



18-006



DARWIN200

Submit by Monday 30 November 2009

DARWIN INITIATIVE APPLICATION FOR GRANT FOR ROUND 17: 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: Zoological Society of London	Address: Regent's Park, London NW1 4RY
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2. Project title (not exceeding 10 words)

Integrated River Dolphin Conservation for Sustainable Ecosystem Services in the Brahmaputra

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

Proposed start date: 1 st April 2010		Duration of project: 3 years			End date: 31 st March 2013	
Darwin funding requested	2010/11 £140,864	2011/12 £81,352	2012/2013 £69,784	2013/14 £	Total £292,000	

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

To initiate a long-term integrated conservation programme for the Ganges River dolphin in the Brahmaputra River system and to support ecosystem services through research and monitoring, capacity building, environmental awareness and participatory conservation action.

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	Amin		Wakid
Forename (s)	Rajan		Abdul
Post held	Assistant Programme Manager, South and Central Asia		Programme Manager
Institution (if different to above)			Aaranyak
Department	Conservation Programmes		Gangetic Dolphin Research & Conservation Programme
Telephone			
Email			

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

Reference No	Project Leader	Title
ZSL Conservation Programmes		
162/12/004	Dr Rajan Amin	Building capacity for conservation of a critically endangered flagship species (Kenya).
162/12/029	Kate Oddie / Nigel Barton	The Steppe Forward Programme: training conservationists for Mongolia's future
162/13/034	Sarah Christie	Wildlife health monitoring and capacity-building for leopard conservation in Russia.
162/14/024	Belinda Stewart-Cox	Afro-Asian Elephant Community Conservation Network
14/060	Alison Shaw	Sustainable management of ornamental fish species in Mamiraua, Brazil.
162/16/009	Richard Kock	Crisis to biological management: rhinoceros, grassland and public engagement - Nepal
162/16/010	Noëlle Kümpel / Chris Ransom	Wildlife Wood Project (Ghana and Cameroon)
162/17/029	Tom Maddox	Berbak to the future: harnessing carbon to conserve biodiversity
15/002	Dr Richard Pettifor	Integrating crane conservation with sustainable habitat utilisation.
ZSL Institute of Zoology		
162/09/020	Cowlshaw, Guy	Development of a research and training unit at Garamba.
162/10/013	Cunningham, Andrew	Conservation of critically endangered vultures in India.
162/11/013	Dr Stephan Funk	Conserving the critically endangered Darwin's fox on Chiloe Island, Chile.
162/11/007	Dr Sarah Durant	A national plan for carnivore conservation in Tanzania.
162/12/017	Cunningham, Andrew	Building capacity and determining disease threats to endemic Galapagos fauna.
162/6/126	Dr Michael Bruford	Vicuna and guanaco conservation and genetic resource management.
162/13/032	Dr Andrew Cunningham	Addressing a threat to Caribbean amphibians: capacity building in Dominica.
EIDPO 5	Dr Andrew Cunningham	Building capacity for the recovery of critically endangered Gyps spp. Vultures in India.
14-055	Dr Sarah Durant	Developing a National Conservation Action Plan for the mammals of Tanzania.
15/002	Dr Richard Pettifor	Integrating crane conservation with sustainable habitat utilisation.
15-033	Dr Kate Jones	Use of roadside bat biodiversity as indicators of sustainable development in eastern Europe.
EIDPO036	Dr Kate Jones	Monitoring biodiversity indicators through volunteer networks across Eurasia.

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 all the institutions involved including 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>Lead UK institution and website where available: Zoological Society of London www.zsl.org</p>	<p>ZSL has extensive experience of managing large field-based projects effectively, on time and within budget, to achieve the intended outcomes. Our Conservation Programmes Department is currently working in over 80 countries worldwide, and we are in receipt of a number of large statutory grants, which are being closely managed. ZSL has a long history of working with communities, environmental organisations, government and NGOs in South Asia, both in wildlife conservation and communities and have an existing MoU with Aaranyak. ZSL has extensive experience in cetacean strandings and surveys and two of its most experienced staff will be attached to the project. ZSL Finance has many years of experience in dealing with international conservation budgets with established financial reporting systems which facilitate complying with grant reporting requirements and ensure effective project management. Regular reporting and reconciliation is required. ZSL accounts are externally audited by Ernst and Young. ZSL's role and responsibilities include programme management and project technical support including research, capacity building and training on e.g. dolphin, fishery, fishermen survey methodologies, data analysis, cetacean stranding, post-mortem and necropsy, PHVA, strategic planning and river management, and integrated sustainable fisheries and aquaculture.</p>
<p>Lead host country Partner and website where available: Aaranyak (www.aaranyak.org)</p>	<p>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): The primary environmental conservation NGO in northeast India with considerable experience in conservation of river dolphins in the Brahmaputra river system through its Gangetic Dolphin Research & Conservation Programme. ZSL is a partner through an MoU and is responding to an appeal for support for dolphin conservation. Aaranyak provided the platform for the development of the proposal putting considerable effort into providing information, office space and overall facilitation of the scoping mission both in Guwahati and in the field. Aaranyak will be involved in management and field implementation of the project activities along with the Department of Environment & Forest.</p>
<p>Partner Name and website where available: Department of Environment & Forest (Wildlife) (www.assamforest.in)</p>	<p>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): The Wildlife Division of Department of Environment & Forest, Govt of India is the management authority of the Ganges River Dolphin in Assam. The Department will provide management support and policy revision, and will help facilitate project implementation including field support.</p>

<p>Partner Name and website where available:</p> <p>Wildlife Institute of India (www.wii.gov.in)</p>	<p>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):</p> <p>The Wildlife Institute of India (WII) is the premier wildlife research organisation in India under the Ministry of Environment & Forest, Govt. of India with considerable experience in aquatic threatened species research and management and influencing policy and legislation of wildlife conservation in India. ZSL has an MoU with WII. WII will provide targeted research training, technical expertise and input at the policy level including influencing the Government of India to develop appropriate River Conservation Programme for the Brahmaputra River.</p>
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<p>9a. Have you consulted stakeholders not already mentioned above? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>If yes, please give details:</p> <p>We have already consulted a number of fishing community groups through the scoping exercise and through the Aaranyak's Gangetic Dolphin Research and Conservation Programme.</p> <p>Discussion has already been held with the IUCN SSC Cetacean Specialist Group and the group will provide technical advice as required.</p> <p>The Indian Army is supportive to the conservation mission of the species. Border Security Force of Govt of India is supportive of dolphin trans-boundary conservation efforts (India-Bangladesh border).</p> <p>ZSL is currently developing a complementary research and conservation programme for Ganges River dolphins in the Brahmaputra River system downstream in Bangladesh, in collaboration with WCS's Bangladesh Cetacean Diversity Project, which will provide considerable overlap in resources and expertise for the proposed project.</p>
<p>9b. Do you intend to consult other stakeholders? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>If yes, please give details:</p> <p>We will consult WWF Cambodia Greater Mekong Programme, who has experience in post mortem analysis of Irrawady Dolphin in Cambodia, for information on this particular aspect. There is considerable expertise already within ZSL for cetacean post mortem analyses.</p>
<p>9c. Have you had any (other) contact with the government not already stated? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>If yes, please give details:</p> <p>Expert Appraisal Committee on River Valley and Hydro-Electric Projects (Ministry of Environment and Forest): Over 150 dams are in the planning process in the Brahmaputra River (mainly up-stream of its tributaries and forerunners). Consultations took place during the scoping visit and the proposed project will provide key information and policy level documents to the committee to minimize or prevent potential impact of any water development projects on the dolphins and their habitats.</p> <p>Govt. of Assam Pollution Control Board: Consultations took place during the scoping visit preparation. The proposed project will continue this engagement with the Board and provide key information and policy level documents.</p> <p>We have made contact with the Department of Fisheries of Govt. of Assam, which represents the management authority of the Brahmaputra Fisheries. The Gangetic Dolphin Research and Conservation Programme of Aaranyak also has links with the local management authorities of the Brahmaputra Fisheries.</p> <p>Department of Tourism of Govt of Assam has been consulted during the scoping visit and will help in promoting any dolphin eco-tourism projects in the region.</p>
<p>9d. Is any liaison proposed with the CBD/CMS/CITES focal point in the host country? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>If yes, please give details:</p> <p>Since the Ganges River dolphin is a key indicator species in the riverine ecosystem and is declining, and</p>

there are worrying trends in the unsustainable exploitation of this key ecosystem through development projects, resource depletion and inadequate management, it will be important to discuss this aspect with the focal points to foster support on policy change and awareness initiatives arising from the project and thereby ensure success and progress in India's stated commitment to supporting CBD/CMS/CITES. This will involve developing an integrated approach for the wider ecosystem and integration into the Brahmaputra River action plan, national biodiversity strategy and government development policies.

9e. Will your project support any work in the UK Overseas Territories?
If yes, please give brief details stating which Territory/ies will be involved.

Yes No

PROJECT DETAILS

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

Asian river dolphins are among the most threatened large vertebrates, because the regions they inhabit have high human population density, resource overexploitation and environmental degradation, with escalating pressures on local biodiversity and diminishing ecosystem services. Following the extinction of the Yangtze River dolphin, the Endangered Ganges and Indus River dolphins are now the world's most threatened freshwater cetaceans. Few robust data are available on their regional status or the significance of different drivers of their ongoing decline, but they are threatened by overfishing (resource depletion, by-catch, direct exploitation), habitat alteration, water development projects, and industrial, agricultural and domestic pollution in their range, and little is known about other threats such as disease. Because these threat processes also have wider impacts on freshwater biodiversity and human communities dependent upon freshwater resources, long-term dolphin conservation must also address factors including maintenance of fish stocks and water quality within a wider-scale integrated conservation framework. River dolphins are 'flagship' predators in Asian river ecosystems; establishing an improved scientific evidence-base on the dynamics of their population decline, in conjunction with research into the status of regional ecosystem services, increased regional conservation capacity-building, awareness-raising, and protective environmental legislation, will therefore not only permit development of sustainable recovery strategies for endangered dolphins but also provide long-term benefits for other species and communities that rely on the health of freshwater systems.

The Ganges River dolphin (*Platanista gangetica gangetica*; CITES & CMS Appendix 1, Schedule I species - Wildlife Act of India) occurs in the Ganges-Brahmaputra-Meghna and Karnaphuli river systems of India-Nepal and Bangladesh, with a surviving population of ≤ 2000 individuals. The Brahmaputra River system was until recently one of the last refuges containing relatively healthy dolphin populations, but research by the Assamese NGO Aaranyak indicates that this population is now highly threatened, experiencing severe decline, with < 300 surviving individuals. There is therefore an urgent need to develop a long-term integrated conservation programme for the Brahmaputra dolphin, involving leading research, applied conservation action, capacity building and environmental education/awareness. The enhanced quantitative evidence-base and conservation skill set that will be established for understanding dolphin decline, and supporting population recovery and wider-scale ecosystem regeneration will then be transferrable across the species' range. Successful river management will require effective planning, implementation and enforcement, which in turn will depend partly on the resources, priorities and political will of those in positions of authority, and partly on the understanding and support of local people.

This project will: (i) implement quantitative methods for monitoring dolphin status, habitat preferences and population movements in a dynamic, challenging riverine environment, using visual/acoustic surveys, habitat/prey-base mapping, spatial and genetic analysis, and local interview techniques; (ii) investigate the significance of different threat factors responsible for dolphin mortality, using international post-mortem protocols, interview data, and initiating efforts to reduce/prevent the prioritized threats in association with concerned stakeholders; (iii) quantify effects of water-borne pollutants on dolphins, the Brahmaputra ecosystem and riverside communities through water quality monitoring and fish/dolphin post-mortem tissue sampling and (iv) strengthen local stakeholder capacity to protect identified dolphin hotspot habitats. These initiatives will be complemented by collaborative investigation of associated trends in commercially and/or ecologically important fish species and other indices of wider-scale ecosystem health. The resulting scientific evidence-base will permit development and implementation of appropriate sustainable recovery plans for both the Brahmaputra dolphin population and regional freshwater ecosystem services through *in situ* community-based conservation areas and protected area river sections with associated protective management mechanisms.

The project will build capacity in each of these conservation research areas, as well as specific training in appropriate conservation science protocols (e.g. fishery and dolphin surveys; sample analysis; cetacean necropsy; safe handling/release of captured/stranded dolphins, developing management plans for riverine

protected area) as well as non-technical skills (e.g. leadership, advocacy, lobbying, river-dolphin tourism). ZSL will work closely with in-country partners, drawing on international and regional expertise to develop appropriate educational/awareness-raising programmes for riverside communities and other key stakeholders, reduce active exploitation of dolphins, support development and implementation of integrated sustainable fisheries and aquaculture, provide policy inputs on minimizing or preventing the potential impact of water development projects (dam, barrages) and help address human environmental impact regimes in important river sections.

In summary, the project outcomes will be at four levels: 1) Coordinated framework of institutionalised dolphin monitoring and reporting systems across the Brahmaputra River system in Assam, providing baseline information for targeted conservation action; 2) Enhanced relationships and goodwill with local communities across a network of identified dolphin priority sites through targeted education and awareness programmes, fostering deeper understanding and ownership of the river ecosystem and the plight of the dolphin as an indicator species; 3) Community-based "stewardship" conservation developed in two identified priority dolphin areas, providing a model for replication across a network of identified protected/community-based conservation areas in the Brahmaputra River; 4) State and national river dolphin recovery plans, with improved protective mechanisms for the freshwater ecosystem through input into protective environmental legislations.

The project will contribute towards meeting the Indian government's obligations to the CMS and CBD including: **Protecting biodiversity** through standardised on-going monitoring of key environmental and biological parameters of the riverine ecosystem, with information feeding into strengthening protective mechanisms and legislations; **Enhancing and securing involvement of indigenous and local communities and relevant stakeholders** through the implementation of community-based site-specific plans and national recovery plan for river dolphins and the wider riverine ecosystem; **Improving capacity** of local NGOs, fishing communities, local administrative bodies, forest officials and field biologists in conservation of threatened species and riverine habitat and sustainable use of ecosystem services, through meetings, training workshops, research studies and provision of resource material and support; **Public education & awareness** through targeted traditional and novel community-based awareness activities about dolphins and the value of aquatic ecosystems; **Promoting sustainable use** for improved food security and conservation of biodiversity through fisheries management and enforcement, and fisheries-based sustainable livelihood options including native species aquaculture; **Reducing illegal hunting** of dolphins through strengthened law enforcement and increasing community participation; **Addressing threats to biodiversity from habitat loss** through improved preservation of riverine ecosystems; **Exchange of information** through cross-ecosystem linkages with Ganges River basin programmes. (998 words without the addition)

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

Please give details:

This is a new integrated initiative. However, this project builds on more than five years field experience of Aaranyak Gangetic Dolphin Research and Conservation Programme's dolphin work and ZSL and Aaranyak's related biodiversity and community-based conservation undertaken with its partners in the region along with ZSL's related work with freshwater dolphins.

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:

Prof. R. K. Sinha (Patna University), Dr. R. S. Lalmohan (Nature Conservation Trust), Prof. S. Choudhury (Bhagalpur University) and Dr. S. Behera (WWWF-India) have been working on the Ganges River dolphin in India. However, their work is confined to the Ganges River System of Northern India. The proposed work is an integrated conservation initiative for the species and ecosystem in the Brahmaputra River system, a different region with differing conditions and impact levels. However, during the Darwin Initiative scoping workshop, two of the experts, Prof. Choudhury and Dr. Behera, participated in the development of this proposal concept and we will have regular contact with them and build cross-linkages with the Ganges river programmes.

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)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
CITES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Convention on Migratory Species (CMS)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

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

The Brahmaputra river system is now considered as one of the last refuges for the endangered Ganges River dolphin due to the absence of dams in the main river channel and low pollutant levels. However, escalating anthropogenic pressures (commercial non-traditional fishing, non-commercial artisanal fishing, habitat degradation) has already resulted in the loss of dolphin populations from most of the major tributaries of the Brahmaputra. The ecosystem is under severe risk with over 150 dams at different planning stages and oil exploration being considered by Oil India Ltd. ZSL has been involved in the region for over 10 years and is responding to an appeal for support for dolphin conservation. The species has been given the highest protected status as Schedule-I Species in India and was declared as the National Aquatic Animal of India in Oct, 2009. **(135 words)**

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

As a result of this project there will be: 1) improved information on dolphin population dynamics and threats for effective management and implementation of conservation strategies; 2) decline in dolphin mortality through poaching and by-catch; and 3) an effective integrated Brahmaputra action plan and adoption of ecosystem management recommendations by relevant agencies (forest, fisheries, water, energy, industries etc). In the longer term (within 5 years of end of project), the dolphin population will at least be stable, fish populations in dolphin hotspots will be stable or increasing; fishing communities will have increased income and security from products yielded from improved management of rivers, and an increased portion of the riverine ecosystem will under protected area management. There will be much greater public awareness of the plight of the dolphin and the Brahmaputra ecosystem which is considered a spiritual river by the Hindus and dolphin ecotourism will be established. **(140 words)**

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

The Brahmaputra riverine habitats, among the last remaining refuges for the Ganges River dolphin, are being degraded and destroyed by poor land practices, resource extraction and overexploitation of fisheries. With declining fish catches and an increase in destructive fishing practices the unique aquatic biodiversity of these rivers are detrimentally impacted. The region's traditional fishing communities, which are already poor and marginalised, face further threats to their food security and income. The project will contribute towards environmental sustainability of the ecosystem by feeding into the Brahmaputra River Action Plan and development plans and through an integrated approach with engagement at both local community and Government agency levels. It will contribute towards the resilience of the ecosystem services, making them less vulnerable to environmental disturbance through sustainable livelihood options. The project links into national level plans for biodiversity, fisheries and water development and other impact projects. **(144 words)**

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

The project is directly in line with India's commitments to CBD and CMS and addresses: Articles 5 (Co-operation), 6 (General measures for Conservation and Sustainable Use), 7 (Identification and Monitoring), 8 (*In-situ* Conservation), 8j (Traditional Knowledge), 10 (Sustainable Use of Components of Biological Diversity), 11 (Incentive Measures), 12 (Research & Training), 13 (Public Education & Awareness), 14 (Impact Assessment and Minimizing Adverse Impacts), 16 (Access To and Transfer of Technology), 17 (Exchange of Information), 18 (Technical and Scientific Co-operation), 21 (Financial Mechanism), 23 (Conference of Parties), 25 (Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice), 26 (Reports).

Particular emphasis will be given to Access and Benefit Sharing, Biodiversity and Tourism, Climate Change and Biodiversity, Ecosystems Approach, Impact Assessment, Liability and Redress, Inland Waters Biodiversity, Protected Areas, Public Education and Awareness, Sustainable Use and Biodiversity,

Traditional Knowledge, Innovations and Practices and to achieving key objectives of the National Biodiversity Strategy. **(149 words)**

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)

The Darwin Initiative will be fully acknowledged in all reports, plans, policy documents and scientific papers, and the logo will be displayed on the cover of all reports and on the purpose built boat and vehicle. The logo will also be advertised on: 1) course notes, presentations, and manuals; 2) formal presentations in scientific meetings including a ZSL Scientific Meeting on freshwater dolphins; 3) ZSL conservation report series; 4) resulting databases; and 5) community education and awareness material. ZSL press office will publicise the major project outputs. Reference to the Darwin Initiative will also be made in local and UK media, in Aaranyak, WII, IUCN and DI newsletters, SSC/WCPA bulletins, Protected Area Learning Network (PALNET) e-portal, and ZSL Wild-About magazine and other relevant publications; and publicised on the ZSL (including EDGE of Existence programme), DoEF, Aaranyak, IUCN and WII websites, with blogs throughout the course of the project. A documentary on river dolphins and the wider ecosystem in the region will be explored with key film-making agencies (the BBC has shown initial interest on this proposed project). **(177 words)**

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)

This project will assist in developing the scientific evidence-base, necessary required capacity and strong coordination framework involving key stakeholders including the management authorities, local conservation organizations and local communities at a critical stage for the long term conservation of the endangered Ganges River Dolphin and its habitats, which together will help to protect the Brahmaputra riverine ecosystem and its services in India.

The dolphin is a flagship species of the riverine ecosystem and its protection will ensure that an increased proportion of this ecosystem is under community-based conservation and protected area management which will also provide long-term benefits for other species and communities that rely on the health of freshwater systems. The targeted fishing communities will have increased income and security from products yielded from improved management of the river system. It is hoped that this project will help in Govt of India initiating Project Dolphin similar to Project Tiger.

The successful implementation of sustainable recovery plans including the Brahmaputra River Action Plan will require effective planning, implementation and enforcement, which in turn will depend partly on the resources, priorities and political will of those in positions of authority, and partly on the understanding and support of local people. **(199 words)**

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)

This project will reach a stable end point. It will establish standardised monitoring and research protocols along with a purpose-built survey boat, scientific database, GIS resource maps and equipment, which together will enable the primary partners to continue monitoring the status of dolphins and their ecosystem beyond the lifetime of the project. The community-based stewardship programmes in selected key dolphin sites will serve as a model approach for replication in other dolphin priority river sections. The village-level engagement and species protection network will give support into the future and continue to build capacity within the local governing organisations.

The recovery plan for the Brahmaputra river dolphin population will provide a clear mechanism for implementation of ongoing conservation actions and further conservation recommendations. Advocacy and lobbying capacity will help policy leveraging in regional development plans. The Government of India under the MoEF is launching a new programme for wildlife outside protected areas and the recovery plan will be integrated into both this and the revised Brahmaputra River Action Plan funded by the government. The Ganges river dolphin has recently been declared as India's national aquatic animal. Links with government employment generation schemes and dolphin-based ecotourism initiation will provide added sustainability. **(200 words)**

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 to you expect the beneficiaries to obtain. How will you measure training effectiveness. (max 300 words)

Training and development are considered pivotal to the success of the project. All trainees will be Assamese/Indian. The training will be outcome-based workshops and on-site with mentoring and will include: 1) minimum five project staff and 30 DCN members trained in standardised boat and land-based dolphin and habitat surveys; 2) 30 DCN members trained in stranded dolphin releases and carcass collection; minimum 50 fishermen trained in entangled dolphin releases; 3) four veterinary department staff trained in standardised post-mortem, necropsy and pathology; 4) minimum 2 project scientists trained in annual dolphin and habitat status reporting; 5) 30 DCN members trained in local interview techniques; 6) 30 DCN members, 4 DoEF and project staff trained in conventional/novel community engagement activities with follow-on programmes in minimum 30 sites; 7) minimum 6 project scientists and university students trained in resource ecology, GIS mapping, statistical data analysis, PHVA, GIS-database system; 8) local stakeholders trained in fisheries resource management and enforcement; 9) two fishing communities trained in native species aquaculture and alternative supportive livelihoods as pilot projects; 10) minimum 5 youth leaders/celebrities trained as dolphin ambassadors; 11) 5 staff trained in advocacy and lobbying techniques; government officials educated in fishing and wildlife regulation; 12) 10 DCN members trained in dolphin-guided tours; 13) knowledge and skills exchange/transfer with Ganges river programmes.

Outcomes will be measured by 1) accreditation tests; 2) field visits by Darwin project staff; 3) quality checks on monthly monitoring reports; 4) monthly project progress meetings; 5) feedback questionnaires evaluating the reception, satisfaction and impact of training courses and community programmes. The ultimate success of this training will be indicated by the quality of baseline information, improvement in status of dolphins, riverine ecosystem management and greater community engagement in their conservation and sustainable use of ecosystem. **(290 words)**

17. LOGICAL FRAMEWORK

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: Brahmaputra River dolphin population is safeguarded and viable in the long-term, and Brahmaputra riverine ecosystem is well-conserved, regenerating and providing sustained and equitable services to local fishing communities and beyond	Surveys show clear evidence that dolphins are at least stable, fish populations in dolphin hotspots are stable or increasing, fishing communities have increased income and security from products yielded from improved management of rivers, and an increased portion of the riverine ecosystem is under protected area management within five years of end of project.	Annual dolphin population monitoring reports, fishery reports, socio-economic survey reports Protected area management reports	
Purpose: To initiate a long-term integrated conservation programme for the Ganges River dolphin in the Brahmaputra River system and to support ecosystem services through research and monitoring, capacity building, environmental awareness and participatory conservation action	1. Improved information on dolphin population dynamics and threats for effective management and implementation of conservation strategy. 2. Adoption of ecosystem management recommendations by relevant agencies (forest, fisheries, water, energy, industries etc). 3. Decline in dolphin mortality through poaching and by-catch.	Survey and status reports Management plans and recommendations	Local government policies and communities remain supportive Political stability in the region / country
Outputs: 1. Coordination framework and institutionalised monitoring and reporting systems at the Brahmaputra River basin level in Assam	1a. An improved, appropriately equipped and trained research and standardised monitoring unit established by Yr 1 (with at least five project staff and 30 community-based Dolphin Conservation Network/DCN members). 1b. Quantified baseline information on dolphin population dynamics, drivers of decline, habitat status and regional ecosystem services produced, disseminated and used for planning; at least four staff trained in resource ecology and animal health by Yr 2. 1c. Standardised post mortem procedures implemented; four trained veterinary dept staff (Yr 1). 1d. Standardised boat-based dolphin surveys (seasonal) along the Brahmaputra River system (Yr 1-3). 1e. Land-based dolphin monitoring surveys (weekly) in 30 priority sites across Brahmaputra Valley (Yr 1-3). 1f. Fishery data at landing and market sites collected and analysed; fishermen surveys conducted in the same 30 priority sites (Yr 1-2). 1g. Fishermen community socio-economic surveys in the same 30 identified sites (Yr 1-2).	1a. Protocols, training manuals and data-recording forms for standardised boat- and land-based dolphin surveys; reports and evaluation summaries by training co-ordinator; one purpose-built boat for dolphin surveys and community engagement; equipment in place with trained staff. 1b. Technical reports on impact assessments (on dolphins, habitat and ecosystem services, incl. policy analysis) reviewed by experts and Steering Committee (SC) ; scientific spatial database for dolphins and habitat established. 1c. Post-mortem reports; report and evaluation summary by trainers. 1d,e. Survey and monthly reports; high-resolution habitat map of Brahmaputra ecosystem. 1f. Fisheries report.	Project staff and trained DCN members remain active in relevant positions Research staff are well qualified and motivated to undertake the work Survey boats are well maintained and remain operational Fishing communities remain cooperative

	<p>1h. Annual Dolphin And Habitat Status Reports produced and disseminated to stakeholders; at least five core staff trained in statistical data analysis (Yr 1-3).</p> <p>1i. Priority dolphin river segments identified by Yr 2.</p> <p>1j. Ecosystem information synthesised for inclusion in regional plans and statutory processes around threatened / protected species and freshwater ecosystems by Yr 3.</p> <p>1k. Research information disseminated by Yr 3.</p>	<p>1g. Socio-economic survey reports with feedback from SC and experts.</p> <p>1h. Standardised monthly progress and annual status reports with feedback from SC and experts.</p> <p>1i. Maps and report.</p> <p>1j. Synthesised report.</p> <p>1k. Academic and public media articles and presentations.</p>	
<p>2. Enhanced capacity of local authorities and fishing communities for dolphin population recovery and for contributing towards wider-scale ecosystem management</p>	<p>2a. Conventional and novel community outreach and awareness activities in 30 prioritised dolphin areas; 30 DCN members trained and supported (Yr 1–3).</p> <p>2b. Sustainable community-based river dolphin tourism pilot project developed; min. 10 DCN members trained in dolphin-watching guided tours by Yr 3.</p> <p>2c. Pilot projects in small-scale native species aquaculture and alternative livelihoods in two identified dolphin hotspots; local stakeholders trained in fisheries resource management and enforcement by Yr 3.</p> <p>2d. Dolphin Rapid Response Team (DRRT) established; project staff and DCN members trained in stranded dolphin releases and carcass collection; at least 50 fishermen trained in entangled dolphin releases (Yr 1).</p> <p>2e. Fisherman surveys/dialogue on the use of dolphin oil and initiatives to stop use of dolphin oil, data gathered, size and trend in the trade assessed by Yr 2.</p> <p>2f. Cross-ecosystem linkages developed with Ganges River programmes for exchange of skills and information; study tours conducted (Yr 2).</p> <p>2g. Self-regulatory mechanisms for natural resource management in fishing communities enhanced (Yr 2-3).</p> <p>2h. Dolphin ambassadors established; local women / youth leaders plus celebrities (Yr 2).</p>	<p>2a. Community engagement tools and material (local radio, press, theatre troupe, posters, education material); training reports.</p> <p>2b. Pilot tourism project implementation and assessment reports, training report.</p> <p>2c. Assessment and training reports.</p> <p>2d. Training and monthly progress reports.</p> <p>2e. Assessment report.</p> <p>2f. Reports on study tours with Ganges River programmes.</p> <p>2g,h. Monthly field reports.</p>	<p>Fisheries department, fishing communities maintain the goodwill required for local co-operation and for co-operation with DoEF</p> <p>Good relationships remain between Ganges and Brahmaputra dolphin conservation programmes</p> <p>Trained fishermen supportive</p> <p>Co-operative relations between villagers and DoEF can be developed to ensure effective and equitable partnership</p>

3. Local and national stakeholder supported recovery plans and improved protective mechanisms for Brahmaputra River dolphins and regional freshwater ecosystem	3a. Site-specific plans, regional species recovery plan (SRP); PHVA and stakeholder workshops (Yr 2,3). 3b. Advocacy of SRP to relevant lead agencies and on integration of the plan into Brahmaputra River Action Plan and national species planning by end of Yr 3. 3c. Policy leveraging in regional development plans; government officials educated and lobbied to ensure regulation of fishing and wildlife; 5 staff trained in advocacy and lobbying techniques (Yr 2). 3d. Community alliance and participatory enforcement activities initiated in dolphin hotspot areas (Yr 2-3).	3a,b. Plans checked, approved and implemented by MoEF. 3c. Training reports. 3d. Monthly field reports and annual status reports assessed for trends in illegal activities.	Baseline data ready for PHVA and for developing plans
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Activities (details in workplan)

1. Coordination framework and institutionalised monitoring and reporting systems at the Brahmaputra River basin level in Assam
 - 1.1 Recruitment of two Indian scientists with relevant experience in freshwater ecology; recruitment of 2 local research assistants; setup of ToRs and contracts.
 - 1.2 Completion of purpose-built boat; additional river boat, procurement of monitoring and sample analysis equipment.
 - 1.3 Development of GIS database system for Brahmaputra River dolphin and ecosystem with detailed design specification, training of staff in its use.
 - 1.4 Development of protocols, training material and data recording forms and training of at least 5 programme core staff and 30 DCN members in standardised land-based dolphin surveys.
 - 1.5 Land-based dolphin and habitat monitoring surveys (weekly) with monthly reporting in 30 priority sites across Brahmaputra Valley.
 - 1.6 Specific research studies for quantifying factors impacting on dolphins and wider ecosystem; PhD enrolment of identified project staff.
 - 1.7 Development of standardised dolphin post mortem procedures; training of at least 4 veterinary college dept staff in post-mortem, necropsy and pathology.
 - 1.8 Development of detailed survey design, data recording forms and procedures for fishermen surveys, fishing community socio-economic surveys and fishery data collection at landing and market sites; training of DCN members and programme staff in interview techniques, undertaking of surveys.
 - 1.9 Development of protocols, training material and data recording forms, training workshop in standardised boat-based dolphin surveys (at least 5 programme core staff and 30 DCN members).
 - 1.10 Seasonal standardised dolphin and habitat surveys (2 early summer/pre-monsoon, 2 monsoon-mainly in the tributaries, 3 winter surveys) across the Brahmaputra mainstream and its tributaries (inc. acoustic and sample collection/analyses); populating of database, production and circulation of report and maps to relevant stakeholder and steering committee (for monitoring status and documenting seasonal migration).
 - 1.11 Development of standardised annual dolphin and habitat status reporting template, training of staff trained in statistical data analysis and report production; production and review of annual dolphin and habitat status reports by steering committee, circulation of report to relevant stakeholders.
 - 1.12 Analyses and reports on fishermen, fisheries and socio-economic survey data; dissemination of report to relevant stakeholders and steering committee.
 - 1.13 Production of policy guiding documents from baseline research, survey and monitoring studies.
 - 1.14 Identification of priority dolphin river segments, development of PA network discussion paper; production of report circulated to relevant stakeholders and steering committee.
 - 1.15 Draft PhD theses produced for review.
 - 1.16 ZSL scientific meeting on integrated river dolphin conservation and sustainable ecosystem services.
 - 1.17 Preparation and submission of at least four manuscripts for publication in peer-reviewed scientific journals.
2. Enhanced capacity of local authorities and fishing communities for dolphin population recovery and for contributing towards wider-scale ecosystem management
 - 2.1 Development of material and tools for community outreach and awareness activities; training of at least 2 programme staff and 30 DCN members.
 - 2.2 Community engagement and awareness programmes in 30 prioritised dolphin areas by DCN members with support on an on-going basis.
 - 2.3 Establishment of Dolphin Rapid Response Team (DRRT) with equipment for dolphin carcass sample storage and transportation in 30 sites, training of relevant

- programme staff and 30 DCN members in stranded dolphin releases and carcass collection.
- 2.4 Training of fishermen in entangled dolphin releases by trained DCN members and programme staff in dolphin core areas.
 - 2.5 Annual Dolphin Days and review meetings and refresher workshops for project staff and DCN members.
 - 2.6 Intensive fishing community engagement and awareness programmes along the Brahmaputra mainstream (during the upstream journey of the survey boat).
 - 2.7 Training and establishment of Dolphin ambassadors.
 - 2.8 Study on the use of dolphin oil, size and trade, production and circulation of report to relevant stakeholders; initiatives for stopping use of dolphin oil, protection and awareness-raising of fishermen in hotspots coordinated by DCN members.
 - 2.9 DCN activities in 30 priority sites across Brahmaputra Valley by trained DCN members supported by project core staff (land-based dolphin and habitat monitoring surveys (weekly); fishermen community engagement activities, dolphin stranded dolphin releases and carcass collection, protection, research support activities, monthly reporting etc).
 - 2.10 Pilot controlled projects in small-scale native species aquaculture and alternative supportive livelihoods (medicinal and aromatic cash crops) in two identified dolphin hotspots; training of selected local stakeholders in fisheries resource management (traditional, artisanal and subsistence fishing methods) and enforcement; setup of community alliance.
 - 2.11 Cost-benefit analysis of aquaculture and alternative supportive livelihoods, circulation of report with recommendations to relevant stakeholders and steering committee.
 - 2.12 Training of 10 DCN members in dolphin-watching guided tours; Initiation of community-based river dolphin tourism pilot project.
 - 2.13 Study tour of Ganges River programmes; establishment of cross-ecosystem linkages for exchange of skills and information.
3. Local and national stakeholder supported recovery plans and improved protective mechanisms for Brahmaputra River dolphins and regional freshwater ecosystem
 - 3.1 Training workshop in PHVA, site-specific stakeholder workshops for developing site-specific plans; plans submitted to DoEF for approval.
 - 3.2 Multi-stakeholder workshop for development of regional Species Recovery Plan (based on synthesised baseline information and policy guiding documents); plan submitted to MoEF for approval.
 - 3.3 Training of 5 dolphin programme core staff in advocacy and lobbying; initiation of policy leveraging in regional development plans to ensure regulation of fishing and wildlife.
 - 3.4 Advocacy of Species Recovery Plan to relevant lead agencies and on integration of the plan into Brahmaputra River Action Plan and national species planning by trained programme core staff.
 - 3.5 Development of participatory enforcement plan; initiation of activities in all dolphin hotspot areas coordinated by DCN members.
 4. Project Management, Dissemination and Reporting
 - 4.1 Establishment of steering committee, project management reporting procedures and ToRs, preparation of detailed project implementation plans
 - 4.2 Monthly progress meetings and regular site visits.
 - 4.3 Preparation and submission of half yearly, annual and final project reports, articles for DI newsletter to Defra.
 - 4.4 Updating of project website pages inc. downloadable documents (resource centre).
 - 4.5 Media coverage, attendance of meetings and conferences (such as SSC-Cetacean Specialist Group, marine mammal congress) at which findings from Darwin project work are presented / disseminated.

Monitoring activities:Indicators

1. Coordination framework and institutionalised monitoring and reporting systems at the Brahmaputra River basin level in Assam
 - 1.1 ToRs and contracts in place (Yr 1).
 - 1.2 Purpose-built boat; additional river boat and monitoring and sample analysis equipment in operation (Yr 1).
 - 1.3 GIS database system in operation, detailed design specification, manual and training report (Yr 1).
 - 1.4 Protocols, training material and data recording forms, training report (Yr 1).
 - 1.5 Monthly reporting from 30 priority sites (Yr 1-3).
 - 1.6 Research study progress and final reports (Yr 1-2).
 - 1.7 Dolphin post mortem procedures; training report (Yr 1).
 - 1.8 Survey designs, data recording forms and procedures; training reports (Yr 1).
 - 1.9 Protocols, training material and data recording forms, training report (Yr 1).
 - 1.10 Survey reports, maps, populated database, stakeholder and steering committee feedback (Yr 1-3).
 - 1.11 Standardised annual dolphin and habitat status reporting template, training report; reports and feedback from steering committee and relevant stakeholders (Yr 1-3).
 - 1.12 Reports and feedback from relevant stakeholders and steering committee (Yr 2).
 - 1.13 Policy guiding documents (Yr 2).
 - 1.14 Priority dolphin river segments report, PA network discussion paper; feedback from relevant stakeholders and steering committee (Yr 2).
 - 1.15 PhD theses draft (Yr 3).
 - 1.16 ZSL scientific meeting presentations (Yr 3).
 - 1.17 Copies of manuscripts (Yr 2-3).

2. Enhanced capacity of local authorities and fishing communities for dolphin population recovery and for contributing towards wider-scale ecosystem management
 - 2.1 Material and tools; training report (Yr 1-2).
 - 2.2 Monthly progress reports, field visits (Yr 1-3).
 - 2.3 Monthly progress reports, field visits, training report (Yr 1-3).
 - 2.4 Monthly progress reports, field visits, training report (Yr 1-3).
 - 2.5 Meeting reports, media coverage (Yr 1-3).
 - 2.6 Report and feedback (Yr 1-3).
 - 2.7 Media coverage, reports (Yr 1-3).
 - 2.8 Reports, field visits (Yr 2-3).
 - 2.9 Monthly reports, field visits (Yr 1-3).
 - 2.10 Monthly reports, field visits (Yr 2-3).
 - 2.11 Report and feedback from relevant stakeholders and steering committee (Yr 3).
 - 2.12 Training report, field visits and progress reports (Yr 2-3).
 - 2.13 Study tour report (Yr 2).

3. Local and national stakeholder supported recovery plans and improved protective mechanisms for Brahmaputra River dolphins and regional freshwater ecosystem
 - 3.1 Training report, site-specific plans (Yr 3).
 - 3.2 Species Recovery Plan (Yr 3).
 - 3.3 Training report, progress reports, revised plans (Yr 3).
 - 3.4 Progress reports, revised Brahmaputra River Action Plan and national species plan (Yr 3).

3.5 Participatory enforcement plan; monthly report and field visits (Yr 3).

4. Project Management, Dissemination and Reporting

4.1 Steering committee meeting minutes, project management reporting procedures and ToRs, project implementation plans (Yr 1-3).

4.2 Monthly progress meetings minutes, site visit reports (Yr 1-3).

4.3 Half yearly, annual and final project reports, articles, Defra review reports (Yr 1-3).

4.4 Websites and downloadable documents (Yr 1-3).

4.5 Presentations and media coverage material (Yr 1-3).

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			
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
1 Reporting Period 1 (2010/04 – 2010/09)	Apr-Sep												
1.1 Steering committee established; Project management reporting procedures and ToRs setup; Project meeting held in Guwahati - attended by all partners and relevant NGOs, groups; working groups for each project area established and detailed implementation plans drawn up.	Apr												
1.2 Project research posts advertised, interviews held, two Indian scientists with relevant experience in freshwater ecology recruited as research staff; 2 local research assistants recruited; ToRs and contracts setup.	Apr, May												
1.3 Purpose-built boat constructed; additional river boat for procured for use in smaller tributaries, monitoring and sample analysis equipment procured and installed for dolphin and ecosystem surveys.	Apr-Sep												
1.4 GIS database system for Brahmaputra River dolphin and ecosystem developed with detailed design specification approved by steering committee; manual produced; at least 2 project core staff trained in its use.	May-Sep												
1.5 Protocols, training material and data recording forms developed and at least 5 programme core staff and 30 DCN members trained in standardised land-based dolphin surveys.	Apr-May												
1.6 Land-based dolphin and habitat monitoring surveys (weekly) in 30 priority sites across Brahmaputra Valley initiated by trained DCN members supported by research staff; monthly progress reporting template developed and implemented in the 30 sites.	May-Sep												
1.7 Development of initial set of material and tools for community outreach and awareness activities completed; training of at least 2 programme staff and 30 DCN members completed.	May-Sep												
1.8 Community engagement and awareness programmes initiated in 30 prioritised dolphin areas by DCN members with support provided on an on-going basis.	Jul-Sep												
1.9 Detailed specific research projects, methodologies, monitoring and data collection procedures developed for quantifying factors impacting on dolphins and wider ecosystem; identified staff enrolled in PhD research, training, projects initiated (see below).	May-Sep												
1.10 Dolphin Rapid Response Team (DRRT) established; equipment for dolphin carcass sample storage and transportation procured and setup in 30 sites, training of relevant programme staff and 30 DCN members in stranded dolphin releases and carcass collection completed.	Apr-Sep												
1.11 Training of fishermen in entangled dolphin releases by trained DCN members and programme staff in dolphin core areas completed.	May-Jul												
1.12 Standardised dolphin post mortem procedures developed; training of at least 4 veterinary college dept staff completed in post-mortem, necropsy and pathology.	Apr-May												
1.13 Study initiated on the use of dolphin oil, size and trade followed up by initiatives for stopping use of dolphin oil (protection and awareness-raising of fishermen in hotspots).	May												
1.14 Website enhanced (and maintained) on all partner sites with link to downloadable	Apr-Sep												

	populated, report and maps produced/updated and disseminated to all relevant stakeholders and steering committee.													
3.5	DCN activities in 30 priority sites across Brahmaputra Valley by trained DCN members supported by research staff (land-based dolphin and habitat monitoring surveys (weekly); fishermen community engagement activities, dolphin stranded dolphin releases and carcass collection, protection, research support activities, monthly reporting etc).	Apr-Sep												
3.6	Baseline research, survey and monitoring studies ongoing.	Apr-Sep												
3.7	Half yearly report prepared and submitted to Defra.	Sep												
4	Reporting Period 4 (2011/10 – 2012/03)	Oct-Mar												
4.1	Fishery data collection at landing and market sites surveys conducted for trend analysis.	Oct-Mar												
4.2	Manuscript based on standardised seasonal dolphin and habitat surveys submitted for publication in peer-reviewed scientific journals.	Mar												
4.3	Study tour of Ganges River programmes conducted; cross-ecosystem linkages for exchange of skills and information established.	Nov												
4.4	Fishermen, fisheries and socio-economic survey data analysed, reports produced and disseminated to relevant stakeholders and steering committee.	Feb-Mar												
4.5	Baseline research, survey and monitoring studies completed, policy guiding documents produced in key areas including: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Impact of pollutants (industrial, agricultural and domestic) on dolphins and fishes (necropsies, water quality testing etc). 2. Dolphin mortalities levels and causes. 3. Riverine habitat status and restoration. 4. Impact of dams and engineering solutions to minimise effect on dolphin movements and distributions (meta-analysis). 5. Impact of siltation and sand-mining. 6. Dolphin sensitivity to salinity, water depth and temperature (inc. climate change impact). 7. Development of river system protected area network (community based and expanding existing grassland and floodplain protected areas of Dibru-Sikhowa NP, Kaziranga NP and Orang NP), concept paper. 8. Impact of commercial non-traditional fishing (inc. ornamental fishing) on dolphins and fish stocks (fish surveys). 9. Fishermen and socio-economic surveys (attitude towards dolphin conservation and past distributions of dolphins in Brahmaputra). 10. Cost-benefit analyse of aquacultures and alternative livelihoods (medicinal and aromatic cash crop), recommendations on fisheries based livelihood options. 11. Site and national dolphin recovery plans. 	Oct-Mar												
4.6	Pilot controlled projects in small-scale native species aquaculture and alternative supportive livelihoods (medicinal and aromatic cash crops) in two identified dolphin hotspots set-up; selected local stakeholders trained in fisheries resource management (traditional, artisanal and subsistence fishing methods) and enforcement; community alliance setup.	Oct-Mar												
4.7	Winter standardised dolphin and habitat survey across the Brahmaputra mainstream and its tributaries completed (inc. acoustic and routine sample collection/analyses); database	Oct-Jan												

	populated, report and maps produced and circulated to relevant stakeholders and steering committee.																		
4.8	Third intensive fishing community engagement and awareness programmes completed along the Brahmaputra mainstream (during the upstream journey of the survey boat).	Dec-Jan																	
4.9	Priority dolphin river segments identified, PA network discussion paper developed, report produced and circulated to relevant stakeholders and steering committee.	Feb-Mar																	
4.10	2 nd annual dolphin and habitat status report produced, steering committee sitting to review annual status report, report disseminated to all relevant stakeholders.	Jan																	
4.11	Second annual Dolphin Day, review meeting and refresher workshop for project staff and DCN members held.	Jan																	
4.12	Early summer/pre-monsoon season standardised dolphin and habitat survey across the Brahmaputra mainstream and its tributaries initiated.	Feb-Mar																	
4.13	DCN activities in 30 priority sites across Brahmaputra Valley by trained DCN members supported by research staff (land-based dolphin and habitat monitoring surveys (weekly); fishermen community engagement activities, dolphin stranded dolphin releases and carcass collection, protection, research support activities, monthly reporting etc).	Oct-Mar																	
4.14	Training workshop in PHVA completed, site-specific stakeholder workshops held, site-specific plans developed (based on synthesised baseline information) and approved by DoEF.	Jan-Feb																	
4.15	Participatory enforcement plan developed and activities initiated in all dolphin hotspot areas coordinated by DCN members.	Jan-Mar																	
4.16	Annual report (plus article for DI newsletter) prepared and submitted to Defra.	Mar																	
5	Reporting Period 5 (2012/04 – 2012/09)	Apr-Sep																	
5.1	Early summer/pre-monsoon season standardised dolphin and habitat survey across the Brahmaputra mainstream and its tributaries completed (inc. acoustic and routine sample collection/analyses); database populated, report and maps produced/updated and circulated to relevant stakeholders and steering committee.	Apr-May																	
5.2	Fourth intensive fishing community engagement and awareness programmes completed along the Brahmaputra mainstream (during the upstream journey of the survey boat).	Apr-May																	
5.3	At least two manuscripts based on synthesised baseline studies submitted for publication in peer-reviewed scientific journals.	Aug-Sep																	
5.4	Training of 10 DCN members in dolphin-watching guided tours completed; community-based river dolphin tourism pilot project initiated.	Jan-Feb																	
5.5	DCN activities in 30 priority sites across Brahmaputra Valley by trained DCN members supported by research staff (land-based dolphin and habitat monitoring surveys (weekly); fishermen community engagement activities, dolphin stranded dolphin releases and carcass collection, protection, support activities, monthly reporting etc).	Apr-Sep																	
5.6	Half yearly report submitted to Defra.	Sep																	
6	Reporting Period 6 (2012/10 – 2013/03)	Oct-Mar																	
6.1	Multi-stakeholder workshop held, regional Species Recovery Plan developed (based on synthesised baseline information and policy guiding documents) and approved by MoEF.	Oct																	
6.2	Training of 5 dolphin programme core staff in advocacy and lobbying completed; policy leveraging in regional development plans initiated to ensure regulation of fishing and wildlife.	Oct-Mar																	

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. Separate guidance on Standard Measures can be found at http://darwin.defra.gov.uk/resources/reporting/standard_measures/

Standard Measure No	Description	Tick if Relevant
1A	Number of people to submit thesis for PhD qualification (in host country)	X
1B	Number of people to attain PhD qualification (in host country)	X
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)	X
4A	Number of undergraduate students to receive training	X
4B	Number of training weeks to be provided	X
4C	Number of postgraduate students to receive training	X
4D	Number of training weeks to be provided	X
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)	X
6B	Number of training weeks to be provided	X
7	Number of (ie different types - not volume - of material produced) training materials to be produced for use by host country	X
8	Number of weeks to be spent by UK project staff on project work in the host country	X
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	X
10	Number of individual field guides/manuals to be produced to assist work related to species identification, classification and recording	X
11A	Number of papers to be published in peer reviewed journals	
11B	Number of papers to be submitted to peer reviewed journals	X
12A	Number of computer based databases to be established and handed over to host country	X
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	X
14B	Number of conferences/seminars/ workshops attended at which findings from Darwin project work will be presented/ disseminated.	X
15A	Number of national press releases in host country(ies)	X
15B	Number of local press releases in host country(ies)	X
15C	Number of national press releases in UK	X
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	
17A	Number of dissemination networks to be established	X
17B	Number of dissemination networks to be enhanced/ extended	
18A	Number of national TV programmes/features in host country(ies)	X
18B	Number of national TV programmes/features in UK	
18C	Number of local TV programmes/features in host country(ies)	X
18D	Number of local TV programmes/features in UK	
19A	Number of national radio interviews/features in host county(ies)	X
19B	Number of national radio interviews/features in UK	X
19C	Number of local radio interviews/features in host country(ies)	X
19D	Number of local radio interviews/features in UK	
20	Estimated value (£'s) of physical assets to be handed over to host country(ies)	X
21	Number of permanent educational/training/research facilities or organisations to be established and then continued after Darwin funding has ceased	X
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	X

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.

The UK Darwin PI, the host project coordinator and field scientists will together be responsible for overseeing the field activities and will be in daily contact with project staff. The project steering committee (represented by the key host stakeholders and partners) will meet every 6 months to evaluate progress and also allow practical difficulties to be aired, discussed and resolved. In addition, quarterly reports will be submitted by project staff. These along with monthly monitoring and progress reports (submitted according to standardised protocols) by DCN members in each of the sites, field survey and research study reports and annual status reports will be assessed by Darwin project staff, project advisors and project steering committee members. Updates of our progress will also be highlighted in the ZSL, Aaranyak and WII newsletters, magazines and web-sites, and detailed in six-monthly interval reports to the Darwin Initiative. Each training session and community programmes will have feedback assessment forms evaluating the reception, satisfaction and impact. We will also have annual and site-specific workshops/meetings where we (including all relevant participants and partners) will also review our outputs in detail, discuss the conservation implications of our work and develop strategies with all relevant partners and stakeholders. A national level workshop will be held towards the end of the project to which all participants and partners will be invited where we will review the Darwin work and also develop the species recovery plan. Counterparts from India will also be invited.

We will use the following project indicators to monitor progress and resolve potential problems: 1) evaluating the reception, satisfaction and impact of all the training and community outreach programmes undertaken; 2) the quality of procedures, protocols, data recording forms, training material and their effective use; 3) the successful completion of purpose-built survey boat, equipment procured and setup; 4) number of research staff recruited and contributing to the project; 5) the number of project staff and DCN members trained in advanced dolphin and habitat survey techniques; 6) the number of successfully completed standardised boat-based dolphin surveys along the Brahmaputra River system and the quality of data in database, analyses, reports, distribution and resource maps; 7) the number DCN members trained and undertaking land-based dolphin and habitat monitoring on a weekly basis in priority sites; quality of reports; 8) the number of project staff and DCN members trained in stranded dolphin releases and carcass collection; the number of sites where storage and transportation equipment has been setup and the number of carcasses successfully recovered; 9) the number of fishermen trained in entangled dolphin releases; number of released dolphins and accidental killings; 10) the number of local veterinary department staff trained in standardised post mortem, necropsy and pathology; whether standardised post mortem procedures have been implemented and number of carcasses examined and quality of reports; 11) the number of DCN staff trained in local interview techniques for fishermen and fishing community socio-economic surveys; the number of surveys undertaken and quality of data analyses and reports produced; 12) the quality of fishery data collected at landing and market sites; analysed and quality of reports produced; 13) the number and quality of biodiversity and environmental community awareness material produced and used; 14) the number of DCN members, DoEF and Aaranyak staff trained in conventional/novel community engagement activities; number of community education and awareness programmes conducted (public engagement meetings, theatres, community forums, radio broadcasts) and level of community involvement; 15) the completion and installation of the dolphin and riverine habitat database and users trained; 16) the number of Aaranyak and DoEF scientists trained in the production of annual dolphin and habitat status reports; number and quality of reports; 17) the number of local stakeholders trained and engaging in fisheries resource management and enforcement; number of participatory enforcement activities / community alliances initiated in dolphin hotspot areas; 18) the number of fishing communities trained in native species aquaculture and alternative supportive livelihoods (medicinal and aromatic plants); number of pilot projects established, reports on cost-benefit analyses; 9) size and trend in the trade, effectiveness of control and preventive methods; 20) the number of project research staff, DoEF scientists and university students trained in dolphin and resource ecology, GIS mapping, statistical data analysis and PHVA; 21) the number of dolphin ambassadors established (local women / youth leaders plus celebrities); 22) the number of study tours / exposure visits undertaken for exchange of skills and information (cross-ecosystem linkage development initiatives with Ganges river programmes); 23) the number of project staff trained in advocacy and lobbying techniques; number of engagement meetings with government and other relevant agencies; 24) the number of DCN members trained in dolphin-watching guided tours; number of tours undertaken, report on viability; 25) the number of priority dolphin river segments identified; 26) the number of policy guiding documents based on dolphin and ecosystem impacts studies feeding into Brahmaputra River Action Plan, regional plans and statutory processes around threatened / protected species and freshwater ecosystems; 27) the number and quality of local stakeholder based site-specific plans and their reviews, the quality of the Species Recovery Plan and approval by DoEF; 28) the number of successfully completed PhD studies and student projects;

29) the number of scientific papers produced and sent for publication in peer-review journals; 30) details of newspaper articles disseminating the work undertaken by the project; 31) number of presentations and lectures given by project staff in India and the UK; 32) adequate reporting to Darwin Initiative; 33) recovery of dolphin population.

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)

ZSL, which includes two zoos, a scientific institute (the Institute of Zoology) and the Conservation Programmes department, receives around 75% of its funding from revenue generated through zoo gate receipts. A further 10% is received by the Institute through the Higher Education Funding Council for England. Grants, donations and contracts for conservation and research make up the remainder, generated from a range of sources including research councils, individual and multilateral governments (e.g. UK and US government departments, European Commission), private and corporate donors (e.g. Timbmet), foundations (e.g. Rufford Maurice Laing Foundation) and non-governmental bodies (e.g. IUCN). **(100 words)**

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:

Aaranyak will provide part salaries of Dolphin Conservation Network (DCN) members and part salaries of Aaranyak support staff.

Department of Environment and Forest (DoEF) will provide salaries of Forest Department Officials (at least 10) at an average of £XXX per year.

Wildlife Institute of India (WII) will cover 100% WII staff time.

Zoological Society of London (ZSL) will cover 100% ZSL staff time.

National and international experts will be contributing salaries.

The project needs considerable financial support and there is potential for more funding to be leveraged by Darwin support, as the Ganges River dolphin is a high-profile species which has already attracted smaller-scale support for the project from other conservation charities.

Rufford Small Grants Foundation: providing £4,500 for partial costs of boat maintenance and construction costs.

MBZ: providing £9500 for partial cost of survey boat construction.

Unconfirmed:

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:

The major funding in kind is Aaranyak and DoEF vehicles and office space.

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

No

There are currently two Darwin Initiative projects in Assam (Hathi and Pygmy Hog) and ZSL is involved in one of them.

CERTIFICATION 2010/11

On behalf of the trustees/company* of ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON

(*delete as appropriate)

I apply for a grant of £140,864 in respect of expenditure to be incurred in the financial year ending 31 March 2011 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)	DR JONATHAN BAILLE
Position in the organisation	DIRECTOR OF CONSERVATION

Signed



Date:

30.11.09

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 in the email, but a wet signature should be provided in the hard copy version)	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?	No
Have you included a copy of your most recent annual report and accounts? An electronic link to a website is acceptable. http://static.zsl.org/files/annual-review-2008-780.pdf http://static.zsl.org/files/zsl-trustees-and-financial-statements-311208-779.pdf	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 30 November 2009** 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 signed hard copy of the application and any supporting documents not available electronically should be submitted to the Darwin Applications, c/o LTS International, Pentlands Science Park, Bush Loan, Penicuik EH26 0PL **postmarked** not later than **Tuesday 1 December 2009**.

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.