Applicant: **Martin, Gary**
Organisation: **Global Diversity Foundation**
Funding Sought: **£362,686.00**
Funding Awarded: **£362,686.00**

DIR26S2\1014

27-001 Conserving High Atlas agrobiodiversity to improve Amazigh livelihoods in Morocco

Erosion of traditional agricultural knowledge, adaptive local practices and plant genetic resources negatively impacts High Atlas agroecosystems that sustain a biodiversity hotspot and community livelihoods. We assist local Amazigh farmers in rural communes to improve conservation, agricultural productivity and livelihoods benefits of five locally important, genetically diverse crops. Our project cycles through phases of agrobiodiversity assessment and ex-situ conservation; on-farm selection and sustainable cultivation of promising crop varieties; knowledge exchange, seed sharing, product innovation and commercialisation; and national policy support.

Section 1 - Contact Details

PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

Title	Dr
Name	Gary
Surname	Martin
Website	www.global-diversity.org
Tel (Work)	[redacted]
Email (Work)	[redacted]
Address	[redacted]

CONTACT DETAILS

Title	Dr
Name	Emily
Surname	Caruso
Tel (Work)	[redacted]
Email	[redacted]
Address	[redacted]

GMS ORGANISATION

Type	**Organisation**
Name	Global Diversity Foundation
Phone	[redacted]
Email (Work)	[redacted]
Website (Work)	[redacted]
Address	[redacted]

Section 2 - Title, Dates & Budget Summary

Q3. Project title:

27-001 Conserving High Atlas agrobiodiversity to improve Amazigh livelihoods in Morocco

What was your Stage 1 reference number? e.g. DIR26S1\100123

DIR26S1\1507

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	Morocco	**Country 2**	*No Response*
Country 3	*No Response*	**Country 4**	*No Response*

Do you require more fields?

⦿ No

Q5. Project dates

Start date:	**End date:**	**Duration (e.g. 2 years, 3 months):**
01 April 2020	31 March 2023	3 years

Q6. Budget summary

Year:	**2020/21**	**2021/22**	**2022/23**	**Total request**
Amount:	[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	**£** 362,686.00

Q6a. Do you have matched funding arrangements?

⦿ Yes

What matched funding arrangements are proposed?

The largest overall grant for this project would be the Darwin Initiative funding of £, but we have secured £ co-funding from a total £ grant from Open Society Foundations for a 2019-2021 project entitled "Enhancing the Resilience of High Atlas Agroecosystems". As core partners of the MAVA Mediterranean Cultural Landscapes Outcome Action Plan Phase 2, we are expecting a 2-year grant to begin in May 2020 under the title "Cultural Landscape Management in the Moroccan High Atlas"; £ of the total expected £ will co-fund our proposed Darwin Initiative project.

If successful we will contribute proportions of the following unsecured grants – sought both by GDF and lead partner Moroccan Biodiversity and Livelihoods Association (MBLA) – to co-fund the Darwin Initiative project for a possible additional total of £:

• Fondation Prince Albert 2 de Monaco 2021-2023 grant "Conservation of critically endangered plant species in Morocco"

• UNDP Morocco Small Grants Programme 2020-2021 grant "Agrobiodiversity and in situ conservation for

food security and climate change adaptation in the High Atlas"
• Conservation, Food and Health Foundation 2020-2021 grant "Farmer Field Schools and Biocultural Diversity Fairs for Sustainable Agriculture in the Moroccan High Atlas"
• Mohamed Bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund 2020-2021 grant "Community and science-based Fraxinus dimorpha conservation in Morocco's High Atlas"

Q6b. Proposed (confirmed and unconfirmed) matched funding as % of total project cost (total cost is the Darwin request plus other funding required to run the project).	56

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.

Please write this summary for a non-technical audience.

Erosion of traditional agricultural knowledge, adaptive local practices and plant genetic resources negatively impacts High Atlas agroecosystems that sustain a biodiversity hotspot and community livelihoods. We assist local Amazigh farmers in rural communes to improve conservation, agricultural productivity and livelihoods benefits of five locally important, genetically diverse crops. Our project cycles through phases of agrobiodiversity assessment and ex-situ conservation; on-farm selection and sustainable cultivation of promising crop varieties; knowledge exchange, seed sharing, product innovation and commercialisation; and national policy support.

Section 4 - Lead Organisation Summary

Q8. Lead organisation summary

Has your organisation been awarded a Darwin Initiative or IWT Challenge Fund 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
24-010	Gary Martin	Mobilising useful plant conservation to enhance Atlas mountain community livelihoods

20-013	Gary Martin	Medicinal root trade, plant conservation and local livelihoods in Morocco
162/13/009	Gary Martin	Ethnobiology of proposed traditional use zones of Crocker Range Park
17-030	Gary Martin	Participatory approaches to nominating Crocker Range Biosphere Reserve, Sabah, Malaysia
17-018	Gary Martin	Management Programmes for Indigenous Voluntary Conserved Areas in Oaxaca, Mexico
EIDPO042	Gary Martin	Implementing community-based landscape and resource monitoring to consolidate voluntary conservation

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.

◉ Yes

Please attach the requested signed audited/independently examined accounts.

GDF accounts 2017-2018
01/12/2019
11:50:54
pdf 765 KB

GDF accounts 2016-2017
01/12/2019
11:50:53
pdf 104.38 KB

Section 5 - Project Partners

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 the Lead Organisation and 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:	Global Diversity Foundation
Website address:	www.global-diversity.org
Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):	Project leader Gary Martin, a resident of Marrakech since 1996, has 15 years of experience in managing successful Darwin Initiative projects. Emily Caruso, GDF and project director, oversees implementation and M&E. Ethnobotanist Ugo D'Ambrosio ensures research coordination. Agronomist and biodiversity specialist Hassan Rankou coordinates conservation assessments of focal species and accompanying biodiversity. Pommelien da Silva Cosme oversees grant coordination and Manish Panjabi financial and administrative aspects. A strong local team coordinate and implement field research and community-based activities. GDF supports the resilience and wellbeing of local communities in the face of environmental and social change. It promotes agricultural, biological and cultural diversity through research, training and practical action. Since 2002, GDF manages a Mediterranean regional programme currently focused on the Moroccan High Atlas, through which it implements interrelated programmes that focus on plant conservation; traditional knowledge and practices for sustainable environmental management; enhancing local agroecological and water management systems; strengthening communal governance systems; supporting communities and civil society to engage in national policy processes; improving livelihoods and alleviating poverty, in particular through the development of a local product commercialisation programme; and support for youth through biocultural education. The proposed project cross-cuts all of these programmes.
Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?	⦿ Yes
Have you provided a cover letter to address your Stage 1 feedback?	⦿ Yes

Do you have partners involved in the Project?

⦿ Yes

1. Partner Name:	Moroccan Biodiversity and Livelihoods Association
Website address:	www.mblaassociation.org

Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):	Rachid Ait Babahmad, MBLA's President, conducts the seed survey and inventory of accompanying biodiversity, and coordinates the community seed banks, including through engagement with national and international experts. Soufiane M'Sou organises ethnobotanical field research and policy-making workshops, with the support of Devra Jarvis. Omar Saadani coordinates Output 2 on enhancing sustainable agroecological management with DEAFAL's support. Mohamed Ouknin oversees local product commercialization and network development. These young researchers are all members of MBLA, a Moroccan non-profit organisation created in 2014 with the support of Global Diversity Foundation as part of Darwin Initiative project 20-013, Medicinal root trade, plant conservation and local livelihoods in southern Morocco. They have strengthened the organisation, developing a robust network of partners and stakeholders for the implementation of the High Atlas Cultural Landscapes programme. MBLA is the focal point for partnerships with Moroccan research institutions, government agencies, local enterprises and associations that produce, add value to, and improve marketing and distribution of sustainable community-sourced products. MBLA has built strong and durable relationships with community authorities, cooperatives and members, ensuring that all GDF-MBLA activities are carried out on the basis of free, prior and informed consent, and participatively monitored through continuous consultation.
Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?	⊙ Yes

2. Partner Name:	International Centre for Agriculture in the Dry Lands (ICARDA)
Website address:	www.icarda.org

Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):	ICARDA helps design and implement the regional seed survey, support participatory varietal selection and testing, in collaboration with IAV, and host field-collected seed accessions in its international genebank. Our principal collaborator, Dr. Zakaria Kehel, will guide our field research team in the use of biometric characterization of selected crop varieties. ICARDA was established in 1977 with a mandate to promote agricultural development and help reduce chronic poverty in dry areas. Its principal activities revolve around problem-solving for resource-poor farmers through action research, focusing on water harvesting, conservation agriculture, diversification of production systems, integrated production systems, and empowerment of rural women. ICARDA specializes in delivering new technologies and methods to support sustainable agriculture and working in partnership with others to disseminate these technologies widely. The ICARDA genebank holds over 135,000 accessions from over 110 countries, and includes germplasm from traditional varieties and wild crop relatives. ICARDA has a flagship regional project piloted in Morocco that aims to develop crop production technologies for both high and low potential agroecosystems; it focuses on durum and bread wheat, barley and legumes. It has a strong capacity-building ethos, providing training at all scales in developing countries, including organizing field schools and knowledge exchanges for farmers.
Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?	⦿ Yes

3. Partner Name:	Institut Agronomique et Vétérinaire (IAV)
Website address:	http://www.iav.ac.ma/

Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):	IAV's Dr Loubna Belqadi will collaborate on the implementation of participatory varietal selection and testing, and provide support and capacity-building for the implementation of DATAR – Diversity Assessment Tool for Agrobiodiversity and Resilience – in collaboration with Devra Jarvis. As the lead trainer for agricultural extension worker instructors of Morocco's agricultural technical colleges, her participation is mutually beneficial for her teaching and the project's training programme. Established in 1966, the Agricultural and Veterinary Institute Hassan II (IAV Hassan II) is a centre of excellence for training, research and development. It offers postgraduate degrees in four areas: agronomic and agroalimentary sciences, applied economic and social sciences, veterinary sciences, and engineering. The IAV's research activities are consolidated in 10 main multidisciplinary axes, including several relevant for our project: (1) landscape management, environmental preservation and rational exploitation of agricultural biodiversity for sustainable production; (2) efficient management of irrigation water, climate study and drought mitigation; (3) diversification of agricultural products and improvement of their competitiveness; (4) knowledge of rural societies, design of local and regional development schemes, and development of tools and strategies for decision-making and (5) improvement of plant species and of animal breed performance in harmony with regional potentialities.
Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?	⦿ Yes

4. Partner Name:	DEAFAL - European Delegation for Family Farming in Latin America, Asia and Africa
Website address:	https://www.deafal.org/home-page-en/

Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):	DEAFAL agronomists, under the leadership of Matteo Mancini, will expand the current collaboration to co-develop, implement and train farmers in appropriate and innovative approaches for soil, water and pest management, including the integration of underutilized crops and varieties to support ecological agriculture. They will oversee the development of the community sustainable agriculture management plans. DEAFAL is an Italian non-profit organization created in 2000. It collaborates with farmers in developing countries and the Mediterranean to improve livelihoods through the adoption of locally-appropriate, sustainable and regenerative agricultural practices. It aims to overcome unfair food production systems through collaborative approaches, supporting food sovereignty and smallholders' self-sufficiency. GDF and DEAFAL have collaborated since 2019 on the implementation of a grant funded by the Open Society Foundations, with DEAFAL providing capacity-building both to the MBLA team and Amazigh farmers regarding sustainable agreocological practices, soil quality testing and monitoring, and on-farm (agro)biodiversity management.
Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?	⦿ Yes

5. Partner Name:	National Institute for Agricultural Research (INRA)
Website address:	https://www.inra.org.ma/
Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):	Dr Lhassane Sikaoui, coordinator of the Plant Improvement and Quality Research Unit, is our liaison with INRA-Marrakech's diverse team of agronomic specialists who work on different crop species, including alfalfa, fava beans, peas, barley, wheat and other cultivated plants. They will assist with biometric characterisation of crop varieties, contribute to capacity-building events for farmers and participate in workshops on national policy-making and implementation of ITPGRFA in Morocco. INRA, a public institution founded in 1914, has the mission of conducting research for agricultural development. It operates through ten regional centers of agricultural research and 23 experimental areas that represent the various agroecosystems of Morocco. INRA maintains partnerships with national and international organizations, development structures, the private sector and non-governmental organizations. Its strategic research areas include: (1) the characterization, preservation and enhancement of plant genetic resources; (2) improving productivity, competitiveness and agricultural production; (3) improving the quality, valorization and diversification of plant and animal production; (4) analysis of the social demand of production systems and agricultural policies related to regional and local development.

Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?	◯ Yes ◯ No

6. Partner Name:	Slow Food International
Website address:	https://www.slowfood.com/
Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):	Charles Barstown and Federico Mattei of Slow Food International will provide expertise in promoting locally-selected, climate-resilient crop varieties – and food products derived from them – in regional niche markets and beyond. Slow Food is a global, grassroots organization, founded in 1989 to prevent the disappearance of local food cultures and traditions, counteract the rise of fast life and combat people's dwindling interest in the food they eat, where it comes from and how our food choices affect the world around us. A fundamental theme for Slow Food is biodiversity and its link to cultural diversity. In 2003, Slow Food International and Slow Food Italia created the non-profit Slow Food Foundation for Biodiversity, which oversees projects in over 100 countries that promote a model of agriculture that is based on local biodiversity and respect for the land, environment and local cultures; and that can provide food that is good, clean and fair. Underlying this work is the Ark of Taste, an online catalogue of endangered foods from the cultures, history and traditions of the entire planet that draws attention to the risk that they might disappear within a few generations, along with the knowledge and skills necessary to make them.
Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?	⦿ Yes

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

All partners have actively participated in proposal development by providing expertise on their area of specialization. We have provided additional letters of support from diverse community associations and civil society organisations to demonstrate the full breadth of our partnership, including:
• Imdoukal Znaga Cooperative in Imegdale, Aska Cooperative for Women and Children in Ait M'hamed, Association Ait Lekak in Oukaimeden, and other village associations: participation of Amazigh community members in multiple aspects of the project, from the selection of community researchers to support for community plant nurseries and seed banks;
• Cadi Ayyad University: inventory of accompanying biodiversity and maintenance of regional seed bank;
• Cagliari Botanical Gardens: improved management and expansion of the community and regional seed banks through training and technology transfer;
• Federation for the Democratic League of Women's Rights: gender caravans that focus on women's roles in agriculture and food processing;
• Terre et Humanisme Maroc: capacity-building for farmers through their center of agroecological initiatives

and practices;
• Network for Agroecological Initiatives in Morocco: expertise on participatory systems of guarantee
In addition, we include letters from government agencies involved in the implementation of the Morocco Green Plan, including the Provincial Department of Agriculture.

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

DI GDF proposal 1507 cover letter
05/12/2019
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pdf 207.77 KB

GDF Darwin Initiative proposal 1507 Letters of Support compiled-compressed
05/12/2019
20:43:24
pdf 2.19 MB

Section 6 - Project Staff

Q10. Key project staff

Please identify the key project personnel on this project, their role and what % of their time they will be working on the project.

Please provide 1 page CVs for these staff, or a 1 page job description or Terms of Reference for roles yet to be filled. These should match the names and roles in the budget spreadsheet.

If your team is larger than 12 people please review if they are core staff, or whether you can merge roles (e.g. 'admin and finance support') below, but provide a full table based on this template in the pdf of CVs you provide.

Name (First name, Surname)	Role	% time on project	1 page CV or job description attached?
Gary J Martin	**Project Leader**	10	Checked
Emily Caruso	Project Director and M&E leader	20	Checked
Manish Panjabi	Finance and Administration Manager	20	Checked
Ugo D'Ambrosio	Ethnobotany and Commercialisation Specialist	20	Checked

Do you require more fields?

◉ Yes

Name (First name, Surname)	Role	% time on project	1 page CV or job description attached?
Pommelien da Silva Cosme	Project Coordinator	25	Checked
Hassan Rankou	Conservation Assessment Specialist	20	Checked
Soufiane M'Sou	Ethnobotany and Agrobiodiversity Management Specialist	25	Checked
Rachid Ait Babahmad	Community Seed Bank Specialist	25	Checked
Omar Saadani Hassani	Regenerative Agriculture Specialist	25	Checked
Mohamed Ouknin	Commercialisation Specialist	25	Checked
No Response	*No Response*	0	Unchecked
No Response	*No Response*	0	Unchecked

Please provide 1 page CVs (or job description if yet to be recruited) for the project staff listed above as a combined PDF.

Ensure the file is named clearly, consistent with the named individual and role above.

Merged GDF-MBLA team CVs
05/12/2019
11:49:16
pdf 2.73 MB

Have you attached all project staff CVs?

◉ Yes

Section 7 - Problem Statement & Conventions

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?

We observed the erosion of traditional agricultural knowledge, adaptive local practices and plant genetic resources through our work with High Atlas Amazigh communities to maintain their agroecological practices and water management systems. Since 2016, we documented historical trends attested by community members: a notable reduction in extent and fertility of agricultural lands cultivated and traditional crops produced alongside an increase in commercial fruit and nut arboriculture and the cultivation of introduced varieties that require chemical inputs for optimal production and sale.
We noted a particular impact on one forage legume (alfalfa, Medicago sativa), two grain legumes (fava

bean, Vicia faba; pea, Pisum sativum), and two cereals (barley, Hordeum vulgare; durum wheat, Triticum durum) – along with associated biodiversity – that are increasingly marginalized by agricultural intensification, land abandonment and rural exodus.
Aware these changes render their food security and community wellbeing precarious, local farmers seek to improve their agricultural productivity and income by accessing diverse seeds, selecting climate-resilient varieties and reaching the growing high-end urban niche markets that celebrate the cultural and geographical origins of High Atlas products. These efforts are consistent with national policy – especially the Green Morocco Plan – which promotes government-funded solidarity agriculture, natural resource conservation and marketing of regional products to increase revenues.
We contribute to these positive trends by responding to a request from Amazigh farmers, Moroccan government agencies and urban-based agroecological initiatives for assistance. In particular, they are seeking support to characterize and conserve traditional varieties, select new drought-adapted crops, improve agricultural techniques, engage in crop transformation innovations (including novel culinary uses) and curate seed portfolios to ensure food security. We activate knowledge transmission through learning exchange, strengthen local capacities to add value to High Atlas products and sell them in high-end urban niche markets, and promote urban-rural networks of reciprocity and conviviality.

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.

- ☑ Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
- ☑ International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA)
- ☑ Global Goals for Sustainable Development (SDGs)

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.

This project focuses on the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA), in particular articles 5 (Conservation, Exploration, Collection, Characterisation, Evaluation and Documentation of Plant Genetic Resources), 6 (Sustainable Use of Plant Genetic Resources), 9 (Farmers' Rights) and 11 (the Multilateral System) of the Treaty.
We use ethnobotanical approaches to survey, inventory and collect germplasm and associated knowledge of High Atlas cereal and legume crops, along with accompanying biodiversity including other cultivated plants, arable wild species and wild crop relatives. We take a systematic approach to assessing status and threats to these plants, based on our experience redlisting species according to IUCN categories and criteria (article 5.1a,b). We support farmers' efforts to manage, conserve and benefit from their cereal and legume varieties on-farm through innovative ecological, soil and water management approaches, including approaches that mobilise underutilised varieties in seed portfolios to enhance management (5.1c). We invest in community and regional seed banks, linked to the ICARDA international seed bank, for ex situ conservation of local and underutilised crops, paying particular attention to documentation and the development of a locally appropriate standard operating procedure manual for high quality seed bank management (5.1e). We provide gender and youth appropriate capacity building – including training of community trainers – to support the use of agroecological design and techniques for farm management, including agrobiodiversity-based management techniques using local and underutilized crops (6.2e,f). We

carry out research that supports the participatory selection and testing of new varieties that promote on-farm resilience to environmental and socioeconomic challenges (6.2b,c), helping to increase the range of genetic diversity available to farmers (6.2d). We support stakeholder participation in policy-making that promotes traditional biodiversity-rich agroecosystem management and the maintenance of local, traditional and underutilised varieties (6.2a; 9.2c). We promote – through biocultural diversity fairs, seed fairs, regional exchanges, access to niche markets and the production of informational materials - the expanded use and knowledge of locally adapted crops, varieties and underutilised species, including in high-end gastronomy (6.2e). We document and promote traditional knowledge and practices related to agrobiodiversity, establishing a Free, Prior and Informed Consent process that protects farmers' rights to that knowledge (9.2a). We promote short commercial value-chains, participatory systems of guarantee and the sale of local and underutilised crop products in regional niche markets to support equitable sharing of benefits from the utilization of traditional varieties (9.2b).
We contribute to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Aichi Target 7 by promoting the conservation and sustainable management of agricultural areas. We contribute to the CBD's Global Strategy on Plant Conservation, through actions that support:
• Target 2 on conservation assessments, through the characterization and evaluation of varieties of five crop species;
• Target 9 on the conservation of crop genetic diversity by documenting, assessing and conserving crop germplasm and diversity and associated traditional knowledge;
• Target 13 on indigenous and local knowledge maintained by documenting traditional agroecological knowledge and including it in our sustainable agriculture management plans.

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

⦿ Yes

If yes, please give details.

We liaised with ITPGRFA focal point Yasmina El Bahloul to submit a proposal on High Atlas agrobiodiversity conservation to the ITPGRFA Benefit-sharing Fund in 2018. We will invite Ms El Bahloul to participate in the planning and implementation of ITPGRFA-relevant workshops. CBD and Nagoya Protocol focal point Mostapha Madbouhi was a project partner in our DI 20-013 grant, while GSPC focal points Mohamed Fennane and Mohammed Sghir Taleb, were project partners in DI 20-013 and 24-010 grants. We continue our collaborations with all three and will involve them in project activities, sharing outputs and relevant events.

Q12d. Global Goals for Sustainable Development (SDGs)

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

This project contributes to Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) #1 (No poverty), #2 (Zero hunger) and #3 (Good health and well-being) by improving the agricultural productivity of Amazigh farmers through training and outreach to growing regional niche markets, thus enhancing income from local crops and associated products. The project's core component on sustainable agriculture proposes to enhance crop diversity sustainability and yield while reducing external inputs, thus strengthening food security, improving community well-being and supporting better health.
The capacity building component of the project includes 1) training of young seed entrepreneurs in production and commercialisation of High Atlas seed and crop products, 2) coaching of community researchers to become community farmer trainers and 3) training of Amazigh farmers through Farmer Field Schools (FFS). By promoting lifelong learning opportunities for all, these activities address SDG #4

(Quality education).
The project's focus on capacity building for Amazigh farmers to improve High Atlas agroecosystems by increasing their diversity and resilience, selecting drought-adapted crop varieties and using water-efficient irrigation techniques provides them with tools to adapt to environmental change and shocks (SDG #13 Climate action).
Finally, through our conservation actions (in particular community seed banks, conservation assessments of selected crops and improved land use and resource management), the project contributes to halting biodiversity loss and protecting, restoring and promoting sustainable use of ecosystems in partner communities' territories (SDG #15 – Life on land).

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

Q13. Methodology

Describe the methods and approach you will use to achieve your intended Outcome and Impact. Provide information on:

- **How you have analysed historical and existing initiatives and are building on or taking work already done into account in project design. Please cite evidence where appropriate.**
- **The rationale for carrying out this work and a justification of your proposed methodology.**
- **How you will undertake the work (materials and methods).**
- **How you will manage the work (roles and responsibilities, project management tools, etc.).**

First phase: we assess High Atlas agrobiodiversity by working with European and Moroccan research partners to conduct and consolidate ethnobotanical research and biometric characterisation of alfalfa, fava bean, pea, barley and durum wheat landraces in three Amazigh communities. We selected these crops based on their direct and indirect economic importance; appreciation of landraces by local farmers (adaptation for abiotic stresses, grain and fodder quality, role in local cuisine); scientific data demonstrating their genetic variability; and threats to their diversity. We carry out a regional survey of cereals, fodder and grain legumes, including cultivated plants, arable wild species and other wild crop relatives, along a south-to-east High Atlas arc encompassing three focal communities, and expanded to Amizmiz, Tighedouine and Demnate. With the free, prior and informed consent of community members, we collect germplasm for community, MARK regional and ICARDA international seed banks. With Cagliari Botanical Gardens, we provide training and infrastructure improvements, and develop a standard operating procedure manual, to enhance community seed bank management.
Second phase: we collaborate with IAV and ICARDA to implement participatory varietal selection – with input from both men and women – for climate hardiness, increased productivity and marketability, alongside trials to assess the adaptiveness of varieties conserved in seed banks. With DEAFAL, we test and promote sustainable farming systems, including agrobiodiversity-based approaches, that enhance biodiversity, halt soil erosion, conserve soil moisture and reclaim degraded farmland. Farmer field schools offer training in innovative organic pest, soil and water management that interacts productively with selected varieties. We consolidate this work with the Diversity Assessment Tool for Agrobiodiversity and Resilience (DATAR), an evolving multi-component tool that describes and monitors agricultural biodiversity and resilience at landscape level.
Third phase: we activate regional seed networks and knowledge-sharing through community exchanges and biocultural diversity fairs. In collaboration with Moroccan agroecology initiatives, we organise encounters to connect rural producer communities with urban consumers – ranging from a growing Moroccan middle class to proprietors of boutiques, guesthouses and restaurants – who value High Atlas agrobiodiversity and participate in solidarity and trade networks. Through capacity-building and institutional strengthening of community cooperatives we develop a model for participatory guarantee, marketing and sale of locally-selected, climate-resilient crop varieties. We mentor young 'seed

entrepreneurs', including secondary school graduates from rural communities, to build skills in the selection, production and sale of High Atlas seeds and food products, supported by innovative chefs, caterers and community-supportive retailers. We strengthen participatory approaches and collaborative conservation skills among community and regional seed bank managers, supporting them to inventory their (agro)biodiversity in Community Biodiversity Registers.
Final phase, we build on a civil society capacity-building policy workshop that provides means and tools for active participation in national level policy-making processes. Our national partners (Regional Directorate for Agriculture, National Institute for Agricultural Research and National Office for Agricultural Value-Enhancement) participate in follow-up events, co-hosted with ICARDA, on agrobiodiversity, seeds and small-scale agriculture that provides recommendations to facilitate Morocco's compliance with ITPGRFA.

Q14. 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?

At the provincial scale, we organise seed fairs, modelled on our successful biocultural diversity fairs, which include demonstrations, exchanges and public talks, resulting in community engagement in initiatives that promote traditional crop varieties and agroecological practices. These events are complemented by a video and a brochure in Tamazight and Arabic on the importance of traditional varieties, seed saving and agroecological practices and how the Green Morocco Plan and ITPGRFA can support farmer's rights.
A regional Marrakech-based gastronomic event and market gathers farmers, cooperative members, traders, retailers, consumers and the general public for celebrating, tasting, exchanging and trading local products. We collaborate with leading chefs from Moroccan urban centres to develop new dishes for their menus based on High Atlas community products and local agrobiodiversity. This builds public recognition of High Atlas agroecosystems as sources of healthy, biodiversity-enhancing and culturally-important food products, expanding their markets and support for producers.
Nationally, we organise policy-making workshops aimed at policy-makers, researchers, practitioners and civil society stakeholders on the Moroccan legal and policy frameworks related to seeds and smallholder agriculture in the context of national commitments under ITPGRFA. These workshops build on a prior agricultural policy capacity-building event targeted at civil society, ensuring the latter's meaningful participation in the regional and national events. To provide context, we disseminate a detailed case study – and an associated policy brief and recommendations – on traditional management of High Atlas agroecosystems and agrobiodiversity and their contribution to the Green Morocco Plan and ITPGRFA. Our longterm aim is to influence national policy, strengthening its support for farmers' rights, traditional practices and open-pollinated seeds.
For national and international policy, research and practitioner audiences, we prepare a peer-reviewed publication on the diversity, status and conservation of High Atlas agrobiodiversity.

Q15. 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.

GDF engages in wide-ranging capacity-building activities for community members, local cooperatives, young researchers and civil society. We continue to build capacities of 8 community researchers (CRs): young,

dynamic Amazigh women and men (some with university degrees) with a desire to support their communities. CRs support and carry out field research, lead community engagement and participatory processes, implement community-based M&E and build capacities locally. Six CRs will receive targeted training to enhance community seed bank management, including through the creation and implementation of a participatory standard operating procedure manual.
The project builds capacities, through regular encounters, of at least 150 community members on specific topics of interest to them, including seed saving, conservation and sustainable harvesting; value-adding, post-harvest processing and marketing of products; water management and agroecological methods. To ensure follow-up and sustainability of our capacity-building efforts, GDF trains key individuals as community trainers who train in turn those unable to participate in events and provide ongoing follow-up in between events.
We organise Farmer Field Schools (FFS) to train at least 100 farmers in innovative, climate-resilient and ecological approaches to soil, water and pest management, including through the development of locally appropriate varietal seed portfolios. They will also learn how to use the Diversity Assessment Tool for Agrobiodiversity and Resilience (DATAR) developed by Devra Jarvis of the Platform for Agrobiodiversity Research/Bioversity International. Three community researchers will be trained specifically as 'community farmer trainers' to follow up and support farmers unable to participate in the FFS.
At the regional scale, we build capacities amongst community members, cooperatives, local authorities and institutional stakeholders on ITPGRFA and its relevance to the Green Morocco Plan. This will ensure meaningful participation of these stakeholders in the national policy-making workshop on the same topic.

Q16. Gender equality

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 sex disaggregated data and what impact your project will have in promoting gender equality.

Working with socially conservative Amazigh communities, we respect cultural norms and gender roles while promoting equal benefits, participation and training for women and men. We currently collaborate with three women community researchers and a female coordinator at the Dar Taliba girls' boarding house, supported through our current Darwin Initiative project. We plan to recruit two more female community researchers in 2020 to engage with female community members to ensure that participatory research, project actions and local monitoring are gender-balanced and equitable. Two of our five partner community cooperatives are women-only, supporting targeted income generation for women, and the ASKA Women's Cooperative also manages the Ait M'hamed community nursery and seed bank. Differentiated cultural preferences of both men and women for cultivation, processing and consumption are integrated in crop varietal selection protocols.
Capacity-building events are gender-balanced:
• 3 out of 5 seed entrepreneurs are women, selected from the Dar Taliba girls' boarding house;
• Farmer fied schools, including one specifically dedicated to themes of importance to women, offer parallel women-only sessions;
• Gender balance (approximately 50:50) at community capacity-building events is ensured by having women-only parallel sessions, except for at Dar Taliba where participants are 100% female;
• Men are specifically invited to attend gender and agriculture awareness caravans organised with the Federation for the Democratic League for Women's Rights (FDLWR); at least 70% of participants are women.
We ensure 50% of participants are women at other project events (gastronomic festival, seed and biocultural diversity fairs). We engage with Morocco-based women's rights associations (FDLWR and Association Démocratique des Femmes du Maroc) to ensure strong female participation at regional and national policy-making events.
For events, workshops and trainings, gender-disaggregated data is gathered in accurate participant lists. For ethnobotanical and socioeconomic research, gender data is disaggregated in interview and survey

protocols and analysis.

Q17. 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.

By project-end, knowledge about High Atlas agrobiodiversity characteristics, status and trends is significantly improved, providing farmers, researchers and policy-makers with information and tools for more efficient decision-making. Seeds of local, threatened and selected varieties of alfalfa, fava beans, peas, barley and wheat, along with other cultivated plants, arable wild species and wild crop relatives, are successfully conserved, and accessible to 4000 Amazigh farmers through three community seed banks, and to researchers and practitioners through regional and international seed banks. Farmers and community farmer trainers implement and transmit innovative tools and techniques that complement traditional practices and use local agrobiodiversity, resulting in the plots of 300 Amazigh farmers being managed sustainably, water-efficiently and for enhanced biodiversity.

Five strengthened community cooperatives and young seed entrepreneurs (including at least 3 women) are directly connected to urban traders, retailers and restaurateurs, and Moroccan agroecology and food initiatives, growing the recognition of High Atlas products in high-end niche markets. This results in initial commercial engagements that provide associated modest income improvements for Amazigh households. Access to locally-adapted varieties, improved agricultural management, capacity-building, participation in seed and trade networks, and increased sale of local products result in improved livelihoods and enhanced wellbeing for 500 households, comprising at least 1500 women. Policy-makers and stakeholders, including community members, are aware of ITPGRFA and are equipped with recommendations to enhance its implementation in Morocco.

In the long-term, High Atlas agroecosystems are more diverse, resilient and adapted to environmental change and shocks. Climate-resilient varieties selected by trained men and women farmers for local adaptability, are widely used. Community members access and use seeds of local, underutilized, threatened and selected crop varieties and associated biodiversity to improve on-farm management, productivity and conservation. These varieties are made available to communities that were not initially involved in the project, initially reaching an audience of up to 8000 farmers. Plots are managed ecologically, resulting in better water management and reduced use of introduced varieties dependent on chemical inputs. There is enhanced conservation and sustainable use of cultivated plants, arable wild species and wild crop relatives in traditional agroecosystems, halting a decline in a wide diversity of local plants.

At least five community cooperatives and 5 young entrepreneurs are engaged in the equitable and sustainable commercialisation of selected High Atlas products and seeds in urban niche markets, resulting in increased community incomes and improved livelihoods. High Atlas cultural products gain national recognition, are certified through participatory guarantee systems and are used in food innovation, expanding their market further; slowly expanding community-based production capabilities keep market values high. Economic and social conditions that encourage youth to remain in their communities and engage in the development of community livelihoods are fostered. Together, these benefits enhance on-farm biodiversity, traditional livelihoods and local knowledge and practices, fomenting cultural and social resilience in Amazigh communities. The High Atlas experience is used widely as a case study of successful implementation of solidarity agriculture, a pillar of the Green Morocco Plan and of ITPGRFA,

attracting support for scaling up the model regionally.

Q18. Pathway to change

Please outline your project's expected pathway to change. This should be an overview of the overall project logic and outline how you expect your Outputs to contribute towards your overall Outcome and, longer term, your expected Impact.

By building knowledge of High Atlas agrobiodiversity through surveys, biometric characterisations and ethnobotanical research, we ensure its conservation, management and use. Through seed banks and varietal selection, we provide farmers with access to germplasm that builds the resilience and diversity of their agricultural practices and food systems. By complementing cultivation of local, underutilized and selected varieties with innovative soil, water and pest management, we improve crop productivity and adaptive capacity of agroecosystems. Seed sharing, knowledge exchange and capacity-building ensure transmission and expanded uptake of project innovations.

We capitalize on Marrakech's growing renown as a 'foodie' destination and gastronomic innovation centre and concomitant expansion of niche markets for local, culturally-relevant and sustainable food products. By mentoring and training 'seed entrepreneurs', strengthening community cooperatives and developing a seed product marketing model, we build community capacities to benefit from these emerging markets. Through engaging with urban buyers, retailers, chefs and urban agroecology initiatives, we build urban-rural solidarity and trade networks, brokering direct commercial relationships that contribute to community livelihoods and poverty alleviation.

We ensure the long-term viability of our efforts by contributing to Moroccan smallholder agriculture- and seed-related policy-making through multistakeholder workshops and the development of a model for ITPGRFA implementation in Morocco.

Q19. 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?

In partnership with the Moroccan Biodiversity and Livelihoods Association (MBLA), GDF has overseen the expansion of our High Atlas Cultural Landscapes Programme since 2013. This project is part of our multifaceted programme, benefiting both from co-funding from diverse sources and other activities, networks and events that reinforce the project's processes and outcomes. With further funding, we will build on project results and lessons learned to further our research on other important crops, expand community seed banks, develop further innovations and training for sustainable agriculture, and build Amazigh cooperatives' and entrepreneurs' capacities and engagement with the growing urban-rural network of trade and support.

We will continue to strengthen MBLA, building on current productive team and organisation coaching process begun with support from Open Society Foundations. MBLA team members will continue to enhance their grant-making, leadership and national network-building capacities, employ more community researchers and build cooperatives' and local authorities' capacities, ensuring the project's legacy locally and nationally. MBLA has experience of recruiting and training talented young conservationists who eventually move on, and we continue to engage directly with these individuals through consultancies and partnerships, while finding no difficulty in finding and training excellent new recruits.

If necessary, please provide supporting documentation e.g. maps, diagrams, references etc., as a PDF using the File Upload below:

GDF - R26St2 Proposal - indicator 1.1 regional seed survey area
05/12/2019
14:45:01
pdf 315.52 KB

Section 9 - Existing works, Ethics & Safeguarding

Q20a. Harmonisation

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

Please give details.

This new initiative is part of GDF's integrated High Atlas Cultural Landscapes (HACL) programme that support communities in the fields of:
• Biodiversity conservation: enhancing knowledge and conservation of High Atlas plant biodiversity and ex situ and in situ conservation actions;
• Agroecology and agrobiodiversity: protecting their agrobiodiversity, building on-farm resilience through participatory selection and training, and innovating traditional agroecological practices to address rapid environmental and social change;
• Local product commercialisation: improving their livelihoods by engaging in sustainable trade of biocultural products in high-value urban niche markets and strengthening their cooperatives;
• Traditional knowledge and practices: documenting, promoting and restoring traditional natural resource management systems;
• Biocultural education: engaging youth in all aspects of sustainable livelihoods, environmental management and traditional practices;
• Governance and policy: strengthening their communal governance systems and having them recognised in national policy-making.
The project develops the agroecology, agrobiodiversity and product commercialisation components, while contributing substantively to all other elements. Our current funders are Critical Ecosystems Partnership Fund, Darwin Initiative, MAVA Foundation and Open Society Foundation. We are diversifying our funding base to scale up the programme and supporting MBLA to develop their own grant making.

Q20b. Are you aware of any other individuals/organisations/projects carrying out or applying for funding for similar work?

◉ 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.

• Partner Loubna Belqadi of IAV is launching the new Crop Biodiversity for Productivity and Resilience international university course in Moroccan higher education institutions. Our project provides case studies for the course, and partner Cadi Ayyad University offers it to its students.
• ICARDA have implemented agriculture policy-making and capacity-building events for researchers and practitioners of the MENA region. ICARDA draws on this experience to support our project's policy-making events.
• GEF has a project "Revitalising Oasis Agro-ecosystems through Sustainable, Integrated and Landscape

Approach in the Draa-Tafilalet Region" (2017-2021) with which we exchange lessons and experiences.

Q21. Ethics

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

The exacting principles of the International Society for Ethnobiology's Code of Ethics inform GDF's work. Partner communities have provided their Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) for the project as it responds to needs they expressed regarding protecting their agrobiodiversity, enhancing agroecological practices and improving revenues from cultural products. On the basis of previously-established community agreements the FPIC process is maintained through regular monitoring, communications and consultation.

All research, collection and documentation regarding Amazigh traditional knowledge and practices and associated plant genetic resources benefit from additional Prior Informed Consent and, as needed. Material Transfer Agreements. Individual agreements regarding the rights, privacy and safety of participants are established prior to carrying out interviews or surveys. Principles for the establishment of fair, equitable and prior agreements for the commercialisation of local products are agreed in community workshops. Commercialisation is led by community cooperatives, ensuring they control benefit-sharing decisions while receiving expert support and supervision to ensure equitability and respect for international agreements. We develop and implement our action-research approach through an equal partnership with communities. Community research teams contribute local perspectives for the co-development of research objectives, methods and practice, while ensuring externally-suggested approaches are culturally-adapted. With community consent, traditional knowledge and practices are documented, valued and mobilized alongside global scientific practice, particularly for the development of locally-adapted agroecological methods (Output 2).

ITPGRFA – which explicitly covers legal requirements regarding access and benefit-sharing for both the UK and Morocco – is a core project focus, benefiting from targeted attention through policy-making workshops, capacity-building, policy recommendations and communications (Output 4). We evaluate our ethical standards against its articles related to farmers' rights (art. 9) and access and benefit-sharing (art. 10-13). While health and safety risks are minimal, all measures are taken to ensure that individuals involved are fully insured and protected from harm.

Q22. Corruption

Explain how you have considered any risk of corruption that may affect the success of this project, and how you plan to manage this.

Corruption does not represent a risk for our project. In 2016, a national anti-corruption strategy was launched and since Morocco has improved by 3 points on the Corruption Perceptions Index. We vet all of our partners before approving partnership in discussions with third parties who know them through prior engagement and assessment. In the six years we have held Darwin Initiative funds for projects in the Moroccan High Atlas we have never encountered corruption.

Our project engages mainly with community-level authorities, public sector institutions, decentralised regional offices of government agencies and small civil society organisations. Any funds and benefits directed to these local and provincial institutions are modest, and do not represent any corruption risk. The local partner with the more significant proportion of the budget is MBLA. GDF monitors attentively and on a monthly basis the detailed accounts and bookkeeping from MBLA and MBLA accounting is included in our annual accounts submitted to the Charity Commission. We have put in place a code of conduct to maintain the highest degree of ethical conduct amongst all our staff and associated personnel. Together with this, we have put in place conflict of interest and whistleblower policies.

Q23. Safeguarding

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, projects are required to have appropriate safeguarding policies in place. Please confirm the lead organisation has the following policies in place and that these can be available on request:

We have a safeguarding policy, which includes a statement of your commitment to safeguarding and a zero tolerance statement on bullying, harassment and sexual exploitation and abuse	Checked
We keep a detailed register of safeguarding issues raised and how they were dealt with	Checked
We have clear investigation and disciplinary procedures to use when allegations and complaints are made, and have clear processes in place for when a disclosure is made	Checked
We have shared our safeguarding policy with downstream partners	Checked
We have a whistle-blowing policy which protects whistle blowers from reprisals and includes clear processes for dealing with concerns raised	Checked
We have a Code of Conduct in place for staff and volunteers that sets out clear expectations of behaviours - inside and outside the work place - and make clear what will happen in the event of non-compliance or breach of these standards	Checked

Section 10 - Funding and Budget

Q24. Funding and budget

Please complete the appropriate Excel spreadsheet, which provides the Budget for this application. Some of the questions earlier and below refer to the information in this spreadsheet. Note that there are different templates for projects requesting over and under £100,000 from the Darwin budget.

- Budget form for projects under £100,000
- Budget form for projects over £100,000

Please refer to the Finance for Darwin/IWT Guidance **for more information.**

N.B: 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.

R26_Darwin_Budget_GDF 05-12-2019
05/12/2019
11:51:25
xlsx 66.32 KB

Q25. 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.

Budget needs were discussed in detail with the partner organisations and consultants. GDF does not incur rent or running costs: the majority of the budget is for in-country staff, fieldwork, travel and consultancy costs, with ~25% of funds going to GDF for project coordination and international travel. Over 50% of salaries and 25% of consultancies are allocated to Moroccan nationals and residents, and the majority of our partners are Moroccan, reflecting our dedication to in-country capacity-building and institution-strengthening. Overall project cost (£[redacted] and Darwin request (£[redacted]) are justified by the diversity, complexity and scope of the actions proposed. The proposed interrelated actions and activities are necessary to implement the full integrated project, ensuring a firm foundation for the project and its follow-up. We have secured significant buy-in from government agencies and local authorities, which provide in-kind support and do not request funds. The budget assumes a modest 3% annual inflationary cost rise.

Robust financial regulations and detailed procurement policies in place ensure efficient spending. An annual budget is agreed and approved by GDF trustees and internal financial controls are periodically reviewed to achieve cost effectiveness. From 2020 GDF will implement the Money Where it Counts protocol endorsed by Grand Bargain to ensure efficient and fit-for-purpose project delivery by harmonising and simplifying the approach to cost classification, cost charging and financial reporting.

Activities, salaries and consultancies were costed based on 6 years' experience working in the High Atlas. Our principal assumption is that staff and consultants remain the same throughout the project. We are confident in our consultants' commitment: some participated in project design and others are long-term GDF contractors or partners. Fees for the unnamed consultants (IT and RHoMIS consultants) were costed based on prior knowledge.

Q26. 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.

The budget includes Darwin Initiative co-funding for the purchase of 2 laptops for GDF and MBLA staff (as a number of the team are working with outdated equipment) for a total of £[redacted], and 3 tablets and 2 handheld GPS to carry out the regional seed survey for a total of [redacted].

In addition, we have budgeted £[redacted] for a used four-wheel drive truck, which is needed because the seed survey and community visits require extensive travel in areas where public transportation is limited. Vehicle purchase is good value for money as it will decrease funds need for national transportation (i.e. rental cars, taxi, etc.).

The capital items will be fully depreciated over 3-year project and will be upgraded to be reused within the

organisation on follow-up projects.

Q27. Match funding (co-financing)

Are you proposing co-financing?

⦿ Yes

Q27a. 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
Open Society Foundations	[redacted]	GBP	Of the tota[redacted] grant, [redacted] provides co-funding for the proposed Darwin Initiative project, including support for a review of Moroccan smallholder and seed-related legal and policy framework, a case study of High Atlas agroecosystem management, co-funding for community-based exchanges and events, and institutional strengthening and relevant capacity-building for local partners.

MAVA Foundation	240,000	GBP	As core partners of the MAVA Foundation Outcome Action Plan for Mediterranean Cultural Landscapes, we are guaranteed to continue as partners for Phase 2 of the Outcome Action Plan (2020-2022); we are expecting a total grant of £[redacted] over 26 months (beginning in May 2020), of which we will dedicate £[redacted] to co-funding this project. MAVA support will co-fund community nurseries, further biometic crop characterisation, complementary policymaking activities and capacity-building of emerging Moroccan professionals in the sector
No Response	0	*No Response*	*No Response*
No Response	0	*No Response*	*No Response*

Q27b. Unsecured

Provide details of any matched funding where an application has been submitted, or that you intend applying for during the course of the project. This could include matched funding from the private sector, charitable organisations or other public sector schemes. This should also include any additional funds required where a donor has not yet been identified.

Date applied for	Donor Organisation	Amount	Currency code	Comments

29 June 2019	Fondation Prince Albert 2 de Monaco	[redacted]	Euros	Total grant is €[redacted]; FPA2 expect to share outcomes of the Stage 1 proposal process by mid-2020, with a view to a project launch in early 2021. The title of the proposal is Conservation of critically endangered plant species in Morocco and it would co-fund community seed banks, capacity-building, community researcher and MBLA salaries and communications.
01 January 2020	Conservation Food and Health Foundation	[redacted]	USD	Total grant is €[redacted]; we expect to learn of the outcome of our stage 2 proposal by 1 June 2020; the project's working title is Farmer Field Schools and Biocultural Diversity Fairs for Sustainable Agriculture in the Moroccan High Atlas and the project will co-fund FFS and biocultural diversity fairs, allowing us to organize more events and extending them to greater audiences

31 December 2019	United Nations Development Programme – Morocco Small Grants Programme	[redacted]	USD	Total grant is [redacted]; we are expecting a call for proposals by the end of 2019; MBLA has successfully held a project with UNDP Morocco in 2017-18 and will apply for a project entitled "Agrobiodiversity and in situ conservation for food security and climate change adaptation in the High Atlas" which will contribute co-funding across budget lines.
01 October 2020	Private donations	[redacted]	GBP	GDF regularly generates unrestricted donations in region of [redacted] annually and we anticipate donations worth £90k in 2021/22 & 2022/23 each. We would dedicate over £[redacted] over three years to co-funding this project.

Do you require more fields?

⦿ Yes

Date applied for	Donor Organisation	Amount	Currency code	Comments
15 February 2020	Mohamed Bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund	[redacted]	GBP	Of a total grant of €[redacted] there is co-funding for capacity-building

No Response	*No Response*	0	*No Response*	*No Response*
No Response	*No Response*	0	*No Response*	*No Response*

Section 11 - Open Access and Financial Risk Management

Q28. Outputs of the project and Open Access

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

Co-funding for one peer-reviewed open access manuscript on the diversity, status and conservation of High Atlas agrobiodiversity is included in the budget (£[redacted] A case study on traditional High Atlas agroecosystem and agrobiodiversity management and an accompanying policy brief, including policy recommendations for Morocco's fulfilment of ITPGRFA, will be published. Project results and publications will be shared on both the MBLA website (in English and French) and the GDF website (in English), ensuring wide dissemination.

We will establish Community Biodiversity Registers, managed by community researchers, to ensure local open access to, protection of and benefit-sharing of local data concerning crop diversity and associated traditional knowledge. We will add an agrobiodiversity and seed component to our existing plant genetic resources database, funded by the Darwin Initiative. Furthermore, the project budget includes 2 months' IT consultancy to support the development of an in-house database – to be shared through the GDF website – ensuring access and accessibility to our data. To ensure broad dissemination of research results, we contribute all agrobiodiversity data (and associated seed accessions) to MARK, ICARDA and ITPGRFA Multilateral System gene bank databases (and seed banks where relevant) and to the Platform for Agricultural Research DATAR page (currently under construction). We will include our database link in the agrobiodiversity section of the CBD Clearing House Mechanism on Biodiversity of Morocco. Project socioeconomic data and prior baselines produced with the Rural Household Multi-indicator Survey (RHoMIS) will be openly accessible online, pending community consent.

Q29. 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.

GDF manages the risk and threats to our projects through our risk management framework. Having worked in Morocco for two decades, we understand both internal and external context and consider this a low-risk project and are satisfied with our risk-reduction strategy which includes:

•Establishing accountabilities (who is responsible for what) within the project work plan and activities, with most staff and consultants named and recruited prior to project start;

•Involving partner organisations through the process of developing the project and budget to ensure their ownership and buy-in;

•Clear financial policies in place for lead and partner organisations including segregation of financial authority and detailed procurement procedures;

•Tried-and-tested regular internal and external communication and narrative and financial reporting mechanisms for management, staff, consultants and partners;

•Robust financial regulations and processes overseen and implemented by strategic accountant Manish

Panjabi, a core team member;
•A disclosure of malpractice in the workplace policy (Whistleblower Policy) in place to report malpractices including financial wrongdoing including theft, bribery, fraud, money laundering and aid diversion.
•Project overheads, which are not required for rent or running costs ensure a buffer for unexpected costs, including exchange rate fluctuations (which are not expected in the Moroccan context).

Section 12 - Logical Framework

Q30. 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:

Unique and threatened High Atlas agrobiodiversity is maintained and promoted, leading to healthy agroecosystems, improved Amazigh livelihoods and resilience to environmental change, providing a model for ITPGRFA implementation in Morocco.

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions

Outcome: Agroecological research, farmer participation and capacity-building support the conservation and sustainable commercialisation of High Atlas agrobiodiversity, contributing to food security, poverty reduction and biodiversity-rich agroecosystems in three Amazigh rural communes.	0.1 High Atlas varieties of five crops surveyed, assessed, characterized and conserved in 3 community, 1 regional and 1 international seed banks, by year 3; at least 150 other cultivated plants, arable wild species and wild crop relatives inventoried, with 20% represented in seed banks and 10% with conservation assessments completed, by year 3 0.2 At least 30ha of community-owned agricultural land under improved management, by year 3 0.3 At least 500 Amazigh households from three communities experience improved livelihoods and enhanced wellbeing, measured using the RHoMIS survey, by Year 3 0.4 At least 80 key stakeholders participate in national policy-making on smallholder agriculture and seeds, and implementation of ITPGRFA, by year 3	0.1 Seed bank accession records, inventory database, regional survey datasets, characterisation reports, IUCN conservation assessments, manuscript for peer-review 0.2 Soil and agroecological monitoring datasets (baselines developed in 2019); DATAR datasets; training manual; photo essays 0.3 RHoMIS survey datasets (baselines for 250 HH produced in 2019); participatory appraisals; blog posts for fairs and exchanges; video for gastronomy event; reports and participant lists for capacity-building events 0.4 Case study, policy brief, workshop reports and participant lists, community dissemination products	Local varieties of the five crops are available and farmers are willing to share associated knowledge and seeds At least 150 species of accompanying agroecological biodiversity identified Farmers are committed to improving their soil, water and pest management and to use agrobiodiversity-based management techniques Existence and ongoing expansion of Marrakech niche markets for High Atlas cultural products and local varieties Community members eager to produce and trade agrobiodiversity-based products Government agencies and actors are interested in collaborating for the national implementation of ITPGRFA

Output 1: 1. High Atlas agrobiodiversity surveyed, assessed, characterised and conserved	1.1 One regional seed survey of High Atlas cereals, fodder and grain legumes and wild relatives completed, including gender disaggregated data where relevant, by Year 2; selected varieties of 5 crop species biometrically characterised by year 3 1.2 100 accessions of landraces of 5 species (increased from a baseline of 25) and seeds of 30 species of accompanying biodiversity conserved within 3 community seed banks, 1 regional seed bank and 1 international seed bank, by year 3 1.3 Adapted IUCN conservation assessments carried out for High Atlas varieties of the 5 selected crops, by Year 2, and IUCN conservation for 15 species of accompanying biodiversity completed by year 3 1.4 One standard operating procedure manual for High Atlas community seed banks established and implemented by Year 2 1.5 Community Biodiversity Registers established by each community by Year 1 and completed with all available data by Year 3 1.6 At least 150 men, women and youth (at least 50% women) trained in seed	1.1 Regional survey dataset, biometric characterisations 1.2 Community seed bank accession records 1.3 IUCN conservation assessments for selected species 1.4 CSB standard operating procedure manual 1.5 Community Biodiversity Registers for Ait M'hamed, Imedgal, and Oukaimeden 1.6 Capacity-building workshop reports, photo essays and participant lists 1.7 Photo essays, workshop reports, and training manual for community seed bank managers 1.8 Manuscript and confirmation email for submission	Farmers willing to participate in the regional survey Viable seed or other germplasm available and not affected by drought, insect predation or other environmental factors Community researchers motivated to train as CSB managers Community members interested in and available for participating in capacity-building events, and provide permission for photographs taken at events Community permission granted to use survey results and data from community-based interviews in publication

	collection, post-harvest processing and conservation, by Year 3 1.7 Six community researchers (at least 3 women) trained as CSB managers, actively implementing management plans, by Year 2 1.8 Manuscript submitted for peer-reviewed publication on the diversity, status and conservation of High Atlas agrobiodiversity, by year 3

Output 2: Sustainable and climate-resilient agroecosystem and crop management implemented	2.1 At least 3 crop varieties selected and tested by farmers through Participatory Varietal Selection (PVS), by year 3 2.2 Soil, pest and water management plans established in 3 communities, by year 2 2.3 Three farmer field schools, benefitting 100 farmers (at least 30 women), implemented in Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3 2.4 Three community researchers (at least 1 woman) trained as community farmer trainers by Year 1 2.5 Approximately 60 men and 140 women participate in 'Gender and Agriculture' caravans by Year 2 2.6 100 farmers engaged in the use of the Diversity Assessment Tool for Agrobiodiversity and Resilience (DATAR), by Year 2	2.1 PVS process reports 2.2 Soil, pest and water agroecological management plans 2.3 Farmer field school event reports, photo essays and participant lists 2.4 Workshop reports, photo essays, interviews and blog post on capacity-building of 'Community Farmer Trainers' 2.5 Gender and agriculture caravan reports and photostories 2.6 DATAR datasets	Material Transfer Agreements successfully negotiated and obtained for crop variety testing Climatic conditions allow for varieties to be grown in PVS trials Farmers available and interested in learning about and implementing innovative soil, pest and water management approaches and DATAR Community researchers available and interested in training as 'Community Farmer Trainers'

Output 3: Livelihood improvements through valorization, commercialization and exchange of local agrobiodiversity and increased collaboration within and between communities and regional support networks, achieved	3.1 Five rural cooperatives increase their sale of agricultural products (including from the target species) by 30%, leading to livelihood benefits for at least 500 households, by year 3, as compared to project start baseline 3.2 4000 Amazigh farmers (at least 50% women) provided access to seed of locally appropriate crop varieties and accompanying biodiversity through 3 community seed banks, by year 3 3.3 Useable crop biomass increased by at least 10% on average in private agricultural plots tended by 300 households, benefitting approximately 1800 community members (about 50% women), by year 3 3.4 At least 5 community youth (at least 3 women) trained and mentored as 'seed entrepreneurs' by year 2 3.5 Three provincial seed fairs and community exchanges implemented, serving an audience of at least 300 Amazigh farmers and cooperative members (at least 30% women), by year 3 3.6 At least one regional gastronomic event organized in Marrakech on High Atlas agrobiodiversity, with at least 50 participants (at least 50% women) by	3.1. Sales records of rural cooperatives 3.2 Seed distribution records, publicity materials 3.3 Useable crop biomass monitoring results; RhoMIS survey 3.4 Training manual for seed entrepreneurs exchange and sales records 3.5 Blog posts, workshop reports and participant lists 3.6 Video and blog post on the gastronomy event; chef dish descriptions and restaurant menus 3.7 Draft model for the development, processing, marketing and sale of locally-selected climate-resilient varieties	Increase in number of Marrakech food/retail actors and networks interested in organic food, agroecology and cultural products Farmers available and interested in engaging in seed fairs and knowledge exchange Agricultural intensification delivers expected increase in yield under diverse condictions At least 5 young community members eager to develop their skills and capacities in the seed market Leading chefs are committed to putting dishes with High Atlas products on their menus Climate-resilient crop varieties are available, do not suffer from germination issues in multiplication process, and are marketable Permission granted by participants at events, and government agency responsible for film permits, for filming and taking photographs at events.

	Year 2, leading to at least 10 new dishes based on High Atlas community products and local agrobiodiversity developed and served by leading chefs by Year 3 3.7 Model for the development, processing, marketing and sale of locally-selected, climate-resilient crop varieties in regional niche markets developed and disseminated throughout the High Atlas, by Year 3

Output 4: Stakeholder participation in national policy-making on smallholder agriculture and seeds, and implementation of ITPGRFA, accomplished	4.1 One regional capacity-building workshop on ITPGRFA and its interactions with the Green Morocco Plan (around 30 participants, at least 15 women), by Year 1 4.2 One national policy-making workshop on the Moroccan agricultural legal and policy frameworks and their interactions with ITPGRFA (50 participants, at least 20 women), by Year 2 4.3 Case study of the High Atlas agroecosystem and agrobiodiversity management and policy implications compiled, published and disseminated by year 2 4.4 One policy brief on Morocco's compliance with the ITPGRFA, by Year 3 4.5 Community-oriented dissemination products (short brochure and video) in Arabic and Tamazight by Year 3	4.1 Workshop report, participant list and blog post 4.2 Workshop report, participant list and blog post 4.3 Published case study 4.4 Policy brief on Morocco's compliance with ITPGRFA 4.5 Video and brochure in Arabic and Tamazight	Stakeholders are interested in participating in capacity-building and policy-making events on ITPGRFA and Green Morocco Plan Government agencies and actors are interested in collaborating in the national implementation of ITPGRFA
Output 5: *No Response*	*No Response*	*No Response*	*No Response*

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.

⦿ No

Activities

Each activity is numbered according to the Output that it will contribute towards, for example, 1.1, 1.2, 1.3 are contributing to Output 1.

1.1 Regional seed survey and biometric characterisations completed

1.2 Seeds of landrace accessions of selected and species of accompanying biodiversity collected and conserved in community, regional and international seed banks
1.3 Conservation assessments for High Atlas crop varieties and species of accompanying biodiversity completed compiled and published
1.4 Standard operating procedure manual for High Atlas community seed banks compiled and published
1.5 Community Biodiversity Registers established and completed with available data by project end
1.6 Community capacity-building events on seed collection, post-harvest processing and conservation implemented
1.7 Capacity-building for community seed bank managers implemented
1.8 Peer reviewed manuscript submitted
Output 2. Sustainable and climate-resilient agroecosystem and crop management implemented
2.1 Locally-adapted crop varieties selected and tested using PVS
2.2 Baseline research for innovative soil, pest and water management carried out
2.3 Soil, pest and water management plans developed and implemented, including in Farmer Field Schools and other capacity-building events
2.4 Farmer Field Schools, including one on topics of importance for women, implemented
2.5 Training for community farmer trainers implemented
2.6 Gender and agriculture caravans organised
2.7 Training on the use of the Diversity Assessment Tool for Agrobiodiversity and Resilience (DATAR) implemented
Output 3. Livelihoods improvements through valorization, commercialization and exchange of local agrobiodiversity and increased collaboration within and between communities and regional support networks, achieved
3.1 Capacity-building and institutional strengthening for rural cooperatives implemented
3.2 Access to seed of locally appropriate crop varieties and accompanying biodiversity provided
3.3 Increase in net useable crop biomass measured
3.4 Young seed entrepreneurs trained and mentored
3.5 Provincial seed and biocultural diversity fairs, including community exchanges, organised
3.6 Regional gastronomic event in Marrakech organised and new dishes by urban chefs developed and served
3.7 Model for the development, processing, marketing and sale of locally-selected, climate resilient crop varieties developed and shared with seed entrepreneurs in targeted trainings
3.8 Second RHoMIS survey carried out, data published online and analysed in comparison with existing baseline
Output 4. Stakeholder participation in national policy-making on smallholder agriculture and seeds, and in the implementation of the ITPGRFA, delivered
4.1 Regional capacity building workshop on the ITPGRFA and its interactions with the Green Morocco Plan implemented
4.2 National policy-making workshop on the Moroccan agricultural legal and policy frameworks and their interactions with the ITPGRFA implemented
4.3 Case study of the High Atlas agroecosystem and agrobiodiversity management and policy implications compiled, published and disseminated
4.4 Policy brief, including policy recommendations, compiled, published and disseminated
4.5 Community-oriented video and brochure developed and disseminated widely

Section 13 - Implementation Timetable

Q31. Provide a project implementation timetable that shows the key milestones in project activities

Provide a project implementation timetable that shows the key milestones in project activities. Complete the Excel spreadsheet template as appropriate to describe the intended workplan for your project.

Implementation Timetable Template

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

Darwin_R26_-_Stage_2_-_Implementation_Time table_GDF
05/12/2019
15:48:50
xlsx 130.03 KB

Section 14 - Monitoring and Evaluation

Q32. 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 Guidance for Darwin/IWT**).**

Coordinated by Project Director Emily Caruso, we carry out multiscalar M&E for the High Atlas Cultural Landscapes (HACL) programme through community, team and partnership-level M&E systems alongside a robust yearly external evaluation.
Every year, an external evaluator, consultant Najwa Es-siari, assesses our progress against all programme grants. Spending two weeks on site between team interviews, partner meetings and field visits to partner communities, she reviews all project outputs and indicators and holds Skype meetings with the management team. She provides detailed recommendations and assesses progress against those recommendations every year. She assesses progress against all project indicators.
At the community level, formal meetings and focus groups to discuss project progress and emergent community needs and problems are complemented by continuous informal engagement between community members and MBLA staff to ensure immediate adaptive action. Ugo D'Ambrosio and partner community focal points Soufiane M'Sou, Rachid Babahmad and Abdellah Aghraz are responsible for channelling M&E data and information from partner communities to the team. Communities help us assess our performance principally against indicators relative to capacity-building (1.6, 1.7, 2.3, 2.4, 2.5) and communications (4.4).
The full HACL team meet formally fortnightly – complementing ongoing informal communications – to discuss progress and challenges, and co-create solutions and adaptive approaches. Fortnightly Management Team meetings are held to discuss programme directions, budgeting and longterm

programming and to monitor progress against specific grants. Minutes of both meetings are stored centrally for easy reference. Online management and file-sharing systems (GDF Intranet, complemented by Googledrive and Dropbox) help the team keep track of objectives, indicators and timelines. All Moroccan team members submit monthly reports to the Management Team, and we carry out internal quarterly financial and narrative reporting across sub-programme areas. The team assesses progress against indicators relative to participatory approaches (0.2, 1.5, 2.1, 1.4, 3.3, 3.4), urban-rural networks (3.2, 3.5), commercialisation (3.4) and livelihoods (0.3, 3.1).
At the partnership level, partners receive a project summary, including specific proposal logframe sections pertinent to their role, and an outline of the project management system at project launch. A kick-off workshop in the first quarter of the project establishes a productive partnership, understanding of partners' respective roles and a clear roadmap for the implementation and delivery of project activities and outputs. Based on lessons learned from previous Darwin-funded projects, we engage with partners through a mixture of formal and informal approaches. Key partners are gathered into a loose 'Steering Committee' that meets once a year to oversee progress, address roadblocks and determine solutions. Beyond these yearly meetings, regular informal meetings with all partners allow us to monitor implementation and evaluate outcomes continuously. Partners and Steering Committee help us evaluate progress primarily against indicators relative to policy-making (4.1, 4.2 and 4.3) and scientific outputs (0.1, 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.8, 2.2, 3.6).
This multifaceted approach allows us to adaptively manage and deliver the project, responding to new opportunities and addressing any unexpected negative impacts while adapting the project's flow to ensure the most successful outcome.

Total project budget for M&E in GBP (this may include Staff, Travel and Subsistence costs)	[redacted]
Number of days planned for M&E	90
Percentage of total project budget set aside for M&E (%)	5

Section 15 - FCO Notifications

Q33. FCO Notifications

Please state whether 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.

No

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, written advice

Please attach details of any advice you have received.

FCO advice
01/12/2019
22:57:21
pdf 144.84 KB

Section 16 - Certification

Q34. Certification

On behalf of the

Trustees

of

Global Diversity Foundation

I apply for a grant of

£362,686.00

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 enclosed CVs for key project personnel, letters of support, budget and project implementation timetable (uploaded at appropriate points in application).
- Our last two sets of signed audited/independently verified accounts and annual report are also enclosed.

Checked

Name	Gary Martin
Position in the organisation	Founder, Consultant
Signature (please upload e-signature)	GJM signature 01/12/2019 22:59:56 jpg 12.75 KB
Date	05 December 2019

Section 17 - Submission Checklist

Checklist for submission

	Check
I have read the Guidance, including "Guidance Notes for Applicants**" and "**Finance Guidance**".**	Checked
I have read, and can meet, the current Terms and Conditions **for this fund.**	Checked
I have provided actual start and end dates for the project.	Checked
I have provided my budget based on UK government financial years i.e. 1 April – 31 March and in GBP.	Checked
I have checked that our budget is complete, correctly adds up and I have included the correct final total at the start of the application.	Checked
The application been signed by a suitably authorised individual (clear electronic or scanned signatures are acceptable).	Checked
I have included a 1 page CV or job description for all the key project personnel identified at Question 10, including the Project Leader, or provided an explanation of why not.	Checked
I have included a letter of support from the the Lead Organisation and main partner organisation(s) identified at Question 9, or an explanation of why not.	Checked
I have included a cover letter from the Lead Organisation, outling how any feedback received at Stage 1 has been addressed where relevant.	Checked
I have been in contact with the FCO in the project country/ies and have included any evidence of this. If not, I have provided an explanation of why not.	Checked
I have included a signed copy of the last 2 annual report and accounts for the Lead Organisation, or provided an explanation if not.	Checked
I have checked the Darwin website **immediately prior to submission to ensure there are no late updates.**	Checked
I have 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.

Checked

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 organisation, 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).