Darwin Initiative Application for Grant for Round 24: Stage 2

Before completing this form, please read both the Fair Processing Notice on pages 17 and 18 of this form and the Guidance . 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:	David Attenborough Building, Pembroke St
City and Postcode:	Cambridge, CB2 3QZ
Country:	UK
Email:	
Phone:	

2. Stage 1 reference and Project title

Stage 1 Ref:	Title (max 10 words):
4187	A model for conservation, stabilisation and development in South Sudan

3. Summary of Project

Please provide a brief summary of your project, its aims, and the key activities you plan on undertaking. Please note that if you are successful, this wording may be used by Defra in communications e.g. as a short description of the project on GOV.UK. Please bear this in mind, and write this summary for a non-technical audience.

(max 80 words)

Rare but little-known biodiversity is under severe threat from poaching, hunting and subsistence activities in conflict-affected South Sudan. This project will bring 430km^2 of critically threatened forest, including habitat for endangered species - particularly elephant and chimpanzee - under more effective management. A holistic landscape approach to biodiversity protection and resilient livelihoods piloting, with significant potential to scale up and promote stability and development, will mitigate threats whilst directly benefitting youth, women and their communities.

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: South Sudan	Country 2:
Country 3:	Country 4:

5. Project dates, and budget summary

Start date: 01 July 2018		End date: 31 March 2021		Duration: 2 years, 9 months	
Darwin funding request (Apr – Mar)	**2018/19 £109,719**	**2019/20 £139,196**	**2020/21 £107,161**	**Total £356,076**	
Proposed (confirmed & unconfirmed) matched funding as % of total Project cost					**48.15%**

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

Details	Project Leader	Project Partner 1	Project Partner 2
Surname	Harris	Beasley	Mabu
Forename (s)	Robert	Rob	James
Post held	Senior Programme Manager, Conservation Partnerships	South Sudan Country Manager	Executive Director
Organisation (if different to above)	Fauna & Flora International	Caritas Austria	Community Organisation for Development (COD)
Telephone			
Email			

Details	Project Partner 3	Project Partner 4	
Surname	Reeder	Acire	
Forename (s)	DeeAnn	Charles	
Post held	Presidential Professor	Undersecretary	
Organisation (if different to above)	Bucknell University	South Sudan Ministry of Wildlife Conservation and Tourism	
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
24-004	Laura Fox	Conserving critical forest biodiversity in Guinea through sustainable agricultural livelihoods
24-002	Rob Small	Cattle, water and wildlife: enhancing socio-ecological resilience in Laikipia
24-020	Edgard Herrera	Realising the values and benefits for communities of Nicaragua's turtles

24-008	Nicola Frost	Effective marine resource co-management in the Pemba Channel Conservation Area
24-007	Andhy Sayogo	Raja Ampat ridge-to-reef conservation and sustainable livelihoods
24-006	Vicky Wilkins	Enhancing forest biodiversity and community resilience to Tajikistan's changing climate

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 www.fauna-flora.org	Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to lead the project): (max 200 words) FFI is committed to supporting livelihoods strategies that reduce pressure on forests and has good existing relationships with government parties and civil society partners who share this commitment. FFI has consulted individuals, NGOs and government stakeholders at community, county, state and national levels and has identified that complementary and holistic actions are required at the landscape level, including demarcation of two Game Reserves to help anti-poaching efforts and biodiversity monitoring, and the development of regionally pioneering community-led management of buffer zones. FFI has a key role in applying best practice approaches for community engagement and drawing on extensive experience across a diverse range of environments and projects. FFI's role as lead institution commits it to strong technical and operational management of the project, including tight oversight of activity implementation, proactivity on logistics and trouble-shooting, impact monitoring, collating technical project information and technical reporting. FFI will provide in-house expertise in project management in conflict areas, GIS and conservation within agricultural landscapes. FFI has over seven years of direct experience in South Sudan and has maintained a presence throughout the conflict period, which has displayed a dedication to biodiversity conservation that is well recognised by in-country project partners.
Have you included a Letter of Support from this institution? If not, why not?	Yes

Partner Name and website where available:	Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): (max 200 words)
Caritas Austria – South Sudan Programme https://www.caritas.at/	The Caritas Austria Office in South Sudan designs livelihoods improvement programmes, particularly agricultural extension and anti-poverty strategies with another focus on supporting education. Caritas works with a network of local NGOs to build capacity and run pilot projects to strengthen food security, reduce poverty and improve wellbeing. Within this project Caritas and a local NGO, Community Organisation for Development (COD - below), will dedicate agricultural extension services to ensuring livelihoods pilots address the drivers of unsustainable natural resource exploitation. Caritas' main inputs will be through the expertise of the Technical Advisor for Food Security Programmes, who will provide guidance and oversee livelihoods and agricultural extension activities, drawing on experience from other locations within South Sudan. Caritas has acted as an important driver of this project by identifying suitably skilled community partners such as COD. Additionally they have funded other CBOs to conduct a Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) process starting in January 2018. Project partners view the results of this as a key foundation of more comprehensive and informed community engagement as described in this proposal. Caritas and COD will ensure the state-level Ministry of Agriculture is fully engaged in the project and aware of fieldwork.

Have you included a Letter of Support from this institution? If not, why not?	Yes

Partner Name and website where available:	Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): (max 200 words)
Community Organisation for Development (COD) Website not available	COD is a South Sudanese Community-Based Organisation (CBO) established in 2015 and headquartered in Nzara. COD has relationships with existing farmers' groups in these villages, to be developed further according to the results of the PRA process and further socio-economic surveys. Using these results to inform design, COD will dedicate agricultural extension services to ensure livelihoods pilots address the drivers of unsustainable natural resource exploitation. In the Nzara County area, COD has experience in a variety of sustainable livelihoods approaches, including providing training on agricultural techniques and supplying seeds and tools, development and maintenance of fish ponds, and advising on market solutions including storage and transport of agricultural products post-harvest. There is a close relationship between Caritas and COD and this will continue as part of Caritas' CBO mentoring programme, with FFI working closely with Caritas and COD to ensure tight reporting on activities and fundraising to raise co-finance. Caritas and COD will ensure the state-level Ministry of Agriculture is fully engaged in the project and aware of all fieldwork, coordinating closely with FFI over the detail of activities.

Have you included a Letter of Support from this institution? If not, why not?	Yes

Partner Name and website where available:	Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): (max 200 words)
Bucknell University https://www.bucknell.edu/	Bucknell University is a longstanding partner bringing expertise in bio-monitoring and sources of co-finance to bolster the overall programme particularly through its scientific rigour (design and analysis). Bucknell will advise on developing standard patrol and monitoring techniques, advise on best practice for community survey techniques and support GIS and data management related to boundary demarcation, threat and wildlife monitoring (with an emphasis on forest elephant and chimpanzee studies for the purposes of conservation). Bucknell will also advise on human-wildlife disease dynamics and mitigation methods. Bucknell has specific expertise in mammal ecology and zoonosis through the named partner contact Dr DeeAnn Reeder, who has been involved in biodiversity surveys and monitoring in South Sudan for 10 years and has contributed hugely to the documentation of wildlife species in the south-western region. Pilot funding for tackling the interplay between diseases, humans, wildlife and the bushmeat trade that affects community wellbeing was provided by USAID under their PREDICT programme, but enabled Bucknell to lead on community survey techniques that will be built on in the design of socio-economic surveys early in the proposed project.
Have you included a Letter of Support from this institution? If not, why not?	Yes

Partner Name and website where available:	Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): (max 200 words)
South Sudan Ministry of Wildlife Conservation and Tourism (Wildlife Service) Website not available	The South Sudan Wildlife Conservation Service provides the mandate to operate, and supports operations, security and safety and the deployment of personnel in collaboration with FFI since 2011. Key responsibilities of the Ministry of Wildlife Conservation and Tourism, particularly its Wildlife Service representatives at state and county levels, are provision of local expertise in biodiversity protection based around knowledge of threats and geography, underpinning of FFI project activities through providing administrative and operational advice, dedicating a full-time counterpart for translation and facilitation, organising approvals and permissions for field activities, providing permits and support letters for the procurement and import of equipment, liaison with other ministries and departments such as the State Minister for Local Government as necessary, and support for FFI's development efforts by producing approval letters and joint workplanning. This collaboration is outlined in a Memorandum of Understanding between FFI and the Ministry, signed in 2016. Of particular note is the strength of the relationship between FFI and the Ministry, particularly at state level, where the activities of FFI are wholeheartedly supported. The FFI programme is viewed as critical for supporting the operations and conservation efforts in the Game Reserves of South Sudan's tropical rainforest belt.

Have you included a Letter of Support from this institution? If not, why not?	Yes

10. Key Project personnel

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

Name (First name, surname)	Role	Organisation	% time on project	1 page CV or job description attached*?
Robert Harris	Project Leader	FFI	30%	CV
James Mabu	Executive Director	COD	25%	CV
Dr DeeAnn Reeder	Presidential Professor	Bucknell University	10%	CV
Ivan de Klee	Project Officer	FFI	100%	CV
2nd Lt Benneth Ezekiah	Wildlife Service officer	Gbudue State Wildlife Service	100%	CV
Matthias Fettback	Technical Advisor – Agriculture Programmes	Caritas	20%	CV
Position to be created	Agricultural Extension Officer	COD/Caritas	100%	ToR attached
Rob Small	Conservation, Livelihoods and	FFI	4%	CV

	Governance Advisor			
Nicolas Tubbs	Senior Programme Manager, Eastern Africa / Project Advisor	FFI	5%	CV

*If you cannot provide a CV, please explain why not.

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?

(Max 300 words)

South Sudan contains rich but little known biodiversity and habitats, but is hampered by political and economic crises. In Western Equatoria, tropical forests contain chimpanzees (EN), elephants (VU) and other threatened forest species. Here, in two Game Reserves (GRs), FFI has created a nationally unique model of protected area management involving government and community stakeholders, against a national backdrop of mistrust and conflict. This active reconciliation and community stabilisation model supports resilient livelihoods development, enabling the disenfranchised, including young people, to build assets, which will enhance social cohesion whilst protecting natural resources.

Direct threats to biodiversity include illegal extraction of resources, including poaching and logging, all for high market value resources driven by pressure from local stakeholders facing severe poverty and food insecurity. Subsistence activities disregarding the natural resources upon which communities rely for their livelihoods also represent a direct threat to biodiversity. Furthermore, other threats result from the instability in the region which has driven cross-border encroachment. Indirectly, instability has also hindered long-term planning and the protected area network suffers from a lack of active management, zero institutional resources and severe capacity gaps.

However, a recent re-scoping survey in the northern GR following the elimination of rebel activity confirmed former personnel are ready for redeployment and that populations of wildlife remain. Men's and women's focus group meetings in 2017 highlighted that local people are committed to the conservation of biodiversity for future generations and are supportive of sustainable management, yet face huge issues including damage to agricultural yields by wildlife.

There is a great lack of stable and sustainable examples of development projects in South Sudan, so in this relatively peaceful and unique region of the country, this collaborative and holistic initiative will be an exemplar project for other regions when peace returns nationwide.

12a. 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

12b. Biodiversity Conventions

Please detail how your project will contribute to the objectives of the agreement(s) your project is targeting. 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)

Under the CBD, the project supports Aichi Strategic Goal B by reducing forest pressure and fostering sustainability. The project aims to lessen the impact of communities and other actors on forest habitats and develop robust and diversified livelihoods away from core forest zones, addressing targets 5 and 7. The project also aims to ensure wider society, beginning with local poor communities, can benefit from ecosystem services and healthy ecosystems (Goal D, Target 14).

South Sudan acceded to the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity in 2014 and submitted its first National Report to the CBD in 2015, although it had produced four earlier reports[1]. The report recognises the lowland forest around Yambio within its scope (the focal area for this project). It identifies eight threats to forests including deforestation and degradation caused by grazing and over-extraction; poor governance and lack of agreement on forest ownership, and gender inequality. This project addresses these three threats by enabling clarity of forest ownership, establishing terms of use for the forest, and increasing women's participation in planning, management as well as understanding their specific use of forest resources. The report also recommends that '*women should be encouraged to take a more active role in conservation activities at all levels*' (page 36), which this project responds to by including specific activities and targets to promote and measure women's participation.

A major threat to wildlife is identified as the viability and rehabilitation of protected areas (PAs), recognising the need to assess and respond to the needs of PAs to ensure they provide protection for biodiversity; actions this project will directly deliver in two protected areas. The need for community-based conservation is also explicitly articulated (page 32), and this project will address this by working with communities to define and manage protected areas and pioneer a community-conserved area.

The project focal area is critically important for key CITES-listed species, such as forest elephant, eastern chimpanzee and two pangolin species (tree and giant). South Sudan is not a full CITES party[2], so the project will engage with authorities to improve the information base with the anticipation of the country becoming a signatory. The authority named as able to provide comparable information to CITES is the Ministry of Wildlife Conservation and Tourism, the national representation of the main government project partner in this proposal. The project will amass new information on the prevalence of wildlife crime involving key species and will share data among national and international intelligence networks and actors.

The project is in line with the UNOCHA Humanitarian Response Plan that underlines the importance of supporting at-risk communities to manage threats resulting from the inter-locking crises in South Sudan. Discussions with DFID in Juba during 2017 highlighted that they have identified stabilisation, livelihoods and youth as priority strategies for future programming in South Sudan.

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[1] https://www.cbd.int/countries/default.shtml?country=ss
[2] https://cites.org/eng/cms/index.php/component/cp/country/SS

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

Yes the project is in close contact with various officials in the South Sudanese government, nationally as well as at state level, including the CBD Focal point.

If yes, please give details:

The national CITES focal point, Mr Khamis Adieng Ding of the Ministry of Wildlife Conservation and Tourism (MWCT) in Juba, has been supportive of FFI's project activities. Recently he facilitated the signing of a support letter for a piece of funding from the CITES Secretariat (through the MIKES Event Response Mechanism[3]) for capacity-building and ranger post re-establishment work in Gbudue and Tambura States, and has expressed his interest in ensuring FFI is able to liaise effectively with various Ministry personnel. The CBD focal point is Mr Paul L Demetry at the Ministry of Environment and Forestry. This Ministry does not supervise conservation activities or manage the protected area estate, so relations are not as close as with the MWCT. The project will provide the required updates to the CBD focal point, and also inform Mr Charles Acire, Undersecretary, and Lt General Kuol Mayen Mading, Director General of Wildlife. Both of these project partners are based at the MWCT in Juba and repeatedly express strong support for FFI's presence.

12d. Global Goals for Sustainable Development (SDGs)

Please detail how your project will contribute to the Global Goals for Sustainable Development (SDGs).

(Max 250 words)

South Sudan is one of the least developed countries in the world, ranked at 181 of 188 on the Human Development Index. 89% of the population are living in multi-dimensional poverty, with 69% in severe poverty – the highest of any country[4]. It is vital that all initiatives address this sobering situation. This project will contribute to **SDG1**, particularly **target 1.2** by addressing people affected by multiple dimensions of poverty in South Sudan, and **targets 1.4 and 1.5** by strengthening community decision-making over resources and reducing vulnerabilities to economic and natural shocks. The focus on wellbeing ensures information will be generated on health barriers (**target 3.3)** that affect sustainable development, and shared with relevant NGOs.

It will support **target 2.3** by improving the productivity of agricultural practices through inputs of knowledge and reducing losses to human-wildlife conflict. Women and youth will be actively involved in management and encouraged to participate in patrol units, which contributes to **targets 5.5** and **8.6.** Support for transparent and inclusive local governance structures assists with **targets 16.6** and **16.7.**

These positive social developments will contribute to the conservation objective of protecting this vulnerable, biodiverse area of South Sudan. The project contributes to **SDG15**, specifically **target 15.1** by promoting the conservation of forested areas, **15.2** by establishing and supporting sustainable management of forest resources and **15.5** by protecting endangered species including chimpanzees and elephants. The project will also contribute to target **15.7** by producing and sharing information about wildlife poaching and trade.

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[3] https://cites.org/eng/merm
[4] http://hdr.undp.org/en/countries/profiles/SSD

13. Methodology

Describe the methods and approach you will use to achieve your intended Outcome 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.)

The overall project hypothesises that human development and environmental conservation are mutually supporting, and that both occur in parallel for sustainable development. The diverse project partners align conservation, development and research to ensure a holistic, exemplar project that responds to multiple needs, tailored to south-western South Sudan. FFI will follow best international practices, including on monitoring and evaluation and conflict sensitivity using UK government[5] guidance. The partners, including FFI in-country, will provide security information to inform adaptive management and ensure the safety of partners and stakeholders and timely delivery.

FFI has overall responsibility as Project Leader and contributes experience of conflict-affected regions including in Liberia, DRC and northern Kenya. With partners, FFI will develop project plans and targets and monitor progress. FFI has international expertise in best practice community-led conservation management and draws on long-term global experience. FFI has been asked to lead Game Reserve demarcation and co-management of protected areas and will work to build the capacity and efficiency of patrols to enable ongoing monitoring and informed management. FFI will facilitate planning on development of a Community Managed Area and will oversee awareness-raising activities to be informed by and delivered by local partners. FFI will take responsibility for disseminating information to specialist networks. The Wildlife Service provides personnel, holds the mandate for protected area management and ensures the project complies with national law. Bucknell University provides expertise in standard monitoring procedures (for threats and biodiversity) and relationships between human health and wildlife.

Caritas has international expertise in social development and will technically advise on the livelihoods component of this project. COD has critical local contacts, networks, perspectives and languages. The Farmer Field School (FFS) model will disseminate information about agricultural techniques, wildlife-friendly farming and environmental education and tackle the issue of human-wildlife conflict. These responses will involve all partners, complementing wider research done by FFI, and implemented by extension officers to ensure locally appropriate mitigation measures. Scoping will clarify post-project arrangements for handling wildlife conflict through cash injections to farmers' associations or membership structure to fund compensation.

Bucknell University and FFI will use GIS datasets to clarify boundary demarcation and mapping, especially around the DRC-South Sudan international border. Analysts will use the same geographic projection throughout to avoid discrepancies, which is critical in ground-truthing and physical demarcation.

Project management will be collaborative and adaptive to the local situation. The partners will meet regularly to agree approaches and detailed activity and monitoring plans. Given the challenges of South Sudan, the ground-breaking nature of this work as an exemplar, and the relatively short timeframe of this project, some targets focus on process indicators and direction of travel rather than an end situation. All partners will contribute to documenting learning to enable this exemplar to be replicated across South Sudan and other conflict areas.

Partner agreements will reflect logistical considerations, such as the Wildlife Service's relative lack of technology. Quarterly reports from partners will gather technical and financial updates, and active communication between the Project Leader and all partners will be prioritised.

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 (i.e. during the life of the project) and b) in the long-term (after the project has ended). Please describe the changes for biodiversity and for people in

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[5] https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/stabilisation-unit

developing countries, and how they are linked. When talking about people, please remember to give details of who will benefit and the number of beneficiaries expected. 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 500 words)

Short-term (by March 2021):
- Two Game Reserves are demarcated and have agreed governance and management arrangements and one Community Managed Area has a recognised governance structure with regulations and boundaries agreed through a consultative process. Men and women are empowered through gender sensitive/inclusive decision-making approach which is embedded in governance structures. Thanks to relatively low land pressure, with stronger threat management, 430km^2 of critical habitat are under improved management and forest cover remains stable.
- At least 3,000 people (1,500 men, 1,500 women) in Nzara, Ezo and Yambio Counties benefit from increased awareness on wildlife and protected area legalities; 75% of those trained can articulate relevant, accurate information.
- The national protected area knowledge base is updated to reflect the finalised agreed boundaries, and actors engaged in addressing the illegal wildlife trade benefit from new data on wildlife trade and crime from this region, particularly on pangolins, forest elephants and chimpanzees.
- 6 patrol units (4 in Game Reserves; 2 in Community Managed Areas composed of at least 10% women and 50% under 25 years) receive training, and derive financial (income), intellectual (knowledge) and social (status) capital, contributing to greater wellbeing and enfranchisement. Patrol units follow agreed monitoring and reporting procedures; expanding the knowledge base on community hunting and natural resource use to inform future development.
- 900 people receive support for mitigating wildlife damage with 75% reporting a decrease in incident numbers; 900 people have access to additional agricultural and livelihoods strategies with 75% reporting positive impacts on at least one aspect of wellbeing.
- Information on threats to biodiversity are being fed locally into patrol networks to improve their responses; nationally to the CBD focal point in South Sudan, and internationally with TRAFFIC, the IUCN Pangolin Specialist Group, MIKE Programme and others, to enable more informed responses and planning in future. The information will additionally be documented in a new national repository.

Long-term (post-Darwin):
- Protected areas are managed more robustly by well-trained and organised patrol units and fulfil their function of safeguarding critical species (forest elephants, chimpanzees and pangolins) and maintaining ecosystem integrity. Patrol units are maintained by contributions from communities who value the role the units play and who have sufficient income for this to be feasible.
- Communities living at the edge of the PAs report direct benefits to their wellbeing and livelihoods.
- Populations of critical species are under long-term monitoring and increase due to reduced poaching and illegal activities and the sustainable use of forest resources under a governance framework which is gender sensitive and integrates the most disenfranchised. Human-wildlife conflict reduces further and community members benefit from enhanced food security and wellbeing which, in turn, reduces the likelihood of future conflict. Local communities become active environmental stewards of the natural resource base that underpins and enhances their wellbeing and livelihoods.
- Projects elsewhere in South Sudan and beyond have access to information on the project's approach and role as a national exemplar for natural resource management and community stabilisation.

15. Gender

All applicants must consider whether and how their project will contribute to reducing inequality between persons of different gender. Explain how your project will collect gender disaggregated data and what impact your project will have in promoting gender equality.

(Max 300 words)

FFI recognises gender as the socially-ascribed differences between men and women, that are particularly important in natural resource management as men and women frequently take differing roles and responsibilities in relation to resource extraction and stewardship. Accounting only for the perspective of men or women in a given location will result in a partial, incomplete project unlikely to safeguard biodiversity or engage all local stakeholders.

This project has been informed by focus group sessions held in February 2017. Separate groups for women and men enabled each to highlight the positive aspects of their lives and their concerns. Both highlighted a hunger gap in the dry season as a concern for their households and a driver of bushmeat hunting; a role usually taken by men. Human-wildlife conflict was a concern for both groups. Women displayed poorer knowledge of the Game Reserve's rules and regulations, as this is currently considered to be the men's responsibility. Both groups were concerned about environmental sustainability and the impact of degradation on the future, stating that "forested hills attract rain".

The project has been designed to respond to this information, and seeks to move beyond 'Do No Harm' and take steps to improve gender equity. Activities will be respectful of the usual roles taken by women and men, and activities will be targeted to the culturally appropriate member of the household. The locations and timings of activities will be planned to enable men and women to participate. Women will be supported to take decision-making roles in community institutions as well as in patrol units, with the number of participating women set to increase.

A Participatory Rural Appraisal is currently taking place in the project area. It will reveal specific information on gender norms and the results will inform this project's start-up phase and implementation.

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)

FFI has worked in South Sudan since 2010, during the ongoing conflict, and is committed for the long term. This project is expanding, building on important groundwork to establish broader partnerships, identify human needs and biodiversity threats and undertake holistic project design. The envisaged end point is that the government takes responsibility and ownership of all aspects of protected area management and financing, with community-level finance (e.g. saving and lending groups or micro-loan schemes) playing an important role in sustainable use and mitigating human-wildlife conflict. While a distant goal, this project is a catalyst, supporting community members' capacities for conservation and livelihoods development whilst simultaneously addressing the risk of disenfranchised young people returning to conflict. While still refining the protected area management model, in South Sudan the project is still uniquely progressive as elsewhere programming is focused on emergency response[6].

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[6] https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-uk-aid-support-for-south-sudan

FFI is developing exit scenarios for security and financial risks. In all scenarios, capacity building and ownership by local leaders and institutions is critical to enabling work to continue. As such, the inclusion of local staff and partners in this project is fundamental, as a key aspect of the journey is identifying future leaders, especially within civil society.

17a. Harmonisation

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

(Max 200 words)

FFI has worked on protected area and biodiversity management here since 2010. In 2017 FFI seized the opportunity to deepen its community engagement alongside Caritas, spring-boarding from a strong basis with existing partners, and responding to requests. The nature of requests explains the project's timing more than a lack of local development expertise. A clear logic has emerged that addressing wellbeing and livelihoods promotes sustainable natural resource use. A new CBO partner introduced by Caritas is currently producing a community mapping report. This will reveal critical information and shape sustainable development planning, which this proposal seeks to catalyse, alongside advancement of protected area management and monitoring. The project breaks new ground for South Sudan, where philanthropy is focused on emergencies in more distant crisis zones.

The project is informed by community forestry piloting by UNEP in Central Equatoria, and FFI in post-conflict settings globally and similar contexts in Liberia. Communication with WCS to share learnings about conservation and development in eastern South Sudan proves helpful. The project is tracking conservation initiatives in northern DRC through FFI's DRC programme. Northern DRC has much cultural and ecological contiguity with the project site and the exciting possibility of transboundary cooperation will be explored.

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

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

FFI is not aware of any other applications to the Darwin Initiative from South Sudan, nor from bordering areas of DRC or Uganda. However FFI is pleased to share information and collaborate with other relevant grantees, as many of the conservation and development issues noted in this application affect the region more broadly. FFI is not the only conservation NGO in South Sudan, WCS are also present, but is the only international conservation organisation working in the south-western region of the country. Hence FFI fills a very clear niche and collaborates over approaches with the other international conservation NGO (which works in eastern areas of the country) and learns from the extensive experience of development partners such as Caritas and COD.

18. Ethics

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

(Max 300 words)

The project engages communities adjacent to the Game Reserves in collaborative patrolling, by building trust and forming strong relationships. The project site has received little outside influence, and there is a heavy responsibility to avoid creating dependency and to respond to communities' development ideas using a truly bottom-up approach. Community members appreciate that the project incorporates issues they have already raised.

As a founding member of the Conservation Initiative on Human Rights, FFI will ensure the all partners follow the principles of Free, Prior and Informed Consent in interactions with beneficiaries, which is a clearer benchmark than local legislation. Project partners will convene meetings with community members to manage expectations and agree processes and timelines. The project will take an 'opt-in' approach to activities and messaging will be sensitive to issues such as illiteracy and gender norms. Where a decision is made on individuals' involvement, the community will define inclusion criteria.

The project recognises local traditional knowledge and practices, particularly of protected area boundaries and resource rights. The partnership with a South Sudanese NGO ensures norms are respected at every stage, which has already proved beneficial. The right to privacy of all beneficiaries will be respected, as the project will record only information needed for implementation and evaluation, held securely and anonymously where necessary. The project acknowledges that inappropriate data sharing puts individuals and species at risk. Despite the challenging context, the project will follow best practices for credible research that provides accurate new insights into biodiversity and development in South Sudan. The project team will identify opportunities to mentor Wildlife Service personnel to become strong conservation managers.

FFI has strong travel and risk assessment protocols, to be followed throughout. The safety of project personnel is paramount. Communications protocols and adaptive planning will be used if safety situations change.

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 project seeks to raise the awareness of the value of biodiversity and conservation among 3,000 people who will be targeted through communications and training (see indicator 1.2 of the logframe). Community members have expressed their eagerness to respect protected area regulations and maintain peaceful relations with law enforcement agencies. However, the absence of accessible information hampers this, particularly according to the women consulted.

By project end, 75% of the 3,000 people (2,250) will be able to articulate at least five wildlife laws and/or Game Reserve regulations, through clear dissemination of the content of the 2013 Wildlife Conservation and Protected Areas Bill. The full plan for awareness-raising will be finalised alongside the Wildlife Service during project inception, but will additionally include concepts of ecosystem services, the financial benefits of natural heritage and wildlife, and human disease transmission through bushmeat use. The primary method of dissemination will be roadshows in the Zande language across Nzara and Ezo Counties, corresponding to the Game Reserves. These will use project actors such as Community Wildlife Ambassadors, and trusted community representatives such as pastors. Wildlife Service personnel will be limited and will not be in uniform. Radio Yambio can be used to share messages more widely.

Raising awareness of regulations among local people additionally benefits the law enforcement activities within this project, and addresses inconsistencies in government messaging that have confused people. For example, the government declared the sale of bushmeat in markets to be illegal in 2017, yet certain species are not protected by the Wildlife Law, therefore there is no legal basis for this. The project will be able to articulate this to the government and seek clarifications.

FFI will seek to raise awareness about the unique biodiversity value of South Sudan more broadly, primarily through social media, websites and newsletters.

20. Capacity building

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

(Max 300 words)

At an individual level the project will build capacity for three specific functions among local communities: 1) building knowledge of wildlife laws and regulations improves the capacity of men and women to identify and report illegal activities to the authorities, especially around illegal bushmeat use, 2) disseminating information about forests and wildlife enhances understanding of the value of natural heritage for multiple reasons, and 3) enabling local women and men to take roles in conservation management through community institutions increases their capacity to engage and influence decisions about the natural resource base on which they currently depend. Under Output 4, 150 households will have increased capacity to mitigate human-wildlife conflict and meet their basic needs as a result of improved livelihoods. Within COD, FFI will offer mentoring and capacity development support to staff to improve their capacity to lead, plan and manage, which improves the sustainability of project activities.

At an institutional level, with strong reporting to the national level that FFI can facilitate, the government will have greater capacity to progress on needs identified in the 2015 CBD report. This is not through expenditure on government institutional capacity building directly, but derives from continually developing the protected area co-management model with community stakeholders. The Game Reserve patrol units will have improved capacity to monitor and respond to illegal activities through training, the establishment of SOPs, and the increased support for conservation among local communities who we anticipate will become more proactive in sharing information with patrol team members. Game Reserve and Community Managed Area governance structures will enable increased capacity for decision-making through the establishment of regulations, protocols and defined roles and responsibilities.

21. Access to project information
Please describe the project's open access plan and detail any specific funds you are seeking from Darwin to fund this.

(Max 250 words)

Information generated from this project will be freely available online, with approval from relevant project partners and with a caveat that some information may need to be restricted to protect people and species vulnerable to illegal threats. FFI is happy to discuss any such situations with the Darwin Initiative on a case by case basis.

FFI has a dedicated webpage for its South Sudan project[7] which will be updated with information generated throughout this project. FFI is able to host resources here and in the 'documents' section of the FFI website, where project outputs can be shared and tagged as 'open access'.

By feeding information into existing networks groups such as the IUCN Pangolin Specialist Group and the MIKE Programme[8,] the project will enable others with specific interests to be made aware of updates and new information. Outputs will include technical reports or papers on project themes e.g. pangolin trade, communities and health.

As a potential exemplar project, documentation will be a critical part of the project. We will use this information to develop robust case studies and learning materials, to be shared with the Darwin initiative and DEFRA in the UK, DFID in Juba, and FFI's own networks. Through DFID we anticipate learning can be shared within South Sudan and through FFI it will be shared with other programmes in conflict and post-conflict environments. We hope to work with the Darwin Initiative and DEFRA to identify appropriate audiences and communication channels for further dissemination of this unique work.

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[7] https://www.fauna-flora.org/projects/conserving-biodiversity-south-sudan
[8] https://www.cites.org/eng/prog/mike/index.php

Project Monitoring and Evaluation

Measuring Impact

22. Logical Framework

Darwin projects will be required to report against their progress towards their expected Outputs and Outcome if funded. This section sets out the expected Outputs and Outcome 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
Impact: **Integrated conservation and sustainable livelihoods strategies boost protected areas, forest habitats and endangered species, and enhance aspects of wellbeing as a model of engagement with rural communities in South Sudan**			
Outcome: **Integrated conservation and development provide benefits to over 900 direct and 3,000 indirect beneficiaries in South Sudan and protects 430km² of nationally important tropical forest habitat**	0.1 By project end 75% of households in receipt of assets development support report an improvement in their wellbeing in one or more areas of social, natural, physical, human or financial capital, compared to project baseline *(indicator of direct benefit)* 0.2 Following training, 75% of a representative sample of 3,000 people can articulate at least five wildlife laws and GR regulations, compared to pre-training baseline *(indicator of indirect benefit)* 0.3 2 Game Reserves (GRs) are demarcated and 1 Community Managed Area (CMA) is pioneered and has recognised boundaries, regulations and a governance structure by project end *(indicator of protection)*	0.1 Baseline, annual and project end community survey Additional community focus group notes 0.2 Post-training assessment of knowledge uptake 0.3 Documentation of the process from approval to physical demarcation Images of demarcation process Updated maps of the national protected area estate Documentation of the process from FPIC to stakeholder consultation	Conflict in other parts of the country does not spread and cause any movements of people or critical changes within government Government counterparts at county level continue to be supportive of awareness-raising activities outside of the immediate project focus area No undue delays are experienced in the demarcation process, and the government continues to be supportive at community, county, state and national levels No unexpected and new serious threats affect the Game Reserves No large-scale deforestation occurs, such as through corporate actions, forest fires etc. Community actors continue to be supportive of collaboration on patrolling

		meetings to agreement on rules, regulations and zoning Evidence of government support for CMA GIS maps	and wider community engagement by the project
	0.4 By project end there is a reduction in the incidence of illegal activity in 2 GRs, from baseline *(indicator of direct benefit)*	0.4 Patrol-based threat monitoring data from Game Reserves Patrol records	
	0.5 75% of direct beneficiaries report an increased reliance on sustainable livelihoods options between project start and end *(indicator of direct benefit)*	0.5 Baseline, annual and project end community surveys Additional community focus group notes	
	0.6 Forest cover does not decrease in Bire Kpatuos Game Reserve between 2018 and 2021 *(indicator of protection)*	0.6 GIS analysis and mapping	
Outputs: 1. 430km^2 of Game Reserve (GR) and Community Managed Area (CMA) habitat is under stronger conservation management, with local women and men better informed about biodiversity and engaged in decision-making	1.1 Both Game Reserves have clear boundaries, physically demarcated and recognised as part of the national protected area network. Target: first Game Reserve by end of Y2; second Game Reserve by project end 1.2 The proportion of men and women in local communities who are able to articulate at least five relevant wildlife laws and/or Game Reserve regulations. Target: of a trained number of 3,000, 75% are able to articulate by project end 1.3 Two Game Reserves have	1.1 Documentation of the process from approval to physical demarcation Images of demarcation process Updated maps of the national protected area estate GIS maps 1.2 KAP study of stakeholders Documentation of awareness-raising modules, materials, images and videos, focusing on demarcation and wildlife regulations 1.3	No undue delays are experienced in the demarcation process, and the government continues to be supportive at community, county, state and national levels National, state and county level government personnel support and recognise the development of Community Managed Areas No unexpected and new serious threats affect the Game Reserves Government counterparts at county level continue to be supportive of

	agreed SOPs and adaptive management structures in which local men and women are in decision-making roles and relevant agreement(s) are in place by project end (linked to 2.5)	Endorsed financial and technical SOPs for effective and adaptive governance Governance agreements signed by relevant stakeholders	awareness-raising activities outside of the immediate project focus area Conflict in other parts of the country does not spread and cause any critical changes within government Definitive records of the international boundary can be accessed Women's status isn't a barrier to involvement in decision-making
	1.4 At least one Community Managed Area has a governance structure in which local men and women are in decision-making roles, and has proposed boundaries, recognised by local government and with draft zones, rules, regulations and a draft operational management plan by project end	1.4 Documentation of the process from FPIC to stakeholder consultation meetings to agreement on rules, regulations and zoning Evidence of government support GIS maps Draft SOPs for effective operational management and governance of management board Draft management plans discussed by relevant stakeholders Review of sustainable financing options for CMA operations	
2. Collaborative routine and intelligence-led patrols in Game Reserves and community ranger teams in Community Managed Areas are deterring and responding to wildlife crime	2.1 4 Fully trained collaborative patrol units are providing patrol coverage and generating patrol data. Target: 2 Game Reserve patrol units active on 50% of available patrol days by end of Y1; 2 further units by project end. 2 CMA ranger units active on 25% of available patrol days by project end 2.2 Collaborative patrol and monitoring units are composed of diverse members. Target: 50 individuals of whom at	2.1 Patrol-based biodiversity and threat monitoring data from Game Reserves and CMA Patrol records, maps and records of meetings and decisions Records of patrol group operations and attendance 2.2 Records and images of patrol group registers and routine planning documents	Conflict in other parts of the country does not spread and cause any critical changes within government Community actors continue to be supportive of collaboration on patrolling and wider community engagement by the project Women and youth are willing to be trained for patrols, and receive recognition from existing patrol team members Information on wildlife trade and crime is willingly shared by community-level

	least 10% are women and 50% are under age of 25, by project end		actors and external actors e.g. county town markets
	2.3 Collaborative patrol units for the Game Reserves and community ranger units for the Community Managed Areas are following established and agreed Standard Operating Procedures. Target: 2 patrol units (50%) following SOPs by end of Y1; 2 further patrol units (total 100%) by project end; 2 community ranger units following SOPs by project end	2.3 SOP documents and collaborative agreements signed by relevant stakeholders	SOPs are agreed by key stakeholders with no untimely delays Co-management patrolling model continues to be the most appropriate method for protected area management, and continues to carry low financial risk and exposure
	2.4 Data are available and shared with government and civil society partners (South Sudan government, TRAFFIC, IUCN Pangolin Specialist Group) on community involvement in and market mapping of wildlife trade in target species originating from target area encompassing Community Managed Areas and Game Reserves. Target: Preliminary data available by end of Y2; final data available and sharing complete by project end	2.4 Report on extent of sourcing of wildlife and products for the domestic and international wildlife trade Evidence of collaboration with wildlife trade partners over new data, and contribution to data repositories	
	2.5 Information on wildlife crime from community members informs patrolling effort and increases threat detection. Target: at least one report per month is made on average to a	2.5 Database of community-derived information on wildlife crime Meeting minutes/email correspondence regarding the sharing of wildlife crime data	

	patrol team member, and all reports are logged and shared with national and international partners between end of Y1 and project end	Evidence of population of national platforms with biodiversity information	
3. Livelihoods activities appropriate to existing local norms and constraints to wellbeing are strengthening the assets of 900 people (150 households) against external shocks	3.1 Information on cultural and non-cultural practices of communities around hunting and natural resource use, and the gendered division of labour, is available by end of Y1 3.2 By the end of Y2, 150 households have plans in place to mitigate wildlife impact on household assets 3.3 75% of households with a wildlife impact mitigation plan report a decrease in the number of incidents by project end 3.4 By end of Y2, 150 households are engaged in assets development strategies (e.g. agriculture or animal husbandry) according to the results of 3.1. 3.5 By project end 75% of households in receipt of assets development support report a positive change in wellbeing	3.1 Socio-economic baseline survey Records of community meetings focusing on natural resource use 3.2 Agreed conflict mitigation plans Evidence of human-wildlife conflict Annual household/community surveys and focus group notes 3.3 Annual household/community surveys and focus group notes 3.4 Annual household level/community surveys 3.5 Annual household level/community surveys	Conflict in other parts of the country does not spread and cause any movements of people Tools and materials necessary for mitigating wildlife damage are locally available Tools, materials and expertise necessary for piloting livelihoods and agricultural activities are locally available Community actors continue to be supportive of collaboration on patrolling and wider community engagement by the project Women and youth are willing to engage in assets development strategies

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)

Output 1: 430km² of Game Reserve (GR) and Community Managed Area (CMA) habitat is under stronger conservation management, with local women and men better informed about biodiversity and engaged in decision-making

1.1   Undertake stakeholder mapping exercise to identify all key stakeholders (and their roles) to be involved in demarcation roadmap

1.2   Socialise process with stakeholders and securing of government backing at relevant levels

1.3   Gather evidence of historical boundary information including discrepancies in the literature and clarity on land tenure and any customary rights

1.4   Undertake ground-truthing and mapping exercise and present information to decision-makers

1.5   Facilitate discussions on and resolve boundary conflicts and other issues

1.6   Identify appropriate physical demarcation materials and methods (track cutting, signboards etc.) and conduct demarcation exercise alongside stakeholders

1.7   Produce maps and clear information on demarcated sites to inform the national protected area estate

1.8   Review government wildlife legislation (draft and final), and clauses/loopholes, to understand up-to-date national policies on wildlife management

1.9   Assess stakeholder (government and community) attitudes and knowledge of conservation and protected areas through a KAP survey

1.10   Design content and appropriate channels (e.g. Yambio FM) for dissemination of conservation messaging, drawing on existing stakeholder knowledge, relevant cultural values and known information about ecosystems and wildlife (also linked with Activity 3.7 and Farmer Field School messaging)

1.11   Assess take-up of conservation messaging through follow up KAP survey

1.12   Identify legislative needs/barriers to enable governance agreements for Game Reserves to be created and implemented

1.13   Seek exemplars of governance agreement to learn from nationally/regionally, especially with regard to sustainability planning

1.14   Discuss and agree on governance structures, roles, responsibilities and SOPs

1.15   Facilitate and socialise governance agreements and relevant approvals/endorsements

1.16   Identify legislative needs/barriers to enable Community Managed Areas (CMAs) to be developed and supported

1.17   Follow FPIC principles to determine approach to develop CMA as buffer zone at one GR and establish draft structure, roles, activity zoning, regulations and management plan/SOPs

1.18   Consider options for sustainably financing CMA operations following establishment and discuss with community actors and CBO partners

1.19   Facilitate evidence of government support for CMA establishment

1.20   Develop GIS materials to document progress with CMA development

Output 2: Collaborative routine and intelligence-led patrols in Game Reserves and community ranger teams in Community Managed Areas are deterring and responding to wildlife crime

2.1 Engage the Wildlife Service to increase the patrol intensity in two Game Reserves, through structure of patrol teams (Biodiversity Data Collection and Law Enforcement teams) and design of routes, including option for night time patrol work (flexible to security situation)

2.2	Identify trained Wildlife Service rangers and Community Wildlife Ambassadors to join increased frequency of patrols in two Game Reserves
2.3	Equip all patrol teams with adequate provisions, kit, health and safety equipment and patrol gear
2.4	Ensure logistics and project operations (vehicles, communications, personnel) are in place to support patrol activities
2.5	Roll out patrol SOPs for a) biodiversity data collection and b) law enforcement and ensure a rigorous system of data collection, collation in a centralised location and system for continual feedback to patrol team members to improve understanding of how data collection is linked to patrol planning
2.6	Use digital records of patrol findings to adaptively manage patrol routes
2.7	Mentor Wildlife Service personnel at state level to increase capacity for data management and analysis
2.8	Liaise with key actors, such as WCS, the Ministry of Wildlife Conservation and Tourism and the MIKE Programme to share information sensitively on species monitoring, to add to repositories and inform tracking of trends
2.9	Identify trained Community Wildlife Ambassadors, including previously trained women, to initiate patrols in proposed CMA area around the Game Reserve
2.10	Train additional CWA patrol team members if needed, with a focus on increasing participation and youth
2.11	Initiate system of data collection and facilitate agreement on SOPs for CMA patrols
2.12	Review literature, data gaps and successful models of community-level illegal wildlife trade tracking prior to initiating discussion with community leaders (2.13)
2.13	Discuss with community leaders on an informal system for collection of information about community involvement in wildlife trade, linked to governance structures for both GRs and CMA and issues emerging as a result of Activity 3.1
2.14	Centralise both qualitative and quantitative information and review data to inform patrol routes (linked with Activity 2.6)
2.15	Share findings sensitively and periodically with government and local and international civil society partners to inform increasing body of knowledge on IWT especially from under-studied areas
2.16	Provide advice to government counterparts on the protocols for handling confiscated meat, in line with national wildlife regulations

Output 3: Livelihoods activities appropriate to existing local norms and constraints to wellbeing are strengthening the assets of 900 people (150 households) against external shocks

3.1	Finalise socio-economic baseline design with local partners, building on existing knowledge of communities
3.2	Undertake socio-economic baseline assessment at the household level focusing on key themes of human-wildlife conflict, natural resource use, specifically hunting, cultural practices, market access and youth and male/female dynamics
3.3	Research human-wildlife conflict mitigation methods involving identified problem species to assess successful/non-successful methods
3.4	Work with individual households to decide practical plans and provide equipment and advice to tackle impact of wildlife on household assets
3.5	Advise government counterparts on developing clear regulations for mitigating and compensating for human-wildlife conflict
3.6	Monitor impact of human-wildlife conflict mitigation on household assets and wellbeing
3.7	Support households to develop assets development strategies based on results of PRA and socio-economic baseline surveys (*note that if improvements to agricultural practices are noted as a key priority, the Farmer Field School model will be adopted, which will be able to incorporate environmental awareness raising

	and take-up of wildlife friendly practices – also linked to Activity 1.10 on channels for conservation messaging)
3.8	Monitor impact of assets development support on household and community assets and wellbeing

23. 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 (starting from Q2 July 2018)

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 Q2	Q3	Q4	Year 2 Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Year 3 Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Output 1: 430km² of Game Reserve (GR) and Community Managed Area (CMA) habitat is under stronger conservation management, with local women and men better informed about biodiversity and engaged in decision-making												
1.1 Undertake stakeholder mapping exercise to identify all key stakeholders (and their roles) to be involved in demarcation roadmap	1	▓										
1.2 Socialise process with stakeholders and securing of government backing at relevant levels	2	▓										
1.3 Gather evidence of historical boundary information including discrepancies in the literature and clarity on land tenure and any customary rights	1	▓										
1.4 Undertake ground-truthing and mapping exercise and present information to decision-makers	3	▓	▓									
1.5 Facilitate discussions on and resolve boundary conflicts and other issues	6		▓	▓								
1.6 Identify appropriate physical demarcation materials and methods (track cutting, signboards etc.) and conduct demarcation exercise alongside stakeholders	2			▓								
1.7 Produce maps and clear information on demarcated sites to inform the national protected area estate	2				▓							
1.8 Review government wildlife legislation (draft and final), and clauses/loopholes, to understand up-to-date national policies on wildlife management	2		▓									
1.9 Assess stakeholder (government and community) attitudes and knowledge of conservation and protected areas through a KAP survey	2		▓									
1.10 Design content and appropriate channels (e.g. Yambio FM) for dissemination of conservation messaging, drawing on existing stakeholder knowledge, relevant cultural values and known information about ecosystems and wildlife (also linked with Activity 3.7 and Farmer Field School messaging)	4		▓	▓								
1.11 Assess take-up of conservation messaging through follow up KAP survey	2				▓							
1.12 Identify legislative needs/barriers to enable governance agreements for Game Reserves to be created and implemented	2					▓						
1.13 Seek exemplars of governance agreement to learn from nationally/regionally,	4					▓	▓					

especially with regard to sustainability planning

Activity	
1.14 Discuss and agree on governance structures, roles, responsibilities and SOPs	6
1.15 Facilitate and socialise governance agreements and relevant approvals/endorsements	4
1.16 Identify legislative needs/barriers to enable Community Managed Areas (CMAs) to be developed and supported	3
1.17 Follow FPIC principles to determine approach to develop CMA as buffer zone to one GR and establish draft structure, roles, activity zoning, regulations and management plan/SOPs	9
1.18 Consider options for sustainably financing CMA operations following establishment and discuss with community actors and CBO partners	4
1.19 Facilitate evidence of government support for CMA establishment	6
1.20 Develop GIS materials to document progress with CMA development	3

Output 2: Collaborative routine and intelligence-led patrols in Game Reserves and community ranger teams in Community Managed Areas are deterring and responding to wildlife crime

Activity	
2.1 Engage the Wildlife Service to increase the patrol intensity in two Game Reserves, through structure of patrol teams (Biodiversity Data Collection and Law Enforcement teams) and design of routes, including option for night time patrol work (flexible to security situation)	6
2.2 Identify trained Wildlife Service rangers and Community Wildlife Ambassadors to join increased frequency of patrols in two Game Reserves	6
2.3 Equip all patrol teams with adequate provisions, kit, health and safety equipment and patrol gear	3
2.4 Ensure logistics and project operations (vehicles, communications, personnel) are in place to support patrol activities	33
2.5 Roll out patrol SOPs for a) biodiversity data collection and b) law enforcement and ensure a rigorous system of data collection, collation in a centralised location and system for continual feedback to patrol team members to improve understanding of how data collection is linked to patrol planning	33
2.6 Use digital records of patrol findings to adaptively manage patrol routes	33
2.7 Mentor Wildlife Service personnel at state level to increase capacity for data management and analysis	3
2.8 Liaise with key actors, such as WCS, the Ministry of Wildlife Conservation and Tourism and the MIKE Programme to share information sensitively on species	3

Activity	Mo.	Timeline
monitoring, to add to repositories and inform tracking of trends		▓ ... ▓ ... ▓
2.9 Identify trained Community Wildlife Ambassadors, including previously trained women, to initiate patrols in proposed CMA area around the Game Reserve	3	▓
2.10 Train additional CWA patrol team members if needed, with a focus on increasing participation and youth	4	▓▓
2.11 Initiate system of data collection and facilitate agreement on SOPs for CMA patrols	4	▓▓
2.12 Review literature, data gaps and successful models of community-level illegal wildlife trade tracking prior to initiating discussion with community leaders (2.13)	6	▓▓▓
2.13 Discuss with community leaders on an informal system for collection of information about community involvement in wildlife trade, linked to governance structures for both GRs and CMA and issues emerging as a result of Activity 3.1	6	▓▓
2.14 Centralise both qualitative and quantitative information and review data to inform patrol routes (linked with Activity 2.6)	33	▓▓▓▓▓▓▓▓
2.15 Share findings sensitively and periodically with government and local and international civil society partners to inform increasing body of knowledge on IWT especially from under-studied areas	3	▓ ... ▓ ... ▓
2.16 Provide advice to government counterparts on the protocols for handling confiscated meat, in line with national wildlife regulations	4	▓▓

Output 3: Livelihoods activities appropriate to existing local norms and constraints to wellbeing are strengthening the assets of 900 people (150 households) against external shocks

Activity	Mo.	Timeline
3.1 Finalise socio-economic baseline design with local partners, building on existing knowledge of communities	3	▓
3.2 Undertake socio-economic baseline assessment at the household level focusing on key themes of human-wildlife conflict, natural resource use, specifically hunting, cultural practices, market access and youth and male/female dynamics	3	▓
3.3 Research human-wildlife conflict mitigation methods involving identified problem species to assess successful/non-successful methods	3	▓
3.4 Work with individual households to decide practical plans and provide equipment and advice to tackle impact of wildlife on household assets	3	▓
3.5 Advise government counterparts on developing clear regulations for mitigating and compensating for human-wildlife conflict	6	▓▓
3.6 Monitor impact of human-wildlife conflict mitigation on household assets and wellbeing	3	▓

3.7 Support households to develop assets development strategies based on results of PRA and socio-economic baseline surveys	18			░	░	░	░	░	░					
3.8 Monitor impact of assets development support on household and community assets and wellbeing	3						░				░			

24. 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)

Project Monitoring and Evaluation will be led by FFI, drawing on expertise from all project partners, with monitoring data centralised and collated for accuracy. Output-level monitoring of project implementation, activities completed and the success of various approaches will be monitored by the relevant expert partner, and all information will be coordinated by FFI who will retain full oversight. Regular coordination meetings with partners will enable adaptive management.

Baseline studies will be overseen by FFI. Household-level work will be carried out by COD, and Bucknell University will advise on monitoring methods both for the tightening of SOPs in Output 2 and elements of the socio-economic surveys, particularly with regard to human-wildlife conflict and the relationship between animals and human use. Caritas will offer advice on livelihoods research. Methods will be as simple and replicable as possible to enable the research to be repeated in future with minimal external input. FFI's GIS function expertise will aid analysis of forest degradation and deforestation over time.

Given the multiple dimensions of poverty in South Sudan, this project will concentrate on strengthening household assets in line with the DFID Sustainable Livelihoods Framework[9] to boost resilience. In addition to the five asset types, we also expect the social impacts of the project to move beyond wellbeing to include collaborative management that improves recognition of local people and procedures (i.e. transparency, accountability and effective participation). In so doing this project supports Aichi Target 11 that calls for "equitable management" of protected areas.

The monitoring approach will capture multiple wellbeing impacts, e.g. positive changes to nutritional and health status because of reduced crop loss and improved, diversified yields (human assets); greater empowerment through involvement in decision-making (social assets), and, for some, revenue from produce sales (financial assets). The additional indirect social impacts will be identified through meetings and group discussions, which will also enable us to identify any unforeseen negative impacts alongside the positive.

Yambio is a remote location and conflict-affected, hence communications infrastructure is poor. While some information will be transferred by internet, we will keep back-up records in the field and transport them to Juba and internationally for wider sharing.

Enabling others to continue monitoring the Game Reserves and Community Managed Area is a core part of the project, with *'increase in the quality and frequency of biodiversity data from 2 GRs, from baseline'* being an outcome indicator. Patrol members will be trained in data collection methods and SOPs will be established to improve the reliability of data gathered, with key individuals supported to use and interpret data to improve protection of the Reserves. Data will be shared with the South Sudan government (who will be mentored to improve capacity for data management) and also stakeholders including TRAFFIC and IUCN Pangolin Specialist Group.

FFI has additional links to DFID in Juba, who have expressed an interest in using this project as a case study for recovery programming as they seek to move past humanitarian response. FFI will share project information with them throughout.

Number of days planned for M&E	39 in specialist time with additional benefit within Project Leader's oversight function and support days from partner personnel in

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[9] https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/57a089ef40f0b64974000324/SLRC-WP22.pdf

	Yambio.
Total project budget for M&E	GBP 19,766
Percentage of total project budget set aside for M&E	6%

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 and Illegal Wildlife Trade Challenge Fund' document and considered the implications of payment points for cashflow purposes.

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

25. 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)

The project will engage diverse expertise in research techniques, livelihoods development, biodiversity conservation, and knowledge of South Sudan from multiple perspectives. Internal FFI technical cross-cutting support saves significantly compared to using consultants. This project additionally benefits from in-kind inputs, including a relationship with the Juba University College of Natural Resources and Nicolas Tubbs, Senior Programme Manager for FFI Eastern Africa.

FFI will not install internet due to high costs, but will utilise connections including the Caritas office, for which a small amount is budgeted as a contribution. Field communications rely on mobile and satellite phones, and accommodation is in a secure living/working space in Yambio and low-cost bush camping. Two FFI vehicles are available, although require regular maintenance due to challenging conditions, and other operational arrangements are functioning. Budget lines such as for demarcation meetings and ground travel reflect the need for regular community engagement to achieve goals.

Yambio-Juba travel takes the cheapest and safest route, namely the UN Humanitarian Air Service. Commercial airlines are cheaper but have poorer safety records. Road travel between Yambio and Juba is not possible due to insecurity closer to the capital, although for large transfers of equipment (not anticipated) UN convoys are optional. The Ministry is headquartered in Juba, where FFI has a small presence, however other partners are based in or travel regularly to Yambio, permitting frequent contact. Additional international travel will be requested from unsecured funds, with cost-effective missions carefully planned to deliver on multiple goals.

The request has increased by GBP 24,790 (7%) between Stages 1 and 2, which reflects necessary inputs to the M&E component, supported by experts in monitoring and social approaches. The permitted amount of £1,500 for audit costs is insufficient to cover the cost with FFI's approved auditor. However, FFI's institutional audit will absorb the additional cost.

26. 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)

Two laptops will be purchased for project personnel, budgeted at £750 each. Despite some field exposure, these should last until beyond the project's lifetime. It is expected that one laptop will be used by the Project Leader, which has direct association with project leadership and planning for post-Darwin, and one will be used more directly in-country to handle field information, data and plans. This can be passed to a partner at project end, likely the Wildlife

Service at state level, which will be very suitable especially if capacity for data management and work planning has been built through informal mentoring. COD will purchase three power saws at USD 2,000 (GBP 1,550) each, used for livelihoods strategies such as construction of livestock enclosures and secure food stores to prevent post-harvest losses.

27. 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:

1) US Fish and Wildlife Service Great Apes Fund. FFI has received a sub-grant of a Bucknell University award to be expended before the end of 2019. FFI's sub-grant totals USD XX,XXX of a total award of USD XX,XXX.
2) Halcyon Land & Sea has been a long-term funder of FFI's work in South Sudan and has committed USD XXX,XXX per year in 2017 and 2018 with USD XX,XXX per year previously. Pipeline funds have been ring-fenced for this project for beyond 2019. This is not fully confirmed as the funding is approved in annual tranches, and if the security situation deteriorates the donor may withhold funding until operations are viable once more. The funding is therefore considered as confirmed for this project with the assumption that operations will remain viable, as they have done since 2010, in what is the most stable region of South Sudan.
3) The CITES MIKES MERM initiative has awarded USD XX,XXX to FFI for 2018, most of which will be spent on ranger post re-establishment in early 2018, but a small amount is included as co-finance as it is planned to be spent after the Darwin project launch date.
4) Caritas and Bucknell University have their own sources of funding to cover in-kind the time of expert advisors Dr DeeAnn Reeder and Matthias Fettback, both budgeted in overall project costs. Matthias is based in Yambio half of the year timed with the key agricultural seasons, and DeeAnn is currently on sabbatical from her teaching responsibilities (until end of 2019) and will be significantly supporting this project pro bono.

27b) 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

27c) None

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

(max 100 words)

FFI does intend to seek additional funding as the budget displays a small gap between costs and secured funds. There are no pending applications to enter the details above, but FFI and partners will be applying in 2018 to Elephant Crisis Fund for biodiversity protection costs. This funder awarded the programme previously and has expressed interest in repeat support. Additional funding opportunities for livelihoods activities will be identified following the socio-economic survey when the detailed needs are confirmed. Based on the exciting context and

FFI's deep experience in fundraising, FFI and partners are confident that these funds will be secured.

28) Financial Management Risks

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

(max 200 words)

FFI has a zero-tolerance approach to bribery and is fully compliant with the UK Bribery Act (2010). All funds will be managed through FFI and partners Caritas and COD. Funds transferred to partners will be governed by sub-grantee agreements and reported through quarterly expenditure reports, verified by original documentation and approved against pre-agreed budgets. Streamlining of financial management across all partners will be instituted at inception. FFI will request that partners report financially using the FFI approach: via a field cashbook.

The South Sudanese Pound (SSP) is extremely volatile and exchange rates are a risk to project funds. This project will adopt the procedures used by FFI in South Sudan to transfer GBP to USD, widely accepted in South Sudan. USD is the primary project currency, and cash is exchanged into SSP as needed according to the prevailing rate.

FFI recognises the risk of patrol funds being mismanaged, raised by the FCO. Our experience is that this risk has never yet occurred as the co-management structure creates accountability, and our financial controls are tight. However if this concern is shared by Darwin Initiative, FFI will use DI funds only for community patrol members and seek alternative funds for government.

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)

Certification

On behalf of the trustees of   Fauna & Flora International

I apply for a grant of £356,076   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 last two sets of signed audited/independently verified accounts and annual reports

Name (block capitals)	Joanna Elliott
Position in the organisation	Senior Director, Conservation Partnerships

Signed**		Date:	29/01/2018

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 6 and Question 10?	Yes
Have you included a **letter of support from your <u>key</u> 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 29 January 2018 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 - Fair Processing Notice

The purpose of this Fair Processing Notice is to inform you of the use that will be made of your personal data, as required by the Data Protection Act 1998.

The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) is the data controller in respect of any personal data that you provide when you complete your application, the grant acceptance and the supplier forms.

Defra will use your personal data primarily for the purpose of processing your application for Darwin Initiative funding. By submitting an application, applicants have agreed to any disclosure of the information supplied (including the content of a declaration or undertaking) which Defra considers necessary for the administration, evaluation, monitoring and publicising of the Funds (as detailed in the paragraphs below).

A completed application form signifies agreement to place certain details of successful applications (i.e. name, title, total grant value, project summary, lead organisation and location of project work) on the Darwin Initiative websites listed below. A completed application form also signifies agreement to send data on the project proposals during the application process to British Embassies and High Commissions outside the UK, including those outside the European Economic Area.

http://www.darwininitiative.org.uk;

https://www.gov.uk/government/groups/the-darwin-initiative;

Application form data will also be processed by Defra contractors dealing with Darwin Initiative administration, monitoring and evaluation (working within relevant data protection rules).

Defra may be required to release information, including personal data and commercial information, on request under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 or the Freedom of Information Act 2000. However, Defra will not permit any unwarranted breach of confidentiality nor will we act in contravention of our obligations under the Data Protection Act 1998. The Grantee shall assist and co-operate with the Department (at the Grantee's expense) to enable the Department to comply with its disclosure obligations under these enactments.

We may use information, including personal data, to test computer systems to ensure that they work effectively and efficiently and to develop new systems in order to improve efficiency and the service that we provide to you and other persons. Any use of information for testing or developing computerised systems will be conducted in a secure manner in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998 to safeguard the privacy of the information that you have supplied.

Defra's Personal Information Charter, which gives details of your rights in respect of the handling of your personal data, is on the Defra section of Gov.uk. If you don't have access to the internet, please telephone the Defra helpline 08459 33 55 77 and ask to speak to the Data Protection Officer for a copy of the Information Charter.