

DARWIN INITIATIVE FOR THE SURVIVAL OF SPECIES: APPLICATION FOR GRANT FOR ROUND 10 COMPETITION

Please read the accompanying Guidance Note before completing this form. Give a full answer to each section; applications will be considered on the basis of information submitted on this form. Applicants are asked not to use the form supplied to cross-refer to information in separate documents except where this is invited on the form. The space provided indicates the level of detail required but you may provide additional information on a separate sheet if necessary. Copies of this form are available on disk or by e-mail on request. You are asked also to complete the summary sheet. Although you may reproduce this sheet in a reasonable font, you should not expand it beyond an A4 sheet (leaving the allocated space for DEFRA comments to be made) as additional information will not be taken into account.

1. Name and address of organisation

Overseas Development Institute, 111 Westminster Bridge Road, London, SE1 7JD, UK

2. Principals in project

Details	Project leader	Other UK personnel (if working more than 50% of their time on project)	Main project partner or co-ordinator in host country
Surname	Cromwell		Butaumocho
Forename(s)	Elizabeth		Blessing
Post held	Research Fellow		Agriculture & NR Adviser
Institution (if different to above)	as above		ITDG-Southern Africa
Department	Rural Policy & Environment Group		Rural Communities Programme
Telephone			
Fax			
Email			

Please provide a one page CV for each of these named individuals.

3. Project title (not exceeding 10 words)

Options for supporting on-farm conservation in Eastern & Southern Africa

4. Abstract of study (in no more than 750 characters)

The project will use the newly available techniques of Participatory Evaluation to make the first ever objective assessment of the potential for scaling-up different kinds of grass-roots level support for on-farm conservation of agricultural biodiversity in Eastern and Southern Africa, such as Farmer Field Schools, village breeding programmes, seed fairs, amongst others. It will provide clear policy guidance to the numerous countries in the region wishing to support on-farm conservation more effectively and, because it involves a consortium of British biodiversity, field methods and dissemination expertise, recent Darwin trainees from the region, and grass-roots workers, it will make a direct and tangible contribution to CBD Programme of Work on agricultural biodiversity.

5. Timing. Give the proposed starting date and duration of the project.

1st June 2002 - 30th September 2003 (16 months))

6. Describe briefly the aims, activities and achievements of your organisation. (Please note that this should describe your unit, institute or department within a university.)

Aims

ODI's Rural Policy & Environment Group aims to enhance the rural livelihoods of the poor through high quality applied policy research with governments, non-government and international organisations; practical policy advice; and policy-focused dissemination and debate through its global networks.

Activities

RPEG's 15 professional research staff work collaboratively with each other and with partners overseas to identify how natural resources can contribute to sustainable improvements in livelihoods by: generating new knowledge and methodologies at the local level; providing policy and institutional advice at national and international levels; and distributing innovative multi-media dissemination outputs in a number of areas, including: governance, livelihoods and natural resource management; seeds and crop diversity; participatory approaches to development and capacity building; environmental management; pro-poor tourism and wildlife management. Within this, the 3 staff (1 of which is a joint appointment with ICRISAT, Nairobi) of the RPEG Seeds & Crop Diversity Programme work on the economics and policy of: agricultural biodiversity conservation at farmer, national and international level; seed delivery systems; seed security under conditions of chronic political instability; and agricultural biotechnology. The Programme has over 10 years' experience of designing, obtaining funding for, and operating multi-country projects involving collaborative field work with overseas partners in Africa, Asia and Latin America; training and sharing of skills in the areas of field work design, analysis and reporting; and producing multiple dissemination outputs targeted to the needs of different audiences (including international such as CBD).

Achievements

In recent years, the achievements of the RPEG Seeds & Crop Diversity Programme have included:

Applied research : how farmers manage agricultural biodiversity (DFID ERP); transactions costs in seed systems (ICRISAT); increasing the effectiveness of emergency seed supply (ICRISAT)

Practical policy advice: on the impact of input distribution programmes on sustainable agriculture (DFID); post-emergency seed distribution in the Horn of Africa (EU); biodiversity briefs (EU/IUCN); scaling-up biotechnology enterprises in Africa (DFID RETF)

Global outreach: ODI's global networks have a combined membership of 3,500 who receive regular mailings and electronic information; all of RPEG's published outputs are accessible on the ODI website (700 hits per day); RPEG staff regularly present at relevant international fora; Programme staff are on the UK Roster of Experts for CBD.

7. Has your organisation received funding under the Initiative before? If so, please give details.

Yes, 1995-97 Darwin Initiative for On-Farm Conservation in Southern Africa (Elizabeth Cromwell)

8. Which overseas institutions, if any, will be involved in the project? Please explain the responsibilities of these institutions.

The project has been planned and will be implemented by a consortium of individuals and institutions involved in agricultural biodiversity conservation and use in the region, comprising: CABI (Kenya), Department for Rural Development (Tanzania), DFID-Central Africa (Zimbabwe), Institute of Biodiversity Conservation & Research (Ethiopia), ICRISAT (Kenya), ITDG (Zimbabwe), Organic Producers and Processors Association (Zambia), Research Council of Zimbabwe (Registrar of Biosafety), and SADC Plant Genetic Resources Centre, together with ODI and University of Reading Statistical Services Centre (SSC) from the UK.

Following the training workshop, consortium members will work in pairs on individual case study evaluations, before coming together for data analysis and the final conference. In addition, recent Darwin trainees from the SADC Plant Genetic Resources Centre will share their new knowledge and understanding of agricultural biodiversity assessment via training to the consortium in the workshop and via contributions to the data analysis. ITDG (Zimbabwe) will take responsibility for regional coordination, including logistics, which fits well with their existing region-wide mandate.

PROJECT DETAILS

9. Define the purpose (main objective) of the project in line with the logical framework.

To assess the potential for scaling-up different kinds of grass-roots projects for on-farm conservation of agricultural biodiversity in Eastern and Southern Africa.

10. Is this a new project or the continuation of an existing one?

New.

11. What is the evidence for a demand or need for the work? How is the project related to conservation priorities in the host country(ies)? How would the project assist the host country with its obligations under the Biodiversity Convention?

How was the work identified?

By participants at a workshop on incentive measures to enhance sustainable use and conservation of agrobiodiversity held in Lusaka in September 2001, hosted by the SADC Plant Genetic Resources Centre; interested participants formed this project consortium. To date, attempts to identify project pathways for supporting on-farm conservation have been based largely on extrapolations from research about the factors influencing farm households' agricultural biodiversity management decisions (eg IPGRI Project on In-Situ Conservation; WRI Cultivating Diversity project; GTZ Managing Agrobiodiversity in Rural Areas project), so there is a need now for systematic collection and assessment of evidence from on-going grass-roots projects.

How is the project related to conservation priorities in the host country?

There is substantial interest in on-farm conservation in Eastern & Southern Africa: it features in many national strategies and submissions to the Global Plan of Action for the Conservation and Sustainable Utilisation of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture; it has the support of the SADC Plant Genetic Resources Centre; and the region has a number of innovative grass-roots projects already in operation (in preparation for this submission, the consortium compiled an inventory of all known projects which total some 30 projects in 15 countries).

How will the project assist the host country meet its obligations under the Biodiversity Convention?

All CBD signatories are mandated to implement on-farm conservation of agricultural biodiversity under Article 8. The Conference of the Parties recognises there is a lack of concrete information on how to do this, so has passed a number of Decisions requesting Programmes of Work to fill the gap, which are currently on-going. This project contributes to the Programmes of Work requested in Decision III/11 and V/5 on agricultural biodiversity, Decision V/15 on legal and economic incentive measures for biodiversity conservation, Decision V/17 on education and public awareness, and Decision V/16 on traditional knowledge. In particular, it contributes directly to Element 3 of the Programme of Work on agricultural biodiversity ("to strengthen the capacities of farmers, indigenous and local communities and their organisations and other stakeholders, to manage agricultural biodiversity sustainably so as to increase their benefits, and to promote awareness and responsible action"), which is intended to be implemented primarily through initiatives within countries, engaging a wide range of civil society organisations. CoP recognises "catalytic support" may be needed in order to achieve this.

12. In what ways can this project be considered a Darwin project? How does the project relate to the Darwin principles? How would the project be advertised as a Darwin project and in what ways would the Darwin name and logo be used?

The project would make a significant contribution to the achievement of Darwin objectives in Eastern and Southern Africa in the following ways. Countries in the region are demonstrably rich in agricultural biodiversity (a centre of diversity for sorghums and millets, and numerous endemic minor crops widely grown on small farms) and have a dedicated pool of people working on agricultural biodiversity conservation, but they are severely constrained by lack of resources. The project is a collaborative consortium between these people, including the SADC Plant Genetic Resources Centre, and British expertise. It proposes to dedicate funds (for which the Darwin component would act as a catalyst for contributions from GTZ, SIDA and others, as well as consortium members) and UK expertise to assisting with an information strategy, which will raise awareness effectively by developing a range of outputs targeted to the needs of different categories of user (extension workers, grass-roots project workers, national policy makers and their advisers). Perhaps unusually for a Darwin project, it specifically addresses poverty elimination, by recognising that, for on-farm conservation to be sustainable, it must make a contribution to rural livelihoods. Because the majority of the project consortium are based in the region, with on-going commitments to on-farm conservation, project results can act as a direct catalyst for the development of more effective initiatives in the future, thus will have a real impact.

The most visible use of the Darwin name and logo in this project would be on the CD-ROM containing the project's dissemination outputs (results report, method document, downloadable posters describing different kinds of on-farm conservation activity for use by extension workers and other grass-roots staff, and relevant reference material (links to other documents and websites) for national level agricultural biodiversity workers). 1,000 would be produced and distributed in Eastern and Southern Africa, and internationally including to CBD CoP and SBSTTA. There is likely to be considerable interest and uptake in the CD-ROM as it will be the first and a very accessible record of current successful on-farm conservation initiatives in the region. The Darwin name and logo will also be used, and accreditation for funding given, in all other relevant fora (correspondence, workshop and conference publicity, media interviews, etc).

13. Set out the proposed timetable for the work, including the programme's measurable outputs using the attached list of output measures.

PROJECT OUTPUTS		
Year/Month (starting April)	Output Number (see standard output measures)	Description (include numbers of people involved, numbers of publications printed or produced and days/weeks where applicable)
2002 June	6A - 9 people 6B - 1 week 8 - 2 staff x 1 week	Internal training and orientation workshop (5 days) for consortium (9 people) resourced by ODI, SSC and SPGRC. Covering ag.biodiv. assessment, economic and policy context of on-farm conservation, participatory evaluation techniques, selection of case studies, piloting of field work method, development of project information strategy.
2002 July-Dec	4A or 4C - 12 students 4B or 4D - 1 week per student 8 - 2 staff x 1 week	Participatory Evaluation of 6 case study projects. Consortium working in pairs with 2 student enumerators, spending 8 days at each case study project collecting quantitative and qualitative information, triangulated in interviews with relevant stakeholders, recording it in various formats, and carrying out basic preliminary sorting and analysis.
2003 Jan		Data analysis "in-week". Consortium resourced by ODI and SSC, spending 5 days working together to analyse case study information. Emphasis on using all information sources as part of analysis and to illustrate conclusions.
2003 Feb-April	7 - 1 method guide	Report preparation. Consortium write results report and method guide.
2003 May-Aug	7 - 1 CD-ROM containing poster, reports, ref.material 11B - 1 paper	Dissemination. Consortium resourced by ODI collate outputs for CD-ROM, produce 1,000 copies and distribute to local and national agricultural biodiversity workers in the region, and internationally.
2003 Sept	14A - 1 conference 8 - 2 staff x 1 week 14B-4 events within 12months	Conference to disseminate results and discuss further action with local and national agricultural biodiversity workers in the region. OUTPUTS CONTD. ON SEPARATE SHEET .

Key Milestones	
Year/Month (starting April)	Description (include travel dates, drafts and other processes that support the delivery of outputs)
2002 April	Workshop venue booked, travel arrangements made, consortium members notified (Butaumocho)
2002 May	Training materials prepared (Cromwell, Barahona, Young)
2002 June	Internal training workshop held (Cromwell, Barahona to attend)
2002 July	Case study projects and their stakeholders notified, field work materials procured, travel arrangements made, enumerators recruited (relevant consortium members)
2002 Dec	Participatory evaluations and basic analysis completed (relevant consortium members)
2002 Dec	"In-week" venue booked, travel arrangements made, consortium members notified (Butaumocho)
2002 Dec	Final conference venue booked, participants invited, travel arrangements made (Butaumocho, Cromwell)
2003 Jan	Data analysis "in-week" completed (Cromwell, Barahona, Young to attend)
2003 Feb	Draft results report and method guide (relevant consortium members resourced by ODI and SSC)
2003 April	Final results report and method guide (relevant consortium members resourced by ODI and SSC)
2003 June	Outputs for CD-ROM completed (eg downloadable poster, etc) and loaded (relevant consortium members and Young)
2003 Aug	Targeted distribution list compiled and CD-ROMs distributed (relevant consortium members resourced by ODI)
2003 Sept	Final conference held (Cromwell, Barahona to attend)

14. Do you know of any other individual/organisation carrying out similar work? Give the details of the work, explaining the similarities and differences.

<p>There are a number of international projects investigating the factors that influence farmers' on-farm conservation decisions (see 11. above). The consortium has carried out a methodical search within the region and internationally but not found any other projects investigating the reasons for the success or failure of different kinds of grass-roots on-farm conservation project ("success" will be assessed using defined indicators that include biological as well as economic and institutional parameters). This is confirmed by the CBD Secretariat, which formally recognises that lack of activity to date in this area (in agricultural biodiversity Programme of Work Element 3 on capacity building).</p>

15. Will the project include training and development? Please indicate how many trainees will be involved, from which countries and what will be the criteria for selection. How will you measure the effectiveness of the training and will those trained then be able to train others? Where appropriate give the length of any training course.

Training Activity	Dates	Who will participate, how many will participate and for how long?
Internal training and orientation workshop	June 2002	9 consortium members from 5 countries for 1 week, resourced by ODI, SSC and SPGRC. Group self-selecting on the basis of professional interest and skills. Effectiveness measured in terms of ability to complete case studies effectively. Likely to be able to train others in course of future professional work.
Work experience as enumerators for students from relevant courses in the region	July - Dec 2002	12 students (2 per case study) recruited by consortium on basis of academic performance and interest. Effectiveness measured as above. Likely to pass on knowledge to others in future professional work.
Method guide and CD-ROM prepared as training materials for the region	Feb-Aug 2003	Interested consortium members, resourced by ODI. Effectiveness measured in terms of future uptake in region.

16. How will trainee outcomes/destinations be monitored after the end of the training?

In addition to the monitoring of effectiveness given in 15. above, consortium members, work experience students and CD-ROM recipients could be mailed 6 months after the end of the project to find out:

- their current professional position
- whether they have used their Darwin training in their professional work (provide details if so)
- whether they have used their Darwin training in training of others (provide details if so)

17. How is the work of the project expected to continue after the end of grant period? A clear exit strategy must be included.

The assessment of the potential for scaling-up different kinds of on-farm conservation projects will be complete within the lifetime of the project. How the results can be used to contribute to more effective on-farm conservation in Eastern and Southern Africa will be discussed at the final conference, from which a plan for follow-up action (for separate funding) can be developed. The results will also be submitted to the CBD Secretariat as a contribution to various Programmes of Work requested by the Conference of the Parties. Any further work on the results to meet CoP's needs would be the subject of separate funding arrangements.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

18. Describe how progress on the project would be monitored and evaluated in terms of achieving its aims and objectives, both during the lifetime of the project and at its conclusion. How would you ensure that it achieves value for money? What arrangements will be made for disseminating results? If applicable, how would you seek the views of clients/customers?

Monitoring: through internal progress reports using Key Milestones.

Evaluation: internally, using progress reports and Key Milestones (if project is implemented as planned, then it will achieve its aims and objectives); externally, through training outcome mailshot (see 16. above), final conference assessment forms, and Darwin Initiative evaluation procedures.

Value for money: the project has been budgetted as economically as possible, utilising the skills, experience and institutional back-up of consortium members wherever possible, rather than buying in. Nonetheless, it has been realistically budgetted, such that if the requested resources are provided, the project will be able to deliver the specified outputs. Over the longer-term, we predict that the specified outputs will contribute to the generation of a significant stream of benefits in the form of more effective on-farm conservation in region and internationally. These are the 3 ways in which we believe it is possible to ensure that the project achieves value for money.

Dissemination (see also 13. above): formally, through distribution of CD-ROM to targeted local and national on-farm conservation workers in the region, and internationally; newspaper and radio interviews; final conference; peer-reviewed journal; conferences/seminars/workshops attended. Informally, through contact with case study projects, student enumerators, professional colleagues in region, and the consortium's egroup.

Client's views: training outcome mailshot (see 16. above), final conference assessment forms.

Logical framework. Please enter the details of your project onto the matrix using the note at Annex B of the Guidance Note.

Project summary	Measurable indicators	Means of verification	Important assumptions
<p>Goal</p> <p><i>To assist countries rich in biodiversity but poor in resources with the conservation of biological diversity and implementation of the Biodiversity Convention</i></p>		<p>Plan of action prepared at final conference</p> <p>Countries national biodiversity plans and projects</p> <p>Outputs from CBD Programme of Work for agricultural biodiversity Element 3</p>	<p>Countries in Eastern and Southern Africa continue to prioritise on-farm conservation of agricultural biodiversity</p>
<p>Purpose</p> <p>Potential assessed for scaling-up different kinds of grass-roots projects for on-farm conservation of agricultural biodiversity in Eastern & Southern Africa</p>	<p>Results from Participatory Evaluation of 6 case studies of grass-roots on-farm conservation projects, by 5/03.</p>	<p>Project results report (CD-ROM).</p>	<p>Scaling up grass roots projects can make an effective contribution to conservation of agricultural biodiversity in the region.</p> <p>There are no immovable constraints to scaling-up grass-roots projects.</p>
<p>Outputs</p> <p>1. Project consortium trained in agricultural biodiversity assessment, economic/policy context of on-farm conservation, participatory field approaches</p> <p>2. Multi-media outputs documenting potential for scaling-up different kinds of on-farm conservation projects in region.</p>	<p>1.1 Training delivered by 7/02</p> <p>1.2 Case study teams use training to complete participatory evaluations by 12/02 and analysis by 2/03</p> <p>2.1 CD-ROM contains results report, method doc, downloadable posters, useful ref. material by 8/03</p> <p>2.3 Conf. held by 10/03</p>	<p>1.1 Training workshop report (internal)</p> <p>1.2.1 Case study debriefing documents and field diaries (internal)</p> <p>1.2.2, 2.1 Project results report (CD-ROM)</p> <p>2.2 Conference report (internal)</p>	<p>Project not hindered by political instability.</p>
<p>Activities</p> <p>Training workshop incl. case study selection and method development</p> <p>Participatory Evaluation of case studies</p> <p>Analysis of data from participatory evaluation</p> <p>Dissemination of targeted outputs, including CD-ROM and final conference</p>	<p>£ 30,000</p> <p>£ 39,045</p> <p>£ 27,469</p> <p>£ 15,036</p> <p>£ 70,000</p>	<p>Project application</p> <p>Project progress reports</p>	<p>Project resources available - incl. complementary funding.</p> <p>Grass roots projects willing to participate as case studies.</p> <p>Project not hindered by political instability.</p>