Applicant: **Schofield, Andy**
Organisation: **RSPB**
Funding Sought: **£306,653.00**
Funding Awarded: **£306,653.00**

DPR8S2\1019

DPLUS102 Saving Tristan’s only native tree and its associated unique buntings

Section 1 - Contact Details

PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

Name	Jonathan
Surname	Hall
Organisation	RSPB
Tel	[redacted]
Email (Work)	[redacted]
Address	[redacted]

CONTACT DETAILS

Title	Mr
Name	Andy
Surname	Schofield
Organisation	RSPB
Tel	[redacted]
Email	[redacted]
Address	[redacted]

GMS ORGANISATION

Type	**Charity/ trusts**
Name	RSPB
Phone (Work)	[redacted]
Email (Work)	[redacted]
Website (Work)	[redacted]
Address	[redacted]

Section 2 - Title, Dates & Budget Summary

Q3a. Project title

DPLUS102 Saving Tristan’s only native tree and its associated unique buntings

Q3b. What was your Stage 1 reference number? e.g. DPR8S1\10008

DPR8S1\1084

Q4. UKOT(s)

Which UK Overseas Territory(ies) will your project be working in? You may select more than one UKOT from the options below.

☑ St Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha*

Q4b. In addition to the UKOTs you have indicated, will your project directly benefit any other Territories or country(ies)?

⦿ Yes

Please list below.

The knowledge gained of managing an invasive alien species in an island ecosystem using Classical Biological Control will be beneficial to all the UKOTs

Q5. Project dates

Start date:	End date:	Duration (e.g. 2 years, 3 months):
01 April 2020	31 March 2023	3 years

Q6. Budget summary

Year:	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	Total request
Darwin funding request (Apr - Mar)	£[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	**£** 306,653.00

Q6a. Do you have proposed matched funding arrangements?

⦿ Yes

What matched funding arrangements are proposed?

RSPB and the GB Non-Native Species Secretariat are jointly funding a £[redacted] pre-project survey of Tristan da Cunha by Fera in March 2020 to measure the impact of the scale insects, determine if there are any natural enemies already present, and to survey for potential native non-target hosts of any Biological Control Agents (BCAs) that are selected. We do not feel that we can wait till the following Southern hemisphere summer to do this given the urgency of the situation.

Some RSPB and Tristan da Cunha Conservation Department staff time is contributed as co-funding throughout the project (total value £[redacted] CABI will reduce its indirect cost charges from the normal rate

required for full cost recovery on staff time (120%) to 40%; the difference (altogether £[redacted] will be met from their own resources. CABI will also freely provide wider identification services for plant pests including molecular assessments and the free usage of CABI compendia and tools (e.g. online Pest Risk Assessment (PRA)).

Q6b. Proposed (confirmed & unconfirmed) matched funding as % of total project cost (total cost is the Darwin request plus other funding required to run the project).	22%

Section 3 - Lead Organisation Summary

Q7. Summary of Project

Please provide a brief summary of your project, its aims, and the key activities you plan to undertake. Please note that if you are successful, this working may be used by Defra in communications e.g. as a short description of the project on GOV.UK.

Please write this summary for a non-technical audience.

No Response

Q8. Lead organisation summary

Has your organisation been awarded a Darwin Initiative award before (for the purposes of this question, being a partner does not count)?

◉ Yes

If yes, please provide details of the most recent awards (up to 6 examples).

Reference No	Project Leader	Title
DPLUS053	Alexander Bond	Project Pinnamin: conserving northern rockhopper penguins on Tristan da Cunha
DPLUS055	Elizabeth Radford	Saving the Iguana Islands of Turks and Caicos
DPLUS062	Andy Schofield	Securing the future of the Tristan marine environment
DPLUS076	Cleo Small	Reducing South Georgia albatross mortality in High Seas tuna fisheries

DPLUS095	Jonathan Hall & Andy Schofield	Strengthening biosecurity for remote Territory communities and their World Heritage
DPLUS098	Charlie Butt	Restoring and safeguarding wetlands of the Caribbean UKOTs

Have you provided the requested signed audited/independently examined accounts? If you select "yes" you will be able to upload these. Note that this is not required from Government Agencies.

◉ Yes

Please attach the requested signed audited/independently examined accounts.

RSPB Accounts 17-18
26/11/2019
13:40:29
pdf 4.08 MB

RSPB Accounts 18-19
26/11/2019
13:40:27
pdf 2.13 MB

Section 4 - Project Partners

Q9. Project Partners

Please list all the partners involved (including the Lead Organisation) and explain their roles and responsibilities in the project. Describe the extent of their involvement at all stages, including project development.

This section should illustrate the capacity of partners to be involved in the project. Please provide Letters of Support for the Lead Organisation and each partner or explain why this has not been included.

N.B: There is a file upload button at the bottom of this page for the upload of a cover letter (if applicable) and all letters of support.

Lead Organisation name:	RSPB
Website address:	www.rspb.org.uk

Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):	The UK Overseas Territories are a major strategic priority for the RSPB, and we have a track record of successful project delivery in the OTs under both Darwin and BEST. The RSPB has been working with the OTs for over 20 years. The underlying principle of our work is to establish enduring relationships with local partners in order to help support the development of sustainable and locally-lead conservation programmes. We therefore helped establish the Tristan Conservation Department in 2009 and have been working closely in a successful partnership with them ever since. The RSPB will provide technical and financial project management, plus activity coordination and M&E, all in close liaison with the project partners, steering group and stakeholders. Andy Schofield has five years' experience working on the ground with the Tristan Conservation Department on project delivery, has already visited the project sites, and has excellent close-knit links with the wider community to deal with any sensitivities which may arise. He has also been closely involved in biosecurity policy issues, providing a strong understanding of the developing legal frameworks. Wendy Cain will provide financial management support and has three years of experience working with the Tristan Government.
Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?	⦿ Yes
Have you provided a cover letter to address your Stage 1 feedback?	⦿ Yes

Do you have partners involved in the Project?

⦿ Yes

1. Partner Name:	Fera Science Ltd
Website address:	https://www.fera.co.uk/

Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):	Fera will be responsible for advising on the selection of the Biological Control Agents (BCAs), scale insect identification, developing survey protocols, assessing levels of parasitism, post-release impact evaluation, assisting with stakeholder engagement, and providing training in collaboration with CABI. Fera scientists have considerable experience of working in the UKOTs, researching the ecology of invasive species, conducting risk assessments for BCAs, plant pest detection, identification and management, biosecurity training, consultancy, and stakeholder engagement. Chris Malumphy completed his PhD on scale insects and is an internationally recognised expert on scales, e.g. invited to join expeditions to the Turks and Caicos Islands and Bahamas to study invasive scales; joined the EPPO Panel for Performing Pest Risk Analysis: Aulacaspis yasumatsui; EFSA Panel on Plant Health: PRA for Parasaissetia nigra; and EFSA Panel on Agriculture: scientific opinion on non-European Margarodes. He is currently leading the project on the biological control of Oriental Chestnut Gall Wasp in the UK. Sharon Reid has worked on several UKOTs projects and co-ordinated a diagnostic service for the UKOTs since 2010; Eleanor Jones is a highly experienced molecular geneticist. Fera (formerly part of Defra) has a long relationship with Defra and successfully delivered numerous Defra-funded projects.
Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?	⦿ Yes

Do you have more than one partner involved in the Project?

⦿ Yes

2. Partner Name:	CABI
Website address:	www.cabi.org

Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):	CABI will be responsible for the selection, obtainment, rearing and testing of the biological control agents. CABI will also be jointly responsible with Fera for providing training materials and training of biosecurity staff on Tristan to conduct the release of the agents and to monitor establishment and impact. CABI scientists have considerable experience in conducting research linked to invasion ecology, biological control of invasive species and Pest Risk Assessments (PRAs) for the introduction of biological control agents. CABI scientists have collaborated on, and managed many DFID and DEFRA funded projects in the management of invasive species. Our organisation has also a long history of capacity building through participatory approaches. Our latest reports (https://www.cabi.org /about-cabi/annual-reviews-and-financials/, https://www.cabi.org /Uploads/CABI/about-us/Science%20report%20and%20strategy /Annual%20science%20report%202018.pdf) show the wide range of activities carried out, specialising in the control of invasives. CABI also produced influential policy statements and papers related to the use of biocontrol agents and the adequate conduct of PRAs. CABI has a long established relationship with DEFRA and DFID. Norbert Maczey will be heading the CABI team with high level experience on biological control, including working on PRAs in the SAUKOTs. Corin Pratt, responsible for culturing agents in quarantine, has many years of experience surveying and testing biological control agents
Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?	⊙ Yes

3. Partner Name:	Tristan da Cunha Government Conservation Department
Website address:	http://www.tristandc.com

Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):	The Tristan da Cunha Island Government governs this small Territory, with responsibilities divided across a range of Government Departments. Several of these Departments have a history of successful involvement in Darwin Plus projects. The Administrator and Island Council have been briefed on this project application and given their approval as a top priority project. The Tristan Conservation Department was established in 2009 and is lead by Trevor Glass with support from three on-island colleagues and one off-island (UK-based) environmental policy officer, Stephanie Martin. Trevor and Stephanie have been closely involved throughout the development of this project. The Department has limited capacity, but this application has been carefully designed to ensure ability to deliver, with sufficient external support in place and demands on Conservation Department capacity limited as far as possible. Trevor and Julian have extensive first-hand knowledge of the phylica habitat of Tristan da Cunha's islands, and lead a BEST project which successfully pioneered phylica propagation. These skills will be used to develop the rearing facility on Tristan. Expert boat-handling skills will meanwhile safely enable visits to the off-islands. Kirsty Repetto will bring experience in financial management school children engagement.
Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?	⦿ Yes

4. Partner Name:	*No Response*
Website address:	*No Response*
Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):	*No Response*
Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?	◯ Yes ◯ No

5. Partner Name:	*No Response*
Website address:	*No Response*
Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):	*No Response*

Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?	◯ Yes ◯ No

6. Partner Name:	*No Response*
Website address:	*No Response*
Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):	*No Response*
Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?	◯ Yes ◯ No

If you require more space to enter details regarding Partners involved in the Project, please use the text field below.

No Response

Please provide a cover letter responding to feedback received at Stage 1 if applicable and a combined PDF of all Letters of Support.

Letters of Support
26/11/2019
20:05:58
pdf 961.43 KB

Section 5 - Project Staff

Q10. Project Staff

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. These should match the names and roles in the budget spreadsheet. If your team is larger than 12 people please review if they are core staff, or whether you can merge roles (e.g. 'admin and finance support') below, but provide a full table based on this template in the pdf of CVs you provide.

Name (First name, Surname)	Role	% time on project	1 page CV or job description attached?
Andy Schofield	**Project Leader**	10	Checked
Wendy Cain	RSPB Financial Management	5	Checked
Norbert Maczey	CABI lead	25	Checked
Corin Pratt	CABI Project Scientist	38	Checked

Do you require more fields?

◉ Yes

Name (First name, Surname)	Role	% time on project	1 page CV or job description attached?
Nikolai Thom	CABI Technician	12	Checked
Chris Malumphy	FERA Lead	4	Checked
Eleanor Jones	FERA Molecular Diagnostician	1	Checked
Sharon Reid	FERA Entomologist	1	Checked
Trevor Glass	Tristan lead	10	Checked
Julian Repetto	Tristan fieldwork & outreach	20	Checked
Kirsty Repetto	Tristan rearing facilities & finance	10	Checked
No Response	*No Response*	0	Unchecked

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

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

CVs
26/11/2019
20:08:23
pdf 738.88 KB

Have you attached all Project staff CVs?

◉ Yes

Section 6 - Background & Methodology

Q11. Problems the project is trying to address

Please describe the problem your project is trying to address in terms of environment and climate issues in the UKOTs.

For example, what are the specific threats to the environment that the project will attempt to address? Why are they relevant, for whom? How did you identify these problems? How will your proposed project help? What key OT Government priorities and themes will it address?

The survival of the endemic buntings of Tristan da Cunha, which have evolved into numerous different forms like the famed finches of the Galapagos, is under serious threat following the introduction of invasive alien scale insects. Invasive scale insects wiped out 90%+ of the native pine forests of the Turks & Caicos, and now risk causing the collapse of Tristan da Cunha's forest habitat, which consists of only one tree species: Phylica arborea. A 2018 field visit to Inaccessible Island World Heritage Site reported a significant increase in infestation, with the proportion of infected trees at monitored sites rising from <29% to 85-100% compared to 2011. Most concerningly, many of the largest trees have died, and fruit loads have fallen dramatically. The population of the endemic large-billed subspecies (Nesospiza acunhae dunnei), which rely on Phylica fruit, has fallen by over 80% at the main monitoring site. Coccus hesperidum has recently reached Nightingale Island where it threatens the IUCN Endangered Wilkins' bunting (Nesospiza wilkinsi). There are only 100 pairs remaining, making it extremely vulnerable to extinction. There is thus an urgent need to find an appropriate control method to prevent the collapse of the Phylica forest and spread of invasive New Zealand flax into previously forested areas.

This project will use classical biological control (CBC) as a safe and sustainable approach to rapidly address the problem. CBC has been widely and successfully used against scale insects, including on Saint Helena where endemic gumwoods were threatened with extinction by another invasive scale insect species. It will implement key actions of the Gough and Inaccessible Islands World Heritage Site management plan 2015-2020, and an action under the most recent Tristan Government Biodiversity Action Plan. It will thereby contribute to Tristan's responsibilities under the Convention on Biological Diversity and the World Heritage Convention.

Q12. Methodology

Describe the methods and approach you will use to achieve your intended Outcome and Impact. Provide information on:

- **How you have analysed historical and existing initatives and are building on or taking work already done into account in project design. Please cite evidence where appropriate.**
- **The rationale for carrying out this work and a justification of your proposed methodology.**
- **How you will undertake the work (materials and methods).**
- **How you will manage the work (role and responsibilities, project management tools etc.)**

Please make sure you read the Guidance Notes **before answering this question.**

(This may be a repeat from Stage 1 but you may update or refine as necessary)

C. hesperidum is not a significant pest when natural enemies are present, and a wide range of agents have been successfully used for its control in different locations worldwide. There are several races of C. hesperidum however, so agents need to be carefully selected and matched to the Tristan population. This project brings together world-leading technical expertise in CABI and Fera, with local expertise in Tristan Conservation and the RSPB, to achieve a successful outcome.

Selection of agents and Pest Risk Assessment (CABI and Fera)
A pre-project survey in February 2020 (see matched funding) will establish if any parasitoids of C. hesperidum are already present on Tristan, where the pest is less prevalent. If so, transfer of these agents to the other islands will be the first step. However, CBC works best if a set of agents is used and we will assess further agents for additional release. C. hesperidum may originate from South-Africa, so we will obtain agents from South-Africa to work with species best adapted to the host. If the pre-project survey finds native scale insects on the islands, any selected agents will be assessed as to whether they can attack such native species and, if so, will be excluded. Collected agents will be transferred to the quarantine facilities at CABI and tested for efficacy using the pest strain present on Tristan. Test results will be used to conduct a Pest Risk Assessment (PRA) for the agents suggested for release.

Permitting and public engagement (Tristan Conservation, RSPB & Fera)
The PRA results will be used for an environmental permit application to Tristan Council under the Conservation Ordinance 2006. The Animal & Plant Health Agency will provide independent scrutiny of the PRA to advise Tristan Council on whether to accept it and proceed. RSPB and Tristan Conservation will meanwhile produce publicity materials to explain the biocontrol agent, conduct public meetings to engage community members and provide training materials for the school.

Rearing, release and establishment monitoring (All partners)
Licensed agents will be reared at the CABI facilities, treated for diseases and then shipped to Tristan where they will be brought into cultivation in polytunnels to increase establishment probability. Training will be provided to the Conservation Department to allow the production and repeated release of the agents to be carried out. School children will be engaged in plant propagation/growing and control-agent rearing, and an educational video produced. Monitoring of establishment and impact (reduction of scale numbers, decrease in sooty mould cover, increase in fruit load and bird numbers) will be conducted in the third year and after project completion.

New Zealand flax control on Inaccessible Island (Tristan Conservation)
Previous Conservation Department work on Inaccessible in February 2019 to control flax confirmed appropriate equipment, methodology and capacity required for mechanical control and partially mapped flax presence. This same experienced team would be used, visiting in both years one and two to ensure a flax-free buffer around the remnant Phylica.

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

Scale insects & associated sooty mould on phylica photo, Nov 2018
26/11/2019
13:55:11
jpg 942.23 KB

Section 7 - Stakeholders and Beneficiaries

Q13. Project Stakeholders

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.

The Tristan da Cunha Administrator, Island Council and Conservation Department were all consulted as part of the project's development, with the Conservation Department and Tristan environmental policy officer heavily involved in project design at both stage 1 and stage 2.

Further consultation is going to take place in March 2020, when Fera visits the island (ahead of project commencement) in order to do preliminary research on the scale insects and undertake wider community engagement. Fera have prepared a short preliminary film about the scale insect and possible control agents, so as to provide visual context for the local community, and has also organised a half-day of activities with the school. The film will be updated with more local context and specifics during the project.

The GB Non-Native Species Secretariat have been consulted, as they are leading on an update to Tristan's biosecurity legislation which includes a section on the legal requirements surrounding biological control. It has been confirmed that this draft legislation will, if passed, not present any impediment to the project's plans. The Animal & Plant Health Agency have confirmed they will provide an independent opinion on the PRA.

During the project, the Conservation Department will participate in all project management discussions, quarterly steering group meetings, and provide updates to the Island Council. They will engage the community via involving schoolchildren in plant propagation and control agent-rearing. Presentations will also be given to Council and the wider community during each expert visit so as to maintain engagement.

Q14. Institutional Capacity

Describe the lead organisation's capacity (and that of partner organisations where relevant) to deliver the project.

The RSPB is the largest conservation NGO in Europe and has a track record of successful project delivery in the OTs under both Darwin and BEST. We helped establish the Tristan Conservation Department in 2009 and continue to both fund two staff salaries in the Department and provide technical support. The project leader, Andy Schofield, has longstanding community ties, making us well-placed to lead and facilitate a project on this potentially sensitive issue. We have also learnt valuable lessons on how to deliver successful projects in this remote Territory from delivering 5 Darwin projects there over the past decade. Recognising the need for significant specialist expertise, the RSPB and Tristan Conservation have invited FERA and CABI to deliver this project partnership, which will combine local understanding with world-class technical skills on CBC.

The Tristan Conservation Department have expertise in Phylica propagation, expert understanding of ecological and climatic conditions to inform CBC sites, excellent community relations, the requisite boat-handling skills for safe-working on the outer islands, and experienced contractors with prior first-hand knowledge of the Inaccessible Island flax invasion to implement flax removal.

CABI has extensive experience of leading successful and sustainable biocontrol interventions around the world, including previous work on C.Hesperidum in Africa and against another invasive scale insect in St Helena.

Fera brings world-class expertise on scale insect identification and biology, and on the ecology of invasion species. They also have experience of pest management and developing biological control programmes.

Please refer to Q9 for further description.

Q15. Project beneficiaries

Who will your project benefit? You should consider the direct benefits as a result of your project as well as the broader indirect benefits which may come about as a result of your project achieving its Outputs and Outcome. The measurement of any benefits should be included in your project logframe.

Three Tristan Conservation Department staff will benefit from bespoke training in CBC, propagation and rearing of control agents, as well as in-the-field releasing and monitoring. At least 14 Tristan schoolchildren will benefit from the opportunity to engage in applied biology (entomology and horticulture), through hands-on involvement in propagation and rearing. The Tristan community relies heavily on potato-growing as the island's staple crop. This project provides a very rare opportunity to have world-class entomological knowledge on island, and at least 8 growers will have their crops assessed, increasing key knowledge about their staple crop. A pest assessment of the Agriculture Department's new vegetable production polytunnel will also be conducted. The CBC may potentially reduce any scale infestations, but assessment of which pests are the greatest issue is first required.

The project will also benefit the wider community of Tristan da Cunha by preventing the extinction of some of their iconic species. Safeguarding these species will prevent reputational harm to Tristan, such as the placement of Inaccessible Island on the World Heritage Sites 'In Danger' list, and thereby preserve their ability to effectively advance eco-tourism. Whilst very few tourists currently visit the islands, there is an eagerness to diversify their economy.

Section 8 - Gender and Change Expected

Q16. Gender (optional)

How is your project working to reduce inequality between persons of different gender? At the very least, you should be able to provide reassurance that your proposed work is not increasing inequality. Have you analysed the context in which you are working to see how gender and other aspects of social inclusion might interact with the work you are proposing?

This project has been analysed to ensure that gender inequality will not be increased. The PRA and CBC permit application, plus independent assessment by the GB Non-Native Species Secretariat, will be submitted directly to all Councillors, so both genders on Council are equally informed prior to a vote. There is only one female in the Tristan Conservation Department, and she will receive all the training on offer (alongside two male colleagues). The school children involved in the propagation and rearing of agents will be 50/50 male/female. The short film will aim to feature equal numbers of female and male voices (permissions permitting). Both genders are heavily involved in potato farming on Tristan, and potato pest assessments will be offered equally to both genders. The flax control team will be lead by a female contractor, and will aim for a 50/50 male/female ratio.

Q17. Change expected

Detail the expected changed this work will deliver. You should identify what will change and who will benefit a) in short-term (i.e. during the life of the project) and b) in the long-term (after the project has ended). Please describe the changes for the environment and, where relevant, for people in the OTs, and how they are linked.

Short-term changes & beneficiaries:
- The rapid increase of C. hesperidum and its associated black sooty mould on the Phylica tree is slowed or stopped. CBC of scale insects is normally successful in relatively short time periods. However, due to the need to thoroughly establish and spread first, it is likely that the during the course of the project the released agents will only just begin to impact on their host.
- The rapid decline of the specially-adapted large-billed buntings on Inaccessible Island is slowed.
- The Tristan Conservation Department has new capacity to rear and release a biological control agent, as well as to undertake invertebrate monitoring.
- Island school children are able to learn and implement techniques to propagate Phylica trees and rearing of a control agent
- The spread of invasive New Zealand flax on Inaccessible Island World Heritage Site is arrested, a buffer created for the recovery of weakened Phylica copses, and significant progress made towards eradicating the plant from that island.

Long-term changes & beneficiaries:
- The population density of C. hesperidum is reduced to levels similar to other geographic areas, where the pest is generally unproblematic in outdoor environments.
- The Phylica forest habitat on all three northern islands, including Inaccessible Island World Heritage Site, is able to recover and return to its original extent.
- The specially-adapted large-billed Nesospiza buntings on Nightingale and Inaccessible islands are able to increase in population size and, consequently, population resilience.
- The farmers and gardeners on Tristan da Cunha may benefit from a reduction in scale insect infestations on their crops (it is currently unclear which plant pests are currently having the greatest impact on commercial plant species).

Q18. Pathway to change

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

Chemical control of C. hesperidum is unlikely to deliver any conservation benefit due to their physiological properties and life-cycle. Tristan's very limited on-island capacity, and the hard-to-access nature of Inaccessible island, means that CBC is the only realistic and sustainable means of reducing the scale insect infestation and saving the Phylica forest. Utilising world-leading entomological and CBC expertise at Fera and CABI, in collaboration with the Tristan Government, this project will select and test appropriate control agents. Carefully rearing the control agents on Tristan itself will help ensure resilience to local environmental conditions. This also provides an opportunity to support scientific education for local school children, to help ensure community understanding and support for this project. Targeted flax control on Inaccessible island will prevent further habitat loss to this serious invasive whilst Phylica forests are in a weakened state. Three years of control agent releases are built into the project in an attempt to maximise establishment time, which is ambitious but essential to attempt given the urgency. There should nonetheless be sufficient time to achieve both the outcome and, longer-term, the project impact of preserving healthy Phylica forests and the endemic large-billed Nesospiza buntings which depend upon them.

Q19. Sustainability

How will the project ensure benefits are sustained after the project have come to a close? If the project requires ongoing maintenance or monitoring, who will do this and how will it be funded?

The fundamental design of this project, with its reliance on CBC to address an urgent conservation issue, has been chosen with long-term sustainability in mind. CBC involves the importing of natural enemies of non-native pests with the aim of establishing permanent, self-sustaining populations capable of sustainably reducing pest populations below damaging levels. One of the main advantages of this approach is that once the introduced control agent has established there will no future specific maintenance required. If the planned releases lead, as designed, to successful establishment before project-end, the Phylica forest and bird population will then just need to be monitored as part of the routine monitoring conducted by Tristan Conservation, with ongoing financial and technical support from RSPB. If for some unforeseen reason the control agent(s) have not established by project-end, the RSPB is committed to facilitate further work through to a successful conclusion (given the potential global extinction of multiple British bird species, this work is of fundamental strategic importance to the Society). The RSPB is also able to utilise our long-term commitment to Tristan to state that we will build on this project's flax control work to cost out and then deliver completed flax eradication on Inaccessible.

Section 9 - Funding and Budget

Q20. 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 over and under £100,000 from the Darwin Plus budget.

- R8 D+ Budget form for projects under £100,000
- R8 D+ Budget form for projects over £100,000

Please refer to the Finance Guidance for Darwin/IWT **for more information.**

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

Budgets submitted in other currencies will not be accepted. Use current prices – and include anticipated inflation, as appropriate, up to 3% per annum. The Darwin Initiative cannot agree any increase in grants once awarded.

Scale_Insect_St2_budget_FINAL
26/11/2019
21:09:16
xlsx 60.77 KB

Q21. Co-financing

Are you proposing co-financing?

◉ Yes

Q21a. Secured

Provide details of all funding successfully levered (and identified in the Budget) towards the costs of the project, including any income from other public bodies, private sponsorship, donations, trusts, fees or trading activity, as well as any your own organisation(s) will be committing.

(See Finance for Darwin/IWT **and** Guidance Notes**)**

Donor organisation	Amount	Currency code	Comments
RSPB	[redacted]	GBP	The RSPB is also providing an additional £[redacted] towards getting an expert FERA entomologist to Tristan in March 2020
CABI	[redacted]	£0.00	*No Response*
Tristan Government Conservation Department	[redacted]	GBP	*No Response*
GBNNS	0	*No Response*	GBNNS is also providing an additional £[redacted] towards getting an expert FERA entomologist to Tristan in March 2020

Q21b. Unsecured

Provide details of any matched funding where an application has been submitted, or that you intend applying for during the course of the project. This could include matched funding from the private sector, charitable organisations or other public sector schemes. This should also include any additional funds required where a donor has not yet been identified.

Date applied for	Donor organisation	Amount	Currency code	Comments
No Response	*No Response*	0	*No Response*	*No Response*
No Response	*No Response*	0	*No Response*	*No Response*
No Response	*No Response*	0	*No Response*	*No Response*

No Response	*No Response*	0	*No Response*	*No Response*

Do you require more fields?

⦿ No

Section 10 - Finance

Q22. 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?

RSPB will manage the grant and has extensive experience of managing grant funding and of prioritising spending, a good track record with the management of Darwin Projects, and procedures which follow the highest standards of financial accountability and control. Wendy Cain in the RSPBs Project Development and Support Unit will oversee spending of the project funds. Wendy has overseen the financial management of multiple Darwin Plus and EU BEST projects in the UK Overseas Territories over the past three years, including several in Tristan da Cunha.

RSPB will sub-grant to the Tristan Government, FERA and CABI, and these partners will produce quarterly financial reports and submit them to the RSPB. Financial updates will also be a standing item on all project management and steering group meetings.

The project will be externally audited once it has ended and as final reports are submitted.

Q23. Financial Management Risk

Explain how you have considered the risks and threats that may be relevant to the success of this project, including the risks of fraud or bribery.

The RSPB takes financial risk very seriously, especially in projects implemented outside the UK, and has established an International Financial Risk Management Working Group to deal with exactly this issue. For the project proposed here, though, we consider the risk to be low. RSPB has zero tolerance systems in place around bribery and conducts spot check financial audits of all our overseas partners to assess for fraud risk. We have a long-term partnership in which we provide regular funding to the Tristan Government, so are familiar with their financial management systems. When RSPB staff do visit Tristan, they will nonetheless conduct a financial spot check on behalf of our International Financial Risk Management Working Group. Internal RSPB procedures will ensure close monitoring of project spend- a separate budget line will be established and monthly financial reports issued.

CABI and FERA both have strict anti-bribery and anti-fraud policies in place, and excellent records of delivering high-value projects on behalf of the UK Government. CABI also have a 'Collaborator Policy' in place to reduce risks associated with collaboration (legal, financial, operational or reputational). The RSPB has also previously collaborated with both organisations and assesses them as low risk.

Q24. 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.

This project provides value for money by delivering a long-term and sustainable solution for an urgent and potentially high-profile conservation issue. It could single-handedly prevent the global extinction of multiple British bird species, thereby achieving significant impact.

The RSPB is managing this project extremely cost effectively, seeking a total budget of only £15,806 from Darwin whilst committing match funding during the project period of £16,400. RSPB expertise in project management, co-ordination and community relations therefore comes in at extremely good value for money, and we are consequently taking the smallest proportion of the budget of any of the 4 partners. The RSPB is also able to cost-effectively build the project management deliverables into its existing partnership with Tristan Conservation. Our prior experience on Tristan means that all travel is realistically costed at the lowest available price. CABI is reducing its overheads from their standard 120% to 40%, and as a not-for-profit organisation, can provide the highest levels of expertise at competitive cost rates. By completing a pre-project scale insect assessment trip, Fera is able to engage its full expertise by project start, and will have built the first-hand understanding needed for project delivery. Fera is a Joint Venture company with DEFRA, and have selected to use the Defra Long-Term Service Agreement rates to ensure value for money. Tristan Conservation are meanwhile committing some staff time in-kind and have prior knowledge of contractor costs for flax work on Inaccessible Island, and polytunnel construction on Tristan, allowing for accurate budgeting.

Q25. 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.

The polytunnel Phylica propagation / control agent rearing facility on Tristan will be used post-project as a permanent seed orchard for Phylica planting and remain available for use by the school. It will also remain available in the small chance that further rearing and releases are required for effective control agent establishment.

Q26. Outputs of the project and 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 and detail any specific costs you are seeking from Darwin Plus to fund this.

Open access to data and the products of research is a general policy of RSPB. All data, reports, leaflets, training materials, photographs, films and other outputs from the project will be free access, and available in digital form where possible and appropriate on the Darwin, RSPB, CABI, FERA and Tristan websites. All data gathered and analysed during the project will be made available in digitised format. This will also include the PRAs themselves. The data will be included as an annex to the final project report, subsequently becoming accessible through the Darwin Initiative website. In case of volume limitations to this, CABI can offer to make the data available on its own website. Annual and half-year reports to Darwin will also list project progress and the products available from them. All reports and recommendations will also be shared with the GB Non-Native Species Secretariat at the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA).

The Tristan da Cunha website will host story updates and photographs, whilst social media accounts from RSPB and CABI will be used to promote photographs and stories arising. The lessons learnt from implementing a biocontrol programme in Tristan will be applicable to all the UKOTs as they all contain invasive plant pests. The results will be presented to RSPB partner NGOs across the Territories, as well at any relevant UK conference that occurs in the last year of the project.

Section 11 - Safeguarding

Q27. Safeguarding

Projects funded through Darwin Plus 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 safegaurding polices in place. Please confirm the lead organisation has the following policies in place and that these are available on request:

We have a safeguarding policy, which includes a statement of your commitment to safeguarding and a zero tolerance statement on bullying, harassment and sexual exploitation and abuse	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 downstream 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 behaviors - inside and outside of the work place - and make clear what will happen in the event of non-compliance or breach of these standards	Checked

Section 12 - Logical Framework

Q28. 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.

Impact:

Healthy Phylica forests cover their available habitat niche on the northern islands of Tristan da Cunha and sustain their maximum possible populations of endemic Nesospiza buntings for long-term resilience

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
Outcome: Sustainable community-supported control of Coccus hesperidum successfully established and invasive flax buffer created that enables recovery of Phylica trees, restoration of seed-setting and ultimately increased food availability for Nesospiza buntings.	0.1 In year three at least one control agent successfully established on each of the three northern islands in compliance with Tristan legislation and Council permissions 0.2 In year three lower densities of C. hesperidum and 10% reduction in sooty mould cover of foliage recorded on Phylica compared to 2020 baseline 0.3 No New Zealand flax is recorded on the plateau of Inaccessible Island or top 50m of surrounding cliff by end of year 2 0.4 3 Tristan Conservation Department staff (2 male / 1 female) trained and able to successfully rear, release and monitor a biological control agent 0.5 Within 3-5 years of project start, increased number of seeds/fruits recorded on Phylica compared to 2020 baseline, and population density of buntings stabilised.	0.1 Environmental permits. Rearing and release reports. Assessment report of control agent population establishment. 0.2 Assessment report of sooty mould cover on Phylica trees. Photographic evidence. 0.3 Flax assessment report. Photographic evidence 0.4 Biological control agent Training, Release & Monitoring reports verified by CABI and Fera. Feedback forms. Photographic evidence. 0.5 Assessment report of fruit yield and seed setting (recruitment). Bird population monitoring data.	By the end of the project a decline of the pest species and tree coverage by sooty mould should start to be reflected in the recorded data. Recovery of Phylica trees and bird populations can only be measured and verified several years after the termination of project however as part of long-term monitoring activities. Assumption: Tristan Conservation Department and the RSPB continue monitoring beyond the life of the project. This holds true as RSPB and Tristan Conservation have a long-term monitoring work programme which is not dependent on further project-funding, so will be able to deliver on this. We also commit to reporting the results to Darwin Plus / DEFRA post grant.

Output 1: 1. Suitable biological control agents for C. hesperidum on Tristan selected, risk assessed and tested	1.1 At least three suitable control agents identified and selected from commercial, research and wild South African sources by end of Q3 in year one 1.2 At least two control agents tested through standardised methods and under controlled conditions in Q3 of year one, and at least one further agent by Q2 of year two 1.3 At least one control agent demonstrated to be highly effective against the C. hesperidum strain present on Tristan by end of Q3 of year one 1.4 PRA on one tested and recommended control agent completed by end of Q3 in year one, and of all tested and recommended agents by Q3 of year two	1.1 Literature Review. South African survey report. 1.2 Efficacy testing results report 1.3 Efficacy testing results report 1.4 Pest Risk Assessments.	Assumption: Suitable control agents matching the target pest can be identified. This is highly likely as the different strains of C. hesperidum have been successfully controlled under a wide range of environmental conditions. Indeed, C. hesperidum is one of the best assessed pest species in the world regarding associated parasitoids and other natural enemies. The CABI Invasive Species Compendium alone lists more than 40 parasitoids and predators for this target pest. Suitable control agents can be obtained from existing cultures or through field surveys. This is highly likely as some agents are commercially available and more are in use in agricultural research institutes with which CABI has long-established contacts. Additional species can relatively easily be sourced during field surveys in particular from citrus growing areas, where C. hesperidum can be frequently found. The methodology for required surveys is already established at CABI and will draw on substantial past experiences in controlling this species.

Output 2: 2. Tristan Council and community understand and approve of selected control agent release	2.1 At least 75% of Tristan Council members, at least 75% of Tristan school classes, and at least 50 Tristanians have face-to-face discussions with community engagement lead in Q2 of years one and two 2.2 Independent opinion on first PRA produced by APHA and explained to Tristan Council via phone, by end of Q3 in year one, and subsequent PRAs by Q3 of year two 2.3 Tristan Council and community approval granted for introduction, rearing and release of one tested and recommended control agent by end of year one and of all tested and recommended agents by Q3 of year two 2.4 Potato crop pest assessments completed for at least 8 growers (4 male / 4 female), as well as the Agriculture Department vegetable production polytunnel, and potential for benefits from biocontrol evaluated, by end of year one	2.1 Photographs from public meetings and school talks. Publicity materials demonstrating biocontrol agents. Educational pack for school. Short educational video. Trip report. 2.2 APHA Opinion document. Tristan Council meeting minutes 2.3 Environmental Permits 2.4 Potato crop & Agriculture Department polytunnel pests report. Potential biocontrol report	Possible community fears about the introduction of a parasitoid wasp can be allayed. This is highly likely as Tristan Council has already formally approved this project application, Tristan Conservation Department is a core partner, the RSPB has excellent long-term community links and thus understanding of local concerns, and clear communications will demonstrate that the (likely) agents are c.2mm long and harmless to humans and the wider environment. The potato crop is largely all grown close together at the 'patches', so assessments conducted with 8 growers will be sufficient to provide insights and lessons for all growers of this staple crop.

Output 3: 3. Selected control agent reared under controlled conditions on Tristan	3.1 Rearing facilities established on Tristan to allow repeated releases without long-distance imports by the end of year one 3.2 At least one well suited control agent brought into permanent culture under controlled rearing conditions on Tristan by end of year one 3.3 Three Tristan Conservation Department staff (2 male / 1 female) trained in rearing control agents by the end of year one 3.4 At least 14 school children (7 female / 7 male) involved in propagating/growing plants for the control agents by the end of year one, and subsequent rearing by Q3 of year two 3.5 Production of at least 300 female control agents for release by the end of year one and 500 females in both years two and three	3.1 Photographic evidence of rearing facilities 3.2 Rearing protocols. Photographic evidence 3.3 Training protocol provided as annex to second annual project report 3.4 Teacher feedback in second annual project report. 3.5 Results from rearing protocols provided in second annual project report	Pest Risk Assessment ensures that no native species are harmed by the control agent. To date, no native scale insects have ever been recorded for the Tristan group, but further surveys by a world-leading entomologist, and rigorous testing as part of the PRA process, will provide extremely high levels of confidence in this assumption. Control agents can be reared and cultured under controlled conditions. This is highly likely as standardised rearing protocols for both parasitoid and predatory control agents of C. hesperidum exist. Tristan Conservation Department able to work closely with the Island school. This is highly likely as occurs frequently already.

Output 4: 4. Control agents released and successfully established on Tristan da Cunha, Inaccessible & Nightingale Islands	4.1 At least one well suited control agent released in at least two sites with heavy infestations of C. hesperidum on one of the islands in Q4 of year one and in each of the three islands by the end of year two and again in year three 4.2 Annual Q4 monitoring of infestation rates of C. hesperidum at release sites shows at least one control agent established in at least one site by end of year two, and on all three islands by end of year three	4.1 Release reports. Photographic evidence. 4.2 Annual monitoring reports. Final report includes post-release evaluation.	Suitable weather conditions allow field releases. Environmental conditions allow establishment of agents (which is highly likely as testing will have aimed to replicate conditions on Tristan as much as possible)
Output 5: 5. Invasive New Zealand flax closest to Phylica habitat controlled on Inaccessible Island World Heritage Site	5.1 All flax plants present on island plateau are mapped and removed in Q4 of year one 5.2 The 2019 baseline map of cliff flax presence is updated and the top 50m of invaded cliff beneath plateau is cleared of flax in Q4 of year one 5.3 All year one plateau and cliff clearings re-checked and re-controlled where necessary in Q4 of year two	5.1 Plateau flax presence map. Control team report. Photographic evidence. 5.2 Updated cliff flax map. Control team report. Photographic evidence. 5.3 Monitoring trip report. Updated plateau and cliff flax presence maps. Photographic evidence.	Tristan Government retains this as a key priority. Highly likely as included in the project at Tristan's specific request and a key action of the World Heritage Site management plan. Suitable weather conditions enable timely team drop-off and pick-up, plus working conditions on the island plateau. Control therefore to be conducted in the Tristan summer (Jan-March) to maximise good weather. Unmapped first-hand reports from February 2019 team on flax presence on the island plateau suggest that full removal is possible.

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.

1.1 Identification of scale insect from samples collected on Tristan; use of molecular methods to identify the strain/subspecies present on Tristan
1.2 Analysis of pre-project survey and literature survey to match agents to scale taxon present on Tristan; this includes climate matching of previous successful control projects of C. hesperidum with the conditions present on Tristan
1.3 Selection of suitable and readily available agents, including use of agents commercially available and agents currently used in other research institutes
1.4 Shipment of living scale insects from Tristan to quarantine at CABI to test agents on the correct target taxon
1.5 Culturing of C. hesperidum from Tristan at CABI for testing and mass rearing of agents
1.6 Survey in SA for additional agents; the survey will focus on areas with significant citrus growing where C. hesperidum is widespread
1.7 Risk assessment for selected agents with a focus on published host specificity records
1.8 Efficacy testing of agents in quarantine at Egham UK looking into infestation rates and rates of encapsulation by the target species

2.1 Community engagement lead visits Tristan in Q2 of Years 1 and 2 to engage Council, school children and community members via public meetings, informal discussions, classroom teaching and film screening.
2.2 The PRA is submitted to APHA for independent scrutiny, and their feedback then provide direct to Tristan Council both in writing and via a phone explanation.
2.3 Tristan Council meeting discusses PRA and approves issue of an environmental permit by the 'Administrator in Council'.
2.4 Visiting expert conducts pest assessments on potato crops of at least 8 growers, as well as the Agriculture Department vegetable production polytunnel, providing immediate verbal feedback and a follow-up report.

3.1 Rearing of agents for release at CABI quarantine facilities using several chambers to keep individual agents separated and supply population of scales uninfected
3.2 Development of training material and rearing protocols for Tristan, including photographic identification guide for the species involved in word format and as PowerPoint presentation
3.3 Establishment of polytunnel rearing facilities on Tristan
3.4 First shipment of approved agent(s) to Tristan and establishment in prepared rearing facilities on the island
3.5 Training of Conservation Department staff on Tristan in how to rear control agents followed by remote supervision after the training
3.6 Culturing of agents on Tristan in person and under remote supervision by FERA and CABI

4.1 Training of Conservation Department staff on Tristan in how to release and monitor control agents
4.2 First release of agent(s) on at least two sites on one of the target islands
4.3 Follow on shipments and releases of agent(s) to cover all three target islands
4.4 Monitoring of establishment by local staff once every year in late summer/early autumn
4.5 Monitoring of impact (infestation rates of C. hesperidum) by local staff once every year in late

summer/early autumn

5.1 Experienced flax control team visit Inaccessible island in year one to complete island plateau flax mapping and update the 2019 cliff flax map baseline
5.2 All island plateau flax, and the top 50m of invaded cliff beneath the plateau, is cleared of flax in year one
5.3 Experienced flax control team revisit Inaccessible in year two to re-check and re-control year one clearings where necessary

Section 13 - Implementation Timetable

Q29. 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 Excel spreadsheet template as appropriate to describe the intended workplan for your project.

Implementation Timetable Template

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

R8 DPlus - Implementation Timetable FINAL
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Section 14 - Monitoring and Evaluation

Q30. Monitoring and evaluation (M&E) plan

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. Additionally, please indicate an approximate budget and level of effort (person days) to be spent on M&E (see Finance Guidance for Darwin/IWT**).**

At the start of the project a detailed work plan (incorporating an M&E plan), co-ordinated by the RSPB project manager, will set out responsibility for activities according to the project implementation timetable and logframe performance indicators/MoVs, and mechanisms for financial control.

Regular project monitoring will be held through bi-monthly meetings between the four partner organisations via audio/video links that will use the work plan to monitor and evaluate progress against project outputs. This will be co-ordinated by the RSPB. More extensive M&E meetings will take place every six months, in line with the Darwin reporting schedule, so as to evaluate progress. Any changes in assumptions or risks, or new issues arising, will be noted and used to modify the workplan proactively, and in consultation with the Darwin Secretariat. Annual and final reports, as well as all published outputs, will be generated as collaborative activities, with responsibility shared equally between the four partner organisations.

A steering group, featuring all four partner organisations and also the GB Non-Native Species Secretariat, will be established to provide further oversight and guidance. It will meet every 6 months.

Activities conducted within individual work packages impact to a considerable degree, on the conduct of subsequent work packages both with regards to the anticipated time frame and methodology. As the four biocontrol work packages of the project need to be conducted in sequential order, towards the end of each package a limited evaluation with regards to any necessary adjustments will be undertaken by all the project partners, co-ordinated by the RSPB. Next stage activities can then be adjusted as required. This will be facilitated by an annual visit to Tristan by a member of either CABI or FERA in every year of the project, enabling first-hand monitoring of delivery.

A major monitoring milestone will be the independent opinion on the PRAs by the UK Animal & Plant Health Agency (APHA). This will provide additional oversight and rigour to ensure that Tristan Council are receiving independent advice on whether or not to accept the recommendations and results of a PRA, before proceeding to control agent release.

The follow-up monitoring trip to Inaccessible in year two will enable clear evaluation and forward-planning to take place for that invasive plant species.

By the end of the project, three years' worth of monitoring of C. hesperidum and the control agent(s) will have taken place, so the team will then be able to evaluate whether establishment of control agents and impact on its target host is as anticipated or if corrective actions with regards to any forward work planning by RSPB and Tristan Conservation beyond the life of this current project will be necessary.

RSPB will retain overall financial control over the project, and all partners will be sub-granted to account specifically for funds provided to them.

The final project report and any publications based on the results of this project will be peer reviewed, internally by senior scientists in the partner organisations before the scientific journal peer-review process.

Total project budget for M&E in GBP (this may include Staff, Travel and Subsistence costs)	£[redacted]
Number of days planned for M&E	66.00
Percentage of total project budget set aside for M&E (%)	7.40

Section 15 - Certification

Q31. Certification

On behalf of the

trustees

of

RSPB

I apply for a grant of

£306,653.00

I certify that, to the best of our knowledge and belief, the statements made by us in this application are true and the information provided is correct. I am aware that this application form will form the basis of the project schedule should this application be successful.

(This form should be signed by an individual authorised by the applicant institution to submit applications and sign contracts on their behalf.)

- I have enclosed CVs for project key project personnel, letters of support, budget and project implementation timetable (uploaded at appropriate points in application).
- Our last two sets of signed audited/independently verified accounts and annual report are also enclosed.

Checked

Name	Jonathan Hall
Position in the organisation	Head of UK Overseas Territories
Signature (please upload e-signature)	Jonathan signature 26/11/2019 16:17:13 jpg 22.93 KB
Date	26 November 2019

Section 16 - Submission Checklist

Checklist for submission

	Check
I have read the Guidance documents, including the "Guidance Notes for Applicants**" 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 this proposed project.	Checked
I have provided a 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 included a 1 page CV or job description for all the Project staff identified at Question 14, including the Project Leader, or provided an explanation of why not.	Checked
I have included a letter of support from the Lead Organisation and main partner organisation(s) identified at Question 13, or an explanation of why not.	Checked
I have included a cover letter from the Lead Organisation, outlining how any feedback at Stage 1 has been addressed where relevant.	Checked
I have been in contact with the FCO 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 included a signed copy of the last 2 years annual report and accounts for the Lead Organisation, or provided an explanation if 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 GOV.UK**.**	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, Darwin Plus 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.

Unchecked

Data protection and use of personal data

Information supplied in this application form, including personal data, will be used by Defra as set out in the latest copy of the Privacy Notice for Darwin, Darwin Plus and the Illegal Wildlife Trade Challenge Fund available here. This Privacy Notice must be provided to all individuals whose personal data is supplied in the application form. Some information, but not personal data, may be used when publicising the Darwin Initiative including project details (usually title, lead organisation, location, and total grant value) on the GOV.UK and other websites.

Information relating to the project or its results may also be released on request, including under the 2004 Environmental Information Regulations and the Freedom of Information Act 2000. However, Defra will not permit any unwarranted breach of confidentiality nor will we act in contravention of our obligations under the General Data Protection Regulation (Regulation (EU) 2016/679).