



Submit by Monday 5 December 2016

DARWIN INITIATIVE APPLICATION FOR GRANT FOR ROUND 23: STAGE 2Please 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)

Applicant Organisation Name:	Fauna & Flora International
Address:	The David Attenborough Building, Pembroke Street
City and Postcode:	Cambridge, CB2 3QZ
Country:	United Kingdom
Email:	
Phone:	

2. Stage 1 reference and Project title

Stage 1 Ref: 3845	Title (max 10 words): Realising the values and benefits for communities of Nicaragua's turtles
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3. Project description (not exceeding 50 words)**(max 50 words)**

To conserve turtles and improve livelihoods of coastal communities, the project will integrate economic values of turtles into tourism sector policies and practices, build technical capacities and regional networks, and enable communities to develop sustainable livelihoods related to tourism, fishing and marine resources, ensuring participation of women and vulnerable groups.

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.

Country 1: NICARAGUA	Country 2:
Country 3:	Country 4:

5. Project dates, and budget summary

Start date: 01/06/2017	End date: 31/03/2021			Duration: 3 years 10 months	
Darwin funding request (Apr – Mar)	2017/18 £95,953	2018/19 £113,553	2019/20 £96,134	2020/2021 £79,977	Total £385,617
Proposed (confirmed & unconfirmed) matched funding as % of total Project cost					46%

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	Fundacion Lider	National Network of Marine Turtle Conservation
Surname	Herrera Scott	Caballero Paniagua	Gonzales
Forename (s)	Edgard	Eduin	Liza
Post held	Country Director, Nicaragua Fauna & Flora International	Project Coordinator Economic Development, Fundación Líder	President National Network of Marine Turtle Conservation
Organisation (if different to above)	Fauna & Flora International	Fundación Líder	Paso Pacifico
Department	Americas & Caribbean Programme	Economic Development	Conservation
Telephone			
Email			

Details	CANATUR	Carolyn Lusby	Jose Urteaga
Surname	Valenti	Lusby	Urteaga
Forename (s)	Lucy	Carolyn	Jose
Post held	President CANATUR	Assistant Professor Florida International University	Doctoral Student Emmett Interdisciplinary Program in Environment and Resources Stanford University
Organisation (if different to above)	CANATUR	Florida International University	Stanford University
Department	Tourism Development	Chaplin School of Hospitality and Tourism Management	Environment and Resources
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	Robert 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	Cultural and economic incentives for endangered species

	Frechette	conservation in Cambodia
2792	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
2324	Sophie Benbow	Enhancement of wellbeing and conservation in Cape Verde's biodiversity hotspots

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)

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.

Lead institution and website: Fauna & Flora International (FFI) www.fauna-flora.org	Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to lead the project): (max 200 words) FFI works by invitation around the world to save species from extinction and habitats from destruction while improving the livelihoods of local people. FFI has been active in Nicaragua since 2002, registered as an international NGO in the country. We strive to take a holistic approach, applying solutions which address the needs, rights and roles of local communities that are directly involved or affected by conservation actions. FFI is recognized as a leading organization in marine turtle conservation in Nicaragua, with significant expertise in protection and monitoring, education and outreach, as well as scientific understanding. This project will build upon our long-standing cooperation with government, NGOs and communities to protect and monitor nesting beaches (>30km), provide economic alternatives, raise public awareness and also complements recent initiatives to reduce fisheries bycatch. FFI will have overall programmatic and financial management responsibility for the project and will facilitate communication and collaboration, between: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Levels of governance (community to national); • Links between local providers and larger businesses; • Field practitioners and technical experts; • Nicaraguans and regional peers. The project team includes national specialists in marine turtles, fisheries and sustainable livelihoods, supported by global experts in governance and social processes, capacity building, environmental markets and marine management.
Have you included a Letter of Support from this institution?	Yes

<p>Partner Name and website where available:</p> <p>Fundación Líder</p> <p>https://www.facebook.com/Fundacion-LIDER-1076954658996186/?ref=page_internal</p>	<p>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): (max 200 words)</p> <p>Fundación Líder is a Nicaraguan NGO established in 2000, based out of Chinandega which is supporting local communities in improving their livelihoods in harmony with the local natural resources. Their mission is to support community development to improve the quality of life of families, through competitive rural business models based on sustainable management of natural resources whilst strengthening capacity for self-management and increasing the influence of communities.</p> <p>Their role in the project is to support community groups in the north of the country in developing sustainable coastal livelihoods, such as establishing concessions for custodianship of mangroves, sustainable mangrove cockle harvesting and an environmentally licensed snapper rearing facility. Fundación Líder has already successfully established several such collective enterprises and will be an important partner in reinforcing the inherent link between the conservation of biodiversity and improved livelihoods, actively demonstrating the direct benefits to communities who participate in less destructive practices and ensuring longevity of the livelihoods outcomes.</p>	
<p>Have you included a Letter of Support from this institution?</p>		<p>Yes</p>

<p>Partner Name and website where available:</p> <p>National Sea Turtle Conservation Network (NTCN)</p> <p>Red Nacional de Conservación de Tortugas Marinas</p> <p>www.tortugasnicas.org</p>	<p>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): (max 200 words)</p> <p>The Nicaraguan NTCN brings together members from government agencies, university departments, international organisations, local NGOs, community groups, and private enterprise. As such, it is the lead platform for national coordination of conservation initiatives for all species of marine turtles supported by the country's coastal-marine ecosystems. This voluntary network is open to any individual, organisation or group engaged in turtle conservation in Nicaragua. The network has been working since the mid-1990s to promote marine turtle conservation in Nicaragua, exchange information and spearhead campaigns for environmental awareness about turtle habitat needs and threats in Nicaragua.</p> <p>Through this project the Network and its members will have a vital role in generating and managing the exchange of information and ensuring the technical and scientific knowledge needed to support turtle conservation is disseminated and has legitimacy across the wide range of coastal stakeholders. The Network's members have strong technical capacity and knowledge and will be a mechanism for continued support of the project gains post project end.</p>	
<p>Have you included a Letter of Support from this institution?</p>		<p>Yes</p>

Partner Name and website where available: CANATUR National Nicaraguan Tourism Chamber Cámara Nacional de Turismo de Nicaragua www.canatur-nicaragua.org	Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): (max 200 words) CANATUR is a key organization of the national tourism industry in Nicaragua. Since its establishment in 1976 it has supported the quality of national tourism enterprises. CANATUR's mission is to promote the sustainable development of tourism in Nicaragua through the representation of the professional interests of the tourism sector, to strengthen competition and support the position of Nicaragua as a world-class tourist destination of quality. As a national authority CANATUR chairs tourism sector meetings and will collaborate on the valuation study of turtles as well as being a key stakeholder in the development of sustainable community-based tourism products and disseminating good practices to support custodianship of turtles and their habitats throughout the project.
Have you included a Letter of Support from this institution?	Yes

Partner Name and website where available: Dr. Carolin Lusby https://htmnet.fiu.edu/faculty/listing/view/?PID=0110206	Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): (max 200 words) Dr. Lusby is an Assistant Professor at the Chaplin School of Hospitality & Tourism Management at Florida International University, where she teaches graduate and undergraduate level courses in tourism, research methods and leadership. Dr. Lusby holds a master's degree in Tourism and the Environment and prior to her career in academia she worked extensively in the tourism industry. Dr. Lusby will be collaborating on sustainable tourism training and marketing in the project, providing advice to tourism industry actors in developing linkages to community-based ecotourism providers and improving the community based products for national and international operators. Dr. Lusby will also lead on developing modules and field trips on community-based and sustainable tourism in collaboration with tourism associations and UAM (Universidad Americana) engaging students and tourism professionals in key topics for developing sustainable livelihoods that protect coastal habitats.
Have you included a Letter of Support from this institution?	Yes

<p>Partner Name and website where available:</p> <p>Jose Urteaga</p> <p>http://www.nationalgeographic.com/explorers/bios/jose-urteaga/</p>	<p>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): (max 200 words)</p> <p>Jose Urteaga worked on marine turtle conservation on the pacific coast of Nicaragua for 15 years, he is currently completing his Ph.D. in Environment and Resources at Stanford University. His research interests centre on the governance and sustainable management of marine natural resources. FFI and Jose have a joint aim and Memorandum of Understanding to collaborate on research to advance scientific knowledge on sea turtle conservation. Jose brings a wealth of knowledge to the project and also a unique opportunity for collaborative monitoring and evaluation of project outputs. Jose's role in the project will be investigating turtle-related knowledge, attitudes and motivations in Nicaragua. Collaborating on the design, methods, and sustainability of monitoring, establishing the necessary baseline data during the start of the project.</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?
Edgard Herrera-Scott	Project Leader / Country Director, Nicaragua	FFI	33%	Yes
Velkiss Gadea	Programme Manager, Marine Turtles	FFI	38%	Yes
Robert Bensted-Smith	Regional Director, Americas & Caribbean	FFI	5%	Yes
Helen Schneider	Director, Livelihoods & Governance	FFI	5%	Yes
Alison Gunn	Programme Manager Americas & Caribbean	FFI	25%	Yes
Elena Pereira	Specialist, Community Livelihoods	FFI	42%	Yes
Eduin Caballero Paniagua	Project Coordinator	Fundacion Lider	35%	Yes
Carolyn Lusby	Assistant Professor	Florida International University	10%	Yes
José Urteaga	Doctoral Student	Stanford	10%	Yes

11. Problem the project is trying to address

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

Nicaragua has globally important Pacific turtle populations, including 52% of nesting Eastern Pacific Hawksbill (CR), plus Eastern Pacific Leatherback (CR), Green turtle (EN), and Olive Ridley (VU) (two of eleven mass nesting beaches). Many coastal people, who depend on agriculture and fishing, are poor¹ and are vulnerable to disasters (FAO, 2015), perceive turtles as a source of supplementary income through poaching eggs or killing hawksbills for “tortoiseshell” rather than as a valuable living asset of which they are beneficiaries and custodians. Furthermore, some fishers use methods, especially “blast fishing” with explosives, which kill turtles and damage ecosystems on which turtles and fisheries depend. Turtle nests are being protected through enforcement and incentive payments, but this addresses only one problem and is unsustainable.

Nicaragua’s fast-growing tourism (income increased 58% over six years, reaching 1.46 million visitors and \$528m in 2015) could exacerbate or improve the situation, depending on policies and practices adopted. Already, some hotel construction threatens coastal habitat, some businesses marginalise adjacent communities and some privately owned, tourist-oriented turtle hatcheries use inappropriate methods. Nevertheless, there is time for reorientation towards best practice. One constraint is Nicaragua’s small pool of relevant scientists and technical experts, who have few opportunities for exchange with peers, notably in Costa Rica where turtle-related tourism delivers substantial economic benefits².

Thus, turtle conservation is partial and dependent on external assistance, while livelihoods are inadequate and unsustainable. Dialogue with coastal communities, scientists and technical experts, and work on participatory marine governance have identified solutions involving improved marine resource-based livelihoods and access to tourism-related opportunities. Engagement of tourism entities has revealed strong interest in strategic positioning of Nicaragua as an ecotourism destination, with communities as partners and turtles as flagship species. The investigation, awareness raised and relationships developed inform this project’s strategy and provide the platform for implementation.

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.

Convention On Biological Diversity (CBD)	Yes
Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS)	No
International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA)	No
Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)	Yes
Global Goals for Sustainable Development	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

¹ e.g. Micro-regional data of Nicaraguan Development Information Institute shows Unsatisfied Basic Needs ranging from 32% to 61% in target communities.

² Troeng S. and Drews C. 2004 [WWF turtle economics](#)

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 is closely aligned with government plans in relation to CBD. It supports implementation of **CBD Articles** 7 (Identification and Monitoring), 11 (Incentive Measures), 12 (Research and training), 13 (Public Education and Awareness) and 17 (Exchange of Information). It contributes to **Aichi Biodiversity Targets** (1, 2, 6, 12, 18, 19) and the delivery of associated **National Targets** (1. Increase conservation knowledge; 5. Improve wellbeing through sustainable livelihoods; 7. Promote sustainable fishing methods that comply with regulations; 8. Advance sustainable and environmentally responsible tourism; 11. Strengthen local community participation in natural resource management decision making; 13. Integrate into sectoral policies, nationally and locally, the conservation and restoration of biodiversity; 14. Conserve threatened species and genetic diversity).

The project supports **Nicaragua's National Biodiversity Strategy**, which is currently being updated to align with global targets.

The project contributes to multiple **Global Goals for Sustainable Development**. We highlight the following:

- **SDG 1:** by promoting equitable rights to economic and natural resources (1.4) and building resilience amongst poor coastal communities through diversification of livelihood strategies (1.5). The project will improve and expand existing livelihoods related to coastal/marine resources, notably fisheries and the empowerment of community groups to harvest mangrove cockles through concession arrangements. It will also enable local people to participate in and benefit from the growing ecotourism economy.
- In line with **SDG 5**, women, who are highly vulnerable to coastal ecosystem degradation, will be protagonists in many of the above activities, such as the mangrove concession and various tourism products and services.
- **SDG 8:** by supporting entrepreneurship and social enterprise development (8.3) and by implementing sustainable ecotourism, that incorporates community-based tourism products and services, provides employment and respects local culture (8.9). The project will also inform and guide policy and planning nationally, both government and private sector, supporting the integration of turtles as a flagship species and strengthening policies on environmental and social practice in coastal ecosystems.
- **SDG 14:** by strengthening conservation and sustainable management of coastal-marine resources and habitats (14.2) and supporting responsible artisanal fisheries (14.4). The project will also secure long-term protection of one area of coastal habitat, which is small but critical for Hawksbill nesting (14.5). The inherent links between sustainable livelihoods and turtle conservation will be reinforced by a communications programme, highlighting the importance of mangroves, estuaries and coastal/marine habitat to both sea turtles and fisheries. The project will help to build an alliance of community members, government and private sector to tackle threats to their natural capital, while ensuring that vulnerable groups are included in the expanding livelihood opportunities.

All five marine turtle species which inhabit Nicaragua's coastal and marine ecosystems are listed as **CITES Appendix I**. The project will strengthen the national platform for work under **CITES Article II** (Fundamental Principles) and will have an impact on illegal trade in Hawksbill shell through the tourist market, by influencing both tour operators and government to discourage tourist purchases and tighten controls. However, trade is not the main focus of the project.

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:

As explained above, the project is tightly aligned with national targets and plans in relation to the CBD, for which the focal point is the Director of Biodiversity in the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MARENA). The CITES focal point is in the same directorate. The project will be implemented in close collaboration with MARENA and opportunities for sharing and disseminating lessons learned with/via the CBD focal point will be sought throughout. In particular, the project will provide data and other inputs to MARENA for its national and international reporting on CBD implementation, Aichi targets and national targets, and on CITES reporting in relation to turtles. The project will also seek other fora for presenting project progress in the context of CBD, CITES and/or the SDG's.

With regard to project implementation, the Directorate of Biodiversity will participate in reviews of project progress and in policy development activities. All activities related to sustainable livelihoods of communities within protected areas will be carried out in close consultation with Biodiversity staff. The CBD focal point will have a key role in granting concessions to local community groups to manage mangrove forest areas and harvest cockles, and in monitoring the facility to raise snappers in the estuary of Padre Ramos, verifying compliance with the environmental permit. Both the CBD Focal Point and CITES Administrative Authority will provide inputs to technical and communications materials about trade in sea turtle products, turtle tourism and sustainable livelihoods in protected areas.

In summary, there will be close cooperation with the CBD and CITES focal points in both implementation and dissemination.

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)

The project will scale up the importance of turtles and their habitat to community livelihoods, through training and enterprise support, and to national government and the tourism industry, through economic evidence, technical advice, training and marketing. The project will foster cooperation between the two levels, establishing common interests and objectives and forging alliances to achieve them. It will strengthen capacity and commitment of communities to a culture of responsible resource use and stewardship and of national entities to an enabling framework of policies, regulations, business practices and partnerships. The strategy has four lines of action:

1. Integrate economic and socio-cultural values of turtles and technical guidance into tourism policies, practices and marketing.

- Assess potential contribution of turtles to Nicaragua's economy, using published information on turtle tourism³, an adapted TESSA methodology⁴, complementary data from stakeholders and the GRACE⁵ methodology for cultural values.
- Communicate results to tourism companies, national authorities, coastal municipalities and communities, so they integrate turtles into their development plans (section 19 specifies intended responses).

³ See logframes "assumptions" column for brief reasons for assuming there is scope for growth.

⁴ TESSA, the Toolkit for Ecosystem Service Site-based Assessment, was developed by Birdlife International under Darwin project 18-005 and encompasses some of the standard economic valuation approaches e.g. Travel Cost method. It has been used before by FFI in Nicaragua. [TESSA](#)

⁵ GRACE, the Guidance for Rapid Assessment of Cultural Ecosystem Services was developed by FFI and partners

- Bring together tourism businesses, municipal authorities and communities to identify opportunities and strategies for improving and expanding turtle-related tourism.
- Connect community-based tourism product providers with tour operators and advise on best social and environmental practices in turtle areas.
- Assist packaging and marketing of turtle-related ecotourism products and facilitate links to markets in the USA and UK.

2. Increase technical expertise and regional networks

- Enable undergraduates/graduates to undertake internships on turtles, marine resources, socio-economics and livelihoods.
- Deliver a module on community-based coastal tourism for professionals and students.
- Develop technical and social responsibility standards for turtle hatchery/tourism initiatives and provide training.
- Strengthen the NTCN through facilitation of strategic planning, collective action and regional cooperation.

3. Enable communities near four key nesting beaches (Estero Padre Ramos to Chacocente) to improve livelihoods in ways beneficial to turtles and their habitat

- Provide tailored technical skills training and SME development support (e.g. financial management, hospitality, marketing, business plan development, post-harvest processing, product innovation and diversification, contract negotiation skills)
- Assist community groups to strengthen their rights and capacities to benefit from marine biodiversity, notably mangrove concessions for harvesting cockles (*Anadara similis*), equitable agreements with tourism businesses and fish buyers, and responsible fishing.
- Target enterprises will be identified based on feasibility and potential to:
 - positively impact turtle populations and habitat
 - benefit women and other vulnerable groups
 - build on community members' skills and interests

4. Strengthen legal protection of habitat adjacent to a vital Hawksbill beach at EPR

- Negotiate and implement a long-term agreement with the property owner, who currently leases a building to FFI for conservation and "voluntourism".

FFI's Nicaragua Programme Director will coordinate the project in-country, lead Outputs 1 (with Dr. Lusby and CANATUR) and 4, and manage government relationships. The FFI Turtle Programme Manager will lead Output 2, collaborate with Fundación Líder on Output 3, and ensure monitoring of turtle populations and social indicators. FFI's UK-based team will oversee the project, provide specialist inputs (economic valuation, livelihood development) and lead publication/dissemination and M&E (with José Urteaga).

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)

Tourism businesses and government bodies will gain knowledge of Nicaragua's global importance for turtles and their potential economic value, and connect with community-based ecotourism products and with international markets. Consequently, there will be increased marketing of turtle-related, community-based tourism, supported by government promotion, training and development planning. In the long-term, changes in policy and economic value will increase national commitment to protect turtles and their habitat as assets for local and national development.

Through the project 320 individuals in ten communities near nesting beaches will gain skills, organisational capacities, connections and income from diverse economic activities linked to marine biodiversity, including turtle-related tourism and fishing. Adding those benefitting indirectly from the project, an estimated 400 households (one third of total) will increase their income. Common interests between communities, businesses and government, supported by communications, will produce a downward trend in turtle killing, egg poaching and harmful fishing practices. Trends will continue post-project, as livelihoods improve further. Consolidation of linkages between livelihoods and marine biodiversity conservation, combined with parallel work on participatory marine governance, will ultimately restore degraded marine ecosystems and secure livelihoods.

The project will increase Nicaragua's very small pool of scientists and technical experts for turtle conservation, ecosystem management and ecotourism and reinvigorate the NTCN, strengthening internal organisation, activism and cooperation with regional peers. Socio-economic and conservation benefits will be cumulative, as government, businesses and communities use better information and qualified expertise and the Network becomes more proactive and effective.

The project will achieve legal protection of a critical 900m beach, where 15-20% of all Eastern Pacific Hawksbills nest, delivering long-term benefits to all whose livelihoods are linked to turtles.

The incorporation of sea turtles into Nicaragua's national development plan can spearhead a wider use of the concept of natural capital in Nicaragua's approach to sustainable development.

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)

The project will address multiple dimensions of poverty experienced by female and male members of ten coastal communities (population 5,500), seven of which are classified by the government as in severe poverty⁶. Residents dependent on marine/coastal resources are particularly likely to live in poverty. The financial capital of 400 households will be improved by a 15% increase in income, through support for economically viable, environmentally sustainable livelihoods related to marine resource use and tourism goods and services. Women will make up over half the direct beneficiaries. The figure includes 80 households benefitting indirectly from stimulation of the economy, attraction of investment, and incipient recovery of ecosystem productivity. Using economic arguments, the project will work with tourism industry and authorities to increase the volume of turtle-related tourism, the level of community involvement in it, and national commitment to protect this asset. Livelihood diversification reduces vulnerability to socio-economic and environmental changes (including climate-related). Livelihoods support will also enhance human capital through improved organisation, technical and business development and management skills.

The communities' natural capital will be enhanced by reduction in killing of turtles and egg poaching, adoption of responsible fishing practices especially in sensitive estuarine and nearshore habitat, and protection of mangroves and nesting beaches.

Formal recognition of rights and responsibilities for sustainable resource management will improve social cohesion and reduce conflict. An active role in natural resource stewardship, alongside empowerment through improved income and better relationships with private sector and government actors, will increase self-esteem and confidence. Such benefits to wellbeing,

⁶ Instituto Nacional de Información de Desarrollo, 2005
R23 St2 Form

particularly valued by women, have already been reported by members of enterprises with which FFI works. Recognising their different roles, responsibilities, needs and aspirations, we will address the specific barriers to equitable participation and access to benefits of women and other vulnerable groups, including the poorest households and youth.

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)

To maximise sustainability, the project will:

- Increase the profile and economic relevance of turtles and their habitat, thereby motivating government to fulfill its role in protecting these valuable assets.
- Both support sustainable marine biodiversity-related livelihoods locally and promote a national framework of policies and business codes of practice, favourable to such livelihoods.
- Achieve legally binding protection of essential nesting beach habitat.
- Build lasting social capital of community groups, especially their capacity to engage equitably with industries and government.
- Build institutional capacity of in-country partners, notably the NTCN and Líder, who are important for sustainability.
- Spread training across government entities, NGO's and business people, avoiding over-dependence on individuals.

Thus, at EOP key conditions for sustainability of the project's social and biodiversity impacts will be in place and FFI's role will transition to being one of:

- Technical advice and institutional strengthening for Líder and other emerging local organisations;
- Facilitator of regional collaboration with Eastern Pacific countries frequented by the same turtle populations.

FFI will maintain its presence in Nicaragua and raise funds to continue collaborating with government and partners on a broad, long-term programme to restore turtle populations and the biodiversity, productivity and resilience of Nicaragua's coastal and marine ecosystems.

17a. Harmonisation

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

The project adds a major new component to a long-term FFI programme of support to turtle conservation, which has hitherto focused on beach patrols and hatcheries, supported by direct incentive payments. In Chacocente FFI has worked with women weavers and in EPR FFI has initiated a small "voluntourism" scheme. However, this proposal to Darwin Initiative takes the programme into new territory by (i) placing sustainable biodiversity-related enterprise development at the heart of the strategy, and (ii) engaging the tourism industry and authorities as allies in enabling turtle conservation to be "good business" for the Nicaraguan economy. This new project will be a major step towards sustainable, large-scale impact on both livelihoods and turtles.

The Darwin project also connects efforts to conserve turtles and turtle habitat with prior work by Líder to promote sustainable development in Chinandega Municipality and a three-year project

(to end of 2017) by FFI and the NGO FUNDENIC to promote responsible artisanal fisheries in the southern part of the Pacific coast. The Darwin project will be fully coordinated with these activities, utilising experience gained (e.g. of mangrove concessions) and seeking synergies with any continuing activities (e.g. media communications).

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

If yes, please give details explaining similarities and differences 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.

No.

FFI is applying to various foundations for funding to continue nesting beach patrols and to assess fisheries-hawksbill interactions, but these activities are complementary to the Darwin proposal.

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 endeavours to ensure its conservation activities do not disadvantage poor, vulnerable or marginalised natural resource dependent women and men. Wherever possible we seek to conserve biodiversity in ways that enhance human wellbeing. FFI is a founding member of the [Conservation Initiative on Human Rights \(www.thecihr.org\)](http://www.thecihr.org) which commits us to respect human rights, promote their protection and realisation within our conservation programmes, and support governance systems that can secure those rights.

FFI uses the sustainable livelihoods framework to understand the complex and dynamic nature of people's livelihoods. We work with local stakeholders – women and men - in empowering ways, emphasising local leadership, equitable participation and benefit-sharing. The Free, Prior and Informed Consent principle guides project design and implementation, 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 in ways that are compatible with human rights.

This particular project will empower coastal communities, especially women, to benefit from valuable resources of which they are custodians. It will enable community groups to seek greater control over their marine resources and increase capacities of government and industry to respond constructively. It addresses problems of illegal activities in a holistic, fair way and is fully aligned with FFI's policies.

FFI will retain responsibility for transparent and accountable governance of all elements of the project. In accordance with its commitment to working in a manner that is ethical, legal and consistent with its values and mission, and in line with the Bribery Act 2010, FFI practices an organisational culture in which bribery is never acceptable and implements Anti-Bribery Procedures.

It is FFI policy to ensure the health, safety and welfare of all employees and any other persons who may be affected by its undertakings.

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)

Output 1 aims to influence government and tourism industry policies and practice regarding turtle conservation and community participation in marine/turtle-related tourism activities. To achieve this, it will add a quantitative, economic analysis to the arguments around heritage and sustainability and will reinforce awareness of Nicaragua's global importance for turtles. It will highlight practical actions to be taken, such as curbing tourist demand for tortoiseshell jewellery and marketing community-based ecotourism products. The communications methods will be decided with project partner, CANATUR, which knows how best to influence its members and government.

Communication at community level, through dialogue and media, will stress links between sustainable livelihoods and marine/turtle conservation, thereby building community commitment to tackle threats to turtles and their habitat.

Expected impacts of communications in terms of actions by stakeholders are summarised below:

Target stakeholder	Action
CANATUR, ANTUR and leading tourism businesses	Integrate importance of turtles into tourism marketing and literature. Incorporate responsible, community-based activities and services into tourism products. Ensure companies discourage tortoiseshell souvenirs. Influence infrastructure investment. Influence national development planning.
INTUR, MARENA	Highlight turtles in national tourism plans and promotion and in INTUR training events. Endorse technical and social guidelines for turtle-related tourism. Ensure that regulations governing coastal development and tourist activities minimise threats to turtles and nesting beaches.
Coastal municipalities	Incorporate turtle conservation in development plans and guidelines.
Network of Young Communicators and Coastguard Group	Incorporate turtle and marine topics in their outreach activities.
Pacific coast communities	Engage in marine/turtle-related economic opportunities. Increase appreciation of biodiversity-livelihood links and pride in turtle custodian role.

Lastly, the project will share technical knowledge about turtle conservation, sustainable livelihoods and the links between them through the NTCN, which will be strengthened (Activities 2.4-2.6), and through publications and presentations (Section 21).

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)

The capacity building for **community groups and individuals** (Output 3) covers organisational and business skills for SME's and technical skills for specific activities. Training will generally be through workshops, led by staff or specialist consultants. Skills will be maintained through practical application and ongoing technical advice to each enterprise.

The project will build knowledge and expertise on turtles and turtle-related issues in the **national tourism sector** - governmental and commercial - by involving officials, associations and companies as participants in Output 1, thereby building both capacity and ownership of the results. The project will also collaborate with **INTUR** to incorporate the topics of this project into the training workshops it provides for tourism entrepreneurs and practitioners.

Undergraduate and graduate student field experience (Activity 2.1) will be through joint supervision by project staff and university of individual research projects. The project will track next steps in their professional development.

Dr. Lusby (FIU) will lead design and delivery of short training modules on community-based ecotourism for **professionals, officials and students** (Activity 2.2). The modules will combine classroom-based learning, webinars and a field trip. Sample surveys 6-12 months after training will evaluate use of the knowledge acquired. A study tour to **Costa Rica** (Activity 2.7) will enable a small group to learn from the more advanced turtle tourism of that country.

Training for **turtle hatchery operators** on best practice guidelines (Activities 2.3-2.4) will be delivered through visits to each operation by project staff or other NTCN expert. Continuing good practice will be required by MARENA as a condition for licence renewal.

To strengthen **NTCN** (Activities 2.5-2.6) FFI will advise and accompany the development and initial implementation of a strategic plan. As a member of the network, FFI will readily detect and respond to needs for further support.

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) 242

FFI and partners will maximise opportunities to make information generated by the project freely available. Contributions to staff time, design/production and travel costs have been requested to enable this. Both the FFI website and the NTCN website (www.tortugasnica.org) will provide open access to project reports, technical studies, publications and bulletins and NTCN will also have an online forum to discuss project themes. A dedicated "closer look" webpage outlining the project will be published on FFI's website in Yr2. Material will also be disseminated through the Eastern Pacific Hawksbill Initiative, ICAPO (www.hawksbill.org). Social media in Nicaragua will increase accessibility and visibility of the project.

FFI is already developing an online system for sharing data in a common format on the Eastern Pacific Leatherback amongst turtle experts throughout the region and will explore options for extending this approach to relevant data on other species or additional issues arising from the Darwin project.

Documents, reports and **publications resulting from the project** will be distributed electronically to national universities, policy makers and practitioners in coastal/marine conservation and community development as appropriate. We expect the evaluation of interactions between social, economic, policy and conservation impacts (M&E section) to be of wide interest and aim to publish in an open access journal. FFI and partners will present project achievements, challenges and learning through **relevant forums**, including the National Marine Turtle Symposium, the Annual Symposium of the International Sea Turtle Society and **national press conferences** organised by the project.

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:

Funding from the following sources has already been secured by FFI. This funding, as identified in the Budget as confirmed co-finance, is applicable directly to staff time and project activities.

- FFI Species Fund 2017-2019: Protect and recover a key population of hawksbill turtle in Nicaragua £XXX

- National Fish & Wildlife Foundation 2017-2018: Hawksbill Conservation Along Pacific Nicaragua **£XXX**
- The Ocean Foundation 2017: Hawksbill turtle research and conservation in Estero Padre Ramos and Aserradores, Nicaragua **£XXX**
- Oceans 5 2017: Eliminating Destructive Fishing Practices and Protecting Marine Habitat in Nicaragua **£XXX**
- U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Marine Turtle Conservation Fund 2017-2018: Strengthening conservation of critical endangered leatherback and hawksbill marine turtles on Nicaragua's Pacific coast **£XXX**
- Fundación Líder 2017-2021: **£XXX**
- Jose Urtegea 2017-2020: In kind contribution of time and costs **£XXX**
- Carolin Lusby 2017-2021: In kind contribution of time and costs **£XXX**
- CANATUR 2017: **£XXX**
- In addition: there are numerous unquantified contributions in kind by in-country partners

Total: **£XXX**

NB: Match funding grants are all in USD.

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
October 2016	U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Marine Turtle Conservation Fund	£XXX	A multi-year proposal to USFWS has a positive chance of being approved.
December 2016	National Fish & Wildlife Foundation	£XXX	A multi-year proposal to NFWF has a positive chance of being approved.
Annually	The Ocean Foundation	£XXX	It is likely TOF will continue their annual support of the work.

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 reviews all proposals for quality, feasibility, strategic relevance and risks, such as in-country relationships, vulnerability to natural disaster and conflict and the socio-economic operating environment. Risk ratings are monitored and managed adaptively.

Tourism is sensitive to disturbance or insecurity, which would affect turtle tourism prospects. This risk is reduced by Nicaragua's stability and proximity to markets in North America. Also, tourism services are one of a variety of livelihoods to be supported.

Nicaragua is criticised for centralised, non-transparent decision-making. The proposed inter-oceanic Canal is especially controversial (see logframe assumptions). On the other hand, the country is politically stable, has consistent economic growth and government can be responsive to demands emanating from the grass roots. The project design adapts to this situation by highlighting both national and local economic benefits, building links between business and community-based enterprises, and keeping government agencies well informed. FFI in Nicaragua has good relations with all actors: government, communities and private sector.

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, has an Anti-Bribery Policy and is now considering implications of recent guidance from the Charity Commission on counter-fraud measures.

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>Impact: (Max 30 words) Nicaragua's development planning for coastal and marine areas incorporates strategies to conserve natural capital and enable coastal communities to benefit from it sustainably.</p>			
<p>Outcome: (Max 30 words) The economic and conservation values of Nicaragua's globally important sea turtles are recognised locally and nationally and drive livelihood improvements, reducing poverty and threats to endangered species and their habitats.</p>	<p>0.1 At EOP, drafts of Nicaragua's National Plan for Human Development 2022-26 refer specifically to the economic and other values of turtles and their habitat, and to strategies to maintain those values.</p> <p>0.2 # of households attaining an increase of at least 15% relative to start of project in their income from activities related to ecotourism, conservation or other sustainable use of coastal/marine resources (directly supported by the project or as an indirect effect). Benefits equitably distributed between genders and across wealth categories. Targets 100 by March 2019, 250 by March 2020, 400 by EOP.</p> <p>0.3 # of communities adjacent to turtle beaches where a clear majority of female and male community members (i) consider turtles to be a valuable asset for local development, and (ii) consider that local threats to turtles at nesting beaches or in coastal waters have been reduced in the course of the project. Target: 3 by March 2019, 6 by March</p>	<p>0.1 Government consultative documents for the national planning process.</p> <p>0.2 At EOP there will be a gendered EOP Participatory Impact Assessment triangulated with enterprises' financial records and detailed surveys, designed not only to measure this indicator but to elucidate the extent of income increase and other livelihood benefits and the influence on conservation of turtles and their habitat (see M&E section). The intermediate milestones will be estimated through sample surveys, disaggregated by gender and wealth category.</p> <p>0.3 Reports of focus group discussions (male, female and mixed), supplemented by recorded interviews. Disaggregated by gender and, where possible, supported by direct observation or other concrete evidence to substantiate the focus group conclusion. Group opinions on the two</p>	<p>At the level of the National Plan for Human Development, there will be a need for increased cooperation between Pacific and Caribbean coasts, and within the region. Turtle conservation on the Caribbean coast differs in terms of threats, social and cultural context, and hence solutions, but project activities will address integration of knowledge about turtles and their economic value into national and regional policies and plans.</p> <p>Regarding indicator 0.2, we assume that economic benefits from project-supported enterprises extend into the wider community due to stimulation of local economy, replication of the models and attraction of additional investment.</p> <p>Assumptions about growth in tourism-related livelihoods are uncertain but conservative in view of the potential (see assumptions under Output 1). Tourism growth stimulated by this project is expected to continue beyond EOP, due to time lag between promotion and vacation and widening awareness. We</p>

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
	<p>2020 and all 10 by EOP.</p> <p>0.4 By EOP length of nesting beaches with effective protection (defined as protection of >90% of Hawksbill and Leatherback nests and >60% of Olive Ridley and Green nests) increases from 30 km to 40 km.</p> <p>0.5 By EOP # of hatchlings of endangered turtle species, released from all sources including independent operations, increases to 35,000 Hawksbill, 500 Leatherback, 2,500 Green (baseline = 20,000; 300; 1,000).</p> <p>0.6 Percentage of CANATUR members implementing a code of practice dissuading tourists from purchasing hawksbill “tortoiseshell” products. 70% by March 2019, 100% by EOP.</p> <p>0.7 # of shops selling hawksbill “tortoiseshell” products in Managua Airport reduced to zero by March 2019. Baseline tbd.</p> <p>0.8 INTUR uses sea turtles as flagship for tourism in promotion and provides government-funded training to marine/turtle tourism entrepreneurs. By Sept 2019.</p> <p>0.9 By EOP, two project-based publications are produced: (i) a technical analysis of publications demonstrates the advantages and challenges of integrating social, economic and biodiversity-related factors to guide</p>	<p>issues will be assessed on a simple scale from “not-at-all” to “very”.</p> <p>0.4 Collection of monitoring data from all known initiatives on Pacific coast.</p> <p>0.5 Collection of monitoring data from all known initiatives on Pacific coast.</p> <p>0.6 Chambers of tourism resolutions, public statements and materials (printed and internet) used to reduce demand and promote alternatives.</p> <p>0.7 Direct observation in Managua airport, supported by photographic evidence.</p> <p>0.8 INTUR promotional material. Reports of training courses</p> <p>0.9 Publication on line and in print.</p>	<p>assume that there is no international event that effectively shuts down tourism to Central America.</p> <p>We assume that complementary efforts by FFI and others to reduce turtle mortality at sea due to by-catch and harmful practices will continue.</p> <p>Inter-oceanic Canal: Although there is much doubt over whether it will go ahead, the proposed inter-oceanic canal, which lies outside the project area (20 km south of Chacocente) influences government thinking in many areas. FFI is tracking this situation in-country. We assume it will not affect negatively the receptivity of government or tourism sector leaders to the information and recommendations emerging from this project. Rather, the case can be made that, were the canal to be constructed, it would increase the national need for the products of this project i.e. knowledge, technical capacity, sustainable livelihoods and measures to protect critical habitat and resources in the central and northern Pacific coast.</p>

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
	development of the northern Pacific coast of Nicaragua.		
<p>Outputs: 1. Policies, plans, marketing and practice of tourism and associated coastal development are informed by an economic valuation of turtles as a tourism asset and increased knowledge about their conservation.</p>	<p>1.1 Report on current and potential economic valuation of turtles nationally and specifically for Pacific coast, by January 2018.</p> <p>1.2 By Dec 2019, at least 5 tourism and coastal development policies, plans and strategic decisions refer to the economic value of living turtles and demonstrate knowledge of best practice for conservation and community benefit.</p> <p>1.3 By March 2019, 60 members of the “Young Communicators Network” and the “Coastguard Group” are using new knowledge about coastal/marine conservation, including turtles, in their activities in coastal municipalities.</p> <p>1.4 By EOP, public awareness of Nicaragua’s global importance for turtles reaches 80% amongst Pacific coast communities and tourism businesses near nesting beaches. Baseline tbd.</p> <p>1.5 Percentage of CANATUR members who have expanded coverage of turtle-related tourism products in their international marketing of Nicaragua. 20% by March 2019; 40% by EOP.</p> <p>1.6 Increase in # of community-based</p>	<p>1.1 Published report.</p> <p>1.2 Codes of practice and public statements by tourism chambers and tour operator associations i.e. CANATUR (large companies), CANTUR (small enterprises), ANTUR (operators); INTUR website and marketing strategy; Municipal land use and development plans.</p> <p>1.3 Training workshop records and sample follow-up survey six months after training. Data gender disaggregated.</p> <p>1.4 Surveys triangulated with review of public statements by municipal authorities and community leaders. Indicator methodology will be refined in consultation with Stanford researcher at start of project.</p> <p>1.5 CANATUR survey of its members.</p>	<p>We assume that the tourism sector locally and nationally will remain open to integrating turtles into their activities and marketing. FFI’s participation in high-level INTUR committee sessions and dialogue with business leaders give cause for confidence on this.</p> <p>We assume that the study will confirm scope for increasing community-based, turtle-related tourism. Evidence for this comes from Nicaragua’s overall tourism growth (see Section 11), existing Pacific coast enterprises in Costa Rica and nascent in Nicaragua, the confidence of project partners CANATUR and Dr Lundin (see letter), and published studies of nature / turtle / volunteer ecotourism. The studies show that the value and upward trend of turtle-related tourism (Troeng S. and Drews C. 2004 WWF turtle economics; Campbell, L.M. & Smith, C.2006 Campbell) proved resilient during the economic crisis (Balmford et al. 2009 Balmford). Volunteer travel is particularly robust. The number of volunteer vacationers doubled between 2002 and 2008, and the number of travellers who had volunteered at least once in their life tripled during that time (Conde Nast Traveler/MSNBC poll cited by the NGO the Center for Responsible Travel -</p>

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
	<p>turtle tourism products being marketed nationally or internationally by CANATUR or ANTUR members. 5 by March 2019, 12 by EOP.</p>	<p>1.6 Records of FFI discussions with community groups, crossed with CANATUR and ANTUR surveys of their members.</p>	<p>Crest). The Director of Crest reported 'phenomenal growth' in this sector. A 2012 survey of adventure travel tour operators by the Adventure Travel Trade Association (ATTA) found that 55% of those surveyed "currently run volunteer trips"; of the remaining 45%, over 41% of them are "considering [volunteer trips] for the future".</p>
<p>2. Nicaragua's technical capacity relevant to turtles, hatchery management, coastal/marine ecosystems and low impact coastal development practices, is increased, through training in these disciplines and strengthening of national and regional networks.</p>	<p>2.1 24 graduates/undergraduates complete field projects in coastal areas. 6 per year x four years. At least 40% women.</p> <p>2.2 45 people (tourism professionals, coastal municipal staff, undergraduates in sustainable tourism and relevant natural or social sciences) complete module incorporating themes of turtle conservation and community-based tourism and low impact coastal development. 15 per year x three years. At least 40% women.</p> <p>2.3 # of turtle hatchery/tourism initiatives with managers and staff trained on technical and social responsibility guidelines. 8 by March 2018, 15 by Sept 2018.</p> <p>2.4 # of turtle hatchery/tourism initiatives implementing the guidelines. 12 by Sept 2019.</p> <p>2.5 Study visit by professionals and community members to learn from experiences in the region, by Sept 2018.</p> <p>2.6 # of issues on which members of</p>	<p>2.1 Research project reports. Participant data disaggregated by gender.</p> <p>2.2 Course participation records, plus course materials. Sample follow-up survey after training to assess use of knowledge gained. Participant data disaggregated by gender.</p> <p>2.3 Records of meetings with each initiative and attendance at training events. We know of 17 such initiatives, involving a variety of entities: hotels, private individuals, government agencies etc.</p> <p>2.4 Field verification by project staff of implementation of guidelines.</p> <p>2.5 Report of regional visit, participants and follow-up. Participant data disaggregated by gender.</p> <p>2.6 Network records. Copies of public</p>	<p>We assume that the majority of the hatchery/tourism initiatives will be open to technical support and the adoption of guidelines generated in consultation with them and the relevant authorities.</p> <p>We anticipate that a form of certification of good practice will be developed through this process and that the scope of guidelines will be broadened to cover best practice on additional aspects of coastal development. However, these are ongoing processes which may extend beyond EOP, so are not listed as indicators.</p>

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
	<p>the National Turtle Conservation Network have taken a collective action, advocacy position and/or made recommendations. 3 issues by June 2019; 6 by EOP.</p> <p>2.7 By EOP NTCN members have increased access to information on turtle conservation protocols, monitoring data and/or low impact coastal development, and are in regular communication with peers in the region.</p>	<p>statements and publications.</p> <p>2.7 Review of traffic on list-servers : 'tortugasmarinasnicaragua'; regional LaudOPO; ICAPO; 'tortugasnicas'. Complemented by information from field team discussions with community enterprise leaders. Disaggregated by gender and into groups (members may be technical experts, individuals from relevant communities, tourism enterprises etc.)</p>	
<p>3. Female and male community members adjacent to turtle nesting beaches benefit from improved economic opportunities related to sustainable coastal and marine resource management (320 individuals and their households)</p>	<p>3.1 # of community members trained in relevant technical skills and provided with support for SME development or employment. Targets: 180 by March 2019; 360 at EOP. 60% women.</p> <p>Target groups/enterprises include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fishers (mostly male), cockle harvesters and processors (mostly female), snapper rearing group • Tourism service providers (mostly female) - guiding, hatchery visits, catering, accommodation, weaving/handicrafts, honey • Seasonally employed turtle beach patrollers seeking skills for their off-season livelihoods (mostly male) <p>3.2 # of sustainable fisheries and community-based tourism enterprises with robust business models Targets: 6 by Sept 2018; 12 by EOP</p> <p>3.3 # of female and male community members who are benefitting directly</p>	<p>3.1 Records of community meetings, workshops and other training events. Participant data disaggregated by gender. Supplemented by records of follow-up meetings between project and each enterprise.</p> <p><i>All the Output 3 indicators will be supplemented by photos of the enterprises, interviews with tourists and others who have used services, and other concrete evidence.</i></p> <p>3.2 Business plans and financial records of enterprises; fair contracts between community enterprises and other market actors (input suppliers, traders, hotels, travel agencies)</p> <p>3.3 Interviews with SMEs and individuals who have been supported by the project,</p>	<p>We assume that in the project localities there will be no major disruption to livelihoods, such as natural disasters or large-scale pollution.</p> <p>We assume that the current positive attitude locally and nationally to developing such livelihoods is maintained, and that there will be no major internal conflicts or disturbances, which might especially impede new livelihoods and new business partnerships.</p>

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
	from improvements in their employment or their SME as a result of the project. Targets 80 by March 2019, 160 by March 2020, 320 by EOP.	recording concrete evidence of the improvements in each case (e.g. income, secure agreements with clients, business management capacity, quality and remuneration of employment etc.). Data disaggregated by gender, locality and type of livelihood.	
4. One critical area of turtle habitat obtains enhanced protection status, through appropriate legally binding agreements.	4.1 0.9 km of high priority nesting beach at Punta Venecia in Estero Padre Ramos Natural Reserve, together with 28 ha of coastal and riparian dry forest, gains enhanced protection through binding long-term agreement with the private landowner. 4.2 Plan for implementation of the agreement endorsed by the Municipality, with fund-raising under way if needed.	4.1 Signed permanent or long-term agreement. 4.2 Plan, with letter of support from Municipality. Funding proposals, if relevant.	We assume that the landowner will maintain his interest in reaching an agreement to ensure long-term conservation. Ongoing conversations give us confidence that this will be the case. Re additional funding needs related to the establishment of the formally protected land (e.g. commitment to invest in social enterprise there), FFI assumes that these funds can be raised in good time, well before the current use agreement expires in 2022.
<p>Activities (each activity is numbered according to the output that it will contribute towards, for example 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 are contributing to Output 1)</p> <p>1.1 FFI holds meetings and conference calls with tourism-related partners (CANATUR, CANTUR, INTUR, FIU) and turtle conservation organisations to talk about the intended valuation study and obtain inputs about methods, sources, products and uses, and hence build buy-in to the study and enthusiasm to use the results.</p> <p>1.2 FFI defines the detailed methodology, adapting the Toolkit for Ecosystem Service Site-based Assessment (TESSA), adding certain cultural and other values (using Guidance for the Rapid Assessment of Cultural Ecosystem Services, GRACE) and incorporating suggestions from the meetings in Activity 1.1.</p> <p>1.3 FFI implements the valuation study as planned and shares preliminary results with partners for feedback. FFI also shares preliminary results with Wildlife Conservation Society and others working on turtles on the Caribbean coast of Nicaragua, in order to obtain feedback and to ensure coordination on issues of policy and public communications.</p> <p>1.4 FFI finalises the report and presents it to partners and other interested parties (coastal municipalities, leaders from target coastal communities, NYCCG, Coastguard Group, MARENA, turtle conservation organisations etc).</p> <p>1.5 FFI convenes meeting of all project partners to make decisions about specific communications materials based on the report and complementary knowledge, their distribution and use, and simple ways to monitor their impact. FFI then contracts the production.</p> <p>1.6 Project partners and associates (NYCCG, Coastguard Group) disseminate and use the communications materials as planned, nationally and in coastal communities, and monitor impact (including indicators 1.2-1.4 of logframe; also see M&E section). FFI will produce and make available on-line a technical publication in English.</p> <p>1.7 FFI and project partners engage with government on relevant development policy formulation and planning processes, including the National Plan for Human Development, in order to promote the integration conservation of turtles and their coastal and marine habitat into these national instruments.</p>			

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
<p>1.8 FIU provides advice and assistance to tourism industry actors about linkages between national operators and coastal community-based ecotourism providers, and about links with specific outbound UK and US tour operators who could market the tourism packages to their clients.</p> <p>1.9 FFI and FIU collaborate with the tourism associations, municipal authorities and communities to assess existing turtle/marine tourism near project locations, identify potential improvements, as well as potential new community-based products, and develop links between the local product providers and national and international operators. FFI's role includes guiding the tourism product plans so that they follow technical, environmental and social good practice and strengthen linkages between livelihoods and custodianship of turtles and their habitat.</p> <p>1.10 FIU and FFI assist the tourism associations and INTUR to develop a strategy to package and promote community-based turtle/marine tourism products in specific markets.</p> <p>1.11 FFI leads the preparation and dissemination of two publications. One is a technical report analysing the connections between livelihood support, national awareness/policy influence work and the attitudes and behaviour of coastal people and institutions in relation to turtles and marine biodiversity. The other is a more popular publication about the advantages and challenges of integrating social, economic and biodiversity-related factors to guide development of the northern Pacific coast of Nicaragua.</p> <p>2.1 Through links with universities in Nicaragua, FFI selects undergraduate and graduate students to undertake small projects or internships on turtles, marine resources, community-based ecotourism and other livelihoods and socio-economic issues, either as part of their studies or to gain experience after graduating. Provide each with board and lodging and contribution to project costs. Ensure there are opportunities for female students and disadvantaged students and track their post-internship professional development.</p> <p>2.2 FIU, in consultation with FFI and the tourism associations, leads development and delivery of a module on community-based ecotourism, with a focus on coastal locations, including a field trip to a project turtle tourism site and observation of low-impact coastal development. The module will be incorporated into at least one university course covering sustainable tourism (UAM) and also adapted for delivery as a stand-alone course for key professionals in the project area. The aim is to inform and influence current and future professionals (female and male) in tourism, coastal development, municipal planning, and natural and social sciences. The project will deliver the module at least three times (monitoring quality and subsequent use of skills) and will seek to respond to demand for further repetition.</p> <p>2.3 FFI, in consultation with MARENA, existing turtle hatcheries and the NTCN, develops guidelines for management of hatcheries and associated tourism operations, including technical and social responsibility considerations.</p> <p>2.4 FFI and NTCN colleagues disseminate the guidelines and provide training to hatchery operators on techniques and practices in the guidelines.</p> <p>2.5 FFI facilitates NTCN process of strategic planning.</p> <p>2.6 FFI provides ongoing support to NTCN, helping it to organise collective statements and action on issues affecting turtles, facilitate data sharing, provide expert services to communities, authorities and the private sector, connect with regional peers and raise funds.</p> <p>2.7 FFI organises a study visit to Costa Rica by professionals, representatives of CANATUR and CANTUR and community members to learn about turtle tourism and community-based ecotourism from peers and stakeholders in that country.</p> <p>3.1 FFI staff and consultants provide tailored technical skills training and SME development support for enterprise, employment and service provision opportunities, especially those benefitting women and vulnerable groups. The economic activities span diverse sectors, as spelled out in Activities 3.3-3.10 below). Some training needs are common across several kinds of business whereas others are sector-specific. The training will be coordinated and organised to make efficient use of both project resources and the time of the trainees.</p> <p>3.2 FFI facilitates dialogue between businesses and community groups, to identify opportunities and barriers to cooperation, leading ultimately to equitable relationships</p>			

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
<p>that deliver livelihood benefits (economic and other). In the case of tourism, by involving community leaders in the activities of Output 1, the project will already have made connections between operators and current and potential local providers.</p> <p>3.3 FFI develops the “voluntourism” enterprise at EPR in line with a business plan and policies which ensure a strong community role in decision-making as well as full involvement and economic benefit, that is inclusive of vulnerable members of the EPR community.</p> <p>3.4 FFI assists community groups to improve or establish economic activities related to coastal tourism. Prior work has identified several groups to receive support, including women weavers using waste plastic bags as raw material (58 people in 3 communities), people receiving/guiding visitors (51 in 4 communities), people producing honey and receiving tourists (28 in 3 communities), a cooperative already operating a turtle hatchery (20 people in 1 community), amongst others. Areas of training and development support include financial management, hospitality and visitor services, catering, handicrafts, guiding, marketing, cooperative establishment, business plan development, and product innovation and improvements such as development of trails and circuits, use of the Chacocente Visitor Centre and community-based sport-fishing. Most new tourism sites and activities will be determined with stakeholder in Years 1 and 2 the specific sites and groups of beneficiaries.</p> <p>3.5 For regular, seasonally employed turtle beach patrollers, who do not have satisfactory livelihoods during the off-season, FFI identifies needs and aspirations for development of additional skills and experience to enable them to improve off-season livelihoods. Provide affordable training to develop essential skills, thereby enhancing both individual livelihoods and the value and security of being a turtle patrol professional.</p> <p>3.6 Líder and FFI assist four community groups in EPR (40 women, 20 men) to establish concessions for custodianship of mangroves and sustainable collection and cultivation of <i>Anadara similis</i> (mangrove cockle), following a model already proven in Chinandega District, thereby protecting juvenile and adult hawksbill habitat and providing income.</p> <p>3.7 Líder supports 5 cooperatives (65 people) to set up a plant for processing and purifying the cockles, which adds substantial value.</p> <p>3.8 Líder and FFI assist one community group of at least 15 members, comprising former egg poachers and blast fishers, to establish and monitor a snapper rearing facility, with attention to both ecological and social costs and benefits, including monitoring stipulated in the environmental licence (already obtained). It follows a model already proven in the EPR estuary, uses shrimp processing waste as feed, and will provide income to individuals who have changed from destructive practices. Blast-fishing harms the juvenile snapper so the community will ensure it is driven out of this sensitive, turtle-frequented estuarine site.</p> <p>3.9 FFI provides support to fishers (approx 80 people, almost all men, in 4 communities), who have committed to responsible fishing practices and are championing locally the elimination of blast fishing and other illegal practices harmful to turtles. This extends an initiative started by FFI in Nicaragua’s southern Pacific coast, where blast fishing is less prevalent, and can increase income while tackling threats to both turtles and fisheries. Areas of training and development support include improvements in handling and storage, negotiation skills, access to higher value markets, promotion to certain hotels based on commitment to conservation, business plan development. The project will identify areas of support for the additional, northern fishers through participatory analysis of market systems.</p> <p>3.10 Through ongoing dialogue and public communications FFI and Líder reinforce the inherent linkages between all the above livelihood support and the conservation of turtles and marine biodiversity, thereby driving the transition from impotent tolerance of short-term destructive practices to empowered community commitment to sustainable livelihoods.</p> <p>4.1 FFI organises discussions with the “landowner” (legally it is a lease from the municipality, as this is coastal property), the municipality and the local “Hawksbill Committee” to analyse options for the future legal status and management of the property, then negotiate a multi-party agreement. The aim is to ensure long-term security of this critically important habitat, while providing satisfactory outcomes for the landowner, the neighbouring EPR communities and the municipality.</p> <p>4.2 FFI invests in those elements of the agreement package, which align with the central themes of this project, including building local capacity for the management of an upgraded centre for conservation and “voluntourism”, hiring legal services for drafting agreements, and providing support for enterprise development necessary to implement the agreement.</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
Start-up																	
0.1 Project start-up activities (agreements, workplans, management systems, meetings with partner authorities and stakeholders)	2	X	X														
0.2 Finalise indicator measurement methodologies. Complete baselines. Plan research on soc-econ-policy-conservation interactions (see Section 26)	3		X	X													
0.3 Implement M&E described in Section 26, including EOP participatory impact assessment	42			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Output 1																	
1.1 Discuss with tourism partners the intended valuation study and obtain their inputs.	1		X														
1.2 Define detailed methodology.	2		X	X													
1.3 Implement valuation study and share preliminary results with partners and with NGOs working in Nicaragua on Caribbean turtle conservation.	7			X	X	X											
1.4 Finalise the report and present it to partners, communities, authorities, NGOs and others.	1					X											
1.5 Plan specific communications materials and their use and impact monitoring, then produce them.	3					X	X										
1.6 Use the communications materials nationally and in coastal communities, monitor impact and produce a technical on-line publication.	12					X	X	X		X		X					
1.7 Assist linkages between national operators, community enterprises and international supply chains.	4			X	X		X		X		X		X				
1.8 Engage government to integrate turtles and their habitat into development policy and planning.	5				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
1.9 Assess existing turtle/marine tourism, plan improvements and expansion, and link community product providers to operators.	5			X	X	X											
1.10 Assist development of a strategy to package and market the community-based tourism products.	3				X	X						X	X				
1.11 Publish reports on livelihood-conservation relationship and on integrating social, economic and biodiversity-related factors into development.	6														X	X	X
Output 2																	
2.1 Organise student projects/internships on relevant topics, providing board, lodging and costs.	8		X	X			X	X			X	X			X	X	
2.2 Develop and deliver a module on community-based ecotourism with UAM and as a stand-alone course for key professionals in the project area.	4			X	X			X				X					
2.3 Develop technical and social guidelines for turtle hatcheries and associated tourism operations.	2			X													
2.4 Provide training to hatchery operators on techniques and practices in the guidelines.	4			X	X	X	X				X				X		
2.5 Facilitate NTCN strategic planning.	3				X	X											
2.6 Support NTCN to become effective within Nicaragua, regionally connected and sustainable.	3						X		X		X		X		X		
2.7 Organise study visit for professionals and community members on turtle tourism.	1					X											
Output 3																	
3.1 Provide skills training and SME development support for enterprise, employment and service provision opportunities.	24			X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		X		X	
3.2 Foster equitable relationships between businesses and local groups.	6			X	X	X				X				X			
3.3 Develop voluntourism enterprise with EPR community.	8	X	X	X	X		X		X		X		X		X		
3.4 Assist community groups to improve or expand	12				X	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
economic activities related to coastal tourism.																	
3.5 Enable turtle beach patrollers to gain additional skills useful for improving off-season livelihoods.	4					X				X				X			
3.6 Establish concessions for custodianship of mangroves and sustainable use of cockles.	12		X	X	X	X	X		X		X		X				
3.7 Support cooperatives to set up a plant for processing and purifying cockles.	8			X	X	X	X		X		X						
3.8 Assist establishment and monitoring of a snapper rearing facility, with attention to both ecological and social costs and benefits.	5				X	X		X		X		X		X			
3.9 Support fishers committed to responsible fishing practices.	12		X	X	X	X		X		X		X		X		X	
3.10 Through outreach reinforce linkages between livelihood support and biodiversity conservation.	6			X		X		X		X		X		X		X	
Output 4																	
4.1 Analyse options then organise negotiation and signing of a multi-party agreement with landowner, municipality and local leaders.	3	X	X	X													
4.2 Support capacity building, legal services and enterprise development as necessary to implement the agreement.	4			X	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)

FFI will ensure the project is on schedule, is monitored and adapts as necessary. As basic data on project activities, electronic records will be kept of meetings and events, including agenda, participant lists with gender information, main results and feedback from participants. The Project Leader (PL) will be responsible for day-to-day management and monitoring of activity implementation and progress towards outputs and for keeping partners and government informed. He will lead preparation of annual operational plans and will coordinate M&E, with advice from the Regional Director and Head of CLG on methods and analysis. Overall project oversight will be provided by the FFI Regional Director.

A workshop with partners in Q1 will finalise details of methods and baselines for each indicator, systems for managing data and supporting evidence, and schedules for twice-yearly reviews of monitoring data with the Project Steering Group (PSG, see below).

Regarding M&E of social, economic, policy and conservation impacts and how they interact, FFI will take advantage of (i) in-house expertise, (ii) collaboration with the José Urteaga (Stanford University researcher) studying factors influencing attitudes and behaviour in relation to turtles, (iii) availability of quantitative, geographically precise data on turtle nesting success, and (iv) availability of partial data on the distribution of threats to turtles in nearshore waters. These factors, plus collection of indicator data (especially 0.2,0.3,1.4,3.1,3.2,3.3) and an EOP Participatory Impact Assessment make possible a fine-scale analysis of inter-relationships in this project. In Q1 FFI and José Urteaga will finalise detailed research and monitoring plans, including the six indicators listed here and some supplementary data collection relevant to stakeholder influence on national policies, community sense of turtle custodianship and human and social capital.

Indicators on turtle habitat and hatching success (0.4,0.5,4.1,4.2) use established methodologies and are the responsibility of the Turtle Programme Manager.

The PL and CANATUR will cooperate on indicators regarding tourism value, policies and practices (0.6,0.7,1.1,1.2,1.5,1.6), all of which are straightforward.

The PL will coordinate all indicators on training, capacity building, networking and enterprise development (1.3,2.1-2.7,3.1-3.3), but will delegate data collection, including follow-up interviews, to trainers and technical staff (FFI or partner), as appropriate. FFI will provide training and initial technical advice to Líder and NTCN staff on methods.

All training and socio-economic data collection and analysis will be disaggregated by gender and wealth class in order to tailor interventions and monitor and evaluate the differentiated impacts on vulnerable and marginalised women and men.

The PL will convene quarterly meetings of a PSG, comprising the FFI Regional Director, representatives of CANATUR and Líder, two community leaders and two government officials. The PSG will review progress and plans, including updates on monitoring results and assumptions, advise on responses, and participate in the EOP evaluation, which will use a Participatory Impact Assessment method.

Partners will cooperate day-to-day through face-to-face meetings and multiple informal mechanisms, including Basecamp software. Information resulting from the project will be analysed and made accessible to government and civil society users, especially where it is relevant to their planning and decision-making.

Number of days planned for M&E	88 days
Total project budget for M&E	£30,300 GBP
Percentage of total project budget set aside for M&E	7.8%

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)

Building upon the platform of existing administrative infrastructure and institutional engagement already developed by FFI, this project can have a substantial, practical impact on the survival of five iconic, globally threatened species within a modest budget. The positive impact on turtle populations and resultant benefits to coastal communities and, ultimately, the national economy, represents exceptional 'value for money'. With the Nicaragua office well established and key staff already engaged on the strategic issues as well as MOUs in place with several partners, we will be able to ensure swift and efficient project start-up. Fundación Líder is well-established on the ground, with experience in many of the activities of the project so will be able to ensure maximum cost efficiency on local operating costs and establishing community enterprises.

Although the Darwin proportion of funds to FFI as lead organisation as opposed to the partner organisations is quite high, this is in part because we will administer Jose and Carolin's participation costs through the Nicaragua office, which can handle the local arrangements more efficiently than organising activities and financing from the United States. The project leader and key staff are all based in Nicaragua and only the staff costs and some travel items for the support of the FFI technical expert inputs will be spent in the UK, furthermore this section of the budget is considerably well co-financed providing exception value for money for globally recognised expertise.

FFI has an exceptional track record in Nicaragua in mobilising people and institutions to affect change and this project, and its relatively modest budget, has been designed to maximise this potential. By capitalising on Nicaragua's strong legal framework protecting turtles, this project is an opportunity to demonstrate the effectiveness of this approach and become a model for replication across Latin America and the Caribbean.

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)

Most of the capital items will be purchased by the partners in connection with the coastal livelihoods initiatives. Fundación Líder will be supporting the purchase of the fiberglass canoes to be used in the mangrove concession management and one canoe will be used for the snapper rearing facility. This equipment will stay in Nicaragua with the local cooperatives following project end. Likewise the equipment needed for the cockles processing centre will be the property of the cooperatives and remain with them at project end. During the project equipment needs for community based tourism will be assessed and equipment purchased will remain in Nicaragua with the communities or associated enterprise at the project end.

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 Fauna & Flora International

I apply for a grant of £385,617 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

Name (block capitals)	ROSALIND AVELING
Position in the organisation	DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Signed** **Date:**

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

Once you have answered the questions above, please submit the application, not later than 2359 GMT on Monday 5 December 2016 to Darwin-Applications@ltsi.co.uk using the application number (from your Stage 1 feedback letter) and the first few words of the project title **as the subject of your email**. If you are e-mailing supporting documentation separately please include in the subject line an indication of the number of e-mails you are sending (eg whether the e-mail is 1 of 2, 2 of 3 etc). You are not required to send a hard copy.

DATA PROTECTION ACT 1998: Applicants for grant funding must agree to any disclosure or exchange of information supplied on the application form (including the content of a declaration or undertaking) which the Department considers necessary for the administration, evaluation, monitoring and publicising of the Darwin Initiative. Application form data will also be held by contractors dealing with Darwin Initiative monitoring and evaluation. It is the responsibility of applicants to ensure that personal data can be supplied to the Department for the uses described in this paragraph. A completed application form will be taken as an agreement by the applicant and the grant/award recipient also to the following:- putting certain details (ie name, contact details and location of project work) on the Darwin Initiative and Defra websites (details relating to financial awards will not be put on the websites if requested in writing by the grant/award recipient); using personal data for the Darwin Initiative postal circulation list; and sending data to Foreign and Commonwealth Office posts outside the United Kingdom, including posts outside the European Economic Area. Confidential information relating to the project or its results and any personal data may be released on request, including under the Environmental Information Regulations, the code of Practice on Access to Government Information and the Freedom of Information Act 2000.