



Submit by Monday 5 December 2016

**DARWIN INITIATIVE APPLICATION FOR GRANT FOR ROUND 23: STAGE 2**Please read the [Guidance](#) before completing this form. Where no word limits are given, the size of the box is a guide to the amount of information required.

Information to be extracted to the database is highlighted blue. Blank cells may render your application ineligible

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

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

<b>Applicant Organisation Name:</b>	<b>Sansom Mlup Prey (SMP)</b>
<b>Address:</b>	<b>#E74-E76, Chamkar Dong Dongkoar</b>
<b>City and Postcode:</b>	<b>Phnom Penh</b>
<b>Country:</b>	<b>Cambodia</b>
<b>Email:</b>	
<b>Phone:</b>	

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

<b>Stage 1 Ref:</b> 3706	<b>Title (max 10 words):</b> Future-proofing Cambodian wildlife-friendly farming: securing conservation and livelihoods
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**3. Project description (not exceeding 50 words)****(max 50 words)**

Sansom Mlup Prey (SMP) will work with wildlife-friendly Ibis Rice farmers to switch to a drought-resilient, organic rice strain and adopt new soil conservation techniques. Ibis Rice will improve food security and income of >2,500 households, reduce habitat loss across 400,000 ha forest and protect threatened species.

**4. Country(ies)**

Which eligible host country(ies) will your project be working in? You may copy and paste this table if you need to provide details of more than four countries.

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

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

<b>Start date:</b> April 2017		<b>End date:</b> March 2021 assumed		<b>Duration:</b> 4 years	
<b>Darwin funding request (Apr – Mar)</b>	<b>2017/18</b> £85,240	<b>2018/19</b> £84,617	<b>2019/20</b> £66,936	<b>2020/2021</b> £66,865	<b>Total</b> £303,659
<b>Proposed (confirmed &amp; unconfirmed) matched funding as % of total Project cost</b>					<b>60</b>

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

Details	Project Leader	Project Partner 1	Project Partner 2
<b>Surname</b>	Spencer	Sinclair	Tivet
<b>Forename (s)</b>	Nick	J. Ross	Florent
<b>Post held</b>	Director	Cambodia Program Director	Country Coordinator
<b>Organisation (if different to above)</b>	Sansom Mlup Prey	Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS)	French agricultural research and international cooperation organization (CIRAD)
<b>Department</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Telephone</b>			
<b>Email</b>			

Details	Project Partner 3	Project Partner 4
<b>Surname</b>	Ea	Ith
<b>Forename (s)</b>	Sokha	Saveng
<b>Post held</b>	Director of Provincial Department of Environment (DoE) in Preah Vihear	Project Manager, University Capacity Building Project, Royal University of Phnom Penh (RUPP)
<b>Organisation (if different to above)</b>	Ministry of Environment	Fauna and Flora International (FFI)
<b>Department</b>	General Department for Administration of Nature Conservation and Protection (GDANCP)	Centre for Biodiversity Conservation (CBC)
<b>Telephone</b>		
<b>Email</b>		

**7. Has your organisation been awarded a Darwin Initiative award before** (for the purposes of this question, being a partner does not count)? **If so, please provide details of the most recent awards (up to 6 examples).**

Reference No	Project Leader	Title
None		

**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)**

What year was your organisation established/ incorporated/ registered?	Registered in 2009
What is the legal status of your organisation?	NGO <u>Yes/No</u> Government <u>Yes/No</u> University <u>Yes/No</u> Other (explain)
How is your organisation currently funded?	(Max 100 words) SMP received donor support through proof-of-concept phase, SMP is now financed through the sales of Wildlife-Friendly products. This revenue is sufficient to fund current activities, but not sufficient to scale and diversify SMP's impacts.
Have you provided the requested signed audited/independently examined accounts?	<u>Yes/No</u> Audits for NORAD grant, plus full organisation audit FY 14

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

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

1. Title	NORAD – WCS sub-grant “addressing large-scale drivers of deforestation in the region”
Value	\$141,000 USD
Duration	21 Months
Role of organisation in project	Establish models and policy guidance for site-level, multi stakeholder approaches to protecting forests and reducing rural poverty
Brief summary of the aims, objectives and outcomes of the contract/award.	Project aimed to bring PES scheme to 400 households and for the Ibis Rice program to reach financial stability. These households were reached within the project duration and financial stability achieved shortly after.
Client/independent reference contact details (Name, e-mail, address, phone number).	Elli Borge Program Manager NORAD

2. Title	EU – WCS sub-grant “from local models to national frameworks – developing innovative models of sustainable financing for protected
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	areas in the three emerging countries of the Indo-Burma biodiversity hotspot – Cambodia, Laos and Myanmar”
Value	\$33,828 USD
Duration	18 months
Role of organisation in project	Establish and scale models, multi stakeholder approaches to protecting forests and reducing rural poverty, establishment of local community-led conservation agreements.
Brief summary of the aims, objectives and outcomes of the contract/award.	Project aimed to bring PES scheme to 400 households and for the Ibis Rice program to reach financial stability. These households were reached within the project duration and financial stability achieved shortly after.
Client/independent reference contact details	

3. Title	Darwin – WCS sub-grant “Conserving biodiversity and reducing poverty through wildlife-friendly farming in Cambodia”
Value	\$35,867 USD
Duration	27 Months
Role of organisation in project	To increase participation in Ibis Rice scheme and work towards self-financing
Brief summary of the aims, objectives and outcomes of the contract/award.	Reduce deforestation across Northern plains of Cambodia and protect critically endangered birds whilst increasing income and well-being through implementation of Ibis Rice across the landscape.
Client/independent reference contact details	Darwin project reference 1969 <a href="#">20-014</a>

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

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

<p>Aims (50 words)</p> <p>Sansom Mlup Prey (SMP) was created in 2009 to promote and market wildlife-friendly products grown or crafted in the communities located in all categories of land protected for their biodiversity value in Cambodia.</p>
<p>Activities (50 words)</p> <p>Through the development and marketing of Wildlife-Friendly product linked to conservation agreements and land-use plans SMP links wildlife conservation to improving livelihoods of villagers limited by the constraints of living in a remote area with little opportunity to expand operations and limited market access.</p>
<p>Achievements (50 words)</p> <p>Improved the livelihoods of over 1,200 households and developed land-use plans and conservation agreements in 13 villages, purchasing and marketing 587 MT of paddy rice in 2015/16.</p>

**9. Please list all the partners involved (including the Lead Institution) and explain their roles and responsibilities in the project. Describe the extent of their involvement at all stages, including project development. This section should illustrate the capacity of partners to be involved in the project. Please provide written evidence of partnerships. Please copy/delete boxes for more or fewer partnerships.**

<p><b>Lead institution and website:</b>          Sansom Mlup Prey (SMP)  <a href="http://www.smpcambodia.org">www.smpcambodia.org</a></p>	<p><b>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to lead the project): (max 200 words)</b></p> <p>SMP is a Cambodian-run civil society organisation working with farmers living within protected areas to reduce poverty in ways that are consistent with biodiversity conservation. Since 2009, SMP in partnership with WCS and MoE has developed the Ibis Rice concept, which provides farmers with financial benefits, contingent upon the farmers abiding by park regulations.</p> <p>Through partner implementation of previous Darwin funding, SMP has successfully established the Ibis Rice project, designed to offer farmers a premium price for their rice to incentivize them to abide by conservation agreements. These agreements were part of a strategy to protect key habitats for Critically Endangered waterbirds and over 50 other Globally Threatened species. These rules and regulations were developed by the local communities (some of whom are indigenous peoples) and approved by government.</p> <p>In this project, SMP will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Lead implementation of organic diversification through farmer training, wildlife friendly/organic compliance and innovative soil conservation trials.</li> <li>- Ensure appropriate financial management, quality assurance, and timely completion of activities including technical and reporting commitments</li> <li>- Coordinate partners to design and carry out research to evaluate project impacts on biodiversity conservation and poverty reduction</li> </ul> <p>The Darwin project is based upon the recommendations of previous DARWIN award implemented by WCS from 2012 to 2016 (20-014).</p>
<p>Have you included a Letter of Support from this institution?</p>	<p><b>Yes/No</b></p>

<p><b>Partner Name and website where available:</b></p> <p>Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) Cambodia Program <a href="http://www.wcscambodia.org">www.wcscambodia.org</a></p>	<p><b>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): (max 200 words)</b></p> <p>The WCS Cambodia Country Program was established in 1999. WCS operates under the framework of long-term Memoranda of Agreement with the Royal Government of Cambodia through the ministries most directly involved in nature conservation, the Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries. We have long-established collaborations with local NGOs, community groups, private companies and a range of government agencies. WCS has been supporting the Royal Government of Cambodia to conserve wildlife and habitats in Preah Vihear Province since 2000.</p> <p>WCS Cambodia will provide technical and advisory support to ensure a high standard of project management, coordinate research outputs and ensure that it meets its biodiversity and poverty alleviation goals. Alistair Mould will provide project management support, assisted by Ashish John, who brings &gt;18 years of experience in Cambodia working with local people (both indigenous and Khmer).</p>	
Have you included a Letter of Support from this institution?		<u>Yes/No</u>

<p><b>Partner Name and website where available:</b></p> <p>Ministry of Environment, Royal Government of Cambodia</p>	<p><b>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): (max 200 words)</b></p> <p>SMP has worked in partnership with the WCS and the Ministry of Environment (MoE) to implement Ibis Rice since its establishment in 2009. MoE counterpart staff will continue to play an active role in the management of project sites during this project.</p> <p>Mr. Ea Sokha, Director of the Provincial Department of Environment, Preah Vihear, will take overall responsibility for implementation of site management activities in areas under DoE jurisdiction. Within these areas DoE will be responsible for protecting the forest, ensuring that land-use plans are adhered to and that the rights of local people to access resources within appropriate zones are respected.</p> <p>Technical support and oversight provided by WCS will ensure that these activities are completed to the highest standard possible, including respecting the rights of local people and their development aspirations.</p>	
Have you included a Letter of Support from this institution?		<u>Yes/No</u>

<p><b>Partner Name and website where available:</b></p> <p>French agricultural research and international cooperation organization (CIRAD)  <a href="http://www.cirad.fr/en">http://www.cirad.fr/en</a></p>	<p><b>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): (max 200 words)</b></p> <p>CIRAD operates in a range of developing countries to generate and pass on new knowledge, support agricultural development and fuel the debate on the main global issues concerning agriculture.</p> <p>Dr. Florent Tivet is an agronomist from CIRAD, French Agricultural Research Center and International Cooperation Organization. His areas of expertise include agro-ecology, cropping system design, soil fertility management and assessment, preservation of a large diversity of staple crops and cover/relay crops, and seed production. He is based in Cambodia, working with the Department of Agricultural Land Resources Management, General Directorate of Agriculture from the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF). He coordinates the activities of the conservation agriculture Service Centre. He participates in a diverse range of research and development projects in the field of Agro ecology and conservation agriculture since 2000 and works in the region, mainly Laos and Cambodia, for more than 12 years. With his partners, he has published over 15 peer-review articles.</p> <p>CIRAD led by Dr. Florent Tivet will build capacity of SMP staff and participating smallholder farmers, designing and assessing innovative soil conservation technologies, rice varieties and crop diversification.</p>
Have you included a Letter of Support from this institution?	<u>Yes/No</u>

<p><b>Partner Name and website where available:</b></p> <p>Centre for Biodiversity Conservation (CBC) at the Royal University of Phnom Penh (RUPP)  <a href="http://www.rupp.edu.kh/master/biodiversity/?page=CBC">http://www.rupp.edu.kh/master/biodiversity/?page=CBC</a></p>	<p><b>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): (max 200 words)</b></p> <p>Located in the Department of Biology, at the Royal University of Phnom Penh (RUPP) the Centre for Biodiversity Conservation (CBC) aims to provide a national hub for postgraduate education, original biodiversity research, information dissemination and inter-agency collaboration.</p> <p>Masters students, supported by this project will conduct research on the ecological and socio-economic impacts of wildlife friendly and organically certificated rice cultivation. Dr. Florent Tivet (CIRAD) and WCS Cambodia technical advisers will provide assistance with survey design and thesis supervision to ensure a high standard and requirements for a practical research implication are met.</p>
Have you included a Letter of Support from this institution?	<u>Yes/No</u>

**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?
Nicholas Spencer	Project Lead	SMP	25%	Yes
Beth Steinbrenner	Organic technical advisor	SMP	50%	Yes
Soun Sakmay	Head of community development	SMP	70%	Yes
Cheng Sokmuern	Community officer	SMP	70%	Yes
Um Samol	Community officer	SMP	70%	Yes
Chhoeng Sambo	Organic manager ICS	SMP	100%	Yes
Pou Chanda	Organic manager ICS		100%	Yes
To be determined	Lead agronomist	SMP	100%	Yes
To be determined	GiS officer	SMP	100%	Yes
Hul Sun	Head of finance	SMP	17%	Yes
Dr Florent Tivet	Project lead	CIRAD	9%	Yes
Vira Leng	National agronomist	CIRAD	18%	Yes
Ith Saveng	Student supervisor	RUPP	9%	Yes
Alistair Mould	Technical advisor	WCS	17%	Yes
Ashish John	Communities Technical advisor	WCS	9%	Yes
Ea Sokha	Provincial director DoE	WCS/MOE	9%	Yes
Henry travers	Researcher	WCS	9%	Yes
Phillip Barrow	Volunteer accountant	Independent	9%	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)

**Critically threatened biodiversity and Climate vulnerable livelihoods**

The forests and wetlands of northern Cambodia and the Tonle Sap are of exceptional importance for biodiversity conservation. They support more than 50 species of global conservation concern, including six Critically Endangered birds, among them the Giant and White-shouldered Ibises. Taken together, three PAs in located in the Northern Central Corridor (Chhep Wildlife Sanctuary, Kulen Promtep Wildlife Sanctuary and Prey Preah Roka Wildlife Sanctuary) cover more than 400,000 hectares of forest and wetland that also support more than 20,000 people. Those living in this region are amongst the very poorest in Cambodia and depend on the forest and land resources of the parks for their livelihoods. Although Sansom Mlup Prey's (SMP) Ibis Rice project has been successful, climate change-induced droughts present a challenge to the wildlife-friendly farming that forms the link between improved incomes and biodiversity conservation. The wildlife friendly farmers are located in an area considered extremely vulnerable to climate change-induced drought. The current negative impacts of climate change and decreasing trend of productivity call for pronounced holistic changes in agricultural practices. It is widely accepted that Organic Agricultural practises are an effective strategy for mitigating climate change and building robust soils that are better adapted to extreme weather conditions associated with climate change in resource-limited regions.

**Need for change**

Soil, Water conservation and Carbon management, and the use of a wide vegetal biodiversity, are keystones to drive improved soil fertility, ensure higher water use efficiency, diversify the productions, mitigate and adapt farming systems to climate variability and climate change. The project will address this by implementing Organic agricultural practises and soil conservation techniques (not currently used) to ensure land fertility, sustainable production, secure livelihoods and food security.

**12. Biodiversity Conventions, Treaties and Agreements**

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

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

**12b. Biodiversity Conventions**

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

**(Max 500 words)**

The project will assist Cambodia to fulfil its obligations under the Convention on Biological Diversity (Strategic Goals A, B, C, D and E) and 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (SDGs 1, 5, 10, 12, 13, 15). The project links with Aichi Targets 2, 5, 7, 11 and 12. It is based around the principle of incorporating biodiversity values into decision making processes (Target 2, SDG 15) around sustainably managed agriculture (rice) within a forest-mosaic (SDG 13). Forest loss will be reduced (Target 5, SDG 15) and agriculture managed sustainably for biodiversity (Target 7) through land-use planning and zoning of PAs, which contributes to landscape-scale management (Target 11, SDG 13). Reductions in hunting will increase threatened species populations (Target 12).

In line with fulfilling Cambodia's country specific obligations under the CBD, this project will also address strategic goals stipulated in Cambodia's National Biodiversity Strategic Action Plan (NBSAP) February 2016. The project links to specific strategic goals under the following themes:

Theme 1: Protected Area System

Theme 2: Threatened Species

Theme 8: Biodiversity and Climate Change

Theme 9: Sustainable Forest Resources Management

Theme 13: Sustainable Agriculture and Animal Production

The project also addresses Aichi Target 14 and SDG 1, 5, & 12 by safe-guarding access to essential ecosystem services for poor and vulnerable rural communities through transferring the monetary value of these services, such as water and economically valuable NTFPs such as resin, on to rice consumers. In doing so it integrates and protects the rights and knowledge of local communities (Aichi Target 18, SDG 10) into legislation and secures land tenure. The project demonstrates that economic gains for poor communities are possible in a context of sustainable use of natural resources.

**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: The project proposal has been sent to and reviewed by Mrs. Chan Somaly, CBD focal point. SMP will submit regular reports to the CBD focal point through the life of the project (six monthly reports).

**13. Methodology**

Describe the methods and approach you will use to achieve your intended outcomes and impact. Provide information on how you will undertake the work (materials and methods) and how you will manage the work (roles and responsibilities, project management tools etc.).

(Max 500 words – this may be a repeat from Stage 1, but you may update or refine as necessary. Tracked changes are **not** required.)

**Integrate Organic rice production and wildlife-friendly rice compliance**

SMP will implement extensive village level trainings to develop new capacity in the VMN (Village Marketing Networks) to integrate the Organic Internal control requirements into their wildlife-friendly monitoring. SMP will recruit new and existing Ibis Rice farmers to grow high quality organic certified seed, which has shown tolerance to drought and flood in its breeding. 60kg of this seed can be used to cultivate 1 hectare of paddy scaling can be rapid with the correct training provided by CIRAD.

The existing Ibis Rice regulations will be imbedded in the organic regulations, thus farmers are not able to sell their rice as organic without also following Wildlife-Friendly compliance. The basic mechanisms of Ibis Rice remain the same, and the scheme will be expanded to new villages following the existing process.

### **Develop drought-resilient rice cultivation systems**

SMP will pilot diversified cropping systems to test alternative soil and crop management, including two new strains of Jasmine Rice developed by the Cambodian Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI). Climate resilience will be improved by training and physical improvement of farmland. Levelling of un-even fields is commonly understood to improve water efficiency and increase yield significantly. Level paddy allows farmers to establish climate smart practises more successfully and promote more efficient weed control.

A suite of soil enhancing practices will be trialled by SMP in partnership with Dr. Florent Tivet, CIRAD, that include low impact ploughing techniques and piloting a variety of potential Fabaceae fallow-year crops such as pigeon pea, mung-bean and cow-pea. In addition, diversification will also be tested with high-value secondary crops such as sesame, chia (*Salvia hispanica*), among others. For widespread adoption of these techniques to occur among Ibis Rice farmers, they must be both beneficial for the soil in terms of structure, nutrient and micro-organism content, and profitable in their own right.

### **Learning and Outreach**

SMP in partnership with RUPP and WCS will rigorously monitor project activities and outputs – as well as conservation and development impacts including forest cover, threatened water birds, agro-ecology, household income, attitudes and perceptions. During the first year project focus will be on training farmers in organic compliance and creating an internal seed production capacity with small scale trials of legumes, encouraging mixed gender representation within all institutions, committees, trainings and meetings. Drought-resilient organic Jasmine Rice and fallow-year crops will be evaluated by Dr. Florent Tivet, CIRAD,, Village Marketing Network Committees, SMP, and farmers focusing on criteria such as tolerance to drought, ease of production, yield, taste and price before being adopted by all Ibis Rice farmers in the second/third year. Initial appraisal of potential value chain of legumes and diversity in rice varieties will be made.

## **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)

The project will future-proof the linkages between sustainable use of biological resources and poverty reduction that has been demonstrated previous projects (WCS-DARWIN 20-014) and research. In doing so, it will deliver an alternative development pathway with clear short-term financial benefits to marginalised communities and improve awareness of the benefits of healthy PAs.

### **Climate resilience and improved livelihoods**

Organic agriculture and innovative soil conservation practises provide climate-vulnerable communities with effective strategies for mitigating climate change. Healthy soils are better adapted to extreme weather conditions associated with climate change. Additionally switching completely to an organic certification will increase financial benefits to participating farmers, as SMP can pay higher prices for the organic product allowing the project to increase its footprint without the requirement of donor support. This not only benefits participating farmers directly but protects the Ibis Rice project itself and the benefits that it brings to communities and biodiversity. Ibis Rice transfers the decision-making process surrounding natural resource use to local communities by establishing village-based institutions, Village Marketing Networks (VMNs), that are responsible for ensuring that the community follows an agreed land-use plan and financially incentivising compliance with that plan. In doing so, it benefits globally threatened species that use those habitats.

### **National and local level capacity building**

The project's demonstrated success has been of great interest to scientists, donors, government agencies and decision-makers.. By building the capacity of SMP and local

community groups to manage Ibis Rice, the project will further support the efforts of Cambodian people and Cambodian institutions to manage their own resources sustainably. The province of Preah Vihear has been recognised as having high potential for organic rice by government and industry. Successful lessons in how small-holders can invest in their soil and improve resilience to climate change will be of Provincial and National importance.

### 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)

This project will benefit climate vulnerable households in remote rural communities across three protected areas (see Section 11). By the end of this project, we expect at <2,500 families to have benefitted (1,230 families who have already experienced benefits as a result of Ibis Rice, plus an additional 1,270 families). It will provide direct and indirect benefits to marginalised communities, improving people's economic situation in the short term whilst putting in place structures that will allow adaptation to climate change and create conditions for longer-term food and financial security.

From previous projects and research we estimated that farmers who adhere to the regulations and sell their rice into the scheme improve their incomes from the sale of rice by at least 20%. We expect this to double to 40% during this project for farmers who switch to organic. In addition to the price premium, farmers benefit through the stability of the international demand for organic rice, meaning they price will not follow the erratic trends of the regional market. All households in the villages benefit from competition between Ibis Rice and local traders, which leads to general increases in the farm gate price.

Along with these direct short-term economic benefits, this project also puts in place structures that support the long-term socioeconomic development of impoverished communities and improves food security. Village Marketing Networks (VMNs) facilitate planned, sustainable resource use. Land-use plans that form the basis for the conditional agreements and the demarcation of community-use zones within PAs guarantee access to forest resources by participants. By registering these plans with government, the project ensures that land cannot be appropriated for development by agro-industrial plantations. Additionally, switching to a drought-resilient rice strain and implementing new soil conservation techniques will improve food security in PAs where there are no legal alternative food or income sources during drought years.

### 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)

The purpose of the project is to establish Ibis Rice as a locally managed, climate-change resilient initiative that can be sustained without future inputs. The Ibis Rice project has proven to be a relatively low cost mechanism for incentivising conservation, which at current scale and input can be sustained through market sales alone. Current potential for Ibis Rice growth is rapid, owing to the number of suitable villages for expansion and non-participating farmers' interest in joining the scheme. This potential becomes accessible when international certification is achieved to open stable, high-volume, high-value international markets. This once implemented allows secure funding of on-going activities.

**17a. Harmonisation**

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

The proposed project is a new initiative that addresses problems identified during implementation of past and present projects to ensure the long-term success of the Ibis Rice model and sustain the benefits to farmers in the context of a changing climate. It is supported by a range of partner projects implemented by CIRAD, WCS and Ministry of Environment (MoE), that create a complimentary operating environment, , including projects that focus on long term agricultural trials, soil fertility assessments, law enforcement, community awareness, and a community-based ecotourism scheme. Because it is implemented within the Northern plains protected area network, the project has been designed with the support of relevant protected area staff, and is integrated into the government plans for those protected sites. It both supports and is supported by such plans and activities.

Policy-makers and the global research community in conservation and livelihoods have had the opportunity to learn from the Ibis Rice model through a number of papers and reports already produced. This project will allow further development in research in this field, and publicizing the findings of research. This will lead to improvements in community development practice.

**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.

Yes: The BirdLife International Cambodia Program is currently implementing a Darwin Initiative, DARWIN-3748, to develop wildlife-friendly farming in Western Siem Pang Protected Forest. SMP are the local partner on this project and have been providing technical support in the development of VMNs, land-use plans and conditional agreements for wildlife-friendly farming. Experience from WCS's Darwin project (20-014) has shown that this process takes at least three years. SMP anticipates that within four years the amount of Ibis Rice produced by participating farmers in PAs under the WCS Darwin project (20-014) and this proposed project will still be insufficient to meet international market demand, so it is important to initiate planning to expand the initiative now. It is hoped that at the end of a BirdLife Darwin project, or some years after, rice grown by farmers in Western Siem Pang may meet the standards to be bought by SMP and be sold as Ibis Rice along with that being produced in Preah Vihear Province.

**18. Ethics**

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

(Max 300 words)

Since its inception SMP has developed systems to ensure adherence to national labour, finance, banking, and registration regulations specific to national government and donor compliance requirements. SMP has established a Duty of Care policy that details obligations of employees, regardless of their nationality, and the institution to create an environment of safety and concern in the fulfilment of our mission, including access to medical care, insurance policies, and emergency procedures.

The SMP board ensures that project implementation operates according to a strict internal policy. All visiting researchers and organisations that partner with us are required to sign a code of conduct that ensures they behave in an appropriate manner in office and field situations. All project staff are trained to ensure that work with communities is conducted in an open and fully participatory manner that encourages the participation of women, and that participants have the right to withdraw from such work at any time. We also ensure that people are not discriminated against based on age, gender, ethnicity or beliefs.

The proposed partnerships with both WCS and the Centre for Biodiversity Conservation, ensures that a national need for qualified conservationists to guide Cambodia towards sustainable development are met and the nation's commitments to conserving its biodiversity are upheld.

### **19. Raising awareness of the potential worth of biodiversity**

If your project contains an element of communications, knowledge sharing and/or dissemination please provide a description of your intended audience, how you intend to engage them, what the expected products/materials will be and what you expect to achieve as a result. For example, are you expecting to directly influence policy in your host country or is your project a community advocacy project to support better management of biodiversity?

(Max 300 words)

The Ibis Rice scheme was completely re-branded in 2016 to showcase the quality of the product as well as the story behind it that focuses on the Giant Ibis. We will begin export Ibis Rice in late 2016. There represents a major opportunity to reach new audiences through all medium via consumers in Cambodia and abroad.

The SMP communications officer will improve the visibility of its projects and their impacts. This new strategy will spread the story of Ibis Rice in both Khmer and English through a variety of media, including websites, publications and social media, to a broad target audience, including the general public in Cambodia, media, politicians and the broader education, scientific, business, conservation and agricultural communities. In all communication materials related to Ibis Rice and SMP will ensure that the Darwin Initiative logo is highly visible.

The Ibis Rice scheme has become very popular with local and provincial authorities and national government in Cambodia. Villages that had previously rejected conservation activities have requested to join Ibis Rice when it is implemented, demonstrating the popularity of the approach. In line with on-going innovative reforms within the Ministry of Environment to further recognise the role rural community institutions in the collaborative management of PAs, this project will raise awareness amongst local people and local government of the importance of biodiversity and ecosystem services for economic development through creating clear linkages that are reinforced throughout the project. The conditional payments and annual monitoring of compliance, backed up through community outreach, will continually reinforce the importance of biodiversity conservation to local people, leading to a change in local opinion towards biodiversity.

Research and data collection, conducted by Cambodian and international researchers will also produce knowledge products that disseminate results nationally and internationally in the form of open access peer-reviewed scientific publications.

### **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 project centres around building the capacity of local village institutions (Village Marketing Networks) to manage Ibis Rice and organic internal controls independently of SMP. CIRAD will bring to SMP past experience and expertise in WCS established the Sam Veasna Centre for eco-tourism that is now fully independent, entirely Cambodian run, and returning significant annual profits to conservation and local communities.

Capacity development in SMP will focus on enabling the organisation to cope with implementing Ibis Rice at scale, and with the increase in administration and documentation associated with certified organic rice production (verses Wildlife-Friendly™ only). The existing Wildlife-Friendly™ regulations associated will be integrated into the organic regulations, so there will still only be one set of regulations, although that set of regulations is longer and some of the standards are higher. WCS will train SMP on record keeping and coordinating with law enforcement agencies to obtain information on hunting activities of participating farmers, and integrating that data into the compliance database.

With the switch to organic stress-tolerant rice, VMNs will have to deliver more trainings to Ibis Rice farmers, and collect more documentation of farming techniques and production methods used, in addition to the data that they already collect on forest clearance, pesticide and fertiliser use. SMP will train the VMNs to ensure that they collect and document those data appropriately. Training of VMNs will involve the entire VMN, each consisting of at least five people (including at least one woman), to ensure that if one or two members change over the next few years, lessons learned will be retained by the group as a whole.

Through the collaboration with Dr. Florent Tivet, French agricultural research and international cooperation organization (CIRAD) and Dr. Henry Travers, Oxford University, technical and research skills of Cambodian nationals will be enhanced.

## 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)

An SMP communications officer will implement a new communication strategy. This new position and strategy will spread the story of Ibis Rice in both Khmer and English, through a variety of media, including the SMP and project partner websites, publications (bi-annual submissions to the Darwin Newsletter) and social media, to a broad target audience, including the general public, media, politicians, and the broader education, scientific, business, conservation and agricultural communities. This work will highlight the contribution of Darwin to its success, and the benefits that Ibis Rice has brought to local people and wildlife in Cambodia. Ibis Rice will also gain greater exposure through its project partner WCS at the Bronx Zoo, New York, through an exhibit linking in-situ conservation of ibises with the ex-situ conservation through the Ibis Rice initiative.

Open-access peer-reviewed articles, published in partnership with the Royal University of Phnom Penh and UK Universities, and presentations at international conferences and other events will help to further expand the access to information about Ibis Rice and the Darwin contribution. Bi-annual project reports will be shared with provincial and national level Ministry of Environment staff.

## 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:

SMP current activities are financed through revenue from rice sales. As illustrated in the budget, this contribution can cover £73,433 in 2017/18. This increases to £90,436 in 20/21. This can be justified by the organic product that comes online through the activities of this project leading to increased revenue for SMP through organic exports. Total in kind contribution of SMP to the project will be £328,092.

WCS compliance and technical expertise to ensure real outcomes and proper monitoring of forest cover, land-use and biodiversity is vital for the project. This is represented in the budget through staff that WCS will support but will work directly on this Darwin initiative. This totals £115,941 of in kind salary cost over the four years.

**22b) Unsecured**

Provide details of any matched funding where an application has been submitted, or that you intend applying for during the course of the project. This could include matched funding from the private sector, charitable organisations or other public sector schemes.

Date applied for	Donor organisation	Amount	Comments

**22c) None**

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

(max 100 words)

**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)

Local communities unwilling to participate in project activities owing to a perception that the zoning and management planning processes are intended to reduce rather than improve their rights and access to land and resources. SMP has been working with the communities for over 7 years, over this time we have developed an excellent relationship with the communities involved (and sub-national government) and a deep bond of trust. The communities have already been involved in preparatory work for the project, which will provide the support needed to complete a process that they have stated is important to them.

Families who have been taught by the project how to improve their farming might be motivated to clear additional land to further increase their incomes. We will address this risk through rigorous checking of compliance to conservation agreements through a dedicated compliance unit.

Continuity of key staff/reform actors. The government personnel that have been engaged might be reassigned to another department, meaning that they will take their capacity away from the project.



## 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
<b>Impact:</b> (Max 30 words) Long-term conservation of biodiversity and maintenance of ecosystem services in Cambodia is ensured even in a rapidly changing environment, through linking poverty reduction, security of land tenure and community-based conservation.			
<b>Outcome:</b> (Max 30 words) Future-proof Ibis Rice by linking organic accreditations and drought-resilient agricultural practises with international markets, thus safeguarding livelihood improvements for > 2,500 families, protecting threatened species and preventing deforestation across >400,000ha.	<b>0.1</b> The number of families benefiting from the Ibis Rice project exceeds 2,500 (baseline 2105/16: 1,230)  <b>0.2</b> The number of households participating in drought-resilient agriculture practises exceeds 1,250 (Baseline mid-2015: 0)  <b>0.3</b> The number of incidents of illegal clearance of forest around participating villages declines by 25% against the 2015 baseline of 72 incidents per annum)  <b>0.4</b> The number of critically threatened bird species, Giant and White-shouldered Ibis, that fledge successfully is 25% more than the 2015 baseline of 29 nests , 39 chicks  <b>0.5</b> The poverty standards of participating households increases by 20% against the 2016 baseline	<b>0.1</b> Signed conservation agreements, land-use plans, household records, receipts for rice purchase  <b>0.2</b> Signed and verified farmer diaries showing adoption of at least one resilient practice  <b>0.3</b> Monitoring reports from WCS rangers and satellite images  <b>0.4</b> Monitoring reports from WCS rangers  <b>0.5</b> Household poverty surveys (using Basic Necessity Survey)	The primary assumption is that through developing and trialling a comprehensive climate smart agricultural system, including more stress tolerant varieties and associated soil conservation techniques, the Ibis Rice scheme will continue to grow in size and impact. The evidence gathered during a previous Darwin project (20-014) indicates that this switch to drought-resilient organic rice is necessary. Without this, farmers would be a greater risk from climate variability and Ibis Rice would become financially unsustainable and loose the trust of the farmers, with consequences for biodiversity conservation and poverty alleviation gains made during the previous 3 years.
<b>Outputs:</b> <b>1.</b> Village Marketing Network (VMN) have the capacity to manage the expansion of Ibis Rice compliance,	<b>1.1</b> By the end of the project, the capacity of VMN to manage Ibis Rice compliance is increased by at least 50% (baseline to be established in 2016)	<b>1.1</b> Number of VMNs conducting their own internal control systems, measured using number of inspection reports signed by VMNs	The primary assumption is that trainers are available and VMN are willing to learn new skills. Trainers have already been identified and prior to this project

Organic internal controls and production independently			VMN have demonstrated that with the specialised and focused capacity building this project will deliver; they will be ready to manage the expansion of Ibis Rice compliance, marketing, production and sale.
2. Ibis Rice farmers have tested and adopted drought-resilient agricultural practices and complementary soil conservation techniques along with levelling and water efficiency trials.	<p><b>2.1</b> Number of Ibis Rice farmers taking part in stress-tolerant rice trials exceeds 20% of all Ibis Rice farmers by the end of Year 1 (baseline: 2015/16:3%)</p> <p><b>2.2</b> Number of Hectares cultivated using stress tolerant rice seed produced during trials is at least 400Ha by end year 2 (baseline: 0)</p> <p><b>2.3</b> Number of farmers willing to adopt drought-resilient agricultural practises (legume trials and land levelling) exceeds 1,250 families by end of Year 4 (baseline: 0)</p> <p><b>2.4</b> Number of tons certified organic rice produced grows by 50% between Year 1 and Year 3 (baseline: 187 2015/16)</p>	<p><b>2.1</b> SMP, organic certifier and VMN farmer records</p> <p><b>2.2</b> SMP, organic certifier and VMN farmer records</p> <p><b>2.3</b> SMP, organic certifier and VMN farmer records</p> <p><b>2.4</b> SMP, organic certifier and VMN farmer records</p>	The primary assumption is that locally appropriate stress tolerant jasmine rice strain can be developed. Potentially appropriate drought-resilient seed-stock have already been identified, and methods for developing and testing organic seed stock have been obtained from relevant experts. Agronomists that support this activity will also identify paddy field that need most physical intervention for water efficiency.
3. Critically endangered species populations increase as a result of improved protection around Ibis Rice villages	<p><b>3.1</b> Deforestation rates around target villages are lower compared to deforestation rates in the wider landscape (baseline 2012-2015: 0.93% around target villages, 3.53% in wider landscape)</p> <p><b>3.2</b> Number of critically endangered birds' nests protected are 20% higher when compared to baseline 2014/15: 29.</p>	<p><b>3.1</b> Deforestation rate analysis based on remotely-sensed images</p> <p><b>3.2</b> Ranger nest protection reports and monitoring team data records</p>	The primary assumption is that villagers value the premium paid for Ibis Rice, and that it is sufficient to change behaviour. Experience from partnerships with DARWIN projects indicates that the premium and other benefits of the Ibis Rice scheme do change behaviour. This project will further increase the financial incentives to farmers to take part in the scheme as the purchase of organic rice will effectively double the premium paid. A secondary assumption is that Cambodian law is enforced by government park rangers proportionately

			throughout all zones within the protected area network.
4. Community members living within the target protected areas experience reduced poverty and increased income as a result of Ibis Rice	<p><b>4.1</b> The number of people benefiting from the Ibis Rice project increases by 15% per annum (baseline 1,230 families in 2015/16)</p> <p><b>4.2</b> The number of tonnes Ibis Rice purchased per annum by SMP from participating farmers exceeds 1,000 by the end of the project (baseline 2015/16: 557)</p> <p><b>4.3</b> Number of functioning VMNs exceeds 20 (baseline 13 in 2016)</p> <p><b>4.4</b> Poverty status of people in Ibis Rice villages improves (baseline to be established at project inception 2016/17)</p>	<p><b>4.1</b> Signed conditional agreements, database of households benefiting from Ibis Rice</p> <p><b>4.2</b> Receipts and SMP ledger records</p> <p><b>4.3</b> SMP farmer records</p> <p><b>4.4</b> Basic Necessity Survey (BNS) scores</p>	The primary assumption is that the market for Ibis Rice will continue to grow, and that organic certification will open up new markets. Market research and consumer trends indicate that there is no shortage in market demand for Ibis Rice, and projections by commodity traders suggest global demand for organic rice will outstrip supply for several years to come. The primary limiting factor is the number of farmers taking part and the number of tons Ibis Rice produced.
5. Impacts of Ibis Rice program on threatened bird populations, habitat trends and human livelihoods are monitored, recorded and disseminated to a wide audience, including relevant national and regional PES policy-makers.	<p><b>5.1</b> Two peer-reviewed journal articles published in academic journals by WCS &amp; RUPP researchers.</p> <p><b>5.2</b> Press releases, and social media used at least monthly to disseminate impacts of the Darwin Post project</p>	<p><b>5.1</b> Data on changes in household poverty, species populations and habitat trends; peer-reviewed journal articles</p> <p><b>5.2</b> Number of Facebook posts, tweets and news stories about Ibis Rice</p>	Research permits will be granted. Excellent relationship with MoE means that this should be no problem
<p><b>Activities</b> (each activity is numbered according to the output that it will contribute towards, for example 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 are contributing to Output 1)</p> <p><b>1.1</b> Additional SMP staff &amp; VMN members are recruited and trained to manage Organic Ibis Rice internal controls, organic purchase, production, and institutional implementation.</p> <p><b>1.2</b> Training in organic internal control monitoring and record keeping provided to VMN members so that the organisation can be managed without the support of partners even after the switch to organic Ibis Rice which requires much more documentation than Wildlife-Friendly alone.</p> <p><b>2.1</b> Seed for drought-resilient jasmine rice strain purchased from CARDI</p> <p><b>2.2</b> SMP develops and tests an organic-certified version of drought-resilient rice seed stock and new soil conservation techniques. Ibis Rice fields that have been certified as organic can be used to develop the seed-stock for organic drought-resilient Ibis Rice seed.</p> <p><b>2.3</b> Evaluation of organic drought-resilient jasmine rice and fallow-year crops, including yield, ease of growing, ease of harvest, water requirements, and also taste and texture. Farmers, the VMNs and SMP will all be involved in the evaluation of the new rice strain and fallow-year crops.</p> <p><b>2.4</b> VMNs promote organic drought-resilient jasmine rice and fallow-year crops across the Ibis Rice farmer network. In villages that have tested the organic drought-resilient rice, the VMNs can both promote the new rice strain to farmers within the village and to farmers in other Ibis Rice villages. At the same time they can provide</p>			

training in growing the new strain of rice, based on their experiences during the trials.

**2.5** Organic product grown in all Ibis Rice villages using soil conservation techniques. If the field trials are successful it is anticipated that the new organic drought-resilient jasmine rice strain will replace the existing jasmine rice strain used by Ibis Rice farmers across all of the villages, new and existing, that take part in the scheme.

**3.1** Birds nest protectors protect nests of key species and report to birds nest protection coordinator. Some of the birds nest protectors are also Ibis Rice farmers, who protect the birds that breed near to their fields. The species protected include six Critically Endangered species Giant and White-shouldered Ibis, Bengal Florican, Slender-billed, White-rumped and Red-headed Vultures, as well as a range of Endangered and Vulnerable species, such as Sarus Crane, Lesser and Greater Adjutants, Masked Finfoot and White-winged Duck.

**3.2** Monitoring of forest cover and land-use change by WCS rangers and GIS team. WCS staff use remote sensing (LandSat and other satellite imagery) to monitor land-cover change. These data are cross-checked by the VMNs and all incidents recorded by the Compliance Unit, who maintain a field by field and farmer by farmer database.

**4.1** Village Marketing Networks (VMNs) established in target villages. The VMNs are a vital part of the Ibis Rice process. They are made up of members of the community, always including at least one woman. They are the link between farmers and SMP. As such, the VMNs are involved in promoting the scheme among farmers, and receive training that enables them to monitor compliance to conservation agreements and provide agricultural support to farmers.

**4.2** Participatory land-use planning conducted in target villages, and land-use plans agreed by government. Land-use plans are developed in a fully participatory process and denote areas where forest is of high importance for biodiversity and must be protected, areas that are farmed, and areas that are of low conservation importance and can be cleared for farming in the future with agreement from the VMN.

**4.3** Conditional agreements explained and new members join VMNs. The conditional conservation agreements form the basis for Ibis Rice. Farmers can only sell their rice to SMP if the farmers adhere to the conservation agreements, and if they grow the correct type of rice (Jasmine Rice). The conservation agreements set out which species people are not allowed to hunt, and require them to adhere to the land-use plans; they are also not allowed use chemical fertilisers or pesticides.

**4.4** Training and seed provided to farmers as necessary.

**4.5** VMNs identify eligible farmers and sell Ibis Rice paddy to SMP. Within each village, any land clearance must be authorised by the VMN, who make their decisions based on the land-use plan. Farmers who do not adhere to the conservation regulations cannot sell their rice to SMP, since it does not qualify as Ibis Rice. They weigh the rice before it is sold to SMP, which ensures that people in the village believe that they are getting a fair payment for their rice.

**5.1** Data on poverty status is collected from target villages and appropriate paired control villages

**5.2** Results of monitoring are used by Ibis Rice Compliance Unit, which works closely with the VMNs to ensure that SMP only purchases rice from farmers who have kept the conservation agreements.

**5.3** Peer-reviewed papers, reports, presentations and social media are prepared and published.

**25. Provide a project implementation timetable that shows the key milestones in project activities. Complete the following table as appropriate to describe the intended workplan for your project (Q1 starting April 2017)**

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

Activity	No. of months	Year 1				Year 2				Year 3				Year 4			
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
<b>Output 1</b> Village Marketing Network (VMN) have the capacity to manage the expansion of Ibis Rice compliance, Organic internal controls, production and sale independently	48	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>1.1</b> 1.1 Additional SMP staff & VMN members are recruited and trained to manage increased volume of Organic Ibis Rice internal controls, organic purchase, production, and institutional implementation.	9	X	X	X													
<b>1.2</b> Training in organic internal control monitoring and record keeping provided to VMN members so that compliance can be managed without the support of partners even after the switch to organic Ibis Rice which requires much more documentation than Wildlife-Friendly alone.	42	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
<b>Output 2</b> Ibis Rice farmers have tested and adopted drought-resilient agricultural practices and complementary soil conservation techniques along with levelling and water efficiency trials.	42			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>2.1</b> Seed for drought-resilient jasmine rice strain purchased	2		X								X						
<b>2.2</b> SMP develops and tests an organic-certified version of drought-resilient rice seed stock and new soil conservation techniques	45		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>2.3</b> Evaluation of organic drought-resilient	21			X			X		X		X		X		X		X

	jasmine rice and fallow year crops																	
<b>2.4</b>	VMNs promote organic drought-resilient jasmine rice and fallow year crops across the Ibis Rice farmer network	42			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>2.5</b>	Organic product grown in all Ibis Rice villages using soil conservation techniques	9														X	X	X
<b>Output 3</b>	Threatened species populations increase as a result of improved protection around Ibis Rice villages																	
<b>3.1</b>	Birds nest protectors protect nests of key species and report to birds nest protection coordinator	48	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>3.2</b>	Monitoring of forest cover and land-use change by WCS rangers and GIS team	48	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<b>Output 4</b>	Across the landscape, poverty reduced and income improved as a result of Ibis Rice																	
<b>4.1</b>	Village Marketing Networks (VMNs) established in target villages	15				X			X			X			X			X
<b>4.2</b>	Participatory land-use planning conducted in target villages, and land-use plans agreed by government	15				X			X			X			X			X
<b>4.3</b>	Conditional agreements explained and new members join VMNs	12					X			X			X			X		
<b>4.4</b>	Training and seed provided to farmers as necessary	6		X								X						
<b>4.5</b>	VMNs identify eligible farmers and sell Ibis Rice paddy to SMP	24			X	X			X	X			X	X		X	X	
<b>Output 5</b>	Impacts of Ibis Rice program on threatened bird populations, habitat trends and human livelihoods monitored, recorded and disseminated to a wide audience, including relevant national and regional PES policy-makers																	

5.1	Data on poverty status is collected from target villages and appropriate paired control villages	9						X				X				X		
5.2	Results of monitoring are used by Ibis Rice Compliance Unit	12		X				X				X				X		
5.3	Peer-reviewed papers reports, presentations and media are prepared and published	6										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)

SMP has repeatedly demonstrated success in effectively implementing conservation projects, as well as credibly and reliably measuring and reporting on conservation impacts over time. The detailed research and monitoring of Ibis Rice impacts, both biological and social, allows impacts to be disseminated to support evidence-based science and policy-making. Outcomes from Ibis Rice will be captured in case studies, and it is one of the very few closely-measured projects globally that can contribute to important and topical scientific theories debates about land-sparing / land-sharing, and the role of livelihoods in conservation. There are also direct policy implications for small and medium-scale agricultural PES schemes, and this potential will be captured in the major new environmental legislative reform now underway in Cambodia. For this project we will measure three goals using objectively verifiable indicators: (1) Poverty reduction, (2) Biodiversity and forest conservation; and (3) capacity building. Monitoring will be conducted by Project partners CIRAD, WCS and students from the Royal University of Phnom Penh (RUPP), in collaboration with a range of stakeholders.

### Poverty reduction and Climate resilience

Data collated by SMP and project partners with independent RUPP researchers will indicate the number of people involved in the project, their level of compliance with conditional agreements and the economic contribution that the project makes to their livelihoods. We will evaluate the project's impact on the development pathway of the target villages by comparing the livelihoods and poverty status of households in matched control villages (villages similar in all measurable ways to target villages) against a baseline established in 2008 and updated in 2011 and 2014 using the Basic Necessities Survey. Socio-economic and human well-being parameters will be measured and compared between project and control villages. Poverty reduction data will be gender disaggregated to ensure that monitoring incorporates the impacts on both men and women.

### Biodiversity and Forest Conservation

Project impacts on biodiversity will be monitored annually using bird nest protection data, records of illegal land clearance and data on land-cover change (using satellite and ground-survey data). Data will be evaluated against a data series stretching back to 2002 prior to the initiation of conservation interventions in the project landscape. Our partner WCS's researchers will use novel data analysis methods to independently investigate compliance with conservation agreements.

### Capacity Building

The project will monitor VMN capacity to sustainably manage organic internal controls and procurement of Ibis Rice through number of VMN executives managing EU and USDA internal control systems, this means initial inspection of farmer diary and ICS form is conducted by the VMN itself. The leader of VMN ICS inspector team will be represented on the central Internal Control Committee (ICC).

Number of days planned for M&E	48
Total project budget for M&E	\$35,000
Percentage of total project budget set aside for M&E	5%



## 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)

SMP has been implementing projects in Cambodia for >8 years and consequently has considerable experience in delivering projects in remote rural areas in a cost-effective way. Based on existing experience the costs of implementing the various stages of the Ibis Rice scheme (community consultation, land-use planning, household contracting and monitoring compliance) are well known; and can be calculated with accuracy. The costs of the further developments, testing and promotion of a new rice strain and of piloting associated soil conservation techniques have been calculated based on local expert opinion.

We believe the most significant value will be in transferring management to SMP so that Ibis Rice can become truly self-sufficient. Gaining access into the organic market will also allow continuation and expansion of the program beyond the lifetime of the project. As a result, building capacity of SMP staff is of great value to the project and SMP costs, particularly staff costs. SMP will ensure that community consultations over the switch to organic drought-resistant rice and the introduction of novel farming techniques are undertaken appropriately, and with respect to local peoples' rights and cultural sensitivities. The budget also includes significant funding for fieldwork costs and village meetings. Costs of technical capacity building by Dr. Henry Travers and biodiversity monitoring by community rangers are covered using co-financing.

SMP finance staff, with technical support from WCS and Phillip Barrow (SMP volunteer Financial expert), have considerable experience and expertise in managing large partnership projects funded by a variety of donors, including USAID, NORAD and EU. This means that as a local NGO our operating costs are lower but we are getting high value external technical support which over the course of the project will also develop on-going and independent capacity for SMP.

### 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)

Capital items purchased by the project are motorbikes, computers, moisture-meters and GPS units. Darwin initiative visibility will be ensured by clear branding and all items will continue to be used by the project team after the project is completed until they are no longer usable.

## 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 Sansom Mlup Prey (SMP)  
 (\*delete as appropriate)

I apply for a grant of £303,659 in respect of **all expenditure** to be incurred during the lifetime of this project based on the activities and dates specified in the above application.

I certify that, to the best of our knowledge and belief, the statements made by us in this application are true and the information provided is correct. I am aware that this application form will form the basis of the project schedule should this application be successful.

*(This form should be signed by an individual authorised by the applicant institution to submit applications and sign contracts on their behalf.)*

- I enclose CVs for key project personnel and letters of support.
- I enclose our most recent signed audited/independently verified accounts and annual reports

<b>Name (block capitals)</b>	Nicholas Spencer
<b>Position in the organisation</b>	CEO

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

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

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