



Submit by Monday 2 December 2013

DARWIN INITIATIVE APPLICATION FOR GRANT FOR ROUND 20: 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.

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

Name of organisation: Equipe Cousteau	Address: 40 rue des Renaudes 75017 Paris France
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2. Stage 1 reference and Project title

(max 10 words)

Strengthening marine protected areas and marine ecotourism benefits in Sudan

3. Project dates, and budget summary

Start date: 1st April 2014		End date: 31st March 2017		Duration: 3 years
Darwin request	2014/15 £ 150 000	2015/16 £ 75 000	2016/17 £ 75 000	Total £ 300 000
Proposed (confirmed and unconfirmed) matched funding as percentage of total Project cost: 29 % (47% according to budget sheet – LTS noted)				
Are you applying for DFID or Defra funding? (Note you cannot apply for both)		DFID Yes/No	Defra Yes/No	

4. Define the outcome of the project. This should be a repetition of Question 24, Outcome Statement.

To strengthen Sudan's MPA management capacity, increase knowledge and awareness of marine biodiversity and flagship species, and assist two local communities to realise biodiversity benefits through sustainable nature-based livelihoods.

5. Country(ies)

Which eligible host country(ies) will your project be working in. You may copy and paste this table if you need to provide details of more than four countries.

Country 1: SUDAN	Country 2:
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6. Biodiversity Conventions

Which of the three conventions supported by the Darwin Initiative will your project be supporting? Note: projects supporting more than one convention will not achieve a higher scoring

Convention On Biological Diversity (CBD)	Yes/No
Convention on Migratory Species (CMS)	Yes/No
Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)	Yes/No

6b. Biodiversity Conventions

Please detail how your project will contribute to the objectives of the convention(s) your project is targeting. You may wish to refer to Articles or Programmes of Work here.

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

(Max 200 words)

The project directly contributes to the objectives of all three biodiversity conventions:

CBD: This project will increase the capability of Sudan to directly contribute towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets particularly Targets 12 and 6 through improving the conservation status of threatened species; Targets 1 and 2, by increasing biodiversity awareness linked to poverty reduction strategies; Target 11 MPA network planning but also; Targets 10, 14, 17 and 19.

CITES: Two species of manta rays and the scalloped hammerhead shark, all recently listed on CITES Appendix II, are abundant in Sudanese waters and form the focus species of this project. Awareness raising over CITES regulations and compliance is required at state and federal levels. Project data will feedback directly to the CITES coordinator in Khartoum with whom contact has been established.

CMS: The project will generate knowledge of relevance to the MOU on Migratory Sharks. There is a paucity of data on the residency and movement patterns of large elasmobranchs in the Red Sea region. The focus species, are designated as vulnerable and endangered (IUCN Red list) and are considered highly migratory. This spatial movement data will feed directly into spatial management planning of migratory species and formalise Sudan's commitment to CMS.

Is any liaison proposed with the CBD/CITES/CMS focal point in the host country?

Yes No if yes, please give details:

Communication with the relevant Sudanese CITES officer was made by Project Partners in 2012 and regular contact has been maintained including updates on the current state of elasmobranch fieldwork in Sudan. Specifically, we recently updated the officer over our finding of a hybrid manta ray in Dungonab Bay given the recent listing of the two species on CITES Appendix II in 2013.

Contact name: Yahya Eldin Gumaa Elfaki, CITES National Contact, Khartoum, Sudan.
Email: yahiaelfaki@yahoo.com

7. Principals in project. Please identify and 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 personnel or more than one project partner.

Details	Project Leader	Project Partner 1	Project Partner 1
Surname	Chekchak	Hussey	Kessel
Forename (s)	Tarik	Nigel	Steve
Post held	Director for Sciences and Environment		
Institution (if different to above)		University of Windsor	University of Windsor
Department			
Telephone			
Email			

Details	Project Co-Lead	Project Partner 2	Project Partner 3
Surname	Klaus	Rahman	M.G. Al-Jack
Forename (s)	Rebecca	Abdel-Rahman	Abdelhafiz Osman
Post held			Acting Director
Institution (if different to above)		SUDIA	Wildlife Conservation General Administration (WCGA)
Department			
Telephone			
Email			

8. Has your organisation been awarded a Darwin Initiative award before (for the purposes of this question, being a partner does not count)? **If so, please provide details of the most recent awards (up to 6 examples).**

Reference No	Project Leader	Title

9a. If you answered 'NO' to Question 8 please complete Question 9a, b and c.

If you answered 'YES', please go to Question 10 (and delete the boxes for Q9a, 9b and 9c)

What year was your organisation established/ incorporated/ registered?	1982
What is the legal status of your organisation?	NGO Yes Government No University No Other (explain)
Type of organisation (e.g. University, NGO, private sector, Government Department etc)	Not-for-profit association under French law (1901 Act)
Have you unsuccessfully applied to the Darwin Initiative before? If yes please provide the application reference number(s)	No
How is your organisation currently funded?	(Max 100 words) Equipe Cousteau is a membership-based organization, its funding coming mainly from private donors and members. Equipe Cousteau also works with international or multilateral funding agencies such as the European Commission to co-fund large projects.
Have you provided the requested audited/independently examined accounts?	Yes

9b. DO NOT COMPLETE IF YOU ANSWERED 'YES' TO QUESTION 8.

Provide detail of 3 contracts previously held by your institution that demonstrate your credibility as a research organisation and provide track record relevant to the project proposed. These contracts should have been held in the last 5 years and be of a similar size to the grant requested in your Darwin application.

Contract 1 Title	Conservation of the <i>Vaquita marina</i>
Contract Value	200 000US\$ (167 873 £)
Contract Duration	3 years
Role of institution in project	Project management
Brief summary of the aims, objectives and outcomes of the contract.	Set up an autonomous system to track the Gulf of California porpoise based on acoustic monitor network to evaluate progress and anticipate the success of conservation action undertaken as well as to make any necessary corrections.
Client reference contact details (Name, e-mail, address, phone number).	-Fonds de dotation pour la biodiversité Valentin Pacaut, vp@fdbiodiversite.org (+33) 01 53 33 88 18 And -Welldone Vermarktungsagentur GmbH Eleni Hatzimanolis, Senior Project Manager, eh@welldoneagency.com , + 49 69 25 781 65-26 The Squire West No 11, 60600 Frankfurt am Main, Germany

Contract 2 Title	<i>Agente Cousteau</i> – Environmental education program in Brazil
Contract Value	273 000€ (£229,147)
Contract Duration	3 years
Role of institution in project	Provider of Educational tools and resources
Brief summary of the aims, objectives and outcomes of the contract.	Develop an education program on water system management and preservation for children and schools of the Minas Gerais state in Brazil. After the first year, 50 000 children benefited from the program.
Client reference contact details	Governo Do Estado De Minas Gerais HidroEx Institute – Pr Octavio Elisio Alves de Brito (Presidente) , octavio.elisio@hidroex.mg.gov.br . Av. Afonso Pena, 3808/701, Belo Horizonte, Minas Gerais, Brazil. Phone: 31/3916-7500

Contract 3 Title	Integrated Coastal zone Management survey in Sudan
Contract Value	800 000€ (£671,494)
Contract Duration	3 years
Role of institution in project	Lead institution, designing and leading the project, fund raising and gathering a consortium of local and international partners.
Brief summary of the aims, objectives and outcomes of the contract.	During this survey, experts assessed the initial conditions of the coastal system (700 km of coast) to design a science-based Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) plan for the coastal zone of Sudan. The project aims to tackle poverty alleviation and conflict resolution in relation to the fragile resources of the Sudanese marine environment. Among the outcomes; a comprehensive and multidisciplinary report to the Sudanese institutions including recommendations for further steps. Training of local staff in ICZM, GIS and sustainable development issues. The settling of new governance structures for ICZM. Overarching the whole project is the need to provide Sudanese decision makers with the tools and information necessary to manage the predicted development of the coastal area, whilst protecting its unparalleled natural heritage.
Client reference	Mr Paul Symonds, Food Security, Environment and Natural Resources

contact details (Name, e-mail, address, phone number).	Coordinator at European Commission European Union Delegation to Sudan /Block 1B, Plot 10, Gamhoria Street P.O. Box: 236 Khartoum- The Sudan Telephone: + 249 183 799393; E-mail:delegation-soudan- info@eeas.europa.eu
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9c. DO NOT COMPLETE IF YOU ANSWERED 'YES' TO QUESTION 8.

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)

Equipe Cousteau continues the heritage of its founder Captain Cousteau and is dedicated to the protection of water systems for the benefit of present and future generations. Equipe Cousteau has developed a variety of programs and expertise to help local populations achieve a harmonious, sustainable relationship with Nature.

Activities (50 words)

Equipe Cousteau develops and supports activities in two main fields: (i) *Applied Research* aimed at encouraging appropriate management of marine resources to preserve biodiversity, and; (ii) *Environmental Education* through the development of programs for schools and the creation of University Chairs in collaboration with UNESCO to promote environment and development.

Achievements (50 words)

- Integrated assessment of coastal and marine biodiversity, and socio-economic status of Sudan's Red Sea
- Biodiversity conservation projects on critically endangered (California porpoise), and endangered species (sharks and rays)
- Advising governments and projects on integrated coastal and ocean management
- Educational programs for kids (>150,000/year)

10. Please list all the partners involved (including the Lead Institution) 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 partners to be involved in the project. Please provide written evidence of partnerships. Please copy/delete boxes for more or fewer partnerships.

Lead institution and website: Equipe Cousteau www.cousteau.org	Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): (max 200 words) <p>In 2007, more than 50 years after Jacques Cousteau first filmed the reefs of Sudan, Equipe Cousteau gathered a multidisciplinary team of 12 scientists to carry out the most comprehensive survey of the Sudanese coast and underwater environment ever to be attempted in this region. The team spent a month surveying over 400km of coastline and dozens of islands and offshore reefs. The international team was made up of European and local experts in invertebrates, corals, fish, and of course sharks and rays (Project Partners Drs. Nigel Hussey and Steve Kessel established Divers Aware of Sharks and started a tag/recapture program on mantas and sharks). This initial work led to the development of the current project focusing more on how the conservation of elasmobranchs could also support the consolidation of the existing MPAs and bridge the gap between biodiversity and poverty alleviation.</p> <p>Equipe Cousteau has been building towards this type of Darwin project through continued communications and project development with Sudanese stakeholders since 2007. Specifically for this Darwin project, Equipe Cousteau will define the goals and objectives as a collaborative team, and then lead and coordinate all partners involved.</p>
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<p>Partner Name and website where available:</p> <p>University of Windsor - Great Lakes Institute of Environmental Research</p> <p>www.uwindsor.ca/glier</p>	<p>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): (max 200 words)</p> <p>The Great Lakes Institute for Environmental Research (GLIER) at the University of Windsor is multidisciplinary with faculty and collaborators from many disciplines, including biology, geology, chemistry, engineering, marine biology, molecular biology, genetics and ecology. Researchers at GLIER address complex environmental problems that cross conventional disciplinary boundaries such as the effects of multiple environmental stressors on marine and freshwater environments. Partners based at the University of Windsor will be responsible for executing the direct field research elements of project, specifically telemetry methods for tracking large megafauna. Project partners are linked directly with the Ocean Tracking Network and have extensive experience of tracking species in a range of environments and undertaking advanced statistical analysis of derived data sets. Drs. Hussey and Kessel have also maintained regular face-to-face meetings with Sudanese stakeholders during preliminary field phases in 2012/2013 and will continue on the ground communication to facilitate project success.</p>	
<p>Have you included a Letter of Support from this institution?</p>		<p>Yes</p>
<p>Partner Name and website where available:</p> <p>Wildlife Conservation General Administration (WGCA)</p> <p>www.wildlife.gov.sd</p>	<p>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): (max 200 words)</p> <p>The WCGA is the Sudanese governmental body in charge of the development and management of land and marine protected areas. The WCGA is responsible for implementing Sudanese protocols and laws related to biodiversity and habitat conservation. Being in charge of the marine protected areas of Dungonab Bay and Sanganeb, they constitute a critical project partner. They will be the main beneficiary of the capacity building components of this project, but will also be in charge of assisting all field operations when required and committing human resources to ensure the long-term legacy of the project.</p>	
<p>Have you included a Letter of Support from this institution?</p>		<p>Yes</p>
<p>Partner Name and website where available:</p> <p>SUDIA</p>	<p>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): (max 200 words)</p> <p>SUDIA will establish and train community-based microfinance committees (one in each village in Dungonab and Mukkawar Island National Park) and facilitate access to loan capital from local banks and/or MFIs operational in Red Sea State. SUDIA will also provide support to the committees and monitor their performance, ensuring repayment and reporting conditions are met. Sudia will be also responsible of organising the logistics and animations of workshops and some training sessions.</p>	

Have you included a Letter of Support from this institution?	Yes
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11. Have you provided CVs for the senior team including the Project Leader	Yes
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12. Problem the project is trying to address

Please describe the problem your project is trying to address. For example, what biodiversity and challenges will the project address? Why are they relevant, for whom? How did you identify these problems?

(Max 200 words)

Globally, although the total number of MPAs declared has increased, many are failing to protect biodiversity or to realise economic/social benefits for local communities. Such failures may be due to a lack of government understanding that translates into insufficient investment. Raising the profile of biodiversity conservation in politically unstable countries presents a particular challenge, further aggravated by restricted access to funding from external sources. Sudan has experienced a prolonged period of instability following independence. Despite this, Sudan has designated two MPAs, coastal and marine environments remain relatively pristine and the waters still host healthy populations of globally threatened elasmobranch species. This globally significant reservoir of biodiversity has yet to be internationally recognized and formal management established. Shark and rays are enigmatic flagship species with the potential to generate revenues for local communities through ecotourism and attract further investment in MPA management. The proposed project will improve knowledge about endangered/vulnerable elasmobranch species, build capacity to monitor, manage and support new nature-based livelihoods to help alleviate poverty. The major challenges to marine biodiversity conservation in Sudan were identified through the long-term involvement of EC staff working with Sudanese partners. The project will directly address priority targets in all three biodiversity conventions.

13. Methodology

Describe the methods and approach you will use to achieve your intended outcomes and impact. Provide information on how you will undertake the work (materials and methods) and how you will manage the work (roles and responsibilities, project management tools etc.).

(Max 500 words)

Sudan borders the Red Sea (18°00'N to 22°55'N), one of the most diverse tropical seas outside the Indo-Pacific triangle. Sudan has demonstrated their commitment towards the CBD by declaring two Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), Dugonab Bay and Mukawwar Island National Park (DMNP) and Sanganeb Atoll Marine National Park (SMNP). This project will:

(1) Establish a common vision and build national capacity to effectively manage marine biodiversity within DMNP: Organize and run a visioning meeting involving stakeholder representatives (incl. government, private sector, civil society, community, etc.). Park buildings in DMNP renovated to provide ranger accommodation, training and research facilities, and to act as a hub for manta related ecotourism activities. Two small vessels procured for monitoring, control and surveillance within DMNP. DMNP zoning plan revised accordingly to the common vision and biodiversity hotspots identified (Output 2).

(2) Build scientific knowledge and national capacity to monitor biodiversity of wide-ranging flagship species within the existing MPAs and Sudan's Red Sea: Spatial movement patterns of focal elasmobranch species tracked using acoustic and satellite telemetry methods. WCGA rangers trained in scuba diving, participatory monitoring method for coral reefs (Cousteau Divers, Reef Check) and elasmobranchs (Divers Aware of Sharks), and field telemetry methods. Existing and new survey data and other environmental datasets compiled into geodatabase to characterise the marine environment and provide the basis for

re-zoning DMNP and identifying new priority hotspots.

(3) Assist local communities within the boundaries of DMNP to realise the potential benefits of protecting biodiversity through promotion and development of sustainable alternative livelihood programmes: Field visit to update previous coastal livelihood assessment for two communities in DMNP (Mohammed Qol and Dungonab). Business plans (equitable and gender balanced) prepared for nature-based ecotourism livelihoods connected to the manta ray aggregation in DMNP. Community-based microfinance committees established, trained and supported. Linkages with local banks and microfinance (MF) providers facilitated to support self-employment and income generation activities among park population. Ecotourism guidelines developed and rangers and dive operators trained. WCGA rangers trained in hospitality etiquette with dive boats and tourists.

(4) Communication and awareness raising about the biodiversity hosted within Sudan's MPAs and wider ranging species hosted within Sudan's Red Sea: Sudanese staff member employed to support project implementation and communications with stakeholders. Bi-annual Project Steering Committee meetings to monitor progress and delivery. Annual Workshops after each field phase to keep stakeholders apprised of activities. Press releases to communicate interesting findings/actions at national to international scales. Scientific findings presented at international conferences and published in peer-reviewed journals. Project webpage to disseminate project news/results, updates broadcast via social media.

The project finances will be administered by EC, which employs standard and SAP-based financial and project management procedures. Project Leader (EC) will work with the local partner SUDIA local staff member to ensure smooth implementation. SUDIA staff will lead the visioning workshop (Output 1) and livelihood activities (Output 3). Local staff will oversee local procurement and building renovation with support from EC. UoW will lead the elasmobranch science, ecotourism guidelines, and EC the participatory monitoring.

14. Change Expected

Detail what the expected changes this work will deliver. You should identify what will change and who will benefit.

- If you are applying for Defra funding this should specifically focus on the changes expected for biodiversity conservation and its sustainable use.
- If you are applying for DFID funding you should in addition refer to how the project will contribute to reducing poverty. Q19 provides more space for elaboration on this.

(Max 250 words)

The project will lead to the global recognition of Sudan as a marine biodiversity hotspot and raise awareness of the threatened status of sharks and rays, and associated biodiversity conventions. Knowledge of the movement/residency of data poor shark and ray species will inform both the preparation of spatial management plans within Sudan and the wider Red Sea region, and the development of sustainable ecotourism activities to assist communities inside the boundaries of DMNP (Dungonab and Mohammed Qol) to realise economic benefits from their marine biodiversity resources. Management capacity will be strengthened through renovating infrastructure and training WCGA staff to monitor biodiversity and MPA effectiveness, thereby ensuring Sudan is better equipped to manage its existing MPAs and threatened species. Training of national counterparts in scientific and participatory monitoring methods will promote stewardship, increase the long-term sustainability of monitoring programmes and likelihood that the results will inform adaptive management. Community members inside DMNP will have access to microfinance thereby creating self-employment opportunities. First time beneficiaries will have exposure to loan processes and procedures and those with good repayment records will acquire opportunities for larger loans, allowing them to expand their business start-ups and increase their operating capital. Women beneficiaries will be specifically targeted and will have improved self-reliance. Stakeholder workshops will achieve a common future vision for the MPAs and participants will 'own-up' to reaching that desired future. Strengthening of resource management capacity will widen benefits to the Red Sea State, given the vast potential for scuba diving and international and national tourism.

15a. Is this a new initiative or a development of existing work (funded through any source)? Please give details (Max 200 words):

The proposed project is new but it builds on the long-term involvement of the Equipe Cousteau team in Sudan, which has paved the way for this type of initiative and provides the basis for successful implementation. The team were directly involved in: the designation of DMNP (PERSGA MPA-SAP, 2001), baseline biodiversity assessments and monitoring of Sudan's coastal and marine ecosystems (African Parks Foundation, 2006; EC ICZM project, 2007) and elasmobranch monitoring (Divers Aware of Sharks, 2007 - present). With permission from Sudanese authorities, preliminary field work to determine project feasibility was undertaken in 2012/2013 (seed funding from the Deep Aquarium, UK). The fieldwork allowed the team to test telemetry tracking of focal elasmobranch species in Sudan, achieving the first surgical implantation of acoustic tags in manta rays and the establishment of an acoustic array within DMNP. Initial DNA analyses, revealed the first reported occurrence of hybridization in manta rays. A Project Steering Committee (PSC) has already been established composed of all Sudanese partners. The project has been discussed with the PSC, local communities within DMNP and at two workshops at the Red Sea University (Nov 2012, Feb 2013). This communication has fostered strong relations which provides the basis to launch implementation of the proposed Darwin project activities.

15b. Are you aware of any other individuals/organisations/projects carrying out or applying for funding for 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:

15c. Are you applying for funding relating to the proposed project from other sources? Yes No

If yes, please give brief details including when you expect to hear the result. Please ensure you include the figures requested in the spreadsheet as Unconfirmed funding.

16. Value for money

Please describe why you consider your application to be good value for money including justification of why the measures you will adopt will secure value for money?

(Max 250 words)

The project team have developed strong working relationships with Sudanese partners over the past 14 years, and local dive operators through the Divers Aware of Sharks programme over the past 6 years. As well as benefiting from local staff knowledge, these relationships translate into logistical support and special access to WCGA resources (vehicles, 20ft boat, park buildings, diving equipment and storage facilities in Port Sudan), and lower dive boat rental costs for work on Sanganeb MPA. The proposed survey protocols are cost-effective: passive acoustic telemetry helps to control field costs, as the data is recorded continuously even while the team is not in the field; other participatory methods only require training to facilitate long-term monitoring of biodiversity and capacity legacy. The project investment in training communities on microfinance management will leverage access to loan capital from external sources (banks and MFI's) that is expected to directly benefit over 150 households in the park area and sustainably contribute to poverty reduction. Bringing together multiple stakeholders to envision a desired and common future for the MPAs represents a great investment. Stakeholders will have a vested interest in the future they have opted for and will more likely invest resources (whether time or money) to realise that future vision, bringing greater returns to marine life and coastal communities. Finally, the majority of international project staff costs will be provided in-kind, but staff included on the team collectively bring a high level of expertise to guarantee project success.

17. Ethics

Outline your approach to meeting the Darwin Initiative's key principles for research ethics as outlined in the guidance notes.

(Max 300 words)

All legal and ethical obligations, for both UK and partner countries, will be met and all necessary documentation will be completed prior to execution. Animal care approval for all research techniques has been requested through the University of Windsor. Necessary permits and legal documentation will be obtained through the regulatory bodies in Sudan. To ensure the perspectives, interests and well being of those directly affected by the project, strong leadership and participation will be sort from a Sudanese steering committee containing members from all stakeholder groups, local and national. Local stakeholders such as fishermen have been and will be consulted in the development of, and involved in the execution of, scientific approaches and methods. The rights, privacy and safety of all those that form the subject of the research will be ensured through robust risk assessment and prior informed consent from both local governing bodies and the individuals involved. Project leaders will be responsible for managing the health and safety of all project staff throughout the duration of the project. Thorough risk assessments will be conducted and all necessary training provided. Additionally, official documentation will be required from all project staff to demonstrate they are in adequate health to partake in the relevant activities. To maintain credibility, the project leaders will monitor all staff to ensure they maintain independence, integrity and intellectual detachment throughout their involvement in the research. If any departures from this code of conduct are observed, steps will be taken to address the issues or in extreme cases the staff member would be removed from involvement in the project. All elements of this project are focused on poverty reduction through the conservation and responsible sustainable exploitation of marine biodiversity in Sudan.

18. Legacy

Please describe what you expect will change as a result of this project with regards to biodiversity conservation/sustainable use and poverty alleviation (for DFID funded projects). For example, what will be the long term benefits (particularly for biodiversity and poor people) of the project in the host country or region and have you identified any potential problems to achieving these benefits?

The proposed Darwin Initiative project will aim to build legacy through each project output. One of the most challenging and significant legacies will be to win global recognition of Sudan's significant marine biodiversity wealth, including healthy populations of shark and ray species that are threatened in many regions. Building the national capacity to effectively monitor and manage these biodiversity resources will help to create a refuge for these highly threatened shark and ray species within Sudan's waters. The community visioning workshop will bring together multiple stakeholders across different levels to envision a desired and common future for Sudan's MPAs. The common future vision will be owned by these stakeholders, who will then have a vested interest in the future direction they opted for leading to increased invested resources (whether time or money) to make that future vision a reality. The additional support leveraged through the process should help to ensure a sustained legacy for the Darwin Initiative project beyond the project timeframe. Biodiversity hotspots inside and outside the existing MPAs will be highlighted, and used to rezone the existing MPAs and to identify new areas for the government of Sudan to consider including in the MPA network. Increased awareness and greater stakeholder commitment and engagement coupled with tangible and durable solutions for sustainable livelihoods will yield increased resilience for both vulnerable communities living in the park areas as well as the marine biodiversity.

19. Pathway to poverty alleviation

Please describe how your project will benefit poor people living in low-income countries. All projects funded through DFID in Round 20 must be compliant with the OECD Overseas Development Assistance criteria. Projects are therefore required to indicate how they will have a positive impact on poverty alleviation in low-income countries.

(Max 300 words)

Healthy ecosystems provide four kinds of ecosystem services to the human societies they host: provisioning services (food, water, minerals, etc.); regulating services (climate, purification, etc.); supporting services (nutrient dispersal, primary production, etc.) and cultural services (spiritual, recreational, etc). Resilient socio-ecosystems are those able to accommodate social wealth and equity without the communities threatening the assets upon which they rely, or being threatened by the impact of external factors. A significant reduction in natural assets, resulting from a loss of habitat or associated biodiversity, can disrupt communities and increase their vulnerability. The Beja people and those living inside DMNP already perceive their environment as a source of natural capital and have adapted various mechanisms through the customary law of the "silif" to ensure sustainable resource management on land. The Beja people were nomadic and have considerably less experience in managing marine resources. The key to reducing potential threats to both people and biodiversity associated with DMNP will be finding opportunities to build the financial, social, human and physical assets of the communities of Mohammed Qol and Dungonab, to reduce their reliance on unsustainable provisioning services, and support diversification of income generating opportunities arising from other ecosystem services. Community members will have access to microfinance (IGAS and credit) and training, which will create self-employment opportunities and help alleviate poverty within the park boundaries. Women, who represent a vulnerable group, will be provided with specific support to allow them to become more active contributors to the household budget. The project will also promote savings by households, provide alternative sources of income and will consequently result in better education for children, and increased stability and security. Linkages with the existing diving community will be created and business plans for potential eco-tourism projects in the MPA will also contribute to creating employment opportunities.

20. Exit strategy

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

(Max 200 words)

The visioning workshop, annual workshops and steering committee meetings will all help to shift the ownership of the project outcome from the immediate implementing partners to national stakeholders. The project consortium includes three Sudanese institutions, including an experienced NGO specialized in sustainable development, reducing the longer-term reliance on international expertise. Knowledge transferred and training delivered through the project will provide local partners with more expertise in monitoring and MPA management. Several people from the same institutions will be trained to minimise the risk of built-up expertise being lost through employee turnover. Capital assets procured / renovated (Activities 1.2 and 1.3) will remain with the WGCA and assist long-term operations within the MPAs. Beja livelihoods are regulated by a complex and flexible system of customary law called "silif" which acts as a form of environmental monitoring and taboo. The project will adapt to, and work within the "silif" system in order to ensure continuity. The community-based microfinance model adopted is community-driven and once committees are established and trained on managing loan operations and linkages with microfinance providers and lending institutions are facilitated, they will be empowered to continue to provide microfinance products and services to their communities beyond the project lifetime.

21. Raising awareness of the potential worth of biodiversity

If your project contains an element of communications, knowledge sharing and/or dissemination please provide a description of your intended audience, how you intend to engage them, what the expected products/materials there will be and what you expect to achieve as a result. For example, are you expecting to directly influence policy in your host country or is your project a community advocacy project to support better management of biodiversity?

(Max 300 words)

The project specifically aims to raise global awareness of the rich and healthy marine biodiversity and threatened highly migratory shark and ray species found in Sudan's waters and their potential worth at several levels. The target audiences within Sudan include: local communities inside the boundaries of DMNP, school children, the general public, government officers from Wildlife General Conservation Administration (WCGA) and government officials within the Red Sea State. Raising awareness of the value of marine biodiversity as a living marine resource among the communities of Mohammed Qol and Dungonab is a priority and ecotourism training will build their capacity to function as tour guides within the Dungonab MPA. The project will target the general public through regularly engaging the national media, highlighting the key findings on television and radio and through newspaper articles. WCGA Officers and Rangers will be integral to all project activities which will increase their general awareness through on-the-job training, as well as dedicated MPA management effectiveness training to strengthen capacity. Finally on the governmental level our audience will comprise of representatives from the partner organizations already engaged through the project Steering Committee and meetings will continue to be held to discuss project progress at the start/finish of each field phase. At the regional and international level the target audience will include the scientific community and general public, and awareness of Sudan's significant marine heritage will be raised through scientific publications, presentations at international conferences and the international media.

22. Access to project information

Please describe the project's open access plan and detail any specific costs you are seeking from Darwin to fund this. (See Section 9 of the Guidance Notes for further information)

(Max 250 words)

It will be the policy of the project to make all outputs accessible and free to any interested parties through the internet. These outputs will include peer reviewed journal articles and technical reports. The project will be hosted on a dedicated section of the Cousteau Society website (cousteau.org) and a dedicated web site for the MPAs will be established in English and Arabic. All outputs will be posted on a download page that will allow free document download to any user from any IP address region. All documents will be made available in PDF format to minimize data download requirements. Technical reports will be translated into Arabic to ensure they are all useable by any interested parties from the Red Sea region. A local Sudanese translator will be employed to translate technical reports. Outputs will additionally be deposited on subject-based depositories. The data generated from the project will initially be retained by the research group for a period of 2 years to provide the opportunity to generate peer-reviewed journal articles. However, following a five-year gracing period the data will be made freely available and open access through the same mediums as the above outputs. It is anticipated that this will accelerate the initial publication of peer-reviewed journal articles and thereafter maximize the use and production from the collected data.

23. Importance of subject focus for this project

If your project is working on an area of biodiversity or biodiversity-development linkages that has had limited attention (both in the Darwin Initiative portfolio and in conservation in general) please give details.

(Max 250 words)

Sudan borders the Red Sea (18°00'N to 22°55'N), one of the most diverse tropical seas outside the Indo-Pacific triangle. The marine environment of Sudan is however poorly known. A common perception is surprise at the fact that Sudan has a coast; Sudan is typically viewed as an unstable, landlocked country. Though relatively small in relation to the rest of the country, Sudan's marine ecosystem remains relatively pristine, harbouring high biomass and diversity of marine species. Standardised survey data has demonstrated that Sudan ranks as one of the richest and healthiest marine ecosystems on the planet, the reason why Sudan's MPAs are currently being considered for UNESCO World Heritage designation. This is particularly true for elasmobranchs (sharks and rays), which have undergone major population declines in many other regions. The Dungonab manta ray population, consisting of several hundred individuals, represents one of a few unique global aggregation sites. The presence of schooling scalloped hammerhead sharks on all offshore reefs (including Sanganeb MPA) provides a robust indicator of overall ecosystem health. These populations and the ecosystem they inhabit could however be very quickly changed through poorly managed coastal development. The economic benefits of megafauna ecotourism are well documented, providing a unique natural resource to assist poverty alleviation in local Sudanese coastal communities. It is anticipated that the outputs of this project will increase awareness and highlight Sudan's marine ecosystem on the global stage. This will increase Sudan's capacity to lever additional international funding for marine conservation to protect this globally important reservoir of biodiversity.

24. Leverage

a) Secured

Provide details of all funding successfully levered (and identified in the Budget) towards the costs of the project, including any income from other public bodies, private sponsorship, donations, trusts, fees or trading activity.

Confirmed:

Total confirmed (2014-2016) : GBP 61,678

Equipe Cousteau invested initial GDB 39 000 in seed funding to develop the project vision and objectives, gather the potential partners and obtain the necessary permits and partnership agreements from the Sudanese institutions. Equipe Cousteau will continue to partly fund the salaries of two staff members for the period of the Darwin project for a total of 61 678 GDP

Total confirmed (2014-2016) : GBP 60,000

The Deep Aquarium (Charitable UK organization): The Deep committed an initial GBP40,000 in seed funding to Cousteau to develop project objectives, facilitate face-to-face meetings and undertake initial fieldwork trials. A further GBP 20,000 per year for three years has been secured.

Total confirmed (2014-2016) GBP 73,146.

University of Windsor: - GLIER, Canada: Provided salaries for two post doctoral fellows to organize project logistics and visit Sudan to undertake initial field operations (30% time at CAD\$15,000 per individual/yr). Advanced genetic analyses were performed on manta ray samples collected (materials and labour – USD\$20,000). The University of Windsor will continue to partially fund the salaries of two post doctoral fellows for the period of the Darwin project.

Total confirmed (2014-2016) GBP60,000

King Abdullah Science of Technology (KAUST): Provided satellite and acoustic tracking equipment that were deployed during the trial field phases but will continue to be functional throughout the Darwin project. This included three fast loc GP pop up archival satellite tags (USD\$15,000), 10 temperature/pressure acoustic transmitters – 5 yr lifespan (USD\$9,000) and

4 VR2W acoustic monitors (USD\$6,000). In addition, KAUST provided logistical support in the form of a Post Doctoral Fellow, Masters student and Research Technician to facilitate fieldwork operations and equipment transfers. KAUST have committed a further GBP20,000 per year for equipment purchase/boat rental/field staff/travel.

Total confirmed (2014-2016) GBP 254,824

b) Unsecured

Provide details of any matched funding where an application has been submitted, or that you intend applying for during the course of the project. This could include matched funding from the private sector, charitable organisations or other public sector schemes.

Date applied for	Donor organisation	Amount	Comments
January 2014	Cousteau Divers	GBP 8,000	Crowd funding using the Cousteau Divers participative science program
Mai 2014	The Cousteau Society	GBP 30,000	Fund raising campaign in USA.

PROJECT MONITORING AND EVALUATION

MEASURING IMPACT

25. LOGICAL FRAMEWORK

Darwin projects will be required to report against their progress towards their expected outputs and outcomes if funded. This section sets out the expected outputs and outcomes of your project, how you expect to measure progress against these and how we can verify this. Further detail is provided in Annex C of the guidance notes which you are encouraged to refer to. The information provided here will be transposed into a logframe should your project be successful in gaining funding from the Darwin Initiative. The use of the logframe is sometimes described in terms of the Logical Framework Approach, which is about applying clear, logical thought when seeking to tackle the complex and ever-changing challenges of poverty and need. In other words, it is about sensible planning.

Impact

The Impact is not intended to be achieved solely by the project. This is a higher-level situation that the project will contribute towards achieving. All Darwin projects are expected to contribute to poverty alleviation and sustainable use of biodiversity and its products.

(Max 30 words)

To rebrand Sudan as a global marine biodiversity hotspot and ecotourism destination, contributing to MDG and biodiversity convention targets, by ensuring local community livelihoods benefit from strengthening in biodiversity management.

Outcome

There can only be one Outcome for the project. The Outcome should identify what will change, and who will benefit. The Outcome should refer to how the project will contribute to reducing poverty and contribute to the sustainable use/conservation of biodiversity and its products. This should be a summary statement derived from the answer given to question 14.

(Max 30 words)

To strengthen Sudan's MPA management capacity, increase knowledge and awareness of marine biodiversity and flagship species, and assist two local communities to realise biodiversity benefits through sustainable nature-based livelihoods.

Measuring outcomes - indicators

Provide detail of what you will measure to assess your progress towards achieving this outcome. You should also be able to state what the change you expect to achieve as a result of this project i.e. the difference between the existing state and the expected end state. You may require multiple indicators to measure the outcome – if you have more than 3 indicators please just insert a row(s).

Indicator 1	National capacity to effectively manage MPAs, as measured using a standard MPA Management Effectiveness Assessment method (e.g. WWF-World-Bank MPA scorecard or GEF METT equivalent) increases from the baseline score achieved in Year 1 by at least 20% by Year 3.
Indicator 2	Scientific knowledge about marine biodiversity and flagship species is increased and national capacity for monitoring is improved during the course of the project from Year 1 to Year 3.
Indicator 3	Two Community-Based Microfinance Committees established for communities living inside DMNP (Dungonab and Mohammed Qol), results in increased self-employment in nature-based livelihood activities generate revenue in both Dungonab and Mohammed Qol coastal villages, with 20% profits being re-invested in community development fund by Year 3.
Indicator 4	Awareness of the globally significant importance and value of marine biodiversity and flagship species in Sudan increased at the local, national, regional and international level by Year 3.

Verifying outcomes

Identify the source material the Darwin Initiative (and you) can use to verify the indicators provided. These are generally recorded details such as publications, surveys, project notes, reports, tapes, videos etc.

Indicator 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress updates reported in Darwin Initiative bi-annual reports (x 6) and minutes of Project Steering Committee Meetings (x 3); • Photographs documenting renovation works and new vessels and equipment; National press release about the opening of the Ranger/Visitor Information Centre; • New biodiversity hotspots identified and updated zoning plan for DMNP; • MPA Management Effectiveness Assessment in Year 1 and Year 3.
Indicator 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress updates reported in Darwin Initiative bi-annual reports (x 6) and minutes of Project Steering Committee Meetings (x 3); • Invoices from the procurement of acoustic tags and monitors; • Data collected from dive operators participating in Divers Aware of Sharks programme entered in database; • Elasmobranch Survey/Telemetry Training Report (incl. training log); Video and photographic records; • Dive certificates of trainees; • Coral Reef Monitoring Report (incl. training log); Video and photographic records;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geodatabases with results of all monitoring and scientific surveys (e.g. derived telemetry data/coral reef surveys), existing habitat maps and other satellite derived environment variables (temperature, chlorophyll etc);
Indicator 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress updates reported in Darwin Initiative bi-annual reports (x 6); • Minutes of Project Steering Committee Meetings (x 3); • Updated Community Based Livelihood Assessment Report; • Business plans; • 2 x CB-MFCs established; • CB-MFC training participant lists; • CB-MFC financial records;
Indicator 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 x Annual Stakeholder Workshop Reports; Workshop participant lists and feedback forms; • Poster showing project objectives, results and biodiversity hotspots in Sudan Red Sea; • Scientific papers submitted to peer-reviewed journals; Proceedings of international conferences; • All media (newspaper, radio and TV) coverage documented and summarised; • Project webpage hosted on Cousteau website; • Updates to website broadcast through newsfeeds on project partners facebook pages.

Outcome risks and important assumptions

You will need to define the important assumptions, which are critical to the realisation of the *outcome and impact* of the project. It is important at this stage to ensure that these assumptions can be monitored since if these assumptions change, it may prevent you from achieving your expected outcome. If there are more than 3 assumptions please insert a row(s).

Assumption 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relationships between Red Sea State government and WCGA remain stable; • Experienced facilitator that is able to manage a broad range of stakeholders and bring them to a common vision; • The park building is in suitable condition for renovation and there is sufficient commitment from WCGA to undertake required work and ensure that the renovated building is maintained and the running costs covered; • Results of the scientific and monitoring surveys collated into a geodatabase and available for use in re-zoning DMNP; • WCGA are interested to learn about MPA Management Effectiveness Assessment methods and to monitor progress.
Assumption 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No problems encountered in transporting acoustic telemetry equipment to Sudan; • No significant natural or man-made impacts occur in the study region during the project that impacts the environment and /or prevents the team from undertaking required field work and training; • No significant equipment failures or losses; • Suitable trainees are identified and remain in the same institution at least for the duration of the project; • Commitment and consistency of dive operators participating in DAS

	<p>surveys and assisting fieldwork operations;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued support by WCGA for all fieldwork operations.
Assumption 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community based livelihood assessment identifies viable gender balanced livelihood options; Interest of local community in the proposed CB-MFC and trust established; Access to loan capital from local banks and/or MFIs operational in Red Sea State successfully facilitated; Local acceptance of gender equity in the composition of trainees within CB-MFC; Training and support provided to CB-MFC is sufficient to ensure that participants are able to meet repayment and reporting conditions; Commitment of dive operators to engage their clients with local community based organisation; Political situation in Red Sea State remains sufficiently stable and tourist visitor numbers remains stable (or increases); Socio-cultural and economic environment flexible enough to accommodate change; Resilience of the local communities considered (capacity to scope with abrupt changes - no more tourism coming because of extreme events).
Assumption 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suitable local project coordinator with relevant skill base and expertise can be found and employed person is committed to the overall goals of the project; Project Steering Committee (existing) continues to provide guidance and support for the successful implementation of Darwin Initiative project; Adequate support provided to ensure that a local community representatives and other key stakeholders can all participate in Annual Stakeholder Workshops; Results of sufficient quality to be of interest to scientific community; Interesting results and scientific findings from the Darwin Initiative project are clearly communicated to the media and scientific community.

Outputs

Outputs are the specific, direct deliverables of the project. These will provide the conditions necessary to achieve the Outcome. The logic of the chain from Output to Outcome therefore needs to be clear. If you have more than 3 outputs insert a row(s). It is advised to have less than 6 outputs since this level of detail can be provided at the activity level.

Output 1	National capacity to effectively manage two existing MPAs in Sudan strengthened through building a common future vision among a wide range of stakeholders, renovating existing infrastructure, procuring new equipment and using the scientific results to update the DMNP zoning plan.
Output 2	Scientific knowledge about marine biodiversity and flagship species is increased and national capacity for monitoring is strengthened by training in scientific and participatory monitoring methods, generating data for use in biodiversity planning and management.

Output 3	Nature-based ecotourism livelihoods in Mohammed Qol and Dugonab and understanding of economic value of dive industry and potential for sustainable growth improved.
Output 4	Increased awareness of the globally significant marine biodiversity and flagship species found in Sudan's Red Sea among a broad range of national, regional and international stakeholders

Measuring outputs

Provide detail of what you will measure to assess your progress towards achieving these outputs. You should also be able to state what the change you expect to achieve as a result of this project i.e. the difference between the existing state and the expected end state. You may require multiple indicators to measure each output – if you have more than 3 indicators please just insert a row(s).

Output 1	
Indicator 1.1	Common vision for the future of the MPAs agreed among a broad number of stakeholders by the end of Year 1.
Indicator 1.2	Existing buildings in DMNP renovated and functional as Park Ranger management/science/education base by end of Year 2, and as Visitors Information Centre by end of Year 3.
Indicator 1.3	2 x vessels and other equipment needed for monitoring, control and surveillance procured and operating in DMNP by end of Year 2.
Indicator 1.4	Zoning plan for DMNP updated and additional biodiversity hotspots identified using the results of scientific elasmobranch telemetry work (Output 2).
Indicator 1.5	MPA Management Effectiveness Assessment completed using standard scorecard method in Year 1 and repeated in Year 3, with results showing an increase by 20% from the baseline.

Output 2	
Indicator 2.1	Acoustic monitors procured and shipped to Sudan and deployed in-water in Year 1 and maintained through Year 3. Focal species tagged in Year 1 and 2.
Indicator 2.2	Data derived on spatial movement patterns of key elasmobranch species.
Indicator 2.3	3 x Sudanese students trained and participating in telemetry fieldwork to generate data on the spatial ecology of focal elasmobranchs in Year 1, 2 and 3.
Indicator 2.4	Elasmobranch telemetry data collated and analysed annually (after each field survey) and report summarising results prepared in Year 3, and shared with relevant government stakeholders.
Indicator 2.5	At least 50% of dive operators (5 out of the 10 companies) currently operating in Sudan reporting daily results to Divers Aware of Sharks (DAS) monitoring programme by end of Year 1 and continuing through to Year 3.

Indicator 2.6	Sudanese staff member regularly liaising with dive operators and collecting DAS results.
Indicator 2.7	4 x WCGA Officers / Students trained and qualified SCUBA divers by the end of Year 1 and able to participate in monitoring surveys in Year 2 and 3.
Indicator 2.8	4 x Sudanese nationals trained in Year 1 and able to implement coral reef monitoring surveys by end of Year 3.
Indicator 2.9	Coral reef monitoring data collated and analysed annually (after each field survey) and report summarising results prepared by Year 3 and shared with relevant government stakeholders.
Indicator 2.10	Geodatabase populated with existing and new datasets.

Output 3

Indicator 3.1	Coastal livelihood assessment from 2007 updated Year 1.
Indicator 3.2	Gender-balanced business plans for nature-based ecotourism livelihood opportunities prepared by the end of Year 1.
Indicator 3.3	Ecotourism guidelines developed and training provided to 10 x dive operators and 10 x local community representatives by end of Year 1.
Indicator 3.4	2 x Community Based Microfinance Committees (CB-MFC) established by end of Year 1 (1 x Dugonab CB-MFC and 1 x Mohammed Qol CB-MFC) and fully operational by end of Year 3.
Indicator 3.5	2 x CB-MFCs trained in business skills (book-keeping, planning and financial management, marketing and quality control, legal issues) in Year 2, with follow on support to help implement nature-based ecotourism activities by end of Year 3.
Indicator 3.6	Documented evidence that the support provided by local banks and MF providers is generating self-employment in Dugonab and Mohammed Qol.
Indicator 3.7	Monitoring of repayments demonstrates the support provided to the 2 x CB-MFCs is effective starting in Year 2 and continuing through Year 3.

Output 4

Indicator 4.1	Sudanese Project Coordinator recruited in Year 1, leading day-to-day implementation of project activities through to Year 3.
Indicator 4.2	Project Steering Committee (existing), composed of representatives of key partner organisations, support the implementation of the Darwin Initiative project helping to monitor progress and delivery from Year 1 to Year 3.
Indicator 4.3	Bi-annual Darwin reports summarising project findings and reporting on progress and delivery of project outputs.

Indicator 4.4	Annual Stakeholder Workshop participant lists and feedback forms (x3).
Indicator 4.5	500 x Poster about the project produced in Year 2 distributed to tourist establishments, dive operators, schools and other Red Sea State government departments by the end of the project.
Indicator 4.6	At least two peer-reviewed paper submitted to a peer-reviewed scientific journal by the end of Year 3; Results presented at one or more international scientific conferences by the end of Year 3;
Indicator 4.7	Number of press releases to national radio, newspapers and TV in Sudan, UK and internationally in Year 1, 2 and 3.
Indicator 4.8	Project website established and accessible online by end of Year 1 with regular updates broadcast through other forms of social media (e.g. Facebook, Twitter) in Year 2 and 3.

Verifying outputs

Identify the source material the Darwin Initiative (and you) can use to verify the indicators provided. These are generally recorded details such as publications, surveys, project notes, reports, tapes, videos etc.

Indicator 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress updates for Output 1 documented in Darwin Initiative bi-annual reports (x 6), and minutes of Steering Committee meetings (x6). • Invoices for procurement of materials needed for renovation works; • Invoices for procurement of vessels and other equipment; • Photographs documenting renovation works to park buildings; • National press release about the opening of the Visitors Information Centre. • Photographs of new vessels and equipment; • National press release about the procurement of new vessels. • Map showing new proposed zoning plan for DMNP and biodiversity hotspots. • MPA Management Effectiveness Assessment Scores (x 2).
Indicator 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress updates for Output 2 documented in Darwin Initiative bi-annual reports (x 6), and minutes of Steering Committee meetings (x6). • Invoices for acoustic monitors and shipping thereof, photographs of them installed underwater. • Elasmobranch scientific survey data entered into geodatabase; Elasmobranch scientific survey video and photographic records; • Log of participants trained in scientific elasmobranch telemetry methods; • Elasmobranch Scientific Survey Report (incl. training); • Record of Sudanese staff liaising with dive operators and collecting Divers Aware of Sharks monitoring data; • DAS data entered into geodatabase; DAS video and photographic records; • Scuba diving certificate for WCGA staff / students • Log of participants trained in coral reef monitoring methods; • Coral reef monitoring data entered into geodatabase; Coral reef video and

	<p>photographic records;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coral Reef Monitoring Report (incl. training log); • Geodatabase with results of monitoring survey data (e.g. derived telemetry data/coral reef surveys), existing habitat maps and other satellite derived environment variables (temperature, chlorophyll etc);
Indicator 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress updates for Output 3 documented in Darwin Initiative bi-annual reports (x 6), and minutes of Steering Committee meetings (x6). • Updated Community Based Livelihood Assessment Report; • 2 business plans for nature based livelihoods associated with manta rays • Ecotourism guidelines and associated materials; • Log of participants trained in ecotourism, hospitality and customer care. • 2 x CB-MFCs Annual Activities Reports (x3) • All financial support facilitated from local banks documented. • CB-MFC training participant lists • Financial records from 2 x CB-MFCs • Dive industry economic evaluation study report and manuscript submitted to peer reviewed journal.
Indicator 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress updates for Output 4 documented in Darwin Initiative bi-annual reports (x 6), and minutes of Steering Committee meetings (x6). • Contract and ToRs of the Coordinator; • Activities Reports from Local Coordinator (x6); • 3 x Stakeholder Workshop Reports; Workshop participant lists • Number of posters distributed and organisations distributed too recorded. • All media (newspaper, radio and TV) coverage documented and summarised. • Scientific paper(s) submitted to peer-reviewed journals; • Proceedings of international conferences. • Project webpage hosted on Cousteau website; • Website updates broadcast through newsfeeds on project partners facebook pages, twitter.

Output risks and important assumptions

You will need to define the important assumptions, which are critical to the realisation of the achievement of your outputs. It is important at this stage to ensure that these assumptions can be monitored since if these assumptions change, it may prevent you from achieving your expected outcome. If there are more than 3 assumptions please insert a row(s).

Assumption 1	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1 Experienced facilitator for the visioning workshop who is able to work with a diverse range of different stakeholders and bring them to a common vision. 1.2 WCGA rangers and officers willing and able to undertake needed renovation works. Running costs of the building ensured. 1.3 Proper sea skills trainings can be provided locally (motor boats permits and safety at sea). Capacity to maintain the vessels ensured. 1.4 Data from scientific surveys collated and catalogued into geodatabase in a timely manner to enable zoning plans to be updated. 1.5 MPA Management Effectiveness Assessments are completed in through discussions with WCGA officers, and the persons involved remain in the same institution at least for the duration of the project.
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Assumption 2	<p>2.1 No logistical problems encountered with transporting the equipment to Sudan</p> <p>2.2 Able to recover monitors and no failures in the equipment</p> <p>2.3 Able to recover monitors and no failures in the equipment</p> <p>2.4 Suitable candidates are identified for the elasmobranch scientific telemetry training and remain in the same institution at least for the duration of the project</p> <p>2.2 Staff member employed is approachable and good at outreach work</p> <p>2.3 Commitment and consistency of participating dive operators.</p> <p>2.7 Suitable candidates are identified for the dive training (able to swim and snorkel competently and keen to learn).</p> <p>2.8 Suitable candidates are identified for the coral reef monitoring training and remain in the same institution at least for the duration of the project</p> <p>2.9 Results of the scientific and monitoring surveys collated into a geodatabase and available for use in re-zoning DMNP and identifying biodiversity hotspots for long-ranging species.</p>
Assumption 3	<p>3.1 Socio-cultural and economic environment flexible enough to accommodate change.</p> <p>3.2 Resilience of the local communities considered (capacity to scope with abrupt changes - no more tourism coming because of extreme events).</p> <p>3.3 Local interest in the development of eco-tourism initiatives, socio-political stability ensured.</p> <p>3.4 Local interest in establishing CB-MFC, trust established and participants stay committed to this goal.</p> <p>3.5 Local acceptance of gender equity in the composition of trainees.</p> <p>3.6 Access to loan capital successfully facilitated from local banks and/or MFIs operational in Red Sea State.</p> <p>3.7 Local acceptance and understanding of the purposes and governance of the MFI</p> <p>3.8 Support provided is sufficient to ensure that repayment and reporting conditions are met.</p>
Assumption 4	<p>4.1 Suitable local project coordinator with relevant skill base and expertise can be found and employed person is committed to the overall goals of the project.</p> <p>4.2 Project Steering Committee (existing) continues to provide guidance and support for the successful implementation of Darwin Initiative project</p> <p>4.3 No disturbance to project activities due to political unrest.</p> <p>4.4 Support provided to ensure that local communities can participate in Annual Stakeholder Workshops;</p> <p>4.5 Poster is informative and translated into Arabic, and people display in their respective establishments.</p> <p>4.6 Results of sufficient quality to be of interest to the broader scientific community.</p> <p>4.7 Interesting results and scientific findings from the Darwin Initiative project are clearly communicated to the media and scientific community.</p> <p>4.8 Web-pages are translated into Arabic to make them accessible to the local community and Red Sea region.</p>

Activities

Define the tasks to be undertaken by the research team to produce the outputs. Activities should be designed in a way that their completion should be sufficient and indicators should not be necessary. Risks and assumptions should also be taken into account during project design.

Output 1	
Activity 1.1	Community Visioning Workshop (x1) held with a broad group of stakeholders (local community members, businessmen, state and federal government officials), and communications on progress maintained through Output 4.
Activity 1.2	Existing park building in DMNP renovated to act as both a Ranger Station (an office, accommodation, and basic research facilities) and a Visitors Centre to act as the hub for nature-based ecotourism activities.
Activity 1.3	Procure two small vessels and other equipment needed for monitoring, control and surveillance in existing 2 MPAs, and facilitate related training (skipper licence and permits).
Activity 1.4	Update zoning plan for DMNP on the basis of the community visioning workshop and scientific surveys and identify key biodiversity hotspots for consideration as new MPAs for inclusion in MPA Network.
Activity 1.5	Meeting with WCGA Officers at the start and end of the project to complete MPA Management Effectiveness Assessments (using WWF-World Bank Scorecard method or equivalent).

Output 2	
Activity 2.1	Acoustic monitor array deployment inside DMNP and Sanganeb MPA and flagship elasmobranch species tagged.
Activity 2.2	Continuous data derived on spatial movements, residency, home-range and migration patterns of focal flagship elasmobranch species through telemetry techniques.
Activity 2.3	Training of Sudanese partners in telemetry field methods for elasmobranchs (x 3), telemetry array maintenance and data download and organisation.
Activity 2.4	Data compilation, analysis and reporting of elasmobranch movement data (telemetry).
Activity 2.5	Training of Sudanese staff member to liaise with regional dive industry over Divers Aware of Sharks monitoring project.
Activity 2.6	Data compilation, analysis and reporting of DAS monitoring surveys.
Activity 2.7	Training of WCGA Officers / students in SCUBA diving.
Activity 2.8	Training of Sudanese partners in coral reef monitoring survey methods (Cousteau Divers, Reef Check) and field surveys (x 3) to implement monitoring.
Activity 2.9	Data compilation, analysis and reporting of coral reef monitoring surveys.
Activity 2.10	Preparation of geodatabase to consolidate existing and new monitoring datasets (e.g. DAS data, telemetry data, coral reef monitoring etc), and satellite derived

	environmental characteristics (e.g. sea surface temperature, chlorophyll) providing the basis for spatial planning and re-zoning of DMNP.
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Output 3	
Activity 3.1	Field visit to refine outcomes from previously completed coastal livelihood assessment in the two villages in DBMP (Mohammed Qol and Dungonab).
Activity 3.2	Prepare business plans for nature-based ecotourism livelihood opportunities that are both equitable and gender balanced.
Activity 3.3	Develop ecotourism guidelines and deliver training to familiarise WCGA rangers, dive operators and local community representatives with guidelines.
Activity 3.4	Establish 2 x Community-based Microfinance Committees (CB-MFCs), one in Dungonab and the other in Mohammed Qol.
Activity 3.5	2 x CB-MFC trained in business skills (book-keeping, planning and financial management, marketing and quality control, legal issues) in Year 2.
Activity 3.6	Establish and maintain linkages with local banks and MF providers to support self-employment and income generation activities among park population for Dungonab and Mohammed Qol.
Activity 3.7	Provision of support to the 2 x CB-MFCs and monitoring of performance, to ensure repayment and reporting conditions are met.

Output 4	
Activity 4.1	Sudanese staff recruited and trained to lead day-to-day project activities and communications with stakeholders.
Activity 4.2	Bi-annual Project Steering Committee meetings for Darwin Project to discuss project progress and monitor delivery.
Activity 4.3	Preparation of bi-annual Darwin Initiative Project reports.
Activity 4.4	Annual Stakeholder Workshops held with a broad group of stakeholders to keep them up to date on Darwin Initiative project findings (x3).
Activity 4.5	Prepare a poster summarising key project outcomes for distribution to dive operators and other organisations in Red Sea State of Sudan.
Activity 4.6	Prepare scientific paper(s) for submission to peer-reviewed journals and present findings at international conference.
Activity 4.7	Prepare media statements and popular articles to communicate interesting findings/actions to national, regional, and international newspapers, radio and TV.
Activity 4.8	Prepare dedicated project website to disseminate project news/results, and broadcast updates using social media (Twitter, Facebook).

26. 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
Output 1													
1.1	Community Visioning Workshop (x1) held with a broad group of stakeholders (local community members, businessmen, state and federal government officials), and communications on progress maintained through Output 4.	●											
1.2	Existing park building in DMNP renovated to act as both a Ranger Station (an office, accommodation, and basic research facilities) and a Visitors Centre to act as the hub for nature-based ecotourism activities.		●	●	●	●	●	●	●				
1.3	Procure two small vessels and other equipment needed for monitoring, control and surveillance in existing 2 MPAs, and facilitate related trainings (skipper licence and permits).		●										
1.4	Update zoning plan for DMNP on the basis of the community visioning workshop and scientific surveys and identify key biodiversity hotspots for consideration as new MPAs for inclusion in MPA Network.												●
1.5	Meeting with WCGA Officers at the start and end of the project to complete MPA Management Effectiveness Assessments (using WWF-World Bank Scorecard method or equivalent).	●											●
Output 2													
2.1	Acoustic monitors array deployment inside DMNP and Sanganeb MPA and flagship elasmobranch species tagged.			●				●					
2.2	Continuous data derived on spatial movements, residency, home-range and migration patterns of focal flagship elasmobranch species through telemetry techniques.			●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
2.3	Training of Sudanese partners in telemetry field methods for elasmobranchs (x 3), telemetry array maintenance and data download and organisation			●				●				●	
2.4	Data compilation, analysis and reporting of elasmobranch movement data (telemetry).			●	●			●	●			●	●
2.5	Training of Sudanese staff member to liaise with regional dive industry over Divers Aware of Sharks monitoring project			●				●				●	
2.6	Data compilation, analysis and reporting of DAS monitoring surveys.			●	●			●	●			●	●

Activity	No of Months	Year 1				Year 2				Year 3			
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
2.7	Training of WCGA Officers / students in SCUBA diving		●										
2.8	Training of Sudanese partners in coral reef monitoring survey methods (Cousteau Divers, Reef Check) and field surveys (x 3) to implement monitoring.			●				●				●	
2.9	Data compilation, analysis and reporting of coral reef monitoring surveys.				●				●				●
2.10	Preparation of geodatabase to consolidate existing and new monitoring datasets (e.g. DAS data, telemetry data, coral reef monitoring etc), and satellite derived environmental characteristics (e.g. sea surface temperature, chlorophyll) providing the basis for spatial planning and re-zoning of DMNP.				●				●				●
Output 3													
3.1	Field visit to refine outcomes from previously completed coastal livelihood assessment in the two villages in DBMP (Mohammed Qol and Dungonab).	●											
3.2	Prepare business plans for nature-based ecotourism livelihood opportunities that are both equitable and gender balanced.		●										
3.3	Develop ecotourism guidelines and deliver training to familiarise WCGA rangers, dive operators and local community representatives with guidelines.	●			●				●				●
3.4	Establish 2 x Community-based Microfinance Committees (CB-MFCs), one in Dungonab and the other in Mohammed Qol.		●	●	●								
3.5	2 x CB-MFC trained in business skills (book-keeping, planning and financial management, marketing and quality control, legal issues) in Year 2.					●	●	●	●				
3.6	Establish and maintain linkages with local banks and MF providers to support self-employment and income generation activities among park population for Dungonab and Mohammed Qol					●	●	●	●				
3.7	Provision of support to the 2 x CB-MFCs and monitoring of performance, to ensure repayment and reporting conditions are met.					●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Output 4													
4.1	Sudanese staff recruited and trained to lead day-to-day project activities and communications with stakeholders.	●											
4.2	Bi-annual Project Steering Committee meetings for Darwin Project to discuss project progress and monitor delivery.			●	●			●	●			●	●

Activity	No of Months	Year 1				Year 2				Year 3			
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
4.3	Preparation of bi-annual Darwin Initiative Project reports.				●				●				●
4.4	Annual Stakeholder Workshops held with a broad group of stakeholders to keep them up to date on Darwin Initiative project findings (x3)				●				●				●
4.5	Prepare a poster summarising key project outcomes for distribution to dive operators and other organisations in Red Sea State of Sudan.					●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
4.6	Prepare scientific paper(s) for submission to peer-reviewed journals and present findings at international conference.								●				●
4.7	Prepare media statements and popular articles to communicate interesting findings/actions to national, regional, and international newspapers and TV.	●		●	●	●		●	●	●		●	●
4.8	Prepare dedicated project website to disseminate project news/results, and broadcast updates using social media (Twitter, Facebook).		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

27. Project based monitoring and evaluation (M&E)

Describe, referring to the Indicators above, how the progress of the project will be monitored and evaluated, making reference to who is responsible for the projects M&E. Darwin Initiative projects are expected to be adaptive and you should detail how the monitoring and evaluation will feed into the delivery of the project including its management. M&E is expected to be built into the project and not an 'add' on. It is as important to measure for negative impacts as it is for positive impact.

(Max 500 words)

Project progress will be monitored at several levels. The local staff member will report monthly to SUDIA Head Office on activities undertaken in the field and challenges experienced. This implementation level monitoring will be augmented with a second system where progress on the achievement of results against the indicators for each of the outputs is reported on.

Overall success of project interventions will be monitored by the Steering Committee (SC), which will meet twice annually, comprising of representatives of Sudanese organisations, Mr Tarik Chekchak (Project Lead, EC), Dr Rebecca Klaus (Co-Project Lead, EC), Dr Nigel Hussey (Project partner, UoW), Dr Steve Kessel (project partner, UoW); Mr Abdel-Rahman (Project partner, SUDIA). Financial monitoring of the project will be provided by Equipe Cousteau finance manager. Science evaluation will be undertaken by the project team and by peer review. The project co-lead will be responsible for submitting half yearly reports to EC who will compile a consolidated report for presentation to the Steering Committee and to DFID via LTSI.

For Output 1 SUDIA and the local project staff will be responsible for reporting on the visioning workshop, and procurement and renovation works with EC support. EC will report on MPA management effectiveness, and work jointly with UoW to prepare a new zoning plan, and identify biodiversity hotspots for threatened species, thereby helping the Sudanese Government meet its obligations under CMS/CITES/CBD.

For Output 2, UoW will report on the procurement, shipping, installation and maintenance of the telemetry equipment, and data derived. Dive training, coral reef monitoring and the collation of all existing and newly acquired data into a geodatabase will be the responsibility of EC staff. Scientific monitoring results will be evaluated after each field phase. Attention will be paid to the timely archiving of data and continual development of the geodatabase. Sudanese scientists will collaborate in field research and data analysis.

SUDIA will be responsible for monitoring progress in relation to livelihoods improvement for Output 3. Community-based microfinance committees will be established and trained by SUDIA. Their training will include reporting requirements and procedures as well as individual responsibilities. Loan portfolios handled by the partner MFI/Lending institution will provide the capital for the microfinance activities.

Given the charged environment the project will be operating in the project will also adopt the Do No Harm (DNH) framework during project inception as well as implementation. Through the DNH Framework project staff and partners will be able to i) identify dividers, tensions and conflict capacities and assess their importance; ii) identify connectors and local capacities for conservation efforts and assess their importance; iii) analyse the project and assess its impact on dividers, tensions, community capacities for livelihoods improvement and biodiversity conservation.

EC will be responsible for overall monitoring of progress in relation to awareness raising Output 4, supported by the local staff to keep track of communications and outreach activities in country and documentation thereof. Co-leader and Project partners will present the scientific findings at national and international conferences, and aim to submit publications to high impact factor or relevant peer reviewed journals.

FUNDING AND BUDGET

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

NB: Please state all costs by financial year (1 April to 31 March) and in GBP. **Budgets submitted in other currencies will not be accepted.** 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.

28. Value for Money

Please explain how you worked out your budget and how you will provide value for money through managing a cost effective and efficient project. You should also discuss any significant assumptions you have made when working out your budget.

(max 300 words)

Livelihood related activities are budgeted under two main categories; these are (1) Coastal alternative livelihood; and (2) monitoring and follow-up. Staffing is kept to a minimal with only one full-time coordinator/MF officer based in Red Sea State. Backstopping and support is provided from SUDIA main office in Khartoum with one part-time professional who will represent the project and be responsible for facilitating execution of various activities in country. The project will also draw on SUDIA' existing infrastructure in Sudan and in this way avoids the high cost of having to establish its own independent presence in the country. The research techniques selected to provide the necessary data for informing management decisions are highly cost effective. The coral reef survey and Divers Aware of Sharks approaches requires minimal investment in training and equipment, but provide essential temporal/spatial data to assess the changing state of the MPA habitats. The acoustic telemetry and satellite tracking equipment requires minimal field time for implementation and subsequently collects data 24 hrs a day, year round. These data will prove essential for informing national management decision, and for raising the global status of Sudan's marine ecosystems at the international level. An increased global status will facilitate increased potential to lever international funding for conservation management and ecotourism based livelihood assistance. The greatest assumption made while formulating our budget is that the exchange rate between the GBP and SUD either remains stable or does not become significantly unfavourable. Giving the current economic state of Sudan it is highly unlikely the currency will strengthen considerable over the next three years

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 your Foreign Ministry or the local embassy or High Commission (or equivalent) 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** **No**

CERTIFICATION

On behalf of the trustees/company* of
Equipe COUSTEAU

I apply for a grant of £ 300 000 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 applicant institution to submit applications and sign contracts on their behalf.)

- I enclose CVs for project principals and letters of support.
- Our most recent audited/independently verified accounts and annual report are also enclosed/can be found at:

Name (block capitals)	Tarik CHEKCHAK
Position in the organisation	Director for Sciences and Environment

Signed



Date:

02sd December 2013

Stage 2 Application - Checklist for submission

	Check
Have you read the Guidance Notes ?	yes
Have you provided actual start and end dates for your project?	Yes
Have you indicated whether you are applying for DFID or Defra funding. NB: you cannot apply for both	Yes
Have you provided your budget based on UK government financial years i.e. 1 April – 31 March and in GBP?	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
Has your application been signed by a suitably authorised individual? (clear electronic or scanned signatures are acceptable in the email)	Yes
Have you included a 1 page CV for all the Principals identified at Question 7?	Yes
Have you included a letter of support from the <u>main</u> partner(s) organisations identified at Question 10?	Yes
Have you been in contact with the FCO in the project country/ies and have you included any evidence of this?	yes
Have you included a copy of the last 2 years annual report and accounts for the lead organisation? An electronic link to a website is acceptable.	Yes
Have you checked the Darwin website immediately prior to submission to ensure there are no late updates?	Yes

Once you have answered the questions above, please submit the application, not later than midnight GMT on Monday 2 December 2013 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**. 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). You are not required to send a hard copy.

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.