



Submit by Monday 1 December 2014

DARWIN INITIATIVE APPLICATION FOR GRANT FOR ROUND 21: 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 in Question 7)

Applicant Organisation Name:	Institute of Biological and Environmental Sciences, University of Aberdeen
Address:	Zoology Building, Tillydrone Avenue
City and Postcode:	Aberdeen, AB24 2TZ
Country:	UK
Email:	
Phone:	

2. Stage 1 reference and Project title

Ref 2685	Title (max 10 words) Collaborative conflict management for community livelihoods & snow leopard conservation
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3. Project dates, and budget summary

Start date: 1st April 2015		End date: 31st March 2018		Duration: 3 years
Darwin request	2015/16 £80,164	2016/17 £89,914	2017/18 £95,836	Total request £265,914
Proposed (confirmed and unconfirmed) matched funding as % of total Project cost: 53%				
Are you applying for DFID or Defra funding? (Note you cannot apply for both)		DFID		

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

(max 30 words)

Conservation livelihood programmes supporting 2000 households in 47 communities reduce livestock losses, increase income and improve attitudes, leading to stable or increased abundance of snow leopards and wild ungulates.

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: Mongolia	Country 2: Pakistan
Country 3: Kyrgyzstan	Country 4:

6. Biodiversity Conventions

Which of the 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
Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS)	No
International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA)	No
Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)	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)

Our project addresses multiple aspects of CBD. It involves:

- (i) protection of viable populations of snow leopard and wild ungulates (blue sheep, argali, ibex)
- (ii) promotion of environmentally sound sustainable development through livelihood incentive programmes for managing snow leopard-human conflicts, and
- (iii) development of conservation objectives and initiatives that are informed by science, and within the context of existing social frameworks, thereby being locally relevant and socially acceptable.

As reflected in their work, all partners strongly believe in the need to engage local communities at the grassroots level and approach conflict management in a bottom-up manner. This we believe is in line with the philosophy of CBD, and is the main principle guiding our collaborative work with communities.

Specifically, our work relates most directly to Articles 8 & 11 within the CBD (In-situ conservation & Incentive measure).

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

Yes No if yes, please give details:

We have already worked closely with the CBDs focal points in each country on the Global Snow Leopard Forum and the Global Snow Leopard Ecosystem Protection Program.

Kyrgyzstan: **Mr. Sabir Atadjanov**, Head of Forestry and closely involved with Global Snow Leopard Forum and GSLEP

Mongolia: **Mr. Dorjgurkhem Batbold**, Official of the High Level Government delegate of the Global Snow Leopard Forum

Pakistan: **Mr. Syed Mahmood Nasir**, National Focal Point of GSLEP, and key official of the Global Snow Leopard Forum

We will ensure that they are informed of our project through communications throughout the project.

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 - Main	Project Partner 2
Surname	Redpath	Mishra	Young
Forename (s)	Steve	Charudutt	Juliette
Post held	Chair in Conservation Science	Director of Science & Conservation	Biodiversity policy researcher
Organisation (if different to above)	University of Aberdeen	Snow Leopard Trust (SLT)	Centre for Ecology & Hydrology
Department	Institute of Biological & Environmental Science	NA	Bush Estate, Edinburgh
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
15/0010	M Pinard	Buffer zone restoration and development
14/0009	M Pinard	Biodiversity monitoring for forest ecosystems

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)

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.

<p>Lead institution and website:</p> <p>The University of Aberdeen (UoA) www.abdn.ac.uk</p> <p>Institute of Biological & Environmental Science http://www.abdn.ac.uk/ibes/</p>	<p>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): (max 200 words)</p> <p>Redpath at UoA will be responsible for ensuring the project is completed on time and to schedule and providing the key technical and research expertise to lead and guide this project. He will also ensure that the Health and Safety Procedures, Risk Assessments and project ethical statement are discussed and agreed at start up meetings and adhered to throughout the project.</p> <p>Redpath has expertise in ecology and environmental conflict management and has successfully led research projects funded by research councils, government agencies, EU and NGOs. Many of these have been strongly trans-disciplinary, with a range of international collaborators.</p> <p>Redpath & Mishra (NCF) have worked together for 8 years and written a number of papers on snow leopards and conservation. They have shared three PhD students, all of whom have had internships at Aberdeen.</p> <p>Redpath & Young (CEH) have worked together for 5 years on projects focused on understanding and managing environmental conflicts, writing papers and engaging with stakeholders and policy makers.</p> <p>Building on their close ties, Redpath and Mishra developed the ideas for this proposal and will oversee the project, organise annual meetings, bi-monthly SKYPE meetings with partners and more frequent ad-hoc SKYPE meetings to assess and assist progress.</p>
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<p>Partner Name and website where available:</p> <p>Centre for Ecology and Hydrology (CEH)</p>	<p>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): (max 200 words)</p> <p>Young at CEH will be responsible for providing tailored training for the social science aspects of the project, overseeing the evaluation of the project with Redpath, and contributing to the effective dissemination of project results.</p> <p>Young is a social scientist with extensive experience of working on the understanding and management of conservation conflicts, and of evaluating the social and environmental outcomes of conservation initiatives. She has led, and participated in, a range of interdisciplinary projects funded by the European Union (FP5, FP6 and FP7), research councils and government agencies, all of which have involved high levels of stakeholder engagement. She is actively involved in the work of the IPBES, both on stakeholder engagement, and as an expert on the development of policy support tools and methodologies.</p> <p>Young & Redpath (UoA) have worked on initiatives and projects on the theoretical and practical aspects of conservation conflicts. Their outputs have including writing scientific papers, engaging with stakeholders and policy makers involved in conflicts, and communicating findings to the wider public to engender broader societal debate on conflicts.</p>
<p>Have you included a Letter of Support from this institution?</p>	<p>Yes</p>

<p>Partner Name and website where available: Snow Leopard Trust (SLT) www.snowleopard.org</p>	<p>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): (max 200 words)</p> <p>SLT, under PI Mishra, will coordinate project activities, data management, and field monitoring. Executive Director, Rutherford, will provide sales and marketing expertise and access to markets for handicrafts. SLT will work with UoA and CEH to develop trainings and disseminate project results.</p> <p>SLT is the largest and oldest organization primarily focused on snow leopard conservation with over 30 years of experience working on an international, national and local scale. SLT supports snow leopard conservation across all 12 range countries and works directly with leading NGOs to implement strategies in China, Mongolia, India, Pakistan, and Kyrgyz Republic, including SLCF, SLFK, and SLFP. SLT has worked closely with SLCF, SLFK and SLFP since at least their respective initiations. SLT has managed many multi-country, multi-year projects with our partner NGOs.</p> <p>SLT is also primary distributor for conservation handicrafts made by herders in snow leopard habitat. Our webstore and more than 180 retail partners (including, most recently, US-wide pet store chains) provide a large market for handicrafts, and demand for sales continues to grow.</p> <p>SLT is currently key technical partner for the Global Snow Leopard and Ecosystem Protection Program and has facilitated multiple meetings and exchanges of information between all snow leopard range countries.</p>
Have you included a Letter of Support from this institution?	Yes

<p>Partner Name and website where available: Snow Leopard Conservation Fund, Mongolia (SLCF)</p>	<p>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): (max 200 words)</p> <p>Snow Leopard Conservation Fund (SLCF), a Mongolian NGO, has been a leader in developing and implementing conservation programs that directly link protection of wildlife with economic benefits to communities. Founded in 2006, by Bayarajargal, SLCF now has community based conservation, education, and research programs operating in every province in Mongolia that are home to snow leopards.</p> <p>The flagship program of SLCF, run in partnership with the Snow Leopard Trust, is a handicraft program that provides economic incentives for communities that agree to protect snow leopards and their key prey species. This successful program involves 30 communities across Mongolia snow leopard habitat. SLCF has also piloted a livestock insurance program modelled after the program started by Charu Mishra in Northern India.</p> <p>SLCF is also a key partner, with the Snow Leopard Trust, in the management of the largest, most comprehensive snow leopard research study to date. The experiences gained through this program will help SLCF to monitor the impacts of their ongoing initiatives.</p> <p>SLCF will lead field implementation and facilitate and coordinate activities within Mongolia. They will coordinate representation from communities, and assist with training, design, and implementation of bespoke, collaborative conflict mitigation programs.</p>
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Have you included a Letter of Support from this institution?	Yes
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Partner Name and website where available: Snow Leopard Foundation, Pakistan (SLFP)	Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): (max 200 words) <p>Snow Leopard Foundation Pakistan (SLFP) is a non-profit organization that aims to conserve viable populations of wild carnivores as an integral part of landscapes across Pakistan while improving the socio-economic conditions of the people who share their fragile mountain ecosystems.</p> <p>Under the direction of Dr. Muhammad Ali Nawaz, SLFP has been operating these programs since 2003 (from 2003 – 2007 with WWF and from 2008 to present as SLFP). Dr. Nawaz will oversee all aspects of SLFP's involvement in this grant.</p> <p>SLFP has worked in Chitral since 2003 and was able to pilot corral building and livestock insurance in the region for the first time in 2013 with support from a 1 year grant. The opportunity to be a partner on this Darwin Initiative would be well timed to build on the foundation of support that has been established. There is a great deal of interest from communities to adopt the corral, insurance, and handicraft programs because of the dual benefits to their incomes and wildlife conservation. This project will support their ongoing work by understanding the effectiveness of conservation interventions.</p> <p>SLFP has the staff and experience necessary to be a strong partner on this grant and will provide the resources and logistical support to make this grant a success in Pakistan.</p>
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Have you included a Letter of Support from this institution?	Yes
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Partner Name and website where available: Snow Leopard Foundation, Kyrgyzstan (SLFK)	Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): (max 200 words) <p>SLFK has partnered with SLT since its founding in 2012. SLFK is Kyrgyz Republic's first NGO dedicated to snow leopard conservation and has attained national recognition and respect from all levels of society and Government. The executive director, Kubanychbek Zhumabai uulu, has worked with SLT since 2003.</p> <p>SLFK is the primary partner for all Kyrgyzstan work including working with communities, organizing trainings, and assessing the impact and reporting program results. Kubanychbek Zhumabai uulu will be overseeing all activities.</p> <p>The proposed work will be in and around Sarychat-Ertash, the country's largest Nature Reserve. It is the most important protected areas for snow leopards in Kyrgyzstan and home to the largest population of snow leopards identified within the country. The overall landscape is roughly 4,000 sq km.</p> <p>SLFK was instrumental in helping the Government finalize Kyrgyz Republic's national snow leopard strategy leading up to the Global Forum on Snow Leopards, and worked closely with SLT to liaise with the Kyrgyz government to convene the Global Forum. SLFK is part of a 3-way MoU with SLT and Government of Kyrgyz Republic to facilitate research and conservation. This project will build on their ongoing work by providing understanding the effectiveness of different conservation interventions.</p>
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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)

Finding effective strategies that resolve conflicts between human livelihoods and biodiversity conservation are urgently sought. Large predators are particularly problematic as they are of high conservation interest but often have severe impacts on human livelihood. The endangered snow leopard of Central Asia exemplifies this problem. Across their 12-country range, snow leopards co-occur with herding communities inside and outside of protected areas. Annual per capita GDP varies from \$1155 - \$3673 and >40% of these rural herders live below national poverty lines (National Statistics). Average annual livestock depredation rates range from 3-13% (Mishra et al. 2003. Conservation Biology 17:1512-20) equivalent to up to one month's income. Unsurprisingly, retribution killing of snow leopards is widespread, sometimes involving the illegal selling of leopard parts, and this killing represents a critical threat (McCarthy & Chapron 2003, SLN report). In addition, wild ungulates, on which snow leopards depend, compete with livestock and are also killed (McCarthy & Chapron 2003, Mishra et al., 2004. J. Appl. Ecol. 41:344-354). This project will tackle these problems by empowering rural pastoralist communities in central Asia to develop multi-pronged conservation schemes to support the sustainable coexistence of herding communities with wild ungulates and predators.

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 – repeat from Stage 1 with changes highlighted)

NB – This section has been re-written from stage 1, in response to comments and clarify our approach.

We will work with c16,000 people in 2000 households in 47 communities in Altay Mountains, Mongolia; Hindu Kush-Pamir, Pakistan, and Tien Shan Mountains, Kyrgyzstan, to:

- 1) Reduce livestock losses through improved **corrals**. We provide designs and materials not available locally, communities provide labour.
- 2) Offset economic losses via **insurance** programmes. Households pay premiums into a community-managed fund for livestock they want to insure; elected committees investigate livestock kills and pay out claims.
- 3) Improve livelihoods via conservation-linked **handicrafts** (Mishra et al. 2003. Conservation Biology 17:1512-20). Building on women's wool/felting skills and traditional artistry, we train them to meet international market standards. We set mutually-agreed base prices, guarantee to purchase bulk orders and provide access to US markets.

In return, participants and community leaders sign "**Conservation Contracts**", agreeing to ban the killing of snow leopards and wild ungulates. Partners currently work with 38 communities, 25 with one programme, 13 with two.

We will test the effectiveness of individual programmes, extend our reach to 47 communities and

implement and test effectiveness of combined programme approaches. We expect combined initiatives to be more effective than standalone ones because they provide multiple benefits and involve more people, including women, who we know are more negative towards predators than men (Suryawanshi et al 2013). Final patterns of uptake will depend on community needs.

In each country, we will develop a training toolkit and train field implementers in community engagement and negotiation skills. In each community, field implementers will hold meetings with community members and councils to encourage uptake of combined programmes, and identify and engage community champions to support initiatives.

We will include three additional control communities (one in each country) with no interventions over three years. We will evaluate success in multiple ways within (participants v non-participants) and between communities, by comparing household income, attitudes towards conservation programmes/predators/ungulates (disaggregated by gender), and the killing of predators and wild ungulates (between communities only):

- 1) No intervention v single programmes (year 1)
- 2) Before and after combined programme implementation (year 1 v year 3)
- 3) No intervention (controls) v single programmes v multiple programmes (year 3)

We will derive estimates of snow leopard and wild herbivore abundance in landscapes surrounding the three regions and in three separate control regions, using standard techniques refined by us based on line transects, camera-trapping and double-observer techniques (Suryawanshi et al 2013).

UoA is responsible for project success. UoA, SLT & CEH will ensure the timetable is followed. UoA, CEH will provide ecological and social science expertise and oversee evaluation. CEH, SLT will provide training and toolkits and with UoA will disseminate results. SLT will manage within-country partners' implementation, data management and field monitoring, and provide sales and marketing expertise and access to markets. SLCF, SLFK, and SLFP will lead local implementation, collect data, write annual reports. SLT will collate reports and survey data. Partners will meet annually, and bi-monthly via skype. International field teams will share best practices regularly and meet (virtually) to discuss lessons learned in final year.

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)

Our programmes will improve the lives of c16,000 herders in 2000 households in 47 communities across Mongolia, Pakistan and Kyrgyzstan by supporting incentives for conservation:

Building predator-proof corrals saves income by preventing mass killings. On average, >50% of livestock losses to predators are inside corrals. Insurance programmes compensate for losses to predators. Premium and payout rates selected by community committees provide 15%-50% of market value of lost animals. Handicrafts provides up to US\$230 pa per household, including sales and a 20% bonus to participating woman when entire communities abide by the Contract. We expect this to increase to up to \$440 by 2018. (See Q19 for more details).

Snow leopards and wild ungulates (blue sheep, argali and ibex) are scarce in these landscapes and threatened by killing. Predators are killed because of threats to livestock. Ungulates are killed because of perceived competition with livestock. Moreover, the abundance of snow leopards is strongly correlated with wild ungulate abundance (Suryawanshi Phd thesis 2013),

so wild ungulates are critical to the long-term conservation of snow leopards.

We expect conservation interventions to improve the attitudes of participating households and communities towards wild ungulates and predators, leading to a reduction in the main threats, and a cessation in illegal killing. This will ultimately lead to increased abundance. Although these species respond quickly to improved survival and we expect to see improved abundance around our participating communities, the full benefits of our interventions may only be witnessed by our long-term monitoring beyond 2018.

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

This new project builds on long-term efforts by SLT and partners to support pastoralist communities living with predators. Over the last decade, Mishra and colleagues have built close relationships with communities and developed best practices for individual programmes, funded largely by private grants and donations. Work has focused on northern India, and results have been encouraging at both improving livelihoods and reducing retaliatory killing. Lessons from this experience will be applied to this project.

Darwin funding will finally allow us to test the impact of multiple interventions on livelihood, attitudes, behaviour and species abundance across Mongolia, Pakistan and Kyrgyzstan. Working along this socio-ecological gradient will enable a more in-depth understanding of the components needed to successfully integrate conservation into the lives and livelihoods of poor pastoralists.

This project promotes the Bishkek Declaration for Conservation of the Endangered Snow Leopard, ratified by all 12 snow leopard nations in 2013, and calling for recognition of the rights and needs of local peoples as a key principle in conservation. Following the Bishkek Declaration, all 12 countries endorsed a Global Snow Leopard Ecosystem Protection Program (GSLEP; http://akilbirs.com/files/final_gslep_web_11_%2014_%2013.pdf), supported by SLT, SLCF, SLFP and SLFK. Advancing community-based conservation programs is key towards meeting GSLEP goals.

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:

We do not know of other groups applying for funding.

WWF Mongolia has a programme with local communities in some parts of Mongolia aimed at improving livelihoods through sustainable use of pastures. Our SLCF team in Mongolia has assisted WWF in evaluating and advising their programmes, and in areas of potential overlap, we will be able to seek their inputs and assistance.

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.

We are not applying for funding directly for the same project. However SLT, SLFK, SLFP and SLCF have multiple minor proposals received or pending for 2015 aimed at helping them support the individual components in this project. SLCF is managing a handicraft programme, has one test insurance program in one village, and in 2014 began a corral building pilot. SLFK is managing a handicraft programme only. SLFP is managing a small handicraft program, and is piloting corrals and insurance in 2014.

We will have two pending proposal for Whitely Fund for Nature, one for 2015 and one for 2016, with total GBP £49,675/US\$78,000 to support field implementer salaries and community programmes in Mongolia and Pakistan. Results expected in April or May 2015/2016.

We have an actively pending proposal with David Shepherd Wildlife Foundation for GBP £8,750/US\$13,700 to support community programmes in Mongolia, results expected in late December 2014.

We have received a grant in 2014 from People's Trust for Endangered Species for GBP£1820/US \$2,900 which can be used in 2015 to expand livestock insurance program in Mongolia

We have a pending proposal with Woodland Park Zoo for US\$18,500 to support surveys, community programs, staff development, travel in Kyrgyzstan, results expected in January 2015.

We have received a grant of US\$4,500 from Norwegian Embassy in Astana to support handicrafts in Kyrgyzstan through June 2015.

This application is not dependent on the success of these applications. Should any of these applications not be successful, SLT will cover any shortfall. This Darwin grant will allow us to test the effectiveness of interventions across the three countries. We employ a grants manager to clearly account for expenditure.

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)

Finding cost effective ways of supporting coexistence of rural communities with large predators is extremely challenging. Top-down approaches, such as the relocation of villagers out of Tiger reserves in India, have proved financially costly, often ineffective and sometimes controversial.

Our philosophy is to support and evaluate bottom-up approaches, encouraging communities to take ownership of schemes. This project builds on long-term partnerships and community relationships and is focused on the delivery of multi-pronged, collaborative schemes of individual programmes that are well-piloted, in regions where SLCF, SLFK, SLFP already work closely with communities.

Therefore, this Darwin project will secure value for money by supporting the development of a robust, self-sustaining programme that will continue into the future under SLT's guidance. We will directly benefit 16,000 people across 47 communities in extremely remote, high-mountain landscapes of three countries. We will reduce threats to endangered snow leopard, argali, ibex, blue sheep and other associated wildlife. Through Darwin funded evaluation we will understand the attitudes towards interventions, and the consequences of interventions for livelihoods, attitudes, behaviour and abundance across 3 countries. The lessons learned will advise best practices for meeting country goals under the GSLEP program (see 15a), and more generally those working to balance conservation and livelihoods worldwide.

Strategies and policies using snow leopards as a focal species, such as the GSLEP are already creating connectivity and landscape-level conservation (GSLEP landscapes cover >500,000 sq km), and have potential in the future to elicit funding for community-led conservation from Governments and international bodies (e.g. GEF).

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)

This proposal builds on more than a decade of partnership with rural communities. The cornerstone of this project is respectful collaboration, supporting local communities and enhancing their ability to deal with the impacts of predators. The project will nurture community conservation leaders and will directly strengthen the community engagement and conflict-management capacity of our NGO partners.

Surveys and questionnaires will be carried out according to the ethics policy at CEH to ensure the rights of those involved are respected and upheld and all participants understand and freely consent to being part of the project.

Ethical and health & safety issues for the research team and the communities will be discussed at the start up meeting between all project partners to ensure all field staff following mutually-agreed, rigorous standards in protocols and risk assessments, and monitored throughout the project. The need for clear and objective evidence will be built into discussions and the integrity of the research will be overseen by PIs Redpath, Mishra & Young. Dr. Mishra has completed a document, called *PARTNERS* Principles, thoroughly describing steps necessary to build sustainable, ethical, inclusive and collaborative community programs. This will be shared with all staff and used in training.

This project sits squarely at the interface between poverty alleviation and biodiversity conservation, so all work fits comfortably within the remit of the Darwin Initiative.

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?

(Max 300 words)

Local communities struggle to coexist with large carnivores because of the threats to livelihoods. Finding effective ways to support livelihoods and increase tolerance are central to both short and long-term conservation of our large predators and associated biodiversity.

This project will have numerous benefits. It will:

- 1) Increase the capacity of in-country partner organisations towards engaging communities and act as a catalyst for initiating multi-pronged, long-term programmes that will continue to scale and mature beyond this project.
- 2) Support local communities to take responsibility over conflict-management, with long-lasting benefits, including improved resilience towards predators, increased leadership and management skills, and greater long-term sustainability of conservation efforts.
- 3) Build partnerships providing important alliances in the face of external threats. For example, SLCF has already experienced positive collaboration with a community in the South Gobi through handicrafts, and then was able to help the community apply for and attain Local Protected Area status with the Mongolian Government to reduce the impacts of mining development.
- 4) Support livelihoods, through reducing livestock losses and compensating for predated livestock (see 14&19)
- 5) Generate long-term income, from handicraft schemes, improving social empowerment (security, pride, voice in community decision-making, and overall family well-being), particularly for women involved in handicrafts (Mallon 2006).

- 6) Lead to improved tolerance for snow leopards and wild ungulates, thereby reducing wildlife persecution and ultimately increasing growth in snow leopard and wild prey populations. This project is designed to have a long-lasting impact on the capability of the recipient countries to meet their obligations under the CBD (see 6b) and will contribute to protection of vast high-altitude habitats under the GSLEP program (improved water security, land management, etc).

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 21 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)

Our project will benefit pastoralist communities in Mongolia, Kyrgyzstan and Pakistan by:

Building corrals. Herders lose 3-13% of livestock annually to predation, and >50% of these losses occur when animals are in poorly constructed corrals (Jackson and Wangchuk 2004, *Human Dimensions of Wildlife*, 9:307–315). Predator-proof corral building will stop multiple livestock kills, saving families \$100s worth of livestock annually.

Insuring livestock. Premium and payout rates are jointly agreed by communities and schemes provide 15%-50% of market value of lost animals depending on area, age of program, livestock species and age/sex class. Programmes are run by elected community committees, who investigate claims and transparently manage funds (Mishra et al. 2003). We will match community premiums for first 5 years to build a self-sustaining insurance corpus.

Handicrafts: Our model supports artistry and community engagement and currently provides up to US\$230 pa per household, including sales and a 20% bonus to participating woman when entire communities abide by the Contract. We expect this to increase to up to \$440 by 2018. SLT makes bulk purchases of >45,000 conservation-focused handicrafts annually and manages distribution across 180 outlets and an online store, with >US\$100,000 in sales per annum. This covers the full cost-of-goods and distribution, making the 'business' side of the program sustainable. We support communities to negotiate fair prices and produce high-quality crafts.

SLT has cultivated relationships with >180 retail outlets in the US and Europe to provide women with direct access to a ready market. SLT consults with professional marketing and retail experts, to ensure crafts remain current and profitable. Women receive training on wool processing, low-interest micro-credit loans for equipment to boost production capacity, and skills in sales/trade negotiations of value beyond this project. The added value for the handicrafts is >5 times greater than raw wool.

19a. Impact to beneficiaries

If applying to DFID funding, please indicate the number of beneficiaries who are expected to be impacted by your project. If possible, indicate the number of women who will be impacted.

We currently work with c6600 people in 836 households in 38 communities and are developing single programme approaches. Darwin will allow us to dramatically increase this to c16,000 people in 2000 households in 47 communities, and develop and evaluate combined approaches.

Women are likely to be a key part to the success of this work. Our survey results in India have found that women hold more negative views towards predators than men. Corrals and insurance programs benefit the whole household and are developed with male-dominated councils. In contrast handicraft schemes are specifically designed with the women and support their activities. We estimate at least 8,500 women will be impacted by all programmes, and 433 women will be actively involved in handicraft schemes.

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)

This project will continue well beyond 2018. We empower communities to take ownership of conflict mitigation in our target regions and do not intend to 'exit' from this engagement.

To achieve a stable end point, we will:

- 1) Train field staff, support communities and champions. We have toolkits available should field staff or champions leave, and our reach is broad enough to develop new champions when necessary.
- 2) Develop livestock insurance programmes with built-in financial self-sufficiency. As community members pay insurance premiums, they build the insurance corpus until it reaches a self-sustaining level, and the council limits payout rates to safeguard it from depletion.
- 3) Develop handicraft programmes where ~50% of retail sales are paid directly to women and the other half is invested back into program operations and development. SLT is not looking to 'exit' this balanced relationship, but herders will have the skills and resources to seek new distributors or new markets.
- 4) Negotiate with communities to maintain corrals over the long-term in exchange for our up-front improvements.

In-country, partner organizations will continue to have a presence, support the communities in the delivery of these schemes and continue monitoring predators and prey.

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)

Awareness raising of biodiversity will be built into this project on multiple scales.

At the local scale we will work closely with communities throughout the project to improve their ability to live with large predators and wild ungulates. We will communicate directly with 47 communities to share knowledge and discuss strategies in meetings with village councils and households. We will also work closely with locally respected "champions" who will advocate in their communities for the importance of protecting biodiversity.

Results from this project will be disseminated nationally and internationally via reports and peer discussions to share best practice. We will continue to write papers in scientific journals and hold talks at international conferences [beyond timeframe of this project] to help improve conflict management in other systems.

Most importantly, lessons learned will be incorporated into guidance materials for the Global Snow Leopard Ecosystem Protection Program (GSLEP), which recognizes and promotes 'community incentives for conservation.' SLT plays the key catalyst role in developing and implementing GSLEP, an initiative of all 12 snow leopard range country governments led by the President of the Kyrgyz Republic. In this way, the knowledge gained can help government and conservation leaders across all snow leopard range countries improve policies and management plans involving community-based programs. Our findings will be provided to the GSLEP Secretariat to disseminate to nodal GSLEP contacts within each range country.

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.

(Max 250 words)

All project PIs agree with the principle of open access for all data and outputs.

Databases generated from the project will be available online through a free and open access repository (either via SLT website, or Snow Leopard Network www.snowleopardnetwork.org).

Outputs will be shared freely and openly online via UoA, SLT and CEH websites, and made available in print via SLCF, SLFK, and SLFP. All information and documents will be in English with options for translation into Kyrgyz, Mongolian and Urdu. We have budgeted for translators to complete initial work, which will include the toolkits. On a more regular basis, minor translations can be completed by partner staff as part of their 'business as usual.'

In addition, any papers generated from this project will be published on open access journals and will, along with other articles and reports be freely available (in English) online on SLT's website and through SLT's sister organization, Snow Leopard Network, which maintains a thorough digital bibliography of snow leopard related research

Since SLT, Snow Leopard Network, and GSLEP Secretariat all have existing websites with web managers, and since posting these items will not require much work, no other costs are necessary for our open access plan.

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)

The value of community involvement for effective nature conservation is often emphasized in conservation policies and environmental rhetoric. Yet, in large parts of Asia, wildlife conservation and management continues to be coercive and involve top-down state control, which is both morally questionable and often unsustainable over the longer term. There are limited field examples of robust, bottom-up models of wildlife conservation and conflict management that are based on deep community involvement. Our project aims to set up and evaluate such models. Snow leopards are one of the least studied of the big cats and large-scale efforts to protect them have been lacking, as compared to efforts currently in place for tigers. Although recognized as a charismatic flagship species, only recently (2013) have all range countries completed species actions plans and devoted significant political resources towards their conservation via the Bishkek Declaration on the Conservation of the Endangered Snow Leopard and the GSLEP. It is important to continue to support this momentum with improved tools they can use to national priorities under the GSLEP programme.

In addition, the concepts behind our proposed incentive schemes, sometimes referred to as 'conservation commerce,' are still young with many new avenues to explore. Other organizations have had some success, but there remains great potential for better linkages and new programmes.

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:

The University of Aberdeen and its partners have confirmed support for 53% of the total program costs. SLT is applying for additional funding to support individual components of this work within country (currently listed in unsecured funding 24b). Should these applications not be successful, SLT will cover any shortfall.

University of Aberdeen has agreed to provide in-kind staff time and associated overheads to the sum of £XXXX and CEH have confirmed an in-kind donation of £19033. The Snow Leopard Trust has committed a total of £XXXX in support of the activities outlined in the proposal. The Snow Leopard Trust Board of Directors and membership stand behind this commitment of funds over the 3 year grant period. Towards their commitment, SLT has secured \$7,400 in funding from People's Trust For Endangered Species and Norwegian Embassy in Astana, as detailed in section 15c above.

Should any currently unconfirmed funding not materialise, SLT will cover the shortfall.

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
To be completed: April 2015	Whitley Fund for Nature	£22,500 GBP /US\$35,300	
To be completed: April 2016	Whitley Fund for Nature	GBP £27,175/ US\$42,700	
Submitted November 2014	David Shepherd Wildlife Foundation	£8,750/US\$13,700	
Submitted October 2014	Woodland Park Zoo	US \$18,500	

***NB - If these unsecured applications not be successful, SLT will cover any shortfall.**

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.

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)

Poverty of rural herders and threats to biodiversity are reduced in snow leopard regions of Mongolia, Pakistan and Kyrgyzstan through collaborative conservation programmes.

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)

Conservation livelihood programmes supporting 2000 households in 47 communities reduce livestock losses, increase income and improve attitudes, leading to stable or increased abundance of snow leopards and wild ungulates.

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	By 2018, number of households engaged in biodiversity conservation and livelihood programmes increased from 836 in 38 communities to 2,000 in 47 communities
Indicator 2	By 2018, number of communities engaged in multiple conservation programmes increased from 13 to >20
Indicator 3	By 2018, livestock losses inside predator-proof corrals will be completely curtailed, saving 1.5% - 6.5% of livestock holdings in communities per annum.
Indicator 4	By 2018, insurance programmes will provide at least 15% of market value for small livestock and 20-50% for large livestock lost to carnivore predation.
Indicator 5	By 2018, handicraft schemes will increase average household income up to US\$440, equivalent to > 12% of respective national GDP.
Indicator 6	In 2015, attitudes towards interventions, predators and ungulates of both men and women in communities with conservation contracts will be more positive compared to communities with no interventions.
Indicator 7	In 2018, attitudes towards interventions, predators and ungulates of both men and women will be more positive in communities with multiple programmes, than single programmes, than controls (no programmes)
Indicator 8	By 2018, in 47 communities with conservation contracts the killing of wild ungulates and snow leopards, deduced from key informant and field survey information, will completely stop.
Indicator 9	By 2018, abundance indices of snow leopards and wild ungulates, collected using standard field techniques in 3 landscapes with participating communities will be higher relative to 3 paired control landscapes.

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 & 2	Published annual reports from field teams in each country highlighting number of communities approached, champions identified, meetings held, schemes adopted and conservation contracts signed.
Indicator 2	Published annual reports in each country of predation events reported for each of the 47 communities and those serving as controls.
Indicator 3	Published baseline and final surveys for all relevant communities highlighting corral improvements, involvement in insurance programmes and premium payments, and involvement in handicraft production, sales and price received.
Indicator 6	Published baseline and final surveys for sample households in sample communities measuring household income and attitudes towards interventions, predators and ungulates.
Indicator 7	Annual reports of snow leopard and wild herbivore killing from all 47+3 control communities, incorporating information from long-term community contacts (key informants), community champions, protected area staff and records from wildlife departments.
Indicator 8	Reports from six landscape-scale, wildlife surveys (camera trapping and double observer techniques) led by partner organisation staff/researchers.

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	Communities remain willing to engage in collaborative, multi-pronged conservation management initiatives
Assumption 2	US and online markets for handicrafts and livestock products remain sustainable
Assumption 3	There is no severe socio-political unrest that prevents work with communities in the host countries. In our experience, access to some of the communities in Pakistan can get restricted for varying periods. Based on experience and our sustained field presence, we expect occasional delays but not a cessation of our work. We don't anticipate such issues in the other two countries.
Assumption 4	There are no new external threats to pastoral livelihoods and environments, such as damaging land uses (e.g. mining). In Mongolia where this is an issue, as a separate initiative with independent funding, we have been assisting the communities to map their areas of grazing and cultural importance. They are using these maps to negotiate with local governments to prevent their areas from mining.

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	Conservation initiatives established in 47 communities with >20 communities engaged in multiple programmes.
Output 2	Effectiveness of single and multiple conservation initiatives on livestock losses, household income and attitudes towards interventions, predators and ungulates is understood, including regional and gender effects
Output 3	Training delivered for field implementers and meetings held with community champions
Output 4	Impact of conservation initiatives on abundance of wild ungulates and snow leopards understood.

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	
Conservation initiatives established in 47 communities with >20 communities engaged in multiple programmes.	
Indicator 1	15 additional corrals built, protecting 11,000 livestock by yr 3, over baseline of 14 corrals protecting 5,400 livestock
Indicator 2	13 communities insuring 15,000 livestock by yr 3, over baseline of 7 insuring 5000 livestock
Indicator 3	433 households in 38 communities engaged in handicrafts by yr 3, over baseline of 315 households in 35 communities
Indicator 4	Nine new and 38 updated conservation contracts signed for 47 communities, by yr 2
Indicator 5	>20 communities engaged in multiple programmes by 2018

Output 2	
Effectiveness of single and multiple conservation initiatives on livestock losses, household income and attitudes towards interventions, predators and ungulates is understood, including regional and gender effects	
Indicator 1	Livestock losses inside predator-proof corrals will be completely curtailed, saving 1.5% - 6.5% of livestock holdings in communities per annum. and protecting 11,000 additional livestock from predation by yr 3,
Indicator 2	15,000 livestock insured, providing >15% of market value for small livestock and 20-50% for large livestock.
Indicator 3	52,000 handicrafts increasing income of participating households by up to \$440 per household produced by yr 3
Indicator 4	Attitudes towards interventions, snow leopards and wild ungulates by men and women in communities improved by yr 3
Indicator 5	Working paper outlining successful methods incorporated into SLCF, SLFP, SLFK strategic planning and distributed to appropriate contacts affecting planning and policies under GSLEP program by yr 3

Indicator 6	Peer review paper submitted for publication by yr 3
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Output 3	
Training delivered for field implementers and meetings held with community champions	
Indicator 1	Training of 13 field implementers from SLCF, SLFP and SLFK in negotiation and community engagement skills increased sensitivity towards respectful community engagement and retention of information in yr 3
Indicator 2	47 respected community conservation champions are actively engaged in dialogue with communities by end of yr 2

Output 4	
Impact of conservation initiatives on abundance of wild ungulates and snow leopards understood	
Indicator 1	Intention to kill predators and wild herbivores reduced in participating households and communities by yr 3
Indicator 2	Killing of wild ungulates and snow leopards stops in communities with conservation contracts by yr 3.
Indicator 3	Indices of abundance of snow leopards and wild ungulates in the sampled programme landscapes are higher compared to estimates in yr 3
Indicator 4	Working paper shared with appropriate contacts affecting planning and policies under GSLEP program by yr 3
Indicator 5	Peer review paper submitted for publication by yr 3
Indicator 6	Best practice shared with international field teams yr 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	Project notes of training delivered to field implementation teams
Indicator 2	Programme data, stories, field reports and receipts collected by SLCF, SLFP, SLFK to monitor corrals building, insurance scheme progress and handicraft production and purchases,
Indicator 3	Field implementer meetings with conservation champions to keep record of their involvement in community discussions
Indicator 4	Surveys of attitudes, household income and killing of snow leopards and wild ungulates
Indicator 5	Reports from wildlife surveys (camera trapping and double observer techniques) led by partner organisation staff/researchers.
Indicator 6	GSLEP communications
Indicator 7	SLCF, SLFP, SLFK Strategic Plans
Indicator 8	Post-training response forms from field staff

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	Results of project are clear and incorporated into policies/strategies
Assumption 2	Field implementers will remain with their respective organizations for long enough to make training worthwhile
Assumption 3	We will be able to find effective community champions within a reasonable amount of time
Assumption 4	Communities remain interested in corrals, handicrafts and insurance as good options for mitigating conflicts and leadership within community remains cohesive enough to manage multi-pronged programmes

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	
Conservation initiatives established in 47 communities with >20 communities engaged in multiple programmes.	
Activity 1.1	Field implementers attend council meetings in each community
Activity 1.2	Field implementers work with community leaders to agree suite of conservation programmes, sign new/update existing conservation contracts
Activity 1.3	Field implementers secure materials, communities secure labour and corrals constructed in relevant communities
Activity 1.4	SLCF, SLFK and SLGP distribute seed money into community fund to jumpstart insurance schemes in relevant communities
Activity 1.5	Orders for handicrafts placed by SLT via field implementers; field implementers collect products twice/yr and bring to SLCF, SLFK, SLFP headquarters to ship to SLT for distribution

Output 2	
Effectiveness of single and multiple conservation initiatives on livestock losses, household income and attitudes towards interventions, predators and ungulates is understood, including regional and gender effects	
Activity 2.1	UoA and SLT collate and review existing information
Activity 2.2	UoA, SLT and CEH agree protocols for surveys at partner start-up meeting
Activity 2.3	Baseline (yr 1) and final yr (yr 3) survey data collected in sample of communities on livestock losses, income and attitudes
Activity 2.4	Working paper completed by partners and SLT shared with GSLEP Secretariat

Activity 2.5	Peer review paper submitted by partners
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Output 3	
Training delivered for field implementers and meetings held with community champions	
Activity 3.1	Toolkits prepared for field implementers by UoA, SLT and CEH
Activity 3.2	Training workshop for field implementers delivered, based on negotiation theory and PARTNERS Principles, and SLT's field monitoring manual
Activity 3.3	Field implementers hold meetings for community representatives to convey skills in and discuss programme management/implementation (accounting, wool processing, sales and marketing)
Activity 3.4	Toolkits for local champions developed by UoA, SLT and CEH
Activity 3.5	Local champions are identified and sensitized in programme communities through meetings with SLCF, SLFK and SLFP field implementers and toolkit
Activity 3.6	Sustained interaction with local champions, including documentation by SLCF, SLFK, SLFP field implementers of their conservation awareness activities.

Output 4	
Impact of conservation initiatives on abundance of wild ungulates and snow leopards understood	
Activity 4.1	Any killing of snow leopards and wild ungulates recorded Yrs1-3
Activity 4.2	Snow leopard abundance surveys in representative programme and control landscapes undertaken in Yr 1 and Yr 3 through camera trapping
Activity 4.3	Wild ungulate surveys undertaken in representative habitats in programme and control landscapes in Yrs 2 & 3 through double observer techniques
Activity 4.4	Photo-identification, data compilation and analyses by partners
Activity 4.5	Working paper completed by partners and SLT shares with GSLEP Secretariat
Activity 4.6	Meeting with international field teams to discuss lessons learned
Activity 4.7	Peer review paper submitted

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: 2015-2016				Year 2: 2016-2017				Year 3: 2017-2018			
		Q1 Apr-Jun	Q2 Jul-Sep	Q3 Oct-Dec	Q4 Jan-Mar	Q1 Apr-Jun	Q2 Jul-Sep	Q3 Oct-Dec	Q4 Jan-Mar	Q1 Apr-Jun	Q2 Jul-Sep	Q3 Oct-Dec	Q4 Jan-Mar
Output 1 - Conservation initiatives established in 47 communities with >20 communities engaged in multiple programmes.													
1.1 <i>Field implementers attend council meetings in each community</i>	2			X	X								
1.2 <i>Field implementers work with community leaders to agree suite of conservation programmes, sign new/update existing conservation contracts</i>	2					X	X						
1.3 <i>Field implementers secure materials, communities secure labour and corrals constructed in relevant communities</i>	3			X		X	X						
1.4 <i>SLCF, SLFK and SLGP distribute seed money into community fund to jumpstart insurance schemes in relevant communities</i>	0.25				X	X	X						
1.5 <i>Orders (O) for handicrafts placed by SLT via field implementers; field implementers collect products twice/yr and bring to SLCF, SLFK, SLFP headquarters to ship (S) to SLT for distribution</i>	5 (0.5 each)			O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S	O	S
Output 2 - Effectiveness of single and multiple conservation initiatives on livestock losses, household income and attitudes towards interventions, predators and ungulates is understood, including regional and gender effects													
2.1 <i>UoA and SLT collate and review existing information</i>	1	X											
2.2 <i>UoA, SLT and CEH agree protocols for surveys at partner start-up meeting</i>	1	X											
2.3 <i>Baseline (yr 1) and final yr (yr 3) survey data collected in sample of communities on livestock losses, income and attitudes</i>	4		X	X							X	X	
2.4 <i>Working paper completed by partners and SLT shares with GSLEP Secretariat</i>	1												X
2.5 <i>Peer review paper submitted by partners</i>	2												X
Output 3 - Training delivered for field implementers and													

meetings held with community champions														
3.2	<i>Toolkits prepared for field implementers by UoA, SLT and CEH</i>	2	X	X										
3.3	<i>Training workshop for field implementers delivered, based on negotiation theory and PARTNERS Principles, and SLT's field monitoring manual Training programmes delivered by SLCF, SLFK, SLFP</i>	1		X										
3.4	<i>Field implementers hold meetings for community representatives to convey skills in and discuss programme management/implementation skills (accounting, wool processing, sales and marketing)</i>	4			X	X	X	X						
3.5	<i>Toolkits for local champions developed by UoA, SLT and CEH</i>	2	X	X										
3.6	<i>Local champions are identified and sensitized in programme communities through meetings with SLCF, SLFK and SLFP field implementers and toolkit</i>	7			X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
3.7	<i>Sustained interaction with local champions, including documentation by SLCF, SLFK, SLFP field implementers of their conservation awareness activities.</i>	3			X				X				X	
Output 4 - Impact of conservation initiatives on abundance of wild ungulates and snow leopards understood														
4.1	<i>Any killing of snow leopards and wild ungulates recorded Yrs 1-3</i>	2		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
4.2	<i>Snow leopard abundance surveys in representative programme and control landscapes undertaken in Yr 1 and Yr 3 through camera trapping</i>	6	X	X			X	X			X	X		
4.3	<i>Wild ungulate surveys undertaken in representative habitats in programme and control landscapes in Yrs 2&3 through double observer techniques</i>	3							X	X			X	
4.4	<i>Photo-identification, data compilation and analyses by partners</i>	8			X	X							X	X
4.5	<i>Working paper completed by partners and SLT shares with GSLEP Secretariat</i>	1												X
4.5	<i>Meeting with international field teams to discuss lessons learned</i>	0.25												X
4.6	<i>Peer review paper submitted</i>	2												X

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)

UoA is responsible for the overall project. Monitoring and evaluation will be overseen by UoA, CEH & SLT. Host country partners will collect data and implement monitoring programme after initial training from SLT & CEH and support from toolkits.

Monitoring and evaluation is central to project success. We will collect data on household income, changes to livestock holdings, programme participation, attitudes, behaviour towards predators and wild ungulates and abundance indices of these species.

To understand the success, or otherwise of conservation initiatives in improving livelihood and conservation outcomes, we will:

Contrast data across sample communities to compare single v multiple interventions, before v after interventions and treatment v control

Contrast data on income, livestock holding and attitudes within participating communities to compare participating v non-participating households

Surveys will be designed by CEH and collected and managed by staff and existing Ph.D. student(s) at SLCF, SLFP and SLFK, under overall guidance from CEH, UoA and SLT. Surveys will be based on Theory of Planned Behaviour (*St. John et al. Journal Applied Ecology 2014*) and include counterfactuals to quantify attitudes and behavioural intention. Intention will be contrasted with reports of retribution killing, collected from a range of sources, including long-term community contacts (key informants), community champions, protected area staff and records from wildlife departments.

Surveys will also enable us to understand why certain households and communities select certain programmes, to enable more effective targeting of programmes in the future.

Data collection on species abundance will be managed by SLT, SLCF, SLFP and SLFK staff and students and analysed by existing Ph.D. student(s) and staff at SLT, CEH and UoA.

All partners will have a clear, shared understanding of how the indicators and outputs will be delivered across the study areas and communities. To this end, we will hold an initial project meeting where all partners will agree on the detailed monitoring and evaluation plan and implementation timetable.

We have already drafted a detailed threats-based manual for monitoring project impact from economic, ecological, and attitudinal perspectives. This manual will be completed and the framework will be adapted and used for effective project evaluation, and indeed, for consistency. We will also agree on a project ethical statement, Health and Safety Procedures and Risk Assessments

We will check project performance against delivery of output activities through annual meetings, and more frequent SKYPE meetings between UoA (Redpath) & SLT (Mishra). SLT will coordinate frequent meetings between country partners and UoA will do likewise with CEH. During these meetings, regular checking against delivery will immediately highlight any unforeseen issues that arise and these will be discussed by all partners and appropriate adaptive strategies agreed.

Quarterly and Annual Reports will be used internally for reporting on progress on implementation and description of indicator status and trends to ensure that we achieve our goals. At each annual meeting we will conduct a thorough review of results and indicators to check we are on track and make necessary adjustments.

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. Cost Effectiveness

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)

The budget uses realistic and conservative cost estimates, based on our experience of working in Mongolia, Pakistan and Kyrgyzstan. SLCF, SLFP and SLFK are staffed by nationals/experts already residing in country and salary costs from SLT, SLCF, SLFK and SLFP cover the in-country directors and field staff who will be responsible for implementing this project. Travel has been calculated based on the most current and most economical combination of ground and air costs and accounts for multiple trips.

Staff are already in place and we seek to cover some of their time through this grant. We seek funding to hire short-term surveyors for ungulate surveys in yrs 2&3.

We will help communities receive sufficient training to build and run schemes following principles of financial and social sustainability. The insurance programme will be structured so that premium accrual from community members helps build the insurance corpus to become self-sustaining after the initial capital infusion. Corrals will be maintained by communities after construction. Budget lines 44 and 45 of the 'Partner Org Cost Details' tab is designated as seed monies to jumpstart these vital activities (i.e. create initial insurance corpus, purchase materials to build corrals).

UoA and CEH are contributing 50% of their time towards the project and overall, partners are contributing 53% of overall costs to help make this project happen.

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**

FCO website checked. Travel is heavily restricted in Pakistan. However, this work will fund a continuation of work with existing staff in this country so no problems are envisaged.

CERTIFICATION

On behalf of the trustees/company* of
 (*delete as appropriate)

I apply for a grant of £ 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 signed audited/independently verified accounts and annual report are also enclosed/can be found at: <http://www.abdn.ac.uk/finance/about/financial-statements/>

Name (block capitals)	DR E RATTRAY DEPUTY DIRECTOR
Position in the organisation	RESEARCH and INNOVATION

Signed



Date:



Stage 2 Application - Checklist for submission

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

Once you have answered the questions above, please submit the application, not later than midnight GMT on Monday 1 December 2014 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.