

Applicant: **Hipkiss, Alex**  
Organisation: **RSPB**  
Funding Sought: **£299,332.00**

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# **DPR7P\100054**

**Restoring and safeguarding wetlands of the Caribbean UKOTs**

## PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

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<b>Title</b>	Mr
<b>Name</b>	Alex
<b>Surname</b>	Hipkiss
<b>Organisation</b>	RSPB
<b>Tel (Work)</b>	
<b>Email (Work)</b>	
<b>Address</b>	

## CONTACT DETAILS

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<b>Title</b>	Mr
<b>Name</b>	Charlie
<b>Surname</b>	Butt
<b>Organisation</b>	RSPB
<b>Website</b>	
<b>Tel (Work)</b>	
<b>Tel</b>	
<b>Email</b>	
<b>Address</b>	

## CONTACT DETAILS

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<b>Title</b>	Mr
<b>Name</b>	Lyndon
<b>Surname</b>	John
<b>Organisation</b>	RSPB
<b>Website</b>	
<b>Tel (Mobile)</b>	
<b>Tel (Work)</b>	
<b>Email</b>	
<b>Address</b>	

## Section 1 - Contact Details

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### PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

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<b>Title</b>	Mr
<b>Name</b>	Alex
<b>Surname</b>	Hipkiss
<b>Organisation</b>	RSPB
<b>Tel (Work)</b>	
<b>Email (Work)</b>	
<b>Address</b>	

### CONTACT DETAILS

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<b>Title</b>	Mr
<b>Name</b>	Charlie
<b>Surname</b>	Butt
<b>Organisation</b>	RSPB
<b>Website</b>	
<b>Tel (Work)</b>	
<b>Tel</b>	
<b>Email</b>	
<b>Address</b>	

### CONTACT DETAILS

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<b>Title</b>	Mr
<b>Name</b>	Lyndon
<b>Surname</b>	John
<b>Organisation</b>	RSPB
<b>Website</b>	
<b>Tel (Mobile)</b>	
<b>Tel (Work)</b>	
<b>Email</b>	
<b>Address</b>	

## **GMS ORGANISATION**

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<b>Type</b>	<b>Organisation</b>
<b>Name</b>	RSPB
<b>Phone (Work)</b>	
<b>Email</b>	
<b>Website</b>	
<b>Address</b>	

### **Q3. Lead organisation type**

**Please select one of the below options.**

UK NGO

## **Section 2 - Title, Dates & Budget Summary**

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#### Q4. Project title

Restoring and safeguarding wetlands of the Caribbean UKOTs

#### Q5. Project dates

**Start date:**

01 April 2019

**End date:**

31 March 2022

**Duration (e.g. 2 years, 3 months):**

3 years

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#### Q6. UKOT(s)

(See Guidance Notes)

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

- Anguilla
- Montserrat
- Turks & Caicos Islands (TCI)

**\* if you have indicated a territory group with an asterisk, please give detail on which territories you are working on here:**

*No Response*

**In addition to the UKOTs you have indicated above, will your project directly benefit any other country(ies)? If so, list here.**

Cayman Islands and the British Virgin Islands

#### Q7. Budget summary

Year:	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	Total request
<b>Q7a. Request from Darwin:</b>	£136,840.00	£80,409.00	£82,083.00	<b>£</b> 299,332.00

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**Q7b. Proposed (confirmed and unconfirmed) co-financing as % of total project cost**      23

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### Section 3 - Lead Organisation Summary

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#### Q8. Lead organisation summary

**Please provide the following information on the lead organisation**


<b>What year was your organisation established/ incorporated/ registered?</b>	1889
<b>What is the legal status of your organisation?</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> NGO
<b>How is your organisation currently funded?</b>	The RSPB is currently funded by Membership subscriptions and donations, legacies, grants, corporate support and trusts, trading and land income and other smaller sources.
<b>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.</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes


**Please attach the requested signed audited/independently examined accounts.**

**The limit for any single file uploaded as supporting materials with your application is 6MB. Please ensure documents are saved in PDF form where possible in order to minimise size.**

 [rspbannualaccounts2017](#)

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**Q9. Has your organisation been awarded Darwin Initiative funding 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)**

<b>Reference no.</b>	<b>Project leader</b>	<b>Title</b>
DPLUS005	Andy Schofield	Sustainable management of the marine environment and resources of Tristan da Cunha
DPLUS028	Andy Schofield	Assessing the conservation status of the atlantic yellow-nosed albatross
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

## Section 4 - Project Partners

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### Q10. 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, and how local institutions, local communities, and technical specialists are involved as appropriate.**

**Please provide written evidence of partnerships. Please add fields for more partnerships, if required. Details on roles and responsibilities in this project must be given for the Lead Organisation and all project partners.**

**N.B. There is a file upload button at the bottom of this page for the upload of all letters of support.**

**Lead Organisation name:** Royal Society for the Protection of Birds

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

Anguilla National Trust (ANT) has been involved in environmental conservation for over 20 years. Key programme areas include terrestrial and wetlands conservation, marine and coastal conservation and protected areas management. ANT acted as the national lead agency in advancing Anguilla's implementation of the Ramsar Convention and the designation of Sombrero Island as its first Ramsar site. ANT is the primary protected areas management agency in Anguilla.

ANT has considerable experience in project management including leading on 'Promoting the creation and appropriate management of protected areas in Anguilla and the Cayman Islands [DPLUS013]' prior Darwin projects, will commission and have oversight of the remediation scoping work to restore the conservation value of the East End Pond Conservation Area (EEPCA). ANT Field staff will lead on the biological monitoring of the Road Salt Pond IBA, whilst the Executive Director will engage local people to build greater support for the IBA.

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**Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?**  Yes

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

Yes

**2. Partner Name:** Montserrat National Trust

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**Website address:** montserratnationaltrust.ms/

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

Montserrat National Trust (MNT), was established by statute in February 1970, and has been at the forefront of conserving the cultural, archaeological and biodiversity heritage of Montserrat. Over the years MNT has led on the restoration and management of several historic and natural sites on Montserrat including the Bransby Point, Galway's Plantation and Fox's Bay Bird Sanctuary. The Trust Director's experience of people engagement, public awareness and education will be directly relevant to the project aims and brought to bear in partnership with Montserrat's Environment Department. MNT's Director, Sarita Francis, has an active dialogue with the private landowner who recently reached out to MNT regarding the restoration of the Belham Valley wetland. MNT has a good relationship with the landowner. MNT has a nursery, which will be used to grow seedlings to contribute to the restoration of the Belham Valley. MNT has excellent knowledge of and familiarity with the site and this project will help build further capacity to restore then maintain this important wetland.

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Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?  Yes

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**3. Partner Name:** Turks and Caicos National Trust

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**Website address:** [tcnationaltrust.org/](http://tcnationaltrust.org/)

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**Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):** Turks and Caicos National Trust (TCNT) is a Statutory Body of the Turks and Caicos Government established in 1992 to hold land in trust for the people of the Turks and Caicos Islands for present and future generations. Ethlyn Gibbs-Williams, the Trust Director, leads on co-ordinating activities include the management and restoration of offshore islands and wetlands. Notably, Ms. Gibbs-Williams, Della Higgs and the team are leading on iguana safeguarding and restoration activities at Little Water Cay and the offshore cays through the current Darwin 'Saving the Iguana Islands of Turks and Caicos'. Ms. Higgs will engage the public, undertaking education and outreach activities on wetland conservation. She will also address issues with local communities illegally dumping waste in Wheeland Pond, whilst Ms. Gibbs-Williams will have overall project oversight.

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Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?  Yes

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**4. Partner Name:** Department of Environment and Coastal Resources (DECR) of the Turks and Caicos Government

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**Website address:** <https://www.gov.tc/decr/>

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**Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):** The Department of Environment and Coastal Resources (DECR) of the Turks and Caicos Government is mandated to ensure the sustainable use of the natural resources and to protect and promote biodiversity and economic prosperity in the Territory.

The DECR is currently involved with DarwinPlus projects entitled: Mapping for evidence based policy, recovery and environmental resilience with Environmental Systems and JNCC; regional collaboration to achieve sustainable Caribbean fisheries management with CEFAS; Saving the Iguana of the Turks and Caicos Islands with RSPB. The DECR has previously had projects with BEST 2.0, OTEP, JNCC and Darwin OTCF. DECR has identified a contractor to undertake waste removal works at Wheeland Pond. DECR also has the in-house competencies to lead the biodiversity surveys and overall has excellent willingness and capacity to engage in the project.

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Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?  Yes

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5. Partner Name: The Montserrat Department of the Environment (DoE)

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Website address: *No Response*

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**Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):** The Montserrat Department of the Environment (DoE) was established in 2006 and it comes under the ambit of the Ministry of Agriculture, Trade, Lands, Housing and Environment (MATLHE). The Conservation and Environment Management Act (2014) charges the DoE with the responsibility for management of terrestrial protected areas which includes the Montserrat Centre Hills (1116 ha), Silver Hills Forest Reserve (30.4 ha) and Foxes Bay Bird Sanctuary (6.1 ha), [decimated by volcanic activity]. The Department has also been responsible for implementing the Feral Livestock control programme, funded in part by the EU BEST 1 initiative (2013-2015). The DoE has worked collaboratively with the RSPB on a number of initiatives, most recently the BEST 2.0 'Securing Pockets of Paradise in the Caribbean; embedding capacity for invasive alien species management in the UKOT based organizations.' The continuation of their conservation program on Montserrat builds upon their previous work and enhances their efforts to develop a better understanding and application of conservation methods for wildlife of Montserrat. The DOE looks forward to further benefiting from capacity building and skills transfer from by participating in this project.

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Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?  Yes

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6. Partner Name: *No Response*

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Website address: *No Response*

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**Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):** *No Response*

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

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


*No Response*

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Please provide letters of support from the lead organisation and all partners as a combined PDF.


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 [Darwin Plus merged documents](#)

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## Section 5 - Project Staff

### Q11. Project staff

Please identify the core staff on this project, their role and what % of their time they will be working on the project.

These should match the names and roles in the budget spreadsheet.

Please provide 1 page CVs for these staff.

Name (First name, Surname)	Role	% time on project	CV attached below?
Charlie Butt	<b>Project Leader</b>	17	Checked
Lyndon John	Project Delivery and Coordination	30	Checked
Sarita Francis	Education and Outreach	8	Checked
Ethlyn Gibbs-Williams	Management, Co-ordination	8	Unchecked

Do you require more fields?

Yes

Name (First name, Surname)	Role	% time on project	CV attached below?
James 'scriber' Daly	Bird surveys	17	Checked
Dan Pullan	Technical capacity building	8	Checked
Farah Mukhida	Management, Co-ordination	16	Checked
Lormeka Williams	Oversight , co-ordination	3	Checked
Devon Carter	Field Officer	16	Checked
Bryan Manco	Fieldwork and oversight	5	Checked
Eric Salamanca	Oversight of fieldwork	5	Checked

**Please provide 1 page CVs (or job description if yet to be recruited) for the Project staff listed above as a combined PDF. Ensure CVs clearly correspond to the named individual and role above.**

**The limit for any single file uploaded as supporting materials with your application is 6MB. Please ensure documents are saved in PDF form where possible in order to minimise size.**

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**Have you attached all Project staff CVs?**

Yes

## Section 6 - Background & Methodology

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### Q12. Summary of Project

**Please provide a brief summary of your project, its aims, and the key activities you to undertake. Please note that if you are successful, this wording may be used by Defra in communications e.g. as a short description of the project on GOV.UK. Please bear this in mind, and write this summary for a non-technical audience.**

Caribbean wetlands are critical to achieving island resiliency by providing essential ecosystem services such as flood protection and yet are being destroyed and degraded. This project aims to reverse the loss and degradation of wetlands in Anguilla, Montserrat and Turks and Caicos by sharing best practice, developing and applying practical on-the-ground wetland conservation and restoration measures, promote strengthened safeguard policy and practice and increase public awareness of the value of wetlands.

### Q13. Background

**What is the current situation and the problem that the project will address? How will it address this problem? What key OT Government priorities and themes will it address?**

Wetlands, vital for sustaining key biodiversity and in providing resilient communities are being degraded and destroyed across the Caribbean UKOTs. The value of these wetlands to people and wildlife, although well documented, is not always recognised by decision-makers and the private sector hence they are not being used wisely. They have been filled-in (e.g. Pipers Pond, Montserrat) and used as waste dumps (e.g. East End Pond Conservation Area (Anguilla) and Wheeland Pond (TCI)), increasing flooding risk and reducing their ability to support climate-resilient communities. Their ability to support globally important populations of threatened species is hindered by the lack of sound management plans owned by local people. Experience and information will be shared between project partners, increasing the recognition of the value of wetlands by key decision-makers, business and civil society whilst plans will be put in place to ensure wetlands are better managed and restored.

OT Government Priorities includes: National Environmental Management Strategy and Action Plan (Anguilla) Draft Physical Development Plan 2012-2022 (Montserrat) and the Turks and Caicos Islands Climate Change

## Q14. Methodology

**Describe the methods and approach you will use to achieve your intended Outcome and Impact. Provide information on how you will undertake the work (materials and methods) and how you will manage the work (roles and responsibilities, project management tools etc). Give details of any innovative techniques or methods.**

The RSPB Caribbean UKOTs team will lead on the overall project with experts from policy advocacy and wetlands ecology teams providing input on key components. RSPB will facilitate experience and information-sharing between the partner organisations.

Output 1: Anguilla National Trust will host a 3-day workshop to be held at project inception, bringing together partner staff, experts in wetland ecology and restoration from the RSPB and elsewhere and statutory agencies. RSPB facilitators will review the conservation issues and opportunities at all the wetlands in focus. It will explore ideas around how the issues highlighted can be addressed, covering the socio-political challenges around wetlands conservation issues as well as practical management techniques dealing with removing infill and waste to identifying and addressing pollution. The workshop will review and confirm the most appropriate survey techniques and monitoring protocols to be used, with trial application in the field at Road Salt Pond IBA. Draft action plans for the four wetlands will be prepared as a workshop output.

Output 2. A wetland restoration needs assessment will be undertaken in each Territory led by the RSPB in partnership with the National Trust leads. Some preparatory analysis has already been done for EEPKA (Anguilla) with N.S Nettles & Associates who would deliver on the activities described. In Montserrat the ToR for EIA of sand mining in Belham Valley have been defined < <http://www.gov.ms/wp-content/uploads/2011/02/BELHAM-EIA.pdf> > and mentions that operations are being conducted on the former golf course in an unplanned manner. The EIA needs to be applied and together with a restoration plan and biodiversity action plan for the operations, a net positive impact on biodiversity could be achieved. The participatory planning approach addressing mining restoration issues will be led by expert consultant Jonathan Stacey in partnership with in-Territory actors, to complement this work and understand and address the full range of issues associated with Belham Valley sand mining. In Turks and Caicos, TCNT will host regular community outreach meetings and raise awareness of the importance of Wheeland Pond whilst DECR will initiate waste removal plans.

Output 3: Stratified random sampling methods will be applied to relevant populations to determine knowledge and awareness of wetlands. Private sector representatives will be invited by letter/email to participate in practical activities at wetlands, from surveying to removing litter. Education leads from Anguilla and Turks and Caicos will organise field trips with schools designed to sensitise and educate children on wetland values and participate in wetland conservation or restoration activities.

Output 4. The four wetland sites will have action plans prepared by the project partners supported by specialists. Practical knowledge and experience will be shared amongst the Caribbean Conservation Network (i.e. extending to the National Trusts of the British Virgin Islands and Cayman Islands). Training and capacity to engage with conservation action planning for wetlands, restoration and unplanned mining will be explored in the initial workshop, with practical experience shared at an end of project workshop, RSPB UKOT team in partnership with RSPB Reserves Ecology and other specialists.

**If necessary, please provide supporting documentation e.g. maps, diagrams etc., using the File Upload below.**

The limit for any single file uploaded as supporting materials with your application is 6MB. Please ensure documents are saved in PDF form where possible in order to minimise size.

*No Response*

## Section 7 - Objectives, Stakeholders & Sustainability

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### Q15. Project Objectives

How does this project:

- **Deliver against the priority issues identified in the assessment criteria**
- **Demonstrate technical excellence in its delivery**
- **Demonstrate a clear pathway to impact in the OT(s)**

a) Assessment criteria

The project focusses on developing conservation actions and restoration plans and promoting the wise use of wetlands in Anguilla (AXA), Montserrat (MNT) and Turks and Caicos (TCI). A suite of restoration and conservation actions will be identified and applied during the project at Belham Valley wetlands in MNT, Wheeland Pond, TCI, Rock Salt Pond and East End Pond Conservation Area in AXA. Wetlands provide vital ecosystem services such as flood protection and support important bird communities and other biodiversity, key to developing eco-tourism potential on the Caribbean UKOTs. By securing the future of wetlands in these Caribbean UKOTs, it will help civil society respond to and mitigate against the impacts of natural disasters on the OT, reducing the amount of time it takes to recover from such events. Working to remove waste from East End Pond Conservation Area will contribute to the National Biodiversity and Species Action Plan of Anguilla, in particular: Principle 11 "Develop and implement management plans for ... terrestrial protected areas" and Principle 13 "Pursue appropriate measures to ... restore biological diversity." The sharing of experience and best practice is well-aligned with the sixth statement of the UK Overseas Territories Joint Ministerial 2017 Communique, which encourages cross-territory collaboration on environmental management and climate change issues.

b) Technical Excellence in its delivery.

The project teams collective experience provides the technical skills and knowledge to deliver this project, illustrated by their experience working together through EU BEST and Darwin projects, and the Caribbean Conservation Network. TCNTs experience in working on public education to build support for native Iguanas will be used to build community support for Wheeland Pond. DECR, already playing an integral role to our Saving Iguana Islands project, will provide logistical support (see Letter of Support for details) and support remediation work and preparations for Wheeland Pond's designation as a Protected Area. MNT benefits from a highly experienced, very well respected and knowledgeable Director familiar with the Belham Valley wetlands. Montserrat DoE will supply the most knowledgeable and competent ornithologist on the island, who will lead a small team undertaking surveys and monitoring. An expert consultant will lead on the small-scale mining restoration work in Montserrat. ANT has already commissioned the proposal for the restoration of East End Pond Conservation Area. RSPB experts in wetland restoration and project management will provide technical guidance.

c) Clear pathway to impact

All partners have a mandate to safeguard wetland sites for future generations. Those statutory agencies engaged have a responsibility to conserve and restore these sites and will be closely involved. A commitment as to the value of and need to conserve wetlands will be more explicitly stated in official declarations by Government in at least one of the Territories. All team members will benefit from the



cross-team training and development. Montserrat DoE has requested support engaging with the EIA process and associated issues (such as private sector engagement in biodiversity management); this project will provide the tools and knowledge to respond to this need.

## **Q16. 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.**

This project was devised through meaningful consultation with the Anguilla National Trust (ANT), Turks & Caicos National Trust (TCNT) and the Montserrat National Trust (MNT). The islands they represent all suffered the 2017 hurricanes; these National Trusts have expressed support for wetland restoration action to increase island resiliency. They have identified priority wetlands for piloting conservation measures and public awareness activities. The project aims to support the National Trusts in these efforts through ecosystem assessments; restoration capacity building; consultation and outreach activities with local communities.

Wetland communities (including young people) across the three territories will be engaged through public awareness activities as well as directly within ecosystem restoration activities. We have corresponded with the Department of Environment and Coastal Resources (DECR, TCI) who have inputted to the proposal. DECR will help identify contractors for capital works and support surveys, apply IBA criteria to Wheeland Pond and upload monitoring data to eBird Caribbean. RSPB has been in frequent contact with Ernestine Corbett, Director at The Department of Environment, Montserrat, who has kindly offered staff support. DoE will help to manage relationships with other Government departments and health and safety around Soufriere Volcano. The project will provide technical training and support to DoE on EIA. Our partner, Anguilla National Trust has been in close contact with the Department of Environment (Anguilla) who have endorsed the project (see LoS). RSPB will continue to engage with ANT and the DoE around updating in-territory policy frameworks to ensure continued support for wetlands.

## **Q17. Institutional Capacity**

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

The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (lead partner)

The RSPB is the largest conservation NGO in Europe and has a considerable track record of successful project delivery including under Darwin and EU Best. The RSPB has supported long-term conservation initiatives in the Caribbean including the management of species recovery, protected area management and assisting with institutional capacity building. Relevant actions include RSPB's assistance to the Anguilla National Trust in its efforts to support Government of Anguilla in its mobilisation on the Ramsar Convention and identification of its first Ramsar site; establishment of the Montserrat Centre Hills National Park as well as using participatory processes as a measure to conserve a suite of endangered species including the Turks and Caicos Islands rock iguana (DPLUS055).

The RSPB has decades of experience working on wetland creation, conservation and restoration. One of the biggest and most challenging projects in recent years, the creation of Wallasea Island in partnership with Crossrail takes 4.5 million tonnes of clean earth from the construction of rail tunnels under London to help build the nature reserve at Wallasea. Furthermore, RSPB has experience engaging with business, demonstrated through the Nature After Minerals programme and the 10-year partnership with CEMEX UK.

The Caribbean Territories Programme Manager has experience in both these programmes.

RSPB's private sector engagement experience is complemented by the National Trusts' own successful business engagement in-territory . Site management, site management planning, project management and considerable conservation training and capacity building across the UKOTs is the bread and butter of RSPB's work and will be deployed to sound effect through the implementation of this project.

The capacity of the project partners is outlined in the answers to Q10.

## **Q18. Sustainability**

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

The RSPB has a long history of supporting conservation in the UKOTs, recently re-activating the Caribbean Conservation Network (CCN) following the devastating 2017 Hurricanes. CCN is comprised of the six National Trusts and Preservation Societies based in the Caribbean UKOTs and seeks to enable and support cross-territory and cross-agency sharing, learning and development while providing a strong, unified voice for UKOT heritage conservation both in the Caribbean and the UK. This project will provide further impetus to work across all of the CCN organisations, facilitating the sharing of best practice and learning. Learnings will be promoted with key allies in the region including CANARI and the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS). This project will, in the long-term, serve to support the Caribbean UKOTs in their efforts at addressing wetland conservation through their policy frameworks and in implementing their commitments to the Ramsar Convention. Post-project, the CCN will support continued engagement at the wetland sites, through monitoring and evaluation of action plans to engagement in restoration. RSPB will continue to seek new funding and resources for CCN organisations to continue conserving the wetlands in this project, using experiences gained to benefit wetlands across the region.

## **Section 8 - Funding and Budget**

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### **Q19. 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 Darwin Plus budget**

- **R7 D+ Budget form for projects under £100,000**
- **R7 D+ Budget form for projects over £100,000**

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

**N.B.: Please state all costs by financial year (1 April to 31 March) and in GBP. 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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📄 **Darwin plus round 7 wetlands 03.09.18 Final**

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## Q20. Co-financing

Are you proposing co-financing?

Yes

### 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 the "Guidance for Applicants" documents)**

Secured co-financing is mainly through in-kind contributions from the RSPB, RSPB travel budget and project partners. The precise breakdown of how this is distributed by lead and by each partner can be found in the budget. The general distribution of co-financing is 18%, 26% and 27% in Years 1, 2 and 3 respectively. The RSPB is providing the majority of co-funding (£X), made up of staff time (£X) some travel (£X) and overheads (£X). with the National Trusts providing varying levels of in-kind contributions, totalling £X. The Government agency partners are providing the second largest in-kind contributions, principally through participating staff (£X). We will look to identify opportunities to leverage further in-kind funding for future restoration works post-project from some limited private sector engagement (e.g. the quarrying companies operating in Belham Valley).

### Unsecured

**Provide details of any co-financing where an application has been submitted, or that you intend applying for during the course of the project. This could include co-financing from the private sector, charitable organisations or other public sector schemes.**

Date applied for	Donor Organisation	Amount	Currency code	Comments
No Response	No Response	No Response	No Response	No Response
No Response	No Response	No Response	No Response	No Response
No Response	No Response	No Response	No Response	No Response
No Response	No Response	No Response	No Response	No Response

**Please give brief details including when you expect to hear the result. Please ensure you include the figures requested in the Budget Spreadsheet as Unconfirmed funding.**

No applications for co-financing are required. All co-financing is in-kind as set out in the attached budget.

**Do you require more fields?**

No

## **Section 9 - Financial Controls, Value for Money & Open Access**

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### **Q21. 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?**

The RSPB receives grants worth more than £X per year, and therefore has great experience of managing such funding. Lead responsibility for managing this grant will rest with the Project Leader, in line with good project management practice. However, this person will be advised and supported by the Project Development and Support team within the RSPB's Global Conservation Directorate, which has played a similar role in numerous previous Darwin projects as well as many much larger projects funded by donors such as DFID, the EC and the Danish and German governments.

For Audits we use a local accountancy firm (George Hay of Biggleswade) that has provided this service many times in the past.

### **Q22. 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. There are three main reasons for this.

(1) The amount of money involved, although substantial, is a sum similar to previous Darwin and Darwin Plus projects which have been successfully managed and delivered.

(2) We have long-term partnerships and funding with all of our OT partners and they are stable, highly reputable, and well known to us.

(3) Most of the grant will be spent by RSPB or one of these partners, rather than by subcontractors – permitting greater control and reducing risk.

### **Q23. 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.**

Staff costs are calculated from annual salary rates. Time required by staff takes into account experience of running other similar projects. The RSPB has a long-term commitment to the UK Overseas Territories and has built up strong, positive relationships with their Governments and Trusts and has established effective ways of working. Travel costs will be minimised by use of modern videoconference software, which will enable 1:1 progress meetings and multi-partner information-sharing meetings to be done remotely.

Project management process: The project will be managed to the highest financial standards and monitored closely through financial procedures that reflect Darwin+ contractual obligations. A separate budget line for the project will be established by RSPB. Monthly financial reports will be supplied. Quarterly financial reports (with transactions lists) will be submitted by the project partners and the project leader.

Partnership working: Working as much as possible through local partners will contribute to sustainability as capacity is built in country, whilst also offering value for money.

Project collaboration: Where possible we will utilise opportunities to collaborate with other ongoing projects to offer value for money (particularly in terms of travel and the use of consultants' time).

## Q24. 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.**

Key outputs such as reports and newsletters will be made available on The Trusts', Governments' and RSPB's websites. All project reports will be made available on the Darwin website along with data collected during this project. Data collected on threatened species will be given to Government Departments and be available to them for conservation purposes. Action plans will be written and published to be placed on signage boards at Wheeland Pond Road Salt Pond and at East End Pond Conservation Area. Photos of activities at the wetland sites will be posted on social media; all of the Trusts have active Facebook pages each with > 1,000 page likes. A report on planning sustainable sand mining will be made available for business, civil society and government in Montserrat with key lessons captured in an executive summary for wider consumption and dissemination by the project partners in their own territories.

## Q25. Safeguarding

See Guidance Note 3.7

**Projects funded through Darwin Plus must fully protect vulnerable people all of the time, wherever they work. In order to provide assurance of this, we would like projects to ensure they have the appropriate safeguarding policies in place. Please check the box to confirm you have relevant policies in place at that these can be available on request.**

Checked

## Section 10 - Logical Framework

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### Q26. 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.

**Annex D and Annex E in the Guidance Notes provides helpful guidance on completing a logical framework, including definitions of the key terms used below.**

## Impact:

Improved ecological status and climate-resiliency of wetlands through better recognition, protection, and restoration of wetland biodiversity and ecosystem functions at key sites across the Caribbean UKOTs.

Project Summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of Verification	Important Assumptions
<p><b>Outcome:</b> Key threatened wetlands across the Caribbean UKOTs have enhanced protection and are in better ecological condition through improved engagement, networking and collaboration between government and civil society</p>	<p>0.1 Wetland action plans produced and actions piloted and tested at four &lt; ANT 2, TCI 1, MNT 1 &gt; priority wetland sites across participating Territories by Yr2 0.2 Wetland sites where actions are piloted show progress along the results chain that leads to favourable conservation status being achieved 0.3 Statutory bodies recognise action plans developed for priority wetland sites. 0.4 Improved collaboration and capacity of the project partners results in better informed planning decisions that helps sustain and restore wetlands and informs better site-led conservation. 0.5 Increased awareness across government and the private sector of the value and need for wise use of wetlands 0.6 Community endorsement of wetland action plans</p>	<p>0.1 Priority wetland action plans produced and publicised in National Reports.  0.2 Scientific reports detailing baseline assessments for pilot wetland sites produced and change in ecological status; monitoring reports 0.3 Official letters approving and endorsing plans  0.4 Summary documents of partner meetings; Planning authority decision notices  0.5 Knowledge, attitude and practice questionnaire analysis report  0.6 Letters from community leaders following consultation</p>	<p>Stakeholders available and able to impart local / relevant knowledge to inform management plans.  Senior officials willing to approve and then implement the site management plans.  Measures needed to restore wetlands are effective and project timeframe is sufficient to demonstrate positive impact of interventions.  Hurricanes or other extreme weather events do not prevent pilot and testing of management plan actions</p>

**Output 1:**

Wetland conservation action plans prepared in partnership with local experts and grassroots organisations and capacity to develop and implement plans increased

.1 Action plan process for target wetland sites initiated at inception workshop in Q1 Year 1 with all project partners, facilitated by technical specialists in wetland restoration

1.2 Bird monitoring re-initiated from Q2 Yr1; site biodiversity baseline estimates established at all sites by Q1 Yr2 with bi-annual monitoring thereafter.

1.3 Two field-based staff lead on wetland conservation actions and by Q1 Yr3 able to demonstrate learned competencies in each Territory

1.4 By Q3 Yr3, National Trusts are in strengthened position to be able to assist Government decision-making around wetland conservation

1.5 Conservation action plans produced for East End Pond Conservation Area, Road Salt Pond (Anguilla) and Wheeland Pond (Turks and Caicos) by Q4 Year 1

objectives document; attendance list; PowerPoint presentations; feedback sheets; minutes and actions; draft training materials; workshop report

1.2 Short note on monitoring protocols to be used across all wetland sites. Site biodiversity / species monitoring reports; bi-annual reports.

1.3 workshop exercise sheets inc. draft management plans; feedback emails or documents from experienced wetland managers published on project staff led restoration plans

1.4 NT report recommendations / plan to Government on wetland and Government decision letter publicised

1.5 Conservation action plans (also refer to 0.1)

Extreme weather events do not disrupt ability to update or develop baselines for wetland sites; do not undo conservation efforts

Conservation management plan actions can be delivered and adaptively managed by Governments and Trusts.

Openness and willingness of Trusts and Government to collaborate and work transparently and openly

**Output 2:**

Natural and artificial wetlands where restoration techniques are pilot-tested enable measurable increase in value of sites for wetland birds and people

.1 Wetland restoration needs assessment for EEPCA (AXA), Wheeland Pond (TCI) and Belham Valley Wetlands (MNT) completed by Q3 Yr.1 across Territories.  
2.2 Rehabilitation and remediation plan in place to restore East End Pond Conservation Area (EEPCA) (Anguilla) by Q3 Yr1 with application to remove fill submitted by Q2 Year 2;  
2.3 By Q4 Year 1. Restoration and biodiversity action plans developed for sand mining operations of Belham Valley wetland in Montserrat with interventions identified and integrated into operating procedures  
2.4 Restoration measures pilot-tested in Anguilla, Montserrat and Turks and Caicos by Q3 Year 3.  
2.5 Wheeland Pond (Turks and Caicos) becomes free of building and household debris, plastic and litter following local community engagement and public awareness; transforms to eco-tourism destination compared to baseline with, by Yr 3, a 20% increase in number of paying tourists participating in National Trust guided tours of wetlands from Yr.1 baseline; 50% decrease and 95% decrease in

2.1 Restoration needs assessment report(s) for each target wetland site  
2.2 Reports on effectiveness of measures  
2.3 Technical restoration manual and executive summaries for EEPCA (Anguilla); copy of application

2.4 Guidelines for wet and dry restoration; signed agreement with landowner underpinning action plans

2.5 Public awareness materials, engagement and meeting reports, tourist receipts, litter reports

Communities continue to accept need for remediation of EEPCA (AXA) and Wheeland Pond (TCI)

Businesses recognise need to adhere to international or regional standards of restoration already developed in the region; businesses ok with signing agreement underpinning action plans

Studies able to determine point and diffuse pollution sources at Road Salt Pond



volume of waste material in pond by Q1 Year 2 and Q2 Year 3 respectively

**Output 3:**

The value of wetlands and need for their wise use is better-understood by civil society, private sector and government stakeholders (local use, commercial development and government planning)

3.1 Of stratified random sample of 350 adults in Anguilla 150 in MNT, and 200 in TCI, more than half demonstrate awareness and understanding of named wetlands and their values by Q2 Year 3.  
 3.2. Increase in awareness of values of wetlands with 2 key decision-makers in each territory by Q2 Year 3.  
 3.3. At least one developer in each territory recognises wetland value through engagement in at least one wetland restoration activity by Q1 Year 3;  
 3.4 Over 85% of East End Village (Anguilla) school children interviewed are aware of the ecological values of the other priority wetlands and importance to island resiliency by end of Year 2;  
 3.5 At least one territory government authority has, by the end of the project a development policy or statement explicitly calling for the need to protect key wetlands

.1 Interview results, records of positive mentions of wetlands in published, minuted government meetings  
 3.2 Questionnaires with participating officials and analysis report  
 3.3 photos of company staff participating in restoration actions; reviews endorsing wetlands restoration enhancement efforts posted by visitors in Tripadvisor, booking.com;  
 3.4; Awareness baseline and end line questionnaires. photos of school children with materials prepared during school visits; materials used  
 3.6 Meeting agendas; minutes, actions of meetings captured; participation lists of attendees

Advocacy materials developed are relevant across all of the participating CCN National Trusts and therefore effective at the Territory / local level  
 Improved knowledge / access to knowledge leads to improved habitat and species conservation  
 Children able to retain lessons into adulthood and, remain on island in sufficient numbers to be vocal advocates for wetlands in future

<b>Output 4:</b> Strengthened wetlands conservation management, restoration and organisational capacity of the project partners	4.1 Agreement on the roles and responsibilities of each party in the project	4.1 A signed and agreed MOU between the partner organisations at the start of the project will clearly set out the obligations and roles of all parties in delivering the project objectives.	Partners are willing to sign MoU agreements and agree on roles and responsibilities with the lead partner
	4.2 Priority action plan in place for each wetland in each Territory by Q3 Yr3	4.2 Signs publicising planned management activities and actions at each wetlands	Government processes are willing and able to accommodate wetland protection commitments in their plans
	4.3 At least one Territory Development Plan incorporate wetland protection, enhancement and safeguard in (Q1 Yr.3);	4.3 Development plan wetland policies on Government websites; wetlands annexes in development plans	All partner staff are successfully able to participate in capacity-strengthening workshops
	4.4 By Q2 Yr3, all participating Trusts and Government representatives have strengthened capabilities in wetland conservation and restoration	4.4 Project team-led action plans for post-project period	

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<b>Output 5:</b> <i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>
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**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. Each new activity should start on a new line.**

- Output 1. Wetland conservation action plans prepared in partnership with local experts and grassroots organisations and capacity to develop and implement plans increased
- 1.1 Hold a workshop at the start of the project with all project partners, facilitated by technical specialists in wetland restoration
- 1.2 Prepare annual monitoring plans to survey birds and plants;
- 1.3 Undertake bird and plant surveys at each wetland site
- 1.4 Produce conservation action plans for East End Pond Conservation Area, Road Salt Pond IBA (Anguilla) and Wheeland Pond (Turks and Caicos)
- 1.5 Conservation actions undertaken at the target wetland sites
- 1.6 Meetings held between National Trusts and Government to assist with planning and decision-making relevant to all wetlands in each Territory

Output 2. Natural and artificial wetlands where restoration techniques are piloted lead to measurable increase in ecological quality and improvement and enhancement of natural capital values indicators

2.1 Scoping mission to East End Pond Conservation Area (Anguilla), Belham Valley Wetlands (Montserrat) and Wheeland Pond (Turks and Caicos) wetland to assess individual restoration needs from removing fill, to addressing pollution

2.2 Commission professional rehabilitation and remediation feasibility study (N.S Nettles & Associates proposal [<http://nsnettles.com/> ] already in place) to restore East End Conservation Area (Area) wetland site in Anguilla, specifically: (1) Determine the distribution and estimate the quantity of fill material historically placed in the East End Salt Pond (2) Assess the impacts of removing this fill material from a groundwater quality perspective and an ecosystem impact perspective (3) Evaluate the hydrology of the East End Salt Pond as it relates to the periodic flooding resulting from high intensity rainfall events and (4) Present ecologically sustainable flooding mitigation alternatives

2.3 Develop restoration and biodiversity action plans for Belham Valley sand mining operations in Montserrat; identify restoration measures needed for Wheeland Pond (TCI)

2.4 Pilot-test proposed restoration measures in Anguilla, Montserrat and Turks and Caicos

2.5 Encourage interested, motivated persons from communities within vicinity of wetlands to partner with National Trusts to form action group for long term implementation of management plan for wetland sites.

Output 3. The value of wetlands and need for their wise use is better-understood by those intending to undertake operations or make decisions affecting their ecological quality

3.1 Integrated/innovative community involvement through dramatization, poetry, music and presentations to raise awareness of connectivity between healthy wetlands, vector control and healthy communities. Organizing activities such as birding and breakfast during international/regional conservation days (IMBD, Caribbean Endemic Bird festival) at wetland sites to raise significance of wetlands (Anguilla, Turks and Caicos).

3.2. Hold regular meetings with decision-makers focussed on communicating the natural capital value of wetlands

3.3. Private company volunteer day working on practical activities held at one of the wetlands

3.4 Schools to engage science classes in specific assignments from monitoring seasonal wildlife at wetlands to control of invasive species (plants).

3.5 RSPB policy advocacy team to prepare draft wetlands policy and work directly with at least one of the authority representatives and relevant key staff to enable policy adoption

Output 4. Strengthened wetlands conservation management, restoration and organisational capacity of the partner organisations.

4.1 A Project Steering Group Committee will be established comprising of the project partners. The committee will meet at the onset of the project then at least once every 3 months in Year 1 and then bi-annually thereafter

4.2 Produce priority action plan for each wetland in each Territory

4.3 RSPB policy specialists to work closely with government partners in supporting territory development plans that recognise wetlands value

4.4 RSPB to lead workshop to build capacity and capability of partner staff in wetland conservation and restoration

## Section 11 - Implementation Timetable

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### Q27. Provide a project implementation timetable that shows the key milestones

## in project activities

Please complete the Excel spreadsheet linked below to describe the intended workplan for your project.

### Darwin Plus Implementation Timetable

Please add 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.

Once you have completed your implementation timetable please upload it using the file upload tool below.

↓ [R7 DPlus Implementation Timetable Wetla](#)

[nds RSPB](#)

📅 03/09/2018

🕒 19:13:19

📎 xlsx 13.39 KB

## Section 12 - Monitoring and Evaluation

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### Q28. 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.**

Internal monitoring and evaluation:

- Establishing responsibility for indicators: A signed and agreed MOU between the partner organisations at the start of the project will clearly set out the obligations and roles of all parties in delivering the project objectives.
- A Project Steering Group Committee will be established comprising of the project partners. The committee will meet at the onset of the project (face to face) then at least once every 3 months in Year 1 and twice-yearly in years 2 and 3. Thereafter via cloud based communications (e.g. Zoom) to discuss the progress towards accomplishing project targets and activities, any challenges and proposed solutions. Routine project management communications will also include emails and physical meetings with project partners.
- At project start up, the team will go through the indicators in the logframe and establish who will be responsible for ensuring that the data for each indicator is collected and collated including (but not limited to); meeting minutes, datasets, reports, recommendations, stakeholder meeting reports. The resulting data and reports will be presented to the Committee. The responsibility for the indicator will rest with the

individual leading that work but who may then delegate elements. The data will be brought together by the project manager in close collaboration with responsible individuals. The details of these decisions will result in a project monitoring plan.

- Regular project management meetings, conference calls: These will involve key operational personnel (planned for July and January each year) and the monitoring plan (above) will be assessed as progress against the logframe indicators is reported. Specific actions to address indicators that have not been achieved and the monitoring plan revised accordingly.
- Annual meetings: The second and third annual project meetings will include an internal evaluation of the project covering technical and financial aspects as official mid-term reviews. Senior staff from participating organisations will be invited: Farah Mukhida (Director, ANT), Ethlyn Gibbs Williams (TCNT), Sarita Francis (Director, MNT), Lormeka Williams (Deputy Director, DECR) and Ernestine Corbett (Director, DoE, Montserrat). Not only will these individuals be able to see progress, they will be able to assess the quality and efficacy of work undertaken to date and set it in their respective national conservation context and priorities. They will also be able to assist in the development of solutions to any challenges the project team might experience.

#### External monitoring and evaluation

- Wetlands restoration planning: An external facilitator with experience in restoration planning will assist the project in developing and implementation of the proposed restoration activities and measures.
- External reviewer for final evaluation: An external independent evaluator (budgeted) will be asked to review the project and its outputs in the final year when project activities have been concluded.

#### Costs of monitoring and evaluation

##### Internal

Project manager: 80% of time and 100% of travel and subsistence = £ X

Core field team: 5% of time = £X

Rest of team: 1%= £X

Meeting costs: £X

Financial Support: £X

##### External

Wetlands Restoration planning £X

External Audit £X

<b>Number of days planned for M&amp;E</b>	50.00
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**Total project budget for M&E (this may include Staff and Travel and Subsistence Costs) (£)**

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<b>Percentage of total project budget set aside for M&amp;E (%)</b>	16.85
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## Section 13 - Certification

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### Certification

**On behalf of the**

trustees

**of**

The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds

**I apply for a grant of**





£299,333.00

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

Checked

<b>Name</b>	Dieter Hoffman
<b>Position in the organisation</b>	Head of International Strategy and Capacity Building
<b>Signature (please upload e-signature)</b>	 <b><u>Dieter Hoffman</u></b>  03/09/2018  19:17:20  jpg 2.17 KB
<b>Date</b>	03 September 2018

## Section 14 - Submission Checklist

### Checklist for submission

	<b>Check</b>
<b>I have read the Guidance documents, including the "Guidance Notes for Applicants" and "Finance Guidance".</b>	Checked
<b>I have read, and can meet, the current Terms and Conditions for this fund.</b>	Checked
<b>I have provided actual start and end dates for this proposed project.</b>	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 have included the correct final total at Q7.	Checked
The application has been signed by a suitably authorised individual.	Checked
I have included a 1 page CV for all the Project staff (listed at Q11) on this project, including the Project Leader.	Checked
I have included a letter of support from the applicant organisation, main partner(s) organisations and the relevant OT Government.	Checked
I have uploaded 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 Plus 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 **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 organization, 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).