployment of 20 GPS loggers on breeding MPS and BRNs on Egg Island over two seasons. 6.1b Retrieval of GPS loggers, download and analysis of data to produce maps of at sea distribution and range from St Helena. 6.1c upload tracking data online to appropriate database 6.2a Collection and identification of prey items in regurgitates. Creation of a regurgitate catalogue for samples collected. 6.2b Collate prey species list and overall diet composition for each seabird species and publish online. 6.3 Compare and analyse spatial data with oceanographic parameters to identify level of significance. 6.4 Compile results and formulate into journal article suitable for publication in a peer reviewed journal. 7.1. Database and GIS system established to support all project data. 7.2. Database and GIS made publicly available on completion of project. 7.3. Data submitted to appropriate recipients (e.g. CTD Data to British Oceanographic Data Centre). 8.1. A summary report will be prepared for SHG and for publication to bring together all aspects of the project and help inform marine management decisions. This will help inform the first review of the St Helena Marine Management Plan and MPA. 8.2. Plain English pamphlets and presentations prepared to inform St Helena stakeholders, public, schoolchildren and visitors about the importance of the marine system to the island.			

27. Sustainability: How will the project ensure benefits are sustained after the project has come to a close? If the project requires ongoing maintenance or monitoring, who will do this? (200 words max)

The project will help develop new skills and expertise on St Helena to help ensure long-term sustainable management of marine resources. Following completion of the project, and on the basis of the data collected, a long-term oceanography and plankton monitoring programme will be devised and implemented by SHG.

With marine based tourism and fisheries as areas targeted for growing St. Helena's economy this area is high on the agenda at all levels within Government as well as key stakeholders of the local fishing and marine tourism industry (as indicated in letter of support).

The data output potential will add to the current fisheries data effort records and will prove useful to the industry and indirectly ensure support for continued research.

This project will ensure that there is clear and supported evidence based advice, which will feed into SHG strategic planning, sustainable development planning and national environment management planning.

This project will build stronger links with researchers at SAERI and BAS, which will be valuable for future research.

28. Open access: All outputs from Darwin Plus projects should be made available on-line and free to users whenever possible. Please outline how you will achieve this. (200 words max)

A project web-page will be developed for dissemination of information and a Facebook page created for brief updates. Key reports from the project will be posted on the project web-site and on the SHG website. Meta-data from the project will be listed on the project web-site and data will be made available to users once the project has been completed. The database and GIS with project data will be made available over the SHG or SAERI web-site.

Any publications will be in Open Access journals or fees paid to enable Open Access.

29. Monitoring & Evaluation:
Describe, referring to the Indicators above, 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.

EMD management will co-ordinate the budget and monitor deliverables through quarterly meetings held via Skype where all project partners will review progress, identify any areas that that project has fallen behind schedule and how to address such issues. The meetings will also consider any requirements to adapt the sampling frequency / protocol in light of information collected. The project lead will be responsible for reporting to Darwin as stipulated.

An MOU will be drawn up and will document the obligations of all parties for successful delivery of the project against the time frame ensuring all project partners are on track for completing their specific requirements under the project outputs.

Outputs including training will form part of marine section staff annual targets and will be assessed by their line manager on a biannual basis. The project lead will report to the Head of ENRD on a monthly

basis, reporting progress and any issues arising, impacts on the project and methods for mitigating against these.

Number of days planned for M&E	12
Total project budget for M&E	£15,000
Percentage of total project budget set aside for M&E	5 %

30. Financial controls: Please demonstrate your capacity to manage the level of funds you are requesting. (Who is responsible for managing the funds? What experience do they have? What arrangements are in place for auditing expenditure?)
All project funding will be routed through the ENRD accounts section, which operates under audited SHG accounting procedures. All monies will be placed into a designated account and have a designated financial officer to ensure finances/budgets are monitored. The Project lead will have an overview of the entire project and will regularly monitor the budget. Items purchased in the host country will be bought through the SHG procurement process which has strict guidelines for ensuring value for money and transparency. An independent auditor will audit expenditure. ENRD already has experience of successfully managing projects totalling £1.7 million in 2014/15 along with core budget.

Please complete the separate Excel spreadsheet which provides the Budget for this application. Some of the questions earlier and below refer to the information in this spreadsheet. If you are requesting over £100,000 from Darwin Plus, you must complete the full spreadsheet.

31. Value for Money Please explain how you worked out your budget and how you will provide value for money through managing a cost effective and efficient project. You should also discuss any significant assumptions you have made when working out your budget. (200 words max)
The project endeavours to bring BAS and SAERI expertise to St Helena to develop capacity and deliver outcomes that will be invaluable to the long-term management of St Helena's marine environment. Bringing outside expertise to St Helena is not cheap, but utilising outside experts to train and mentor St Helena staff is a cost effective means of delivering this project. Significant matched funding will be contributed by SHG and SAERI, which demonstrate the significance of this project to St Helena.

32. Provide a project implementation timetable that shows the key milestones in project activities. Complete the following table as appropriate to describe the intended workplan for your project

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

	Activity	No. of months	Year 1				Year 2				Year 3			
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Output 1	Capacity building.													
1.1.	St Helena staff trained in analysis of oceanographic data (satellite and CTD).													
1.2	St Helena staff will be trained to undertake plankton trawls and to identify and quantify catches.													
Output 2	Oceanography													
2.1.	Remote sensed data acquired and analysed to investigate the role of St Helena and the seamounts in influencing physical and biological oceanography.													
2.2.	CTD monthly sampling programme established and continues throughout the project.													
2.3.	CTD data will be analysed to determine seasonal and spatial variability in the depth of the mixed layer and water mass properties.													
2.4.	Oceanographic data will be summarised in a report for SHG and stakeholders and a paper prepared for submission to peer-review journal.													
Output 3	Zooplankton													
3.1	Zooplankton samples will be collected from 3 locations on a monthly basis (for 18 months).													
3.2.	Zooplankton guide prepared to help analyse plankton samples and fish stomach contents.													
3.3.	Zooplankton samples will be identified and quantified to look at seasonal and spatial patterns.													
3.4.	Zooplankton analysed in relation to oceanographic data and report and paper prepared.													

Output 4	Bait fish ecology													
4.1.	Bait-fish sampling programme established with 200 fish sampled per month.													
4.2.	Stomach contents identified using knowledge gained from plankton sampling and using plankton guide.													
4.3	Inter-specific, seasonal and ontogenetic patterns in the diet investigated and linked to food availability.													
4.4	Report and paper prepared on bait-fish ecology.													
Output 5														
5.1	Oceanographic and plankton sampling programme reviewed to determine appropriate long-term monitoring programme.													
5.2	Long-term monitoring programme designed and established.													
Output 6	Foraging Ecology of breeding MSP and BRNs established and analysed													
6.1	Deployment and retrieval of GPS loggers onto breeding storm petrels and brown noddies on Egg Island.													
6.2	Collection and identification of regurgitates. Composition and abundance of dominant prey species identified.													
6.3	Comparison of foraging ecology to oceanographic parameters (sea surface temperature, chlorophyll levels, planktonic biomass)													
6.4	Write-up and publication of findings of foraging ecology in authoritative scientific journal													
Output 7	Database and GIS													
7.1	Database and GIS system established to support all project data.													
7.2	Database and GIS made publicly available on completion of project.													
7.3	Data submitted to appropriate recipients (e.g. BODC, NHM).													
Output 8	Data integration and summary report													
8.1	Summary of seasonal patterns in the St Helena pelagic ecosystem prepared to inform review of Marine Management Plan and MPA and paper for publication.													

8.2	Plain English pamphlets and presentations prepared to inform St Helena stakeholders, public, schoolchildren and visitors about the importance of the marine system to the island.													

CERTIFICATION

On behalf of the trustees/company* of St Helena Government

(*delete as appropriate)

I apply for a grant of £247,232 in respect of **all expenditure** to be incurred during the lifetime of this project based on the activities and dates specified in the above application.

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 lead institution to submit applications and sign contracts on their behalf.)*

- I enclose CVs for key project personnel and letters of support.
- I enclose the most recent 2 years of signed and audited/independently verified accounts.

Name (block capitals)	Mrs Elizabeth Clingham
Position in the organisation	Marine Conservation Officer

Signed		**Date:**	29/08/2016

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.

Application Checklist for submission

	Check
Have you **read the Guidance?**	✓
Have you read the current **Terms and Conditions** for this fund?	✓
Have you **checked the Darwin Plus website** immediately prior to submission to ensure there are no late updates?	✓
Have you provided **actual start and end dates** for your project?	✓
Have you provided your **budget based on UK government financial years** i.e. 1 April – 31 March and in GBP?	✓
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?	✓
Has your application been **signed by a suitably authorised individual**? (clear electronic or scanned signatures are acceptable in the email)	✓
Have you included a **1 page CV for all the key project personnel**?	✓
Have you included a **letter of support from the applicant organisation, main partner(s) organisations and the relevant OT Government**?	✓
Have you included a **copy of the last 2 years' annual report and accounts** for the lead organisation?	✓

Once you have answered the questions above, please submit the application, not later than midnight **2359 GMT Monday 29 August 2016** to Darwin-Applications@ltsi.co.uk using the first few words of the project title **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). You are not required to send a hard copy.

DATA PROTECTION ACT 1998: Applicants for grant funding must agree to any disclosure or exchange of information supplied on the application form (including the content of a declaration or undertaking) which the Department considers necessary for the administration, evaluation, monitoring and publicising of Darwin Plus. Application form data will also be held by contractors dealing with Darwin Plus monitoring and evaluation. It is the responsibility of applicants to ensure that personal data can be supplied to the Department for the uses described in this paragraph. A completed application form will be taken as an agreement by the applicant and the grant/award recipient also to the following:- putting certain details (i.e. name, contact details and location of project work) on the Darwin Initiative and Defra/FCO/DFID websites (details relating to financial awards will not be put on the websites if requested in writing by the grant/award recipient); using personal data for the Darwin Initiative postal circulation list; and sending data to Governor's Offices outside the UK, including posts outside the European Economic Area. Confidential information relating to the project or its results and any personal data may be released on request, including under the Environmental Information Regulations, the code of Practice on Access to Government Information and the Freedom of Information Act 2000.