Funded by UK Government

Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs

Submit by 2359 GMT on Monday 29 January 2018

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:	International Tree Foundation
Address:	Mayfield House, 256 Banbury Road
City and Postcode:	Oxford, OX2 7DE
Country:	United Kingdom
Email:	
Phone:	

2. Stage 1 reference and Project title

Stage 1 Ref: 4263	**Title (max 10 words):** Landscapes and Livelihoods: Participatory Restoration of the Mt Bamboutos Ecosystem

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)

Working with nine villages on the degraded Bamboutos mountain, we will commence re-establishment of key biodiversity habitat and catchment areas through community-led forest restoration.

Increasing tree cover on farms through agroforestry and the development of tree-based value chains will improve food security and income for poor mountain communities, leading to improved livelihoods, as well as biodiversity.

We will engage local, regional and national stakeholders in participatory planning to agree on a process for the long term conservation of the ecosystem.

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: CAMEROON	**Country 2:**
Country 3:	**Country 4:**

5. Project dates, and budget summary

Start date: 01/07/2018		End date: 31/03/2021		Duration: 2 years 9 months
Darwin funding request (Apr – Mar)	**2018/19 £81,266**	**2019/20 £84,961**	**2020/21 £82,442**	**Total £248,668**

Proposed (confirmed & unconfirmed) matched funding as % of total Project cost	34%

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	Laird	Nkembi	Yenshu
Forename (s)	Paul	Louis	Emmanuel
Post held	Programmes Manager	Chief Executive Officer	Professor of Sociology and Anthropology, Vice Dean
Organisation (if different to above)		The Environment and Rural Development Foundation (ERuDeF)	University of Buea
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

8a. If you answered 'No' to Question 7 please complete Question 8a, b and c.
If you answered 'Yes', please go to Question 9 (and delete the boxes for Q8a, 8b and 8c)

What year was your organisation established/ incorporated/ registered?	Established in 1922, registered in 1924 (as 'Men of the trees') and incorporated in 1992 as International Tree Foundation.
What is the legal status of your organisation?	NGO
How is your organisation currently funded? (Max 100 words)	ITF is funded through diverse channels including individuals, trusts and foundations and corporates. We have an ethical and environmental policy which governs which organisations we accept funding from.
	In the financial year ending September 2016, total income was £394,970, and was split between individual donations and membership fees (32%), grants (46%), corporate partnerships (21%) and other (1%).
	Current and recent funders include the Big Lottery Fund, Wessanen UK, Mars Incorporated, The Henry C. Hoare Charitable Trust, Ernest Cook Trust, TreeSisters and the United Bank of Carbon.
Have you provided the requested	Yes

signed audited/independently examined accounts?	* In 2017, we changed our end of financial year. Therefore, we have also included our most recent set of management accounts.

8b. Do not complete if you answered 'Yes' to Question 7.

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

1. Title	Trees 4 Livelihoods
Value	£475,702
Duration	July 2013 – Dec 2017
Role of organisation in project	Project Leader and Grant Manager
Brief summary of the aims, objectives and outcomes of the contract/award.	Trees 4 Livelihoods was a four year community-led programme of activities at village, commune, district and regional levels in the Mopti District in Mali. It aimed to increase food security, reduce poverty and build resilience to climatic shocks and long term climate change by strengthening local skills and capacity to manage agricultural land and forest resources more sustainably and productively. Working with local partner Sahel Eco, by the end of year 4 - and despite signifcant external constraints imposed by security issues – many of the targets and objectives had been accomplished and often exceeded with significant progress made towards realisation of the project outcomes. Some of the most significant achievements were: • 9,975 community members trained in sustainable land management practices including farmer-managed natural regeneration (FMNR), zai, composting, earth bunds, stone lines and methods of Stiga control. • 76.4% of trained farmers adopted FMNR, zai and earth bunds. • 62% increase in crop yields where FMNR and Zai are practiced together. • 695 women organised into 33 non-timber forest product (NTFP) groups and trained in processing and marketing their products. • 487 women (70% of total) increased their income through selling NTFPs worth more than 2,119,120 FCFA (soaps, jams and juices derived from NTFP species including Balanites, Ziziphus, and Adansonia). • 73% of women members of the NTFP groups were able to demonstrate improved management of natural resources. • 3 NTFP shops installed in local towns to facilitate the flow of products. • 5 conservation gardens established by women in project villages, to ensure conservation of valued NTFP and fruit species. • 271 vulnerable people gained access to land for cultivation. Trees 4 Livelihoods was shortlisted for the Lush Spring Prize "Established Projects" award in 2017[1].
Client/**independent** reference contact details (Name, e-	Karen Stephenson, Funding Officer (Investment) _____

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[1] http://springprize.org/search-filter-projects/?fwp_project_country=united-kindgom

mail, address, phone number).	Big Lottery Fund, Apex House, 3 Embassy Drive, Edgbaston, Birmingham, B15 1TR

2. Title	20 Million Trees for Kenya's Forests
Value	£180,000
Duration	2016 – 2019
Role of organisation in project	Project owner. Design and implementation, stakeholder engagement, partnership management, grant manager, M&E
Brief summary of the aims, objectives and outcomes of the contract/award.	20 Million Trees for Kenya's Forests is ITF's Centenary Campaign, running from 2016 – 2024. The programme aims to restore areas within Kenya's five water catchment forests and surrounding areas: Mount Kenya Forest, the Aberdares, the Mau complex, Mount Elgon and the Cherangani Hills. The overall aims of the campaign are: 1) Significant contribution made to Kenya's national target of increased forest cover and its land-use and forestry commitments by afforestation of approximately 6,000 hectares (as part of the national target of 5.1 million hectares). 2) Improved water catchment function in reforested areas contributing to improved water flow in downstream rivers. 3) Improved livelihoods for at least 50,000 households through direct participation in the programme, and enhanced agroforestry in forest adjacent communities. 4) Contribution made to enhancing local participation and local governance in the conservation of Kenya's forests through education, enhanced capacity and ownership at local level, sharing of lessons, and communicating results. TreeSisters are a key funder of reforestation activities in the first phase of the project which focusses on Mount Kenya. Working with community-based organisations (CBOs), ITF is restoring deforested areas of Mount Kenya Forest with native tree species. The project has a strong focus on community-led development, and has involved over 600 community members in tree nursery establishment and tree planting, over 80% of them women. To date, a total of 225,500 trees have been planted through the TreeSisters grant, restoring native forest at three sites. ITF provides capacity building support to two local CBO partners, has set up the monitoring and evaluation framework and strong governance structures to ensure buy-in from local and national stakeholders. ITF has formed an advisory group bringing together national ministries (Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources, Kenya Forest Service, Kenya Wildlife Service), NGOs (Botanic Gardens Conservation International, Kenya Forestry Research Institute, Kenya Forest Working Group, Green Belt Movement, East African Wildlife Society) and CBO partners (Mount Kenya Environmental Conservation, Mount Kenya Trust) to steer activities and programme developments.
Client/**independent**	Lauriane Cayet-Boisrobert, Reforestation Director

reference contact details	

3. Title	Sustainable Community Forestry Programme
Value	£60,000
Duration	2016-2019
Role of organisation in project	Grant Manager.
Brief summary of the aims, objectives and outcomes of the contract/award.	The Sustainable Community Forestry Programme is ITF's in-house grant giving programme.
	The Sustainable Community Forestry Programme is ITF's in-house grant giving programme. It provides funding to CBOs to deliver community-level participatory projects that conserve and restore local forest resources and associated biodiversity, improve local livelihoods through sustainable use of trees and related income generation, and increase resilience to climate change.
	Key to ITF's approach is building the capacity of grassroots CBOs to increase their impact. We support the preservation of indigenous knowledge and the planting of native tree species. We have supported a number of small CBOs to improve project planning and management, some of which have gone on to become long-term partners for larger-scale projects. We have recently reviewed and strengthened our due diligence process. Over the last 5 years, we have supported 42 CBOs across Africa.
Client/**independent** reference contact details	

8c. Do not complete if you answered 'Yes' to Question 7.

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

Aims (50 words)
ITF works with local communities in Africa and the UK to carry out sustainable community forestry and agroforestry projects. Our work aims to regenerate and cultivate trees and forests to conserve habitats rich in biodiversity, strengthen ecological functions, and enhance human well-being.

Activities (50 words)
ITF supports CBOs in Africa to restore forests and improve livelihoods through capacity building and small grant giving programmes. We also work with larger NGO partners to deliver high-impact land restoration, governance and livelihood programmes.
In the UK, our education programmes raise awareness about importance of trees.

Achievements (50 words)
In 2017, our projects restored 1,956 hectares of land through agroforestry, FMNR, native tree planting and zai pits; increased yields for 2,966 households and grew 486,524 trees.

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:	Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to lead the project): (max 200 words)
International Tree Foundation www.internationaltreefoundation.org	**Role** ITF and ERuDeF first partnered in 2005, and have developed the 'Mount Bamboutos Initiative' together. ITF will ensure effective project management, and will provide strategic guidance on programme planning and reporting, ensuring accountability for Darwin funding. The Programmes Manager will develop a rigorous MEL framework in collaboration with ERuDeF staff to ensure high quality monitoring, evaluation and learning. ITF will support capacity building in this area for ERuDeF and local communities. ITF will also provide technical input into designing baseline studies, agroforestry, NTFP and income generation outputs. These are areas ITF and partners have worked on for over 10 years. **Capacity to lead** ITF has designed, managed and implemented similar projects in partnership with NGO partners in Africa and the UK. ITF will coordinate an Advisory Panel bringing together in-country and international scientific, social, gender, economic and technical expertise. Members will provide advice, and where appropriate, take part in planning/evaluation missions. ITF is an AFR100 Technical Advisor, a CSO with accredited status with the Conference of the Parties to the UNCCD, a Friend of the Alliance for Food Sovereignty in Africa, a Member of the GEF-CSO Network and Member of the Environmental Funders Network.

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)
The Environment and Rural Development Foundation (ERuDeF) www.erudef.org	**Role** ERuDeF will be the principal in country project manager. They will be responsible for coordination at community, non-governmental and ministerial levels. They will also be responsible for reporting on and communicating project activities at the local and National level. **Capacity to engage** ERuDeF is the leading Cameroonian conservation organisation, founded in 1999. ERuDeF's mission is to conserve biodiversity and restore fragile environments through research, training, education and community engagement. ERuDeF has 18 years of expertise in biodiversity conservation; landscape restoration; agroforestry and agricultural development; sustainable forest management; livelihood and economic development, and conservation finance. For the last 10 years, ERuDeF has developed agroforestry and restored degraded landscapes in Cameroon, improving livelihoods and reversing agricultural land degradation.

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

Partner Name and website where available: University of Buea http://www.ubuea.cm/	Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): (max 200 words) **Role** University of Buea will represent the fledgling Cameroon Mountain Universities Network – CaMUN - (in creation, bringing together regional Universities and researchers), and will lead on the research components of this project, including supporting the design of baseline studies, and publishing case studies. University of Buea will be responsible for coordinating the CaMUN and will be the main interlocutor for this project. **Capacity to engage** University of Buea, and by extension the CaMUN, is made up of renowned researchers specialised in forestry, restoration, ecology, agronomy, social sciences, biodiversity, governance, agroforestry and conservation finance. Their expertise expands over several decades in Cameroon and abroad. CaMUN is a collective of universities and research institutions, whose function is to conduct research on Cameroonian mountain ecosystems in order to support their sustainable management.
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*?
Paul Laird	Programme Manager	ITF	15%	Yes
Andy Egan	Chief Executive	ITF	6%	Yes
Louis Nkembi	Chief Executive/ Project Director	ERuDeF	8.75%	Yes
Ursula Nkeng	Chief Finance Officer	ERuDeF	7.75%	Yes
Asabaimbi Deh Nji	Project Manager	ERuDeF	100%	Yes
Marquise Prudence Payong Tionou	Agroforestry Expert	ERuDeF	11.75%	Yes
Junie Tchamdjou	Tree-based value chain Development Officer	ERuDeF	8.75%	Yes
Bertrand Sanchou Ndimuh	Communication Manager	ERuDeF	8.75%	Yes
Eugene Alontsi Dongmo	GIS Expert	ERuDeF	9.75%	Yes
Emmanuel Yenshu	Research Coordinator	University of Buea	8.75%	Yes
*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)

In the 1960s[2] Mt Bamboutos was described as one of the West and Central African top biodiversity hotspots; home to primates, birds, amphibians and plants, including high numbers of endemic species. Anthropogenic pressures and poor implementation of regulations and legal protection have caused severe deforestation and degradation.

Today, 30,000 rural people depend directly on the Bamboutos ecosystem for their livelihoods. The destruction of almost all catchments has led to serious water shortages. Demographic pressures on limited land has resulted in encroachment into marginal sloping areas, causing continuous erosion and regular landslides[3].

Intensification of agriculture has also led to poor soil quality, food and water contamination, decreasing yields and heightened food insecurity. In practice, farmers can rarely afford the fertilisers and pesticides required by standard 'green revolution' crop systems nor use them effectively – hence increased soil and agroecosystem degradation and declining crop yields. Poverty remains widespread, 75% of the rural Cameroonian population lived below the poverty line in 2007[4].

In 2009, a Public Notice signed by the Minister for Forestry and Wildlife proposed the gazetting of Mt Bamboutos as an integral ecological reserve. Over 12,000 local community members protested, and the idea was dropped.

To restore this once biodiverse ecosystem, we will engage 9[5] pilot villages, as well as local and regional stakeholders, in participatory planning to establish a framework for sustainable land use and management.

Agroforestry and sustainable farming, indigenous non-timber forest product (NTFP) value addition and improved access to markets will improve food security, nutrition and economic resilience. Agroforestry will increase tree cover, improve soil quality and fertility, improve crop diversification and agroecosystem functions.

In parallel, native tree planting in community, riverine and sacred forests will re-establish biodiversity, starting the process of restoring the ecosystem. This will open up future opportunities for eco-tourism and associated income generation.

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

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[2] STUART, S. N., Conservation of Cameroon Montane forests: report of the ICBP Cameroon Montane Forest Survey, November 1983-April 1984, International Council for Bird Preservation, 1986

[3] In 2003, 20 people were killed and in 2017 property valued at £450,000 was destroyed.

[4] Calistus, T. (2011) Climate change and farming in south western Cameroon rural areas: a case of the wabane sub division. Available at: http://internationalyouthcouncil.com/profiles/blogs/climate-change-and-farming-in-south-western-cameroon-rural-areas Retrieved on 10.01.2018

[5] 6 villages directly through Darwin funding

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)	No

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)

The project will contribute to the CBD Article 8: In-situ conservation. It will specifically contribute to:

(a)

This project is a pilot phase for a 15 year programme aiming to establish protected areas and community forests within the Mt Bamboutos landscape. During this project, consultations will take place with key stakeholders to agree on a framework for participatory land use planning. This will lead to the conservation of forest trees and associated undergrowth, above and below ground invertebrates and insects, providing better functioning food chains and life cycles for birds and small mammals.

(c)

The project will seek to create a consensus amongst local and regional stakeholders for the management of community, riverine and sacred forests to ensure sustainable use of forest products and restoration of land. This will lead to the creation of protected areas in the future.

(d)

We will raise the awareness of local communities about the importance of ecosystem restoration and conservation, including the planting of indigenous tree species.

(e)

The project will work with communities living on the slopes of Mt Bamboutos to improve farming techniques through agroforestry and tree-based value chain development.

(f)

3,000 hectares of land will be restored through tree planting on farms and on degraded land across the mountain, contributing to restored habitat for threatened species. Participatory land use management plans will be developed.

In addition, the project specifically addresses three of the four Strategic Goals in the Cameroon CBD National Action Plan[6]:

- *Strategic Goal A: Addressing the causes of biodiversity degradation/loss by reducing the direct and indirect pressures on biodiversity.*

Activities will diversify cropping systems with useful/marketable and culturally important perennial plant species to improve the sustainability of farming systems. This will reduce the pressures on biodiversity (for example deforestation for cultivation on steep slopes) through improving the 'total factor' productivity of farms. The project will also raise the awareness of rural communities to the importance of conserving biodiversity for long-term sustainability.

- *Strategic Goal B: Maintaining and improving the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, habitats, species and genetic diversity.*

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[6] Republic of Cameroon 2012, National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan – Version II – MINEPDED

The project will engage local communities, regional and national stakeholders in restoring and safeguarding ecosystems. This project will lay the foundations to re-establish habitat for key species, which will in the long term provide links between other wildlife habitats in the area (e.g. the Tofala Hill Wildlife Sanctuary, the proposed Mak-Betchou reserve, the Tofala-Mone wildlife corridor), allowing wildlife to move freely in and out of the areas and creating additional habitat space.

- *Strategic Goal C: Promoting the sustainable utilization of biodiversity for wealth creation and contributing to poverty alleviation.*

The project will generate income for rural households, especially women, through NTFPs and diversified farming systems. Forest landscape restoration and tree planting on farms will increase habitat for pollinators, critical to livelihoods in this horticultural landscape. In the longer term, eco-tourism income generating activities may become possible.

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

☒ **Yes** ☐ **No**   **if yes, please give details:**

ERuDeF and ITF have been in contact with the national CBD focal point, Mrs Prudence Tangham Galega, who has expressed an interest in the project. Regular contact will be upheld throughout the project and key outcomes shared.

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)

Goal 1 'No Poverty' – The project will lead to increased income for 1,330 farmers through the production of NTFPs, fruit trees and improved agricultural productivity.
Goal 2 'Zero Hunger' – 1,330 households will have improved food supply, increased diversity in food supply and better nutrition due to diversified farming systems and increases in yield and sales.
Goal 5 'Gender Equality' - Women will be actively targeted in all activities, with the aim of improving both economic standing and participation in decision making processes.
Goal 6 'Clean Water and Sanitation' – Restoring forest cover will improve the watershed function of the Mt Bamboutos ecosystem, which provides water for the 81,257 people living within the project area, as well as to the wider population of Cameroon and Nigeria.
Goal 8 'Decent Work and Economic Growth' – Diversified farming systems will make farming more productive, NTFP cultivation will increase economic opportunities, especially for women, and will form the basis for the development of cottage industries.
Goal 13 'Climate Action' – Planting 500,000 trees will help to mitigate the effects of climate change through carbon sequestering. In addition, the project will slow deforestation through developing alternative, sustainable livelihoods.
Goal 15 'Life on Land' – This project will engage stakeholders in long-term conservation of forests, and will restore 3,000 hectares of land.

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.)*

This pilot project will take a highly participatory approach to support local stakeholders in developing an integrated land use plan for Mt Bamboutos.

The project takes a mountain-wide approach, working with communities in 9 villages in the three regions that border Mt Bamboutos[7] enabling learning to be shared between project areas. We will use trees as the entry point for enhanced livelihoods and sustainable management of the ecosystem and biodiversity of Mt. Bamboutos.

The monitoring framework outlined in the log frame will be developed with inputs from baseline surveys (see Section 24).

To achieve the long term vision of this project, a participatory and integrated land use system approach will be applied. Participatory mapping of existing and desired land use will be a key element in this process, involving all community members. The IUCN Restoration Opportunity Assessment Methodology (ROAM)[8] will be a starting point to identify the most appropriate opportunities for forest landscape restoration in Y1, while bearing in mind the equity issues (or potential negative impacts) raised by restoration.

Native tree planting will take place on the identified areas in Y2 and Y3 to re-establish habitats and begin the restoration of catchments, riverine forests, sacred forests and community forests. The restoration approach will be locally-specific for each area, focusing on biodiversity objectives and ecosystem services determined with and by local communities.

The project will introduce agroforestry and tree based income generation as pilot activities. These are steps towards building food security and economic resilience. Specific relationships between ecosystem restoration and livelihoods will be explored at local level with communities in order to Identify and overcome the obstacles farmers face in pursuing livelihood objectives in a manner that also sustains (and enhances) the environment.

The project will use focus groups, key informants, opinion leaders, community groups and peer groups to engage all stakeholders in the participatory land use planning process and in identification of the best on-farm opportunities for agroforestry and income generation. Chiefs and associated traditional institutions will provide entry points for community engagement.

The project will work mainly through three local institutional structures: the local authorities (Chiefs and traditional structures) the Village Forest Management Committees (VFMCs), and the Village Agroforestry Networks (VANs). More detail is provided in Section 20 (Capacity Building).

An overall Project Board will oversee the project and authorise plans and budgets. It will comprise ERuDeF, ITF, Government agencies, local authorities and community representatives.

The project will be delivered by an Implementation Group comprising ERuDeF, ITF and local

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[7] Darwin funding will cover activities in 6 villages in West and North West regions, as well as some cross-cutting mountain-wide activities (Output 4).
[8] https://www.iucn.org/theme/forests/our-work/forest-landscape-restoration/restoration-opportunities-assessment-methodology-roam

partners: with staff responsible for specific geographical sites and work streams.

The project will be supported by an Advisory Panel[9] bringing together relevant in-country and international expertise on forest restoration; protected area governance; community NRM; agroforestry; social and gender issues; local institutions and rural economic development.

The relevant government departments (Forestry & Wildlife, Environment, Livestock, Agriculture, Planning & Regional Development) will be closely involved. The Ministry of Forestry will be the focal Ministry for the project.

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 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)

Change in the short run

- Beneficiaries' living standards will increase, as agroforestry improves soil quality and crop yields increase. 1,330 households will learn about value addition and cost benefit analysis, leading to improved marketing and business models.
- 200,000 agroforestry trees, NTFPs and fruit trees will be planted, providing diversified crops and a basis for cottage industries in the future. The project will thereby lead to an increase in economic resilience for over 1,330 households. Together with improved governance of remaining and restored forest areas, this will reduce pressures on Mt Bamboutos' natural resources.
- Opportunities for economic empowerment will increase for women and young people through diversified farming systems, NTFPs and training in market analysis. This will improve gender equality, as women gain more control of household income.
- Communities from 9 villages will have a better understanding of the environmental/livelihood trade-offs, and will take ownership for the protection and restoration of Mt Bamboutos. They will be actively involved in consultations towards a long-term sustainable management plan.
- The degradation of the Mt. Bamboutos ecosystem will slow in the project areas, and 500,000 trees will be planted on degraded land and on farms.

Change in long run
- Restoration to functional levels of key biodiversity taxa such as birds, primates (chimpanzees & gorillas), amphibians and reptiles, plants, butterflies and other biodiversity taxa.
- The ecosystem services and functions of the Mt. Bamboutos ecosystem will be restored, benefitting the population of 30,000 people on Mt Bamboutos, as well as the wider population of Cameroon and Nigeria who depend on the mountain for their water.
- Once agroforestry systems and NTFP trees have fully matured, household income will increase for project beneficiaries.
- Employment opportunities will increase in the area, through the creation of cottage industries and improved access to markets.
- Eco-tourism income generating opportunities will become possible through restored habitats.
- A governance system will be set up for the management of the mountain ecosystem.

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[9] CVs for the confirmed members are attached to this proposal.

> Furthermore, a comprehensive integrated conservation and development plan and strategy will be developed and validated.

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)

Although women make up over 50% of Cameroon's population and produce 80% of the country's food needs, they own just 2% of the land[10]. There is a clear division of labour, with men responsible for cash crops – which bring in more income – while women are responsible for subsistence farming, often mainly for household consumption.

Baseline studies will use gender analysis to identify the specific roles, interests and benefits accruing to men, women and youth in the target villages.

We aim to improve gender equality in all outputs of the project, with most activities aiming to achieve at least 50% women participants. More productive farms, more diverse products and better marketing of crops will lead to women's economic empowerment and better representation in decision making structures at a household and governance level[11].

Particular emphasis will be placed on involvement of women and youths as the main users of natural resources, and managers of farms. Their participation will be encouraged in all project activities, where necessary through additional capacity building support. The project's focus on tree based value chains is designed to address women's needs (70% beneficiaries will be women). Women will also take significant leadership roles in the governance structure of the project.

Inclusion of women and young people in all project activities will also improve governance, and build ownership of the project.

Our MEL framework will collect gender disaggregated data for all activities, as specified in the logical framework. Project indicators will show the number of men and women reached through each output, and how they benefit from training, improved livelihoods and participation in decision making.

Education, information and training approaches will be adapted as necessary to promote the active engagement of women and youth in governance and participation.

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)

It is intended that this project is the pilot phase of a progressive long-term approach to transform the Mount Bamboutos ecosystem, increase biodiversity and improve livelihoods.
ITF, ERuDeF and partners have jointly developed a Business Plan which identifies funders for

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[10] Cameroon Gender Equality Network (2011), '*Cameroon – Women Call for land & Inheritance Rights'* [online], http://www.ahgingos.org/documents/Documents/CAMEROON.pdf

[11] Ngome, Angella N., 2003, '*Gender Division of Labour and Women's Decision-Making Power in Rural Households: The Case of Mbalangi, Ediki and Mabonji Villages of Meme Division'*, Unpublished Masters Thesis, University of Buea, Department of Women and Gender Studies.

the future phases. ITF has made a commitment in principle to a 15 year initiative with ERuDeF in its new strategy.

If successful, the project approach and methodology will be rolled out to other villages within the Mt Bamboutos ecosystem.

In future phases, further income generation capacity and training opportunities will be developed, and the emergence of cottage industries will be accompanied, boosting the local economy.

Participatory planning at a mountain-wide level will be undertaken, and governance structures will be formalised, leading to a mosaic of protected areas and community forests.

The Cameroon government has taken a long term resolve to support the development of mountain ecosystems in Cameroon through her signatory to the Bonn Challenge and the Africa Union AFR100 initiative. ERuDeF has a Memorandum of Understanding with MINFOF[12], and good working relationships with government officials.

17a. Harmonisation

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

(Max 200 words)

This is a new project, the 'Mount Bamboutos Initiative', jointly developed by the Environment and Rural Development Foundation (ERuDeF) and International Tree Foundation (ITF). This 15-year initiative aims to restore the highly degraded landscape of the Mt. Bamboutos ecosystem, while improving on the livelihoods of the local population.

The project will contribute to the 12 million hectares of degraded landscape to be restored through the Bonn Challenge and the African Union AFR100 signed by the government of Cameroon in 2017.

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

If yes, please give details explaining similarities and differences. 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.

We are not aware of any similar projects in the area, however, the project mainly builds on work carried out by ERuDeF over many years in this area.

It will also draw upon the substantial body of work developed in neighbouring areas of Cameroon by ICRAF. ICRAF developed an approach involving the participatory selection and domestication of locally valued indigenous tree species as part of highly productive agroforestry systems. Building farmers' capacity to process and add value to fruits and NTFPs from these species formed the basis for developing cottage industries to enhance income generation. This project will learn from the Rural Resource Centre approach which proved effective in disseminating these practices, which have been well documented by Z Tchoundjeu, A Degrande, RRB Leakey, E Asaah and others.

18. Ethics

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

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[12] See attached MoU

2/4264

(Max 300 words)

All case studies, baseline surveys and data collection will be carried out to the highest standards by the University of Buea and researchers from CaMUN. Free Prior Informed Consent (FPIC) will be sought from participants, and their anonymity will be protected for household surveys and data collection purposes. Case studies will include named individuals, but will be conducted and published with their full consent. All research results and case studies will be shared with project beneficiaries, as well as other interested parties.

ITF is committed to supporting strong local leadership. ERuDeF and University of Buea will conduct all activities on the ground, with capacity building and support from ITF, and the Advisory Panel.

Gaining the trust and buy-in from communities is critical to the success of this project. A participatory approach will be applied throughout all activities, including the identification of training needs and development of agroforestry and NTFP options with communities from the pilot villages. Monitoring and evaluation will also be participatory, building local capacity and ensuring local knowledge is fully integrated into rural development strategies.

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)
Effective communication is critical to ensuring a truly participatory planning process.

From Q1, awareness raising workshops will be held in the pilot villages to raise awareness of village communities on the benefits of diversified farming systems and on the restoration and sustainable management of the ecosystem. Communities will be engaged through participatory identification of training needs, problems and solutions. This is critical to achieving buy-in for biodiversity management, and to running a project which really works for local communities.

Promotional and education materials including brochures, project booklets, flyers and magazines will be produced and distributed at project inception and at regular intervals to all stakeholders involved in the project (local communities, traditional and official local authorities). This will enable wider visibility of the project and its results. These materials will advocate for sustainable ecosystem management and engage a wider group of stakeholders and indirect beneficiaries in the project.

We will make use of local press channels to reach rural communities outside of the pilot villages. This will include radio, social media and local newspapers including Le Jour, Cameroun Tribune, Le Message, The Post Newspaper, The Guardian Post and The Green Vision Newspaper. Communications materials will be published in both English and French.

Case studies and research results will be shared with municipal authorities, local, regional and national government officials from relevant ministries, the CBD focal point and non-profit and academic organisations with shared aims. These reports and case studies will include key learning points relevant to local, regional and national authorities in biodiversity management, poverty reduction and participatory land use planning.

ITF will publish case studies and research findings on their website and in their annual 'Trees Journal'. This publication is distributed to ITF's members, donors and NGO partners in the

global North and South.

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)

Capacity building is an important aspect of the project. The project aims to build the capacities of local community members on tree nursery establishment and management, tree planting and monitoring, agroforestry techniques, tree-based value chain development and biodiversity management drawing upon learnings from the concept of Rural Resource Centres developed in West/South West Cameroon by ICRAF (Degrande et al., 2015). This will take the form of training workshops, study exchange visits and field demonstrations.

The project will develop local institutions to support Outputs 3 and 4. It aims to strengthen the capacity of chiefs to support participatory land use planning in their communities, and support the formation of the Mt Bamboutos Chiefs' Association. VFMCs will be established in accordance with Cameroon Forest Law - a process in which ERuDeF has substantial experience. This step is essential to establish the authority to protect and restore the areas designated as community, sacred and riverine forests patrols. A common platform for the VFMCs will facilitate consistency and exchange of experience.

The extension approach for on-farm activities will benefit from engagement of Village Agroforestry Networks (VANs) which ERuDeF established in the villages through previous projects, and two other local CBOs. Thus the project will have an existing presence within the communities. Capacity building will take place in the field with demonstration farmers, using methods from the Rural Resource Centre model[13] successfully developed by ICRAF in neighbouring areas of Cameroon.

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)

Open access to data is important to all partners, who will disseminate project reports, data and case studies widely.

Reports will be made available on the ITF and ERuDeF websites, and will be publicised via their respective monthly newsletters, as well as disseminated on social media and via printed publications. We will also publish relevant biodiversity reports and case studies on the Global Biodiversity Information Facility – an open data research infrastructure, and the Africa Open Data Network (part of the Open Data for Development (OD4D) Network).

This project plans to carry out baseline studies and household surveys in pilot villages on Mount Bamboutos. We commit to making these data sets available to interested organisations and individuals, and to actively share the results with other organisations working in Western Cameroon.

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[13] See Degrande et al 2015, GFRAS Extension Manual.

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: Mountain-wide consensus-building, community-led reforestation and agroforestry, and improved food security and livelihoods lead to sustainable and participatory management of the entire Bamboutos ecosystem. (Max 30 words)			
Outcome: (Max 30 words) **Framework established for land use planning and sustainable management of Bamboutos ecosystem, through stakeholder engagement and tangible progress towards reforestation, sustainable farming, food security and livelihoods.**	0.1 Farming systems productivity, food security and nutrition for at least 1,330 households (50% women participants) increased by 20% over baselines through capacity building and agroforestry establishment by 2021 0.2 Capacity building and improved farming systems productivity and agroforestry incorporating NTFPs enables at least 1,330 households (70% women participants) to take steps towards increased incomes by 2021 0.3 Community-led planting of 300,000 native trees in Community and Riverine Forests, and increased tree cover in farmland (200,000 agroforestry trees) launch the restoration of 3,000 ha of forests and biodiversity habitat in the degraded Mt. Bamboutos ecosystem by 2021 0.4 Framework agreed and stakeholders' consensus reached on the process for participatory land-use planning and sustainable management of the Mt. Bamboutos Ecosystem with decision making informed by published and shared research and M&E results.	0.1 Baseline, mid-project and final HH farm, food and nutrition survey reports; training reports; field monitoring; farmer database; annual measurements of sample monitoring plots; case study 0.2 Baseline, mid-project and final HH socio-economic survey reports; Report on identification of new income sources training reports; participant perception surveys; database of farmers practicing agroforestry; case study 0.3 baseline and repeat biodiversity and habitat survey; training reports; field reports from nurseries; survival counts of trees planted; tree database; farmer database; geo-referencing of surviving trees; maps of planted areas; satellite imagery of tree cover; case study 0.4 Participant surveys; minutes of meetings; training reports; records of statements and actions of key stakeholders; signed agreement on framework for participatory land use planning at ecosystem level; signed and agreed land-use plans at local level; ROAM report; case study	There is no major change in the approach of the Government of Cameroon, and Ministerial Departments and agencies continue to support the project No major insecurity or demographic factors impact the area during the project period disrupting progress towards stakeholders' consensus Farmers targeted for all interventions are well selected and largely self-motivated, hence adoption rates will be high.

Outputs:			
1. Soil fertility, crop yields and food production improved by 20% over baselines for over 1,330 households (50% women participants) **in 9 villages through capacity building, agroforestry and diversification of farming systems, leading to improved food security and nutrition** **200,000 agroforestry trees planted on farms by 2021**	1.1 Baseline survey on crop yields, food security and nutrition completed by end 2018 1.2 2,000 farmers (50% women) gain knowledge and skills in sustainable diversified farming systems (agroforestry, fruit trees and NTFPs cultivation, and contour farming) by 2021 1.3 2,000 farmers (50% women) are trained on agroforestry nursery establishment, pegging, grafting, marcotting, propagators, composting, planting, harvesting and treatment by 2021 1.4 At least 1,330 farmers (50% women) adopt sustainable diversified farming systems by 2021 1.5 At least 1,330 farmers plant at least 200,000 agroforestry trees on farms by 2021 1.6 20% increase in crop yields per unit area over baseline values for 1,330 farms by 2021 1.7 20% increase over baseline values in the quantity of food supply for 1,330 households by 2021 1.8 Increased diversity and nutritional value of food available for 1,330 households by 2021 (increased regular availability of at least 3 cereals/ pulses/ fruits/ vegetables compared with baseline) 1.9 Food security and nutrition increased for 1,330 households by 2021 (target to be determined after baseline surveys) 1.10　Case study on yields, food security and nutrition published and shared (2021)	1.1 Baseline survey report 1.2 Minutes of capacity building workshops: list of participants; participant survey 1.3 Minutes of capacity building workshops: list of participants; participant survey 1.4 Participatory field monitoring: database of farmers practicing agroforestry 1.5 Database of farmers practicing agroforestry 1.6 Annual measurements from sample monitoring plots 1.7 Baseline, mid-project and final household farm surveys 1.8 Baseline, mid-project and final household food and nutrition surveys 1.9 Baseline, mid-project and final household food and nutrition surveys 1.10　Case study based on surveys and participatory M&E	At least 67% of those trained adopt new practices as a result of the training Increased crop yields and diversity result in improved HH food security and nutrition

2. Capacity building and improved farming systems productivity and agroforestry incorporating fruit and NTFP trees enables at least 1,000 households (70% women participants) to take steps towards increased incomes and employment.	2.1 Baseline socio-economic survey on HH income and employment completed by end of 2018 2.2 Consultation on preliminary identification of potential new income sources and cottage industries completed by 2018 2.3 2,000 farmers (70% women) gain knowledge on Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFP) and fruit trees cultivation by 2021 2.4 2,000 farmers trained on value addition opportunities by 2021 2.5 2,000 farmers trained on cost benefit analysis for their priority products by 2020 2.6 1,330 farmers (70% women) adopt NTFPs and fruit trees cultivation by 2020 2.7 Income from NTFPs and fruit trees of 1,330 farmers (70% women) increases by 5% over baseline values by 2021 (with further increases to follow) 2.8 90% of 1,330 beneficiaries are able to determine the cost of the value chain of their priority products and the respective benefits 2.9 1,330 farmers grow 200,000 fruit and NTFP trees (plum, avocado, red cola, raffia and rattan) as a basis for the establishment of new cottage industries and incomes by 2021 2.10 Case study on income generation and employment opportunities published and shared 2021	2.1 Baseline socio-economic survey report 2.2 Report on identification of new income sources and potential cottage industries 2.3 Minutes of capacity building workshops: list of participants; participant survey 2.4 Minutes of capacity building workshops: list of participants - community perception survey on benefit of NTFP value chain 2.5 Minutes of capacity building workshops: list of participants; participant survey 2.6 Baseline, mid-project and final household farm surveys; database of farmers practicing agroforestry 2.7 Baseline, mid-project and final household socio-economic surveys 2.8 Participant survey 2.9 Mid-project and final household farm surveys; participatory field monitoring; database of farmers practicing agroforestry 2.10 Case study based on surveys and participatory M&E	At least 67% of those trained adopt new practices as a result of the training On-farm and NTFP economic opportunities reduce pressure on the natural resource base
3. Community-led planting of 300,000 native trees in degraded areas of Community, Riverine and Sacred Forests, and increased tree	3.1 At least 2,665 farmers (at least 50% women) are trained on nursery establishment and tree planting by	3.1 Minutes of capacity building workshops: list of participants; participant surveys; tree nursery reports; database of farmers practicing agroforestry	Farmers will plant up to 150 trees on average per farm: tree planting will be copied by other farmers based on example of neighbours and

| cover in farmland (200,000 agroforestry trees) launch the restoration of 3,000 ha of forests and biodiversity habitat in the degraded Mt. Bamboutos ecosystem by 2021 | 2019
3.2 At least 6 main nurseries and 200 small on-farm nurseries established by 2019
3.3 (At least 200,000 agroforestry trees are planted in farmers' fields by the end of 2021 see Outputs 1 and 2)
3.4 At least 300,000 trees are planted in degraded forest lands by 2021
3.5 3,000ha of community and riverine forest planted with trees for restoration and conservation purposes by 2021
3.6 Key biodiversity (primates, birds, amphibians, reptiles and butterflies) habitats identified and secured across the 3,000 ha.
3.7 Baseline biodiversity survey completed by 2018 and repeated 2021 for key sites.
3.8 Case study on tree planting, land restoration and biodiversity published and shared (2021) | 3.2 Field reports from nurseries – participatory monitoring and evaluation of nurseries
3.3 Field reports on trees planted – participatory monitoring and evaluation of trees planted; database of farmers practicing agroforestry
3.4 Database of trees planted and surviving
3.5 Geo-referencing of surviving trees and production of maps of all planted areas; satellite imagery of tree cover
3.6 Baseline and repeat biodiversity survey reports for key sites
3.7 Baseline survey using the ROAM approach identifies key biodiversity sites for protection/ restoration
3.8 Case study based on surveys and participatory M&E | improved availability of seedlings from nurseries.

Degraded sites in need of forest restoration can be identified at local level during development of local and mountain-wide land use plans

Planting of trees on degraded land will take place only with agreement on permanent conservation |
| **4. Framework, coalition, consensus and conditions established for land use planning and sustainable management of Mt Bamboutos ecosystem, supported by shared outputs from research and ongoing M&E** | 4.1 Project inception workshop held to sensitise all stakeholders on the restoration and sustainable management of Mt. Bamboutos
4.2 2,500 people (at least 50% women) are trained on restoration and management of ecosystems and biodiversity by 2019
4.3 Leaders and key stakeholders (at least 50% women) in the 6 villages are committed to restoring and managing ecosystems and biodiversity by 2020
4.4 At least 1,330 people actively engaged in ecosystem restoration activities by | 4.1 Minutes of inception workshop and capacity building workshops: lists of participants
4.2 Surveys of participants before and after training
4.3 Minutes of meetings and statements of key stakeholders; monitoring of specific actions by key stakeholders
4.4 Participatory monitoring of uptake of specific restoration practices
4.5 Signed stakeholder agreements
4.6 Minutes of consultation meetings on key institutional barriers | The project adopts a genuinely participatory process and engages meaningfully with all stakeholder groups.

Government agencies abide by the law. |

	2021 4.5 Commitment of key stakeholders including government agencies is reached through signing of respective stakeholder agreements by 2019 4.6 Key institutional barriers to participatory land use planning are identified and addressed by 2021 4.7 Best places for restoration and priority areas of intervention are identified through the restoration opportunity assessment methodology (ROAM) 4.8 Consultations held on participatory land use planning process by 2020 4.9 Agreement reached and signed on the framework and ground-rules for participatory land use planning for entire Mt Bamboutos ecosystem 4.10 At least two participatory land use plans agreed and signed at village or sub-division level by 2021 4.11 Case study on participatory land use planning published and shared (2021)	4.7 Report from the ROAM exercise with stakeholders identifies key biodiversity sites for protection/ restoration 4.8 Minutes of consultation meetings – and actions taken as a result 4.9 Signed framework agreement on participatory land use planning at ecosystem level 4.10 A least one signed participatory land use plan at local level 4.11 Case study on participatory land use planning	

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)

1.1 Sensitization, mobilisation and selection of 2,000 farmers drawn from 9 villages (Bafou, Bangang, Babadjou, Buchi, Menka, Pinyin, Bamumbu, Fossimondi and Fosi-M'mouckobin) on sustainable diversified farming systems, and identification of tree species to be planted

1.2 Training of 2,000 farmers (50% women) on sustainable diversified farming systems (agroforestry, contour farming, fruits and NTFPs tree growing)

1.3 Training of 2,000 farmers (50% women) to establish their own small agroforestry tree nurseries, pegging, grafting, marcotting, composting, harvesting and tree treatment

1.4 Collection and purchase of tree seed for agroforestry nurseries

1.5 Conduct baseline surveys on agriculture, food and nutrition in the 9 villages
1.6 Establishment / training of local institutions for extension and participatory M&E (Chiefs and traditional authorities, VFMCs, VANs in 9 villages)
1.7 Planting of 200,000 agroforestry trees in the fields of 1,330 farmers from 9 villages in the project site
1.8 Participatory monitoring of uptake of agroforestry and sustainable diversified farming systems in the 9 villages
1.9 Participatory establishment and monitoring of agroforestry and sustainable farming crop yield plots in the 9 villages
1.10 Participatory monitoring of household food security and nutrition
1.11 Preparation, publication and local sharing of a case study on agroforestry, yields, food security and nutrition
2.1 Conduct baseline socio-economic survey on HH income, livelihoods and employment in the 9 villages
2.2 Conduct consultations in the 9 villages on identification of potential new income sources and cottage industries, constraints, opportunities & value chain development
2.3 Training of 2,000 farmers (70% women) drawn from 9 villages, on cultivation of NTFP and fruit trees
2.4 Training of 2,000 farmers drawn from 9 villages, on value addition opportunities
2.5 Training of 2,000 farmers drawn from 9 villages in the project site, on cost benefit analysis for their priority products
2.6 Participatory monitoring of uptake of agroforestry in the 9 villages
2.7 Participatory monitoring of household income from NTFPs and fruits (based mainly on farms with existing NTFP and fruit production)
2.8 Preparation, publication and local sharing of a case study on income from NTFPs and fruits yields, food security and nutrition
3.1 Purchase of material/equipment for the construction and management of 6 nurseries/ resource centres and the Lebialem forestry centre (shading net, binding wire, wheelbarrow, trowels, iron rods, polythene bags etc.)
3.2 Preparation of 9 nursery sites/ resource centres prior to nursery construction (clearing, tilling and levelling….)
3.3 Establishment of 9 nurseries for agro-forestry, fruit and NTFPs species
3.4 (Construction of 6 giant mist propagators for propagating and grafting selected cultivars of NTFP and fruit trees (See also Output 2))[14]
3.5 (Collection and purchasing of seeds of agroforestry species to be planted in 1,330 farmers' fields (Output 1 and 2))
3.6 Collection and purchasing of seeds of trees to be planted in community and riverine forests.
3.7 Support nursery management operations (weeding, watering, spraying, thinning etc.) for the nurseries to be established by the project

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[14] N.B: Some activities are linked to more than one output.

3.8 (Planting of 200,000 agroforestry trees in the fields of 1,330 farmers from 9 villages in the project site – Output 1)
3.9 Identification of priority areas for restoration intervention through the Restoration Opportunity Assessment Methodology (ROAM) (see also Output 4)
3.10 Establishment / capacity building for the local institutions for Forest Management for Community Forests to be restored (Chiefs & traditional authorities, VFMCs)
3.11 Planting of 300,000 trees in priority degraded sites in community and riverine forests
3.12 Support community members with tools and equipment for the planting of at least 300,000 native trees in community and riverine forests.
3.13 (Support 1,330 farmers with tools and equipment for the planting of at least 200,000 agroforestry trees in their fields. (Output 1 and 2))
3.14 Conduct baseline surveys on biodiversity, forest restoration and ecosystem services
3.15 Train Forest Management Institutions to monitor and carry out survival counts of seedlings planted in community and riverine forests in the project site (PM&E)
3.16 Geo-referencing of surviving trees and production of maps of all planted areas
3.17 Preparation, publication and local sharing of a case study on community forest restoration
4.1 Hold a project inception workshop to sensitize all stakeholders on the restoration and sustainable management of Mount -Bamboutos Ecosystem and identify training needs
4.2 Training and consultation of 2,500 people from the 9 villages on the management of ecosystem and biodiversity, the links to better and more sustainable livelihoods, the challenges and how to address them
4.3 Production of 9 maps detailing the past and present land use within the project site in order to define the degree of degradation of the landscapes and facilitate land use planning.
4.4 Identification of internal and external stakeholders (mapping of stakeholders) involved in land use within the project area in order to involve them in land use planning, governance and decision-making stages
4.5 Building a coalition of stakeholders in order to reach agreement on the process for participatory land use planning for the Mt Bamboutos ecosystem: this includes the Mt Bamboutos Chiefs' Association, a common Platform for Forest Management Institutions, and (beyond the life of this project) establishment of a Dialogue Platform
4.6 Organisation of 9 consultation meetings with different stakeholders in order to identify and address key institutional barriers to participatory land use planning and how to address them
4.7 Identification of different land use systems and priority areas for restoration intervention through the Restoration Opportunity Assessment Methodology (ROAM). This will include analysis of land tenure systems and land use policies in the project area, analysis of the role of women and girls in the management of the Mt Bamboutos ecosystem and participative land use mapping.
4.9 Draw up and refine an Agreement document on the framework and ground-rules for participatory land use planning for entire Mt Bamboutos ecosystem

4.9 Draw up and sign at least two participatory land use plans at village or Sub-division level

4.10 Prepare and share locally a case study on participatory land use planning

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			Year 2				Year 3			
		Q2 Jul	Q3 Oct	Q4 Jan	Q1 Apr	Q2 Jul	Q3 Oct	Q4 Jan	Q1 Apr	Q2 Jul	Q3 Oct	Q4 Jan
Output 1: Soil fertility, crop yields and food production improved for over 1,330 households in 9 villages through agroforestry and diversification of farming systems, leading to improved food security (200,000 agroforestry trees planted on farms by 2021)												
1.1 Sensitization, mobilisation and selection of 2,000 farmers drawn from 9 villages (Bafou, Bangang, Babadjou, Buchi, Menka, Pinyin, Bamumbu, Fossimondi and Fosi-M'mouckobin) on sustainable diversified farming systems, and identification of tree species to be planted	6	■	■	■								
1.2 Training of 2,000 farmers (50% women) on sustainable diversified farming systems (agroforestry, contour farming, fruits and NTFPs tree growing).	8		■	■	■	■			■			
1.3 Training of 2,000 farmers (50% women) on to establish their own small agroforestry agroforestry nurseries: pegging, grafting, marcotting, composting, harvesting and tree treatment.	8			■	■	■	■			■		
1.4 Collection and purchase of tree seed for agroforestry nurseries (both main nurseries and farmer nurseries).	6		■				■		■			
1.5 Conduct baseline surveys on agriculture, food and nutrition in the 9 villages	4	■	■									
1.6 Establishment/ training of local institutions for extension and participatory M&E	6	■			■				■			
1.7 Planting of 200,000 agroforestry trees in the fields of 1,330 farmers from 9 villages in the project site	12				■	■	■		■	■	■	
1.8 Participatory monitoring of uptake of agroforestry and sustainable diversified farming systems in the 9 villages	6			■			■			■	■	
1.9 Participatory establishment and monitoring of agroforestry and sustainable farming crop yield plots in the 9 villages	6			■			■					■
1.10 Participatory monitoring of household food security and nutrition	6		■		■				■			
1.11 Preparation, publication and local sharing of a case study on agroforestry, yields, food security and nutrition	3				■				■			■
Output 2: Improved farming systems productivity and agroforestry incorporating fruit and NTFP trees enables at least 1,330 households (70% women participants)												

Activity	Months
to take steps towards increased incomes and employment.	
2.1 Conduct baseline survey on HH income, livelihoods and employment in 9 villages.	4
2.2 Conduct consultations in the 9 villages on identification of potential new income sources and cottage industries, constraints, opportunities & value chain development.	4
2.3 Training of 2,000 farmers (70% women) drawn from 9 villages in the project site, on cultivation of NTFP and fruit trees.	4
2.4 Training of 2,000 farmers drawn from 9 villages in the project site, on value addition opportunities.	4
2.5 Training of 2,000 farmers drawn from 9 villages in the project site, on cost benefit analysis for their priority products.	2
2.6 Participatory monitoring of uptake of agroforestry in the 9 villages.	6
2.7 Participatory monitoring of household income from NTFPs and fruits (based mainly on farms with existing NTFP and fruit production)	6
2.8 Preparation, publication and local sharing of a case study on income from NTFPs and fruits yields, food security and nutrition.	3
Output 3: Community-led planting of 300,000 native trees in degraded areas of Community, Riverine and Sacred Forests, and increased tree cover in farmland (200,000 agroforestry trees) launch the restoration of 3,000 ha of forests and biodiversity habitat in the degraded Mt. Bamboutos ecosystem by 2021	
3.1 Purchase of material/equipment for the construction and management of 9 nurseries/ resource centres and the Lebialem forestry centre (shading net, binding wire, wheelbarrow, trowels, iron rods, polythene bags etc.) (Polybags in Y2 and Y3)	4
3.2 Preparation of 9 nursery sites (one in each of the 9 villages in the project site) prior to nursery construction (clearing, tilling and levelling ….)	4
3.4 (Construction of 6 giant mist propagators for propagating and grafting selected cultivars of NTFP and fruit trees) (Output 2).	4
3.5 (Collection and purchasing of seeds of agroforestry species to be planted in 1,330 farmers' fields (Output 1 and 2)).	6
3.6 Collection and purchasing of seeds of trees to be planted in community and riverine forests.	6
3.7 Support nursery management operations (weeding, watering, spraying, thinning etc) for nurseries to be established by the project.	27
3.8 (Planting of 200,000 agroforestry trees in the fields of 1,330 farmers from 9 villages in the project site – Output 1)	12
3.9 Identification of priority areas for restoration intervention through the Restoration Opportunity Assessment Methodology (ROAM) (see also Output 4)	6
3.10 Establishment / capacity building for the local institutions for Forest Management for Community Forests to be restored (Chiefs & traditional authorities, VFMCs in 6 villages)	6
3.11 Planting of 300,000 trees in priority degraded sites in community and riverine forests	12

Activity	Duration
3.12 Support community members with tools and equipment for the planting of at least 450,000 native trees in community and riverine forests.	2
3.13 (Support 1,000 farmers with tools and equipment for the planting of at least 200,000 agroforestry trees in their fields. Output 1 and 2)	2
3.14 Conduct baseline surveys on biodiversity, forest restoration and ecosystem services	4
3.15 Train Forest Management Committees to monitor and carry out survival counts of seedlings planted in ,community and riverine forests in the project site (PM&E)	3
3.16 Geo-referencing of surviving trees and production of maps of all planted areas	4
3.17 Preparation, publication and local sharing of a case study on community forest restoration	3
Output 4: Coalition, consensus and conditions established for future land use planning and sustainable management of Mt Bamboutos ecosystem, supported by shared outputs from research and ongoing M&E	
4.1 Hold a project inception workshop to sensitize all stakeholders on the restoration and sustainable management of Mount-Bamboutos Ecosystem and identify training needs.	2
4.2 Training and consultation of 2,500 people from 9 villages on the management of ecosystem and biodiversity, the links to better and more sustainable livelihoods, the challenges and how to address them.	6
4.3 Production of 9 maps detailing the past and present land use within the project site in order to define the degree of degradation of the landscapes and facilitate land use planning.	6
4.4 Identification of internal and external stakeholders (mapping of stakeholders) involved in land use within the project area in order to involve them in land use planning, governance and decision-making stages.	3
4.5 Building a coalition of stakeholders in order to reach agreement on the process for participatory land use planning for the Mt Bamboutos ecosystem: this includes the Mt Bamboutos Chiefs' Association, a common Platform for Forest Management Committees, and (beyond the life of this project) establishment of a Dialogue Platform.	12
4.6 Organisation of 9 consultation meetings with different stakeholders in order to identify and address key institutional barriers to participatory land use planning and how to address them.	6
4.7 Identification of different land use systems and priority areas for restoration intervention through the Restoration Opportunity Assessment Methodology (ROAM). This will include analysis of land tenure systems and land use policies in the project area, analysis of the role of women and girls in the management of the Mt Bamboutos ecosystem and participative land use mapping.	6
4.8 Draw up and refine an Agreement document on the framework and ground-rules for	12

participatory land use planning for entire Mt Bamboutos ecosystem.					▉	░	░	░	▉	▨	▉	
4.9 Draw up and sign at least two participatory land use plans at village or Sub-division level.	9				░	░	░	▉	▨	▉		
4.10 Prepare and share locally a case study on participatory land use planning.	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)
We are developing the Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) framework based on the theory of change and logframe. We promote a culture that values MEL as a basis for learning and improved effectiveness, supports capacity strengthening, and promotes shared learning.
The participatory approach to MEL will be supported by impartial assessments and objective measurements. The framework will be designed to ensure we can track how interventions benefit women, children, young people, the elderly and vulnerable groups. Learnings will be shared with stakeholders and beneficiary communities.
ERuDeF will involve community members actively in project monitoring. This enhances local ownership and captures community perspectives. It can add to the reliability of data collected, but does not guarantee accuracy and objectivity. Participatory monitoring works well when project staff, communities and stakeholders want to evaluate the results of interventions for themselves.
Local institutions described in section 13 will play key roles. There will be quarterly meetings with Chiefs and traditional leaders, the Mt Bamboutos Chiefs' Association, VFMCs and VANs, to share results from ongoing monitoring and to assess progress.
VFMCs will be trained to help community members map restoration sites using GPS, and to monitor survival rates on sample plots. Forest restoration and agroforestry will be georeferenced and mapped. Maps showing project progress will be shared with local institutions, so as to visualise the project. VAN members will be trained to assess yields on sample agroforestry plots against control plots, and to take part in household surveys to establish changes in livelihoods, food security and nutrition.
The project starts with stakeholder mapping and baseline surveys with communities to quantify the current status of key indicators. The methodology will be finalised in Q1, and the surveys will be facilitated by Buea University and ERuDeF staff in Q2. The surveys will focus on land use and land cover for ecosystem services and biodiversity habitats; farming systems; and livelihoods (gender, income, employment, food security, nutrition). The ROAM methodology will be used as a basis for identification of sites for forest restoration. Participatory mapping of land use is also a key starting point for engagement with local communities.
A mid-term review will be carried out in Y2 and a final evaluation in Y3. TOR for the evaluations will be developed by ITF and ERuDeF with inputs from the Advisory Panel, for approval by the Board and donors. The evaluations, led by an independent facilitator, will involve community members, local institutions, and stakeholders at local, regional and where appropriate national level.
ERuDeF will track progress against logframe indicators, work plans and budget. ERuDeF will maintain a database of project participants, broken down by gender and vulnerability criteria, and interventions (e.g. trees planted and farms adopting practices). We will develop formats for quarterly narrative and financial progress reports, to enable regular internal progress assessment, close oversight of variances, and sharing of the progress and challenges with partners, institutions and Board. ITF will ensure full and accurate reporting to Board and donors, including maintenance of a risk register, and flagging up issues.

Number of days planned for M&E	471
Total project budget for M&E	£40,929

Percentage of total project budget set aside for M&E	10.8%

Funding and Budget

Please complete the separate Excel spreadsheet which provides the Budget for this application. Some of the questions earlier and below refer to the information in this spreadsheet. You should also ensure you have read the '[Finance for Darwin and Illegal Wildlife Trade Challenge Fund](#)' document and considered the implications of payment points for cash flow 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)
>
> We adopt a genuinely participatory approach because we believe this is the right way to work. Our approach also provides value for money. For example, when farmers in a village agroforestry network monitor the results of interventions on each other's' farms the cost at project level is small, and the validity and utility of the data is far higher than it would be if we used external consultants.
>
> We do not pay Government staff extra incentives to do carry out the work they are employed to do.
>
> Both of the above require an initial investment in capacity building and awareness raising, but this pays for itself over time and leaves a lasting legacy.
>
> ITF and ERuDeF both benefit from remarkable value from the pro-bono help of our Trustees and Advisory Panel and from partnerships such as that with BGCI, which exists to generate value from shared knowledge.
>
> When we travel internationally we do in the most economical manner, and reduce costs by making monitoring visits to other projects in country on the same visit.

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)
>
> This project is part of a longer term 15-year initiative. Capital items purchased with funding from Darwin shall be used to continue with the implementation of the project.
>
> Mist propagators will be used by the resource centres to produce further seedlings for reforestation and agroforestry.
>
> Computers will remain within ERuDeF, and will be used for continued work in the project area.

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:**

A stage 2 application has been submitted to TreeSisters for around £XXX,XXX for work in the South-West District of Mt Bamboutos. The total funding could extend to £XXX,XXX, as TreeSisters function through individual donors. They have assured us that the £XXX,XXX is a conservative figure.

TreeSisters funding will cover agroforestry, livelihood development and tree planting activities in three villages in South-West district. Darwin Initiative funding will cover all activities in 6 pilot villages in West and North-West districts, as well as research activities and participatory planning on a mountain-wide level.

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)

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)

ITF's Financial Policy and Anti-Corruption, Fraud and Bribery Policy are reviewed annually by the Board of Trustees. These policies ensure the effective governance, management and reporting of ITF's financial assets and resources. ITF staff will train in-country counter-parts to understand and comply with these policies.

As a grant giving organisation, ITF has developed rigorous due diligence and financial processes to ensure good use of project funding. The Project Leader [Paul Laird] recently revised and developed ITF's Due Diligence Policy based on direct experience of managing projects across Africa, and dealing with cases of attempted fraud.

A Risk Register has been developed and is regularly updated by the Treasurer, in collaboration with ITF Trustees and Senior Management. This gives particular weight to financial risks, which are discussed at quarterly board meetings, or in between meeting as necessary.

ERuDeF has a track record of grant funding, and has robust internal controls to reduce the risks of fraud. Quality assurance and controls for payment of materials/items are made by senior staff before disbursements. ERuDeF have a written and approved procurement policy.

Currency devaluation risk has been considered in the budgeting of project activities. Price fluctuation risks caused by changes in government regulations on commodities and rise in prices have also been considered in the budgeting.

FCO Notifications

Please check the box if you think that there are sensitivities that the Foreign and Commonwealth Office will need to be aware of should they want to publicise the project's success in the Darwin competition in the host country. ☐

Please indicate whether you have contacted your Foreign Ministry or the local embassy or High Commission (or equivalent) directly to discuss security issues (see Guidance) and attach details of any advice you have received from them.

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

Certification

On behalf of the trustees * of   International Tree Foundation

(*delete as appropriate)

I apply for a grant of £248,668   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)	Andy Egan
Position in the organisation	Chief Executive

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.