

# **DIR25S2\100030**

## **Ghodaghodi's Guardians: Communities restoring a Ramsar wetland at watershed scale**

Ghodaghodi Lake Area (GLA) is a globally-significant Ramsar wetland with high natural capital and biodiversity, playing a crucial role in enabling conflict-free species movement through the transboundary Western Terai Complex. However, fast-growing tourism, agro-pollution, over-grazing and over-fishing threaten this critical ecosystem.

This project will begin restoring GLA's ecological integrity through community-led, natural capital-based sustainable management. This will increase well-being and water security, while protecting biodiversity and connectivity through sustainable tourism, women-led cooperatives, land-use planning, biological monitoring and Bird Sanctuary declaration.

## PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

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**Title** Mr  
**Name** Jake  
**Surname** Williams  
**Organisation** Zoological Society of London  
**Tel (Work)**  
**Email (Work)**  
**Address**

## CONTACT DETAILS

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**Title** Ms  
**Name** Laura  
**Surname** Darcy  
**Organisation** Zoological Society of London  
**Website (Work)** [www.zsl.org](http://www.zsl.org)  
**Tel (Work)**  
**Email (Work)**  
**Address**

## Section 1 - Contact Details

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### PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

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**Title** Mr  
**Name** Jake  
**Surname** Williams  
**Organisation** Zoological Society of London  
**Tel (Work)**  
**Email (Work)**  
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### CONTACT DETAILS

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**Title** Ms  
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**Tel (Work)**  
**Email (Work)**  
**Address**

### GMS ORGANISATION

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Type	Organisation
<b>Name</b>	Zoological Society of London
<b>Phone</b>	
<b>Email</b>	
<b>Address</b>	

## Section 2 - Title, Dates & Budget Summary

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### Q3. Project title:

Ghodaghodi's Guardians: Communities restoring a Ramsar wetland at watershed scale

**What was your Stage 1 reference number? e.g. DIR25S1\100123**

## Q4. Country(ies)

Which eligible country(ies) will your project be working in? Where there are more than 4 countries that your project will be working in, please add more boxes using the selection option below.

Country 1	Nepal	Country 2	No Response
Country 3	No Response	Country 4	No Response

Do you require more fields?

No

## Q5. Project dates

<b>Start date:</b> 01 April 2019	<b>End date:</b> 31 March 2022	<b>Duration (e.g. 2 years, 3 months):</b> 3 years
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## Q6. Budget summary

Year:	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	Total request
<b>Amount:</b>	£112,125.00	£114,587.00	£94,219.00	<b>£</b> 320,931.00

Q6a. Do you have proposed matched funding arrangements?

Yes

What matched funding arrangements are proposed?

In-kind matched funding of partner salaries (DNPWC project lead, HN project lead, community officer and accountant); and matched funding for the development of basic green tourism infrastructure, will be provided by CGLTDB to protect the local environment and support local capture of tourism revenue.

Q6b. Proposed (confirmed and unconfirmed) co-financing as % of total project cost 13

## Section 3 - Project Summary

## Q7. 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](https://www.gov.uk). Please write this summary for a non-technical audience.

Ghodaghodi Lake Area (GLA) is a globally-significant Ramsar wetland with high natural capital and biodiversity, playing a crucial role in enabling conflict-free species movement through the transboundary Western Terai Complex. However, fast-growing tourism, agro-pollution, over-grazing and over-fishing threaten this critical ecosystem.

This project will begin restoring GLA's ecological integrity through community-led, natural capital-based sustainable management. This will increase well-being and water security, while protecting biodiversity and connectivity through sustainable tourism, women-led cooperatives, land-use planning, biological monitoring and Bird Sanctuary declaration.

## Section 4 - Lead Organisation Summary

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### Q8. Lead organisation summary

Has your organisation been awarded a Darwin Initiative award before (for the purposes of this question, being a partner does not count)?

Yes

If yes, please provide details of the most recent awards (up to 6 examples).

Reference No	Project Leader	Title
25-012	Gitanjali Bhattacharya	Steppe-Up: Community-led recovery of Mongolia's iconic species and forest-steppe ecosystem
25-024	Jeremy Huet	Securing marine biodiversity and fishers' income through sustainable fisheries, Mozambique
24-015	Gitanjali Bhattacharya	Community conservation of Chitwan National Park's freshwater ecosystems and gharials
24-027	Heather Koldewey	Applying business models to sustain socio-ecological resilience in coastal Philippines
24-016	Matthew Gollock	Sustainable community-based stewardship of freshwater resources in the Northern Philippines

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**Have you provided the requested signed audited/independently examined accounts? If you select "yes" you will be able to upload these. Note that this is not required from Government Agencies.**

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Yes

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## Section 5 - Project Partners

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### Q9. Project partners

**Please list all the partners involved (including the Lead Organisation) 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 Letters of Support for each partner or explain why this has not been included.**

**N.B. There is a file upload button at the bottom of this page for the upload of a cover letter (if applicable) and all letters of support.**

**Lead Organisation name:** Zoological Society of London

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**Website address:** [www.zsl.org](http://www.zsl.org)

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**Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):**

Role: Project Lead.

Responsibilities: ZSL will manage the project and oversee partners, bringing together the relevant skills to complete the project, including overall technical, financial and risk management. In-country staff, with support from the UK, will provide expertise in community conservation, wildlife monitoring, community support and project reporting.

Capacity to lead: ZSL is a science-based international conservation charity, with activities and projects in over 50 countries and a wide range of conservation expertise.

In Nepal, ZSL has 25 years of experience, permanent staff, and strong partnerships with relevant individual experts, international NGOs and government bodies. ZSL's successes in Nepal include establishing community-based patrolling to protect tigers and pangolins; providing the biological evidence base for conservation policy; mitigating Human-Wildlife Conflict; and helping secure and upgrade several protected areas (e.g. Parsa and Shuklaphanta National Parks).

The project will also include members of ZSL's thought-leading Marine and Freshwater Team, bringing their expertise of building effective community conservation models in freshwater systems. This will include South-to-South knowledge exchange with ZSL's Freshwater conservation project in the Philippines (funded by the Darwin Initiative projects (DI21-020 and DI24-016)), including exchange visits and technical experts from the Philippines joining the project implementation team, providing regional remote support.

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**Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?**

Yes

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**Have you provided a cover letter to address your Stage 1 feedback?**

Yes

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**Do you have partners involved in the Project?**

Yes

**1. Partner Name:**

Department of Forests and Soil Conservation (Previously DoFW)

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**Website address:**

<http://dof.gov.np>

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**Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):**

Role: Government Implementation Partner; Monitoring and Coordination

Responsibilities: DoFSC will provide coordination, permissions and technical support for the establishment of the Ghodaghodi Bird Sanctuary. Through the District Forest Office, it will support engagement with communities and stakeholders across the wider Ghodaghodi watershed, including Community Forest User Groups (CFUGs). It will: support the development and institutionalisation of management plans at the municipal level; coordinate national level government departments and officials to promote the importance of GLA; and facilitate the dissemination of project impact reporting and policy briefs to leading policy makers.

Capacity to engage: DoFSC is the key national government department tasked with managing and coordinating forests, watersheds and wildlife in Nepal, outside of Protected Areas. It has national-level responsibility for the Ghodaghodi watershed, exercised through the District Forest Office. DoFSC is the government body responsible for working closely with the communities and CFUGs, responsible for the co-management of the Basanta Protected Forest. It also manages the extensive, long-running national Community Forestry Programme, including engagement with CFUGs, and wildlife protection.

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**Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?**

Yes

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**2. Partner Name:**

Ghodaghodi Municipality (GM)

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**Website address:**

<http://ghodaghodimun.gov.np/en>

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**Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):**

Role: Government Delivery Partner

Responsibilities: as the local authority responsible for the entire Ghodaghodi watershed, GM will lead engagement with the Comprehensive Ghodaghodi Lake and Tourism Development Board (CGLTDB), and take a central role engaging communities and stakeholders, both in and around the area, to secure the designation of the Bird Sanctuary, protected status for Ghodaghodi. It will also coordinate all engagement across the wider watershed. GM will feed into the development of management, tourism, land-use and monitoring plans for the area, and once agreed will take full ownership of these, along with leading the CGLTDB. This local ownership will ensure post-project legacy through the long-term implementation and institutionalisation of these plans.

Capacity to engage: GM is determined to protect the GLA through the designation of the GLA as a Bird Sanctuary and established the CGLTDB to manage this area to protect local biodiversity and livelihoods. The GM has requested technical support from ZSL to help to achieve this, and to ensure that future land use planning and management are increasingly participatory, involving all stakeholders inclusively, and ensuring voice and representation for marginalised groups such as women and the area's indigenous Tharu people become the norm.

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**Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?**

Yes

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**3. Partner Name:**

Comprehensive Ghodaghodi Lake and Tourism Development Board (CGLTDB)

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**Website address:**

NA

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**Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):**

Role: Delivery partner

Responsibilities: the CGLTDB has the key role of ensuring long-term community-led sustainable management and conservation of GLA. Their focus is on using the increasing levels of tourism as a catalyst to empower communities to protect natural capital and improve their livelihoods, through both tourism enterprises and using tourism revenue to make investments in the sustainability and productivity of their traditional livelihoods.

It will therefore play a key role in delivering all project outputs: it will work with local communities in developing and implementing the natural capital governance mechanisms (output 1) for GLA; oversee the development and operations of women’s co-operatives; play a central role in developing the sustainable tourism master plan; facilitate the development of the land-use plan for the upstream watershed; and own the biodiversity monitoring programme developed by the project, later integrating it into their annual workplan with resourcing delivery through their government-allocated budget.

Capacity to engage: The CGLTDB has been closely involved in developing this project with ZSL and working to shape it to fit local needs and capacities for long-term implementation. The CGLTDB has also established the Ghodaghodi Area Conservation & People Awareness Forum, a local NGO, and will lead engagement with them.

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**Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?**

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Yes

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**4. Partner Name:**

Himalayan Nature (HN)

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**Website address:**

<http://himalayannature.org>

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**Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):**

Role: NGO Delivery Partner

Responsibilities: as one of Nepal's leading national NGOs, HN will lead the day-to-day community engagement throughout the project employing their team of social mobilisers, to focusing on supporting the delivery of outputs 1,2, and 4. They will help ensure that the land use planning and establishment of the Bird Sanctuary benefit local communities.

Capacity to engage: HN has partnered with ZSL for over nine years, including on previous projects funded by the Darwin Initiative (e.g. DI24-015). HN established Nepal's first bird observatory and field education centre in another Ramsar Site in the Churia foothills. HN is experienced in promoting meaningful participation in biodiversity conservation, having supported community engagement in natural resource management since their establishment in 2000. They also bring their expertise in scientific surveys – including biomonitoring of waterbirds, habitat restoration, and eco-tourism. HN will support the design, development and implementation of appropriate livelihood interventions and community conservation initiatives.

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**Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?**

Yes

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**5. Partner Name:**

*No Response*

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**Website address:**

*No Response*

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**Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):**

*No Response*

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**Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?**

Yes

No

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**6. Partner Name:**

*No Response*

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**Website address:**

*No Response*

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**Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):**

*No Response*

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**Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?**

Yes


No


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If you require more space to enter details regarding Partners involved in the Project, please use the text field below.


*No Response*


Please provide a cover letter responding to feedback received at Stage 1 if applicable and a combined PDF of all letters of support.


 **Response to Stage1 Feedback Ghodaghodi**


 03/12/2018


 21:54:03

 docx 30.71 KB

 **Letters of Support**

 03/12/2018

 16:06:17

 pdf 2.61 MB

## Section 6 - Project Staff

### Q10. Key project personnel

Please identify the core staff 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	% time on project	CV attached below?
Dr Hem Baral	<b>Project Leader</b>	5	Checked
Matt Gollock, Rosemarie Apurado	Freshwater Project Advisors	8	Checked
Daya Ram Chaudhary	CGLTDB Lead	20	Checked
Dr Bhagawan Dahal	Senior Project Officer	5	Checked


Do you require more fields?


Yes


Name (First name, Surname)	Role	% time on project	CV attached below?
Bhogendra Rayamajhi	Senior Programme Officer	20	Checked
Pradeep Raj Joshi	Freshwater Officer	100	Checked
3x TBC	1x Community Officer and 2x Social Mobilisers	100	Checked

**Please provide 1 page CVs (or job description if yet to be recruited) for the Project staff listed above. Ensure the file is named clearly, consistent with the named individual and role above.**

 **CV pack GLA**

 03/12/2018

 21:55:18

 docx 51.83 KB

**Have you attached all Project staff CVs?**

No

**Why have all Project staff CVs not been attached?**

The Community Officer and Social Mobilisers are in recruitment, and Terms of Reference are attached.

There are several team members reflected in the budget who do not appear in the above list due to space limitations. CV's are included in the CV pack for these staff following the CVs of those core staff listed above. CVs are not included for certain staff where their roles are administrative self-explanatory or minor.

## **Section 7 - Problem Statement & Conventions**

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### **Q11. 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?**

The GLA is a Ramsar site and Key Biodiversity Area (KBA). The largest standing freshwater system in lowland Nepal, with high natural capital, it provides ecosystem services and livelihoods for ca. 5,000 households. Highly biodiverse, it supports significant populations of Fishing Cat (VU), Muggler Crocodile (VU), national biodiversity indicator species (Cotton Pygmy Goose (LC)), 299 bird and 29 fish species[1,2,3,4]. As a critical ecological stepping stone within the degraded Basanta forest corridor, it enables movement from the Siwalik range into the heart of the Western Terai Complex: Bardia and Shuklaphanta National Parks, and Dudhwa Tiger Reserve[5]. Its restoration is vital for transboundary, landscape-scale tiger recovery and viable elephant populations.





Lacking any protected status beyond its Ramsar designation, a situation analysis and series of community consultations determined that GLA's ecosystem is imperilled: over-exploitation of aquatic resources and over-grazing is eroding this wetland's natural capital[4]. Over 35,000 domestic tourists visit annually, generating waste and straining resources. Across the watershed, rampant pesticide (e.g. endosulfan [6]) and fertiliser pollution, drives eutrophication while poisoning wildlife, livestock and people; upstream, cumulative deforestation disrupts hydrology[1], increasing flood and drought risks[7]. Ghodaghodi municipality's population is growing rapidly due to migration from hilly areas, enabled by highway expansion, further threatening this KBA.

The degradation of this vital ecosystem and services, severely negatively impacts wildlife and communities[2]; eroding the livelihoods of around 5,000 vulnerable fish and livestock-dependent

households; and undermining religio-cultural values for Tharu indigenous people (36% of local population), as this site is a major shrine.

This project mitigates these threats by capitalising on time-sensitive opportunities: a local government seeking to protect GLA; realisation that culturally-appropriate tourism benefits local green economic growth and prosperity[4]; and communities requesting external support to restore their ecosystem. Together these offer a substantial opportunity and potential to secure GLA's future.

**If necessary, please provide supporting documentation e.g. maps, diagrams etc., using the File Upload below:**

- 
-  **Annexes**
  -  03/12/2018
  -  16:30:52
  -  pdf 5.03 MB

## Q12. Biodiversity Conventions, Treaties and Agreements

**Q12a. 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)
- Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS)
- Ramsar Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar)

### Q12b. 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.**

Nepal's NBSAP (2014-2020) identifies increasing anthropogenic pressure and inappropriate management of freshwater resources as major drivers of declines in wetland biodiversity. It calls for 'sustainable management of at least 10 major wetlands by 2020'. This project meets this call, by mitigating threats to GLA, supporting local livelihoods and creating a model for sustainable management of wetland resources in Nepal.

This project supports the government of Nepal to meet the following Aichi Targets:

1- Raising awareness of wetland ecosystems' importance, through education and involvement of local people in natural resource management. This particularly benefits the Tharu indigenous people, who combine a desire to understand and protect the natural resources on which they depend, with limited pathways and opportunities to act on this desire.

2- Integration of biodiversity conservation into existing local tourism/development strategies, by bringing together multiple stakeholders to develop a GLA tourism master plan and a participatory management plan. Securing sustainable land use by addressing the impacts of the highway along the southern edge of the GLA, and establishing sustainable grazing regimes, aquaculture and no-take zones.

5,6,7,8- The GLA management plan and associated measures, will aim to reduce habitat loss (target 5); secure sustainable management and harvest of agricultural land, forests (target 7) and fish (target 6); and reduce pollution to levels that are not detrimental to the functioning of the GLA ecosystem (target 8).

12- Improving the conservation status of threatened species, such as the Lesser Adjutant Stork (*Leptotilos javanicus*) (VU), Fishing Cat (*Prionailurus viverrinus*) (VU), Mugger Crocodile (*Crocodylus palustris*) (VU), and nationally recognised biodiversity indicator species such as Cotton Pygmy Goose (*Nettapus coromandelianus*) (LC) and the religiously important and threatened Lotus (*Nelumbo nucifera*).

14- Safeguarding the GLA ecosystem and its services, through participatory planning for tourism and natural resource management, while safeguarding and embedding the needs and culture of local indigenous populations. Supporting women's livelihoods through establishing cooperatives. Safeguarding indigenous Tharu people's rights to celebrate cultural traditions and annual festival at the lake. Utilising a green growth approach, including agreeing a sustainable framework to construct tourism infrastructure and capturing sustainable economic benefits from the growing number of national and international tourists.

17- Progressing implementation of Nepal's NBSAP.

18,19- Providing robust data on the GLA ecosystem and wetland-dependent species. Integrating this with local needs and practices.

The project also responds to some of the key challenges set out in Nepal's 2018 National Ramsar Report. These are: limited technical capacity for wetland management, low awareness of the role of wetlands among stakeholders and beneficiaries, and limited financial resources. It also responds to key future priorities, namely: monitoring and research to ensure Ramsar sites have robust baseline data to inform management; sustainable livelihoods; ecotourism; wetland management. GLA requires protection and a new management plan, as – unusually – it is a Ramsar site with no recognised PA status, which Bird Sanctuary status will address.

The project also supports key habitat of the following CMS Appendix I species: *Aythya nyroca*, *Neophron percnopterus*, *Sarcogyps calvus*, *Gyps tenuirostris*, *Gyps bengalensis*, *Clanga clanga*, *Aquila nipalensis*.

### **Q12c. Is any liaison proposed with the CBS/ABS/ITPGRFA/CITES/CMS/Ramsar focal point in the host country?**

Yes

#### **Please give details:**

Mr Yajna Nath Dahal, Joint Secretary-Environment and Biodiversity Division at the Ministry of Forests and Environment (MoFE) is the focal point for Nepal CBD, CITES and Ramsar sites. ZSL has a MoU with MOFE (previously Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation) which includes sharing information for national CBD reports. ZSL is liaising with MoFE for other Nepal projects including the existing DI project, Chitwan (D124-015).

The project leader will be responsible for coordination, liaison and sharing reports with MoFE. They will log information in the national database and ensure data is included in national reports to CBD, CITES and Ramsar.

### **Q12d. Global Goals for Sustainable Development (SDGs)**

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

1, 2- Promoting sustainable incomes and access to food for poor and marginalised communities, through better-managed fisheries and aquaculture (potentially supplying tourists) and livestock, with lower levels of pollutants entering the food chain. The project will balance wildlife protection with local access and control over land and natural resources.

5- Promoting gender equality and empowering women through women-led cooperatives, recognising their rights over economic resources, while supporting women's participation in natural capital governance.

3, 6- Environmentally friendly practices upstream, with greater integrated management of water resources plug into existing governance frameworks, aiming to reduce the pollution of wetland systems, increasing access to clean water and directly contributing to improved health and wellbeing.

8, 10- Women-led cooperatives will increase community members' access to financial capital, reducing financial vulnerability. Inequality will be addressed, through targeted opportunities for women and indigenous Tharu, whose livelihoods are heavily reliant on the direct exploitation of natural resources. Their limited livelihood opportunities and high levels of illiteracy, exacerbate their marginalisation and vulnerability to the negative impacts of natural resource decline.

12- Supporting sustainable production and consumption practice will improve fisheries/livestock management, reducing human-wildlife conflict and pressure on wild fish stocks.

15- Wise-use programmes, scientific knowledge, capacity building and conservation measures will protect terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity.

16- A responsive, participatory and representative decision-making approach, across different jurisdictions within GLA area, and cooperatives will be facilitated through strengthening institutional capacity of CGLTDB and GM, and their partnerships with communities, local institutions (NGOs, CFUGs and cooperatives).

## **Section 8 - Method, Change Expected, Gender & Exit Strategy**

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### **Q13. 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.).**

**This may be a repeat from Stage 1, but you should update or refine as necessary.**

The project combines ZSL and partners extensive community conservation experience in Nepal (e.g. DI22-009), with ZSL's experience delivering freshwater community conservation in the Philippines (DI24-016, DI21-020) utilising peer-to-peer South-to-South knowledge exchange. (See Q17a. for full details.) This approach will pioneer a conservation model for Nepal's neglected freshwater ecosystems.

1. Equitable, effective natural-capital governance of GLA

To build capacity and leadership of CGLTDB, every member will be trained in participatory approaches and good governance. ZSL/HN will recruit and train Freshwater Information System for Household (FISH) volunteers from each of 39 settlements in GLA, to become community focal points for freshwater information sharing and sustainable management, feeding information into the working group. Annual Participatory Natural Capital Assessment Workshops (PNCAs) will be held to develop: 1) a Natural Capital performance-based incentive mechanism managed by GM and CGLTDB – designed to increase public



investments, into communities who adopt and employ environmentally-friendly practices; and 2) a participatory management plan including reduced-impact fisheries, aquaculture, and sustainable grazing, agreed by all stakeholders.

## 2. Sustainable natural capital-based livelihoods

ZSL will establish two women-led cooperatives to support at least 200 poor and marginalised households within GLA's most vulnerable Tharu communities to transition to sustainable livelihoods. These cooperatives will have bylaws governing the making and repayment of loans, regular savings, conservation funds and sustainable livelihood investments. This will draw on ZSL's successful livelihood cooperative model from Shuklaphanta NP (DI22-009), and ZSL's VSLA model from the Philippines, Mozambique and more. Cooperative members will be encouraged to actively participate in PNCAs, and GLA tourism/management planning.

## 3. Securing green tourism

ZSL, GM and CGLTDB will review all existing relevant tourism development plans, capacity and markets that could impact GLA, to identify threats to GLA's ecological integrity, and co-develop a tourism master plan with all 39 local settlements. CGLTDB will take ownership of the plan and assure waste-management, protection of ecologically-important areas from tourism development and support for green tourism infrastructure e.g. bicycle trails, information centres and green toilets.

## 4. Protection frameworks for GLA and wider watershed

To engender support for Nepal's first Bird Sanctuary, project partners will prepare policy briefs, hold workshops and host visits from local and national officials to promote the importance of GLA. Once approved finalised plans from outputs 1, 3, 4 and 5, will feed into the GLA Bird Sanctuary Management Plan.

GM/DoFSC will lead participatory land-use planning with the 10 upstream settlements, for GLA's upstream watershed; developing sustainable land-use approaches building on existing Basanta Protected Forest land-use zoning. ZSL will technically support implementation of passive riparian restoration, grazing and pesticide/fertiliser management; informed by feedback from regular drop-in sessions in upstream communities.

## 5. Evidence-based conservation and policy

ZSL will train volunteers, citizen-scientists and university students on socio-economic assessments, and established methods from Nepal[8] and ZSL's work in the Philippines for freshwater monitoring. Annual monitoring of key indicator species (indicator 0.1) and natural-capital (indicator 5.1) will guide conservation in GLA; informing adaptive improvements of plans; and refining the development of a scalable model. PNCAs will share finding with communities (output 1).

## Q14. 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.**

Over-exploitation and degradation of natural resources declines:

Within GLA reduced-impact fisheries will lead to a short-term demonstrable reduction in fishing impacts and long-term sustainability. By project end, 50% of GLA's grassland will be under conservation management; reduced livestock grazing at the lake edge will restrict run-off and reduce erosion, lowering non-natural nutrient inputs by 20%, and reducing eutrophication and turbidity. Similarly, lake edge pollution from small-scale tourism will decline dramatically under the agreed tourism plan, underpinned by green infrastructure that is executed by CGLTDB. In the long-term, in the upstream watershed, degradation and pollution will decline, enabled by effective participatory land-use planning designed to protect and restore riparian forests and manage pesticides/fertilisers (including endosulfans) usage.

Natural Capital Recovers:

As a result, the degradation of habitats and natural capital within GLA will be halted and reversed; water quality will improve, and foundations for long-term population recovery of wetland and freshwater species will be set. Populations of priority species including Lesser Adjutant Stork, Fishing cat and Mugger Crocodile will stabilise or increase. Wild fish stocks will demonstrate recovery in the short-term and thrive in the long-term. In the short-term, priority wetlands/grasslands will be restored with increased climate change resilience and productivity achieved long-term.

Wellbeing of 5,000 households within GLA increases:

All 5,000 households' wellbeing, including income, food and water security, will increase in the long-term, from increased fish stocks, water quality, income from tourism and recreational ecosystem services. In the short-term, wellbeing of the average household will increase by 10%. Women-led cooperatives will build financial, human and social capital for 200 (ca.1000 people) of the most vulnerable and freshwater-dependent households, enabling them to invest in more sustainable and productive livelihoods, including tourism, increase their wellbeing by an expected 40% (see Q15.). In the long-term, women-led cooperatives will expand to build financial and social capital throughout GLA's communities enabling an ecological and economically sustainable development trajectory.

Communities are empowered:

CFUGs role will be strengthened through management and land-use plans, capacity building for their members and by embedding them into the GLA governance structure providing access to CGLTDB and GM. Similarly, the voice of settlements without CFUGs, will be increased through inclusion in the GLA working group.

Governance strengthens:

GLA will be designated a Bird Sanctuary and provided with a robust ecological evidence base, enabling opportunities to secure additional funding, further protection and enabling informed management. Similarly, Basanta Protected Forest will be strengthened through expanding its land-use zoning approach, to consider the importance of watershed management.

Wider landscape is safeguarded:

The resulting secure and well-managed watershed will reprise its wider ecological role as a critical stepping stone, providing connectivity across the landscape for key species, including tigers and elephants

(potentially enabling species range shifts in response to climate change).

The wetland and watershed management approach will provide a model for replication in Nepal's neglected freshwater systems. Moreover, it will trial an innovative new approach to conserving vital ecological connectivity and water security throughout Nepal, enabling community conservation of its extensive freshwater network.

## Q15. 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.**

Governance

In 2018, Nepal ranked 118th on the UN Gender Inequality Index. However, women hold 29.6% of seats in parliament (the 14th highest globally), due to a quota system. This reflects both a situation where women are present in decision making fora but often less active than men, but also the national determination to increase women's voice in public life. This project will support progressive action to meet women's representation quotas through project training courses, GM and CGLTDB providing entry points for women, and actively encourage local women to take leadership roles across the project. More importantly all women will be empowered and supported to play a more active role in the decision-making fora where they are already present (e.g. CGUGs), utilising women-led cooperatives, already shown to empower women in this way (DI22009).

Benefits-sharing

Equal benefit-sharing will be enshrined into the constitutions of CGLTDB and cooperatives, supported by targeting women-led cooperatives (including male members) opportunities at the most marginalised freshwater-dependent groups (e.g. Tharu, 36% of GLA population), opening access training to ensure equitable implementation. This will achieve equal gains in wellbeing between Tharu and non-marginalised groups by project end. New cooperatives will focus on culturally appropriate livelihoods for indigenous Tharu women, such as snail farming, water chestnuts, handicrafts and homestays. In addition, traditional socio-cultural identities and values will be preserved, through safeguarding GLA and its role in Tharu religious life, both for local Tharu and those visiting as part of religio-cultural tourism.

Project management

ZSL will recruit on a gender-blind basis. Women will be prioritised to join all capacity-building opportunities, paying consideration to 'time poverty' and other drivers of inequality such as household poverty and age, to enable participation. All project data will be disaggregated by gender to assess success promoting gender equality and take gender equality opportunities that emerge.

## Q16. 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?**

The exit strategy combines the following.

In-country capacity building: This project will reach a sustainable end-point through the capacity building central to multiple project components. Training will build skills of public sector staff from the GM and CGLTDB, while facilitating long-term improvements to governance and planning mechanisms, enabling them to take full responsibility for the management of GLA Bird Sanctuary. Community involvement and key technical skills will be embedded, including via cooperatives, existing CFUGs, and training 45 community members and DoFSC staff in natural capital monitoring. Increased financial flow, mainly through green tourism, will ensure the sustainability of the Bird Sanctuary management plan for the long-term.

ZSL's commitment: ZSL has worked in Nepal for over twenty-five years, and has a dedicated team of 20 people, based on a head office in Kathmandu and field stations in two sites. ZSL will remain available for ongoing technical support having recently confirmed its long-term commitment to the country.

Integration with the priorities and commitments of the Nepal government: GM and the CGLTDB have jointly designed this project, to help them implement the NBSAP, deliver on Ramsar commitments, protect GLA's natural resources while benefiting local people and mainstream biodiversity into local tourism.

**Please provide supporting documentation e.g. maps, diagrams etc., using the File Upload below:**

*No Response*

## Section 9 - Existing works, Ethics & Safeguarding

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### Q17a. Harmonisation

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

Development of existing work

**Please give details:**

The project builds on ZSL and HN's long-standing experience in Nepal, working with local communities and public sector partners to protect biodiversity. It extends our proven model of combining conservation with community cooperatives (DI22-009), builds on our community conservation work to protect Gharials and their river ecosystem (DI24-015), and is informed by our extensive experience working in core habitats and corridors to enable wildlife movement at a landscape scale.

It simultaneously builds on ZSL's leading expertise in freshwater conservation and community engagement, and specifically our extensive programme in the Philippines (including DI21-020, DI24-016). In this project we work with communities in the Cagayan River Basin to enable them to protect and benefit from their natural resources. This approach is self-reinforcing as communities feel ownership and invest more in conservation through Village Savings and Loans Associations (VSLAs) and matched funding from local government. This approach has been recognised as a model for replication elsewhere in the country by governmental partners, and ZSL is replicating it internationally.

This project will draw on the experience and learning from ZSL's existing Darwin Initiative projects through South-to-South knowledge exchange visits between Nepal and the Philippines and shared technical staffing between the two projects.

**Q17b. Are you aware of any other individuals/organisations/projects carrying out or applying for funding for similar work?**

Yes

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

There have been conservation efforts in the Ghodaghodi area previously. Prior projects conducted by the Government of Nepal have supported the sustainable development and conservation of GLA, for example the Western Terai Landscape Conservation Project (WTLCP), and Conservation and Sustainable Use of Wetlands in Nepal Project (CSUWN). ZSL will utilise the information and lessons learnt from these projects to implement sustained, effective project activities.

Bird Conservation Nepal (BCN) has an annual monitoring programme for migrating water birds in GLA. The Project Leader is the national coordinator for this monitoring programme and will ensure project collaboration with BCN.

## Q18. Ethics

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

ZSL has been working in Nepal for the last 25 years and has an excellent track record regarding working principles. ZSL's Ethics Committee (an independent body of experts) will review all project activities to ensure that they meet ZSL's established ethical standards, which also cover the key principles required by the Darwin Initiative.

ZSL and partners all have the support of the local community to undertake this project, and local government partners (GM and CGLTDB) are central to the activities. We will provide a full explanation of the project principles and objectives and seek written Free, Prior Informed Consent (FPIC) from our target communities. The Project Leader, with support from the Project team and Advisors, will ensure there are no adverse effects on any community members and that interventions are pro-poor and gender aware, integrating the needs of poor, marginalised Tharu communities, with the need to protect biodiversity. ZSL and partners always aim to ensure that communities gain meaningful livelihood benefits and increased voice/influence through management and decision-making.

The decision to prioritise the Tharu community for certain activities (e.g. cooperatives) is ethically justified by their economic and social marginalisation, and limited, natural-capital-dependent livelihood options, compared to the hill-migrants, who are from occupational castes, generally with higher education and more diverse livelihood options.

Prior to the collection of any socioeconomic/personal information, the aims of the project and confidentiality arrangements of resulting data will be explained to respondents. Respondents will be given the opportunity to opt out of any interview or survey should they desire.

ZSL's Health and Safety procedures require full Risk Assessments and Emergency Procedures to be completed for all activities. ZSL staff are covered by Falck Global Assistance for emergencies that may occur during their work. Project partners also have high standards of health and safety.

## Q19. Safeguarding

**(see Guidance Note 3.8)**

**Projects funded through the Darwin Initiative must fully protect vulnerable people all of the time, wherever they work. In order to provide assurance of this, we would like projects to ensure they have**

**the appropriate safeguarding policies in place. Please tick the box to confirm you have relevant policies in place and that these can be available on request.**

Checked

## **Section 10 - Biodiversity & Project Information**

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### **Q20. 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?**

Communicating the links between natural capital and wellbeing

The project has a major focus on ensuring these links are transparent and understood by a range of audiences, from the Tharu communities to wider stakeholders and public officials. Communications will be key to ensuring the success of measures such as the no-take zones and steps to reduce water pollution from livestock, which will demonstrably benefit both people and biodiversity. In Tharu communities, with higher illiteracy (20%), the appropriate communication materials include communication in Tharu language, public pictures and art, brochures; while for public sector workers materials will include reports, presentations and meetings. All audiences will be brought together for the PNCAWs, which will involve everybody via in-depth discussion and presentations.

Biodiversity awareness and governance

By project end, 45 local staff and community members will be trained in biomonitoring of the GLA/Bird sanctuary. This is designed to give these individuals a significant amount of knowledge, enabling greater local influence on, and support for, natural resource management. The findings will be shared through presentations for communities and reports to public officials, which also will inform adaptive, participatory management of the area. Information boards highlighting the global and national relevance of the ecosystem and species, and community stewardship will raise appreciation of biodiversity and encourage GLA visitors to reduce their environmental impact.

Informing policy

The participatory management plan and peer-reviewed scientific paper will act as a repository of information for a range of decision makers, such as local NGOs, public agencies, and municipal officials. This, and policy briefs on the GLA and the process of establishing the Bird Sanctuary, will be shared with national-level policy makers, to influence the management of Ramsar sites, facilitate expansion of the Bird Sanctuary model, inform reporting to the CBD and Ramsar Convention and guide future research initiatives.

### **Q21. 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.**

Building community and government capacity to better manage natural resources and develop sustainable

and productive livelihoods lies at the heart of this project. Capacity building will be deepened and enhanced through South-to-South collaboration and knowledge exchange, with the D124-016 project in the Philippines (see Q17a). ZSL's commitment to Nepal will ensure ongoing technical support.

#### Institutional

ZSL/HN will train nine CGLTDB members in equitable participatory approaches, with 40 people being trained as FISH volunteers (at least one per settlement in GLA).

Training in biological monitoring by ZSL experts for at least 45 people (5 DoFSC staff and 40 FISH representative) members will build GM and CGLTDB's capacity to monitor and respond to changes in Bird Sanctuary's natural capital.

Approaches such as land-use planning and the natural capital assessment workshops will progressively transfer to municipal partners. Policy briefs and liaison between DoFSC, DNPW and their national-level colleagues will share the project learning nationally. Management plans will function as a store of institutional memory. The participatory process for determining, then implementing, the best approaches to green tourism will build local capacity to understand, plan and manage tourism and its impacts.

#### Individual

Increased capacity of community members and FISH focal points will improve their wellbeing, through plans to manage their natural capital sustainably over the long-term, with entry points for literate or illiterate participants to support implementation of agreed sustainable fishing techniques and practices for 25 GLA-dependent fisherman and training in sustainable aquaculture for 100 community members. Management techniques will be institutionalised within communities and GLA management, to continue post-project.

Business and financial management skills will develop through co-producing sustainable and productive livelihood options, and providing targeted training in cooperative management, financial skills and small business development. By institutionalising these skills in the cooperatives, this capacity will continue to be exercised and increased post-project.

## Q22. Access to project information

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

Externally, all project outputs will be made available on ZSL and partners' websites and disseminated via ZSL's social media (Facebook, Twitter, blogs). Content will be provided to ZSL and the Darwin Initiative's press department for inclusion in newsletters and press releases. These costs are covered by the overhead contributions requested.

We will disseminate the information further afield through associated organisations such as conservation and development agencies working in Nepal, and at related events held at ZSL's London headquarters. Data will be shared to feed into global conservation initiatives such as the Living Planet Index as well as national needs, such as meeting and informing the regular reporting to the Ramsar Convention, UN CBD and other conservation efforts such as the UN flyways.

It is important that we share the project's outputs with those without access to digital media, so we will provide hard copies in local languages of reports to communities and other stakeholders, as well as taking

opportunities to present the project on local tv and radio, which are major sources of information for local communities. Results will also be communicated verbally to community members, using several avenues developed by the project including PNCAWs and community drop-in sessions, this will ensure that everyone regardless of their literacy level has access to this information. Printing costs have been included in the budget requested.

Access, understanding and utilisation of the knowledge sharing efforts of the project will be measured at various points, across the M &E framework include obtaining beneficiary feedback.

## Section 11 - Logical Framework

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### Q23. 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.

#### **Impact:**

Ecological connectivity through the critical Western Terai Corridor is restored, with a well-managed community-led protected area at its heart, providing an innovative model of freshwater-based conservation of Nepal's ecological connectivity.

<b>Project summary</b>	<b>Measurable Indicators</b>	<b>Means of verification</b>	<b>Important Assumptions</b>
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**Outcome:**

GLA's globally-significant biodiversity and natural capital secured through sustainable and equitable management as a Bird Sanctuary, with upstream watershed threats addressed, safeguarding globally-threatened species' recovery and communities' livelihoods and culture.

0.1 Key local populations of nationally and ecologically relevant indicator species to be confirmed in year 1 (e.g. Lesser Adjutant Stork (*Leptotilos javanicus*) (VU), Mugger Crocodile (*Crocodylus palustris*) (VU) and Cotton Pygmy Goose (*Nettapus coromandelianus*) (LC)) are stable or increasing (baseline= year 1) by project end.

0.2 GLA's conservation status is upgraded to become Nepal's first Bird Sanctuary, and prioritised for conservation by local and national government with at least 20% more projected annual management input going to the site (baseline = year 0) by project end.

0.3 Implementation of an evidence-based Ghodaghodi Bird Sanctuary management plan (comprising components: i/participatory management plan, ii/GLA tourism master plan, iii/watershed management plan and iv/natural capital monitoring plan) achieves a 15% increase in natural capital (relevant metrics to be defined in year 1, see 5.1 below) within GLA by project end (baseline = year 1) .

0.1 Annual indicator species monitoring results

0.2 Ghodaghodi Bird Sanctuary documents and reports, GM annual plan, DoFSC annual plan, media coverage

0.3 Ghodaghodi Bird Sanctuary Management Plan; Natural capital assessments of KPIs identified under indicator 5.1

0.4 Community pesticide and fertiliser purchase and use records, and water quality monitoring records as applicable.

0.5 Community survey (year 1 & project end): scores on overall economic wellbeing index, compiled from locally defined wellbeing indicators, using a participatory wealth ranking approach [9], material style of life measures [A], the Food Insecurity Experience Scale [10] and a subjective wellbeing measure.

Ghodaghodi Municipality (GM) and CGLTDB remain committed to conservation of GLA.

Biodiversity conservation remains a national priority, with a political situation conducive for conservation and project implementation.

Increased financial resources devoted to the site reflects increased government commitment to its conservation, and will result in improved conservation outcomes.

Communities will share this information willingly, including on levels of usage near watercourses

ZSL's deployment of a locally-defined participatory wealth-ranking wellbeing index will be appropriate to the local context. Given our experience applying it across different socioeconomic classes and self-identified community subgroups, in the Philippines, Mozambique and Cameroon.

A 10% stratified sample of households in GLA is sufficient to identify wellbeing increases generally and disaggregate this by groups.

0.4 20% decline in eutrophication drivers across watershed - non-natural nutrient inputs and pesticide pollution - (baseline = year 1) by project end.

0.5 Households show positive change in overall wellbeing index (baseline= year 1) by project end.

0.5.1 10% sample of households in GLA (total = ca. 5,000) show at least a 10% increase in wellbeing;

0.5.2 All cooperative member households (ca. 100 per cooperative) show at least a 40% increase in wellbeing; and

0.5.3 Women and Tharu ethnic minority people achieve equal gains in wellbeing to less-marginalised groups, seen in 0.5.2.

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Local communities are supportive of conservation and keen to diversify livelihood opportunities.

Equal wellbeing gains between Tharu, women and less marginalised groups are achievable given that 36 % of the population are tharu and around 12% are Dalit.

**Output 1:**

Natural capital of GLA governed equitably and effectively through CGLTDB, and established community governance mechanisms

1.1 100% (9 members) of CGLTDB trained in good governance, and coordinating all project outputs and GLA management in an equitable and participatory way (in line with the management plans) by end year 1

1.2 39 Freshwater Information System for Households (FISH) representatives (one per settlement) recruited to provide information conduit to GLA working group of CGLTDB and 39 settlements by year 1 end

1.3 Annual Participatory Natural Capital Assessment Workshops, including inclusive representatives from 39 settlements (utilising information received from 39 FISH representatives):

1.3.1 one/first annual workshop held by year 1 end.

1.3.2 informing development of natural capital performance-based incentive system (indicator 1.4) by year 1 end

1.3.3 informing development of GLA participatory management plan (indicator 1.5) by year 2 end

1.1 Post-training assessments; CGLTDB meeting minutes; CGLTDB records and annual report

1.2 FISH representative recruitment records, FISH workshop minutes

1.3 Workshop minutes and records, including male and female representation; FISH representative reports/presentation minutes; socioeconomic survey (baseline & project end): community knowledge and attitude questionnaire detailing understanding of natural capital and its link to their livelihoods.

1.4 CGLTDB and community workshop minutes; CGLTDB records; community agreements

1.5.1 GLA working group meeting minutes

1.5.2 Participatory management plan for GLA;

1.5.3 FISH representative reports; Socioeconomic survey (baseline & project end): self-reporting by practicing fishermen; fisheries assessments based on self-reported CPUE;

1.5.4 Self-reporting by practicing pastoralists; household records of

Suitable and diverse candidates to be selected as FISH representatives are willing and available from the pool of community members. And these individuals do not overlap with the chairmen/women of the CFUGs.

Community members make the connections between wellbeing increases and the package of measures/natural-capital approach of the project, and therefore abide by the sustainability measures as agreed in the management plans

Most community members will readily identify a relationship between their livelihoods and natural capital as the vast majority of community members, if not all, have livelihoods dependent on GLA's natural capital, mostly either livestock, fishing, aquaculture or tourism livelihoods.

CGLTDB investment, together with other project activities, provides a robust incentive for communities to be supportive of protect natural capital, while the workshops are able to provide unbiased evidence on community performance.

1.3.4 with 80% of participants identifying a positively correlated trend in income/wellbeing and natural capital by project end

pesticide and fertiliser purchases.

Bringing CFUG leaders, from the 26 settlements with established CFUGs, together with inclusive representatives from the 13 settlements without CFUGs will enable equal representation of all settlements interests and help promote Nepal's Community Forestry Programme.

1.4 CGLTDB will establish a performance-based incentive system for all 39 settlements, to target their own investment, and implement social recognition and sanctions schemes (based on information from Participatory Natural Capital Assessment Workshops) by year 2 end.

We assume that 10% of water area protected from harmful fishing impacts is achievable, based on community consultations and ZSL's early-stage experiences in the Philippines where communities have been willing to protect an average of 3ha each (DI24-016, DI21-020).

1.5 Development and implementation of participatory management plan for GLA site:

1.5.1 GLA management plan parameters developed by CGLTDB with all 26 Community Forest User Groups (CFUGs) and inclusive representatives of 13 other settlements without CFUGs (non-CF settlements) by year 1 end

Freshwater NTZ have the potential to protect valuable intact habitat and spawning areas for freshwater biodiversity, and the community engagement and success of these no take zones will be enhanced by utilising lessons from ZSL trials in the Philippines (DI24-016, DI21-020).

1.5.2 GLA management plan will be developed by GLA working group and agreed by all CFUGs and non-CF settlements (expanding the Community Forestry Programme model to the freshwater system), with CGLTDB as

custodian of final agreement, by year 2 end

1.5.3 at least 10% of water area of GLA (ca. 200ha) protected from protective fisheries management measures through a combination of spatial (no-take zones) temporal (non-fishing times e.g. spawning periods), and selective-catch measures (e.g. size limits) (baseline= 0) by project end.

1.5.4 Sustainable grassland and grazing management (including application of pesticides and fertilisers), prioritising riparian areas, in place within 50% of the area of the GLA (12.5km<sup>2</sup> of the total 25km<sup>2</sup>) by project end. (Baseline = 0)

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**Output 2:**

Access to sustainable natural capital-based livelihoods secured for the most vulnerable, marginalised freshwater dependent communities within GLA

2.1 Two women-led cooperatives established under CGLTDB in the most vulnerable, marginalised freshwater-dependent groups of settlements, in GLA

2.1.1 with soft-loan seed funds and by-laws agreed, enshrining sustainable management of natural capital (e.g. farms for snails, water chestnuts, aquaculture, tourist souvenirs/handicrafts) and equitable benefits sharing by year 1 end

2.1.2 contributions in-kind or funding for GLA conservation contribute to GLA management by project end.

2.1.3 with 50 members per cooperative by year 2 end

2.1.4 with seed funds grown by 50% compared to baseline by project end.

2.1.5 with vulnerable groups without previous access to financial services, taking 75 livelihoods loans by project end.

2.2 Income of cooperative members increased by 10% compared to baseline (to be determined) by year 2 end and 25% by project end.

2.1 Community vulnerability context analysis; cooperative constitutions; cooperative management meeting minutes; soft-loan seed-fund records

2.2 Cooperative records (including, for example, the number of loans, amount loaned, repayment rate, growth in seed funds and agreements on GLA conservation fund expenditure.

2.3 Participatory natural capital assessment workshop records.

CGLTDB members remain receptive to equitable and sustainable governance approaches.

Natural capital cooperatives, building on ZSL's successful livelihood cooperative model from DI-funded project DI22-009 are effective and equitable management institutions for natural capital-based sustainable livelihoods.

Participatory natural capital assessments prove an effective means of engaging communities with the link between natural capital and their livelihoods, so making the case for sustainable management of natural capital management transparent, and contributing to GLA conservation.

Take up of loans is similar to demand on other ZSL projects and another DI-funded Nepal project (i.e.87 loans), DI22-009

Participatory Natural Capital Assessment Workshops will be attractive for community members to attend due to the opportunity to participate in local resource governance decisions.

2.3 70% of cooperative members attend annual Participatory Natural Capital Assessment Workshops, encouraged through post-cooperative meeting sessions by project end.

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**Output 3:**

Growing tourism industry in GLA is increasingly sustainable, with wider community benefits, based on a tourism master plan that provides a model for other tourist destinations.

3.1 All existing tourism development plans for GLA compiled and reviewed, in collaboration with CGLTDB, and presented and discussed at Participatory Natural Capital Assessment Workshops (output 1) by end year 1.

3.2 Sustainable tourism master plan is developed and agreed by CGLTDB and representatives from all c.40 settlements (identifying environmental and social impacts and opportunities for green growth and enshrining sustainable tourism approach), and submitted to municipal government by end year 2.

3.3 Participatory tourism master plan being implemented by GGLTDB and local communities, and shared with DoFSC, DNPWC provincial and national government as a model of best practice by end of project.

3.3.1 CGLTDB has made direct investments in identified green sustainable tourism-related infrastructure e.g. bicycle trails, information centres and green toilets by project end.

3.3.2 Tourist waste and

3.1 Tourism plan report.  
3.2 Participatory tourism master plan, stakeholder workshop minutes

3.3 CGLTDB records; tourism annual reports; workshop minutes where tourism plan is presented. Photographic evidence of any construction (before/after), use records and user satisfaction surveys of bike trails and green toilets and the GLA more widely

Government remains supportive of development of tourism and green tourism.

Green infrastructure are sustainable and adopted by government.

Participatory tourism master plan agreed by all stakeholders is subsequently respected and implemented with ZSL's ongoing technical support and engagement.



litter management  
scheme in place around  
water edges in GLA by  
project end.

3.3.3 new tourist sites  
and shrines are solely  
located in areas with  
low natural capital value  
and low ecological  
importance by project  
end.

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**Output 4:**

A robust protection framework is implemented, by designating GLA as Nepal's first Bird Sanctuary, and building on the existing Basanta Protected Forest designation in the upper watershed, to address upstream threats.

4.1 Participatory land-use plan for the upstream watershed (already designated as the Basanta Protected Forest), developed and overseen by CGLTDB and GM:

4.1.1 Inclusive participatory mapping of land-use and land-use governance; including consultation with all upstream settlements (ca. 10 of approximately 200 households each) by year 1 end.

4.1.2 Improved riparian forest management agreed by year 2 end.

4.1.3 Restrictions and logging system for fertilisers, endosulfans and other pesticides agreed by year 2 end.

4.1.4 Participatory land use plan (including 4.1.2 and 4.1.3 as agreed) being implemented in 50% of riparian land in upstream watershed by project end

4.2 Following visits by fifteen relevant national and local government officials (including CBD national focal point), the annual plans of GM and DoFSC will include GLA and upstream watershed as priorities, by project end.

4.3 GLA upgraded to Nepal's first bird sanctuary; with

4.1 DoFSC records; municipal government records; workshop minutes; Land-use maps and analysis reports; participatory management plan agreements; participatory management plan; socioeconomic survey; self-reporting by households; pesticide and fertiliser logs

4.2 Government visit reports, GM and DoFSC annual plans.

4.3 Official Municipal Government records of bird sanctuary designation; Ghodaghodi Bird Sanctuary Management Plan; DoFSC letter of receipt, policy briefs, workshop minutes.

On advice from local partners, this proposal assumes that this existing Protected Forest designation of the upper watershed and its associated land-use zoning provides an effective framework upon which a land-use plan can be built and implemented, within the timeframe, with sufficient compliance mechanisms pre-built in.

All 10 communities are willing to participate, under the existing framework of the protected forest, in sustainable management of their upstream freshwater system.

Community members will be keen to agree collective management of riparian forests and fertilisers/pesticides. This is due to commitment to the Community Forestry Programme, which will be built upon, and the existing level of compliance with Basanta Protected Forest land-use zones, in combination with local communities active desire to seek support to protect GLA.

Agreement of plans, alongside technical support, government investment, and encouragement will lead to effective conservation

Ghodaghodi Bird Sanctuary Management Plan (comprising Participatory Management Plan, GLA Tourism Master Plan, Watershed Management Plan and Natural Capital Monitoring Plan), and associated policy briefs to promote GLA conservation prioritisation by project end.

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actions on the ground.

Government remains committed to protection of GLA, and supportive of declaring GLA a Bird Sanctuary.

**Output 5:**

Data and experience from GLA, with its natural capital and socioeconomic monitoring, inform evidence-based conservation interventions, management plans and policy.

5.1 Appropriate socio-economic indicators and ecological and natural capital KPIs (e.g. fish stocks and harvest by species, indicator species, water quality (oxygen, pesticide and nutrient levels), forest cover change; forest above ground woody biomass; seedling recruitment; grassland NPP; area of waterway clear) and a monitoring plan are agreed by GM, CGLTDB, and representatives of all c. 40 settlements by year 1 end

5.2 Training in biological monitoring, analysis and adaptive management to enable local monitoring of KPIs:

5.2.1 Two (2) DoFSC staff and ten (10) FISH representatives trained and begin monitoring by year 1 end

5.2.2 Four (4) DoFSC staff and ca. 40 FISH representatives trained and carry out KPI monitoring, and analysis supported by ZSL, by year 2 end

5.2.3 Five (5) DoFSC staff and ca. 40 FISH representatives trained and carry out KPI monitoring, and analysis supported by ZSL, by project end

5.3 Monitoring data is fed into 1) local

5.1 Annual M&E reports, workshop minutes, municipal government records.

5.2 Post training assessments, training curriculum.

5.3 Workshop minutes; Natural Capital Monitoring Plan;

Diverse stakeholders are able to agree KPIs that effectively capture the relevant metrics and demonstrate the value of participatory watershed management.

Being a FISH representative will be attractive to local community members as a route to greater participation in resource governance decision making, and a status position associated with CGLTDB, which is a respected body.

Agreed KPIs will be monitorable in the long-term, with buy in from provincial level down to settlement level.

stakeholders via Participatory Natural Capital Assessment Workshops, 2) Nepal's NBSAP (2015-25) and 3) Nepal's reporting to the CBD and Ramsar convention to inform effective and integrated multi-level conservation governance by end year 2.

5.4 An ongoing (post-project) monitoring plan agreed and institutionalised with CGLTDB, FISH representatives, all 26 Community Forest User Groups (CFUGs) and inclusive representatives of 13 other settlements without CFUGs (non-CF settlements), municipal government and provincial DoFSC by project end.

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**Do you require more Output fields?**

**It is advised to have less than 6 Outputs since this level of detail can be provided at the Activity level.**

- Yes
- No

**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)**

**The word count for each individual activity should be no more than 25 words.**

**Activity details**

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**Activity Number**

1.1

**Activity Details**

Short training course on GESI and equitable governance for CGLTDB board members, municipality and project staff.

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## Activity details

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### Activity Number

1.2

### Activity Details

Co-develop, through a workshop with CGLTDB, good governance principles, including draft compliance and incentives mechanism, for GLA.

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## Activity details

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### Activity Number

1.3

### Activity Details

Recruit and train ca. 40 FISH representatives.

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## Activity details

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### Activity Number

1.4

### Activity Details

Establish working group with representatives of all ca. 40 settlements, CGLTDB, GM representatives and FISH representatives to feed in information.

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## Activity details

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### Activity Number

1.5

### Activity Details

Provide ongoing support for FISH.

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## Activity details

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**Activity Number**

1.6

**Activity Details**

Share draft compliance and incentive mechanism with representatives of each settlement (ca. 40) including Tharu and women through workshop, hosted by CGLTDB, to obtain inputs and conditional consent.

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## Activity details

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**Activity Number**

1.7

**Activity Details**

Conduct annual CGLTDB-hosted participatory Natural Capital Assessment workshops (utilising FISH information) and post-workshop questionnaires with representatives of each settlement (ca. 40) including Tharu, Dalits, women, and cooperative members; to include discussion of 1) performance-based incentive system and 2) management plans.

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## Activity details

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**Activity Number**

1.8

**Activity Details**

Co-develop participatory management plan for GLA through initial CGLTDB-hosted workshop, using baseline data collected under output 5, and subsequently adaptively manage it through Natural capital assessment workshops.

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## Activity details

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**Activity Number**

1.9

**Activity Details**

Train local fishermen on reduced impact fishing practices (covering both techniques and timings and locations).

## Activity details

### Activity Number

1.10

### Activity Details

Hold CGLTDB-hosted workshop to agree fisheries interventions, with representatives of each settlement (ca. 30) including Tharu and women.

## Activity details

### Activity Number

1.11

### Activity Details

Support CGLTDB in delineation and monitoring of no take zones.

## Activity details

### Activity Number

1.12

### Activity Details

Facilitate CGLTDB in regulating grazing and pesticide/fertiliser application in GLA in accordance with participatory management plan.

## Activity details

### Activity Number

2.1



**Activity Details**

Work with CGLTDB to identify vulnerable groups, using survey data, and hold initial engagement workshops on cooperatives.

**Activity details****Activity Number**

2.2

**Activity Details**

Support CGLTDB in coordination with Provincial Forest and Wildlife Division, and local forest department authority to co-develop 2 new cooperatives with equitable conservation constitutions - one per ward around GLA.

**Activity details****Activity Number**

2.3

**Activity Details**

Support day-to day cooperative operation and monitoring and evaluation of their impact.

**Activity details****Activity Number**

2.4

**Activity Details**

Hold 16 post-cooperative meeting sessions per cooperative - promoting the importance of natural capital management through participatory natural capital assessments; and sharing the results of these meetings.

**Activity details****Activity Number**

2.5

**Activity Details**

Conduct natural capital cooperative exposure visits for 320 households (40 per quarter) from other settlements (those without cooperatives) to promote the natural capital cooperative concept.

**Activity details**

**Activity Number**

2.6

**Activity Details**

Establish two community-managed fish ponds for cooperative members (one per cooperative).

**Activity details**

**Activity Number**

2.7

**Activity Details**

Train local aquaculturalists, and provide guidelines, in sustainable aquaculture, the importance of native species, and productivity raising techniques for native fish, snails and water chestnuts).

**Activity details**

**Activity Number**

2.8

**Activity Details**

Facilitate access of cooperative members to market via linking with local/national markets and government commercial schemes.

**Activity details**

**Activity Number**

3.1

**Activity Details**

Assess existing tourism infrastructure, capacity and market to identify areas likely to negatively impact GLA's ecological integrity.

**Activity details****Activity Number**

3.2

**Activity Details**

Conduct workshop, hosted by CGLTDB, with representatives of each settlement (ca. 30) including Tharu and women, municipal government, and wider stakeholders to identify key needs for tourism development.

**Activity details****Activity Number**

3.3

**Activity Details**

Provide support for sustainable tourism infrastructure for tourists e.g. information centres, toilets, ticket counters etc.

**Activity details****Activity Number**

3.4

**Activity Details**

Draft initial participatory tourism master plan based on results of workshop.

## Activity details

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### Activity Number

3.5

### Activity Details

Hold series of 2 working group workshops (with inclusive representation from ca. 40 settlements, CGLTDB, GM) to obtain detailed community inputs on tourism master plan, and then to finalise and agree it.

## Activity details

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### Activity Number

4.1

### Activity Details

Conduct initial participatory land-use and land-cover mapping of upstream watershed through engagement with all 10 upstream settlements.

## Activity details

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### Activity Number

4.2

### Activity Details

Hold CGLTDP and municipal government-hosted workshop with inclusive representatives of all 10 upstream settlements to introduce and agree principles of participatory watershed management plan, using baseline data from output 5. and activity 4.1.

## Activity details

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### Activity Number

4.3

### Activity Details

Develop draft watershed management plan for GLA with municipal government and DoFSC office.

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## Activity details

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**Activity Number**

4.4

**Activity Details**

Conduct workshop, hosted by CGLTDB and municipal government, with representatives of all 10 settlements including Tharu and women, municipal government, and wider stakeholders to finalise watershed management plan.

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## Activity details

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**Activity Number**

4.5

**Activity Details**

Setup and support community engagement drop-in sessions for upstream communities to discuss and consult on watershed management plan.

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## Activity details

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**Activity Number**

4.6

**Activity Details**

Hold annual policy engagement workshop to share project impact and importance of GLA in Kathmandu.

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## Activity details

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**Activity Number**

4.7

**Activity Details**

Conduct site visit for 15 National government officials, with GM and CGLTDB.

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## Activity details

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**Activity Number**

4.8

**Activity Details**

Support CGLTDB and local municipality in declaring GLA a bird sanctuary.

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## Activity details

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**Activity Number**

4.9

**Activity Details**

Hold workshop with all stakeholders (GM, CGLTDB, municipal DoFSC office etc.) in GLA to integrate land use management plan, tourism master plan, watershed management plan, and biological monitoring plan into Ghodaghodi Bird Sanctuary Management Plan.

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## Activity details

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**Activity Number**

5.1

**Activity Details**

Conduct rapid assessment of key landscape biological monitoring methods and locations within Ghodaghodi watershed.

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## Activity details

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**Activity Number**

5.2

**Activity Details**

Produce an integrated plan for site-indicator and threatened species monitoring and natural capital assessment in Ghodaghodi watershed.

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## Activity details

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### Activity Number

5.3

### Activity Details

Hold GLA working group meeting (representatives of all 40 settlements, CGLTDB, GM, FISH representatives) to agree KPIs in plan.

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## Activity details

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### Activity Number

5.4

### Activity Details

Support the annual training and refresher training of all monitoring personnel on indicator species monitoring and camera trapping (55 people).

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## Activity details

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### Activity Number

5.5

### Activity Details

Conduct annual biodiversity monitoring of key site indicator and threatened species (bird, vegetation surveys, opportunistic camera trapping).

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## Activity details

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### Activity Number

5.6

### Activity Details

Conduct annual natural capital assessments (with GLA working group members and DoFW staff) covering indicator species, forest above ground woody biomass; seedling recruitment; grassland NPP; area of waterway clear; UNEP Water Quality Indicator for Biodiversity score conductivity, Nitrogen, Oxygen, pH, Phosphorous, Temperature results; and fish stocks.

## Activity details

### Activity Number

5.7

### Activity Details

Design annual household surveys on livelihoods, income, wellbeing metrics, wildlife knowledge and natural capital dependency.

## Activity details

### Activity Number

5.8

### Activity Details

Conduct annual household surveys and analysis.

## Activity details

### Activity Number

5.9

### Activity Details

Prepare report on natural capital monitoring in Ghodaghodi and encourage DoFW to utilise it as a model of wetland monitoring.

## Activity details



**Activity Number**

5.10

**Activity Details**

Publish results in a peer-reviewed journal.

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## Section 12 - Implementation Timetable

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### Q24. Provide a project implementation timetable that shows the key milestones in project activities

Please complete the Excel spreadsheet linked below to describe the intended workplan for your project.


#### Implementation Timetable Template

Please add 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 fill/shade only the quarters in which an activity will be carried out. The workplan can span multiple pages if necessary.

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 [Implementation Timetable Ghodaghodi](#)

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 xlsx 19.29 KB

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## Section 13 - Monitoring and Evaluation

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### Q25. Monitoring and evaluation (M&E) plan

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. Additionally, please indicate an approximate budget and level of effort (person days) to be spent on M&E (see "[Finance for Darwin and IWT Guidance](#)").

Day-to-day data collection, management and compilation will be conducted by the M&E Officer who will monitor project progress through monthly reporting and evaluation against the indicators outlined in the

logframe. The project leader will provide oversight. Project milestones will be developed to measure monthly progress. In addition, mid-term and terminal M&E will be conducted.

Completion of milestones will be monitored through monthly reports submitted using ZSL's web-based system – these include activity tracking, indicator tracking, and finance tracking systems. Together these allow the different aspects of successful project implementation to be monitored simply and effectively, while enabling the information sources to be readily combined to assess overall progress and enable highly flexible adaptive management in response to changing conditions.

Outcome natural capital indicators (0.1, 0.3) will be monitored through project KPIs (determined in year 1), data for this will be collected through FISH, CGLTDB, and DoFSC, and the results will be analysed by this group with technical support from ZSL. Bird Sanctuary designation and resourcing (0.2) will be monitored by the project Freshwater Officer working closely with CGLTDB and GM. Eutrophication drivers (0.4) will be monitored through the Freshwater Officer working with CGLTDB, FISH representatives and the project officer to assess fertiliser/pesticide purchase logs for all 39 settlements. Wellbeing (0.5) will be monitored through the socio-economic surveys conducted by the project socio-economist at the start and end of the project, analysed by the Freshwater Officer.

Progress towards Output 1 will be monitored by the Freshwater officer working closely with CGLTDB and the GAL working group to assess governance arrangements, progress with FISH implementation, the effectiveness and uptake of PNCAWs, and the development of the management plan. Implementation of reduced-impact grazing and fishing will be monitored through assessing self-reporting from settlements and FISH representatives respectively.

Output 2 will be monitored through cooperative records and financial statements; the Freshwater Officer will work with the project socio-economist to analyse the data and make robust evaluations of progress.

Output 3's progress will be monitored by the Freshwater Officer working closely with GM and CGLTDB to evaluate tourism plan development and plan implementation. Indicator 3.3 will be monitored on the basis both of tourism plan reports but also reports of other GLA stakeholders to identify areas of weakness in plan implementation.

Output 4 will be monitored in the first instance through GM and CGLTDB minutes and reports on development of the land-use plan and through assessing land-use maps produced. Subsequently land-use plan reports will be assessed by the Freshwater officer to evaluate progress as well. Bird sanctuary designation and government visits will be monitored and evaluated based on official government reports and records.

Progress towards Output 5 will be monitored by the Freshwater Officer through the produced KPI reports, training records and post-training assessments. Institutionalisation of monitoring programme and data results will be monitored through government records and meeting minutes and evaluated based on government response.

**Total project budget for M&E (this may include Staff and Travel and Subsistence Costs)**

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<b>Number of days planned for M&amp;E</b>	300
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<b>Percentage of total project budget set aside for M&amp;E</b>	10
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## Section 14 - Funding and Budget

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### Q26. Budget

Please complete the Excel spreadsheet linked below, which provides the Budget for this application. Some of the questions earlier and below refer to the information in this spreadsheet.


[Darwin and IWT Budget Template](#)


Please refer to the [Finance for Darwin/IWT Guidance](#) for more information.

**NB: Please state all costs by financial year (1 April to 31 March) and in GBP. The Darwin Initiative cannot agree any increase in grants once awarded.**

Please upload your completed Darwin Budget Form Excel spreadsheet using the field below.

 [Budget GLA](#)

 03/12/2018

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 xls 112.5 KB

### Q27. 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.

Economy

Costs are reduced by using existing systems, equipment and infrastructure from ZSL's existing presence in Nepal. Necessity and sustainability have been considered for the level of investment requested. Cost savings have been adopted by carefully designing meetings and workshops. Where possible, meetings will be used to cover discussions related to various activities. Most roles will be filled by local people.

Efficiency

The project builds on established relationships with DNPWC, DoFSC and Himalayan Nature, and relies on close partnerships with local government, ensuring inputs are efficiently translated into outputs, keeping administrative costs low.

ZSL will match-fund its salaries of staff based in London, while Nepal public sector partners will match-fund officials' time in attending training sessions and workshops.

Effectiveness

ZSL's previous successful projects in Nepal - and across South Asia and Africa - demonstrate that investing in sustainable local capacity, and in cooperatives, using our tried-and-tested models of community and non-conventional partner engagement, is an excellent investment.

## Overall cost-effectiveness

ZSL has been working in Nepal for over 25 years and is experienced in developing deliverable, locally cost-effective budgets. The sustainable nature of all project outputs ensures that they will continue to provide benefits in the long term, as previous ZSL projects have, without the need for further funding. The project will implement cost-effective management improvements with low start-up costs and overheads, now also draw upon its international experience in freshwater community-managed systems and deliver wide impacts on conversation and community development. By developing local physical and human capital, further long-term conservation benefits are unlocked in addition to those targeted in the short-term, thereby increasing the return on investment.

## Q28. 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.**

No capital equipment will be purchased for the project.

## Q29. Match funding (co-financing)

**Are you proposing co-financing?**

Yes

### 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, as well as any your own organisation(s) will be committing.**

Donor Organisation	Amount	Currency code	Comments
HN	£		In-kind staff time for HN Project Lead, Community Officer, and Accountant.
DNPWC	£		In-kind staff time for DNPWC Project Lead.
ZSL	£		In-kind staff time for Philippines Freshwater Manager
CGLTDB	£		Matched funding for the development of basic green tourism infrastructure to protect the local environment and support local capture of tourism revenue.

## Unsecured

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

Date applied for	Donor Organisation	Amount	Currency code	Comments
No Response	No Response	No Response	No Response	No Response
No Response	No Response	No Response	No Response	No Response
No Response	No Response	No Response	No Response	No Response
No Response	No Response	No Response	No Response	No Response

### Do you require more fields?

No

## Q30. Financial Risk Management

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.

Fraud and bribery

The project will follow ZSL's Fraud, Corruption and Anti-bribery policy, and utilise ZSL's long-term experience working in Nepal to recognise and deal with any issues that arise. These policies will be made available to partners to implement or adapt if they do not have their own.

General Financial Management Risks

ZSL has robust, regularly updated, financial management systems in place, both in our country offices and in the UK. ZSL undertakes due diligence on prospective partners to ensure their finance policies and procedures are compliant with donor requirements.

Procurement

The project will follow standard ZSL guidelines on procurement processes to ensure sound financial management.

Cooperative Management

Project cooperatives will be established under the aegis of the Nepal Department of Cooperatives and their principles of good cooperative governance, in order to avoid the risk of fraud or bribery. In addition, by conducting extensive training with cooperative members at the outset and providing them with strong links to multiple levels of community governance the tools for internal community conflict solution, including through expulsion and community sanctions in extreme cases, are established.

## Section 15 - FCO Notifications

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### Q31. FCO Notifications

Please put an X in 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.

Unchecked

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 Notes) and attach details of any advice you have received from them.

Yes (no written advice)

## Section 16 - Certification

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### Q32. Certification

On behalf of the

Trustees

of

Zoological Society of London

I apply for a grant of

£320,931.00

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 have uploaded CVs for project principals and letters of support.
- I have uploaded our most recent signed audited/independently verified accounts and annual report.

Checked

Name Katherine Secoy

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Position in the organisation Interim Director Conservation and Policy

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Signature (please  
upload e-signature)

↓ **Dec 2018 GLA DI KS signoff**

📅 03/12/2018

🕒 22:25:30

📄 pdf 24.26 KB

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Date

03 December 2018

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## Section 17 - Submission Checklist

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### Stage 2 Application - Checklist for submission

	Check
Have you read the Guidance (including <b>Guidance for Applicants and Finance for Darwin and IWT Guidance</b> )	Checked
Have you read, and can you meet, the current Terms and Conditions for this fund?	Checked
Have you provided actual start and end dates for your project?	Checked
Have you provided your budget based on UK government financial years i.e. 1 April – 31 March and in GBP?	Checked
Have you checked that your budget is complete and correctly adds up?	Checked
Has your application been signed by a suitably authorised individual?	Checked
Have you uploaded a 1 page CV for all the Project Staff on this project, including the Project Leader?	Checked
Have you uploaded a letter of support from the main partner(s) organisations?	Checked
Have you included a cover letter from the lead organisation, outlining how any feedback received at Stage 1 has been addressed?	Checked
Have you been in contact with the FCO in the project country/ies and have you included any evidence of this?	Checked
Have you uploaded a signed copy of the last 2 years annual report and accounts for the lead organisation?	Checked
Have you checked the Darwin website to ensure there are no late updates?	Checked
Have you read and understood the Privacy Notice on GOV.UK?	Checked

**We would like to keep in touch! Please check this box if you would be happy for the lead applicant (Flexi-Grant Account Holder) and project leader (if different) to be added to our mailing list. Through our mailing list we share updates on upcoming and current application rounds under the Darwin Initiative and our sister grant scheme, the IWT Challenge Fund. We also provide occasional updates on other UK Government activities related to biodiversity conservation and share our quarterly project newsletter.**

**You are free to unsubscribe at any time.**

Unchecked

## **Data protection and use of personal data**

Information supplied in this application form, including personal data, will be used by Defra as set out in the latest copy of the Privacy Notice for Darwin, Darwin Plus and the Illegal Wildlife Trade Challenge Fund available **here**. This Privacy Notice must be provided to all individuals whose personal data is supplied in the application form. Some information, but not personal data, may be used when publicising the Darwin Initiative including project details (usually title, lead organization, location, and total grant value) on the GOV.UK and other websites.

Information relating to the project or its results may also be released on request, including under the 2004 Environmental Information Regulations and 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 General Data Protection Regulation (Regulation (EU) 2016/679).