

The Darwin Initiative



What is the DEC looking for?



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs



Funded by
UK Government

Who are the DEC?



- A mix of up to 20 experts from a broad range of fields relevant to the Darwin objectives
- Some lead their own projects
- Contribute to Darwin strategy
- Act as ambassadors for Darwin
- They have their own workload outside Darwin so be clear, provide all the information needed and make their reviews of your applications easier!

Reviewing applications



- 3 DEC reviewers on each application
- Scoring criteria in Guidance – same for both stages but applied as appropriate
- Sift meeting discussions on strongest scoring
- DEC recommends a list to Ministers who make the final decision



What are the DEC looking for?

For all they are experts, the DEC are human!

1. Clearly written, easily understandable applications – read the questions and make sure you answer them
2. Ambition and innovation rooted in reality
3. Biodiversity and livelihoods
4. Links to the Conventions

Questions the DEC may consider 1



- Have you addressed any feedback
- Good mix of partners, expertise and track record
- Does the application tell the whole story (within reason)
- Are there convincing links into international Conventions/Treaties
- What are the species/ecosystems that will benefit from the project?
- What is their current conservation status?

Questions the DEC may consider 2



- Is there a sound problem statement showing full understanding of the issues to be addressed
- Does the M&E plan align well with the log-frame
- 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?