



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

**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>	<b>Fauna &amp; Flora International</b>
<b>Address:</b>	<b>FFI, David Attenborough Building, Pembroke Street</b>
<b>City and Postcode:</b>	<b>Cambridge, CB2 3QZ</b>
<b>Country:</b>	<b>England</b>
<b>Email:</b>	
<b>Phone:</b>	

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

<b>Stage 1 Ref:</b> 3780	<b>Title (max 10 words):</b> Conserving critical forest biodiversity in Guinea through sustainable agricultural livelihoods
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**3. Project description (not exceeding 50 words)**

(max 50 words)

Supporting male and female farmers to transition from illegal agricultural practices within protected area forest wetlands that are unsustainable and harmful to ecosystems and species (notably elephant and chimpanzee), and that trigger human-elephant conflict, through the use of improved and labour-saving techniques, crops and storage solutions in co-managed transition zones.

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

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

<b>Start date:</b> 1 June 2017		<b>End date:</b> 31 March 2021			<b>Duration:</b> 3.8 years	
<b>Darwin funding request (Apr – Mar)</b>	<b>2017/18</b> £107,923	<b>2018/19</b> £94,338	<b>2019/20</b> £106,246	<b>2020/2021</b> £88,362	<b>Total</b> £396,869	
<b>Proposed (confirmed &amp; unconfirmed) matched funding as % of total Project cost</b>						<b>30%</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	Fox	Mory	Kolie
Forename (s)	Laura Tansy	Haba	Jean-Claude
Post held	Senior Programme Manager	Coordinateur Scientifique	Chef de Division,
Organisation (if different to above)		L'Institut de Recherche Agronomique de Guinée (IRAG)	Centre Forestier de N'Zérékoré (CFZ)
Department	Agricultural Landscapes	Centre Régional de Recherche Agronomique	Relations Riveraines
Telephone			
Email			

**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
23-028	Rob Bensted - Smith	Connecting coastal communities for integrated seascape management in Atlantida, Honduras
23-003	Jenny Daltry	Eradicating invasive species from the highest priority Caribbean island
23-027	Jackson Frechette	Cultural and economic incentives for endangered species conservation in Cambodia
21-021	Jack Rhodes	Enhancement of wellbeing and conservation in Cape Verde's biodiversity hotspots
20-019	Alison Mollon interim manager	Supporting community conserved areas in Uganda for biodiversity and livelihoods
19-019	Arthur Mugisha	Integrating Batwa cultural values into national parks management in Uganda

**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><b>Fauna &amp; Flora International</b></p>	<p><b>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to lead the project): (max 200 words)</b></p> <p>FFI has supported communities and their farmers in and around protected areas through our global programme of work for decades. This work has included supporting communities to secure land tenure, setting up management for multi-use community forests, improving farming practice and facilitating community lead climate adaptation planning processes. Our Agricultural Landscapes Programme has trained agriculture extension workers on the importance of biodiversity, communicated this to smallholder farmers, and trialled with smallholder farmers cost-effective ways to manage biodiversity.</p> <p>FFI began working in Ziama in 2009, focusing on emergency actions to alleviate elephant poaching and developing human-elephant conflict mitigation measures. Through this, relationships with community members were developed. Following the 2014-15 Ebola epidemic and on visiting communities to build a ground-up programme of work, FFI established a holistic programme to address sustainable use of Ziama Man and Biosphere Reserve. This project, supporting local people to move towards sustainable practices, is a key component of this.</p> <p>The Project Leader, responsible for project implementation including managing partner delivery is FFI's lead Agricultural Landscapes practitioner. She will be supported by the Director of Operations, Africa, who is experienced in implementing protected area management projects in Africa, and has managed the FFI Guinea programme since 2014.</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></p> <p><b>L'institut de Recherche Agronomique de Guinée (IRAG)</b> <b>(The Agronomic Research Institute of Guinea)</b></p> <p><b><a href="http://www.irag-guinee.org/index.php?query=home">http://www.irag-guinee.org/index.php?query=home</a></b></p>	<p><b>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): (max 200 words)</b></p> <p>IRAG is a public scientific institution with autonomous management under the aegis of the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, Guinea. It was founded in April 1989 and based in Sereidou, within the Ziama Man and Biosphere (MAB) Reserve.</p> <p>Its mission is to contribute to the development of agriculture by conducting research, the implementation of this research and provide assistance to the development of national policy in the field of rural development.</p> <p>IRAG have developed and worked on new varieties of rice for Africa (NERICA) and have facilitated the production, distribution and adoption of new varieties of rice, vegetable seeds and niebe, both regionally and at the national level. They have extensive experience in agricultural research and extension, and supporting farmers with the implementation of the results. Recently, they have conducted research on a plant called 'mucuna', used to regenerate exhausted soils, with excellent results.</p> <p>Using this expertise, IRAG will conduct farmer training on seed selection, supply and distribution, on soil health and maintenance, support irrigation system selection and training, and will supply seeds. They will be responsible for collecting basic agricultural data and monitoring the results against project baselines and projections throughout the project.</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></p> <p><b>Centre Forestier de N'Zérékoré (CFZ) (Forestry Centre of N'Zérékoré)</b></p>	<p><b>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): (max 200 words)</b></p> <p>CFZ is the statutory authority in charge of management of Ziama MAB Reserve. CFZ have worked in collaboration with FFI since 2009, and provide in-kind support through access to CFZ facilities and staff time, including 1 day a week for a dedicated staff member to work on this project. The collaboration between CFZ and FFI is detailed in an ongoing MoU.</p> <p>CFZ maintain a large patrol team for Ziama, and with FFI support, deploy regular law enforcement and biomonitoring patrols. These teams recently completed a survey of all bas-fonds use in Ziama, generating baseline data for this project.</p> <p>CFZ will be responsible for the development and implementation of a bas-fonds transition plan, and deployment of patrols to monitor use of bas-fonds, communicating project messaging to bas-fonds farmers, and ensuring no further encroachment occurs. They will also work to support farmers to transfer their farming activities from the bas-fonds to identified areas within the transition zone in a sensitive manner.</p> <p>CFZ will utilise expertise from previous successful bas-fonds restorations, to develop and implement the restoration plan for bas-fond areas currently used for agriculture within Ziama. This will become a standard part of their work plan for ongoing management of the reserve.</p>
<p>Have you included a Letter of Support from this institution?</p>	<p>Yes</p>

### 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?
Laura Fox	Project Leader	FFI	15%	Yes
Alison Mollon	Regional Programme Oversight	FFI	6%	Yes
Helen Anthem	Gender specialist	FFI	5%	Yes
TBC	Project Manager	FFI	37%	Yes ToR
Haba Mory	Lead Agricultural Extensionist	IRAG	40%	Yes
Jean-Claude Kolie	Agronomist	CFZ	20%	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)

Ziama MAB Reserve exists to ensure the viability of Guinea's last population of elephants and other key species (including Western chimpanzee) and provide ecosystem services to local, regional and transboundary (Liberian) communities. In this area, rising food insecurity and the 2014 Ebola outbreak have increased pressure on already poor and remote households.

Ziama forest contains areas of permanent wetland - bas-fonds. These areas of fertile soil are used by local farmers to grow crops including rice and niebe beans. This practice was once permitted by CFZ at regulated, low levels, but increasing demand for land has led to illegal clearing of additional areas. Current use of bas-fonds far exceeds that legally permitted. CFZ now wish to halt all agriculture within core and buffer zones, in line with UNESCO MAB guidelines, and through a phased approach, transition farmers out of these areas.

Forest fragmentation caused by cultivated bas-fonds represents approximately 25% of the buffer zone, and includes an area known to be an important elephant corridor. Elephants are increasingly using bas-fonds crops as a food source, leading to conflict and retaliatory killing. Continued use and expansion of bas-fonds is considered the most significant threat to the integrity of Ziama forest ecosystem.

70% of bas-fonds users are women. Recent research revealed that men now demand payment for agricultural labour and, under pressure to meet household needs, women utilise bas-fonds where they clear land themselves using herbicides. This has a negative impact on water flow and water quality for both wildlife and villages.

Using bas-fonds requires farmers to travel long distances (up to 10kms) within the forest, and often camp overnight, providing opportunities for poaching and illegal collection of forest products. Farmers have stated they would prefer not to travel to bas-fonds due to the challenging terrain and risk of dangerous wildlife encounters.

## 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 Guinea to fulfil its obligations under the CBD, through supporting the conservation of biodiversity within Ziama forest, and the sustainable use of its components. The project will also support Guinea's contribution to the Global Goals for Sustainable Development, specifically to targets under SDGs 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 11, 12, 13, 15 and 17. In particular, it will primarily contribute to SDG 15, Life on Land, through working to protect and promote sustainable use of Ziama MAB, reduce degradation of the forest and restore degraded areas, and implement sustainable management of the forest.

The project will support CBD Strategic Goals B and D through working to reduce direct pressure on biodiversity caused by the damaging practice of forest clearing and use of bas-fonds within the forest for agriculture.

The project will work to restore degraded areas to combat degradation of the forest landscape (Aichi Target 5). It will promote sustainable use through improved agricultural practices (Aichi Target 7), taking into account the needs of women and vulnerable and marginalised groups at all times, to ensure all can benefit from learning opportunities. The project will address the fragmentation of a vital forest ecosystem, which provides essential services to both wildlife and humans, and at all times the needs of women and marginalised and vulnerable groups will be taken into consideration (Aichi Target 14)

Reducing use of bas-fonds for agriculture will preserve natural water sources within Ziama forest, and over time enable the flow and quality of water to return to normal, reversing impacts of the current activity (Aichi Target 14, SDG 6). Equitable participation will be considered at every stage of project delivery, ensuring women and members of marginalised or vulnerable groups are involved and able to benefit from all project activities (SDG 5). As the majority of bas-fonds users are women, we will ensure to develop all training courses in line with their needs (considering location, time, frequency ref FFI docs online – add link here) to ensure all can fully participate and access the knowledge being shared (SDG 5).

The project will support farmers to grow crops including niebe beans. Niebe is used by the World Food Programme in other West African countries (eg Mali) to reduce child malnutrition. Raising awareness of the importance of this bean, for both health (it is an excellent source of protein) and agriculture (it is nitrogen fixing, improving soil quality), together with providing farmers with the capacity to grow and store it (through provision of PICS storage bags) to eat and sell at different times, will help improve nutrition and wellbeing of both children and adults, and provide families with a stable source of income (SDGs 1, 2).

By supporting famers to transition out of the bas-fonds, we will not only prevent further fragmentation of vital forest ecosystem (SDG 15), but also improve farmer wellbeing, through the removal of a dangerous journey through difficult terrain, and decreasing likelihood of crop damage and loss resulting from wildlife conflict (SDG2).

**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:

### 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.)

Four villages were selected based on their dependence on and impact of bas-fond use, distance to core zone, and levels of human-elephant conflict (HEC). They neighbour each other, enabling networking between farmers, and account for 50% of all bas-fond use in Ziama. FFI has good relationships with these communities, who have directly requested support for improved agricultural practices closer to their villages.

To prevent further forest fragmentation, and reduce encroachment, the project will ensure both male and female farmers have the knowledge and capacity needed to contain farming to co-managed transition zones. Reducing human activity and unsustainable dependence on bas-fonds will help maintain Ziama as an intact ecosystem able to support populations of elephant and other key species.

Plots in the transition zone will trial and demonstrate options for achieving current bas-fonds yields, including as demonstrations for Farmer Field Schools. Training will be provided on improved agricultural practices, including increasing soil fertility; measures to reduce rotation times and therefore labour required to clear fallow plots; improved use of integrated pest management; and simple, proven storage solutions for niebe (PICS bags). Exchange visits with wider Ziama communities will be organised and seed exchange programmes established.

Crop development will focus on the main crops grown in bas-fonds: rice, a cultural staple; niebe, currently a supplementary crop; and a range of market vegetables. Using IRAG's research we will enhance local varieties of these crops, to support food security and adaptation to climate change. Although niebe is grown in bas-fonds, it is drought-resistant and thrives in dry soils. In Ziama, it is a crop mostly controlled by women and a likely entry point into cash crop markets.

Using IRAG's experience in tree crop revitalisation, agroforestry and their existing seedling nursery, we will support the establishment and revitalisation of perennial crop plantations, based on existing and projected markets and farmer demand for crops. Species selection within agroforestry systems will consider fuel wood, timber, fruit, biodiversity and integrated pest management species, and farmer preferences including ginger. Climate adaption planning will be conducted to help inform crop selection and future proof farming techniques.

Hydrological mapping will be carried out during the peak dry season to monitor dry-season flows and complement existing data on principal watercourses, helping to determine optimum offtake. This analysis will inform appropriate irrigation schemes and enable correct placement of such systems. Selection of systems will be led by IRAG's irrigation team based on previous experience, and new systems selected on farmer preference.

Law enforcement and biomonitoring will measure impact through patrols and surveys. Awareness raising using locally appropriate methods will focus on the importance of forest ecosystems, impacts of bas-fonds agriculture and use of herbicides, and links between encroachment and HEC. Restoration using seed types found in elephant dung will be used to replenish bas-fonds with elephant food sources.

This project will be managed by FFI Guinea with oversight and technical input from FFI Cambridge. IRAG will lead on agricultural activities with community engagement and logistics provided by FFI Guinea in collaboration with CFZ.



#### 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)

This project addresses the long-term goal that Ziama is an intact and effective Man and Biosphere reserve, supporting optimal populations of key species (including the country's last population of elephants), co-managed and equitably benefitting local men and women. It addresses two of four pre-conditions: 'Local communities have the ability and will to meet their needs sustainably', and 'Ecosystem services are fully functional and provide optimal conditions for key species'.

Short-term, this project will directly reduce Ziama forest conversion for agriculture by over 25%, reduce the use of herbicides, and reduce pressure on species collected opportunistically or killed illegally (including elephant). Supporting farmers to leave the bas-fonds will prevent further fragmentation of the buffer zone, maintaining Ziama as an intact and viable forest ecosystem.

Long-term, the isolated Ziama elephant population will have the opportunity to increase, due to the expansion of restored, viable habitat, increased natural food sources and reduced threat from poachers. A reduction in the presence of farmers and farmland within the buffer zone will help address human-elephant conflict and minimise the frequency of interactions between elephants and people, to the benefit of both.

Water flows from bas-fonds will be restored, benefiting wildlife and transition-zone farmers. The increased production of crops in the transition zone will also benefit local farmers, especially women. Use of this area will prevent the need for long and difficult journeys to bas-fonds, thereby addressing a significant negative aspect of forest farming identified by community focus groups.

Farmers will be empowered to make informed decisions for improved wellbeing, in terms of health (increased nutrition and decreased risk of injury); increased yield (soil health, irrigation and seed variety); and crop sales (storage solutions). Increased knowledge of sustainable use of natural resources will enable farmers to make informed decisions for both livelihoods and forest ecosystem health.

#### 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)

380 households in the 4 target villages have a registered bas-fonds farmer, 205 of which are women. These farmers will become the direct project beneficiaries, as the primary group to receive targeted support and training. In some households, the man is a registered bas-fond farmer but his wife utilises the land, and will therefore be the targeted project participant. The number of direct female beneficiaries is consequently expected to be approximately 300. Based on euromonitor.com figures from 2012 which states the average household in Guinea contains 8.75 people, targeting 380 farmers may indirectly benefit over 3000 individuals.

We are aware that in Ziama, projects clearly targeting women beneficiaries have potential to result in an increased disincentive for men to support women. All project activities will be monitored and delivered in consideration of this, to ensure no negative repercussions to women, and equitable participation of all male and female bas-fonds farmers.

Direct project beneficiaries will receive support to secure land close to their villages, and technical assistance and knowledge to restore it and bring it under cultivation. The overall wellbeing of direct beneficiaries will improve through increased food security, reduced exposure to wildlife conflict and injury from walking through the forest, access to tools, improved

knowledge in sustainable farming practices and farm management.

Crops used in training will have multiple benefits for wellbeing. Mucuna is effective for soil regeneration, and seeds can be sold for additional income. Niebe will provide improved nutrition and food security. All women's groups in the villages will be invited to training on Niebe benefits and long term storage.

Women can be excluded from growing tree crops, which are important longer term cash-sources into old age with lower labour demands than other crops. This project will therefore establish either cooperative or individual plantations with women and men.

## 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)

By project end all bas-fond farmers in the target villages will have received support to transition through a process that will improve their wellbeing. All stakeholders involved in this project want to find long-term solutions.

For Ziama to retain its UNESCO MAB status, CFZ must manage it as one, which means all bas-fond farmers will be required to leave in the coming years. This project represents an opportunity to implement a sustainable and peaceful exit with targeted communities.

By project end, beneficiary farmers will have the knowledge and skills to produce effective agriculture in the transition zone. Within 3 years of project end, tree crops will be productive with plantations established according to best practice, rigorous farmer training and monitoring seedling growth to be confident of survival rates by project end.

CFZ will continue with effective management, monitoring and restoration through the Ziama MAB management plan as farmers leave. Results will be communicated to other villages around the MAB through IRAG's on-going extension support to farmers in the region. It is believed through sharing lessons learned and successes of this project, other villages will be able to take up this pilot initiative and spread results to 100% of Ziama bas-fonds.

## 17a. Harmonisation

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

FFI has been present in Ziama since 2009. We have developed a comprehensive theory of change for work in this region, with overall aim of ensuring Ziama is an intact and effective MAB reserve that supports optimal populations of key species, co-managed and equitably benefitting local men and women. In 2016, multi-year funding was secured to address some of the identified pre-conditions to achieving this aim, through supporting CFZ to develop and implement a Management Plan, to ensure Ziama functions as an effective MAB Reserve, meeting all UNESCO regulations.

Focus groups in 2015 revealed current difficulties being faced by communities, in particular women, in relation to agriculture and food security. The sessions also revealed problems with previous agricultural projects some communities had been involved in that aimed to address these difficulties, namely the provision of seeds during the dry season, which resulted in an increased workload for women at a difficult time of year.

Communities' need for support to improve agricultural practices, demonstrated through focal groups and actively requested, together with current work to ensure Ziama meets MAB regulations, led to the development of this project. It is a new initiative for FFI, within the existing wider programme of work.

**17b. Are you aware of any other individuals/organisations/projects carrying out or applying for funding for similar work? Yes**

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.

There are a handful of organisations within the Seredou area that are working to support the livelihoods and wellbeing of the communities that surround the forest. FFI has strived to work in an open and collaborative manner with all such organisations, to further the overall impact that it, and others, are able to achieve. To this end, we have developed this project in a way that will align with, and compliment, the aims of existing work of other organisations in the area, detailed below.

United Nations OPs (UNOPs) have a programme to support CFZ with operations in Ziama. To date this support has focused on infrastructure redevelopment and purchase of equipment. They have also given a small amount of support to local communities but feedback to date questions the sustainability and appropriateness of these activities in part due to the short time frame of support given. FFI have met with project representatives, and they are now interested in supporting the development of the management plan which will allow all partners to work in a collaborative manner, ensure activities complement each other and to avoid any duplication of effort. We plan to keep in regular contact, and share programmes of work as appropriate. Lessons learnt and feedback received from communities relating to their support has guided development of this project methodology.

FFI works alongside local NGO ACAD (Association – Conseil pour les Actions de Développement) who are based close to Ziama and share FFI's dedication to supporting the conservation of Ziama forest and the biodiversity it contains. ACAD have been involved in Ziama since 2011, and recent work has focused on the occurrence human-elephant conflict in the villages surrounding Ziama, and possible solutions to address this. ACAD are supportive of the work FFI is carrying out within the area, and willing to collaborate to ensure the greatest impact, including the sharing of data.

Plan Guinea, a part of Plan International, is working in the Ziama area to train women on income management and business practices. They are keen to co-operate and we plan to develop workplans in that will enable us to share lessons learnt, and harmonise messaging. Through learning of FFI's work, Plan Guinea are keep to develop a programme with us on environmental education.

## 18. Ethics

Outline your approach to meeting the Darwin Initiative's key principles for research ethics as outlined in the [Guidance](#).

(Max 300 words)

FFI's policy is to endeavour to ensure its conservation activities do not disadvantage poor, vulnerable or marginalised, natural resource dependent women and men and wherever possible to conserve biodiversity in ways that enhance human wellbeing. FFI is a founding member of the [Conservation Initiative on Human Rights](http://www.thecihr.org) ([www.thecihr.org](http://www.thecihr.org)) which promotes integration of human rights in conservation.

FFI takes a sustainable livelihoods approach to understanding the complexity of people's livelihoods and to work with local stakeholders in empowering ways with an emphasis on equitable participation and benefit-sharing. Respect for the right of Free, Prior and Informed Consent guides project development and ensures that activities are informed, understood, and agreed by relevant stakeholders. When addressing illegal activities, FFI supports appropriate law enforcement agencies to manage conflict and apply legitimate regulations fairly and in ways that are compatible with human rights

For delivery of field activities in Guinea, the local FFI office works in support of and in collaboration with the wildlife authority CFZ. This includes providing counterpart staff to develop capacity and provide external support and accountability. This approach ensures that work is equitably and fairly managed with expertise championed in local government staff.

In 2015, this project began development following an iterative process of focus-groups and discussions of results with local communities, all community interventions are entirely ground-up. Throughout the project, all community-agreed decisions will be documented and the current communication and feedback mechanism will be continued to enable community members to raise any concerns and allow mitigation of potential conflicts. This process ensures that project activities are understood, and agreed by all relevant stakeholders.

All FFI staff engaged on the project follow FFI's detailed Health and Safety Policy, which details risk assessment/management and emergency procedures. Regarding governance, FFI adheres to the UK's anti-bribery legislation which covers its global operations.

### **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)

The main audience for knowledge sharing will be the bas-fond farmers in 4 target villages, although we will also share knowledge with farmers throughout the Ziama MAB. Recently, Ziama was highlighted by the President of Guinea as an area of great conservation importance; the project will use this opportunity to open dialogue on the significance of biodiversity and maintaining Ziama as a viable ecosystem. It will be vital to ensure farmers appreciate the impact current activities are having upon the forest, to appreciate why change is necessary (together with implications on their personal well-being), and realise the difference they can be responsible for creating. By putting this into a wider context, we aim to encourage farmers to feel a sense of responsibility for the protection and conservation of the Reserve within which they live.

We will engage with the target audience during project inception. The direct beneficiary farmers will receive one to one communications through training adaptively managed to ensure the pace and messaging are appropriate. CFZ staff will be invited to farm field school training days, to increase their knowledge of practices implemented, and lessons learned reports will ensure this can be taken forward in other villages. The most appropriate and effective means of receiving information will be ascertained from farmers at the start of the project, to enable information disseminated to be tailored to farmer preference and needs, including language and format (text or graphics). We will utilise local radio and broadcast regular short informative programmes following a similar format to the Tree Talk and Farmer Talk broadcasts that have been successful in Uganda.

Communication surrounding the management of Ziama MAB, including development of community co-management processes, and the importance of local biodiversity will be covered through match funding, and disseminated to all relevant stakeholders via appropriate media.

### **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)

Over 4 years 380 people, (approximately 300 women and 80 men) will have access to detailed training in a range of agricultural practices and techniques. Training will be held at suitable times selected by the participants, in safe, easy to access locations, and childcare provided where necessary. Single-sex training courses will be offered to both genders, in addition to mixed sessions, to present an equal opportunity for both to learn in a comfortable environment.

Training groups will be formed of roughly 15 participants based on existing labour exchange groups using a Farmer Field School model including on participants own plots. Each group will work with a dedicated extension officer enabling them to work over the longer term with IRAG to sustainably build their capacity.

Some training sessions and evening workshops will be open to all residents in target villages (population of c.16,500).

Results from trials to reduce elephant crop raiding will be communicated through open days, CFZ community liaison meetings and other channels identified as appropriate with farmers in both target villages and the wider population, to increase all farmers' capacity to address and mitigate against these threats.

Through their involvement CFZ staff will have opportunity to further increase their understanding of the challenges communities are facing to meet their needs, building their capacity to support and implement such activities in further villages, but also, will help to improve community and park relations.

FFI will provide access to gender sensitisation to all project members, led by the FFI gender specialist. Training will be provided to FFI in-country staff, as well as key project personal from CFZ and IRAG. This training will be vital to guiding the delivery of planned activities, and those attending will also have the capacity to disseminate learning to a wider audience as appropriate within their organisations.

## 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)

A dedicated page of the FFI website will be created to demonstrate project activities, outcomes and achievements. Where it does not pose a risk to either wildlife or communities, this will also be used as a platform to share project outputs, including raw data and subsequent reports resulting from biomonitoring and law enforcement patrols and socio-economical surveys throughout the lifespan of the project. Hard copies of all project reports will also be made available to those unable to access information online.

Data collected through biomonitoring and ecological surveys, and reports generated as a result of the project will be shared with stakeholders as relevant and appropriate, including CFZ and local community representatives. All data relating to the trial of agricultural methods and techniques, irrigation systems etc will be made available to all IRAG staff, to support and facilitate any further research or future work, outside or beyond the scope of the project.

Outcomes, achievements and lessons learnt from the project will be shared throughout the project in an open manner with relevant stakeholders in both Guinea and Liberia, including Ministries as appropriate to facilitate transboundary learning and collaboration.

Any media produced as a result of the project, in relation to capacity building and raising awareness, will be made available in relevant and appropriate formats to all attending, and to wider relevant audiences and any interested stakeholders, to facilitate knowledge sharing.

## 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:

FFI Species Fund – Jan 2016 to Dec 2018. GBP 87,330.

Match funding will cover support to law enforcement and biomonitoring patrols, FFI technical and field support to CFZ in development of a management plan for Ziama including staff time, travel and fieldwork subsistence, support to addressing HEC, raising awareness activities and communications, ongoing operational costs required for the effective running of FFI Guinea office.

**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
TBC	FFI – Species Fund	GBPXXX	2 further years funding under FFI Species Fund, to extend current project ending Dec 2018 – availability of funds TBC

**22c) None**

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

(max 100 words)

**N/A**

**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.

(max 200 words)

FFI has a stringent project approval process that ensures projects are reviewed for quality, feasibility, strategic relevance and risk before being approved. FFI also uses a globally recognised accounting system designed to capture all financial data across FFI, including all non-UK country and project offices. It is a double-entry bookkeeping system and generates monthly management reporting to the Senior Management Team.

FFI has formal, legally-binding contracts with partners with whom financial transactions are taking place, and all exchanges with partners are closely managed by our project and programme managers. FFI applies principles of best practice regarding all aspects of grant and financial management with partner organisations. However, for those whose systems are not yet at capacity to do this, which is the case with both IRAG and CFZ, FFI retain financial responsibility thus minimizing their risk, whilst endeavouring to pass grant and financial management training on to them to increase their capacity for this in the future.

FFI is committed to working ethically, legally, and in line with the Bribery Act 2010. FFI practices a zero-tolerance approach to bribery and corruption and has a specific Anti-Bribery Policy which applies to all FFI employees globally.

## 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> (Max 30 words) Ziama is an intact and effective Man and Biosphere reserve that supports optimal populations of key species, co-managed and equitably benefitting local men and women</p>			
<p><b>Outcome:</b> (Max 30 words) The relocation and improvement of agricultural practices reduces encroachment and degradation of forest habitats and ecosystems, benefiting elephants, forest resources and biodiversity, while improving the wellbeing of targeted farmers.</p>	<p>0.1 Stable or increasing indices of elephant and other key species (compared to baselines collected before start of project and through Y1 for full year)</p>	<p>0.1 Species indices data collected through monthly biomonitoring patrols. Data collected includes tracks and signs from a range of species found in Ziama. Data will be collected throughout Ziama during different seasons. Elephants will be surveyed in Y4 Oct – Dec, repeating the 2016 census.</p>	<p>That incentives offered in the agricultural transition plan do reflect 'meeting their needs' as reported, and that new law enforcement and education activities are sufficient to dissuade those wanting to continue bas-fond farming, or new farmers moving in.</p>
	<p>0.2 50% of target bas-fonds in Ziama (250 hectares) show annual improvements in line with expected patterns of restoration in years 3, and 4 against project baseline (gathered at when farmer leaves bas-fond)</p>	<p>0.2 Vegetation and forest regrowth (ground cover, density of woody vegetation, species richness) increases shown year on year against baseline from when farmer leaves bas-fond. Verified through biomonitoring analysis, vegetation mapping reports and photos in years 2 (if possible), 3 and 4</p>	<p>That there is no significant increase in population beyond natural growth, e.g. due to in-migration from conflict, mining opportunities in the region, etc.</p>
	<p>0.3 60% reduction (228 individuals) in number of men and number of women (minimum 50% women) using bas-fonds in target villages by project end with a 20% reduction by end of year 2. We anticipate the final 40% to leave within 3 years of project end.</p>	<p>0.3 Law enforcement patrols conducted on a monthly basis, targeting bas-fonds. Y1 &amp; Y2 to reinforce project messaging and ensure no expansion / new users. Y3 &amp; Y4 to enforce agreements. Reports compiled and analysed on a monthly basis with 6 monthly and annual status reports</p>	<p>Assume that the bas fond farmers were honest during project scoping of their desire to leave the bas-fonds.</p> <p>That elephant poaching for ivory remains opportunistic and that increasing demand does not lead to professional ivory poaching.</p> <p>There is no extreme weather event (ie drought) during the lifetime of the project</p>

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
	0.4 70% (266 individuals) of both male and female farmers targeted (of which at least 50% are women) report an improved sense of wellbeing (material, physical and subjective) by the end of the project	0.4 Participatory Impact Assessment (PIA) in Y2 and Y4 to assess wellbeing of beneficiaries (including human-wildlife conflict). Repeat 2016 socio-economic survey in Y4.	
<b>Outputs:</b> 1. Bas-fond farmers and current transition zone farmers in 4 villages are trained in improved agricultural practices and apply them to farmland in transition zones	1.1 100% (380 individuals, gender disaggregated) of targeted bas-fond farmers from 4 villages have received direct training and on-going support on a range of improved agricultural, irrigation and tree crop techniques in each year of the project  1.2 From Year 2, 100 direct beneficiary farmers (at least 50% women) are applying at least 1 new intervention on their farmland in transition zones with a minimum of 300 farmers (78%) reporting application of at least 1 new intervention by project end  1.3 50% male and 50% female transition zone farmers surveyed from 4 targeted villages (20% population estimated at 337 households) who are not direct beneficiaries of the project report having access to information on improved agricultural techniques by year 4. with 60% of participants reporting access to information in focus group feedback sessions on communications programme in year 2 and 3.	1.1 Training reports, attendance certificates, photos in each year, minutes from monthly informal farmer feedback session with extension workers.  1.2 Recorded farmer feedback (videos, quotes, minutes from extension feedback sessions), lessons learnt paper produced each year.  1.3 Locally appropriate media communications including radio programmes produced and confirmed through household survey of 20% of population of each town conducted in year 4 and designed to target both male and female audiences. Quotes and minutes from 4 focus groups feedback sessions in each village in years 2 and 3.	Bas-fond farmers remain committed and open to learning new techniques and have confidence in results demonstrated to fully adopt practices  Multiple benefits of niebe bean convince farmers to increase production and consumption, as practiced in other West African countries  Rainfall remains adequate to feed community irrigation systems for target villages



Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
<p>2. The incentives and wellbeing (food security, physical security, time, income, yield) from farming in the transition zone are equal or greater than farming in the illegal bas-fonds in the core and buffer zones</p>	<p>2.1 300 (78%) of direct beneficiary male and female farmers (of which at least 50% are women) have established or improved existing annual or perennial plots in transition zones by project end with 25% beginning the process by end Y2 and 50% by end Y3</p> <p>2.2 By Year 4 60% of direct beneficiary farmers (228 individuals, of which at least 50% are women), report that the benefits of farming in transition zone equals or exceeds those from bas-fonds crops and remaining 40% of beneficiary farmers are projecting this within 3 years project end.</p> <p>2.3 100% (380 individuals) of targeted farmers have access to improved seed varieties and 25% of both male and female farmers are actively trialling them in the transition zone by year 2, 50% by year 3 and 100% by year 4.</p> <p>2.4 Farmer seed exchanges and seed farmers make new varieties available to wider farming communities (additional to target villages) with 15% year on year increase to farmers in villages and beyond purchasing improved seed year on year</p> <p>2.5 Reduction in human-elephant conflict (compared to baseline collected 2016)</p>	<p>2.1 Agricultural transition plan developed and validated with beneficiaries and key stakeholders by end Y1. Ongoing monthly meetings with extension staff – minutes. Plan reviewed and assessed in Y2 – Y4 by Project Manager. Appropriate management actions to address any issues documented in 6 monthly and annual reports.</p> <p>2.2. Participatory Impact Assessment (PIA) in Y2 and Y4 to assess wellbeing of beneficiaries (including human-wildlife conflict). Annual yield and price surveys each year for transition plots, bas fond plots vs 2016 baseline. Six monthly extension staff reviews of farmer uptake and beneficiary farmer feedback focus groups.</p> <p>2.3 Annual extension staff reports on up take and use of varieties</p> <p>2.4 Annual farm seed exchange representative verbal feedback, annual seed farmer sales records. Socio-economic survey Y4.</p> <p>2.5 Monthly community meetings with farmers to ascertain incidents of wildlife conflict and impact (i.e. crop damage, projected income loss etc.) Reports collated monthly and annually. Information analysed by Project Manager to inform ongoing activities. Recorded in annual reports</p>	<p>Re-introduction of improved seed varieties conducted by IRAG for upland rice and niebe are replicated by direct beneficiary farmers as anticipated.</p> <p>Initial community discussions on availability and access to land hold true and sufficient land can be harmoniously secured inside and outside Transition Zone.</p> <p>The use of ‘mucuna’ and other soil improvement and weed management techniques to restore degraded land can be scaled up based on previous successful soil restoration work done by IRAG</p> <p>Tree crops seedlings have high survival rates and farmer shows excellent knowledge in crop management.</p> <p>Rainfall remains adequate to feed community irrigation systems for target villages</p> <p>Existing good access to local and regional markets remains stable for project duration</p>

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
<p>3. Illegal activity within Ziama is reduced through a shift from bas-fonds to farming in transition zones</p>	<p>3.1 No new clearing of forest in bas-fonds areas against current figures from July 2016 survey</p> <p>3.2 Law enforcement patrols report decline in illegal activity in core and buffer zones of Ziama MAB (compared to baseline from 2016 patrol data)</p> <p>3.3 60% reduction (228 individuals) in number of men and number of women (minimum 50% women) using bas-fonds in target villages by project end with a 20% reduction by end of year 2. We anticipate the final 40% to leave within 3 years of project end.</p> <p>3.4 Water testing in bas-fonds shows reduction in herbicide (compared to baseline to be collected at start of project) by end of year 4</p>	<p>3.1 Vegetation mapping, photos, bas-fonds control and exit plan</p> <p>3.2 Monthly law enforcement patrol data and reports</p> <p>3.3 Law enforcement and targeted bas-fond patrol data and reports, management plan for Ziama MAB including bas fond control plan by CFZ. Law enforcement patrols conducted on a monthly basis, targeting bas-fonds. Y1 &amp; Y2 to reinforce project messaging and ensure no expansion / new users. Y3 &amp; Y4 to enforce agreements. Reports compiled and analysed on a monthly basis with 6 monthly and annual status reports</p> <p>3.4 Water quality report</p>	<p>Participatory demarcation of MAB zones is completed successfully, with communities agreeing access and management.</p> <p>Reducing dependence on bas-fonds will decrease time spent in forest by farmers for poaching/illegal activity</p> <p>Training on safe use of agrichemicals including application of herbicides is effective.</p>
<p>4. Targeted bas-fonds in Ziama MAB are showing signs of forest recovery</p>	<p>4.1 Restoration plan developed in year 1 and implemented across 50% of all targeted bas-fonds by year 4 (250 hectares)</p> <p>4.2 Targeted bas fonds show annual improvements in ground cover / density of woody vegetation/ species richness in line with expected patterns of restoration by 25% year on year in years 2, 3, and 4 against project baseline</p>	<p>4.1 Restoration plan produced by end year 1</p> <p>4.2 Vegetation mapping, biomass analysis in year 4, photos in year 2, 3 and year 4</p>	<p>Restoration sites respond in line with samples plots conducted to date.</p> <p>Seedlings and seeds, if needed, are readily available at the right times.</p>

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
<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>1.1. Inception workshops and participatory design of agricultural extension package with beneficiary farmers including soil and weed mapping to match annual and perennial crops to best locations according to available lands</p> <p>1.2 Coordinate and implement joint training for efficiency and synergies with Sainte Isaure de Guinee Order and Plan International including composting training</p> <p>1.3 Update IRAG assessment of local farmer savings groups with a view to supporting and establishing new savings groups as needed particularly for women and to ensure farmers are able to purchase seeds of improved varieties when seeds need replacing</p> <p>1.4 Targeted training sessions and ongoing mentoring for agricultural extension package on topics such as soil management, planting techniques, seed management, green manure, integrated pest management, tree crop improvement, conservation agriculture, weed management, herbicide and pesticide management, alley cropping, agroforestry and improved irrigation techniques for direct beneficiary farmers. Sessions offered as both single and mixed-sex groups to encourage participation by all.</p> <p>1.5 Update agriculture extension and training methods and topics according to regular participant feedback, with a focus on ensuring sessions are run in a format, time and place to enable women to participate, learn and support each other, without isolating male participants</p> <p>1.6 Develop and deliver communication plan including training materials and radio programmes using appropriate media to ensure outreach of training and information to village residents and wider area (indirect beneficiaries)</p> <p>1.7 Conduct Participatory Impact Assessment in 4 target villages to ascertain effectiveness of training sessions, to monitor and update communications plan and to assess impact on wellbeing</p> <p>1.8 Arrange and facilitate learning exchange visits with other Ziama communities, to demonstrate agricultural practices and crop choices</p> <p>2.1 Identify with village councils and CFZ land in the transition zone for those direct beneficiary farmers that need it, ensure harmonisation of the process within community and establish culturally appropriate agreements for long term use of the land (Y1)</p> <p>2.2 Review condition of land provided, identify appropriate annual and perennial crops, select appropriate farming methods with beneficiary farmers and prepare the land including managing weeds and increasing fertility through planting of 'mucuna'</p> <p>2.3 Establish project baselines, gender disaggregated from bas-fonds crops and monitor annually for direct beneficiary farmers</p> <p>2.4 Ground truth, update design and implement agricultural transition plan, incorporating agricultural extension plan, in participation with direct beneficiary target farmers including mapping shifting labour roles and responsibilities for women and men, support to enhance and shift to self-selected annual and tree crops etc. to ensure feasibility and ownership of the plan</p> <p>2.5 Adaptively manage the process of change through on-going monitoring of farmers' perceptions of how incentives and activities are progressing, and provide continuous support, follow up and respond to any issues as they arise</p> <p>2.6 Based on hydrology mapping, develop locally appropriate trials for irrigation systems, including construction of 'improved wells' (puits ameliorés) and community agreements for location, use, management and maintenance of the selected systems and wells and ensured access for direct beneficiary farmers</p> <p>2.7 Provide training on niebe post-harvest storage loss, distribute storage bags at reduced cost and develop independent local supplier of storage bags</p> <p>2.8 Identify cost effective storage improvements to address post-harvest loss for other crops beyond niebe as identified as significantly problematic by farmers and implement cost effective solutions in Y3 and Y4</p> <p>2.9 Review potential processing opportunities for existing crops grown outside the bas-fonds in order to identify opportunities to increase income from simple feasible processing</p> <p>2.10 Based on successful seed develop programmes from IRAG, update mapping of existing seed exchange groups within and between villages, and support them to design and implement their own scaling up of seed exchange of new varieties to ensure availability to wider farmer groups in 4 villages and beyond</p> <p>2.11 Distribute improved rice and other annual crop seed varieties at a reduced cost to direct beneficiary farmers, providing training of planting techniques for seed and</p>			

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
<p>ensure collection of seed at harvest for following year use,</p> <p>2.12 Establish and train seed farmers to maintain access to improved varieties year on year with support from IRAG</p> <p>2.13 Annually monitor yields for rice varieties being achieved by beneficiary farms in transition zone and incomes of any surplus sold and adapt activities and support accordingly</p> <p>2.14 Establish trials for protecting crops and repelling elephants with direct beneficiary farmer groups in transition zone based on lessons learnt in FFI Elephant Survey report and use these as demonstration plots for wider community training on the topic according to demand for this village by village</p> <p>2.15 Monitor crop loss and human wildlife conflict in transition zone during monthly community meetings</p> <p>3.1 Bas-fond user groups and CFZ develop and implement bas fond control and exit plan including monitoring existing use and halting further clearance in bas-fonds</p> <p>3.2 CFZ ranger staff conduct regular patrols of bas-fonds and attend bas-fond users association meetings on a regular basis to update users and ensure a strong and harmonious dialogue with communities</p> <p>3.3 Provide training on environmental impacts of herbicide and pesticide use in water systems and safe application to bas fond associations in 4 villages and beyond</p> <p>3.4 Conduct baseline survey for water quality in targeted bas fonds and repeat survey in year four</p> <p>4.1 Develop restoration plan incorporating identification of suitable cost effective methods for enhancing the restoration of bas-fonds based on successful work by CFZ to date including assisted and natural restoration and identification of suitable species to be planted as feasible, based on various suitability criteria including potential to increase forest cover and attract wildlife species to the sites</p> <p>4.2 Develop baselines for a selection of indicators including ground cover / density of woody vegetation/ species richness depending on conditions found in bas-fonds areas to be restored</p> <p>4.3 Implement and update restoration plan in years 2, 3 and 4 and scale up appropriate techniques at CFZ identified sites and sites volunteered by bas fond associations</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) NOTE START DATE AS 1<sup>st</sup> June 2017 – movement in work plan shown in blue

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
Output 1																	
1.1 Inception workshops and participatory design of agricultural extension package with beneficiary farmers including soil and weed mapping to match annual and perennial crops to best locations according to available lands																	
1.2 Coordinate and implement joint training for efficiency and synergies with Sainte Isaure de Guinee Order and Plan International including composting training																	
1.3 Update IRAG assessment of local farmer savings groups with a view to supporting and establishing new savings groups as needed particularly for women and to ensure farmers are able to purchase seeds of improved varieties when seeds need replacing																	
1.4 Targeted training sessions and ongoing mentoring for agricultural extension package on topics such as soil management, planting techniques, seed management, green manure, integrated pest management, tree crop improvement, conservation agriculture, weed management, herbicide and pesticide management, alley cropping, agroforestry and improved irrigation techniques for direct beneficiary farmers.																	

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
Sessions offered as both single and mixed-sex groups to encourage participation by all.																	
1.5 Update agriculture extension and training methods and topics according to regular participant feedback, with a focus on ensuring sessions are run in a format, time and place to enable women to participate, learn and support each other, without isolating male participants																	
1.6 Develop and deliver communication plan including training materials and radio programmes using appropriate media to ensure outreach of training and information to village residents and wider area (indirect beneficiaries)																	
1.7 Conduct Participatory Impact Assessment in 4 target villages to ascertain effectiveness of training sessions, to monitor and update communications plan and to assess impact on wellbeing																	
1.8 Arrange and facilitate learning exchange visits with other Ziama communities, to demonstrate agricultural practices and crop choices																	
Output 2																	
2.1 Identify with village councils and CFZ land in the transition zone for those direct beneficiary farmers that need it, ensure harmonisation of the process within community and establish culturally appropriate agreements for long term use of the land (Y1)																	
2.2 Review condition of land provided, identify appropriate annual and perennial crops, select appropriate farming																	

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
methods with beneficiary farmers and prepare the land including managing weeds and increasing fertility through planting of 'mucuna'																	
2.3 Establish project baselines, gender disaggregated from bas-fonds crops and monitor annually for direct beneficiary farmers																	
2.4 Ground truth, update design and implement agricultural transition plan, incorporating agricultural extension plan, in participation with direct beneficiary target farmers including mapping shifting labour roles and responsibilities for women and men, support to enhance and shift to self-selected annual and tree crops etc. to ensure feasibility and ownership of the plan																	
2.5 Adaptively manage the process of change through on-going monitoring of farmers' perceptions of how incentives and activities are progressing, and provide continuous support, follow up and respond to any issues as they arise																	
2.6 Based on hydrology mapping, develop locally appropriate trials for irrigation systems, including construction of 'improved wells' (puits améliorés) and community agreements for location, use, management and maintenance of the selected systems and wells and ensured access for direct beneficiary farmers																	
2.7 Provide training on niebe post-harvest storage loss, distribute storage bags at reduced cost and develop independent local supplier of storage bags																	
2.8 Identify cost effective storage																	

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
improvements to address post-harvest loss for other crops beyond niebe as identified as significantly problematic by farmers and implement cost effective solutions in Y3 and Y4																	
2.9 Review potential processing opportunities for existing crops grown outside the bas-fonds in order to identify opportunities to increase income from simple feasible processing																	
2.10 Based on successful seed develop programmes from IRAG, update mapping of existing seed exchange groups within and between villages, and support them to design and implement their own scaling up of seed exchange of new varieties to ensure availability to wider farmer groups in 4 villages and beyond																	
2.11 Distribute improved rice and other annual crop seed varieties at a reduced cost to direct beneficiary farmers, providing training of planting techniques for seed and ensure collection of seed at harvest for following year use.																	
2.12 Establish and train seed farmers to maintain access to improved varieties year on year with support from IRAG																	
2.13 Annually monitor yields for rice varieties being achieved by beneficiary farms in transition zone and incomes of any surplus sold and adapt activities and support accordingly																	
2.14 Establish trials for protecting crops and repelling elephants with direct beneficiary farmer groups in transition zone based on lessons learnt in FFI Elephant Survey report and use these as demonstration plots for wider community training on the																	



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
topic according to demand for this village by village																	
2.15 Monitor crop loss and human wildlife conflict in transition zone during monthly community meetings																	
Output 3																	
3.1 Bas-fond user groups and CFZ develop and implement bas fond control and exit plan including monitoring existing use and halting further clearance in bas-fonds																	
3.2 CFZ ranger staff conduct regular patrols of bas-fonds and attend bas-fond users association meetings on a regular basis to update users and ensure a strong and harmonious dialogue with communities																	
3.3 Provide training on environmental impacts of herbicide and pesticide use in water systems and safe application to bas fond associations in 4 villages and beyond																	
3.4 Conduct baseline survey for water quality in targeted bas fonds and repeat survey in year four																	
Output 4																	
4.1 Develop restoration plan incorporating identification of suitable cost effective methods for enhancing the restoration of bas-fonds based on successful work by CFZ to date including assisted and natural restoration and identification of suitable species to be planted as feasible, based on various suitability criteria including potential to increase forest cover and attract wildlife species to the sites																	
4.2 Develop baselines for a selection of indicators including ground cover / density																	

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
of woody vegetation/ species richness depending on conditions found in bas-fonds areas to be restored																	
4.3 Implement and update restoration plan in years 2, 3 and 4 and scale up appropriate techniques at CFZ identified sites and sites volunteered by bas fond associations																	

## 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)

Progress and impact will be assessed through on-going monitoring against indicators and milestones, and regular project evaluation. FFI has responsibility for overall project M&E which will be conducted in a participatory fashion, involving project partners, direct beneficiary farmers and the four beneficiary villages. FFI will lead monitoring if and when a more neutral partner would benefit the review such as the KAPs and PIAs.

The in-country project team made up of representatives from each partner organisation will meet six-monthly to review progress against the workplan and output indicators. UK based staff will review these meeting notes and hold a six-month review call with the FFI Project Manager to feed into this process. Activities will be reviewed and monitored during monthly workplan meetings between IRAG and the Project Manager. This regular analysis and dissemination of M&E information will inform adaptive management of the project to identify challenges, issues and successes early and enable the project team to adapt approaches and management to ensure the project achieves intended outcomes. Each partner organisation will be responsible for monitoring and maintaining records of activity outputs including numbers of direct beneficiary farmer participants, disaggregated by gender; the project manager will be responsible for collating this data.

A gender specialist will be involved at the beginning and throughout the project to ensure gender considerations are incorporated through the project, in the monitoring and evaluation and will conduct a gender evaluation at project end.

Bas-fond restoration indicators 3.1 will be selected from a range including annual improvements in ground cover, density of woody vegetation and species richness with specific indicators to be decided once the baseline is carried out to ensure the most appropriate indicator is selected. A simple monitoring programme will be developed, based on transects, permanent plots, and photo-monitoring, for CFZ to measure restoration 3.1 and 3.2 indicators and progress. CFZ will be responsible for collecting and analysing these indicators with the Project Manager's support. CFZ will monitor bas-fond use during monthly bas-fond patrols and share patrol summaries with the team.

Well-being under output 2 will be monitored through annual agriculture production surveys including yields, incomes, access to seeds, and cross referenced with Participatory Impact Assessments in year 2 and 4 and the HWC survey. IRAG extension officers will collect and analysis agricultural production information. FFI's team including the gender specialist will conduct the PIA's and FFI and CFZ will conduct the HWC survey. Socio-economic survey will be conducted by the in-country project team and hopefully done through the use of handsets on the ODK platform.

The impact of the farmer field schools, extension support and exchange days will be monitored qualitatively and quantitatively through six monthly extension staff reports of uptake and farmer feedback focus groups and triangulated with the agricultural production survey and IPA.

Financial data and key project data will be logged in FFI's central database, FocalPoint, to monitor financial spend in line with budgets.

The project team will capture success and failure and share these findings with peers and stakeholders.

Number of days planned for M&E	228
Total project budget for M&E	£24,978
Percentage of total project budget set aside for M&E	8%

## 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)

CFZ will be invited to attend all training courses run to support communities with improved agricultural practices and techniques. It is hoped that by building the capacity of CFZ together with the target farmers, this will facilitate further knowledge sharing in the future, and allow CFZ to support further villages to transition away from using bas-fonds for agriculture as those participating in this project have done.

FFI will take on the administrative responsibilities for the grant, ensuring that partners are free to dedicate all time available to implementing activities and providing technical expertise. Where appropriate, FFI will support partners with administration tasks, providing opportunity to build partner capacity.

Where possible, all seeds, seedlings and tree crops will be purchased directly from IRAG for the purpose of this project. IRAG produce high quality products at heavily discounted rates, and this has led to considerable savings on project implementation.

The timing of project activities and involvement of communities has also been carefully considered. Provision of seeds and seedlings will be in line with farmer availability and appropriate season, to have greatest chance of successful implementation (for example, provision of seeds will happen during the wet season). This will ensure investment made into crops is worthwhile, and farmers are able to access benefits they offer.

Training courses for local community members will be run within villages, and at a time of least inconvenience to those attending. This will not only ensure maximum attendance and that training courses in no way disadvantage attendees, but also reduce costs of training in relation to reimbursing travel or other personal expenses. This was an important consideration, given the focus on training and capacity building within this project.

### 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)

The capital items purchased with Darwin funding will be used to equip the FFI Guinea office, in order to manage an increased activity level, and provide all required services to deliver planned activities effectively. When the project ends, all items will remain in the FFI Guinea office, and continue to be used by FFI staff to support the delivery of work in this region. All items will be recorded in the FFI Guinea asset register, and their condition monitored on a yearly basis to ensure they are maintained to an effective working standard.

### 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 company of Fauna & Flora International

I apply for a grant of £396,869 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

<b>Name (block capitals)</b>	Rosalind Aveling
<b>Position in the organisation</b>	Deputy Chief Executive

**Signed\*\*** PDF **Date:** 5 December 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**

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

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.