



Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs

What makes a good Darwin submission?

Matthew Hatchwell, Wildlife Conservation Society and Darwin Experts Committee

A strong log-frame!

- -Clear, convincing impact statement
- -SMART outcome indicators
- Measurable, specific impacts for biodiversity conservation and human livelihoods: make it easy for us!
- Assumptions demonstrating awareness of underlying uncertainties, etc.

Clear, convincing outcome

"Community land-care approach enables Bhutan's semi-nomadic herders and agencies to restore and protect high altitude rangelands, wildlife habitats and watersheds, and to improve livelihoods through sustainable livestock and forest management."

SMART outcome indicators

- 0.1 Rate of forest clearing in target communities reduced by 30%, compared to the 10-year historical average.
- 0.2 Species composition and richness of birds and mammals more similar to natural forest in areas with project interventions than in areas without project interventions. *How will this be measured?*
- 0.3 Retaliatory killing of carnivores, particularly jaguars, reduced by 50% across project communities. *What is the overall population trend? Are there other factors at work that might influence jaguar numbers?*
- 0.4 At least 200 Miskitu, Mayangna, and campesino families will experience a 50% increase in *livestock productivity* due to integrated livestock management. *Over what period?*

Measurable, specific impacts for biodiversity conservation and human livelihoods

- What are the species / ecosystems that will benefit from the project? What is their current conservation status? What changes will the project bring about?
- What improvements will the project generate for the well-being of local people? What is their current status? How will changes be measured?

Assumptions demonstrating understanding of project context

- The security situation does not deteriorate
- Continued supportive relationship and close partnership with DNEF, the Ministry of the Environment, and the government in general
- Continued high level of local engagement
- Community able to keep records of number of infringements of local rules

Other factors

- Good mix of partners, Pls, etc.
- Tell the whole story (within reason)
- Convincing link into international convention frameworks (i.e. beyond box-ticking)
- Sound problem statement showing full understanding of the issues to be addressed
- M&E plan that aligns well with log-frame

