



Submit by Monday 24 October 2011

DARWIN INITIATIVE APPLICATION FOR GRANT FOR ROUND 18: 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.

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

Name: Dr. JIM GROOMBRIDGE Senior Lecturer in Biodiversity Conservation	Address: Durrell Institute of Conservation and Ecology (DICE), School of Anthropology and Conservation, Marlowe Building, University of Kent, Canterbury, Kent, CT2 7NR, UK
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2. Project title (not exceeding 10 words)

A cutting-EDGE approach to saving Seychelles' evolutionarily distinct biodiversity

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

Proposed start date: 01 Oct 2012 Duration of project: 3 years End date: 30 Sept 2015

Darwin funding requested	2011/12	2012/13	2013/2014	2014/15	2015/16	Total
	£ -	£	£	£	£	£

Proposed (confirmed and unconfirmed) matched funding as percentage of total Project cost:						
UK: DICE, Kent: PhD studentship; salary costs for Dr J Groombridge/R. Griffiths						£
UK: ZSL EDGE Programme: salary costs for Dr. S Turvey & EDGE Coordinator						£
UK: NHM/UCL: PhD studentship, SynTax grant, salary costs Gower/Wilkinson/Day						£
UK: NHM/UCL: salary costs for Dr. J Day						£
UK: University of Exeter: specialist field consultancy, Prof. P. Racey						£
Seychelles: Government, Ministry of Environment: salary costs of ranger						£
Seychelles: National Parks Authority: Input of staff/resources						£
Seychelles: National Museum of Seychelles: Salary support for EDGE Fellow						£
TOTAL MATCHED FUNDING=						£340,666

Matched funding as percentage of total project cost **57%**

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

To provide investment, technical expertise and targeted training in conservation, ecology and taxonomy to improve knowledge, management and conservation status of the 12 EDGE (*Evolutionarily Distinct Globally Endangered*) species endemic to the Seychelles.

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

Details	Project Leader	Other UK personnel (working more than 50% of their time on project)	Main project partner and co-ordinator in host country/ies
Surname	GROOMBRIDGE		DOGELY
Forename (s)	JIM		MR. DIDIER
Post held	SENIOR LECTURER		PRINCIPAL SECRETARY
Institution (if different to above)			GOVERNMENT OF SEYCHELLES
Department	School of Anthropology & Conservation		MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT
Telephone			
Email			

Details	Project Partner 1	Project Partner 2	Project Partner 3
Surname	Dawson	Gower	Racey
Forename (s)	Jeff	David	Paul
Post held	EDGE Conservation Biologist	Researcher	Visiting Professor
Institution	ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON	NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM	UNIVERSITY OF EXETER
Department	Conservation Programmes Department	Zoology Department	Biosciences
Telephone			
Email			

Details	Project Partner 4	Project Partner 5	Project Partner 6
Surname	Bunbury	Matatiken	Kalebi
Forename (s)	Nancy	Denis	Cecille
Post held	Project Coordinator	Director	Director
Institution	SEYCHELLES ISLANDS FOUNDATION	SEYCHELLES NATIONAL PARKS AUTHORITY	NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SEYCHELLES
Department	Research & Projects		La Bastille
Telephone			
Email			

Details	Project Partner 7	Project Partner 8	Project Partner 9
Surname	Vel	Gerlach	Bristol
Forename (s)	Terence	Justin	Rachel
Post held	WCS Coordinator	Director	Project Officer
Institution	WILDLIFE CLUBS SEYCHELLES	NATURE PROTECTION TRUST SEYCHELLES	Independent consultant, Seychelles
Department			Self-employed
Telephone			
Email			

6. Has your organisation received funding under the Darwin Initiative before? Yes
If so, please provide details of the most recent (up to 6 examples).

Reference No	Project Leader	Title
17009	S. Harrop	Integrating religion with conservation: Islamic beliefs and Sumatra forest management
17010	R. Griffiths	Chameleon trade and conservation in Madagascar
15009	J. Groombridge	Investing in Island Biodiversity: Restoring the critically-endangered Seychelles Paradise Flycatcher
15029	R. Bodmer	Certifying Peccary Pelts in Peru: Catalysing Community-based Wildlife Management
11018	R. Griffiths	Aztecs and Axolotls: Integrating conservation and tourism at Xochimilco, Mexico
10003	N. Leader-Williams	Community-driven conservation and ecotourism in the Mara ecosystem, Kenya

7. IF YOU ANSWERED 'NO' TO QUESTION 6 describe briefly the aims, activities and achievements of your organisation. N/A

8. Please list all the partners involved, explain their roles and responsibilities and capacity of partners to be involved in the project. Please provide written evidence of partnerships.

<p>Applicant institution:</p> <p>DURRELL INSTITUTE OF CONSERVATION AND ECOLOGY</p> <p>www.kent.ac.uk/dice</p>	<p><u>Roles & Responsibilities:</u> Dr. Jim Groombridge, a member of DICE academic staff at the University of Kent, will lead this project and be responsible for its overall direction, all activities and outputs.</p> <p><u>Project Development:</u> Dr. Groombridge and his colleague, Prof. Richard Griffiths, have led the development of this project following initial approaches by the main project partner (Government of Seychelles' Ministry of Environment) and subsequent in-depth consultation with all Seychelles' partners and stakeholders during a recent visit by DICE and ZSL partners to Seychelles (funded by Darwin Scoping Award EIDPR132). The proposed project has developed from initial fruitful discussions between DICE and Seychelles/UK partners over the past five years, a substantial lead-in time that has ensured strong partner links and thorough planning. Dr. Groombridge has been involved in and led conservation projects in Seychelles for over 15 years and has collaborated with many of the partners there to assist conservation efforts for Seychelles' parrots, flycatchers and amphibians. Prof. Griffiths has 30 years of expertise in amphibian conservation, and led 5 Darwin projects.</p> <p><u>Involvement:</u> Alongside the direction of this project, DICE will oversee capacity building requirements associated with the Seychelles black parrot, sooglossid frogs and caecilians, involving training in population monitoring, species management, statistical survey-design and disease-screening.</p>
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<p>Lead Partner:</p> <p>GOVERNMENT MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, SEYCHELLES</p> <p>http://www.egov.sc/</p>	<p><u>Roles & Responsibilities:</u> The Ministry of Home Affairs, Environment, Transport and Energy (MHAETE, 'Ministry of Environment', main host-country partner) is responsible for meeting the country's CBD commitment and will contribute staff resources and institutional support.</p> <p><u>Project Development:</u> The Ministry approached ZSL/DICE requesting help in managing their 12 <i>EDGE</i> species, including populations of frogs, bats, parrots, corals and caecilians. The Ministry subsequently hosted a Darwin-funded Scoping visit and workshop by DICE/ZSL in November 2010 which prioritised the needs for conserving the different <i>EDGE</i> species and prescribed the activities deemed feasible by the project partners.</p> <p><u>Involvement:</u> The Ministry has worked closely with Dr. Groombridge on previous conservation projects and will be directly involved with coordination of the overall project through regular (monthly) face-to-face meetings with the local Seychellois Project Coordinator (R. Bristol), as well as involvement in field activities for the sheath-tailed bat conservation work.</p>
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<p>Project Partner 1:</p> <p>EDGE OF EXISTENCE PROGRAMME, ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON</p> <p>www.edgeofexistence.org</p>	<p><u>Roles & Responsibilities:</u> ZSL developed the <i>EDGE of Existence</i> Programme in 2007, using a scientifically robust method to identify and prioritise Evolutionarily Distinct and Globally Endangered (<i>EDGE</i>) species.</p> <p><u>Project Development:</u> ZSL has been directly involved in the development of this project and initial Darwin Scoping Award/visit. Using the latest DNA-based phylogenies to estimate evolutionary distinctiveness and evaluate it alongside IUCN threat status, ZSL has identified top priority '<i>EDGE</i>' species for many taxa, including mammals, amphibians, birds and reef-building corals. Remarkably, the geologically ancient islands of the Seychelles support a natural 'cluster' of <i>EDGE</i> species and the Government of Seychelles takes very seriously the nation's responsibility for their conservation.</p> <p><u>Involvement:</u> The ZSL/<i>EDGE</i> team is ideally placed to provide institutional and practical support directly to the Seychellois <i>EDGE</i> Fellows developed as part of this proposed project and their affiliated NGOs and Government partners.</p>
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Project Partner 1: <i>Continued....</i>	ZSL/ <i>EDGE</i> staff, primarily <i>EDGE</i> Conservation Biologist, Jeff Dawson and Sam Turvey, will be directly involved in providing in-country training of Seychelles' <i>EDGE</i> Fellows, whilst <i>EDGE</i> Fellows Coordinator, Cath Lawson, will provide the five Seychelles <i>EDGE</i> Fellows with UK-based institutional support and advice via the global <i>EDGE</i> Fellow network.
Project Partner 2: NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM http://www.nhm.ac.uk	<u>Roles & Responsibilities:</u> Research scientist Dr. David Gower will lead the input into this proposed project of a consortium of world-leading experts on the biology, ecology and taxonomy/systematics of caecilians and Seychelles' endemic sooglossid frog populations, all of which require conservation. This consortium, which will provide crucial training in caecilian field studies and training/support in sooglossid frog ecology, will include Dr. Mark Wilkinson (NHM) and Dr. Julia Day (UCL), whom together are involved in complimentary research efforts on the ecology of these unusual Seychelles taxa. <u>Project Development and Involvement:</u> All members of this consortium have had input into the development of this proposal and will be directly involved in training workshops for the <i>EDGE</i> Fellows on Seychelles as well as hosting them in the UK for a training visit at the NHM in specialist field skills, systematic, taxonomic identification, collection and curation procedures.
Project Partner 3: UNIVERSITY OF EXETER http://biosciences.exeter.ac.uk/staff/index.php?web_id=paul_racey	Prof. Paul Racey has been directly involved with ecological research and conservation efforts to restore the populations of sheath-tailed bat that remain on Seychelles, and is a world-renowned authority on bat conservation. <u>Roles & Responsibilities:</u> Prof. Racey will provide specialist <i>in-situ</i> training in bat detector surveys and monitoring of sheath-tailed bat roosts and foraging habitats, and the development of conservation management strategies for protection of the bat populations. <u>Project Development and Involvement:</u> Through his previous involvement in bat conservation on Seychelles, Prof. Racey is well-known to the local Seychelles partners and will bring added value in the form of his wealth of historical knowledge about the bat populations and their likely future threats as well as the benefit of his 30 years of practical hands-on experience with surveying and monitoring bat populations.
Project Partner 4: SEYCHELLES ISLANDS FOUNDATION www.sif.sc/	<u>Roles & Responsibilities:</u> The Seychelles Islands Foundation is responsible for the management of the two Seychelles UNESCO World Heritage Sites, one of which (Vallée de Mai, on Praslin Island) contains at least three <i>EDGE</i> species. SIF has a strong regional reputation and track-record for science-based conservation, and has been closely involved with Dr. Groombridge (DICE) in conservation research projects on the endangered populations of Seychelles black parrot and sooglossid frogs on Praslin. <u>Project Development and Involvement:</u> Through their management of the Vallée de Mai, SIF has extensive visitor centre facilities and associated public relations/advocacy resources which will bring added value and considerable publicity potential to this project. SIF will contribute one p/t staff member to the project as an <i>EDGE</i> Fellow.
Project Partner 5: SEYCHELLES NATIONAL PARKS AUTHORITY http://curieuse.sc/index.php	<u>Roles & Responsibilities:</u> The Seychelles National Parks Authority is tasked with the responsibility of managing all of Seychelles national parks (both terrestrial and marine) and coordinating conservation efforts for the biodiversity they contain. <u>Project Development and Involvement:</u> The SNPA has been involved in the project's development since the Scoping visit/stakeholder workshop in November 2010, and will engage with the project regarding activities for the coral <i>EDGE</i> species as well as assisting with activities for those <i>EDGE</i> species within the national parks. SNPA will contribute personnel to assist with implementing the work, and logistics/transportation and communications costs.

<p>Project Partner 6:</p> <p>NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SEYCHELLES</p> <p>http://www.sibmas.org/idpac/africa/scv001.html#3</p>	<p>Roles & Responsibilities: The National Museum of Seychelles is the main repository for Seychelles biological specimens. However, this institution could benefit from immediate assistance in the form of staff training in taxonomy and field monitoring techniques. The Museum has a visitor centre in the capital that showcases collections as well as an off-site location for sample preparation.</p> <p>Project Development and Involvement: The project will work directly with local museum staff/curators who attended the scoping visit/workshop, to provide training in specimen preparation, cataloguing of the collection and field monitoring of caecilians. The National Museum of Seychelles will provide two staff to be trained by the project and will work closely with the UK NHM.</p>
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<p>Project Partner 7:</p> <p>WILDLIFE CLUBS SEYCHELLES</p> <p>http://www.facebook.com/pages/Wildlife-Clubs-of-Seychelles/136612136380257</p>	<p>Roles & Responsibilities: Wildlife Clubs Seychelles (WCS), is a locally-driven but national-scale network of school teachers, students and parents that engage in conservation activities across Seychelles, including invasive weed control, habitat restoration and monitoring, bat monitoring, bird surveys etc. All wildlife clubs are based in schools and WCS works closely with other ENGOs as well as the national TV/radio/print media, which will ensure that our activities and outputs on this project will attract the widest public appeal.</p> <p>Project Development and Involvement: The WCS was involved in the scoping visit/ workshop and advised on the public engagement, training and capacity-building components of the proposed project. WCS will engage directly with the Seychellois <i>EDGE</i> Fellows to support education and outreach activities.</p>
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<p>Project Partner 8:</p> <p>NATURE PROTECTION TRUST SEYCHELLES</p> <p>http://islandbiodiversity.com/</p>	<p>Roles & Responsibilities: The NPTS has been directly involved with (and to a large extent, led) conservation efforts on Silhouette island for many years, with a particular focus on the sheath-tailed bats and sooglossid frog populations there (comprising 3 <i>EDGE</i> species) including one sooglossid frog species endemic to the island.</p> <p>Project Development and Involvement: DICE and ZSL partners consulted with NPTS (including a meeting at ZSL) to seek advice on frog/bat work. Conservation efforts by this partner feature widely in the regional literature and they will contribute valuable historical knowledge, training and expertise on field surveys of Silhouette, in particular for the sooglossid frog populations and bat population on Silhouette.</p>
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<p>Project Partner 9:</p> <p>RACHEL BRISTOL</p> <p>PROJECT OFFICER (LOCAL CONSULTANT)</p>	<p>Roles & Responsibilities: As the full-time Project Officer for this proposed project, Rachel Bristol will oversee and coordinate the day-to-day running activities, including local in-situ field support and training support for the five Seychelles <i>EDGE</i> Fellows. As a Seychelles citizen and widely-respected field biologist with a Seychellois family, Rachel has worked on avian and bat conservation in Seychelles for 15 years, and has valuable experience locally coordinating other Darwin projects in Seychelles (Dr. Groombridge's project on flycatcher reintroduction [#15009]). Rachel also has long-standing working relationships with all of the local project partners; consequently she is well placed to coordinate the in-country activities.</p> <p>Project Development and Involvement: Rachel Bristol has been involved in the development of this project from the outset, and has been instrumental in advising on project partnerships and providing technical support.</p>
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<p>9a. Have you consulted stakeholders not already mentioned above? Yes</p> <p>Details: Our workshop during the Darwin-funded Scoping visit in November 2010 involved an open invitation to everyone in the Seychelles conservation community. Amongst those stakeholders not already mentioned above are the <u>Marine Conservation Society of Seychelles</u>, a local society that focuses on conservation of marine wildlife, particularly turtles and whale-sharks. The MCSS are very supportive of the project and we look forward to their participation in <i>EDGE</i> coral conservation activities. A representative from the <u>Green Islands Foundation</u>, an environmental NGO, also</p>
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attended the workshop, and we look forward to involving them in conservation-related activities as the project gets underway. One further conservation NGO, Nature Seychelles, was also consulted about their potential involvement, but they declined to participate due to their commitments on other conservation projects in Seychelles.

The lead applicant and project partners have discussed this project with the British High Commission and they have indicated their full support for the initiative. An email letter confirming their strong support for this project and our ability to implement it is included with this application.

9b. Do you intend to consult other stakeholders? No

9c. Have you had any (other) contact with the government not already stated? Yes

Details: Two representatives from the Ministry of Environment, Mrs. Elvina Henriette and Mrs. Marie-May Jeremie, attended our 2010 scoping workshop on behalf of the Principal Secretary of the Ministry of Environment, Mr. Didier Dogley. Whilst in Seychelles, representatives from DICE and ZSL consulted with Mr. Dogley at an additional meeting to discuss the proposed project in detail and to clarify support and involvement of the Government of Seychelles.

9d. Will your project support any work in the UK Overseas Territories? No

PROJECT DETAILS

10. Please provide a Concept note (Max 1,000 words) (no changes from Stage 1 made)

PRIORITISING SPECIES FOR CONSERVATION: Our understanding of the Earth's biodiversity has begun to recognise the global and taxonomic significance of evolutionarily distinct species and their high conservation value. With ancient evolutionary origins, these 'biological treasures' not only represent the '*last of their kind*' but are often extremely rare, raising the stakes for their successful recovery. Saving these species is a major challenge because;

- (i) their biology, taxonomy and habitat requirements are often poorly-known and understudied, limiting options for their recovery until appropriate in-country capacity is developed and basic knowledge gaps are filled;
- (ii) they often go unnoticed by the global conservation community, struggling to compete for resources against more charismatic 'flagship species'.
- (iii) they seldom cluster together geographically to form a convenient focus, but instead are scattered worldwide as 'high-priority' species in dire conservation need.

Together, extreme rarity, evolutionary uniqueness and data-deficiency make it difficult for global policy-makers to allocate resources to conserve these species.

EDGE SPECIES: ZSL developed the *EDGE* Programme in 2007, using a scientifically robust method to identify and prioritise *Evolutionarily Distinct Globally Endangered (EDGE)* species. Using the latest DNA-based phylogenies to estimate evolutionary distinctiveness and evaluate it alongside IUCN threat status, ZSL identified top priority '*EDGE*' species for many taxa, including mammals, amphibians, birds and reef-building corals. *EDGE* has been presented to the IUCN World Conservation Congress and CBD COP 10, and is a globally accepted prioritisation tool for biodiversity conservation, paving the way for nations to recognise and target their *EDGE* species as a priority.

SEYCHELLES – an *EDGE*-zone: Most *EDGE* species are scattered globally. Remarkably, the Seychelles islands in the Indian Ocean are home to no less than 12 currently recognised *EDGE* species, such as the *Sooglossus* frogs (amongst the World's smallest, most ancient frogs), the black parrot, Cooper's black caecilian (an ancient limbless amphibian lineage) and the sheath-tailed bat (one of the world's rarest species with <100 survivors) (see Fig.1/Table-1). Consequently, the Seychelles islands form a natural



Fig. 1: 4 of the 12 Seychelles *EDGE* species

Table 1: *EDGE* species endemic to Seychelles

Sheath-tailed bat (<i>Coleura seychellensis</i>):	1 <i>EDGE</i> sp
Seychelles black parrot (<i>Coracopsis barklyi</i>):	1 <i>EDGE</i> sp
Sooglossid frogs (<i>Sooglossus/Sechellophryne</i> spp.):	4 <i>EDGE</i> sp
Cooper's black caecilian (<i>Praslinia cooperi</i>):	1 <i>EDGE</i> sp
Corals (<i>Anomastrea irregularis</i> ; <i>Horastrea indica</i> ; <i>Parasimplastrea sheppardi</i> ; <i>Catalaphyllia jardinei</i> ; <i>Physogyra lichensteini</i>):	5 <i>EDGE</i> sp
TOTAL <i>EDGE</i> species:	12

'EDGE-zone'. Whilst posing a heavy burden on the Government of Seychelles to fulfil its CBD obligations, this also presents a remarkable opportunity to deliver resources and training to conserve 12 *EDGE* species in a single location.

IN-COUNTRY CHALLENGES: To fulfil their commitment to the CBD, the Government of Seychelles' MHAETE is tasked with saving these species, some predicted to be only a decade from extinction. However, the Ministry has identified two major obstacles to recovering their *EDGE* species and has sought our help.

- (i) The Seychelles' population of 88,000 people, and the absence of university-level training opportunities in conservation biology makes it difficult for Government to recruit, train and capacity-build for conservation amongst the local workforce.
- (ii) This deficiency in local professional expertise makes conserving *EDGE* species doubly difficult, because each *EDGE* species requires specialist approaches.

SOLUTION & OBJECTIVES: A DICE-led Darwin project (with UK partners ZSL, NHM, University of Exeter and five Seychelles organisations) is uniquely-placed to overcome these obstacles, by providing specialist support to develop earmarked local biologists as ZSL *EDGE* Fellows. Five Seychelles personnel have been identified, some of whom are already embedded within the Ministry or local NGOs. Each has demonstrated potential to become such a 'species champion', but lacks specialist training and resources. With Darwin support, each *EDGE* Fellow will receive in-country training by UK partners, tailored specifically to their respective *EDGE* species' requirements. Training and development of these Seychelles *EDGE* Fellows will be overseen by a full-time salaried Project Officer who will supervise the in-country conservation work and coordinate training by UK partners through field visits, exchanges and training workshops during the 3 years.

PROJECT SCOPING AWARD: A Darwin Initiative Scoping Award (EIDPR132) funded an in-country workshop hosted by the Government of Seychelles in November 2010, to engage with all relevant in-country NGOs and government bodies tasked with conserving *EDGE* species. This workshop established immediate and long-term actions required for each species, ranging from field surveys, awareness-raising and taxonomy training for the caecilians, to intensive population management for the Seychelles black parrot, and roost-site protection for the sheath-tailed bat. Planned initiatives will ensure existing Species Action Plans are implemented and other necessary conservation initiatives are developed.

UK EXPERTISE & TRAINING: **DICE**, with considerable expertise in parrot (Dr. Jim Groombridge) and amphibian (Prof. Richard Griffiths) conservation, will oversee capacity building requirements associated with the Seychelles black parrot, sooglossid frogs and caecilians, involving training in population monitoring, intensive species management, survey-design, and disease-screening.

ZSL's *EDGE* programme comprises 4 full-time staff and an extensive network within ZSL and the *EDGE* community who provide support and advice to the many hundreds of *EDGE* species projects worldwide. ZSL *EDGE* is well-placed to provide institutional and practical support directly to Seychellois *EDGE* Fellows and their affiliated NGOs and Government partners. *EDGE* staff will be directly involved in supporting bi-annual Seychelles workshops, and contributing in-country training. ZSL hosts World-class researchers on bats (Dr. Kate Jones), amphibian conservation (Prof. Andrew Cunningham; Dr. Trent Garner), marine conservation (Dr. Heather Koldewey), extremely rare species (Dr. Sam Turvey) and threat status (Prof. Jonathan Baillie; Dr. Ben Collen).

Natural History Museum/UCL, with World-leading expertise in amphibian/reptile biology, ecology and systematics (Dr. Gower; Dr. Wilkinson), and island radiations (Dr. Day) will provide crucial training in caecilian field studies.

University of Exeter, Prof. Paul Racey, will provide specialist training in bat detector surveys and monitoring of sheath-tailed bat roosts and foraging habitats, and conservation management.

ACHIEVABLE OUTPUTS: Our project will deliver *distinctive impact* via the ZSL-*EDGE* programme's established media network and offers *excellent value for money* (levering £275,000 contributed/matched funds). The project will (i) achieve significant conservation milestones for the Species Action Plans of these *EDGE* species, (ii) intensively train five local biologists and develop them as *EDGE* Fellows, building long-term in-country capacity, (iii) initiate awareness campaigns for each *EDGE* species, raising global awareness of Seychelles biodiversity.

EXIT STRATEGY: Significant progress will be made in conserving all 12 Seychelles *EDGE* species, with most *EDGE* Fellows leading long-term recovery initiatives and each Fellow embedded within the work-plan of their respective NGO or government department.

11a. Is this a new initiative or a development of existing work (funded through any source)?	
Conservation efforts by DICE have long recognised the high conservation value of Seychelles biodiversity, illustrated by a 15 year-long involvement in conservation on Seychelles by Dr. Groombridge. Previous DICE work on the Seychelles kestrel (Royal Society-funded), critically-endangered Seychelles paradise flycatcher (Darwin-funded, 2006-09) and Seychelles black parrot (Systematics Research Fund) have consolidated long-term partnerships with the Government of Seychelles and NGOs, whilst more recent field and lab work on the parrots and sooglossid frogs has provided a valuable ground-truthing exercise and paved the way for this proposed project by ensuring project targets are feasible and risks or uncertainties minimal. The ZSL <i>EDGE</i> programme has revealed the unusual 'clustering' of <i>EDGE</i> species on Seychelles, corroborating the important focus of our project and the activities we propose.	
11b. Are you aware of any other individuals/organisations/ projects carrying out or applying for funding for similar work?	No
11c. Are you applying for funding relating to the proposed project from other sources?	No

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
CITES	No
Convention on Migratory Species (CMS)*	No

Is any liaison proposed with the CBD/CMS/CITES focal point in the host country?	Yes
The national focal point for the CBD in the Seychelles is Mr. Ronley Fanchette, Acting Director of Conservation for Ministry of Environment, the main host country partner for this proposed project. Consequently, this project will secure an excellent liaison in terms of its contribution to the Seychelles' commitments to the CBD. Mr. Fanchette will be closely involved with the in-country aspects of the project and will be kept up-to-date of activities and achievements of the project by the Seychellois Darwin Project Officer, Rachel Bristol, who has worked with Mr. Fanchette on other conservation projects involving the Government of Seychelles.	
The Seychelles National Biodiversity Strategy Action Plan (NBSAP) has instigated several national policies. Our Darwin project will support two key NBSAP strategies, (a) the Seychelles Strategy for Sustainable Development , and (b) the Public Sector Investment Programme , by providing support for employment in conservation in order to carry out species-based conservation activities and associated field management work.	
Through liaison with Mr. Fanchette, this project will support five major Goals of the Seychelles National Biodiversity Strategy Action Plan NBSAP:	
(i) support general measures for conservation and sustainable use [Goal 1] (supports Article 6 of the CBD): the project will support Policy Objective (PO) 1.2 ' <i>establish or strengthen capacity in the Ministry of Environment, other government organisations, NGO and private sector for the conservation of biodiversity</i> ' by providing extensive capacity building, support and funding to local staff in the form of <i>EDGE</i> Fellows;	
(ii) strengthen identification and monitoring of biodiversity [Goal2] (supports Article 7 of the CBD): the project will support PO 2.2 to ' <i>monitor key components of biological diversity, gather priority data and establish a reporting mechanism</i> ' by researching identification, monitoring and reporting best practices for our <i>EDGE</i> species with world-class project partner experts and implementing via local <i>EDGE</i> fellows;	
(iii) increase in-situ conservation of biodiversity [Goal 3] (supports Article 8 of the CBD): the project will support <u>PO 3.1</u> to ' <i>improve knowledge of appropriate classification and develop where necessary management plans</i> ', <u>PO 3.6</u> to ' <i>promote the recovery of threatened species through the development and implementation of plans, special projects or other management strategies</i> ' by direct conservation action via work by the local <i>EDGE</i> Fellows and production and implementation of species conservation action plans, and <u>PO 3.12</u> to ' <i>consolidate ,harmonise and/or revise legislation for the protection of threatened species and sensitive ecosystems</i> ' through working on policy regarding urgent protection of bat roosts and surrounds;	
(iv) improve biodiversity related research and training [Goal 7] (supports Article 12, 17 and 18 of the CBD): the project will support <u>PO 7.1</u> to ' <i>strengthen scientific and technical education</i>	

and training', PO 7.2 to 'encourage and promote research' and PO 7.3 to 'seek international cooperation in the use of advances in research and technology in developing methods' by training and supporting five *EDGE* Fellows in conservation via partnership with world-class institutions; **(v) augment public education and awareness of biodiversity [Goal 8] (supports article 13 of the CBD)**; the project will support PO 8.1 to 'promote public understanding of the importance of, and measures required to conserve biological diversity', by engaging the public in the work by the local *EDGE* Fellows; PO 8.2 to 'seek local and international co-operation to strengthen capacity for public awareness programs', by instilling active partnerships between four UK organisations (DICE, ZSL, NHM, Exeter) and nine Seychelles partners; and PO 8.3 to 'facilitate access to and exchange of information', through worldwide promotion of information and awareness of Seychelles' 12 *EDGE* species (via ZSLs *EDGE* website and other institutional visitor outlets).

What specific issues covered by the Convention(s) will this project address and how were they identified? (150 words)

Specific CBD issues addressed: Article-8 (*In situ* conservation) of the CBD is being given the highest priority in the Seychelles' *Third National Report to the Convention of Biological Diversity, January 2010*, together with Article-12 (*Research and training*), Article-13 (*Public education and awareness*) and *Marine/mountain/forest biodiversity* regions (part 1-u,1-w and 1-y, p14-15 of report). Most relevantly, national targets against Goal-2 (*Conservation of species diversity*, p21-22) have only partially been established via the Seychelles NBSAP, leaving substantial room for delivery of urgent conservation action.

CBD Goal-2 - Conservation of species diversity: The Critically-Endangered Seychelles sheath-tailed bat ($n < 100$), four species of Vulnerable Seychelles sooglossid frog, the Vulnerable Cooper's black caecilian, the evolutionarily ancient Seychelles black parrot and five coral species highlight the Seychelles as globally important for conservation.

How were they identified? Beyond Seychelles' NBSAP and 2010 CBD Report, their collective conservation priority was identified by the *EDGE* Programme (see Concept, '*EDGE* Species').

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

Distinctive *in-situ* conservation action for 12 globally important species: We will substantially advance Seychelles' progress towards meeting its CBD commitments by progressing the conservation of the 12 *EDGE* species. We will utilize UK expertise to establish 'best practice' bench-marks for surveying/monitoring and management of the populations and habitats (see **Output-1** and **Output-2**).

A lasting awareness (local, national and international) of Seychelles' *EDGE* biodiversity: We will raise awareness of (and add value to) Seychelles' evolutionarily important biodiversity on a local and global stage, by harnessing substantial media resources of ZSL/*EDGE* and the NHM(UK), and by utilising exiting local WCS networks (see **Output-3**). We will support, train and embed into the Seychelles' conservation community five *EDGE* Fellows who will lead *in-situ* conservation and out-reach work-programmes for the different *EDGE* species. Doing so will increase local knowledge of species status and needs (**Output-4**), and build capacity (currently lacking) within the nation's conservation workforce.

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

Our project will focus on 12 globally important species whose distributions span the full range of terrestrial (mountain/forest/dry-land [frogs, bat, parrot, caecilian]) to marine habitats (5 coral spp.), promising positive effects across Seychelles' habitats.

Conserving *EDGE* species habitats: [*Addressing Darwin Panel comment on Stage 1 application*] Alarmingly, Seychelles' most recent CBD Report states no ecosystem-based targets are yet established to meet CBD-Goal-1 (*Conservation of habitats*). Given that species conservation often drives restoration of their habitats, our project will deliver far-reaching benefits to assist the Government in moving habitat-scale conservation up the national agenda. For example, Praslin National Park (a World Heritage Site) is a designated Important Bird Area because it contains the largest population of Seychelles black parrots (an *EDGE* species), and it contains a newly-discovered population of *EDGE* sooglossid frog. Additionally, Seychelles has 14 marine reserves containing five coral *EDGE* species, illustrating the important habitats within these reserves.

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)

Dissemination: We will utilise considerable publicity resources of DICE/ZSL/NHM alongside local partners (particularly WCS) to disseminate information and publicise the project. *EDGE* Fellows and their respective species will each have dedicated webpages on the ZSL/*EDGE* site (~250,000 viewers/year). UK partners will work with WCS to ensure local media benefit from their networks. Information will be 'packaged' to ensure easily digestible information by scientists and public.

Advertising of project and use of logo: Collectively, the project team has an impressive suite of institutional facilities and visitor centres, attracting millions of visitors/year. These centres, many of which have experienced media personnel, will be used to advertise the project to the public, ensuring that marketing potential of the project/logo is maximised in a professional manner alongside the visually-striking images of many of the *EDGE* species (Figure-1). For example, partner SIF has a newly-built visitor centre/café/boutique on Praslin at the Vallée de Mai UNESCO World Heritage Site (with up to 60,000 visitors annually) which will advertise the Darwin project and achievements. National Museum of Seychelles resides in a prime-location in the capital that houses natural history exhibits and extensive facilities for schools/out-reach. Darwin logos will feature prominently here, on postcards, T-shirts, educational leaflets etc.



Fig. 1: 4 of the 12 Seychelles *EDGE* species

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

An emerging problem in Seychelles is an acute lack of locally-trained conservationists, due to a perception within Seychelles that conservation doesn't have lasting career opportunities as a sustainable profession. The Government/NGOs encounter this problem when seeking to fill conservation vacancies, often leading to employment of non-nationals.

We will tackle this issue by creating five positions (*EDGE* Fellows; the majority of candidate individuals have been identified during project development). These 'species champions' will enhance the profile of 12 globally important endemic species through field monitoring, conservation action and awareness-raising. The project's training of the five *EDGE* Fellows will help build national capacity through their professional development alongside their 'home' partner/NGO. The *EDGE* Fellows will also provide high-profile role-models to show young Seychellois the benefits of a conservation career. Stimulating the younger generation will precipitate long-term benefits by rejuvenating national pride in Seychelles' globally-important biodiversity. Conservation of these *EDGE* species will ensure protection of habitats which by default protects other biodiversity, water resources and most importantly ensures sustainable development of environment-based tourism - the mainstay of the Seychelles economy. Consequently, protecting the environment and Seychelles unique biodiversity is of enormous benefit to sustainable development and livelihoods in Seychelles.

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)

Sustainable end-point: Our project will reach a sustainable end-point: all five *EDGE* Fellows will return full-time to their respective project partner Departments/NGOs to continue their role in conservation and their *EDGE* species. Strong support for this project has been made available by the local project partners. Furthermore, our project closely dovetails with Departmental/NGO remits and future work programmes, paving the way for natural continuation of core activities.

Exit strategy, retention of capacity: By retaining the five *EDGE* Fellows within their respective partner institutions, the project will maintain considerable momentum 'on-the-ground'. Fellows will receive substantial (and sustainable) support from UK partners. ZSL/*EDGE* actively maintains a global 'collegiate' system of *EDGE* Fellows, in that they receive long-term support by networking

between Fellows worldwide, sharing of common skills and institutional back-stopping.

Continued relevant activities: UK partnerships will be retained and will evolve as the Seychelles partners' needs change, providing lasting benefits to Seychelles' conservation community. By setting up 'best-practice' methods for research, monitoring and adaptive management, we intend to use these 'benchmarks' as part of continued conservation management and monitoring activities. We expect that components of project activities/exhibits will form semi-permanent features at partner visitor centres, to lengthen post-project impact.

16. If your project includes capacity building in local communities in the host country, 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 you expect the beneficiaries to obtain and how these may be used beyond the life of the project and any wider application How will you measure training effectiveness. (max 300 words)

You should address each of these points.

Assessment of training needs: The training for capacity-building will be tailored to individual needs of the *EDGE* Fellows. Initial assessment of training needs for each individual will be done jointly by the Project Leader, Project Officer, relevant UK partner and the local partner where the Fellow is embedded. Subsequently, the Project Officer will design training packages for each Fellow based on their existing experience and required conservation activities. Training is likely to range from using ultrasound bat detectors to survey bat populations, training in breeding monitoring techniques for black parrots, amphibian surveys using line transects/vocalisation counts, caecilian survey techniques and training in morphology/taxonomy/identification, and coral identification and assessment of distributions.

***In-situ* and *ex-situ* training:** 1-3 visits of 14-21 days each by eight UK personnel (experts in relevant specialist skills) will comprise distinctive *EDGE* training workshops. Five *EDGE* Fellows and two staff from the National Museum will benefit from a 21-day visit to UK, each Fellow hosted by DICE, ZSL or the NHM.

Utilizing benefits of team training: Managing training needs of the Fellows both as a group and individually allows delivery of training in some of these specialist techniques as a team, enabling Fellows to draw on one-another when different activities demand team work (e.g. bat detection/monitoring, and parrot population surveys).

Added value of open-participation in training: The project team will ensure maximum impact of *in-situ* training by extending invitations for training beyond project partners to interested volunteers and other organisations who would like to become involved.

Measurement of training effectiveness: Effectiveness of training will be measured and monitored by the Project Leader and Project Officer, both of whom will be directly involved in organisation and delivery of training workshops. Feedback from all participants will be integrated as part of workshops to ensure high standards of learning and teaching.

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
<p>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.</p>			
<p>Sub-Goal: Seychelles EDGE species are well managed and conserved, enabling Seychelles to meet its obligations to the CBD and to contribute positively to the CBD Thematic Programme on Island Biodiversity.</p>	<p>Ground surveys and monitoring reports contain information detailing (i) status of populations of Seychelles EDGE species, and/or (ii) conservation management actions that are in place to mitigate against identified threats.</p>	<p>Species Action Plan implementation progress reports.</p> <p>Field monitoring reports.</p> <p>Seychelles National Reports to the CBD.</p>	
<p>Purpose: To provide investment, technical expertise and targeted training in conservation, ecology and taxonomy to improve knowledge, management and conservation status of the 12 EDGE (<i>Evolutionarily Distinct Globally Endangered</i>) species endemic to the Seychelles.</p>	<p>Comprehensive training programmes tailored to each EDGE Fellow, each led by appropriate UK partners.</p> <p>Increased local EDGE Fellows' skills, knowledge and competence in all aspects of their EDGE species' conservation management and field activities.</p> <p>Increased understanding of priority management actions, threats and mitigations for each EDGE species.</p> <p>Conservation status of each EDGE species known and maximised through field research and targeted management activities.</p>	<p>EDGE Fellow training reports from UK project partners leading capacity building training of local EDGE Fellows.</p> <p>On-the-job assessment of skills and knowledge acquired through training.</p> <p>Project Annual reports.</p> <p>Individual EDGE species status reports.</p> <p>Species Action Plan implementation progress reports.</p>	<p>No adverse climatic/stochastic events (cyclones, coral bleaching events) preventing timely completion of this project.</p> <p>Continued stability and support of the Seychelles government.</p>
<p>Outputs: 1. Improved local capacity to research, monitor and manage Seychelles EDGE species.</p>	<p>1a. Five EDGE Fellows trained in surveying, monitoring, and management best practices for their allocated EDGE species by end of Year 3.</p> <p>1b. Five EDGE Fellows embedded in local NGO's and/or government leading conservation programmes for their EDGE species.</p> <p>1c. Five EDGE Fellows trained in conservation leadership skills through DICE-based training course.</p>	<p>1a. Training programme reports from UK partners confirming acquisition of new skills.</p> <p>1b. Letters from respective employers confirming continued employment of EDGE Fellows post project.</p> <p>1c. Certificates of attendance by EDGE Fellows on ZSL/DICE training course in conservation leadership.</p>	<p>Trained staff (EDGE Fellows) remain with local partners throughout and after the project, to continue using the skills gained and to train others in those skills.</p>

<p>2. Best practice research, best practice monitoring and best practice adaptive management researched, agreed by all stakeholders and implemented for each EDGE species.</p>	<p>2a. Species Action Plans and accompanying work programmes detailing priority actions and best practice for each EDGE species, agreed by all stakeholders by start of Year 2.</p> <p>2b. Species Action Plans and accompanying work programmes and priority actions for each EDGE species implemented by appropriate government and NGO bodies, and led by respective EDGE Fellows under the guidance of UK project partners (ongoing).</p>	<p>2a. Endorsed management plan.</p> <p>2b. Species Action Plan implementation progress reports.</p>	<p>All government and NGO organisations tasked with protecting EDGE species continue to collaborate and coordinate efforts.</p>
<p>3. Research information about EDGE species produced and disseminated.</p>	<p>3. Knowledge increased regarding the conservation importance, knowledge base, gaps and needs of Seychelles EDGE species by Year 3.</p>	<p>3. 2-3 peer-reviewed publications resulting directly from this project's work.</p>	<p>The international scientific community continue to regard EDGE species as an important global conservation priority.</p> <p>Editors accept papers for publication.</p>
<p>4. Education, Awareness and Outreach programme increases local knowledge of EDGE species status and their needs.</p>	<p>4a. Awareness of Seychelles citizens about the uniqueness, vulnerability and management actions necessary for recovery of EDGE species has increased, including an awareness of what the local public can do to help.</p> <p>4b. Evidence of project-based activities that have promoted development of a CEPA (Communication, Education and Public Awareness) strategy for Seychelles' EDGE species.</p>	<p>4. 3x Seychelles national TV coverage.</p> <p>6x Seychelles national radio interviews.</p> <p>6x Seychelles national news-paper articles.</p> <p>Production of leaflets, T-shirts, posters and postcards for each EDGE species disseminated to local communities and tourism industry stakeholders.</p>	<p>Local communities are receptive to awareness campaigns.</p>
<p>Activities (each activity is numbered according to the output that it will contribute towards, for example 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 are contributing to Output 1)</p> <p><u>Project management, monitoring and reporting activities</u></p> <p>0.1 Establishment of MOU(s) /agreements between project partners as appropriate; 0.2 Project steering group set-up and provide ongoing guidance; 0.3 Integrate and coordinate conservation initiatives of different organisations in Seychelles working with EDGE species; 0.4 Project Annual Reports submitted to DI; 0.5 Project Final Report submitted to DI</p> <p>1.1 EDGE Fellows Identified; 1.2 Personally tailored training programmes designed and implemented for each EDGE Fellow, designed by PL, PO and UK partner experts (with input from EDGE Fellow) to maximise training uptake and benefit for EDGE fellow and target EDGE species needs; 1.3 Bi-annual training workshops for EDGE Fellows and potentially the wider Seychelles conservation community as appropriate led by UK partner experts; 1.4 1x 3 week trip for each EDGE Fellow to appropriate UK partner institution for UK based training</p> <p><u>Amphibians (Sooglossid frogs and caecilians)</u></p> <p>2.1 Sooglossid frog distribution surveys undertaken on the main islands; 2.2 Sooglossid frog ecology researched and potential effects of climate change explored; 2.3</p>			

Sooglossid frog Species Conservation Action Plans drafted, finalised and agreed; **2.4** Investigate potential of captive-breeding for conservation of sooglossids in partnership with Amphibian Ark; **2.5** Precautionary disease monitoring for sooglossid frogs and caecilians undertaken, especially for 'chytrid'; **2.6** Research yellow crazy ant ecology, dynamics and methods of control, to understand their threat to sooglossid frog and caecilian populations; **2.7** Develop caecilian survey methodology with NHML experts; **2.8** Caecilian distribution surveys conducted on all relevant islands; **2.9** Genetics studies on the caecilians to clarify species present; **2.10** Investigation into potential and real threats to caecilians and recommended mitigation actions; **2.11** Caecilian Species Conservation Action Plans developed, finalised and agreed by relevant stakeholders

Black parrot

2.12 Black parrot repeat survey in 2014 to determine population size; **2.13** Continued research into black parrot breeding ecology including limiting factors; **2.14** Provide support to SIF (existing project) ring-necked parakeet eradication on Mahé; **2.15** Confirm status of Seychelles black parrot species through molecular genetics work; **2.16** Undertake screening for Psittacine beak and feather disease (Pbfd) in the black parrot population; **2.17** Utilise existing Seychelles black parrot Species Conservation Action Plan as guiding document, produce annual workprogrammes, implement and report and assist with development of next Action Plan in 2013

Sheath-tailed bat

2.18 Utilise the existing Seychelles sheath-tailed bat Conservation Action Plan as guiding document, agree annual work programmes, implement and report; **2.19** Work with Seychelles government to produce guiding document to mitigate impact of hotels and any other developments near sheath-tailed bat roosts; **2.20** Surveys to locate any further sheath-tailed bat roosts on Mahe and Silhouette, and re-check historical roosts on Praslin ; **2.21** Evaluate role of barn owls in the decline of the sheath-tailed bat (ongoing –to coincide with roost counts and all bat surveys); **2.22** Bat surveys to locate new bat feeding/activity areas; **2.23** Regular roost counts to monitor numbers

Coral species

2.24 Build a network of local and international experts to advise on conservation actions for priority EDGE corals in the Seychelles; **2.25** Develop a single Conservation Action Plan for EDGE coral species in Seychelles; **2.26** Begin implementing priority actions determined by coral network and resulting Species Conservation Action Plan.

All EDGE species

2.27 Annual progress reports for each EDGE species based on work programmes developed from Species Conservation Action Plans

3.1 2-3 peer reviewed publications resulting directly from this DI projects work

4.1 Displays produced and installed in SNHM and Vallee de Mai Visitors Centres on each of the EDGE species; **4.2** Education and Awareness Leaflets designed, produced and disseminated amongst local Seychelles communities for all Seychelles EDGE species, tailored to each EDGE species and target audiences ; **4.3** 6x Seychelles National Radio programmes/interviews about EDGE species and this DI project; **4.4** 3x Seychelles National TV coverage of this project and EDGE species; **4.5** 6x Seychelles National Newspaper articles about the DI project and Seychelles EDGE species; **4.6** Information boards designed, produced and installed at trail entrances with information about EDGE species likely to occur in the area; **4.7** T-shirts and postcards produced for each EDGE species for project staff uniform and for sale and distribution at partner visitor centres; **4.8** Each EDGE Fellow will have a webpage on the ZSL EDGE of Existence website, they will contribute to the EDGE blog, and the project will have a dedicated webpage on the DICE website; **4.9** Project blog set up where all 5 EDGE Fellows regularly blog about their work and findings.

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	No of Months	Year 1				Year 2				Year 3				
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
<u>Project management, monitoring and reporting activities</u>														
0.1	Establishment of MOU(s) /agreements between project partners as appropriate	3												
0.2	Project steering group set-up (a) and provide ongoing guidance	b=ongoing	a											
0.3	Integrate and coordinate conservation initiatives of different organisations in Seychelles working with EDGE species	6 months												
0.4	Project annual reports submitted to DI	3												
0.5	Project final report submitted to DI	Post project completion												
1.1	EDGE Fellows Identified	4												
1.2	Personally tailored training programmes designed (a) and implemented (b) for each EDGE Fellow, designed by PL, PO and UK partner experts (with input from EDGE fellow) to maximise training uptake and benefit for EDGE fellow and target EDGE species needs.	a=6 b=36	a,b	a,b	a,b	b	b	b	b	b	b	b	b	b
1.3	Bi-annual training workshops for EDGE Fellows and potentially the wider Seychelles conservation community as appropriate led by UK partner experts	5												
1.4	1x 3 week trip for each EDGE Fellow to appropriate UK partner institution for UK based training	4												
2.1	<u>Amphibians (Sooglossid frogs and Caecilians)</u> Sooglossid frog distribution surveys undertaken on the main islands	12												
2.2	Sooglossid frog ecology researched and potential effects of climate change explored	12												
2.3	Sooglossid frog Species Conservation Action Plans drafted (a) , finalised (b), and agreed (c)	9				a		b+c						
2.4	Investigate potential of captive-breeding for conservation of sooglossids in partnership with Amphibian Arc	12												
2.5	Precautionary disease monitoring for sooglossid frogs and caecilians undertaken, especially for 'chytrid'.	9												
2.6	Research yellow crazy ant ecology, dynamics and methods of control, to understand their threat to sooglossid frog and caecilian populations.	6												
2.7	Develop caecilian survey methodology with NHML experts	9												
2.8	Caecilian distribution surveys conducted on all relevant islands	12												
2.9	Genetics studies on the caecilians to clarify species present	6												
2.10	Investigation into potential and real threats to caecilians and recommended mitigation actions	12												
2.11	Caecilian Species Conservation Action Plans developed (a) finalised (b) and agreed (c)	9				a		b+c						
2.12	<u>Black parrot:</u> Black parrot survey to determine population size	4												
2.13	Research black parrot breeding ecology including limiting factors	24												

19. Please indicate which of the following Standard Measures you expect to report against by providing indicative figures. These will help gauge project achievements if you receive funding. 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	Description	Estimate
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)	2
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	1
4D	Number of training weeks to be provided	6
5	Number of people to receive at least one year of training (which does not fall into categories 1-4 above)	5
6A	Number of people to receive other forms of education/training (which does not fall into categories 1-5 above)	4
6B	Number of training weeks to be provided	10
7	Number of (ie different types - not volume - of material produced) training materials to be produced for use by host country	5
8	Number of weeks to be spent by UK project staff on project work in the host country	20
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	3
10	Number of individual field guides/manuals to be produced to assist work related to species identification, classification and recording	1
11A	Number of papers to be published in peer reviewed journals	
11B	Number of papers to be submitted to peer reviewed journals	2-3
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)	1
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	1
14B	Number of conferences/seminars/ workshops attended at which findings from Darwin project work will be presented/ disseminated.	1
15A	Number of national press releases in host country(ies)	6
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	1
16B	Estimated circulation of each newsletter in the host country(ies)	50,000 (website/ blog)
16C	Estimated circulation of each newsletter in the UK	100,000 (website/ blog)
17A	Number of dissemination networks to be established	
17B	Number of dissemination networks to be enhanced/ extended	
18A	Number of national TV programmes/features in host country(ies)	3
18B	Number of national TV programmes/features in UK	
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)	6
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	1
20	Estimated value (£'s) of physical assets to be handed over to host country(ies)	5,950
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	£340,666

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.

PROJECT INFRASTRUCTURE: to comprise a Darwin-funded Project Officer and Project Steering Group (consisting of the Project Leader and representatives from each of the UK/Seychelles partner organisations), designed to ensure a rigorous and efficient line management system. This system will ensure prompt and comprehensive monitoring and feedback to the Darwin Initiative at the required intervals throughout the project, and will allow the Steering Group to carefully monitor progress and achievement of outputs. The lead host country partner, Ministry of Environment, will be closely involved in the monitoring and evaluation through their involvement in the Project Steering Group, and their approval of regular progress/field reports produced by the Project Officer.

REPORTING: In reference to the Logical Framework, monitoring and evaluation of the activities by each *EDGE* Fellow will be provided by regular field reports to all partners and stakeholders. Training workshops and associated activities will be evaluated by the Project Steering Group, and by reports to the Project Leader and lead host-country partner. The proposed Project Officer, Rachel Bristol, has substantial experience (15 years) as an island resident and Seychellois citizen working in conservation there, and she will be based on-island for the majority of the project, but with visits of approximately 1 month in UK each year to assist with ex-situ training of *EDGE* Fellows. The Project Officer will feed results back to the Project Steering Group throughout the project.

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 cannot agree any increase in grants once awarded.

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

HEFC, grants, endowments, contracts, and student fee income.

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:

UK: DICE, Kent: PhD studentship; salary costs for Dr J Groombridge/R. Griffiths	£
UK: ZSL EDGE Programme: salary costs for Dr. S Turvey & EDGE Coordinator	£
UK: NHM/UCL: PhD studentship, SynTax grant, salary costs Gower/Wilkinson/Day	£
UK: NHM/UCL: salary costs for Dr. J Day	£
UK: University of Exeter: specialist field consultancy, Prof. P. Racey	£
Seychelles: Government, Ministry of Environment: salary costs of ranger	£
Seychelles: National Parks Authority: Input of staff/resources	£
Seychelles: National Museum of Seychelles: Salary support for EDGE Fellow	£
TOTAL MATCHED FUNDING=	£340,666

Matched funding as percentage of total project cost **57%**

Unconfirmed: N/A

23. Please give details of any further resources (confirmed or unconfirmed) 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)

Possible additional financial resources (not yet applied for): N/A

Funding in kind:

- (i) Support towards transport for UK project staff in Seychelles, during visits by UK partners.
- (ii) Office facilities for UK project staff while in Seychelles.
- (iii) VISA/work permits for UK project staff while in Seychelles.

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 details of any advice you have received from them.

Yes (no written advice)

Yes, advice attached

Yes

No

CERTIFICATION 2011/12

On behalf of the trustees/company* of UNIVERSITY OF KENT

I apply for a grant of **£256,085** in respect of all expenditure to be incurred during the lifetime of this project based on the activities and dates 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 CVs for project principals and letters of support. Our most recent audited accounts and annual report can be found at:

<http://www.kent.ac.uk/finance/about/accounts.html>

<http://www.kent.ac.uk/about/report/review10/index.html>

Name (block capitals)	JENNY RAFFERTY
Position in the organisation	Research Accounts Manager , Research Services

Signed

Date:

23. Please give details of any further resources (confirmed or unconfirmed) 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)

Possible additional financial resources (not yet applied for): N/A

Funding in kind:

- (i) Support towards transport for UK project staff in Seychelles, during visits by UK partners.
- (ii) Office facilities for UK project staff while in Seychelles.
- (iii) VISA/work permits for UK project staff while in Seychelles.

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 details of any advice you have received from them.

Yes (no written advice)

Yes, advice attached

Yes

No

CERTIFICATION 2011/12

On behalf of the trustees/company* of UNIVERSITY OF KENT

I apply for a grant of **£256,085** in respect of all expenditure to be incurred during the lifetime of this project based on the activities and dates 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.)*

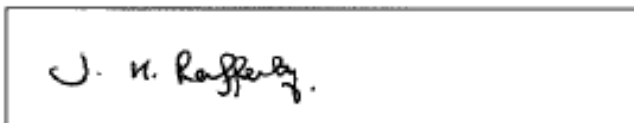
I enclose CVs for project principals and letters of support. Our most recent audited accounts and annual report can be found at:

<http://www.kent.ac.uk/finance/about/accounts.html>

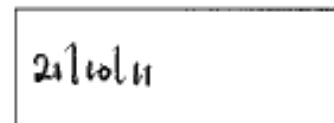
<http://www.kent.ac.uk/about/report/review10/index.html>

Name (block capitals)	JENNY RAFFERTY
Position in the organisation	Research Accounts Manager , Research Services

Signed



Date:



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 3 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 all the Principals identified at Question 5?	Yes
Have you included a letter of support from the <u>main</u> overseas partner(s) organisations identified at Question 5?	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
Have you checked the Darwin website immediately prior to submission to ensure there are no late updates?	Yes

Once you have answered Yes to the questions above, please submit the application, not later than midnight GMT on Monday **24 October 2011** 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 signature page should be submitted to Darwin Applications, c/o LTS International, Pentlands Science Park, Bush Loan, Penicuik EH26 0PL **postmarked** not later than Tuesday 25 October 2011.

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.