



Submit by Tuesday 1 December 2015

**DARWIN INITIATIVE APPLICATION FOR GRANT FOR ROUND 22: 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. Blank cells may render your application ineligible

**ELIGIBILITY****1. Name and address of organisation**

(NB: Notification of results will be by email to the Project Leader in Question 6)

<b>Applicant Organisation Name:</b>	Botanic Gardens Conservation International
<b>Address:</b>	Descanso House, 199 Kew Road
<b>City and Postcode:</b>	Richmond, Surrey TW9 3BW
<b>Country:</b>	United Kingdom
<b>Email:</b>	
<b>Phone:</b>	

**2. Stage 1 reference and Project title**

<b>Stage 1 Ref:</b> 3217	<b>Title (max 10 words):</b> Domestication of the Mulanje Cedar for improved livelihoods
-----------------------------	--

**3. Project description (not exceeding 50 words)**

Malawi's national tree, the Mulanje Cedar, is critically endangered due to over-exploitation. This project will generate new knowledge to enable the cedar to be grown and sold by local people, generating alternative sustainable income. This will lead to raised awareness of the cedar's importance, and improved conservation of this species **(50 words)**

**4. 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.

<b>Country 1:</b> Malawi	<b>Country 2:</b>
<b>Country 3:</b>	<b>Country 4:</b>

**5. Project dates, and budget summary**

<b>Start date:</b> April 1 <sup>st</sup> 2016	<b>End date:</b> March 31 <sup>st</sup> 2019	<b>Duration:</b> 3 years		
<b>Darwin request</b>	<b>2016/17</b> £95,128	<b>2017/18</b> £85,220	<b>2018/19</b> £71,824	<b>Total request</b> £252,172
<b>Proposed (confirmed &amp; unconfirmed) matched funding as % of total Project cost</b>				
38% confirmed				
<b>Are you applying for DFID or Defra funding?</b> (Note you cannot apply for both)		DFID		

**6. Partners in project. Please provide details of the partners in this project and provide a CV for the individuals listed. You may copy and paste this table if necessary.**

Details	Project Leader	Project Partner 1	Project Partner 2
<b>Surname</b>	Smith	Chanyenga	Nangoma
<b>Forename (s)</b>	Paul Philip	Tembo Faera	David Atchimwene Nyama
<b>Post held</b>	Secretary General	Acting Director Forestry Research	Programme Officer, Biodiversity Conservation, Research & Monitoring
<b>Organisation (if different to above)</b>	As above	Forestry Research Institute of Malawi	Mulanje Mountain Conservation Trust
<b>Department</b>	Head of organisation	Research	Biodiversity Conservation, Research & Monitoring
<b>Telephone</b>			
<b>Email</b>			

**7. 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
10002	Julia Willison	People and plants – training Darwin mentors in India
7085	Peter Wyse Jackson	Plant conservation and information management for botanic gardens in Colombia

**8a. If you answered 'NO' to Question 7 please complete Question 8a, b and c.**

**If you answered 'YES', please go to Question 9 (and delete the boxes for Q8a, 8b and 8c)**

**8b. DO NOT COMPLETE IF YOU ANSWERED 'YES' TO QUESTION 7.**

**8c. DO NOT COMPLETE IF YOU ANSWERED 'YES' TO QUESTION 7.**

**9. 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><b>Lead institution and website:</b>          Botanic Gardens Conservation International (BGCI).  <a href="http://www.bgci.org">http://www.bgci.org</a></p>	<p><b>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to lead the project): (max 200 words)</b></p> <p>BGCI is an international networking organisation linking botanic gardens and arboreta around the world. BGCI leads projects with a total value of ca. £600,000 per annum, working with botanic institutions, and with a focus on plant conservation, sustainable use and environmental education. BGCI's mission is <i>to mobilise botanic gardens and engage partners in securing plant diversity for the well-being of people and the planet</i>. BGCI co-manages the Global Trees Campaign (GTC) with Fauna &amp; Flora International (see <a href="http://globaltrees.org/">http://globaltrees.org/</a>). The GTC has 15 years of experience working with communities on integrated tree conservation, combining <i>ex situ</i> and <i>in situ</i> approaches.</p> <p>BGCI's Project Leader has worked on the conservation of the Mulanje Cedar since 2001. BGCI will lead and manage the project, and will mobilise top international research expertise in cedar conservation, propagation and public engagement from botanic gardens and arboreta in its network. BGCI partner institutions that have expressed an interest in participating in this project include RBG Kew, RBG Edinburgh, Bedgebury Pinetum, Forest Research UK, the Eden Project and the World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF).</p> <p>BGCI has been involved in this project from its conception, attending planning meetings with FRIM and MMCT in Mulanje and Zomba in September 2015.</p> <p><b>(198/200 words)</b></p>
<p>Have you included a Letter of Support from this institution?</p>	<p>Yes</p>

<p><b>Partner Name and website where available:</b> The Forest Research Institute of Malawi (FRIM) <a href="http://www.forestry.gov.mw/">http://www.forestry.gov.mw/</a></p>	<p><b>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): (max 200 words)</b></p> <p>FRIM is the Government of Malawi Forestry Department's research institution. Its mission is to <i>'provide guidance, plan, coordinate, facilitate and promote active participation of all stakeholders in the sustainable management, development and utilization of forest resources, goods and services for socio-economic development and poverty reduction.'</i></p> <p>Malawi's Forestry Department is responsible for all forest management activities on Mulanje Mountain, and FRIM leads on providing the technical support for cedar restoration on Mulanje. Dr Chanyenga, FRIM's project leader in this project, is the leading world expert on the seed biology and natural regeneration of the Mulanje cedar, and has led efforts to plant the cedar on Mounts Zomba and Mulanje for the past 30 years. In this project FRIM will liaise with local forestry officers and local authorities, and provide technical support for the establishment and refurbishment of community nurseries. FRIM will also be responsible for cedar seed collection, processing and distribution.</p> <p>FRIM is the designated Malawian partner of the World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF), and will work with ICRAF personnel to set up cedar trial plots across Malawi using ICRAF's existing sites.</p> <p>FRIM has been involved in this project from its conception, attending planning meetings with BGCI and MMCT in September 2015.</p> <p><b>(200/200 words)</b></p>
Have you included a Letter of Support from this institution?	Yes

<p><b>Partner Name and website where available:</b> Mulanje Mountain Conservation Trust (MMCT)  <a href="http://www.mountmulanje.org.mw">http://www.mountmulanje.org.mw</a></p>	<p><b>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): (max 200 words)</b></p> <p>MMCT is a community based NGO funded by the World Bank through the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and aims at providing long-term reliable support for biodiversity research, conservation of biological diversity and sustainable utilization of natural resources of the Mulanje Mountain Biosphere Reserve. The Trust is working in collaboration with the Department of Forestry through the district forestry offices in Mulanje and Phalombe. The main objective is to manage the resources in the forest reserve by bringing in community participation and maximising benefits among resource users.</p> <p>David Nangoma, MMCT's project leader has 13 years of experience carrying out habitat restoration on Mulanje, principally replanting and restocking Mulanje cedar forests. MMCT will provide logistical and financial support for this project through their GEF endowment. They will be responsible for the day to day management of the project in Malawi, including nursery establishment, recruitment, training, workshops, public awareness and the Steering Committee.</p> <p>FRIM will sub-contract the socio-economic work and business skills training to external consultants familiar with the area and fluent in Chewa.</p> <p>MMCT has been involved in this project from its conception, attending planning meetings with BGCI and FRIM in Mulanje and Zomba in September 2015.</p> <p><b>(195/200 words)</b></p>
Have you included a Letter of Support from this institution?	Yes

### 10. Key Project personnel

**Please identify the key project personnel on this project, their role and what % of their time they will be working on the project.** Please provide 1 page CVs for these staff, or a 1 page job description or Terms of Reference for roles yet to be filled. Please include more rows where necessary.

Name (First name, surname)	Role	Organisation	% time on project	1 page CV or job description attached?
Paul Smith	Project Leader	BGCI	10	Yes
Kirsty Shaw	Project Manager	BGCI	50	Yes
Tembo Chanyenga	Technical Adviser	FRIM	10	Yes
David Nangoma	Project Co-ordinator (Malawi)	MMCT	50	Yes
Charles Jumbe	Socio-economic consultant	Lilongwe University of Agriculture & Natural Resources (sub-contracted to MMCT)	10	Yes

## 11. Problem the project is trying to address

Please describe the problem your project is trying to address in terms of biodiversity and (essential for DFID projects) its relationship with poverty. For example, what are the drivers of loss of biodiversity that the project will attempt to address? Why are they relevant, for whom? How did you identify these problems?

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.

Malawi's national tree – the Mulanje cedar (*Widdringtonia whytei*) – occurs naturally only in the Mulanje Mountain Biosphere Reserve, and is critically endangered<sup>1</sup>. It is estimated that cedar forest cover has declined by 37% in the last 28 years, the main causes being over-exploitation and fire. This is a high value timber tree, and represents an important source of income for local communities. Attempts to restore cedar forests and to grow the species more widely have been limited by its poorly understood ecology, pathology and horticulture.

In response to the cedar's decline, the Forestry Department has developed a Cedar Management Plan (2014-2019). This document recommends that (i) large scale ecological restoration of the cedar should be undertaken, and (ii) offtake of the cedar should be prohibited for at least the next five years. The cutting ban will have a serious and detrimental impact on local livelihoods. Although efforts to plant the tree on Mulanje mountain have proved challenging, it has been successfully planted at small scale elsewhere in Malawi with better growth rates than on Mulanje<sup>2</sup>. The cedar also grows in botanic gardens in Kenya, Tanzania, Indonesia and New Zealand.

This project will generate new knowledge deliver biodiversity and livelihood benefits by:

- Defining optimal growing conditions, and improving horticultural protocols for cedar restoration on Mulanje Mountain and for wider cultivation in Malawi.
- Generating alternative sustainable income sources for poor people through the sale and planting of cedar seedlings.
- Significantly reducing unsustainable exploitation and habitat loss of natural stands of cedar.

(296/300 words)

## 12. Biodiversity Conventions, Treaties and Agreements

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

<b>Convention On Biological Diversity (CBD)</b>	Yes
<b>Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS)</b>	Yes
<b>International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA)</b>	No
<b>Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)</b>	No

### 12b. Biodiversity Conventions

Please detail how your project will contribute to the objectives of the convention(s), treaties and agreements 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

This project will directly help Malawi meet its obligations to the CBD by addressing a number of the **Aichi Biodiversity Targets** of the Convention on Biological Diversity, including Target 1 (raising awareness), Target 2 (integration of biodiversity values into development), Target 3

<sup>1</sup> Bayliss, J., Makungwa, S., Hecht, J., Nangoma, D., & Bruessow, C. (2007) Saving the island in the sky: the plight of the Mount Mulanje cedar *Widdringtonia whytei*. *Oryx* **41** (1), 64–69.

<sup>2</sup> Chapman, J.D. (1995). *The Mulanje Cedar. Malawi's National Tree*. The Society of Malawi, Blantyre, Malawi.  
R22 St2 Form

(development of positive incentives for conservation and sustainable use), Target 5 (rate of loss of natural habitats reduced), Target 7 (forestry areas managed sustainably), Target 12 (prevention of species extinction), Target 13 (genetic diversity of domesticated species maintained), Target 14 (ecosystems safeguarded), Target 15 (ecosystems restored), Target 16 (equitable sharing of benefits), Target 19 (knowledge transferred) and Target 20 (resources mobilised). A letter of support for this project from Malawi's CBD Focal Point is included in this application.

In relation to the **Nagoya Protocol**, Malawi's CBD Focal Point, the Environmental Affairs Department, has requested that 'The project should consider supporting the development of Access and Benefit Sharing measures at community and district level for the Mulanje Cedar in case of future bio-prospecting and benefit sharing arrangements'. To this end, benefit-sharing mechanisms will be included in the social-economic study carried out as part of this project, anticipating the potential for both national and international trade in the Mulanje cedar.

(200/200 words)

**12c. Is any liaison proposed with the CBD/ABS/ITPGRFA/CITES focal point in the host country?**

**Yes** if yes, please give details:

Malawi's CBD Focal Point, the Environmental Affairs Department, has sent a letter of support for this application which is included here. In addition, EAD has recommended that the project include (i) an environmental and social impact assessment baseline study and (ii) the development of Access and Benefit Sharing measures at the community and district level (see above). Both of these elements are included in the project, and the project leaders will liaise with the EAD as these activities are carried out, and as the relevant outputs are delivered.

**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 – this may be a repeat from Stage 1, but you may update or refine as necessary. Tracked changes are **not** required.)

Project management infrastructures will be put in place first. An inaugural project workshop will be held in Malawi, to which all project stakeholders will be invited (local communities, local government, Forestry Department, CBD focal point, and project partners). The project plan will be communicated, discussed and refined; a Steering Committee will be selected to provide project monitoring and evaluation for its duration. Detailed briefs will be written for external consultants, necessary Prior Informed Consent will be obtained, and activities will commence.

Key outputs are:

**1. Optimal cedar growing conditions characterised to improve reforestation on Mulanje Mountain and to define areas suitable for cedar cultivation elsewhere in Malawi**

A baseline ecological survey of remaining cedar populations on Mulanje will be carried out. *Ex situ* cedar populations elsewhere in Malawi and abroad will also be assessed, and cedar trial plots will be planted in 10 sites across Malawi to test its edaphic and climatic tolerances. FRIM will lead this work with support from ICRAF, BGCI and international expertise in trial design and cedar autecology.

**2. Improved horticultural protocols developed to improve cedar survival and growth rates in community nurseries.**

Establishment of cedar seedlings (20-25 cm in height) can take from 12-18 months in the nursery. By developing optimal propagation protocols, we will speed this process up and also improve seedling survival. This phase will be led by FRIM, with support from international conifer experts mobilised by BGCI.

**3. Cedar propagation in community nurseries generates income for local households**

Currently, cedar seedlings are produced in MMCT nurseries in isolated locations on Mulanje Mountain. This project will employ a new approach, establishing and refurbishing nurseries situated in the communities themselves. Under FRIM and MMCT supervision, and with international support, local people will be trained in nursery techniques and business skills to operate these nurseries. At least 150 people (the majority women) will earn an average of >US\$250 a year from selling cedar seedlings. By year 3, these nurseries will be self-sustaining.

**4. Local and national cedar stakeholders work with experts to identify cedar markets, promote the cedar and access those markets.**

**A representative Mulanje Cedar Growers and Planters Association (CGPA) will be formed, fully reflecting female participation in these activities,** and will work with FRIM, EAD and BGCI experts to launch a national cedar publicity campaign. The CGPA will also work with EAD and the socio-economic consultant to develop licensing and benefit-sharing models for selling the cedar nationwide.

**5. Unsustainable exploitation and damage to natural stands of cedar significantly reduced as a result of local communities working with the authorities to protect and restore the cedar on Mulanje Mountain.**

The Cedar Management Plan will be discussed, modified as appropriate and adopted by the CGPA, and 150 local people (45% women) will be employed to plant seedlings on Mulanje Mountain, earning \$1.50 a day (non-Darwin funding). A public awareness campaign highlighting the value of the cedar to local people will be launched by the CGPA with the support of MMCT and BGCI.

(500/500 words)



**14. Change Expected**

Detail the expected changes this work will deliver. You should identify what will change and who will benefit a) in the short-term and b) in the long-term.

- 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. Q15 provides more space for elaboration on this.

The Mulanje cedar, Malawi's national tree, is a high value timber species which only grows naturally on Mount Mulanje. The cedar is currently being cut down at an unsustainable rate by local people in the districts of Phalombe and Mulanje. This has resulted in the Malawian Forestry Department producing a Cedar Management Plan that, when implemented, will (i) prohibit further logging on the mountain and (ii) restore the remaining forests. The proposed 5 year logging moratorium will cut off a vital source of income to local villagers who have been harvesting and selling the timber for over 100 years. This project will ensure that local people continue to benefit from the cedar but in a sustainable way. This change will be brought about by:

- Developing methodologies and generating new knowledge to improve the propagation of cedar in nurseries, and increase its survival and growth rates both in the nursery and the landscape.
- Establishing local nursery infrastructures, and training and equipping local people to manage and operate the nurseries, and sell cedar seedlings
- Developing a local market for cedar seedlings based on the need to restore the cedar on Mulanje Mountain.
- Developing a national market for the cedar following other high value timber precedents (e.g. *Afzelia*, *Khaya*) and based on knowledge attained in step 1, above.
- Generating income for local people directly through the sale of cedar seedlings and indirectly through the planting of cedar forests on Mulanje Mountain
- Changing local attitudes to the cedar through the recognition that living cedar trees can provide financial and other benefits to the community in the same way that trees cut down for timber can.
- Protection and restoration of living cedar stands on Mulanje Mountain by local communities who recognise their value as seed sources and timber stocks for the future.

(297/300 words)

**15. Pathway to poverty alleviation – ESSENTIAL FOR DFID PROJECTS, OPTIONAL FOR DEFRA PROJECTS**

Please describe how your project will benefit poor people living in low-income countries. Give details of who will benefit and the number of beneficiaries expected to be impacted by your project. The number of communities is insufficient detail – number of households should be the largest unit used. If possible, indicate the number of women who will be impacted.

It is difficult to ascertain how many local families are supported by the illegal cedar timber trade. However, MMCT estimate that around 250 households benefit in some way. This project will generate new knowledge that will enable the cedar to be grown, sold and planted by a similar number of local people. Specifically:

1) The project will provide start-up funds to establish 10 community nurseries in Phalombe and Mulanje districts, and will train local people in nursery and business skills to enable them to produce cedar seedlings to sell (i) for local restoration of depleted cedar stocks on Mulanje Mountain, and; (ii) more widely to farmers and foresters throughout Malawi. Each nursery will employ 15 people, each paid an average of US\$250 per annum (equivalent to per capita income in Malawi<sup>3</sup>). Priority will be given to sawyers and their families. Based on past experience, nursery employees (including managers) will primarily be women. By the end of year 3, the nurseries will be self-sufficient, selling enough seedlings to meet local demand and to start to expand into the national market.

2) 500,000 seedlings per annum are required to restore cedar forest on Mulanje Mountain for at least the next five years (and probably beyond) to meet the Forestry Department's Cedar Management Plan objectives. This project will create opportunities for employing local people to plant cedar seedlings. Priority will be given to cedar sawyers and their families. We estimate that up to 150 local people will be employed to carry out cedar planting on Mulanje mountain at K890 per day (US\$1.50). MMCT will commit at least US\$15,000 to this activity in Year 3 from non-Darwin Initiative sources.

3) Cedar will be marketed more widely in Malawi, creating a national market that demands wild seed stock from Mulanje's nurseries.

(298/300 words)

## 16. 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 equip poor Malawians with new skills to enable them to benefit from a potentially sustainable, local natural resource. At least 150 people will be trained through this project, ensuring that skills remain in the community long term. In addition, physical and social infrastructures will be put in place to support the small, self-sufficient businesses created as part of this project. Perhaps most importantly, this project aims to identify existing (local) and new (national) markets for the cedar - markets that will long outlive the project.

The Malawian partner organisations have long term commitments to the area and its inhabitants. MMCT is committed to 'providing long-term reliable support for biodiversity research, conservation of biological diversity and sustainable utilization of natural resources of the Mulanje Mountain Biosphere Reserve.' MMCT's GEF Endowment fund will ensure a local market for cedar seedlings to support afforestation for at least the next 5 years. Likewise, FRIM has a long term mandate to manage Malawi's forest reserves, including Mount Mulanje.

In summary, this project aims to create a strong, mutually dependent, positive relationship between MMCT, FRIM and local communities, ensuring sustained effort and support from the technical partners.

(194 words)

## 17a. Harmonisation

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

<sup>3</sup> <http://data.worldbank.org/country/malawi>  
R22 St2 Form

The Mulanje Mountain Forest Reserve was gazetted in 1927. In November 2000, Mount Mulanje was approved as a new UNESCO Biosphere Reserve. In 2001, Mulanje Mountain Conservation Trust's GEF endowment fund was established to provide long-term reliable support for biodiversity research, conservation of biological diversity and sustainable utilization of natural resources of the Biosphere Reserve. Both MMCT and FRIM worked with Kew's Millennium Seed Bank from 2001 onwards to collect, conserve and carry out research on the seeds of the Mulanje cedar as well as on other endemic species on the Mountain. MMCT's current annual operating budget is around US\$300,000 and is derived from both the endowment and project funding. The most recent project funding for cedar conservation has come from IUCN's Save Our Species programme in 2014. This 2 year US\$175,000 project provided funding for developing the Cedar Management Plan and for (limited) restoration of the cedar on Mulanje Mountain. This project finishes in December 2015.

(157/200 words)

**17b. Are you aware of any other individuals/organisations/projects carrying out or applying for funding for similar work? No**

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

**18. Ethics**

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

The project partners are committed to meeting all legal and ethical obligations relevant to both the UK and Malawi, in particular access and benefit sharing legislation pertaining to the utilisation of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge. Malawi has well-developed ABS legislation and, at the request of Malawi's CBD focal point, the project will incorporate the testing and implementation of benefit sharing approaches between local communities and other stakeholders.

This project is fully inclusive and participatory, and has included local communities, NGOs and Government in its planning. A project Steering Committee will be formed to manage project activities and deliverables, and all project stakeholders will be represented on this Committee. The project partners and leadership are committed to respecting traditional knowledge and obtaining Prior Informed Consent from all relevant stakeholders prior to undertaking project activities.

The project partners are committed to a research process that respects the rights, privacy, and safety of people who are the subject of research. Research will be conducted to the highest ethical standards and rigour, ensuring that research design and practice is independent and intellectually detached from any personal convictions relating to the topic of research.

The project partner organisations will ensure that they take full responsibility for the health and safety of all staff working full and part time on the project, and Project Leaders will ensure that the same rigorous standards for assessing health and safety risks are applied to all staff, regardless of nationality.

Finally, this project is committed to ensuring both gender equality and equity. The project is designed specifically to target women beneficiaries and to ensure that they participate and benefit from project activities. Furthermore, all baseline, monitoring and evaluation data gathered will be gender specific, enabling us to quantify the benefits delivered.

(293/300 words)

### 19. 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)

This project will include two public awareness campaigns:

In year 2 the project partners will work with the local communities around Mount Mulanje to develop a public awareness campaign about the value of the cedar to local communities. This campaign will be conducted in the local languages (Yao, Tumbuka, Lomwe and Chewa) through meetings, radio, posters and leaflets, in partnership with the Cedar Growers and Planters Association and a local community group called 'Muonekera' that voluntarily plants cedar on the mountain. This campaign will highlight the value of living cedar trees to the communities around Mulanje, emphasise local pride in custodianship of Malawi's national tree, and indicate ways in which local people can help to conserve and manage the cedar. Educating local people about the detrimental impact of fire on the cedar will be a key message.

In Year 3, the project partners will work with Malawi's CBD focal point – the Environmental Affairs Department – to promote the Mulanje Cedar as Malawi's national tree, encouraging farmers and the general public to plant it in areas of Malawi where it will grow. This campaign will include a press and media campaign, but will also ensure that information is available (e.g. through leaflets and seed packets) on how to grow the cedar.

BGCI's member garden – the Eden Project – will provide technical support for both these campaigns but they will be led by the Malawian partners. In particular, national and local stakeholder groups, such as the Project Steering Committee, FRIM and the Cedar Growers and Planters Association will be key to developing compelling content, and identifying target audiences.

(264/300 words)

### 20. Capacity building

If your project will support capacity building at institutional or individual levels, please provide details of what form this will take and how this capacity will be secured for the future.

(Max 300 words)

A key aim of this project is to generate new knowledge for better livelihood outcomes and biodiversity conservation. Capacity building is a key component of this project.

At the institutional level, BGCI will mobilise expertise from around the world to support FRIM, MMCT and community nurseries in conserving, managing and propagating the Mulanje cedar. International experts from botanic gardens and arboreta, such as RBG Kew, RBG Edinburgh, Forest Research UK, Bedgebury Pinetum, ICRAF and the Eden Project, will provide technical assistance on ecological survey, assessing the optimal growing requirements of the cedar, improved nursery propagation and public engagement. To enhance FRIM and MMCT's understanding of the economics and social aspects of cedar exploitation, Dr. Charles Jumbe, Associate Research Professor in Economics at Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources will lead the socio-economic research. The socio-economic study (years 1-3) will be carried out in Chewa and will include baseline and subsequent surveys on household incomes, social and economic drivers of cedar exploitation, and receptiveness to new approaches. Dr Jumbe will also work with the Cedar Growers and Planters Association to develop licensing and benefit-sharing models for selling certified cedar stocks nationwide. This work will greatly strengthen MMCT's community-based knowledge and approach.

At the individual level, capacity building will include establishing nursery infrastructures, and supply of consumables. In parallel, the project will train at least 150 local people in nursery techniques, including seed collection, germination and seedling propagation. FRIM will lead the training with technical support from international experts, such as Bedgebury Pinetum. In addition to technical nursery skills, nursery managers will be recruited and trained in basic business skills related to nursery management. This training will be carried out in Chewa by a business consultant, probably from the University of Malawi Business School in nearby Blantyre.

(296/300 words)

## 21. 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 datasets, articles and technical reports from the project will be free and open access, and will be made available to Defra and DFID for publication on the Darwin Initiative website as appropriate. These data will also be published on FRIM, MMCT and BGCI's websites on specific project pages that will be developed at the expense of BGCI.

Peer-reviewed publications and technical reports resulting from project outputs 1, 2 and 5 will be published in open-access journals at the expense of the partner institutions.

Staff records, nursery accounts and records, and socio-economic survey results will be publicly available for output 3, and policy-relevant information such as ABS models (output 4) will be widely disseminated by Malawi's CBD Focal Point, the Environmental Affairs Department, which supports, and will participate in this project.

Finally, the project's public awareness products (outputs 4 and 5) will be disseminated widely at the local and national levels.

(151/250 words)

**22. Match funding (co-finance)****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:** From its GEF endowment, MMCT has committed a minimum of £140,000 (\$210,000) in cash to the restoration of the Mulanje cedar over the next 3 years. At least £XXX of this will be channeled through this project in supporting nursery salaries (years 1 & 2) and purchase and planting of cedar seedlings in years 2 and 3 (see budget). In addition, MMCT will provide staff time, travel and logistical support, in kind, to the value of £XXX over the life of the project.

BGCI has committed £XXX over the life of the project as 'in kind' staff time, and FRIM has committed £XXX, again in staff time.

**22b) 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

**22c) None**

If you are not intending to seek matched funding for this project, please explain why.

(max 100 words)

**PROJECT MONITORING AND EVALUATION**  
**MEASURING IMPACT**

**23. 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.

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
<p><b>Impact:</b> The Mulanje cedar is a sustainably managed commercial product, generating income for local households and the Malawian economy, and no longer threatened in the wild. (Max 30 words)</p>			
<p><b>Outcome:</b> Income from Mulanje cedar propagation supports Malawian households currently dependent on unsustainable harvesting of the cedar, and prospects of the cedar becoming a sustainable forest product are improved. (Max 30 words)</p>	<p>0.1. Optimal growing conditions for the Mulanje cedar characterised, enabling broader use of this tree in the Malawian domestic market by the end of year 3. 0.2. Improved horticultural protocols developed for establishment and propagation of the Mulanje cedar in nurseries by the end of year 2 0.3. Cedar propagation in community nurseries generates income for local households. 150 local people (at least 60% women) trained and earn &gt;US\$250 per annum each, directly from seedling sales, by the end of year 2 and 150 local people earn US\$1.50 per day planting cedar on Mulanje Mountain in years 2 and 3. 0.4. Local and national markets are established for the Mulanje cedar based on the sale of 500,000 seedlings per annum for reforestation of Mulanje Mountain (years 2 and 3) and promotion and licensing of the cedar on the national market (year 3). 0.5. Unsustainable exploitation and damage to natural stands of cedar <b>reduced by at least 50% against the year 1 baseline by the end of March</b></p>	<p>0.1. Scientific papers &amp; reports 0.2. Protocols published. Seedling production records 0.3. Nursery records and accounts. Training course attendance figures and attainment certificates. Socio-economic survey report against project inception baseline. MMCT Annual Report and accounts. 0.4. MMCT Annual Reports and accounts (reforestation). Publicity materials, radio broadcasts, policy documents etc. (cedar promotion). 0.5. Meeting minutes and records. Posters and leaflets produced. Socio-economic survey report. Cedar ecological survey, satellite imagery fire study, scientific papers.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Technical challenges can be overcome.</li> <li>• Full participation of local communities.</li> <li>• Local politics and ethnic differences not inimical to creating a cohesive and representative Cedar Growers and Planters Association</li> <li>• Income obtained from selling and planting cedar seedlings replaces income from the exploitation of cedar timber and is regarded as an alternative, not an additional activity.</li> </ul>



	2019 as a result of local communities working with the authorities to protect, restore and sustainably manage the remaining natural stands of cedar on Mulanje mountain		
<p>Outputs:</p> <p>1. Optimal cedar growing conditions characterised to improve reforestation success on Mulanje Mountain and to define areas suitable for cedar cultivation elsewhere in Malawi.</p>	<p>1.1. Project infrastructure established, including project management, employment of experts, full stakeholder engagement, acquiring Prior Informed Consent and Monitoring and Evaluation.</p> <p>1.2. Genetic diversity and provenance of remaining cedar seed stocks characterised by end of year 1, and cedar pathology and symbiont biology understood by end of year 2</p> <p>1.3. Optimal abiotic (soil, climate) requirements for growing cedar elucidated and areas of Malawi suitable for cedar cultivation mapped and published by end of year 3.</p>	<p>1.1. Employment contracts, Workshop minutes, Steering Committee minutes, consultant contracts, permits, M &amp; E reports.</p> <p>1.2. Scientific papers &amp; reports</p> <p>1.3. Trial plot records, scientific reports and papers, maps.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expertise is available to solve the technical challenges</li> </ul>
<p>2. Improved horticultural protocols developed for the Mulanje cedar to improve survival and growth rates in community nurseries</p>	<p>2.1. Improved horticultural protocols developed and available to local users by year 2</p> <p>2.2. Seedling establishment and survival rates increased throughout life of the project</p>	<p>2.1. Propagation leaflets</p> <p>2.2. Nursery seedling production figures</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expertise is available to optimise propagation</li> </ul>
<p>3. Cedar propagation in community nurseries generates income for local households</p>	<p>3.1. 10 tree nurseries established in Mulanje and Phalombe Districts by the end of the third quarter of year 1</p> <p>3.2. 150 people (60% women) from 10 different communities trained in nursery techniques, cedar propagation, and basic business skills by the end of the third quarter of year 1.</p> <p>3.3. 10 community nursery managers appointed and trained in business skills by the end of year 1</p> <p>3.4. 10 kg of cedar seed, and 15 kg of other tree species seed collected and sown in 2016, 2017, 2018</p>	<p>3.1. Infrastructures and consumables in place</p> <p>3.2. Staff records. Training course attendance figures and attainment certificates</p> <p>3.3. Staff records. Training course attendance figures and attainment scores</p> <p>3.4. Nursery records</p> <p>3.5. Nursery records</p> <p>3.6. Nursery accounts and records</p> <p>3.7. Socio-economic research results (disaggregated by gender).</p> <p>3.7. MMCT Annual Report and accounts</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New communities are receptive to nursery establishment</li> <li>• Suitable nursery managers can be recruited from trainees</li> </ul>

	<p>3.5. 10 nurseries produce a minimum aggregate total of 500,000 cedar seedlings and 50,000 other tree seedlings per annum in years 2 and 3 (assumes 60% cedar seedling survival).</p> <p>3.6. 500,000 cedar seedlings sold at end of years 2 and 3 at a minimum cost of US\$0.10 each to support the Mulanje cedar restoration programme (creates a 10% profit margin for each nursery). At least 25,000 other tree seedlings sold.</p> <p>3.7. 150 local people earn &gt;US\$250 per annum each, directly from seedling sales, by the end of year 2.</p>		
<p>4. Local and national cedar stakeholders work together with international experts to identify cedar markets, develop mechanisms for tapping into those markets and promote the cedar.</p>	<p>4.1. Mulanje Cedar Growers and Planters Association formed from nursery staff, cedar planters and local community leaders in year 2</p> <p>4.2. Forestry Department and Environmental Affairs Department works with local growers to promote cedar to farmers in appropriate areas nationwide by end of year 3.</p> <p>4.3. Consultant works with Cedar Growers and Planters Association and EAD to develop licensing and benefit-sharing models for selling certified cedar stocks nationwide by end of year 2.</p>	<p>4.1. Association registered as an entity, meeting minutes</p> <p>4.2. Publicity materials, radio broadcasts, policy documents etc.</p> <p>4.3. Report, certification scheme.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local politics and ethnic differences not inimical to creating a cohesive and representative Cedar Growers and Planters Association</li> </ul>
<p>5. Unsustainable exploitation and damage to natural stands of cedar significantly reduced as a result of local communities working with the authorities to protect, restore and sustainably manage the remaining natural stands of cedar on Mulanje mountain</p>	<p>5.1. Mulanje Cedar Growers and Planters Association adopts the Cedar Management Plan by the end of year 2.</p> <p>5.2. 150 local people earn US\$1.50 per day planting cedar on Mulanje Mountain in years 2 and 3.</p> <p>5.3. Local cedar public awareness programme launched by end of year 2</p> <p>5.4. In 2019, a &gt;40% increase in positive responses are recorded in the socio-economic survey for both attitudes to,</p>	<p>5.1. Meeting minutes and records.</p> <p>5.2. Cedar seedlings planted on Mulanje</p> <p>5.3. Posters and leaflets produced</p> <p>5.4. Socio-economic research report</p> <p>5.5. Cedar ecological survey results, satellite imagery fire study, scientific papers.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Income obtained from selling and planting cedar seedlings replaces income from the exploitation of cedar timber and is regarded as an alternative, not an additional activity.</li> </ul>

	<p>and benefits received from, the cedar compared to the 2016 baseline study.</p> <p>5.5. Cutting and fires demonstrably reduced by end of year 3 against year 1 baseline.</p>		
<p><b>Activities</b> (each activity is numbered according to the output that it will contribute towards, for example 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 are contributing to Output 1)</p> <p>1.1. Inaugural Project Workshop held with all stakeholders present. Project plan communicated, refined and all necessary mechanisms for acquiring permits and Prior Informed Consent defined and implemented.</p> <p>1.1. Project Steering Committee established, including all existing stakeholders (national and local authorities, communities, NGOs, academics etc.).</p> <p>1.1. Detailed briefs written for external consultants</p> <p>1.1. Monitoring and evaluation methodology defined and implemented.</p> <p>1.2. Ecological survey of cedar populations (remnant and restored), measuring numbers of trees, size classes, genetic provenance, climate, soils and exploitation, carried out on Mulanje Mountain in year 1 and repeated in year 3.</p> <p>1.2. International study carried out on microbial associations and pathology of cedar in years 1 and 2. Results published by end of year 2.</p> <p>1.3. Edaphic and climatic conditions measured for <i>in situ</i> populations of cedar on Mulanje Mountain and <i>ex situ</i> stands in Malawi and in botanic gardens around the world</p> <p>1.3. Cedar trial plots designed and planted (using existing seedling stocks) in 10 edaphically and climatically diverse sites across Malawi by end of year 1.</p> <p>1.3. Cedar growth rates monitored in all trial sites (years 2 and 3), and optimal requirements for cedar growth determined by end of year 3.</p> <p>1.3. Areas of Malawi suitable for cedar cultivation mapped and published by end of year 3.</p> <p>2.1. Nursery trials designed and implemented by international experts within first 6 months of the project, investigating optimal media, watering regimes, light, temperature etc.</p> <p>2.2. Seedling establishment, survival and growth baselines measured and monitored in nursery trials throughout the project</p> <p>2.3. Optimal horticultural protocols published and available in local languages to users by beginning of year 3.</p> <p>3.1. 10 nurseries established and fully equipped with shade netting, grow bags and other consumables by the end of year 1.</p> <p>3.2. 10 experienced nursery staff recruited to establish nurseries and act as mentors. These staff will be drawn from existing MMCT nurseries, prioritising women and people with a proven track record.</p> <p>3.2. 10 x 1 week nursery techniques training course offered for up to 20 people each (priority given to cedar sawyer families). 140 staff recruited from people who complete the course successfully (at least 60% women).</p> <p>3.3. Nursery management and business skills training given to 10 individuals assessed by the Business skills consultant as having the necessary skills to manage production, nurture markets and make sales (end of year 1).</p> <p>3.4. At least 10 kg of cedar seed collected and sown by the 10 nurseries in the fourth quarter of each year (equivalent to 900,000 seedlings).</p> <p>3.4. Seed collected and sown from at least five other useful tree species in local demand, equivalent to at least a further 10,000 seedlings.</p> <p>3.5. At least 500,000 cedar seedlings and 10,000 seedlings of other species produced by the 10 nurseries per annum in years 2 and 3.</p> <p>3.6. Based on survey carried out in 1.2. MMCT and FRIM identify suitable sites for reintroduction of cedar by end of year 1.</p> <p>3.6. 500,000 cedar seedlings sold at the end of years 2 and 3 to support the Mulanje cedar restoration programme. At least 25,000 other tree seedlings sold to local people.</p> <p>3.7. Baseline socio-economic survey of recruited staff (disaggregated by gender) carried out by socio-economic consultant, assessing household income levels, income sources, use of natural resources and attitudes to cedar and natural resource conservation and management. Survey repeated in years 2 and 3.</p>			

- 4.1. Mulanje Cedar Growers and Planters Association formed from nursery staff, cedar planters and local community leaders.
  - 4.2. National cedar publicity campaign launched by FRIM and EAD with support from the Eden Project, targeted at areas of Malawi where the cedar will grow successfully as defined in Output 1.
  - 4.3. Consultant works with Cedar Growers and Planters Association and EAD to develop licensing and benefit-sharing models for selling certified cedar stocks nationwide.
- 
- 5.1. Cedar Management Plan discussed, modified as appropriate and adopted by Cedar Growers and Planters Association.
  - 5.2. At least 150 people employed at US\$ 1.50 per day to plant 500,000 cedar seedlings per annum on Mulanje Mountain in years 2 and 3 as stipulated in the Cedar Management Plan (2014-2019).
  - 5.3. Mulanje Cedar Growers and Planters Association works with MMCT and FRIM to promote the Cedar Management Plan, and the value of the cedar to local communities.
  - 5.4. Socio-economic survey outlined in 3.7 re-assesses attitudes to **and benefits received from** cedar amongst growers and planters
  - 5.5. Ecological survey of remaining cedar populations' exploitation and damage by fire repeated on Mulanje Mountain at end of year 3, and compared to baseline (Output 1.2)

24. 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 (Q1 starting April 2016)

Activity	No of months	Year 1				Year 2				Year 3			
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
<b>Output 1: Optimal cedar growing conditions characterised to improve reforestation success on Mulanje Mountain and to define areas suitable for cedar cultivation elsewhere in Malawi.</b>													
1.1. Inaugural Project Workshop held with all stakeholders present. Project plan communicated, refined and all necessary mechanisms for acquiring permits and Prior Informed Consent defined and implemented.	3	x											
1.1. Project Steering Committee established, including all existing stakeholders (national and local authorities, communities, NGOs, academics etc.).	3	x											
1.1. Detailed briefs written for external consultants	3	x											
1.1. Monitoring and evaluation methodology defined and implemented.	6		x		x		x		x		x		x
1.2 Ecological survey of cedar populations (remnant and restored), measuring numbers of trees, size classes, genetic provenance, climate, soils and exploitation, carried out on Mulanje Mountain in years 1 and 3.	6				x								x
1.2 International study carried out on microbial associations and pathology of cedar in years 1 and 2. Results published by end of year 2	24	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				
1.3 Edaphic and climatic conditions measured for <i>in situ</i> populations of cedar on Mulanje Mountain and <i>ex situ</i> stands in Malawi and in botanic gardens around the world	24			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
1.3. Cedar trial plots designed and planted (using existing seedling stocks) in 10 edaphically and climatically diverse sites across Malawi by end of year 1	12	x	x	x	x								
1.3. Cedar growth rates monitored in all trial sites (years 2 and 3), and optimal requirements for cedar growth determined by end of year 3.	24			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
1.3. Areas of Malawi suitable for cedar cultivation mapped and published in year 3	3											x	
<b>Output 2: Improved horticultural protocols developed for the Mulanje cedar to improve survival and growth rates in community nurseries</b>													
2.1 Nursery trials designed and implemented by international experts within first 6 months of the project, investigating optimal media, watering regimes, light, temperature etc.	6	x	x										
2.2 Seedling establishment, survival and growth baselines measured and monitored in nursery trials throughout the project.	30			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x



4.3. Consultant works with Cedar Growers and Planters Association to develop licensing and benefit-sharing models for selling certified cedar stocks nationwide.	3							x					
<b>Output 5: Unsustainable exploitation and damage to natural stands of cedar significantly reduced as a result of local communities working with the authorities to protect and sustainably manage the remaining natural stands of cedar on Mulanje mountain</b>													
5.1. Cedar Management Plan discussed, modified as appropriate and adopted by Association.	6							x	x				
5.2. At least 150 people employed at US\$ 1.50 per day to plant 500,000 cedar seedlings per annum on Mulanje Mountain in years 2 and 3 as stipulated in the Cedar Management Plan (2014-2019).	6								x				x
5.3. Mulanje Cedar Growers and Planters Association works with MMCT and FRIM to promote the Cedar Management Plan, and the value of the cedar to local communities.	12									x	x	x	x
5.4. Socio-economic survey outlined in 3.7 re-quantifies attitudes to and benefits received from cedar amongst growers and planters	3												x
5.5. Ecological survey of cedar populations (Output 1.2) repeated and fire trend study carried out retrospectively measuring fire incidences over the period of the project.	3											x	x



## 25. 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 project's 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.

The Project Steering Committee will be primarily responsible for monitoring and evaluation throughout the project. Based on the refined methodologies agreed at the Inaugural project Workshop, the Project Steering Committee will further develop the indicators identified in the logframe and 'performance standards' for each output will be identified. For example, for stakeholder engagement, this might include standards for the degree of representativeness achieved during the engagement, the number of people involved and the ways in which gender issues are addressed. These standards will provide the baseline against which performance will be measured.

In addition, the project has built strong baseline, mid-term and final surveys into its methodology. These include:

Outputs 1 and 5: ecological survey of cedar populations (remnant and restored), measuring numbers of trees, size classes, genetic provenance, climate, soils and exploitation, carried out on Mulanje Mountain in years 1 and 3

Output 2: Seedling establishment, survival and growth baselines measured and monitored in nursery trials throughout the project.

Outputs 3 and 5: Baseline socio-economic survey of recruited staff (disaggregated by gender) carried out by socio-economic consultant, assessing household income levels, income sources, use of natural resources and attitudes to cedar and natural resource conservation and management. Survey repeated in years 2 and 3.

Output 5: Retrospective fire trend study measuring fire incidences over the project period.

These surveys will be carried out by independent consultants who will bring expertise and objectivity to the monitoring and evaluation work they carry out. Their terms of reference will include a strong evaluation component, with recommendations that will form part of the adaptive management approach adopted by the project management team.

The Steering Committee will review progress at six-monthly meetings. During the meetings the following will be reviewed:

- Progress against the project implementation timetable
  - If delays have occurred, steps will be identified to ensure such delays do not occur again and activities re-scheduled accordingly within the overall project framework
- Comparison of ongoing and completed activities against 'performance standards'
  - If standards are not being met, the reasons for this will be investigated and remedial action taken.
- Expenditure against project budget
  - If there is an under- or over-spend against the project budget, the reasons for this will be understood and if necessary steps taken to address the issues.
- Identification of new potential risks and mitigating measures.

A report will be prepared after each meeting to provide documentary evidence of project progress and to record any steps taken (adaptive management), or changes made to the implementation timetable. Meetings of the Steering Committee will be synchronised with Darwin Initiative reporting requirements.

(428/500 words)

Total budget for M&E	£16,600
Percentage of total budget set aside for M&E	4%

## 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. You should also ensure you have read the 'Finance for Darwin' document and considered the implications of payment points for cashflow purposes.**

**NB:** The Darwin Initiative cannot agree any increase in grants once awarded.

### 26. 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.

The budget has been compiled from the detailed plan of activities costed in consultation with partners.

#### **Cost Effectiveness**

To ensure value for money BGCI standard finance procedures will be applied. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Maintaining time sheets to track input to the project against the time allocated for tasks.
- Consultancy contracts will be put in place before work commences. Payment will be dependent on the timely provision of deliverables to the proscribed quality.
- BGCI will request that their members supplying expertise to this project do so on a cost-recovery basis only, i.e. do not charge full consultancy rates.
- Each individual event/workshop will have a detailed budget prepared in advance in line with this budget. More than one quote will be obtained for any material items. Costs will be monitored against the detailed budget.
- Quarterly finance reports from the Malawian partners will be reviewed by the BGCI Project Leader and Manager.

In line with current BGCI practice, the Project Manager will have quarterly review meetings with the BGCI Head of Finance. In these meetings the management accounts for the quarter are reviewed, variations against budget investigated and any remedial steps agreed. 'Costs to complete' are also considered to identify any project variations or potential overspends as soon as possible so that the appropriate action can be taken.

#### **Efficiency**

BGCI has a reputation as an efficient organisation, achieving a high impact for its size. Part of this comes from a flat management structure with swift decision making, while maintaining appropriate levels of control.

#### **Budget Assumptions**

The budget has been prepared using a 2% inflation factor for years 2 and year 3 for UK salaries, but no other inflation factor has been included. The budget assumes that Sterling will not lose value against the Malawian Kwacha throughout the project period.

(300/300 words)

### 27. Capital items

If you plan to purchase capital items with Darwin funding, please indicate what you anticipate will happen to the items following project end.

Capital items have been minimised in this project by making full use of existing infrastructures, vehicles and other capital assets, mainly from MMCT. This has enabled the project to allocate substantial capital funds towards the nursery infrastructures that will form the basis of the technical component of this project. 10 nurseries will be built using locally sourced (Eucalyptus and pine) poles, shade netting and bricks. These facilities are expected to outlast the project, and will become the property of the community nurseries established by the project.

(86 words)

### 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. **X**

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.

**No**

### CERTIFICATION

On behalf of the trustees of Botanic Gardens Conservation International  
(\*delete as appropriate)

I apply for a grant of **£252,172** 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 key project personnel and letters of support.
- I enclose our most recent signed audited/independently verified accounts and annual reports (if appropriate)

<b>Name (block capitals)</b>	PAUL P SMITH
<b>Position in the organisation</b>	Secretary General (Chief Executive Officer)

**Signed\*\***



**Date:**

30<sup>th</sup> November 2015

**If this section is incomplete or not completed correctly the entire application will be rejected. You must provide a real (not typed) signature. You may include a pdf of the signature page for security reasons if you wish. Please write PDF in the signature section above if you do so.**

**Stage 2 Application – Checklist for submission**

	<b>Check</b>
Have you <b>read the Guidance Notes</b> ?	yes
Have you provided <b>actual start and end dates</b> for your project?	yes
<b>Have you indicated whether you are applying for DFID or Defra funding?</b> <b>NB: you cannot apply for both</b>	yes
Have you provided your <b>budget based on UK government financial years</b> i.e. 1 April – 31 March and in GBP?	yes
Have you checked that your <b>budget is complete</b> , correctly adds up and that you have included the correct final total on the top page of the application?	yes
Has your application been <b>signed by a suitably authorised individual</b> ? (clear electronic or scanned signatures are acceptable)	yes
Have you included a <b>1 page CV for all the key project personnel</b> identified at Question 10?	yes
Have you included a <b>letter of support from the <u>main</u> partner organisations</b> identified at Question 9?	yes
Have you <b>been in contact with the FCO</b> in the project country/ies and have you included any evidence of this?	yes
Have you included a <b>signed copy of the last 2 years annual report and accounts</b> for the lead organisation?	yes
Have you <b>checked the Darwin website</b> 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 2359 GMT on Tuesday 1 December 2015 to [Darwin-Applications@ltsi.co.uk](mailto: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.