



Submit by 21 January 2005

DARWIN INITIATIVE APPLICATION FOR GRANT ROUND 13 COMPETITION:STAGE 2

Please read the Guidance Notes before completing this form. Applications will be considered on the basis of information submitted on this form and you should give a full answer to each question. Please do not cross-refer to information in separate documents except where invited on this form. The space provided indicates the level of detail required. Please do not reduce the font size below 11pt or alter the paragraph spacing. Keep within word limits.

1. Name and address of organisation

Name: The Society for Environmental Exploration/Frontier	Address: 50-52 Rivington Street London, EC2A 3QP UK
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2. Project title (not exceeding 10 words)

Capacity Building for Sustainable Management of the Nicaraguan Pacific North Region

3. Project dates, duration and total Darwin Initiative Grant requested

Proposed start date:		Duration of project:			
Darwin funding requested	Total (£)	2005/06 (£)	2006/7 (£)	2007/8 (£)	2008/9 (£)
	61,061	41,687	19,374		

4. Define the purpose of the project in line with the logical framework

<p>The overall project purpose is to design and implement a training programme in conservation skills and monitoring techniques to build the capacity of local and regional institutions to sustainably manage and monitor resources in the Pacific North region of Nicaragua. In particular, the project seeks:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> To develop and implement tailor-made BTEC (Business and Technical Education Council) qualifications with the local and regional NGOs SELVA (La Asociacion somos Ecologistas en lucha por la vida y elambiente), LIDER (Luchadores Integrados al Dsearrollo de la Region), the Autonomous University of Leon (UNAN-Leon), and the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MARENA) to train Nature Reserve rangers in patrolling, law enforcement, survey and monitoring, eco-tourism initiatives, and local community awareness. To devise and implement terrestrial and coastal monitoring schemes for threatened, endangered and critically endangered species within three protected areas of Nicaragua's Pacific North region: Isla Juan Venado (2,934 ha), Estero Padre Ramos (9,157 ha), and Volcan Cosiguina (13,168 ha)

5. Principals in project. Please provide a one page CV for each of these named individuals

Details	Project Leader	Other UK personnel (working more than 50% of their time on project)	Main project partner or co-ordinator in host country
Surname	Rubio	Poonian	Caballero
Forename (s)	Paul	Chris	Bismarck
Post held	Programme Manager (Development)	Project Co-ordinator	Director
Institution	The Society of Environmental Exploration/Frontier	The Society of Environmental Exploration/Frontier	Luchadores Integrados al Desarrollo de la Region (LIDER)
Department	Research and Development	Research and Development	
Telephone			
Fax			
Email			

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

In 2003, the Society for Environmental Exploration was granted pre-project funding for this particular project "Capacity Building for Sustainable Management in the Nicaraguan Pacific Region (CBNPR)". The impact and legacy of the pre-project visit are detailed in the pre-project visit report. The pre-project visit was invaluable for the creation of this proposal.

Funded by the Darwin Initiative between January 1996 and March 1998, the Society for Environmental Exploration conducted the Marine Biodiversity and Resource Use Survey of the Quirimba Archipelago, focusing on training in marine biodiversity surveying, resource use and ecological monitoring, ecological research and monitoring, conservation of biodiversity, production of training materials, and the production of technical reports, land-use and biodiversity zonation maps.

Funded by the Darwin Initiative between October 2001 and September 2002, the Society for Environmental Exploration conducted the Madagascar Marine Biodiversity Training Project, focusing on capacity building within the Anakao region, namely training in marine habitat monitoring techniques, training of trainers in marine habitat monitoring techniques, production of training materials, establishment of permanent monitoring sites, and the implementation of habitat monitoring.

Funded by the Darwin Initiative between October 2001 and February 2004, the Society for Environmental Exploration conducted the Bai Tu Long Bay Biodiversity Awareness Project in Bai Tu Long Bay National Park, Quang Ninh Province, Vietnam. Project accomplishments include: the establishment of a biodiversity interpretation centre, biodiversity awareness raising, capacity building and training of national park management staff, training in data collection and data interpretation, production of field guides, and international co-operation among specialist taxonomists. SEE was invited for post-project funding in 2004 for this project, but was forced to decline due to political issues surrounding long-term visas for staff.

7. IF YOU ANSWERED NO TO QUESTION 6 describe briefly the aims, activities and achievements of your organisation. (Large institutions please note that this should describe your unit or department)

Aims (50 words)

Activities (50 words)

Achievements (50 words)

8. Please list the overseas partners that will be involved in their project and explain their roles and responsibilities in the project. Describe the extent of their involvement at all stages, including project development. What steps have been taken to ensure the benefits of the project will continue despite any staff changes in these organisations? Please provide written evidence of partnerships.

The Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MARENA) co-manages protected areas in the Pacific Northwest of Nicaragua, alongside the local NGOs, LIDER and SELVA, and the University of Leon (UNAN-Leon). Utilising pre-project funding, MARENA and SEE have been able to hold a series of meetings since January 2004 regarding the development of a long-term monitoring programme and the imperative skills to be included in a potential tailor-made training programme and BTEC. The local NGO, LIDER, co-manages the protected area of Volcan Cosiguina while SELVA co-manages the protected area of Estero Padre Ramos. Both have expressed a strong interest in the proposed project through a series of monthly meetings that began in early 2004 and have continued to present day. SEE's relationships with UNAN Leon and LIDER are now consolidated through separate Memorandums of Understanding (MoU), solidifying long-term commitments by all parties to conservation of the region. SEE/Frontier staff meet with vice-rector Dr. Edmundo Torres of UNAN Leon on a monthly basis. Several meetings have been held with project partners for direct contribution to the project proposal and the development of the training and monitoring programme.

All overseas partners mentioned above will contribute to the design of the BTEC qualification and the training programme. UK individuals will be responsible for implementing and leading the training programme, establishing the monitoring programmes, overall project co-ordination, counterpart liaison and course division and facilitation. SELVA, LIDER, MARENA and UNAN-Leon will be responsible for procuring appropriate candidates for the training and development programme, notably park rangers and those individuals directly involved in managing the protected areas. The organisations will meet regularly for on-going evaluation and

feedback of the training and monitoring programme. MARENA is currently in the process of systemising monitoring systems across the entire country and will work closely with SEE/Frontier in designing and implementing the appropriate monitoring programme in the Pacific Northwest. For quality assurance, SEE will supervise the monitoring programme in the final few months of the project as part of the exit strategy.

Overseas partners were eager to supply letters of support for this Stage 2 application. Within days of receiving notification of our Stage 2 invitation, project partners were in immediate contact through telephone and e-mail to lend as much support possible. As stressed throughout this application, no other funding opportunities currently exist to enhance and solidify protection of the Pacific North Region of Nicaragua through training and monitoring programmes. Please find attached letters of support from: LIDER, UNAN-Leon and SELVA.

The project has been designed such that implicit in the implementation and exit strategy, staff change over would have minimal effect on the continuation of project benefits. Through the creation of the Nicaraguan Pacific North Monitoring Alliance (NPNM Alliance), the establishment of the BTEC centre through UNAN-Leon, the manuals, monitoring and management plans detailed in the Output List and in addition to the trainees, trainers, verifiers and assessors trained, the project's "portfolio" has been significantly diversified to ensure that the impact and legacy will continue even in light of staff change-overs within any organisation involved.

9. What other consultation or co-operation will take place or has taken place already with other stakeholders such as local communities? Please include details of any contact with the government not already provided.

The proposal means a great deal to all stakeholders involved, especially the local communities. As evidenced further by attached letters of support from other local stakeholders, the CBNPR project seeks to produce tangible benefits to the local communities that rely on the region's natural resources for their livelihoods and economic well-being. SEE/Frontier have an excellent relationship with the local communities of the three proposed nature reserves, having made initial contact during the pre-project visit and returning to stay within the communities a number of times throughout 2004. Two of the overseas project partners mentioned above, LIDER and SELVA, are actually local NGOs, comprised of community members who co-manage specific nature reserves. While MARENA handles the bureaucratic side of conservation in Nicaragua, LIDER and SELVA reach out to their community members by holding monthly meetings for all communities in and around the nature reserves to disseminate information. Areas that are managed by LIDER and SELVA have been legally declared part of the National System of Protected Areas (SINAP). MARENA is currently solely managing Nature Reserve Isla Juan Venado and is hoping to delegate local management responsibility to trained community members.

Other local constituencies have expressed their support and will participate in the CBNPR project. This includes the major local television and radio station for the Pacific region of Nicaragua, who plans on filming a documentary on the Darwin project, to create a programme that will be broadcast locally and potentially nationally. Moreover, the station has offered to conduct regular radio broadcasts to enhance dissemination of information. Finally, the station is willing to edit the footage to create a DVD to be used for environmental education purposes as well as future training modules. Please see attached letter of support.

The expert on Central American and Nicaragua invertebrates, Dr. Jean-Micheal Maes, has already agreed to work for minimal sums for several days during each training programme. Please see attached letter of support.

Other local organisations, not necessarily related to conservation, have also expressed their support for the project. Quetzeltrekkers, a local NGO working to find homes and jobs for street children, are interested in visiting project sites and learning about endangered species monitoring. Quetzeltrekker groups are scheduled to visit project sites quarterly. SEE will provide accommodation and food for these groups as an in-kind contribution.

PROJECT DETAILS

10. Is this a new initiative or a development of existing work (funded through any source?) Are you aware of any other individuals/organisations carrying out similar work, or of any completed or existing Darwin Initiative projects relevant to your work? If so, please give details explaining similarities and differences and showing how results of your work will be additional to any similar work and what attempts have/will be made to co-operate with and learn lessons from such work for mutual benefits.

The proposed project is a new initiative, building upon meetings that began prior to the Darwin Pre-Project funding trip in January 2004 and meetings that have continued throughout they year. There is currently another Darwin Initiative project running in the Central America Region, "Building Nicaraguan and Costa Rican Capacity in Biodiversity Conservation" , led by Dr. Lorraine Gormley at the University of Bangor in Wales. A strong dialogue has already been established with Dr. Gormley to discuss our project proposal, to avoid overlap, and to learn from both the positive and negative experiences of her project. This project is located in the San Juan river basin in the north east of Costa Rica and south east of Nicaragua, specifically in the proposed Maquenque National Park area (San Carlos) of Costa Rica and the Indio Mais reserve in Nicaragua. Please note that our project will be located in the Pacific Northwest of Nicaragua and will not geographically overlap with Dr.Gormley's project. If successful with Round 13 funding, arrangements will be made for Dr. Gormely, Mr. Rubio and Mr. Poonian to meet in both Wales and Nicaragua to share ideas and experiences for the design and implementation of the training and monitoring programmes and to incorporate lessons learnt into the project. Moreover, both parties will pay a site visit in-country to observe and evaluate the others' projects. A letter of support from Dr. Gormley is attached.

The projects are similar in that both entail training of NGO staff in biodiversity assessment and data analysis. However, the training courses offered by SEE will run for an additional two weeks, due to the fact that training will take place at specific site locations, very close to the offices and homes of the NGO staff. The optimal training course time has already been discussed with the various NGOs, based on current time and budget constraints. The courses differ also in that SEE will be training both government and non-government staff, including MARENA staff, the focal body for the Convention on Biodiversity. Additionally, through the SEE training programme in biodiversity assessment and data analysis, trainees will receive a BTEC vocational qualification, the first and only qualification of its kind in Nicaragua. The SEE monitoring programme will focus on different habitats, landscapes, and endangered species.

Naturally, the CBNPR project will also build upon the lessons learnt throughout 15 years of training programmes conducted by SEE in Africa and Asia. Previous successful training modules and lessons from training programmes will be incorporated into the CBNPR project, using a context-specific approach.

11. How will the project assist the host country in its implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity? Please make reference to the relevant article(s) of the CBD thematic programmes and/or cross-cutting themes (see Annex C for list and worked example) and rank the relevance of the project to these by indicating percentages. Is any liaison proposed with the CBD national focal point in the host country? Further information about the CBD can be found on the Darwin website or CBD website.

By regulating and monitoring biological resources important for the conservation of biological diversity within protected areas, the project will work towards ensuring their conservation and sustainable use. The project will also create training opportunities, generating the scientific and technical education necessary for the identification, conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and its components and provide support for such education. Courses will be carefully tailored to the needs of the country and in accordance with national conservation priorities.

Through the intense, proposed training and monitoring programmes and their subsequent outputs and outcomes, the project shall support the Government's implementation of Articles 7 (15%), 8 (10%), 12 (25%), and 18 (5%) with particular emphasis on forest biodiversity (10%), sustainable use themes (10%), protected areas (10%), coastal biodiversity (10%) and mountain biodiversity (5%).

By working in partnership with MARENA the project will continuously liase with the primary CBD national focal point, Carlos Rivas Leclair. Mr. Leclair will be consulted throughout the project period with meetings scheduled to discuss the curricula for the training programme and to discuss the design and implementation of the training and monitoring programmes. Mr. Leclair will be invited to the project site and to all local and regional workshops. It is hoped that he will also attend the BTEC Awards ceremony. Mr. Leclair will be the focal point for integrating the monitoring programme and management plans produced at both the national and international level.

12. How does the work meet a clearly identifiable biodiversity need or priority defined by the host country? Please indicate how this work will fit in with National Biodiversity Strategies or Environmental Action Plans, if applicable.

Three quarters of the rural population of Nicaragua are classified as “poor” according to DFID (1999) and rely heavily on the natural resources surrounding their settlements either for direct consumption or for income generation. The extraction rates of a large number of animal and plant species are far from sustainable and will lead to the extinction of many species of biological and economic importance in the near future.

From meetings during and after the pre-project visit funded by the Darwin Initiative, it has become evident that Nicaragua is often neglected in terms of donor funding. The majority of funding for Central America is granted to Costa Rica due to the rich infrastructure that exists there. However, Nicaragua is equally diverse and rich in biodiversity, boasting enormous potential for safeguarding biodiversity and implementing the Convention of Biodiversity yet currently lacking funds for the growth of fledgling initiatives. Rangers in the Cosiguina Nature Reserve, Estero Padre Ramos, and Isla Juan Venado have never received formal training. Adequate training and monitoring programmes are of primary importance to fulfil MARENA’s strategic objectives.

Nicaragua has also defined its biodiversity priorities in accordance with its National Biodiversity Strategy. Working with critically endangered sea turtles (included in CITES 1) and other endangered species through local initiatives and personnel acts in direct accordance with NBS1 Biodiversity conservation, 1.2.3-1.2.4

Local and regional collaboration for the development and implementation of the BTEC qualifications aimed at Nature Reserve rangers will lead to initiatives as defined by NSB2 (Economic viability and sustainable use of biodiversity), 2.3.1.

Continuous monitoring within Pacific Northwest region will directly contribute to NSB3 (Strengthening system for information and monitoring of biodiversity) in particular 3.1.1 3.1.3 3.2.1 and 3.3.1.

There is also a critical need for expertise in conservation methodology in order to protect CITES 1 listed species such as *Dermodochelys coriacea*, *Eretmodochelys imbricata*, *Caretta caretta*, *Lepidochelys olivacea*, *Ara Macao*, *Choloepus hoffmanni*, *Rax rubra* as well as to increase international focus for Nicaragua and to highlight its conservation importance.

13. If relevant, please explain how the work will contribute to sustainable livelihoods in the host country.

Better use of the country’s threatened natural resources will be a key factor in all efforts to reduce poverty and promote sustainable livelihoods. Nicaragua has a total of 76 protected areas covering a large percentage of the national territory. The three protected areas targeted by the CBNPR exhibit significant potential for future eco-tourism initiatives. Local and regional NGOs and local communities are highly willing to halt unsustainable harvesting of biodiversity only if alternative economic incentives are provided and if they understand the impact of their actions. Therefore, teaching community members how to integrate current and future eco-tourism plans into management plans at the local and regional level and teaching how to promote public awareness at the local levels are two important components of the proposed training programme. Moreover, strong community involvement in the CBNPR project will strengthen their capacity to sustainably manage their resources of protected areas. Please see letters of support.

14. What will be the impact of the work, and how will this be achieved? Please include details of how the results of the project will be disseminated and put into effect to achieve this impact.

The main impact of the CBNPR project will be to safeguard the biodiversity of Nicaragua’s Pacific North Region by building the capacity of local institutions, local and regional stakeholders and government. Their improved capacity and the establishment of the monitoring programme will enhance protection of biodiversity in the three protected areas (namely critically endangered, endangered and threatened species), strengthening management of the protected areas, and promoting widespread dissemination of results and integrating monitoring and management plans nationally and internationally.

The conservation of protected areas will benefit greatly from the specialised training current and future rangers will receive. The proposed BTEC will equip students with instruction in computer programmes used for data evaluation and database management, monitoring systems training, conflict management in the park (between the various groups with interest in the area), law enforcement and training in patrolling and control of resources. The supply of qualified staff and the development of monitoring processes will increase effectiveness, co-ordination and capacity involved in maintaining protected areas. Capacity of both individual workers and the local NGO institutions will be strengthened through training and through partnerships with other organisations such as SEE. The formulation of the NPNM Alliance between protected areas will standardise methodology and

lead to an increasingly reliable data sets. As stressed throughout this application, no other funding opportunities currently exist to enhance and solidify protection of the Pacific North Region of Nicaragua through training and monitoring programmes.

As detailed in the outputs list under dissemination outputs, SEE plans to disseminate findings through publications, educational and training videos/DVDs, radio interviews, newsletters, television programming, seminars, workshops, and conferences over the next 2 years. Conferences include the International Sea Turtle Symposium and the International Conference on Biodiversity with presentation at both, based on findings of the Darwin funded project. Publications include local and international specialised magazines and peer-reviewed journals (e.g. butterfly and sea turtle journals).

15. How will the work leave a lasting legacy in the host country or region?

The training programme will provide the first accreditation of its kind in the history of Nicaragua. It will provide the first-ever qualification in Conservation Management. As a legacy, the tailor-made BTEC will become a regularly run course that contributes to the UNAN-Leon curricula.

Permanent monitoring sites will be established that contribute to ensuring the long-term identification and protection of endangered species. Methodologies will be standardised across the Pacific North region for data collection and continuous monitoring.

Through the dissemination of findings, SEE plans to raise awareness regarding Nicaragua's rich and diverse natural resources and to enhance SELVA and LIDER's current eco-tourism plans. Since Nicaragua is currently a neglected destination and as conservation site has largely remained overshadowed by Costa Rica, this project could play a part in jump-starting a much greater international awareness of Nicaragua's ecological treasures.

16. Please give details of a clear exit strategy and state what steps have been taken to identify and address potential problems in achieving impact and legacy.

The creation of the NPNM Alliance through the Darwin project will allow local and regional NGOs and MARENA to standardise methodology and to disseminate information on a quarterly basis. The alliance will meet quarterly. SEE will chair the first three meetings of the Alliance. Following that, the Alliance will be hosted by UNAN-Leon, SELVA, LIDER, and MARENA in rotation, though SEE will continue an active partnership in the Alliance and will attend Alliance meetings until 2007.

Following the training programme, past trainees will be supervised by a member of the project team for a two week period to ensure that their new skills are being applied accurately and precisely. This supervision will take place 4 months after the training programme is completed. Each trainee will receive an individual evaluation on their progress and suggestions for enhancing their skills. The results will be presented at the Alliance meeting. The Society will continue to work with trainees after completion of the programme, to assist them in developing community based monitoring schedules, where appropriate. UNAN-Leon will take over the BTEC in association with SEE, as part of the University curricula.

The habitat monitoring plans, based on permanent sites identified and established during the training programme, will be produced for the National Biodiversity Plan. This will be utilised by MARENA. It is anticipated that MARENA will adopt the permanent monitoring sites as a component of their national conservation plan. Management plans integrated into MARENA's national strategy and integrated into national environmental policy.

One of the greatest potential challenges in achieving impact and legacy is the identification of funding sources to pay for the BTEC accreditation. In association with eco-tourism plans, a percentage of revenues and entry fees into protected areas can be set aside into a BTEC fund. The Nicaraguan counterpart trainer will be supported by UNAN-Leon to seek further funding to increase training opportunities. The Society will assist LIDER and SELVA to seek further bilateral funding to develop effective management planning for protected reserves and areas in Nicaragua. In fact, grant writing will be included as a module in the training programme.

Constant feedback and evaluation as well as the great dialogue and network of trust among project partners allows open communication to discuss project developments and implementation. All project partners will work together in the final months of the project to ensure that the legacy and sustainability goals are met.

The project has been designed such that implicit in the implementation and exit strategy, staff change over would have minimal effect on the continuation of project benefits. Through the creation of the Pacific NW Monitoring Alliance, the establishment of the BTEC centre through UNAN-Leon, the manuals, monitoring and management plans detailed in the Output List, and in addition to the trainees trained as well as trainers, verifiers and assessors, the project's "portfolio" has been significantly diversified to ensure that the impact and legacy will continue even in light of staff change-overs within any organisation involved.

17. How will the project be advertised as a Darwin project and in what ways would the Darwin name and logo be used?

The Darwin Initiative will be acknowledged in all promotional material relating to the Nicaragua project, in all literature, reports, newsletters, articles, press releases, television programmes, radio broadcasts and the like. All printed materials will include the use of the Darwin Initiative logo.

Moreover, the Darwin logo will appear on the majority of SEE's reports, newsletters, articles, and promotional material. SEE's website will acknowledge Darwin Initiative support, including the use of the Darwin Initiative logo, and will constantly update project developments. Darwin will be acknowledged at all conferences where the presentations are a result of the Darwin funding.

Several media outlets have already expressed interest in covering the Society's work in Nicaragua. Darwin would be rightfully acknowledged and showcased as part of the media programming.

18. Will the project include training and development? Please indicate who the trainees will be and criteria for selection and that the level and content of training will be. How many will be involved, and from which countries? How will you measure the effectiveness of the training and will those trained then be able to train others? Where appropriate give the length and dates (if known) of any training course. How will trainee outcomes be monitored after the end of the training?

Training forms a major part of the CBNPR project. Twenty Nicaraguan trainees will be selected from LIDER, SELVA, MARENA, UNAN-Leon based on the criteria developed by SEE, the CBD focal point, and the heads of partner organisations. Based on workshops and meetings already held and the input contributed by LIDER, SELVA, MARENA, and UNAN-Leon, the following would be included in the training programme and reflected in the BTEC qualification: instruction in computer programmes used for data evaluation and database management; timescales for monitoring systems (how often they need to conduct surveys, info that should be recorded, etc.); conflict management in the park between the various groups with interest in the area; law enforcement, how to improve and strengthen existing measures; training in patrolling and control of resources; working on endangered species-specific programmes (the endangered flagship species, the giant conch, the park's mascot for Estero Padre Ramos; orchids, the scarlet macaw, the great curassow and the white tailed deer in Volcan Cosiguina Area Protegida); integrating the monitoring programme and further development of SELVA and LIDER's current eco-tourism plans; environmental responsibility of local communities. Successful completion of the training programme will result in a BTEC in Conservation Management, a vocational qualification with content that of an A-level equivalent.

Six Nicaraguan project participants will also be trained as Assessors and Verifiers to aid course facilitation and quality control; courses will be run through Edexcel, London. The project participants will be comprised of park rangers and employees of the protected areas network. All participants will work for LIDER, SELVA, and MARENA and as such can be classified as community representatives as well. The Nicaraguan counterpart trainer will receive extensive on-the-job training and experience throughout their 12-month period of employment provided by the Darwin Initiative, enabling them to undertake programmes and teach more trainers. Six representatives from LIDER, MARENA, and SELVA will also be trained as future trainers. Those selected for this more rigorous training will be more senior members of staff at the organisations.

The training courses offered by SEE will run for 4 weeks, due to the fact that training will take place at specific site locations, very close to the offices and homes of the NGO staff. The optimal training course time has already been discussed with the various NGOs, based on current time and budget constraints. Moreover, a two week supervision period will take place months following completion of the training programme.

According to the current timetable, the first training programme in Volcan Cosiguina will take place from October 1- November 1. The second training programme November 15 – December 15. The third training programme from January 15 – February 15.

In order to monitor effectiveness, each trainee will be required to keep a daily logbook (provided to them), extensive notes, conduct an oral presentation and submit a written report. All materials will be marked and returned to the trainees. The best trainees will be recognised at the BTEC Awards Ceremony. Moreover, at the end of each training programme, trainees will complete feedback forms. Issues, concerns, and suggestions for future programmes can be discussed at the local workshop following the close of the training course, attended by all trainees. Weekly progress meetings will be built into the training programme so that trainees and trainers are constantly engaged in open dialogue and can openly suggest improvements to the programme.

In order to monitor trainee outcomes after the end of training, in the months following the completion of the training programme, each trainee will be monitored in their job by a member of the project team for quality assurance and to make sure that their skills are being applied. Since the Society for Environmental Exploration has a five-year Memorandum of understanding with LIDER and UNAN-Leon for a long-term plan for continued collaboration in Nicaraguan, the organisations will continue to meet regularly to monitor trainee outcomes. The trainees will have continued access to The Society's research project in Chinandega, and will be supported by the science facilities at UNAN-Leon. The Society and LIDER will endeavour to ensure that the training manuals produced (in English and Spanish) and educational videos/DVDs will be utilised in future training initiatives.

LOGICAL FRAMEWORK

19. Please enter the details of your project onto the matrix using the note at Annex B of the Guidance Note. This should not have substantially changed from the Logical Framework submitted with your Stage 1 application. Please highlight any changes.

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
Goal: To draw on expertise relevant to biodiversity from within the United Kingdom to work with local partners in countries rich in biodiversity but poor in resources to achieve <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the conservation of biological diversity, • the sustainable use of its components, • the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the utilisation of genetic resources 			
Purpose Design and implement a training programme in conservation skills and monitoring techniques to build the capacity of local and regional institutions to manage and monitor resources in the Pacific North region of the Nicaragua sustainably.	Training programme curriculum consolidated in Q1 and 12 month training programme begins end of Q2. Acceptance of habitat and species monitoring plan as part of MARENA's current monitoring programme.	Tailor-made BTECs awarded to 20 Nicaraguan personnel from LIDER, SELVA, UNAN-Leon, and MARENA. Pacific NW monitoring programme integrated into MARENA's programme.	Programmes, policies and support from partner institutes remain throughout period of study Park Rangers and appropriate personnel can participate in training programme alongside current employment. MARENA continues development of current monitoring programme.
Outputs Specific BTEC courses to train local Nature Reserve Rangers and templates for future use Training programme Habitat and species specific terrestrial and coastal monitoring plan (Volcan Cosiguina)	Course curriculum constructed from input of various stakeholders 20 Nicaraguan personnel (from LIDER, SELVA, UNAN-Leon, MARENA) trained in appropriate context-specific conservation and data analysis skills. Presentation of monitoring plan to head of LIDER and MARENA. Mgmt. plan devised.	Course curriculum approved by SEE London Headquarters and Edexcel. Logbooks from trainees. BTEC qualifications awarded in Q6. 6 personnel trained as assessors and verifiers. Volcan Cosiguina monitoring programme integrated into MARENA's programme. Mgmt. Plan approved.	SEE continues sponsorship by Edexcel Trainees pass course requirements to receive BTEC. Suitable permanent monitoring sites identified.

Habitat and species specific terrestrial and coastal monitoring plan (Estero Padre Ramos)	Presentation of monitoring plan to head of SELVA and MARENA. Mgmt. Plan devised.	Estero Padre Ramos monitoring programme integrated into MARENA's programme. Mgmt. Plan approved.	Management plans approved at national level.
Habitat and species specific terrestrial and coastal monitoring plan (Isla Juan Venado)	Presentation of monitoring plan to head of UNAN-Leon and MARENA. Mgmt. Plan devised.	Isla Juan Venado monitoring programme integrated into MARENA's programme. Mgmt. Plan approved.	
Activities*		Activity Milestones (Summary of Project Implementation Timetable)	
BTEC course development.		Workshops for curriculum development (Q1). Approval by Edexcel and SEE LHQ (Q1-2).	
Training Programme		Training programme in Volcan Cosiguina (Q2-3); training programme in Estero Padre Ramos (Q4);	
Monitoring Programme		Training Programme in Isla Juan Venado (Q3). Regional workshop to present findings (Q4). Publication of training manual, field guides and scientific papers (Q5-6).	
Strengthening Protected Areas		Biodiversity and species inventory data collection and analysis (Q2-Q6). Local monitoring plans written and presented (Q3-VC; Q4-EPR; Q3-ISV). Monitoring plans regionally integrated into MARENA's monitoring programme (Q5). Monitoring plans nationally integrated (Q6). Monitoring plan presented to national and international stakeholders and for policy results (Q6). Management plans produced, approved, and implemented (Q5-6).	
* The only minor changes that have been made to the log-frame are the quarters during which activities will take place.			

20. Provide a project implementation timetable that shows the key milestones in project activities.

Project implementation timetable		
Date	Financial year	Key milestones
May 2005	Apr-Mar 2005/6	Meetings with project advisors and consultants (Dr. Lorraine Gormley in Wales; Natural History Museum London; Edexcel)
June 2005	Apr-Mar 2005/6	Project Manager and Principal Investigator meet with local and regional partners in Nicaragua. Workshop held for constructing and finalising training programme curricula. Meeting with CBD focal point.
July 2005	Apr-Mar 2005/6	Training programme written.
August 2005	Apr-Mar 2005/6	MARENA approves training programme.
September 2005	Apr-Mar 2005/6	Edexcel approves training programme as a BTEC accredited certificate course.
October – November 2005	Apr-Mar 2005/6	Training programme 1 in Reserva Natural Volcan Cosiguina. Monitoring programme initiated.
November 2005	Apr-Mar 2005/6	Local workshop to discuss results of training programme and lessons for following programmes.
November 2005 – December 2005	Apr-Mar 2005/6	Training programme 2 in Isla Juan Venado. Monitoring programme initiated.
December 2005	Apr-Mar 2005/6	Local workshop to discuss results of training programme and lessons for following programmes.

January 2006 – February 2006	Apr-Mar 2005/6	Training programme 3 in Estero Padre Ramos. Monitoring programme initiated.
February 2006	Apr-Mar 2005/6	Mid-term project report compiled and submitted. Visit from external evaluators and from Dr. Gormely and CBD focal point.
March 2006	Apr-Mar 2005/6	Presentation at International Sea Turtle Symposium.
Mid-late March 2006	Apr-Mar 2005/6	Regional workshop to present finding of all training programmes and lessons learnt. Initiation of Pacific NW Monitoring Alliance.
April 2006	Apr-Mar 2006/7	Management plans designed with Alliance based on habitat monitoring and training programmes.
June 2006	Apr-Mar 2006/7	Management plans presented to MARENA.
July 2006	Apr-Mar 2006/7	Management plans integrated into MARENA's national strategy and integrated into national environmental policy.
July 2006	Apr-Mar 2006/7	Second congregation of Alliance. Supervision of training group.
August 2006	Apr-Mar 2006/7	BTEC Awards ceremony.
September 2006	Apr-Mar 2006/7	Meetings in Managua with government officials and Ministry. Meetings for Central America region.
November 2006	Apr-Mar 2006/7	Submission of final report.

21. Set out the project's measurable outputs using the separate list of output measures.

PROJECT OUTPUTS		
Year/Month	Standard output number (see standard output list)	Description (include numbers of people involved, publications produced, days/weeks etc.)

Training outputs August 2006	3	20 BTEC qualifications (NVQs) awarded to Nicaraguan participants of training programme (see item 6A and 6B below)
September 2005 – August 2006	4C	10 postgraduate students to receive training (UK self-funded postgraduates to collect biodiversity data and contribute to monitoring plan full-time)
“	4D	100 training weeks provided
“	5	1 counterpart trainer will receive training and experience for 12 months
“	6A	20 community representatives (from local and regional NGOs and Nature Reserve staff) will receive training (Output 3 to follow from completion of training programme)
“	6B	120 training weeks will be provided (6 per trainee. 4 weeks intensive training and 2 weeks supervision and data management)
October 2006	7	1 informational training DVD/video constructed (during project period) for local NGOs and for future training
September 2006		3 manuals to be produced, one for each Reserve (2 versions of each manual: English and Spanish)
July 2005 – end of project		1 website link constructed for project updates (workshop dates; training links, etc.)
Research Outputs May 2005 – November 2006	8	205 staff weeks (13 + 78 + 33 + 39 + 39 +3), not including 4C and 4D which will be co-funded and require additional staff
March 2006	9	7 (1) 3 habitat and species monitoring plans to be produced for Volcan Cosiguina, estero Padre Ramos and Isla Juan Venado, also to be presented to LIDER, MARENA, SELVA and UNAN-Leon (2) 3 management plans (3) final project report
April 2006 November 2006 October 2006	10	1 Manual to be produced for entire region for species identification, classification, and recording.
October 2006	11B	3 It will be planned to submit at least three peer reviewed paper on the training programme/monitoring and findings from the project
July 2006	12B	1 Integration into MARENA's current database
July 2006	13B	2 Species reference collections to be enhanced at UNAN-Leon and Natural History Museum London
Dissemination Outputs June 2005; Nov. 2005; Dec. 2005; Feb. 2006; March 2006; June 2006; July 2006	14A	7 (3 Local workshops; 2 Regional Workshops; 2 Pacific NW Alliance conference to be initiated)
July 2005; March 2006; August 2006 “ + Nov. 2006	14B	10 Workshops listed in 14A to be attended; plus International Sea Turtle Symposium; Seminar at UNAN-Leon; International Conservation Biology Conference. at least 3 progress statements/press releases will be produced
July 2005; October 2005; January 2006; April 2006	15A	at least 4 progress statement/press releases will be produced
February 2006; October 2006	15B	4 The society will produce a quarterly newsletter for its Nicaragua programme, to include a full update on the proposed project
2005- 2006	15C	2 Newsletters designed specifically for local and regional stakeholders in Nicaragua (in Spanish)
2005-2006	16A	2000 newsletters circulated in Nicaragua
March 2006	16B	3000 in newsletters circulated in UK
September 2006	16C	1 The Nicaraguan Pacific NW alliance to be established and members consolidated
	17A	1 TV programmes (documentary scheduled to be filmed;
	18A/18C	

July 2005; October 2005; February 2006; August 2006; Physical outputs November 2006 March 2006	19A/19C 20 21	however it is yet to be decided whether it will be released locally or nationally) At least 5 radio interviews to be conducted (cannot confirm whether will air locally or nationally) Estimated value of 7340 GBP 1 Pacific NW alliance, formed as a part of this Darwin project, will continue to meet quarterly 4 BTEC Assessors and Trainers will be trained 1 BTEC Outreach programme established at UNAN-Leon (this cannot be guaranteed by neither SEE nor Edexcel at this point) 3 permanent field plots (One in each major natural reserve)
September 2005 – August 2006 October 2006 Nov. 2005; Dec. 2005; Jan. 2006 – continuous Financial Outputs May 2005- November 2006	22 23	 Co-funding of nearly 30,000 GBP plus other in-kind contributions valued at nearly 10,000 GBP.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

22. Describe, referring to the Indicators in the Logical Framework, how the progress of the project will be monitored and evaluated, including towards delivery of its outputs and in terms of achieving its overall purpose. This should be during the lifetime of the project and at its conclusion. Please include information on how host country partners will be included in the monitoring and evaluation.

The project will be monitored through progress reports, site visits, project evaluations and workshops. For the training programme, each trainee will be required to keep a daily logbook, extensive notes, conduct an oral presentation and submit a written report. All materials will be marked and returned to the trainees. Feedback will be sought from all participants, all will be asked to complete a feedback questionnaire. Trainees will be carefully monitored and encouraged to pursue areas of personal interest within the scope of the training programme, and to work in independent teams. A senior representative of LIDER, SELVA, and UNAN-Leon will attend the workshop to be held at the end of each training period, to monitor progress made by trainees after the four weeks. Recommendations will be acted upon, to develop subsequent training periods, as appropriate. 20 Nicaraguan participants will be awarded a BTEC at a prestigious awards ceremony.

The training manuals in each language will be reviewed by a suitable representative of the Ministry of Higher Education and will subsequently be distributed widely to encourage future training programmes. UNAN-Leon, SEE, and SELVA will integrate lessons learnt into future training programmes to be administered through UNAN-Leon.

The habitat monitoring plans, based on permanent sites identified and established during the training programme, will be produced for the National Biodiversity Strategy. They will be presented to the heads of the managers of the protected areas and a subsequent management plan will be devised. This will be utilised by MARENA and integrated into the national biodiversity strategy.