



Submit by Monday 5 December 2016

**DARWIN INITIATIVE APPLICATION FOR GRANT FOR ROUND 23: STAGE 2**

Please read the [Guidance](#) 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

24-001 ref 3869

**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>	Wildlife Conservation Society
<b>Address:</b>	2300 Southern Boulevard
<b>City and Postcode:</b>	Bronx, NY 10460
<b>Country:</b>	USA
<b>Email:</b>	
<b>Phone:</b>	

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

<b>Stage 1 Ref:</b> 3869	<b>Title (max 10 words):</b> Improving forest governance for Cross River gorillas and Nigerian farmers
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**3. Project description (not exceeding 50 words)**

(max 50 words)

The project will protect critically endangered Cross River gorillas by providing economic incentives (through improved livelihoods) and governance incentives (through land tenure) for rural communities to improve conservation and governance of a community-managed protected area – Nigeria's Mbe Mountains - and a critically important adjacent forests.

**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> Nigeria	<b>Country 2:</b>
<b>Country 3:</b>	<b>Country 4:</b>

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

<b>Start date:</b> 1 April 2017	<b>End date:</b> 31 March 2021			<b>Duration:</b> 4 years	
<b>Darwin funding request (Apr – Mar)</b>	<b>2017/18</b> £76,389	<b>2018/19</b> £71,014	<b>2019/20</b> £68,009	<b>2020/2021</b> £88,229	<b>Total</b> £303,641
<b>Proposed (confirmed &amp; unconfirmed) matched funding as % of total Project cost</b>					<b>39%</b>

**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
Surname	Imong	Tawo	Ayegboyin
Forename (s)	Inaoyom	Stephen	Kayode
Post held	Director, Cross River Landscape	Chairman, Conservation Association of Mbe Mountains (CAMM)	Head of Ajassor (Ikom) Sub-station
Organisation (if different to above)	Wildlife Conservation Society	CAMM	Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria (CRIN)
Department			
Telephone			
Email			

Details	Project Partner 3		
Surname	Ekwu*		
Forename (s)	Alice		
Post held	Commissioner		
Organisation (if different to above)	Cross River State Ministry of Climate Change and Forestry		
Department			
Telephone			
Email			

\*CV not available

**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
23-014	John Polisar	Improving livestock management for economic-environmental stability in Mesoamerica's Mosquitia
23-024	Martin Callow	Securing marine fisheries, livelihoods and biodiversity in Myanmar through co-management
23-015	Michelle Wieland	Guinea pigs as guinea pigs – a replicable small-scale protein model
23-020	Stacy Jupiter	Sustaining biodiversity, livelihoods and culture in PNG's montane forests
22-016	Stéphanie D'agata	Securing livelihoods, health and biodiversity through seascape-scale sustainable fisheries co-management
22-014	Nicole Auil Gomez	Maximizing Benefits of Marine Reserves and Fisheries Management in Belize

**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.**

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

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

Describe briefly the aims, activities and achievements of your organisation. (Large organisations please note that this should describe your unit or department)

**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></p> <p>Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS)</p> <p><a href="http://www.wcs.org">http://www.wcs.org</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.wcsnigeria.org">www.wcsnigeria.org</a></p>	<p><b>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to lead the project): (max 200 words)</b></p> <p>WCS has supported community-based conservation of the Mbe Mountains since 2005, helping the nine communities that surround the mountains to form the Community Association of Mbe Mountains (CAMM) (CAMM) that manages a core area of the mountains for conservation. WCS has been working with CAMM to raise awareness and enforce community rules and regulations protecting Cross River gorillas and other endangered species, and develop sustainable livelihood activities for the communities. However, some new activities are essential to build on this work and provide both increased tenure security and sustainability:</p> <p>In this project WCS will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Be responsible for overall project management, including financial management and reporting.</li> <li>2. Work with relevant government authorities to achieve legal recognition of the community-governed Mbe Mountains Wildlife Sanctuary.</li> <li>3. Establish Farmer Field Schools and coordinate training in improved cocoa farming by Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria (CRIN).</li> <li>4. Provide training on improved harvesting, processing, and marketing of Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFPs) for women’s groups in collaboration with the CRIN and CAMM.</li> <li>5. Strengthen CAMM's authority, capacity, and power to govern resources in this sanctuary, using USAID-developed Natural Resources Governance Tool (NRGT).</li> <li>6. Monitor effectiveness of activities using SMART (Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool) Conservation Software.</li> </ol>
<p>Have you included a Letter of Support from this institution?</p>	<p>Yes</p>

<p><b>Partner Name and website where available:</b></p> <p>Conservation Association of the Mbe Mountains (CAMM)</p> <p>No web site</p>	<p><b>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): (max 200 words)</b></p> <p>CAMM is a community-based organization consisting of the nine communities that surround the Mbe Mountains and claim traditional ownership of the Mbe forest. CAMM was established in 2005 and became officially registered in Nigeria in 2013. It has managed the Mbe Mountains unofficially as a community wildlife sanctuary since 2005. Community rules and regulations protecting wildlife and the forest are enforced by a team of 14 eco-guards that carry out law enforcement patrols. CAMM provides an excellent platform for mobilizing community buy-in and support for the project that is necessary for its sustainability. WCS and CAMM currently co-supervise all field conservation activities in the Mbe Mountains.</p> <p>On this project, CAMM will organise women's groups and help facilitate training on NTFPs and coordinate support for improved NTFPs collection, processing and marketing in collaboration with WCS. CAMM will also support development and formalization of bylaws to protect the Mbe Mountains and law enforcement patrols by the Mbe eco-guards.</p>
Have you included a Letter of Support from this institution?	Yes

<p><b>Partner Name and website where available:</b></p> <p>Ministry of Climate Change and Forestry (MCCF)</p> <p>No web site</p>	<p><b>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): (max 200 words)</b></p> <p>Government agency with responsibility for the management of all forests within Cross River State, outside of the national park. The mandate of MCCF is to sustainably develop, conserve and manage the forest reserves of the state for the benefit of all stakeholders through sound policies and programmes. The MCCF has a strong interest in the Mbe Mountains, being one of the pilot sites selected for a UN-REDD program that the Ministry is driving and has been supportive of the community-led conservation efforts.</p> <p>MCCF will process the application for official gazettelement of the Mbe Mountains as a community wildlife sanctuary and facilitate its approval by the Governor of Cross River State.</p>
Have you included a Letter of Support from this institution?	Yes

<b>Partner Name and website where available:</b> Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria (CRIN)  <a href="http://www.crin-ng.org/">http://www.crin-ng.org/</a>	<b>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): (max 200 words)</b>  Established in 1964, CRIN is a National Research Institute with a research mandate on cocoa, kola, coffee, cashew and tea. A major focus of CRIN is to promote and improve cocoa production in Nigeria including extension services.  CRIN will train farmers in the Mbe Mountains in improved cocoa farming methods through Farmer Field Schools (FFS). The FFS approach developed by FAO and partners is an alternative to the top-down approach to extending new and improved farming methods.  Typically FFS groups consist of 20-25 farmers who meet once a week in a local field setting and under the guidance of a trained facilitator. In small groups of about five they observe and compare two – one which follows local conventional methods and another which is used to experiment with what could be considered “best practices” – over the course of an entire cropping season. At the end of the weekly meeting they present their findings in a plenary session, followed by discussion and planning for the coming weeks.	
Have you included a Letter of Support from this institution?		Yes

<b>Partner Name and website where available:</b> Boki Local Government Area (Boki LGA)  No web site	<b>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): (max 200 words)</b>  Nigeria is a federation of 36 states and 774 Local Government Areas. Boki LGA is one of 18 Local Government Areas in Cross River State and will help CAMM improve governance by developing local bylaws and regulations for management of the Mbe Mountains. Boki LGA will also support CAMM to ensure enforcement of the bylaws.	
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?
Inaoyom Imong	Project Leader	WCS	50	Yes
Jonathan Eban	WCS Mbe field team leader	WCS	100	Yes
Stephen Tawo	CAMM coordinator. Chairman of CAMM Management Committee	CAMM	25	Yes
Andrew Dunn	Oversight and coordination	WCS	10	Yes
Ogechi Nwachukwu	Financial Manager, will ensure prudent	WCS	30	Yes

	use of financial resources and financial reporting			
Ayegboyin Kayode	Consultant on cocoa farming training	CRIN	10	Yes
To be hired	Livelihoods Coordinator	WCS	100	Yes

### 11. Problem the project is trying to address

Please describe the problem your project is trying to address in terms of biodiversity and 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.

(Max 300 words)

With fewer than 300 individuals remaining, the Cross River gorilla (CRG) is a critically endangered subspecies of western gorilla living exclusively in isolated forests along the Nigeria-Cameroon border, their distribution increasingly fragmented as a result of habitat loss. Hunting of wild animals to supply the bushmeat trade is a common activity in the area and although CRGs are a protected species in Nigeria, they are still occasionally killed by hunters as snare by-catch. Given the small size of the remaining CRG population, the loss of even a few individuals to hunting represents a serious threat to their long-term survival. Although many CRGs are found within formal protected areas such as national parks, approximately 100 CRGs (one-third of the remaining population) survive on community land which lacks any legal protection. One such area is the Mbe Mountains where, in 2005, the nine communities decided to establish a community wildlife sanctuary (though not yet formally recognised by government) to protect the 25-30 resident gorillas and promote local development. These forests are critical for the livelihoods of 12,000 people surrounding Mbe who typically survive on less than \$1/day. Mbe farmers traditionally clear small plots of forest each year to plant cash crops; the deforestation rate within the landscape is 2.2% per annum, among the highest anywhere in the world. Continued forest loss threatens local watersheds and livelihoods – through loss of water security, soil stabilization, and reduced resiliency to climate change – further exacerbating levels of rural poverty. Habitat loss and fragmentation also pose a serious threat to the forested corridor that currently links the Mbe Mountains to the adjacent Cross River National Park. If this corridor is destroyed and opportunities for natural dispersal are lost, the CRGs in the Mbe Mountains would become genetically isolated and their long-term survival is unlikely.

### 12. Biodiversity Conventions, Treaties and Agreements

Your project must support the objectives of one or more of the agreements listed below. Please indicate which agreement(s) will be supported and describe which objectives your project will address and how. Note: projects supporting more than one will not achieve a higher score.

<b>Convention On Biological Diversity (CBD)</b>	Yes
<b>Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS)</b>	No
<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
<b>Global Goals for Sustainable Development</b>	Yes

## 12b. Biodiversity Conventions

Please detail how your project will contribute to the objectives of the agreement(s) your project is targeting and how your project will help to achieve the Global Goals for Sustainable Development (SDGs). You should refer to Articles or Programmes of Work here. Note: No additional significance will be ascribed for projects that report contributions to more than one agreement

### (Max 500 words)

The project will support the government of Nigeria in meeting its responsibilities towards the Convention on Biological Diversity (Goals A, B, C, D and E), and by contributing to achieving Aichi Targets 1, 5, 7, 11, 12, 14 and 18. The project will raise levels of awareness of the value and importance of biodiversity within nine communities, targeting forest farmers as well as hunters, through engagement and communication aiming to promote conservation and sustainable resource use (Target 1). Improving outputs from existing cocoa farms will reduce the need to clear new farms and will thereby reduce the rate of forest loss and fragmentation (Target 5). Forests in a buffer zone surrounding the wildlife sanctuary will be managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity (Target 7). The community-managed Mbe Mountains Wildlife Sanctuary will contribute to Nigeria's protected area system, once it is formally recognized by government (Target 11). Protection of the wildlife sanctuary through eco-guard patrols will help reduce bushmeat hunting which will greatly contribute to the conservation of threatened species including the Cross River gorilla (Critically Endangered), Nigeria-Cameroon chimpanzee and the drill monkey (both Endangered) (Target 12). Protection of the wildlife sanctuary and surrounding buffer zone will provide essential services (Target 14) and its management will promote traditional knowledge and effective participation of local communities (Target 18).

The project also supports the following six Global Goals for Sustainable Development: (1) End poverty in all its forms everywhere; (2) End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture; (5) Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls; (6) Ensure access to water and sanitation for all; (13) Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts; (15) Sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation, halt biodiversity loss.

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

Yes  No      if yes, please give details:

We have established links with the CBD and CITES focal points in Nigeria, Dr. John Onyekuru and Mrs. Elizabeth Ehi-Ebewele. Both have attended numerous Cross River gorilla planning workshops organised by WCS. Progress on this project and lessons learnt will be shared with them during annual Cross River gorilla planning meetings.

## 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.)

### **Develop contract-based economic incentives with 3,000 households to protect the buffer zone and habitat corridor linking Mbe to Cross River National Park**

WCS will work with the Cocoa Research Institute of Nigeria (CRIN) and the Conservation Association of the Mbe Mountains (CAMM) to support the establishment of Farmer Field Schools which will provide 2,500 men and women - 20% of the 12,000 people living within the nine local communities - training and technical support for improved shade cocoa production within the buffer zone surrounding the wildlife sanctuary. These Farmer Field Schools will train participants on improved land preparation methods, use of organic fertilizers, reduced use of harmful pesticides, use of improved varieties, and other farm



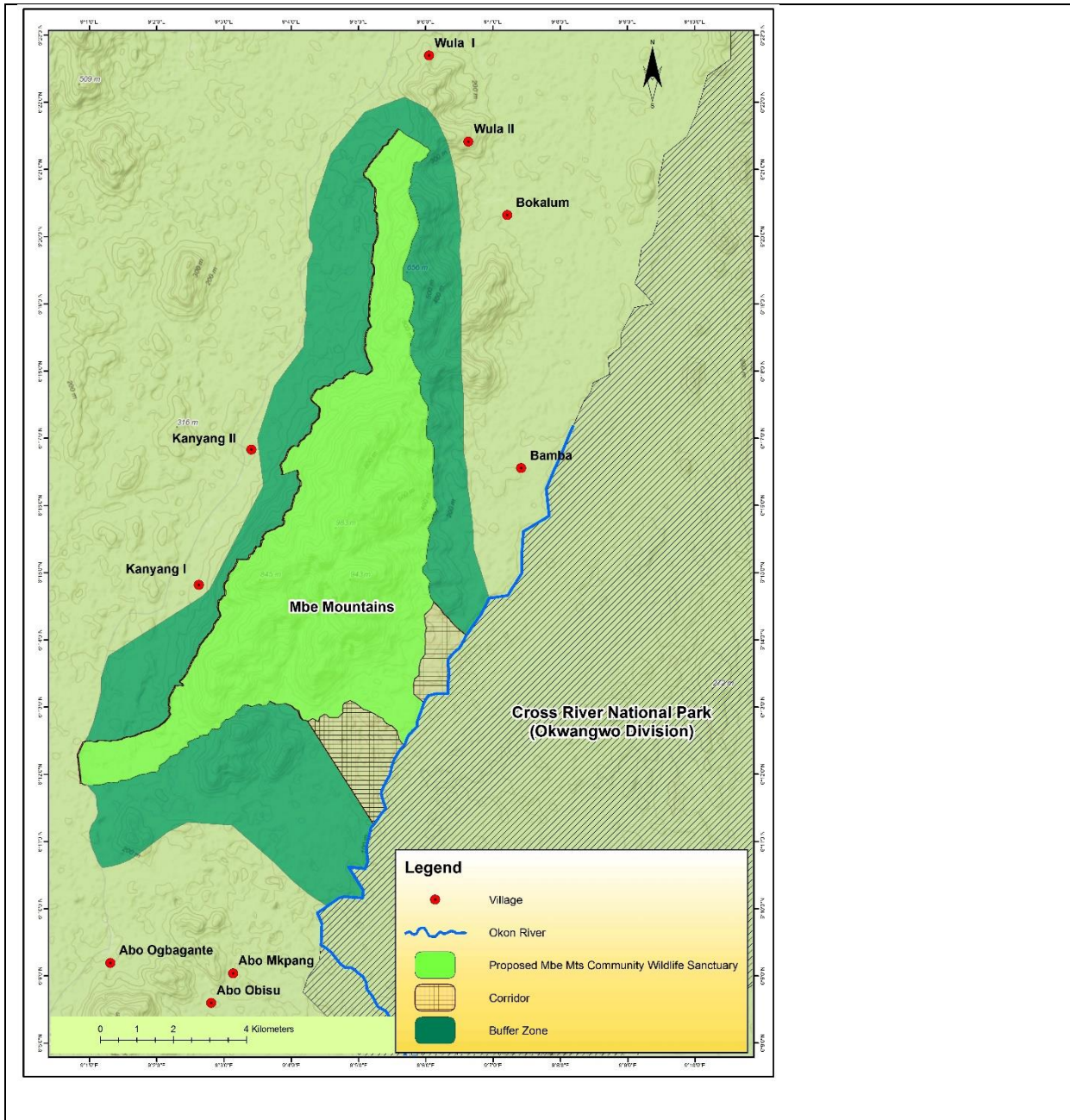
maintenance techniques. Provision of the training and support will be linked to locally-binding conservation contracts that limit forest clearance in the buffer zone and corridor. Cocoa is the main local cash crop, and improving efficiency on existing farms will reduce the need to clear new areas of CRG habitat each year for expanded cocoa farming. We will establish a baseline of average cocoa yields per hectare in Y1 that will be used to monitor project progress annually and to measure project impact in Y4.

WCS and CAMM will work with existing women's groups and young men, the primary collectors of non-timber forest products, to train 500 people in collecting, processing, storage and marketing of bush mango within the buffer zone surrounding the core sanctuary including the creation of exploitation blocks, registration of users and development of land-use plans. The fruits of the bush mango tree contain fat- and protein-rich nuts that are highly prized for making local soup and are an important source of income for local women. WCS will work through the groups to ensure that women and other vulnerable groups (such as landless young men) are adequately included and receive benefits from both improved cocoa production and bush mango value chain harvesting. We will conduct a Basic Necessity Survey (BNS) to establish a baseline for households in Y1 that will be used to monitor project progress annually and to measure project impact in Y4.

### **Improve levels of governance of the Mbe Mountains**

WCS will work with Boki Local Government Area (Boki LGA) and MCCF (see Partners Section above) to obtain legal recognition of the community-governed Mbe Mountains Wildlife Sanctuary (see Map 1 below) and to provide more secure land tenure for the forest of the nine communities living in these mountains. Using USAID-developed Natural Resources Governance Tool (NRGT), WCS will support CAMM through a baseline governance evaluation and subsequent training to strengthen the group's authority, capacity, and power to govern resources in this sanctuary. Already as part of this governance, a team of locally recruited eco-guards enforce local regulations that currently prohibit farming and hunting inside the wildlife sanctuary. WCS will support CAMM in jointly monitoring human activities through patrols that make use of SMART (Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool) Conservation Software.





**Map 1:** Map of the Mbe Mountains, corridor, and buffer zone

#### 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.

(Max 300 words)

##### **Strengthened local capacity for forest governance and CRG conservation**

Approximately 127km<sup>2</sup> of unprotected forest containing 10% of the CRG total population will be protected through improved community forest governance, law enforcement and monitoring. Co-management of the Mbe Mountains involving 12,000 people in 9 communities (represented by CAMM), government agencies (MCCF and Boki LGA), and WCS will reduce hunting and forest encroachment threats, and protect the critical habitat corridor linking the Mbe Mountains to Cross River National Park. In the long term, this conservation model could be replicated to other community forests in Nigeria, help strengthen existing community land management policies, and provide management opportunities for corridors essential for connectivity between isolated CRG groups across the CRG landscape between Nigeria and Cameroon.

### **Sustainable and diversified livelihoods reduce threats to biodiversity**

In the short term, we will increase capacity of 2,500 local farmers to adopt more profitable, sustainable cocoa farming practices while reducing the need to clear additional land or to supplement income through bushmeat hunting. We will work with local women's groups to improve the collecting, processing, storage and marketing of bush mango, giving them access to new markets where prices are higher through farming cooperatives and enabling them to sell when the product is scarce and prices are higher. In the long term, local people will become forest custodians and the forest will be conserved to: protect the watershed to ensure water security for local and downstream communities; support a microclimate important for livelihood resiliency to climate change; provide increased income to communities from shade cocoa farming and sustainable bush mango harvesting.

Losses to communities who adopt conservation contracts will be offset through increased income from these activities and maintenance of key ecosystem services, serving as an incentive to honour conservation contracts and recruit additional participants beyond this project.

### **15. Pathway to poverty alleviation**

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.

(Max 300 words)

WCS aims to economically impact 3,000 households, and about 12,000 people. This includes the technical training of 2,500 rural male and female headed households for improved cacao production. These cacao farmers are important stakeholders for reducing agricultural expansion in the Mbe Mountains.

The project engages 500 women and young men in the NTFP value chain to increase the value of their products, bringing economic incentives to maintaining forest health. Whilst young men don't harvest bush mango, they can play a role in its marketing and trading. This group often struggles to become economically independent and is often the major stakeholder in illegal forest use. Securing diverse sustainable household income streams strengthens resiliency to economic shocks, which often impact poor households disproportionately and results in increased exploitation of communal natural resources.

Tracking well-being will be a core component of our monitoring and evaluation program. Using the Basic Necessities Survey, a locally-defined tool for measuring change over time, will allow us to understand the differences between farmers, women forest users, and other members of the community. It will also allow us to analyse the levels of poverty between different categories of people and examine links between poverty and forest use.

Finally, WCS will work with the Nigerian government to secure tenure of the Mbe Mountains for the nine communities. Already as part of conservation management of Mbe Mountains, a team of eco-guards enforce local regulations that prohibit farming and hunting inside the wildlife sanctuary with significant success (e.g., encounter rate of wire snares decreased from 1.3/km in 2009 to 0.23/km in 2015). Improving forest governance brings increased assurance of long-term ecosystem services, including micro-climate maintenance for farming, water security, access to forest resources, soil stabilisation. For the 12,000 forest dependent people this forest governance is supporting, these are critical benefits.

**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 emphasises training in sustainable farming and harvest methods for local farmers and forest products collectors by experienced professionals. Importantly, relationships established between CAMM and CRIN during this project will facilitate continuity and access to farmer training support beyond this project's endpoint. It promotes cocoa and bush mango value chain development that will improve income generation. Income is a great incentive for sustained participation and adoption of introduced best practice; we anticipate this will help maintain beneficiary conservation contracts and encourage others to enter into these contract-linked activities.

The legal gazettelement of the Mbe Mountains as a community-managed wildlife sanctuary with official government recognition, together with the bylaws establishment and capacity building of CAMM during this project, will greatly enhance protection of Cross River gorillas and their habitat, securing long-term benefits of this project.

Sustainability takes decades, and as such WCS has a long-term commitment to the Cross River gorilla landscape. As we move to replicate success in neighbouring areas, we will continue targeted support to CAMM, which has shown a real commitment to conservation and development. And, we will continue to engage the Nigerian government to invest in agricultural and conservation support to the Cross River region.

**17a. Harmonisation**

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

This project builds on previous USAID-funded work in the Mbe Mountains which focused on improving agricultural practices to reduce deforestation using Farmer Field School approaches to provide training in improved cocoa farming to local farmers. It also builds on over 10 years of work by WCS and CAMM to improve the conservation of the Mbe Mountains through a community-based approach which combines enforcement of community rules and regulations and raising awareness with support for development of sustainable livelihood activities such as bee keeping, snail farming and goat farming as a means to reduce illegal resource extraction.

While the project builds on these previous projects, it also initiates new activities not previously implemented at the site such as training on improved harvesting, processing and marketing of NTFPs, securing legal recognition for the Mbe Mountains, and developing and formalizing bylaws for improved protection. In addition, the proposed project will help to build links between CAMM and relevant government institutions which will increase the group's authority.

By building on and scaling up previous efforts, while initiating new activities, this project will sustain the success of community conservation in the Mbe Mountains and provide a model that can be replicated elsewhere.

**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](#).

(Max 300 words)

Land governance and tenure is nested within existing power and gender roles, which marginalizes many. If gorilla conservation is to be successful, all sectors of society must be engaged in forest governance, particularly women who use forest resources for daily household needs and young men whose future opportunities rest in being able to convert remaining forest resources into capital. Our partnerships with local and indigenous people strive to understand, value, and apply traditional knowledge to addressing biodiversity, governance, and poverty alleviation challenges. This contributes to local efforts to improve human wellbeing by affirming cultural identity in the face of rapid change, while making explicit our shared interest in finding alternatives to dominant approaches to economic development.

Our technical approach in this project will adhere to ethical norms, particularly gender equity and Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC). Project staff will receive ethics and gender training and put in place monitoring and strategies for strengthening our approach. WCS participates in the Conservation Initiative on Human Rights, and our Institutional Review Board ensures research carried out by our programs protects rights of human subjects.

WCS systems ensure adherence to labour, finance, banking, and registration regulations specific to each of the nearly 60 countries where we work, alongside US government regulations and donor compliance requirements. WCS has a Duty of Care policy that details obligations of employees, regardless of their nationality, and the institution to create an environment of safety and concern in the fulfilment of our mission, including access to medical care, insurance policies, and crisis management procedures.

**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 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)

At its core, this is a community natural resource governance project aimed at strengthening local land tenure. However, the project also intends to demonstrate the livelihood and conservation value of a community-managed protected area at both the state and national levels. We will share knowledge and lessons learned during this project through:

Locally-binding conservation contracts: the voluntary negotiation process will make an explicit and direct link between biodiversity and its financial and nonmonetary values, bringing together various stakeholders to promote discussion about the potential worth of biodiversity and forests.

Regular meetings of CAMM: WCS will facilitate quarterly meetings of the CAMM General Assembly to present and discuss results achieved, challenges, and lessons learned. The results of the conservation contracts, including success stories and ecological/socio-economic monitoring results, will be disseminated on websites, at meetings, through various media outlets, and shared with conservation institutions working in the region.

Technical report: a comprehensive report on project results and analysis of impacts on biodiversity and poverty alleviation will be produced and distributed to all nine Mbe communities, Boki LGA, the MCCF, the Federal Ministry of Environment, the NGO community and conservation and development practitioners, as well as being posted on the WCS Nigeria website.

A peer-reviewed scientific article: a peer-reviewed scientific article will be submitted in order to improve general understanding of, and encourage further research into, the potential of community-based wildlife management to improve biodiversity conservation and poverty alleviation.

Targeted events: WCS will hold one Cross River gorilla planning workshop each year to share the results of conservation agreements with government partners (including CBD focal points) and will advocate for national and state-level policies that promote improved land tenure for local communities as a means to secure biodiversity conservation and poverty alleviation.

## 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)

**At the individual level**, the project will build capacity of local farmers to adopt more profitable, sustainable cocoa farming practices to increase yield per hectare and reduce the need to clear additional land each year. The capacity of women and young men will be built in improved collection, processing, and storage of bush mango, and in financial literacy and development of bush mango-based micro-enterprise. Beneficiaries will train other farmers and NTFP collectors, helping to increase the number of individuals with increased capacity to benefit from these activities. This arrangement will be stated in the contracts; CAMM and WCS will follow up and help assign new farmers to those who are trained.

**At the institutional level**, WCS will provide training to CAMM to strengthen forest governance and management, including training of locally recruited eco-guards to apply new technology such as the Spatial Monitoring And Reporting Tool (SMART) to improve law enforcement monitoring and further reduce hunting. This will build on previous training provided by WCS on the use of the CyberTracker Software for law enforcement monitoring which has been successful in reducing levels of hunting in the Mbe Mountains. WCS will also support training to strengthen CAMM's authority, capacity, and power to govern resources in this sanctuary using USAID's NRG. We will support training of CAMM to fully adopt, disseminate, and apply bylaws developed jointly with the Boki LGA which prohibit farming, hunting and use of poison for fishing inside the wildlife sanctuary.

WCS has previously provided training to CAMM in implementing and managing sustainable livelihood projects aimed at addressing the impacts of bushmeat hunting through animal husbandry. Members of CAMM's Management Committee will be actively involved in the cocoa and NTFP trainings to build their capacity to continue and extend the training and management of these activities beyond this project.

## 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)

This project will generate a number of outputs including: a peer-reviewed scientific article; a technical report; reports to the Darwin Initiative; and training and outreach materials. All of these outputs will be shared with project partners and made freely accessible on the WCS Nigeria website <http://www.wcsnigeria.org>. WCS will present the project's progress and results at quarterly meetings of the CAMM General Assembly to promote coordination and effective communication. In addition to print versions these outputs will also be made available to local stakeholders through oral presentations made during CAMM meetings and local women's group meetings so as not to exclude those community members with poor reading skills and/or no internet access. We will also disseminate information through mailing lists, social networks, and partner websites.



Results of the improved shade cocoa production will be shared with project participants to sustain involvement in the project and foster teamwork between participants and project partners such as CRIN. Project activities and results will also be actively shared with the British High Commission in Abuja and the CBD focal point in the Federal Ministry of Environment. No specific costs for providing access to project information are foreseen.

## 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:

US Fish and Wildlife Service: £105,491

Wildlife Conservation Society: £19,747

### 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
July 2016	RainForest Trust	£XXX	
Intended	Berggorilla & Regenwald Direkthilfe	£XXX	
Intended	North Carolina Zoological Society	£XXX	

### 22c) None

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

(max 100 words)

## 23) Risk

Explain how you have considered the risks and threats that may be relevant to the success of this project, including the risks of fraud or bribery.

Risks and threats associated with this project include:

- For the project to be attractive to local farmers, the price of cocoa must remain sufficiently favourable to offset additional costs incurred in limiting forest expansion. The current price of cocoa is high compared to the past two years. There are no indications that it will drop significantly in the near future.
- The Cross River State Government may not be prepared to grant secure tenure for local communities. However, with support from MCCF and local politicians there is good prospect for co-management. Some local politicians and elites are already engaged in the conservation of the Mbe Mountains having previously served on the Board of Trustees of CAMM.
- The project relies upon the nine Mbe communities functioning together under the guidance of CAMM. In the past there has been division and mistrust among some of the communities. However, relations are improving and CAMM is becoming a much stronger group.
- Community sanctions must work for the corridor to be protected; experience has shown that the threat of community sanctions is a strong deterrent.
- Some farmers may be unwilling to sign conservation contracts initially, although are likely to do so as the benefits become apparent.

## PROJECT MONITORING AND EVALUATION

### MEASURING IMPACT

#### 24. 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> Nigeria's Mbe Mountains ecosystems are effectively conserved, providing critical, connected habitat for the recovery of critically endangered Cross River Gorillas and sustainable livelihoods for local communities. (Max 30 words)</p>			
<p><b>Outcome:</b> Critical habitat for Cross River gorillas in Nigeria's Mbe Mountains is legally recognized and effectively co-managed, benefitting 12,000 people from improved cocoa production, bush mango harvesting and watershed protection.  (Max 30 words)</p>	<p><b>0.1</b> By end of Y4, there has been no decrease in gorilla nest counts per km (baseline = 0.17 nest sites per km during the period 2009-2014) and the area occupied by gorillas in the Mbe Mts increases by 10% compared to baseline established in Y1.</p> <p><b>0.2</b> By end of Y4, there has been no net loss of forest within the corridor and rate of forest loss in the buffer zone decreases by 30%.</p> <p><b>0.3</b> By the end of Y4, household wellbeing indices increase by 10% due to improved cocoa production and bush mango collection compared to baseline established in Y1.</p>	<p><b>0.1</b> Eco-guard patrol SMART reports and mapping.</p> <p><b>0.2</b> Analysis of Landsat 8 images.</p> <p><b>0.3</b> Basic Necessities Surveys (BNS) of the 9 communities surrounding Mbe Mountains.</p>	<p>Benefits provided by improved cocoa techniques and sustainable bush mango collection, combined with effective law enforcement are sufficient to influence local attitudes and behaviours towards CRG and their habitat.</p> <p>Communities and Cross River State Government are willing to embrace sustainable management of their forests for conservation purposes and there are no competing commercial interests such as logging or oil palm development.</p>
<p><b>Outputs:</b> <b>1.</b> Local farmers have been trained to increase efficiency of existing cocoa farms.</p>	<p><b>1.1</b> By the end of Y2, 2,500 farmers (at least 30% women) trained in improved cocoa production.</p> <p><b>1.2</b> By the end of Y4, the average cocoa yield/farm increases 10% from baseline established in Y1.</p>	<p><b>1.1</b> Training reports, training course attendance certificates.</p> <p><b>1.2</b> Socio-economic survey</p>	<p>Farmers participate in training actively and fully to the end.</p> <p>Weather conditions remain favourable for cocoa.</p> <p>Market price for cocoa remains favourable keeping buyers interested.</p> <p>Conservation contracts are socially accepted and provide sufficient incentive to protect the forest.</p>



Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
<p><b>2.</b> Local women's groups and young men trained in improved bush mango collection, processing, storage and marketing.</p>	<p><b>2.1</b> By the end of Y4, bush mango value chain is enhanced (from processing to sale) to increase profits for 500 women and young men.</p> <p><b>2.2</b> By the end of Y4, the average wellbeing indices per household benefitting from bush mango increases 10% from baseline established in Y1.</p> <p><b>2.3</b> By the end of Y4, Conservation contracts negotiated and signed with 500 women and young men.</p>	<p><b>2.1</b> Training reports, training course attendance certificates.</p> <p><b>2.2</b> Socio-economic survey</p> <p><b>2.3</b> WCS and CAMM records</p>	<p>Bush mango value chain remains profitable for collectors and incentivizes forest protection.</p> <p>Conservation contracts are socially accepted by the women and young men and provide sufficient incentive to protect the forest.</p>
<p><b>3.</b> Protection of the Mbe Mountains is enhanced and community land tenure secured through legal recognition of 127km<sup>2</sup> as a "Community Managed Wildlife Sanctuary".</p>	<p><b>3.1</b> By the end of Y4, Mbe Mountains gazetted as a community wildlife sanctuary.</p>	<p><b>3.1</b> Government gazette notice</p>	<p>Government of Cross River State willing to recognise customary rights and local land tenure.</p>
<p><b>4.</b> The effectiveness of law enforcement interventions of WCS and local communities is improved for Mbe Mountains ecosystem.</p>	<p><b>4.1</b> Regular patrols in the Mbe Mountains by WCS and CAMM reduces signs of poaching by 10% each year compared to Y1 baseline.</p> <p><b>4.2</b> New bylaws for improved governance of Mbe Mountains ratified by Boki LGA and MCCF.</p> <p><b>4.3</b> Governance scores of the Mbe Mountains in Y4 increases by 20% over Y1 baselines.</p>	<p><b>4.1</b> Monthly SMART reports.</p> <p><b>4.2</b> Boki Council records.</p> <p><b>4.3</b> Natural Resource Governance Tool (NRGT) scores.</p>	<p>Improved law enforcement supported by local communities and maintains a net positive impact on local livelihoods.</p> <p>Community-created sanctions act as sufficient deterrent and reduce levels of illegal activity</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><b>1.1</b> WCS and CAMM visit target communities and hold meetings to introduce project</p> <p><b>1.2</b> WCS and CAMM identify and select cocoa farmers from each of the nine Mbe communities to participate in Farmer Field Schools and receive training in improved cocoa farming; identify contact person(s) in each community to assist with organising farmers; identify suitable demonstration farms</p> <p><b>1.3</b> WCS, CRIN and CAMM agree a schedule with farmers</p>			

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
<p><b>1.4</b> WCS conducts a BNS survey in target communities to establish well-being baseline.</p> <p><b>1.5</b> WCS and CRIN establish Farmer Field Schools</p> <p><b>1.6</b> WCS, CAMM and farmers agree and sign conservation contracts</p> <p><b>1.7</b> CRIN conducts training on improved cocoa production through Farmer Field Schools, overseen by WCS.</p> <p><b>1.8</b> WCS monitors progress on cocoa training and application of acquired knowledge and skills by farmers, and evaluates impact.</p> <p><b>2.1</b> WCS and CAMM visit target communities and hold meetings to introduce project; identify and select women's groups from each of the nine Mbe communities to participate in training on improved bush mango collection, processing, storage and marketing; identify contact person(s) in each community to assist with organising women's groups for training.</p> <p><b>2.2</b> WCS conducts a BNS survey in target communities to establish well-being baseline.</p> <p><b>2.3</b> WCS provides training in improved bush mango collection, processing, storage and marketing; WCS and CAMM support women's groups to identify accessible storage facilities and set up micro-enterprises.</p> <p><b>2.4</b> WCS monitors progress on bush mango training and application of acquired knowledge and skills by women's groups, and evaluates impact.</p> <p><b>3.1</b> WCS supports CAMM to launch the process for the official gazettelement of the Mbe Mountains as a community wildlife sanctuary with the Cross River State Government; hold meetings with the MCCF and other relevant government agencies involved in the gazettelement process to discuss progress.</p> <p><b>3.2</b> WCS supports CAMM to follow up with the Cross River State Government to ensure legal endorsement of the Mbe Mountains as a community wildlife sanctuary.</p> <p><b>3.3</b> WCS and CAMM support survey and official documentation of the area to be gazetted by the Cross River State Ministry of Lands and Housing.</p> <p><b>4.1</b> WCS trains CAMM eco-guards in SMART and implements monthly SMART-based anti-poaching patrols jointly with CAMM.</p> <p><b>4.2</b> WCS supports CAMM and Boki LGA to develop new bylaws for improved governance of Mbe Mountains that are ratified by MCCF.</p> <p><b>4.3</b> WCS produces and shares monthly, quarterly and annual patrol reports with CAMM, Boki LGA, MCCF, and other stakeholders.</p> <p><b>4.4.</b> WCS monitors progress on law enforcement and evaluates impact.</p>			

**25. 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 2017)**

Please add/remove columns to reflect the length of your project. For each activity (add/remove rows as appropriate) indicate the number of months it will last, and shade only the quarters in which an activity will be carried out. The workplan can span multiple pages if necessary.

Activity	No. of months	Year 1				Year 2				Year 3				Year 4			
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
<b>Output 1 Local farmers have been trained to increase efficiency of existing cocoa farms</b>																	
1.1 WCS and CAMM visit target communities and hold meetings to introduce project; identify and select cocoa farmers from each of the nine Mbe communities to participate in Farmer Field School and receive training; identify contact person(s) in each community to assist with organising farmers; identify suitable demonstration farms and agree a schedule with farmers and CRIN.	2	X															
1.2 WCS conducts a BNS survey in target communities to establish well-being baseline.	2	X															
1.3 WCS and CRIN establish Farmer Field Schools; CRIN conducts training on improved cocoa production through Farmer Field Schools.	20		X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X				X		
1.4 WCS monitors progress on cocoa training and application of acquired knowledge and skills by farmers, and evaluates impact.	6				X				X				X				X
<b>Output 2 Local women's groups trained in improved bush mango collection, processing, storage and marketing</b>																	
2.1 WCS and CAMM visit target communities and hold meetings to introduce project; Identify and select women's groups from each of the nine Mbe communities to participate in training on improved bush mango collection, processing, storage and marketing; identify contact person(s) in each community to assist with organising women's groups for training.	2	X															
2.2 WCS conducts a BNS survey in target communities to establish well-being baseline.	2	X															
2.3 WCS provides training in improved bush mango collection, processing, storage and marketing; support women's groups to identify accessible storage facility	18			X	X	X	X	X	X		X				X		

Activity	No. of months	Year 1				Year 2				Year 3				Year 4			
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
and set up micro-enterprise.																	
2.4 WCS monitors progress on bush mango training and application of acquired knowledge and skills by women's groups, and evaluates impact.	6				X				X				X				X
<b>Output 3 Protection of the Mbe Mountains is enhanced and community land tenure secured through legal recognition of 127km<sup>2</sup> as a "Community Managed Wildlife Sanctuary"</b>																	
3.1 WCS supports CAMM to launch the process for the official gazettement of the Mbe Mountains as a community wildlife sanctuary with the Cross River State Government; hold meetings with the MCCF, and other relevant government agencies involved in the gazettement process	2		X	X			X		X								
3.2 WCS supports CAMM to follow up with the Cross River State Government to ensure legal endorsement of the Mbe Mountains as a community wildlife sanctuary.	18		X	X	X	X	X	X	X								
3.3 WCS and CAMM support and survey official documentation of the gazetted area to be gazetted by the Cross River State Ministry of Lands and Housing.	2									X							
<b>Output 4 The effectiveness of co-management and law enforcement interventions of WCS, government and local communities is improved for Mbe Mountains ecosystem</b>																	
4.1 WCS trains CAMM eco-guards in SMART and implements monthly SMART-based anti-poaching patrols jointly with CAMM.	48	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
4.2 WCS supports CAMM and Boki LGA to develop new bylaws for improved governance of Mbe Mountains that are ratified by MCCF.	12	X	X	X	X												
4.3 WCS produces and shares monthly, quarterly and annual patrol reports with CAMM, Boki LGA, MCCF, and other stakeholders.	48	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
4.4 WCS monitors progress on law enforcement and evaluates impact.	6				X				X				X				X

## 26. 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.

(Max 500 words)

We will conduct project M&E to monitor progress and evaluate project impact based on the set of key indicators developed for this project including: status of gorillas, status of forest cover within the corridor, capacity of farmers and NTFP collectors, household income, protected area status of the Mbe Mountains, and improved bylaws and governance.

### Status of gorillas

WCS has already been collecting data on the number of gorilla nest sites per km and area occupied by gorillas in the Mbe Mts. We will collect these data annually and compare these measures to baseline (baseline = 0.17 nest sites per km during the period 2009-2014) to monitor and evaluate project impact.

### Status of forest cover within the corridor

WCS will collect and analyse remotely sensed land cover data to assess changes in forest cover annually and at the end of the project and compare to baseline established in year 1 to assess project impact. We expect a zero net loss of forest within the corridor and not greater than 50% rate of forest loss in the buffer zone if the project is successful.

### Capacity of farmers and NTFP collectors

A baseline survey will be conducted in Y1 to assess the extent to which cocoa farmers and NTFP collectors make use of improved farming techniques, collection, processing, storage and development of micro-enterprise around bush mango. The survey will also determine the number of farmers applying improved techniques in these activities to compare levels and monitor project progress annually and at the end of the project to measure project impact. By the end of Y4, we expect 2,500 farmers (at least 30% women) trained in improved cocoa production.

### Household well-being

Using a Basic Necessities Survey, we will establish a baseline of the level of well-being against which to monitor project progress annually and evaluate impact at the end of the project. At the end of Y4 we expect a 10% increase in household well-being due to improved cocoa production and bush mango collection, processing and marketing.

### Protected area status of the Mbe Mountains

We will monitor progress in the process for the legal gazettement of the Mbe Mountains as a community wildlife sanctuary through regular engagement with the MCCF and other relevant government authorities. Success will be determined by official gazettement by the Cross River State government by end of Y4.

### Improved bylaws and governance

We will monitor progress in the process to develop bylaws for the Mbe Mountains by CAMM and the Boki LGA – from drafting of the bylaws by CAMM to presentation to the Boki LGA for consideration, revision and approval. Success will be evaluated by the approval of the bylaws by the Boki LGA and ratification by the MCCF by end of Y1 and their effective application to improve law enforcement in the Mbe Mountains.

A final project evaluation report will be developed to document the successes, lessons learned and recommendations for future work.

Number of days planned for M&E	160
Total project budget for M&E	£21,033
Percentage of total project budget set aside for M&E	4.26%

## 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.

### 27. Value for Money

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

(max 300 words)

#### How budget was worked out

- Local travel, staff, consumables and overhead costs are based on existing rates.
- Consultancy costs are based on costs of similar activities/services within the project location.
- Workshop and field work costs are based on Wildlife Conservation Society Nigeria Program's experience of organizing similar events and activities.

#### How we will provide value for money

WCS has made long-term, on-the-ground commitments to the Cross River Landscape in Nigeria. We leverage those commitments to provide value for money by building upon partnerships, contextual knowledge, and lessons learned to plan and implement culturally-appropriate and feasible projects.

With an investment of approximately £303,000, WCS will achieve significant outcomes by taking several measures outlined below to maximize economy and efficiency of the Darwin Initiative's funds:

- Ensuring that our interventions respond to the needs of vulnerable communities, build a sense of ownership and increase local capacity.
- Working with local partners as integral members of the team, which builds long term capacity in country and promotes sustainability. WCS and partners are already working in Mbe Mountains and have effective working relationships with the nine communities and local agencies.
- The project will build on existing management frameworks, infrastructure and equipment in Nigeria, resulting in high levels of project efficiency and cost-effectiveness.

WCS finance staff have considerable experience managing large budgets and meeting donor reporting requirements (including USFWS, Save Our Species and Arcus Foundation). Sound financial practices, based on principles of cost effectiveness and efficiency, are standard practice.

### 28. 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.

(max 150 words)

No plan to purchase capital items

## 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) and attach details of any advice you have received from them.

**Yes (no written advice)**  **Yes, advice attached**  **No**

## CERTIFICATION

On behalf of the trustees of the Wildlife Conservation Society

I apply for a grant of £303,641 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 a cover letter, CVs for key project personnel and letters of support.
- I enclose our most recent signed audited/independently verified accounts and annual reports

WCS's most recent audit and annual reports can be found through the following links:

[2016 Audit](#)                      [2015 Audit](#)  
[2015 Annual Report](#)      [2014 Annual Report](#)

<b>Name (block capitals)</b>	JOE WALSTON
<b>Position in the organisation</b>	Vice President for Field Conservation, Global Conservation Program

Signed\*\*

  
 (PDF)

Date:

December 5, 2016

**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**

	Check
Have you <b>read the Guidance</b> ?	√
Have you read and can you meet the current Terms and Conditions for this fund?	√
Have you provided <b>actual start and end dates</b> for your project?	√
Have you provided your <b>budget based on UK government financial years</b> i.e. 1 April – 31 March and in GBP?	√
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?	√
Has your application been <b>signed by a suitably authorised individual</b> ? (clear electronic or scanned signatures are acceptable)	√
Have you included a <b>1 page CV for all the key project personnel</b> identified at Question 10?	√
Have you included a <b>letter of support from your key partner organisations</b> identified at Question 9?	√
Have you <b>been in contact with the FCO</b> in the project country/ies and have you included any evidence of this?	√
Have you included a <b>signed copy of the last 2 years annual report and accounts</b> for the lead organisation?	√
Have you <b>checked the Darwin website</b> immediately prior to submission to ensure there are no late updates?	√

Once you have answered the questions above, please submit the application, not later than 2359 GMT on Monday 5 December 2016 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.