



17-011

Submit by Monday 1 December 2008

DARWIN INITIATIVE APPLICATION FOR GRANT FOR ROUND 16: STAGE 2

Please read the Guidance Notes before completing this form. Where no word limits are given, the size of the box is a guide to the amount of information required. Information to be extracted to the database is highlighted blue.

1. Name and address of organisation (NB: Notification of results will be by post)

Name: Bristol, Clifton and West of England Zoological Society	Address: Bristol Zoo Gardens, Clifton, Bristol, BS8 3HA
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2. Project title (not exceeding 10 words)

A Participatory Conservation Programme for the Comoro Islands

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

Proposed start date: 1 April 2009		Duration of project: 3 years		End date: 31 March 2012	
Darwin funding requested	2009/10 £90,411	2010/11 £75,531	2011/2012 £74,863	2012/13 £	Total £238,805

4. Define the purpose of the project (extracted from logframe)

1. Threatened forest areas managed sustainably by communities in Anjouan and Mohéli 2. To ensure forest based livelihoods of at least 16 communities surrounding the remaining forest are more compatible with forest conservation

5. Principals in project. Please provide a one page CV for each of these named individuals. You may copy and paste this table if you need to provide details of more than one overseas project partner.

Details	Project Leader	Other UK personnel (working more than 50% of their time on project)	Main project partner and co-ordinator in host country/ies
Surname	Maddison	Doulton	Moutui
Forename (s)	Neil	Hugh	Mohamed
Post held	Head of Conservation Programmes	Comoros Project Coordinator	Anjouan Coordinator; Partnerships Coordinator
Institution (if different to above)			Bristol's ECDD Project; Action Comores
Department	Bristol Conservation and Science Foundation	Bristol Conservation and Science Foundation	
Telephone			
Email			

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

NO

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)

Bristol Conservation and Science Foundation ('BCSF' - an operating unit of the Bristol Zoological Society) aims to make a significant contribution to biodiversity conservation in the UK and developing countries, using core competencies in community engagement and support leading to sustainable development, biological and social research, and professional management.

Activities (50 words)

We currently work in several countries e.g. Cameroon, Comoros, Madagascar, Philippines, using a participatory learning and action methodology to build local capacity to support sustainable development. A critical aspect of our work is to link community development to the sustainable use of natural resources and the conservation of endangered wildlife.

Achievements (50 words)

(2008) Enabling communities living around the Dja Reserve to help address the illegal commercial bushmeat trade (Cameroon); establishing trust in several communities in the Comoro Islands in order to implement sustainable development tied to forest conservation; legalisation of the Sahamalaza National Park (Madagascar) with support of local communities.

8. Please list the UK/collaborative (where there are partners in addition to the applicant organisation) and host country partners that will be involved, 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 host country partners to be involved in the project. Please provide written evidence of partnerships. Please copy/delete boxes for more or fewer partnerships.

<p>Partner Name:</p> <p>Durrell Conservation Wildlife Trust (DCWT)</p>	<p>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):</p> <p>BCSF and DCWT have collaborated in the Comoros for over a decade. Discussions on partnership for this application have been ongoing since early 2008, with final meetings held in Bristol at the end of October. DCWT will be responsible for the biodiversity side of the work, with activities in the field coming under the coordination of the BCSF project manager. This will include: elaborating a best-practice biodiversity monitoring and protected area zoning system, technical support and training for biodiversity monitoring, technical support for data analyses, publications. Through their Madagascar team, DCWT will also provide expertise on the community side of the project, and support an FAO project producing GIS maps of forest, to include additional capacity building for GIS work.</p>
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<p>Partner Name:</p> <p>Overseas Development Group (ODG) at the University of East Anglia</p>	<p>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):</p> <p>Academics from the ODG have been advising on the community process since June 2007. Dr Oliver Springate-Baginski will visit annually to evaluate progress, advise on the general process and develop and evaluate a participatory livelihood, institutional development, and attitudes monitoring scheme. He will also lead on publications on the community aspects of the project. Other academics will continue to provide long-distance support on the process.</p>
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Partner Name: Union of the Comoros Government, and Island Governments of Anjouan and Mohéli (Ministries for the Environment)	Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): The governments of the Union and Anjouan have supported and assisted the project since 2006, with partnerships signed in late 2007 and early 2008 respectively. Discussions with the Mohéli government are ongoing since mid-2008. The General Secretary for the Union Ministry represented all three governments during discussions surrounding the Darwin application with all international partners in Bristol in October. The government will work to harmonise forestry laws with community ownership, and the GIS technician in the Union government, already proficient, will be further trained to deliver the GIS aspects of the work in partnership with the FAO. The project will report every three months to each government, and an advisory committee comprising, amongst others, members of each government, will meet biannually to review and direct progress.
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Partner Name: Action Comores	Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): Action Comores has been a critical partner in the development of the project since 2005. Their participatory monitoring scheme of the Livingstone's bat, run for over a decade, will be used as the model for the biodiversity monitoring scheme, and their highly skilled field technicians assisted in its implementation. BCSF's current community project will be built into the NGO, forming a new arm of the organisation. The NGO will also receive general capacity building and organisational support to turn it into a major force for conservation in the Comoros (largely co-funded by the BBC Wildlife Fund). This will include training in project identification, elaboration, funding and management, and administrative skills.
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Partner Name: Several others, including the UNDP-Comoros, the University of the Comoros, the Centre National de Recherche et Documentation Scientifique, projects run by IFAD and FAO, and local rural development organisations. Birdlife International and The World Land Trust.	Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): Partnerships are being established with many other projects and local organisations to provide relevant technical expertise for the implementation of communities' sustainable development plans, and general advice on community development. Partnerships with the University of the Comoros and the CNDRS will support local ecological research. Birdlife International and the World Land Trust will support the transformation of Action Comores into a major force for conservation in the Comoros – initial agreements with these last two were scoped out in October 2008.
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9a. Have you consulted stakeholders not already mentioned above?	X Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
If yes, please give details: A pilot phase has been working in two villages on Anjouan since October 2007. This has been integral to the development of this proposal, with the community strategy elaborated below being based on the work with these villages. Seven further villages on Anjouan have been engaged since July 2008, all located around the Moya forest region, which has been identified as a priority area for intervention by the Government of Anjouan's Ministry of the Environment.	
9b. Do you intend to consult other stakeholders?	X Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
If yes, please give details: Eight other villages will be targeted on the island of Mohéli and, as such, consultations with some of the key stakeholders has already begun .e.g. Mohéli government, Union of Comoros Ministry of	

the Environment, NGOs working on Mohéli, but we are aware that village groups on Mohéli need to be brought into discussions.

9c. Have you had any (other) contact with the government not already stated? Yes No
If yes, please give details:

9d. Is any liaison proposed with the CBD/CMS/CITES focal point in the host country? Yes No
If yes, please give details:

The CBD focal point, Mr Charaf Eddine Msaidie, is one of the main points of contact in the Union government and receives reports on progress every three months. He has been involved in elaboration of the project since 2006 and is very supportive on the approach and potential outcomes of the project.

PROJECT DETAILS

10. Please provide a Concept note (Max 1,000 words) (repeat from Stage 1, with changes highlighted)

The Union of the Comoros is a small island developing state in the Western Indian Ocean. Between 1990 and 2000 the country suffered from the fourth highest rate of deforestation in the world¹, and the latest statistics suggest that forest cover has diminished by a further third since 2000². The rapid deforestation is putting at risk the many endemic species dependent on forest habitat, with 24 terrestrial taxa named in the Red Data Books³ (including the flagship Endangered Livingstone's fruit bat) and many more non-assessed forest endemics at risk^{4,5,6}. It is also causing acute problems for the human population through large-scale erosion, water loss and subsequent silting of the reefs: in the last 50 years the number of permanent rivers on one island, Anjouan, has decreased from around 35 to under 10.

In 2001 the Comorian government outlined steps to meet its CBD commitments⁷. Key needs identified included integration of communities in conservation planning, resource management implementation, and technical capacity building. Despite being one of the five 'hottest hotspots' in terms of international conservation priorities⁸, subsequent reports to the CBD show little progress^{9,10}. Lack of funds and expertise are identified as the two most important barriers preventing the Comoros from achieving its conservation goals, and there remains no terrestrial natural resource management. The situation is so severe that the Comoros are named in a recent report as the country the least prepared to manage impacts of climate change¹¹. If forest conservation measures are not put in place soon then the future for Comorian biodiversity and its people looks bleak.

Given the weak governance situation in the Comoros, conservation of the remaining forest and its biodiversity can be successful only if communities are empowered to take control of their own natural resource management. With the severity of additional pressures resulting in deforestation - notably the depressed economic situation, population increase and cash crop plantation¹² - conservation can be tackled only through a landscape approach. Since October 2007, **Bristol Zoo Gardens (now operating as the Bristol Conservation and Science Foundation 'BCSF')**, alongside the support of academics from the **Universities of East Anglia** and **Oxford** and through a wide partnership on the ground, has been working on a pilot project on Anjouan to develop the best approach for the Comoros, based mainly on Participatory Learning and Action (PLA)¹³. A team of six village facilitators and a local coordinator, overseen by an expatriate manager, has been successfully established. The project has also set up a system of permanent biodiversity and habitat monitoring transects, including training of field technicians from a local partner NGO.

The **Comorian government** has now requested that the project expands its geographical scope to aim for the sustainable management of the remaining natural forest on two of the islands, Anjouan and Mohéli. We are submitting this application in support of this aim.

The proposed project will broadly follow and scale up the following PLA process developed during 12 months' experience on the ground in the Comoros across several villages around the Moya forest area, Anjouan.

- 1) Awareness raising, rapport-building and engagement interactions with forest adjacent communities
- 2) Facilitating communities' to analyse the forest conservation and sustainable livelihood situation, and to envision and develop 'win-win' solutions that reduce poverty and protect forest habitat for

biodiversity, with the support of community facilitators;

3) Developing community capacity to implement solutions through joint development of pilot actions, organised and directed by village committees with community facilitator support;

4) Creation of longer term village sustainable development plans by the villagers themselves;

5) Support for self-implementation of community plans, including strengthening of support networks and creation of links with funders and the necessary expertise at all levels, to ensure sustainability of the intervention.

Bristol Conservation and Science Foundation will use its local and worldwide experience to lead this process, applying lessons learnt from **DWCT's** fifteen years of community conservation experience in Madagascar. Academics from the **University of East Anglia's Overseas Development Group** will advise and evaluate the process, and also help to develop a locally-adapted, participatory livelihood monitoring scheme as a key means of project evaluation. Sustainability will be based on building Bristol's community project into a new arm of a local conservation NGO, **Action Comores**. Action Comores will be given the support it needs to transform into a major force for conservation in the Comoros, with the assistance of the Africa Secretariat of **Birdlife International**, and the **World Land Trust**.

Evaluation will also be based on habitat and biodiversity monitoring. **DWCT** will build on its decade-long engagement in the Comoros to work with **Action Comores** to implement participatory ecological monitoring of bat species, birds, butterflies and forest quality, using the permanent transects set up during the pilot phase and the model of **Action Comores'** successful participatory Livingstone's bat monitoring work. **DWCT** and **BCSF** will also work with the **University of the Comoros** to develop local ecological research. Biodiversity assessments are crucial indicators of the effectiveness of the project; a key dependent variable is the state of the environment around the village, which will be monitored by a combination of remote sensing techniques and ground work. **BCSF and DWCT will support an FAO project working on the remote sensing aspects.**

The project is currently creating a number of other local partnerships to implement the solutions that emerge from the community sustainable development process, and is working closely with several donor-funded projects, notably a **UNDP-project 'OCB'**, working to build capacity for protected areas implementation, an **FAO forestry sector project**, and an **IFAD project** working on agricultural improvements.

1. Said Mohamed, 2000; 2. FAO, 2005; 3. IUCN, 2007; 4. Lewis et al., 1997; 5. GEF, 2000; 6. Louette et al., 2004; 7. UNDP et al., 2001; 8. Myers et al., 2000; 9. Said Mohamed, 2003; 10. Said Mohamed, 2005; 11. Maplecroft, 2008; 12. Doulton et al., 2007; 13. e.g. PLA notes, 2002.

11a. Is this a new initiative or a development of existing work (funded through any source)?

Please give details: As detailed in the concept note, the project builds on a successful pilot phase on the island of Anjouan, operational since October 2007. This was financed with £70,000 from UK sources (BBC Wildlife Fund, Bristol Zoo funds, corporate sponsors, British Foreign and Commonwealth Office - Mauritius Office).

11b. Are you aware of any other individuals/organisations/Darwin Initiative projects carrying out similar work?

Yes No

If yes, please give details explaining similarities and differences, and explaining how your work will be additional to this work and what attempts have been/will be made to co-operate with and learn lessons from such work for mutual benefits:

There are a limited number of donor-funded projects working on community development in the Comoros (the World Bank, the European Union and the French Development Agency). We have looked to learn lessons from their work since the start of the pilot phase, and will continue to do so while elaborating formal partnerships over the next few months. They, however, do not work on natural resource protection and are not using the 'bottom-up' empowerment approach with a PLA-type methodology. The UNDP is working to build community capacity for protected area management on all three islands of the Comoros and discussions are held at regular intervals so that lessons learnt can be shared between BCSF and UNDP staff.

12. Please indicate which of the following biodiversity conventions your project will contribute to: -

At least one must be selected.

- Only indicate the conventions that your project is directly contributing to.

- No additional significance will be ascribed for projects that report contributions to more than one convention

Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Yes No

CITES Yes No

Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) Yes No

What problem is this project addressing and how was it identified? (150 words)

The project addresses the severe threat of terrestrial endemic biodiversity loss (including the flagship Endangered fruit bat species *Pteropus livingstonii*, A2c; B1ab(iii)), resulting from the destruction of tropical rainforest habitat. The severity of the problem is highlighted in all Comoros' CBD documents and reports, and in the classification of the Comoro Islands as part of one of the five 'hottest hotspots' in terms of global conservation priorities. Research supported by Bristol Zoo over the last decade has detailed the threats to the Livingstone's fruit bat, whilst three months of wider biodiversity studies and socioeconomic research surrounding deforestation in 2005 laid the framework for Bristol Zoo's intervention with the pilot phase in 2007.

The project will also address the problems of the lack of capacity for conservation in the Comoros, and a lack of community engagement for conservation planning.

What will change as a result of this project? (150 words)

Deforestation rates in the targeted areas will be reduced and forest protection measures put in place for the first time on the islands. 'Win-win' solutions compatible with biodiversity conservation that reduce pressure on forest and improve sustainability of livelihoods will be identified as 'key success factors' and implemented in communities adjacent to forest protection areas, thus making conservation viable in the long term.

A local NGO, Action Comores, will be supported to become a major force for conservation in the Comoros to ensure the sustainability of the intervention. By the end of project, Action Comores will be capable of performing scientific field studies needed to identify and monitor threats to biodiversity thus giving long-term support to empower communities for natural resource management, and independently fundraising for and managing integrated conservation and development projects.

Why is the project important for the conservation of biodiversity? (150 words)

The ongoing threat level to terrestrial endemic biodiversity will be reduced through actions that directly tackle the main issue i.e. forest habitat destruction. Conservation of biodiversity in the Comoro Islands cannot be successful in the long-term unless more sustainable livelihoods are found for the communities who are currently dependent on unsustainable deforestation for their livelihoods. Such solutions need to go hand-in-hand with species and land protection agreements e.g. creation and installation of community conserved areas, and must be 'owned' by local people if results are to be sustainable beyond the initial project intervention, hence the innovative participatory approach adopted.

How does this relate to one or more of the biodiversity conventions? (150 words)

The project supports the Comoros commitments to the Convention on Biological Diversity (and is acknowledged in-country as such – see government letter of support). It is important to highlight that the CBD's Programme of Work on Protected Areas (for the Comoro Islands as a whole) is part-funding biodiversity aspects of this proposal with \$40,000. All actions fall within the Comoros National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, drawn up for the CBD in 2001. As detailed in the concept note, these actions address the main constraints and problems highlighted in this document as well as subsequent reports to the CBD.

13. How will the results of the project be disseminated; how will the project be advertised as a Darwin project and in what ways will the Darwin name and logo be used? (max 200 words)

Internationally, it is intended that the results of the community and biodiversity work will be published in academic journals. Aspects of the participatory approach adopted in the villages are innovative, and the aim of the biodiversity work is to create a model participatory monitoring system, so we expect these to be particularly attractive to scientific journals. We also aim to generate popular press articles in the UK. The project will be highlighted as a Darwin Initiative project in all these publications, and its name and logo included wherever possible.

Nationally, the project will implement a communication strategy using films, radio and newspapers, coupled to an awareness programme on the importance of forest conservation and sustainable use of natural resources. One article on the project approach and activities has already

been published in the national press. In addition, in the third year a community conservation 'how-to' guide will be produced for policy-makers and field practitioners in the Comoros. This will be published for a wider regional and international audience if there is demand. Again, Darwin and its logo will be given prominence wherever possible and relevant.

14. What will be the long term benefits of the project in the host country or region and have you identified any potential problems to achieving these benefits? (max 200 words)

The remaining forest on Anjouan and Mohéli will be conserved and degraded areas regenerated, ensuring the viability of terrestrial endemic biodiversity (and having considerable positive impact on coastal biodiversity through reduced run-off). Communities surrounding the forest will benefit through sustainability, livelihood-enhancement and empowerment activities. The possibility remains, however, that gains at the micro-level will be insufficient to negate the macro-level problems such as the economic situation or a burgeoning population. Identification of sufficient alternatives to current unsustainable natural resource exploitation is therefore recognised as crucial to long-term success, and so is an area of emphasis for the project.

Local capacity for conservation will be greatly increased through the transformation of Action Comores into an independent NGO capable of monitoring threats to biodiversity, providing ongoing support to communities for natural resource management, and fundraising for and managing associated projects.

Both these two key objectives will only prove successful if long-term financing mechanisms can be engaged and implemented. Links with potential future donors including the French Development Agency, the French GEF funds, the McArthur Foundation and Conservation International represent strong potentials, and additional supporters will be researched and developed during the project term in case these should not come to fruition.

15. State whether or not the project will reach a stable and sustainable end point. If the project is not discrete, but is part of a progressive approach, give details of the exit strategy and show how relevant activities will be continued to secure the benefits from the project. Where individuals receive advanced training, for example, what will happen should that individual leave? (Max 200 words)

The pilot phase, in the field since October 2007, has been successful, and so the government has asked for its expansion. If this proposed three-year phase is successful, BCSF anticipates further developing and enlarging the project (potential funders highlighted above).

The activities undertaken in the communities are, by their very nature, built on sustainability of the action, as a key objective of the project is to build capacity and self-mobilisation of the communities for sustainable development. Nevertheless, we recognise that the communities will require long-term support. Following meetings with representatives of the Comorian Government and Action Comores in Bristol in October, a strategic decision was taken to focus on the development of a single NGO, Action Comores, so that its members can devise, finance and manage 'ICDPs', in particular working with communities to support sustainable natural resource management, and running monitoring programmes assessing biodiversity and habitat threats. In the development of Action Comores, it is recognised that institutional capacity must be built to ensure a limited reliance on individuals and therefore this aspect of the project has been singled out for particular attention and subject to a separate grant proposal (to the BBC Wildlife Fund).

16. If your project includes training and development, please indicate how you will assess the training needs in relation to the overall purpose of the project. Who are the target groups? How will the training be delivered? What skills and knowledge do you expect the beneficiaries to obtain. How will you measure training effectiveness. (max 300 words)

You should address each of these points.

The first objective is to create a team of at least 10 community facilitators capable of supporting communities to achieve natural resource management and sustainable development. Continuous in-field training in participatory methodologies is backed up by theory sessions in the office. An evaluation system has already been put in place using a system of critical self-assessments, both written and in the field, and written evaluations and regular in-field assessments by the expatriate manager and local coordinator. This will now be reinforced through an annual evaluation of the community team by the UEA consultant. A further expatriate has also been brought into the project

who will work to train this team to support community management of pilot actions and solutions implementation.

Secondly, we aim to create a team of at least five field technicians capable of independently monitoring threats to biodiversity and habitats. Training will be undertaken mainly in the field, and will include species identification, monitoring techniques and GPS-use, with data input and analysis in the office. Effectiveness will be measured through in-field assessment of independent data collection.

This fieldwork will be supported by training these and other NGO members in fundraising, project identification and management, and administrative skills (funded separately). Training will be delivered by the project manager and external consultants with regular testing, leading to assessment of independent grant applications in the second and third project years.

Training will also be delivered to individuals and groups within engaged communities to enable them to analyse their situation, and find and implement sustainable solutions compatible with biodiversity conservation. Training in participatory work and micro-project planning and management will be delivered by the community team, with evaluations through the same hierarchy as the community work: local coordinator (constant) – expatriate manager (every two months) – UEA consultant (annually).

LOGICAL FRAMEWORK

17. Please enter the details of your project onto the matrix using the note at Annex 3 of the Guidance Note. This should not have substantially changed from the Logical Framework submitted with your Stage 1 application. Please highlight any changes. (Use no smaller than Arial 10 pt)

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
Goal: Effective contribution in support of the implementation of the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Convention on Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), and the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species (CMS), as well as related targets set by countries rich in biodiversity but constrained in resources.			
Sub-Goal: Anjouan and Mohéli's endemic forest biodiversity conserved through sustainable management of remaining forest	GIS monitoring shows reduced forest loss; Ground habitat surveys show forest regeneration; Biodiversity monitoring surveys show stable populations (all within 2 years of End of Project)	Data from local NGO's annual ground surveys and government's annual GIS models	
Purpose: 1. Threatened forest areas managed sustainably by communities in Anjouan and Mohéli 2. To ensure forest based livelihoods of at least 16 communities surrounding the remaining forest are more compatible with forest conservation	Agreements on natural resource management of remaining forest operational by End of Project Livelihood monitoring shows improved sustainability and reduced poverty by End of Project	Accords signed and published; community conserved areas created Data published from locally-adapted livelihood monitoring in each engaged community at halfway stage and End of Project	Political situation remains stable; Government remains committed to project; Remaining unengaged communities support project following initial contact French Development Agency's final decision positive for funding implementation of long-term community sustainable development plans (Date: January)
Outputs: 1. Innovative participatory biodiversity conservation and community sustainable development model defined for the Comoro Islands, integrated into local policy, and publicised locally and internationally	Process recorded and evaluated by partners; Government integration of process into policy documents by End of Project; Successful local awareness campaign established in partnership with local media	Evaluations published and reviewed by external consultants; At least 2 academic papers published; Government policy documents; 'How-to' guide published locally, and regionally/ internationally if demand At least 3 films shown and 10 articles published in local press	Sufficient alternatives to unsustainable actions can be defined and implemented; Government remains committed to integrating new approach into conservation and rural development plans
2. At least 16 local communities surrounding remaining forest on Anjouan and Mohéli empowered to develop sustainably in a manner compatible with forest conservation and management	Success of micro-solutions implemented by each community; Operational agreements active on natural resource management; Livelihood monitoring shows empowerment progress	Internal project reports on communities' progress; Evaluation reports by UEA academic at halfway stage and End of Project; Data from livelihood monitoring	Communities commit to long-term empowerment for sustainable development following engagement; Macro-level issues do not cancel out local-level improvements
3. Protected area zoning plan produced from a biodiversity perspective, and biodiversity and habitat quality monitoring system created	Full set of monitoring manuals produced in French; Data collection and analysis reviewed and published annually; Zoning plan created in consultation	Protocols printed and available electronically on partner websites; Biodiversity data published annually; Data analysis reviewed annually and fed back to Action Comores;	Skilled full-time expatriate biodiversity manager recruited Levels of capacity within Action Comores to carry out biodiversity assessment work maintained and developed

	with government and local communities	At least 2 scientific papers published; Zoning plan published	
4. Local NGO Action Comores transformed into a major independent force for conservation in the Comoros	Re-structured and re-energised NGO able to devise, finance and manage ICDPs; Local biodiversity field team independently producing publishable data by End of Project; 11 facilitators and 2 coordinators functioning independently on the community aspects on the two islands by End of Project	NGO evaluation and planning mission by external consultant at start and End of Project; Bi-annual progress evaluation by BCSF and DWCT; Evaluation reports by UEA academic at halfway stage and End of Project	BBC Wildlife Fund follow-on application accepted for Action Comores structural work and non-field capacity building (date mid-Dec); Partner NGO Action Comores remains committed to development route
Activities (details in workplan)			
<p>1.1 Participatory conservation model elaborated and published based on community engagement during first two and a half years of project</p> <p>1.2 Work on forestry legislation and policy documents to integrate community ownership and management</p> <p>1.3 National communication strategy launched</p> <p>1.4 Publication of academic articles</p> <p>2.1 Training in participatory approaches to community work</p> <p>2.2 Awareness raising, rapport-building and engagement interactions with forest adjacent communities</p> <p>2.3 Facilitating communities' to analyse the forest conservation and sustainable livelihood situation, and to envision and develop 'win-win' solutions that reduce poverty and protect forest habitat for biodiversity, with the support of community facilitators;</p> <p>2.4 Support for self-implementation of community pilot actions and self-development plans, including strengthening of support networks and creation of links with funders and the necessary expertise at all levels</p> <p>2.5 Creation of community conserved areas</p> <p>3.1 Training in biodiversity and habitat monitoring techniques</p> <p>3.2 Annual surveys of forest quality, butterflies, birds, mammals and reptiles</p> <p>3.3 Development of models and gap analysis based on monitoring data</p> <p>3.4 Development of zoning proposal based on models and gap analysis</p> <p>3.5 Publications of results and model participatory ecological monitoring system</p> <p>4.1 Mission by BCSF, DWCT and external consultants to plan development route for Action Comores with local staff</p> <p>4.2 Re-branding and re-structuring of Action Comores including recruitment of new staff</p> <p>4.3 Training in administrative tasks, project identification and management, fundraising skills, business planning</p> <p>4.4 Necessary institutional and sustainable financing mechanisms elaborated</p>			
<p>4. Monitoring activities:</p> <p>Indicator 1: Participatory community livelihood, institutional development, and attitude monitoring implemented in engaged communities.</p> <p>Indicator 2: Annual analysis of biodiversity and habitat data by DWCT;</p> <p>Indicator 3: Project mid-term and final evaluation by consultants (University of East Anglia – community aspects; DWCT – biodiversity aspects; World Land Trust – Action Comores progress)</p>			

18. Provide a project implementation timetable that shows the key milestones in project activities. Complete the following table as appropriate to describe the intended workplan for your project.

Activity	Months	Year 1				Year 2				Year 3			
		1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
1.1 Model elaborated based on community engagement during first two and a half years of project	4									X	X	X	
1.2 Work on forestry legislation and policy documents to integrate community ownership and management	3									X	X		
1.3 National communication strategy launched	30		x										
1.4 Publication of academic articles	6								X			X	X
2.1 Training in participatory approaches to community work	6	X	X										
2.2 Awareness raising, rapport-building and engagement interactions with forest adjacent communities	12	X	X	X	X								
2.3 Facilitating communities' to analyse the forest conservation and sustainable livelihood situation, and to envision and develop 'win-win' solutions that reduce poverty and protect forest habitat for biodiversity, with the support of community facilitators;	30	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
2.4 Support for self-implementation of community pilot actions and self-development plans, including strengthening of support networks and creation of links with funders and the necessary expertise at all levels	30			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
2.5 Creation of community conserved areas	12									X	X	X	X
3.1 Training in biodiversity and habitat monitoring techniques	30	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
3.2 Annual surveys of forest quality, butterflies, birds, mammals and reptiles	12			X	X			X	X			X	X
3.3 Development of models and gap analysis based on monitoring data	6				X			X	X				
3.4 Development of zoning proposal based on models and gap analysis	6								X			X	X
3.5 Publications of survey results and model participatory ecological monitoring system	6								X	X	X		X
4.1 Mission by BCSF, DWCT and external consultants to plan development route for Action Comores with local staff	1	X										X	
4.2 Re-branding and re-structuring of Action Comores including recruitment of new staff	9		X	X	X								
4.3 Training in administrative tasks, project identification and management, fundraising skills, business planning	24			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
4.4 Necessary institutional and sustainable financing mechanisms elaborated	9										X	X	X
5.1 Participatory community livelihood, institutional and attitude monitoring	6	X	X			X	X			X	X		X
5.2 Annual analysis of biodiversity and habitat data by DWCT	3				X		X		X				X
5.3 Midterm and final evaluations	3						X					X	X

19. Please indicate which of the following Standard Measures you are likely to report against. You will not necessarily plan to cover all these Standard Measures in your project.

Standard Measure No	Description	Tick if Relevant
1A	Number of people to submit thesis for PhD qualification (in host country)	
1B	Number of people to attain PhD qualification (in host country)	
2	Number of people to attain Masters qualification (MSc, MPhil etc)	
3	Number of people to attain other qualifications (ie. Not outputs 1 or 2 above)	
4A	Number of undergraduate students to receive training	
4B	Number of training weeks to be provided	
4C	Number of postgraduate students to receive training	
4D	Number of training weeks to be provided	
5	Number of people to receive at least one year of training (which does not fall into categories 1-4 above)	
6A	Number of people to receive other forms of education/training (which does not fall into categories 1-5 above)	√
6B	Number of training weeks to be provided	√
7	Number of (ie different types - not volume - of material produced) training materials to be produced for use by host country	√
8	Number of weeks to be spent by UK project staff on project work in the host country	√
9	Number of species/habitat management plans (or action plans) to be produced for Governments, public authorities, or other implementing agencies in the host country	√
10	Number of individual field guides/manuals to be produced to assist work related to species identification, classification and recording	√
11A	Number of papers to be published in peer reviewed journals	√
11B	Number of papers to be submitted to peer reviewed journals	√
12A	Number of computer based databases to be established and handed over to host country	√
12B	Number of computer based databases to be enhanced and handed over to host country	
13A	Number of species reference collections to be established and handed over to host country(ies)	
13B	Number of species reference collections to be enhanced and handed over to host country(ies)	
14A	Number of conferences/seminars/ workshops to be organised to present/disseminate findings	√
14B	Number of conferences/seminars/ workshops attended at which findings from Darwin project work will be presented/ disseminated.	
15A	Number of national press releases in host country(ies)	√
15B	Number of local press releases in host country(ies)	√
15C	Number of national press releases in UK	√
15D	Number of local press releases in UK	√
16A	Number of newsletters to be produced	√
16B	Estimated circulation of each newsletter in the host country(ies)	
16C	Estimated circulation of each newsletter in the UK	√10,000
17A	Number of dissemination networks to be established	√1
17B	Number of dissemination networks to be enhanced/ extended	√1
18A	Number of national TV programmes/features in host country(ies)	√
18B	Number of national TV programmes/features in UK	Perhaps
18C	Number of local TV programmes/features in host country(ies)	√
18D	Number of local TV programmes/features in UK	
19A	Number of national radio interviews/features in host county(ies)	√
19B	Number of national radio interviews/features in UK	√
19C	Number of local radio interviews/features in host country(ies)	√
19D	Number of local radio interviews/features in UK	
20	Estimated value (£'s) of physical assets to be handed over to host country(ies)	√
21	Number of permanent educational/training/research facilities or organisations to be established and then continued after Darwin funding has ceased	√
22	Number of permanent field plots to be established during the project and continued after Darwin funding has ceased	√
23	Value of resources raised from other sources (ie in addition to Darwin funding) for project work	√

PROJECT BASED MONITORING AND EVALUATION

20. 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.

1) Means of evaluating progress in training the project team and the creation of a viable NGO is described in section 16 above. The final evaluation will highlight what support Action Comores still needs before it can become fully independent and self-sustaining.

2) Development of community-level sustainable natural resource management agreements and progress towards their implementation will be tracked by the project but will be illustrated by (for example) the number of management transfer contracts that are agreed.

3) Social development impacts will be assessed through participatory monitoring at community and household level (disaggregated by gender and wealth). Local people will identify key indicators relating to natural resources (e.g. condition, institutional regulation and management, and distribution of costs and benefits), livelihoods and wellbeing. Initial baselines will be established, against which changes will be monitored. Self monitoring and 'Community audits' will be facilitated as part of recurrent community development planning. Final evaluation (and analyses beyond) will highlight the overall impact in the targeted communities.

4) Impacts on biodiversity will be assessed through annual surveys of forest quality, birds, butterflies, mammals and reptiles. Following initial intensive training and evaluation, DWCT will assess accuracy of data collection annually, and analyses at the end of project (and beyond) will highlight any changes in biodiversity populations and distributions.

5) Progress towards wide understanding and adoption of the process will be measured through the participatory monitoring, number of publications in local and national media, and government appropriation in documents, policies and during review meetings.

A crucial element of the capacity building of Action Comores will be the development of skills in monitoring and evaluation areas 2), 3), 4) and 5) above. Training in biodiversity impact assessment has already commenced through the international partners; training will be extended – including a considerable amount of field-based work – to develop skills in monitoring and evaluating social impacts of interventions.

FUNDING AND BUDGET

Please complete the separate Excel spreadsheet which will provide the Budget information for this application. Some of the questions below refer to the information in this spreadsheet.

NB: Please state all costs by financial year (April to March). Use current prices – and include anticipated inflation, as appropriate up to 3% per annum. The Darwin Initiative will not be able to agree increases in grants to cover inflation on UK costs once grants are awarded.

21. How is your organisation currently funded? (max 100 words)

Bristol Conservation and Science Foundation is an independent operating unit of the Bristol, Clifton and West of England Zoological Society Limited (BCWEZS), an independent, UK registered charity. BCWEZS owns and operates Bristol Zoo Gardens in the UK. All profits from operating BZG are remitted to the Society.

BCSF receives direct and indirect funding for its activities from BCWEZS each year i.e. direct grants to projects as well as supporting core costs. In addition, BSCF fundraises directly for its activities, applying to charitable trusts and foundations, corporate organisations, as well as multi- and bi-lateral funders both in-country and in the UK.

22. Provide details of all confirmed funding sources identified in the Budget that will be put towards the costs of the project, including any income from other public bodies, private sponsorship, donations, trusts, fees or trading activity. Please include any additional unconfirmed funding the project will attract to carry out addition work during or beyond the project lifetime. Indicate those funding sources which are confirmed.

Confirmed: Total: £180,650

Bristol Zoo Gardens (£82,600 for salaries, consultants and equipment); Durrell Wildlife Trust (£44,550 for biodiversity work and salaries); Comorian government (£25,500 for offices and

consultants); GEF through the CBD's Comoros' PoWPA proposal (£20,000 to support biodiversity monitoring programme leading to protected area zoning); Action Comores (£3,000 for equipment)

Unconfirmed: Total £521,705
French Development Agency (£481,705 for implementation of communities' development plans, community development technician and logistical additions); BBC Wildlife Fund (£40,000 to support institutional development and capacity building of NGO Action Comores); The French Development Agency and the French GEF Funds have stated an interested in supporting enlargement of the project should this three-year phase be successful.

23. Please give details of any further funding resources (confirmed or unconfirmed) sought from the host country partner (s) or others for this project that are not already detailed in the Budget or Question 22. This will include donations in kind or un-costed support eg accommodation. (max 50 words per box)

Financial resources:

Funding in kind:

FCO NOTIFICATIONS

Please check the box if you think that there are sensitivities that the Foreign and Commonwealth Office will need to be aware of should they want to publicise the project's success in the Darwin competition in the host country.

Please indicate whether you have contacted the local UK embassy or High Commission directly to discuss security issues (see Guidance Notes) and attach any advice you have received from them.

Yes (no written advice) Yes, advice attached X No

CERTIFICATION 2009/10

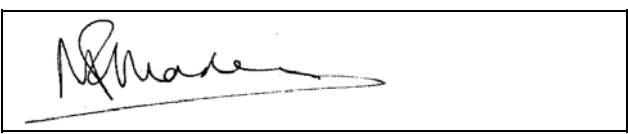
On behalf of the trustees of Bristol, Clifton and West of England Zoological Society Ltd

I apply for a grant of **£90,411** in respect of expenditure to be incurred in the financial year ending 31 March 2010 on the activities specified in the above application.

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 lead UK institution to submit applications and sign contracts on their behalf.)

I enclose a copy of the organisation's most recent audited accounts and annual report, CVs for project principals and letters of support.

Name (block capitals)	NEIL MADDISON
Position in the organisation	Head of Conservation Programmes

Signed 

Date: 1st December 2008

Stage 2 Application - Checklist for submission

	Check
Have you provided actual start and end dates for your project?	Yes
Have you provided your budget based on UK government financial years ie 1 April – 31 March?	Yes
Have you checked that your budget is complete, correctly adds up and that you have included the correct final total on the top page of the application?	Yes
Is the concept note within 1,000 words?	Yes
Is the logframe no longer than 2 pages and have you highlighted any changes since Stage 1?	Yes
Has your application been signed by a suitably authorised individual? (clear electronic or scanned signatures are acceptable)	Yes
Have you included a 1 page CV for the Project Leader, any other UK staff working 50%+ on this project, and for a main individual in each overseas partner organisation?	Yes
Have you included a letter of support from the main overseas partner organisations?	Yes
Have you checked with the FCO in the project country/ies and have you included any evidence of this?	Yes
Have you included a copy of your most recent annual report and accounts? An electronic link to a website is acceptable.	Yes
Have you read the Guidance Notes ?	Yes

Once you have answered Yes to the questions above, please submit the application, not later than midnight GMT on **Monday 1 December 2008** to Darwin-Applications@ltsi.co.uk using the application number (from your Stage 1 feedback letter) and the first few words of the project title **as the subject of your email**. However, if you are e-mailing supporting documentation separately please include in the subject line an indication of the number of e-mails you are sending (eg whether the e-mail is 1 of 2, 2 of 3 etc). **In addition**, a hard copy of the application and any supporting documents not available electronically should be submitted to the Darwin Applications Management Unit, c/o ECTF, Pentlands Science Park, Bush Loan, Penicuik EH26 0PL **postmarked** not later than **Tuesday 2 December 2008**.

DATA PROTECTION ACT 1998: Applicants for grant funding must agree to any disclosure or exchange of information supplied on the application form (including the content of a declaration or undertaking) which the Department considers necessary for the administration, evaluation, monitoring and publicising of the Darwin Initiative. Application form data will also be held by contractors dealing with Darwin Initiative monitoring and evaluation. It is the responsibility of applicants to ensure that personal data can be supplied to the Department for the uses described in this paragraph. A completed application form will be taken as an agreement by the applicant and the grant/award recipient also to the following:- putting certain details (ie name, contact details and location of project work) on the Darwin Initiative and Defra websites(details relating to financial awards will not be put on the websites if requested in writing by the grant/award recipient); using personal data for the Darwin Initiative postal circulation list; and sending data to Foreign and Commonwealth Office posts outside the United Kingdom, including posts outside the European Economic Area. Confidential information relating to the project or its results and any personal data may be released on request, including under the Environmental Information Regulations, the code of Practice on Access to Government Information and the Freedom of Information Act 2000.