Applicant: Pelembe, Tara Organisation: South Atlantic Environmental Research Institute Funding Sought: £210,072.00 Funding Awarded: £210,072.00

# DPR8S2\1025

DPLUS116 Falklands wetlands and aquatic habitats: baselines for monitoring future change

# **Section 1 - Contact Details**

#### **PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS**

Title	Mrs
Name	Tara
Surname	Pelembe
Organisation	South Atlantic Environmental
	Research Institute
Website (Work)	http://www.south-atlantic-rese
	arch.org/
Tel (Work)	
Email (Work)	
Address	

#### **CONTACT DETAILS**



#### **GMS ORGANISATION**



## Section 2 - Title, Dates & Budget Summary

#### Q3a. Project title

DPLUS116 Falklands wetlands and aquatic habitats: baselines for monitoring future change

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

DPR8S1\1010

## 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.

☑ Falkland Islands (FI)

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

• No

#### Q5. Project dates

Start date:	End date:	Duration (e.g. 2 years, 3
01 April 2020	31 March 2022	months):
		2 years

### **Q6. Budget summary**



#### Q6a. Do you have proposed matched funding arrangements?

• Yes

#### What matched funding arrangements are proposed?

Match funding will be provided by in-kind time from lead and partner organisation staff and through a contribution of £ per year from the Falkland Islands Government Environmental Studies Budget.

Q6b. Proposed (confirmed & unconfirmed)£ = 18%matched funding as % of total project cost(total cost is the Darwin request plus)other funding required to run the project).

#### **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 <u>GOV.UK</u>.

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
DPLUS 094	Tara Pelembe	Developing Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) tools for Turks and Caicos
DPLUS 083	Tara Pelembe	Soil map and online database as climate change mitigation tools
DPLUS 071	Dr Paul Brickle	Fine scaling the design of Falkland Islands Marine Management Areas
DPLUS065	Dr Paul Brickle	Mapping Falklands and South Georgia coastal margins for Spatial Planning
DPLUS042	Dr Paul Brickle	Dolphins of the kelp: Data priorities for Falkland's inshore cetaceans
DPLUS027	Dr Paul Brickle	Marine Spatial Planning in the Falkland Islands

# 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.

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# **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:	South Atlantic Environmental Research Institute (SAERI)
Website address:	www.south-atlantic-research.org

Details (including roles and responsibilities	
and capacity to engage with the project):	

SAERI aspires to be a world renowned, environmental research institute. SAERI has the infrastructure and capacity to conduct environmental research throughout the South Atlantic and further afield. It has significant grant and project management and delivery experience which includes several previous Darwin Initiative projects.

Have you provided a cover letter to address your Stage 1 feedback?	⊙ Yes
Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?	⊙ Yes
	SAERI will Chair the Project Management Group that will be comprised of all partner organisations.
	In addition, SAERI will oversee the data management and has the data management infrastructure, the IMS-GIS centre, which will take care of the management of the entire life cycle of the data generated by the project with the Project Team.
	SAERI is also responsible for all the projects financial management.
	As the project lead, SAERI will be responsible for overseeing the management and delivery of the project as a whole. This includes ensuring that the project methodology is followed and all scientific outputs are robust and credible.
	Tara Pelembe, the project leader has managed a number of large projects successfully seeing them through to timely and successful delivery. SAERI will also employ a freshwater ecologist with the ecological and analytical skills to pull together the analysis elements of the project, and to oversee project delivery.

#### Do you have partners involved in the Project?

• Yes

**1. Partner Name:** Falkland Islands Government (FIG) Website address: https://www.falklands.gov.fk/

Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):	Environmental Officer and policy adviser, Denise Blake, is responsible for the development and implementation of environmental policy in the Falkland Islands. Her knowledge of the Falkland Islands natural environments and Falkland Islands policy development will inform this project. FIG will be members of the Project Management Group and will be integral to the development of policy relevant recommendations, aimed at enhancing the biodiversity of wetlands in the Falkland Islands. Denise will provide advice and steer on the science/policy relevance of the project throughout its lifespan and ensure that a lasting legacy will be developed into the future of this project. Together with her team in the FIG Environment Unit, Denise will ensure that the legacy of this project is sustainably ensured in the Falkland Islands.
Have you included a Letter of	⊙ Yes

Support from this organisation?

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

• Yes

2. Partner Name:	Centre for Ecology and Hydrology (CEH)
Website address:	https://www.ceh.ac.uk/
Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):	Professor Chris Evans will provide expertise on wetland soils and on biogeochemical, hydrological and ecological processes within streams, lakes and estuaries. He has been studying peatlands and other soils in the Falklands since 2015, and is currently contributing to project DPLUS083 on soil mapping. As part of the NERC LOCATE project he has also been studying aquatic carbon transport in Falkland rivers, with field visits in 2017 and 2019 to measure water quality and study microbial process rates in lakes, rivers and estuaries of East and West Falkland. He will provide support to the biogeochemical and hydrological aspects of this project, including advice on site selection and measurements, sharing of existing data and provision of CEH specialist field analytical equipment.
Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?	⊙ Yes
Support from this organisation?	-

3. Partner Name:	University College London (UCL)
Website address:	https://www.ucl.ac.uk/

Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):	Professor Julian R. Thompson will bring expertise in wetland hydrology including hydrological surveying and monitoring. He has extensive experience of wetland hydrological monitoring programmes undertaken in a range of environments and involving local stakeholders
	Professor Roger Flower (Emeritus Professor in UCL and acting as a consultant) will bring general and Falklands specific freshwater ecological expertise to the project. He has decade-long experience of research in a range of aquatic environments including the research programmes that have focussed on establishing baseline ecological conditions within wetland systems.
Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?	⊙ Yes

4. Partner Name:	Roger J. Flower (Prof.)
Website address:	No Response
Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):	Professor Roger Flower has direct experience researching freshwater wetlands in the FIs, including expertise in local field sampling, microalgae and water quality. He will contribute to planning and execution of the work-plan and undertake selective micro algal analyses.
Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?	⊙ Yes

5. Partner Name:	David Stroud (independent)
Website address:	https://www.researchgate.net/profile/David_Stroud
Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):	David Stroud's experience of international conservation processes related to wetlands, their identification and inventory, and the processes of their protection (both legally and through management planning) is directly relevant to this project. He has worked on the development of protected area networks for species and habitats for over 30 years.
Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?	O Yes O 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?	O Yes O 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.

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# **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?
Tara Pelembe	Project Leader	20	Checked

Tbc	Project Manager and Freshwater ecologist	100	Checked
Teresa Bowers	Business and contracts	1	Checked
iLaria Marengo	Data Management	10	Checked

#### Do you require more fields?

• Yes

Name (First name, Surname)	Role	% time on project	1 page CV or job description attached?
Denise Blake	FIG Policy lead	5	Checked
Chris Evans	Wetlands and Soils	5	Checked
Roger Flower	micro algal analysis	5	Checked
Julian Thompson	Wetland Hydrology	5	Checked
David Stroud	Wetlands and Ramsar convention	5	Checked
No Response	No Response	0	Unchecked
No Response	No Response	0	Unchecked
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.

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#### 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 Falkland Islands (FI) historically lacked herbivorous mammals. The introduction of grazing animals has led to vegetation changes and soil erosion. The impact of these changes on wetland and aquatic habitats is not well-understood; limited past research suggests that water quality may remain fairly natural and is largely influenced by sea salt deposition and humic acids from peat runoff. Some studies however have shown evidence of human impacts, such as elevated nutrient concentrations in some ponds.

Climate change also presents several threats. Temperature rise could directly impact on aquatic biota, and increase water evaporation which could reduce freshwater availability and lead to possible loss of some habitats. Increased storminess will change water quality and may change the hydro-morphology of drainage systems and wetlands. The effect of such changes on the aquatic biota can be understood by regular monitoring.

These problems have also been identified through the FIG Policy framework. The Falkland Islands Biodiversity Framework (FIBF) is a threats-based policy, which identifies high, medium and low priority threats, and outlines response strategies. One of these (No. 3) is an Eco-regions habitats, species and sites strategy (EHSSS) which identifies 11 ecoregions, 6 of which (Near Shore Coastal; Estuarine; Fresh Water/Riverine; Fresh Water Ponds/Lakes; Lowlands; Montane) can be classified as 'wetlands' as defined by Ramsar. The EHSSS requires each of the Eco-regions to have an action plan.

This project will provide an evidence-baseline for FI wetlands and propose recommendations for a wetlands action plan for 5 of the 6 ecoregions above (Coastal will be excluded as it is covered under DPLUS065). This will therefore address a national biodiversity planning target. In addition, based on consultation with FIG the project will develop indicators for FI wetlands condition that can be applied across the islands can be used to monitor and manage future change.

### 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 <u>Guidance Notes</u> before answering this question.

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

The project will be divided into four distinct work packages

Work package 1: Project management: The project will be managed by SAERI with a dedicated project

manager, all partners will form part of the project management group (PMG) who will meet regularly (electronically) to provide direction, advice and monitoring. All PMG and project documentation will be shared online. There will be regular liaison with on island organisations such as Falklands Conservation (FC) who are working on other terrestrial projects to ensure maximum benefit, share opportunities and to explore synergies etc.

Work Package 2: Baseline data, collation and gap analysis: All existing data and literature around wetlands on the FI will be brought together, including the outputs from the DPLUS065 FI habitat map, DPLUS083 soils mapping and 2004 UK government funded FI-Bril projects, any current FI wetland designations (Ramsar sites GB1103 and GB1104, KBAs, IPAs etc.) and data from published and unpublished research studies. All open data will be uploaded into the Falkland Islands data portal, reviewed and analysed to identify gaps in knowledge about wetlands. A workshop will be held during the delivery of this work package to bring together on-island and international experts to share expertise and ensure that all relevant data is embedded in the project, and that there is no duplication of previous work. All spatial data will be compiled into a GIS database.

Work Package 3: Addressing the gaps: Gaps in data around wetlands will be addressed by an intensive field assessment of freshwater wetland ecosystems within at least six representative river-estuary catchments distributed across the Falkland Islands Within each catchment we will study representative examples each of the five ecoregions of interest where we will collect field data on the aquatic systems (including freshwater invertebrates using eDNA techniques, water quality, water catchment features, hydrology, conductivity e.g. water levels, temperature). Wherever possible we will use low-cost in situ measurement techniques such as absorbance, pH, conductivity and chlorophyll probes (available via project partner organisations). The field season will bring together all project partners during a 2-week period of enhanced data collection which will be rounded up with a 1-day symposium, to present initial findings to the wider on island community. The project manager will conduct additional field surveys with volunteers throughout the project

Work Package 4: Evidence/Policy interface. The enhanced datasets for the representative sites will be analysed, and combined with expert opinion to define and measure indicators of wetland condition for future monitoring, and for further assessment across the whole of FI. Science outputs will feed into a series of recommendations for a wetlands action plan to cover the 5 ecoregions. An indicator monitoring manual will be produced and a training workshop on how to measure the indicators will be held so that there is wide capacity on island to continue measuring and monitoring into the future. A final end of project workshop will be held with all stakeholders, and the final project outputs will be presented to the Environment Committee.

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

No Response

# 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.

One of the key stakeholders in this project is FIG who have been directly involved in the project

formulation. Landowners are also important stakeholders and SAERI has good working relationships with them because of previous terrestrial projects including DPLUS083 where much of the fieldwork was carried out on privately owned land.

FC are a key stakeholder and they are submitting a complementary project – there will be regular communications between both projects should both be successful.

A 6-monthly project stakeholders meeting will update all island-based stakeholders on project development and give individuals and organisations an opportunity to provide input as the project progresses. A 1 day symposium at the end of the intensive field season period will present initial findings to the community.

Annual presentations will be made to the Falkland Islands Environment Committee which is a cross-sectoral group chaired by the Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) with the environment portfolio to provide opportunities for wider engagement and sharing of ideas, suggestions etc.

All parties and the wider community will be updated on the progress of the project through local and online media such as Wool Press, Penguin News, SAERI quarterly newsletter, FI community Facebook and the project webpage.

### Q14. Institutional Capacity

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

SAERI is based in the Falklands Islands and has been established for 7 years. SAERI aspires to be a world renowned, environmental research institute. SAERI has the infrastructure and capacity to conduct environmental research throughout the South Atlantic and beyond.

SAERI has been successfully managing and delivering projects over the last 7 years for a number of donors including DPLUS and the European Commission. SAERI has a core team of administrators and managers that enable robust oversight of project delivery.

SAERI's IMS-GIS data centre, will undertake the management of the entire cycle of the data generated by the project. Data documentation and accessibility will be ensured through filling the metadata form and by creating a user-friendly public webGIS service. Data is stored on a dedicated off-site server backed up daily.

SAERI's office in the Falklands will host the project manager and we will also provide all of the logistical support for all of the fieldwork.

The Falkland Islands Government (FIG) Policy and Economic Development Unit is responsible for the sustainable management of the environment of the Falkland Islands. It is FIG's responsibility to ensure that all relevant International Obligations are met. The FIG environmental policy adviser will provide 5% of her time to the project.

A team of experts from CEH, UCL and independent David Stroud have committed the required time to the project to provide specialist input and oversight via the project management group, and will take part in the on island field season.

### **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.

Sustainable management of our natural environments is a key benefit to all residents of the Falkland Islands. This project will go a long way in ensuring that management efforts are created to ensure that Falkland Islands freshwater wetlands are sustainably managed. This project will benefit the Falkland Islands Government, by supporting their aims, as the project will deliver the baseline information required and evidence base for the creation of action plans and to inform the necessary conservation goals. This project will assist in the implementation of the Biodiversity Framework for the Falkland Islands.

The wider population will also benefit through increased knowledge and understanding of the natural environment, and through increased access to robust datasets that will also be online via the WebGIS.

Because of the project achieving its outputs and outcome, the wetlands of the Falkland Islands will be better understood and regular indicator monitoring will enable rapid management interventions when required. This will benefit FIG as it moves forward to take a more strategic approach to managing and monitoring its natural environment and the state of the environment, by enabling early detection of positive and negative changes, thus allowing for focussed/targeted interventions which should also reduce costs.

# **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?

The project teams working on the development of this project proposal are of mixed genders, and the project leader is female. If awarded, the project will be delivered by a mixed gender team and we will work with Falkland Islands Government staff and stakeholders of mixed gender, ensuring an equal gender representation wherever possible.

It is recognised that attendance at stakeholder workshops or meetings may be limited by parental responsibilities. Therefore, this project will give consideration in the organisation of the timings of workshops and to allow stakeholders who may have parental duties the ability to attend more easily. This will include consideration of the most appropriate timing (both within the day) and education year (i.e. avoiding school holiday). On the Falkland Islands, all school children go home for the lunch hour, so workshops will be scheduled so that the lunch hour is aligned with the school lunch hour, and the start and end times of the workshop aligned to the Falklands working day.

In the SAERI office, the current staff cohort is 60% female and 40% male, and SAERI has an equal opportunities policy as part of its internal policy framework.

### 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.

In the short-term, the knowledge, understanding, analysis and availability of science and evidence related to wetlands and associated aquatic environments on the Falkland Islands will improve significantly. The FIG Policy team will have access to robust evidence-bases for wetland indicators and will have a series of recommendations upon which they can base their future wetlands policy and action plans, and update their state of the environment report. A number of island residents will be trained in the monitoring of wetland indicators.

In the long-term, the freely accessible, open data will be available to all researchers who want to further develop wetland research in the Falkland Islands and the indicators identified will be used to monitor the state/health of wetlands on the Falklands into the future. Those on island who have been trained in measuring and monitoring the indicators as part of the project will continue to do so into the future so that early warning signs of changes can be flagged and any mitigation of threats (e.g. habitat protection or restoration) implemented.

### 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.

Global knowledge and understanding about the nature and condition of wetland environments in the Falkland Islands is increased with a system of established measuring and monitoring indicators of change, which can trigger early warnings for management interventions. This will be done by an interdisciplinary team of experts and policy-makers through a process of

(1) collating, managing and analysing existing knowledge; and identifying gaps and

(2) addressing those knowledge gaps through an innovative technology (e.g. eDNA, new sensors) and an intensive season of field data collection and follow-up analysis;

(3) using the new knowledge base to determine indicators (of wetland condition) that can continue to be monitored into the future and providing recommendations for the development of Falkland Islands policy i.e. aquatic eco-regions action plan.

On-island training in measuring and monitoring indicators will be undertaken, and on-island partners and other interested organisations/individuals will be part of an intensive field season to ensure the long-term sustainability of the monitoring.

### 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?

This project enables FIG to plan for, and manage its freshwater wetland environments. It will provide the foundations (of data and options for policy and practice) for long-term monitoring of important ecoregions, habitats and sites.

Once the project is completed, there will be ongoing monitoring of the indicators. The systems, protocols and responsibilities for this will be established during the project. With the project being led by a territory-based organisation, with territory government direct input, the team structure is such that the decisions on 'who will do this' will be made as part of the project when there is sufficient clarity around the detailed nature of the tasks. However, training on the measuring and monitoring of indicators is built into the project activities to ensure that people on island have the skills to undertake this work.

The public facing web-GIS that will be developed for the project containing data collected and modelling outputs will be updated post-project as new information is received acting as a functional management tool for FIG and the wider community. This will be done by the IMS-GIS data centre that is based at SAERI and receives funding from FIG to provide these type of regular updates.

# **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
- <u>R8 D+ Budget form for projects over £100,000</u>

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.

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### 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
FIG		GBP	FIG Environment Office and policy adviser 5% staff time in kind
SAERI		£0.00	Project leader 10% staff time in kind
СЕН		GBP	Full CEH Overheads not charged and in-kind staff time.
Roger Flower		GBP	In kind staff time.

#### 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
26 November 2019	FIG		GBP	See FIG letter of support - Environment Studies budget Y1
26 November 2019	FIG		GBP	See FIG letter of support - Environment Studies budget Y2
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?

SAERI will be responsible for setting up the financial reporting systems to ensure that governance is strictly adhered to in accordance with SAERI and the Darwin+ Financial guidelines.

SAERI is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation registered in England and Wales. Grant payments will be administered, and project expenditure tracked, by SAERI's Deputy Director (DDBP). Funds will be in a ring-fenced project account with access limited to the accountant, PM and DDBP. DDBP has donor fund management, charity CEO and investment fund management experience. SAERI's accounts are annually audited. Prior to splitting from FIG, SAERI's accounts were audited with FIG infrastructure from FIG Treasury. The accountancy system and management controls were proven through previous funding awards of similar magnitude. SAERI has successfully completed and audited DPLUS027. The PM, under the guidance and approvals of the DDBP, will submit a quarterly budget for approval to the PMG and quarterly financial reports to Darwin+.

#### 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.

SAERI has standardised financial policies and procedures, which have clear checks and balances for managing all of the organisation's finances. It manages multiple projects from multiple funding sources and strict financial reporting procedures are adhered to.

The financial controls outlined in the section (Q22) above form an integral part of the systems in place to mitigate against any threats or risks of fraud or bribery. SAERI operates UK and FI bank accounts and access is limited to the Deputy Director and the Executive Director. All transactions are reviewed by two individuals and cross-checked.

In addition, SAERI has in place the following relevant documents:

- Anti Bribery and Corruption Policy
- Data Protection Policy
- Whistleblowing and Public Interest Disclosure Policy
- Internal Financial Procedures (oversight from Mazars)
- Delegation of Authority
- Terms of reference for the Board of Trustees, an Audit Committee and a Remuneration Committee

#### **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.

SAERI and partners have galvanised (18%) match funding. SAERI has managed a number of Darwin Plus project and provides excellent value for money in the delivery of this project.

FIG have contributed their time as in-kind showing not only good value for money but a clear commitment to the project and its delivery, which is particularly important as policy impact is a desired project outcome which can only be delivered by FIG partners. FIG have also provided £5000 match funding per year to through their environment studies budget. Match funding from the project partners' institution: The international project partners contribute very specifically in areas where additional expertise is required to complement on-island expertise, which limits the costs associated with international charge out rates and travel etc. The budget was calculated from actual costs incurred by SAERI in managing similar projects .Emphasis has been given to providing the project with the necessary equipment and expertise for success.

Equipment: the technical equipment is bought new and shipped from the UK – it will have a long-term value in that it will be a resource that will enhance the technical equipment available on the Falkland lislands. The vehicle that is costed is a second hand one

### 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 capital items will be a laptop for the project manager, and a vehicle for the project so that all of the terrestrial field work can be undertaken, and equipment for field data collection and analysis. The capital equipment is 16% of the budget. This is explained in the cover letter. The vehicle increases capital costs but is a requirement for fieldwork on the Falklands as it is off road and hire vehicles aren't allowed off road. Capital items will remain with SAERI in the Falkland Islands and will continue to be used to undertake research activities in the Falklands. In addition, the technical equipment will remain on island and will be used for long term monitoring. All of the equipment will be based at SAERI and will be logged in SAERI's equipment database where there is a system for booking equipment in and out as required.

#### 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.

Processes established under the project mean all outputs will be made available online and free to use whenever possible. Information: Reports, meeting notes, training manuals, volunteer resources etc. will be made available online via the dedicated project web pages set up on the SAERI website. Project partners will link to these web pages, and provide relevant updates. All data will be deposited in the Falkland Islands data portal. Protocols on data documentation, security, access, preservation of ownership and intellectual property rights will be put place. The single centralised location and standardised data request procedure maximise the profile and accessibility of existent data.

SAERI is ideally placed to ensure and promote the promulgation and use of project data. All metadata generated will be available online via the Falkland Islands data portal. Additionally, the data will be accessible online to everyone through the project-based webGIS service. Previous Darwin projects (DPLUS027, DPLUS063) and current ones (DPLUS052, DPLUS042) have already and will be published online.

The SAERI data manager will be responsible for keeping the data on a spatial database as much as possible and allow data sharing among the project partners to facilitate collaboration. All data, after being published by the researchers involved in the project, will be available as open access.

All peer-reviewed journal articles will be targeted at open source journals and there is some institutional budget to ensure this. The project will of course also adhere to the DPLUS data requirements as outlined in

## **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	Checked
to safeguarding and a zero tolerance statement on bullying, harassment and sexual	
exploitation and abuse	

We keep a detailed register of safeguarding issues raised and how they were dealt Checked with

We have clear investigation and disciplinary procedures to use when allegations and Checked complaints are made, and have clear processes in place for when a disclosure is made

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:

Increased understanding of the nature and condition of wetland environment enables indicators of change to be established to trigger early warnings for management interventions.

Project summary	<b>Measurable Indicators</b>	Means of verification	Important
			Assumptions

Outcome: The wetlands of the Falkland Islands are better understood and there is regular indicator monitoring to enable rapid management interventions to be triggered when required.	0.1 At least 3 indicators for long term monitoring established 0.2 1x Paper on policy recommendations for Wetlands Ecoregion Action Plan presented to Environment Committee.	<ul> <li>0.1 Manual for indicator monitoring published online</li> <li>0.2 Paper on recommendations presented at Environment Committee</li> </ul>	Appropriate indicators that can be monitored into the future with minimum resource requirements are able to be established Environment Committee accept and progress the papers recommendations.
<b>Output 1:</b> 1. An effective, efficient and accountable project management system established	<ul> <li>1.1 1x PMG meeting held every 3 months</li> <li>1.2 1x Project Manager recruited by Y1Q2</li> <li>1.3 1x Monitoring and evaluation plan published by Y1Q3</li> <li>1.4 1x Environment Committee update by Y1 Q4</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>1.1 PMG meeting notes online on project webpage</li> <li>1.2 PM Contract signed</li> <li>1.3 Monitoring and evaluation plan online on project webpage</li> <li>1.4 Environment Committee paper presented.</li> </ul>	Recruitment runs to plan and Project Manager in place at the scheduled time. Environment Committee agenda has a slot for the paper presentations at the scheduled time
<b>Output 2:</b> 2. Existing baseline data mined and collated and data gaps identified and prioritised	<ul> <li>2.1 1x Literature review</li> <li>of FI wetlands by Y1Q3</li> <li>2.2 1x Data mining and</li> <li>collation FI database by</li> <li>Y1Q3</li> <li>2.3 1x WebGIS of FI</li> <li>wetlands Spatial data by</li> <li>Y1Q3.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>2.1 Literature review online on project webpage</li> <li>2.2 New data records in the Falkland Islands data portal managed by SAERI's IMS-GIS data centre</li> <li>2.3 WebGIS project online on project webpage</li> </ul>	The expert team established enables grey as well as published literature and unpublished as well as published data to be collated to avoid any duplication of previous work
<b>Output 3:</b> 3. Priority data gaps addressed through fieldwork	3.1 1x Intense field season in Y1Q4 3.2 Address gaps in spatial aspects of basic water quality in the inland waters of the Falkland Islands. (would include logging short term variations in salinity)3.3 1 x field season report in Y1Q4 3.4 1x field season Symposium Y1 Q4 3.51 x field season database and WebGIS updates Y2 Q1	<ul> <li>3.1 Field season report online on project webpage</li> <li>3.2 Field season symposium presentations available online</li> <li>3.3 New data records in the FI data portal</li> <li>3.4 WebGIS project online on project webpage has new records</li> </ul>	Weather during the scheduled field season is suitable for field work. Flights are on time and enable the full 2 week period of field work to be undertaken. Sufficient accommodation available on the Falklands to carry out the fieldwork.

Output 4: 4. Indicators established, capacity in indicator monitoring built and policy recommendations made.	<ul> <li>4.1 At least 3 indicators</li> <li>identified by Y2Q1</li> <li>4.2 Long term</li> <li>monitoring protocols</li> <li>and procedures</li> <li>established</li> <li>4.3 At least 5 FIG and 5</li> <li>SAERI staff trained in</li> <li>indicator monitoring by</li> <li>Y2Q2</li> <li>4.4 1x Paper on</li> <li>recommendations for</li> <li>wetlands action plan by</li> <li>Y2Q3</li> <li>4.5 1x Final project</li> <li>stakeholder talk Y2Q4</li> <li>4.6 1x Environment</li> <li>Committee update</li> <li>Y2Q4.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>4.1 Indicator report and training manual online</li> <li>4.2 Workshop report online</li> <li>4.3 Policy paper presented at environment committee</li> <li>4.4 Public talk advertisement</li> <li>4.5 Policy paper presented at Environment Committee</li> </ul>	There are enough people interested in undertaking the training to reach the target number. Environment Committee agenda has a slot for the paper presentations at the scheduled time.
<b>Output 5:</b> No Response	No Response	No Response	No Response

#### Do you require more Output fields?

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

No

#### Activities

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

1.1 Organise and host quarterly project management group meetings and make notes available online

- 1.2 Recruit the Project manager
- 1.3 Write the Monitoring and evaluation plan and make it available online
- 1.4 Provide an end of Year 1 project update to the FI Environment Committee.
- 2.1 Undertake Literature review of FI wetlands and produce a summary report
- 2.2 Undertake a data mining exercise and upload all relevant data onto the FI data portal
- 2.3 Produce WebGIS of FI wetlands Spatial data
- 3.1 Organise and undertake preliminary fieldwork, and write up fieldwork report.
- 3.2 Organise and undertake intensive field season
- 3.3 Write up intensive field season report and make it available online
- 3.4 Organise and host intensive field season Symposium and make all of the presentations available online
- 3.5 Review new data and update the Falkland Islands data portal and WebGIS

4.1 Analyse all of the data and Identify indicators and write a report on the methodology for determining the indicators.

- 4.2 Prepare indicator monitoring manual and make it available online
- 4.3 Train FIG and SAERI staff in indicator monitoring

- 4.4 Write up training workshop report and make available online with training workshop presentations
- 4.5 Write policy paper on recommendations for wetlands action plan

4.6 Organise and host final project stakeholder/public talk

4.7 Present policy paper and end of project report to Environment Committee

## **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.

- <u>R8 DPlus DPR8S2 1025- Implementation Timet</u> able 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 <u>Finance Guidance for Darwin/IWT</u>).

All project partners will be members of the Project Management Group (PMG) who will play a key role in monitoring and steering the project. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between all of the project partners will be established at the start of the project and the M&E function will be highlighted as a core element of the roles and responsibilities of all parties in the delivery of the project.

Additionally, as part of the Project Management Structure, in the first six months of their appointment, the

Project Manager will prepare a detailed Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) plan in which a set of evaluation questions will used to assess the effectiveness of the project's outcomes. Specific monitoring questions will be used to answer the evaluation questions and will be checked through indicators, data sources/methods to obtain the data, and the responsibilities for data collection (as mentioned in the MoU).

The M&E plan will be then submitted to the PMG for sign off. Oversight of the delivery of the M&E plan will be the responsibility of the Project Manager, signing off the implementation of the M&E plan will be the responsibility of the PMG.

The PM will present a 6-monthly report on progress against deliverables, M&E and a quarterly financial report to the PMG, which will check that the project delivers its outputs on time, within the proposed budget, and that the quality of the outputs is of a high standard.

A Project Stakeholder Group (PSG) will also be created as a formal approach to include the stakeholders on in the Falklands. The six-monthly meetings of this group will also provide an opportunity for a wider and more mixed audience to review and comment on the outputs of the project.

Summary reports of the project's outcomes will be provided to the Environment Committee and to the Darwin Initiative as required by the donors reporting mandates.

An online project management and file-sharing system (Google drive or Trello) will be established to ensure all partners have access to relevant documents, targets, etc. irrespective of geographic location.

A component of the M&E budget allocation will be used to bring in specialist, independent review if identified as required by the PMG during and/or at the end of the project process.

Regular activity and financial reporting to Darwin Plus as required by DPLUS terms and conditions will also be an integral part of the Monitoring and Evaluation.

Total project budget for M&E in GBP (this may include Staff, Travel and Subsistence costs)	£
Number of days planned for M&E	55.00
Percentage of total project budget set aside for M&E (%)	10.00

# **Section 15 - Certification**

### **Q31.** Certification

#### On behalf of the

trustees

#### of

South Atlantic Environmental Research Institute

#### I apply for a grant of

£210,072.00

# 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	Tara Pelembe
Position in the organisation	Deputy Director - Innovation
Signature (please upload e-signature)	<ul> <li>☆ <u>TP electronic signature 2</u></li> <li>☆ 26/11/2019</li> <li>③ 17:22:18</li> <li>☑ pdf 6.97 KB</li> </ul>
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
l 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
l have included a cover letter from the Lead Organisation, outlining how any feedback at Stage 1 has been addressed where relevant.	Checked
l 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.

Checked

#### 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 <u>here</u>. 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).