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# **DIR28S2\1035**

## **Valorising Malagasy protected areas as seed sources for forest restoration**

The conservation of Madagascar's remarkable biodiversity faces numerous challenges, including, importantly: the need for impoverished communities living close to protected areas to derive greater benefits from such reserves; and the lack of reliable supply chains for high quality seeds of native trees to enable such plants to contribute to the country's ambitious reforestation targets. We will work with parent-teacher associations at local schools around the Analavelona protected area to develop lucrative seed supply chains: thereby addressing both these problems simultaneously.

## PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

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<b>Title</b>	Dr
<b>Name</b>	Chris
<b>Surname</b>	Birkinshaw
<b>Organisation</b>	Missouri Botanical Garden
<b>Website (Work)</b>	[REDACTED]
<b>Tel (Work)</b>	[REDACTED]
<b>Email (Work)</b>	[REDACTED]
<b>Address</b>	[REDACTED]

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## Section 1 - Contact Details

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### PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

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Title	Dr
Name	Chris
Surname	Birkinshaw
Organisation	Missouri Botanical Garden
Website (Work)	[REDACTED]
Tel (Work)	[REDACTED]
Email (Work)	[REDACTED]
Address	[REDACTED]

### GMS ORGANISATION

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Type	Organisation
Name	Missouri Botanical Garden
Phone	[REDACTED]
Email	[REDACTED]
Website (Work)	[REDACTED]
Address	[REDACTED]

## Section 2 - Title, Ecosystems, Approaches & Summary

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### Q3. Title:

Valorising Malagasy protected areas as seed sources for forest restoration

### What was your Stage 1 reference number? e.g. DIR28S1\1123

DIR28S1\1155

### Q4. Key Ecosystems, Approaches and Threats

Select up to 3 biomes that are of focus, up to 3 conservation actions that characterise your approach, and up to 3 threats to biodiversity you intend to address, from dropdown lists.

#### Biome 1

Tropical-subtropical forests

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#### Biome 2

No Response

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#### Biome 3

No Response

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**Conservation Action 1**

Land/water protection (area/resource/habitat)

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**Conservation Action 2**

Land/water management (area, invasive control, restoration)

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**Conservation Action 3**

Livelihood, economic & other incentives (incl. conservation payments)

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**Threat 1**

Biological resource use (hunting, gathering, logging, fishing)

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**Threat 2**

*No Response*

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**Threat 3**

*No Response*

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## Q5. Summary

**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 the website.**

**Please write this summary for a non-technical audience.**

The conservation of Madagascar's remarkable biodiversity faces numerous challenges, including, importantly: the need for impoverished communities living close to protected areas to derive greater benefits from such reserves; and the lack of reliable supply chains for high quality seeds of native trees to enable such plants to contribute to the country's ambitious reforestation targets. We will work with parent-teacher associations at local schools around the Analavelona protected area to develop lucrative seed supply chains: thereby addressing both these problems simultaneously.

## Section 3 - Title, Dates & Budget Summary

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### Q6. Country(ies)

**Which eligible host 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** Madagascar

**Country 2** *No Response*

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**Country 3** *No Response*

**Country 4** *No Response*

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**Do you require more fields?**

No

## Q7. Project dates

**Start date:**

01 June 2022

**End date:**

31 March 2025

**Duration (e.g. 2 years, 3 months):**

2 years 10 months

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## Q8. Budget summary

Year:	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	Total request
<b>Amount:</b>	£57,240.00	£67,049.00	£42,943.00	<b>£</b> 167,232.00

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**Q9. Proportion of Darwin Initiative budget expected to be expended in eligible countries: %** ██████████

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**Q10a. Do you have matched funding arrangements?**

Yes

**What matched funding arrangements are proposed?**

MBG will cover 2 months salary over 3 years of Project Leader Chris Birkinshaw and also provide no cost access to camping and research equipment

**Q10b. Total confirmed & unconfirmed matched funding (£)** ██████████

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**Q10c. If you have a significant amount of unconfirmed matched funding, please clarify how you fund the project if you don't manage to secure this?**

*No Response*

## Section 4 - Problem statement

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**Q11. Problem the project is trying to address**

**Please describe the problem your project is trying to address in terms of biodiversity and its relationship with poverty. For example, what are the drivers of loss of biodiversity that the project will attempt to address? Why are they relevant, for whom? How did you identify these problems?**

**Please cite the evidence you are using to support your assessment of the problem (references can be listed in your additional attached PDF document which can be uploaded at the bottom of the methodology page).**

Too often, in Madagascar, the costs of the designation and management of protected areas is borne primarily by local people whose access to the natural goods, on which they more or less rely, is restricted (Harper 2002). Yet, in the absence of repression, the long-term success of these reserves requires local good will. Without such support, protected area managers will continually face local resistance that, if not, addressed will lead to failure. Consequently these managers must try to develop significant, tangible livelihood benefits for impacted locals as part of their management strategies. A few favourably-placed sites successfully do this through tourism (although, often, local beneficiaries are restricted to the most educated e.g. Harper 2002), but most struggle to provide immediate benefits for those living around the reserve that

are clearly linked to the protected area. Consequently managers often resort to supporting small-scale development projects (such as poultry-rearing, handicrafts or vegetable-growing), not directly related to the protected area, that, even if successful, often merely purchase temporary good-will (Freudenberger 2010).

MBG has been supporting the community-based conservation of the Analavelona Forest in SW Madagascar for a decade. This forest is considered as sacred to the local Bara people and thus entered the new Millennium in an almost pristine condition. However, with increasing outside influences including Christianity, telephones and immigrants of different ethnicities, traditional beliefs are being eroded and previously very rare incidents of timber exploitation are becoming more frequent. We thus seek to develop economic activities for locals that are compatible both preserving the forest's sanctity and its biodiversity.

The project proposed here will build local capacity to collect high quality seed samples of native trees from Analavelona that can be sold to reforestation projects with the income so generated supporting improved education in local schools where standards are currently lamentable and constitute an important barrier to development (World Bank 2020). By so doing, local people will enjoy an immediate tangible benefit that, importantly, is directly and obviously associated with the protected area. Moreover, through this action, the project will also address a desperate need for reliable source of seeds of native trees for reforestation projects. Through AFR100, Madagascar has pledged, by 2030, to reforest 4 million hectares of degraded land (total land area = 58 million hectares) as its national contribution to meeting the Bonn Challenge (<https://afr100.org/content/madagascar>). However, since reliable supply chains for high quality seeds of native trees are currently absent it seems likely that, without an initiative such as that presented here, this target will be achieved by planting exotic trees (mainly eucalyptus) despite their multiple negative impacts (e.g. impoverishing soil, lowering water tables and reducing biodiversity) in some circumstances (Bayle 2019).

## Section 5 - Darwin Objectives and Conventions

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### Q12. Biodiversity Conventions, Treaties and Agreements

**Q12a. Your project must support the commitments 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.**

- Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
- United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
- Global Goals for Sustainable Development (SDGs)

### Q12b. National and International Policy Alignment

**Please detail how your project will contribute to national policy (including NBSAPs, NDCs, NAP etc.) and in turn international biodiversity and development conventions, treaties and agreements that the country is a signatory of.**

CBD ("the conservation of biological diversity"): by reducing degradation and relieving human pressures on a very rare and threatened vegetation type (Malagasy western sub-humid forest - Moat & Smith 2007) that is the habitat for a diverse and threatened fauna and flora including *Propithecus verreauxi* (CR), *Lemur catta* (EN), *Lepilemur hubbardorum* (EN), *Phanerpallescens* (EN); *Uroplatus malahelo* (EN); *Eulemur rufifrons* (VU), *Xanthomixis apperti* (VU), *Microgale nasoloi* (VU), *Cryptoprocta ferox* (VU) (Goodman et al 2018) and scores of threatened plants - including three tree species known only from here.

NBSAP: (Goal B: "Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use of natural resources") by increasing the appreciation of Analavelona Protected Area among the local community and by enabling restoration of degraded landscapes using native trees; (Goal C: "Improve the biodiversity status by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity") by reducing anthropogenic pressures on the Analavelona PA with positive impact on threatened fauna and flora and also by promoting the successful inclusion of native trees in reforestation endeavors with consequent benefits for native biodiversity (Sacco et al, 2021) ; (Goal D: "Enhance the benefits withdrawn to all from biodiversity and the services provided by ecosystems") by facilitating the restoration of natural capital in Madagascar's vast degraded landscapes through the provision of seeds of native trees for use in reforestation and by helping local people to access

sustainable benefits from the collection and sale of seeds from native trees.

UNFCCC (Madagascar's Intended Nationally Determined Contribution to the Paris Agreement = increasing country's carbon sink capacity by 32%, by 2030): by facilitating the inclusion of native tree species in the ambitious reforestation interventions planned for the country as a compliment to plantations of alien trees.

SDGs (Goals 1/2) by providing paid employment (for 14 local people); (Goal 3) by contributing to the restoration degraded landscapes; (Goals 4/5/10) by supporting improved primary education for rural girls and boys and by supporting business and entrepreneurship mentoring for new local business graduates; (Goal 8) by nurturing sustained economic growth through a robust seed supply chain; (Goal 13) by contributing to the reforestation of degraded landscapes using native trees; (Goal 15) by conserving the Analavelona Reserve that is important as a rare example of Western sub-humid Forest and as habitat for scores of threatened plants and animals; (Goal 17) by investing in diverse partnerships (rural people leading traditional lives, local Kings (Mpanzaka) university graduates, business leaders, NGOs, representatives of various state institutions, leaders of reforestation projects).

## Section 6 - Method, Change Expected, Gender & Exit Strategy

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### Q13. Methodology

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

MBG has been supporting conservation work (including restorative initiatives) at multiple sites in Madagascar for 2 decades (<https://mobot.mg/conservation/>). Key lessons from this experience, integrated into the current project, include: 1) with training and coaching, rural people make highly effective seed-collectors and nurserymen/women; 2) a small minority of native tree species grow well on degraded land and thus species selected for use in reforestation must be chosen with care and ideally trialed before large-scale roll-out; 3) to mobilise community good-will for conservation action, the number of beneficiaries should be maximised even if gain-per-person is modest; 4) interventions must be tailored to the local social and environmental context (no copy-paste); 5) in many communities education is a high priority - subordinate only to security and food; and 6) while some development projects fail for technical reasons, more flounder due to social issues especially a failure to build capacity including an appreciation of good governance and the practical provisions whereby it can be achieved (Freudenberger 2010).

The work packages required to achieve the anticipated outcome are:

#### 1) Providing an operational context

MBG's Project Manager (PM) will discuss the project with the parent-teacher's association (called FRAM) at each of the three schools close to Analavelona Forest, the local Kings (Mpanzaka/Lonaky) and the regional office of the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MEDD). Feed back will be solicited and ultimately simple collaborative agreements will be signed describing responsibilities and rights.

#### 2) Collecting seeds of trees likely to perform well in reforestation

With guidance from the Project Manager, each FRAM will designate four seed collectors/rangers. These will be trained in best practice for seed collection by an experienced Malagasy seed-collector from RBG-Kew's Millennium Seed Bank. The Project Director + PM will identify ca. 20 tree species (the target species), native to the Analavelona, with attributes suggesting they will perform well in reforestation. The PM will train the seed collectors to recognise these species in the field. Under direction from the Assistant Project Manager (APM) the seed collectors will regularly search for target trees with mature fruits, collect seeds according to best practice ([http://brahmsonline.kew.org/Content/Projects/mbsp/resources/Training/English\\_kppcont\\_035653\\_A-field-manual-for-seed-collectors.pdf](http://brahmsonline.kew.org/Content/Projects/mbsp/resources/Training/English_kppcont_035653_A-field-manual-for-seed-collectors.pdf)), and transport the samples to the village. There, members of FRAM will clean, count, accession, label and correctly store the seeds. The seed-collectors will also monitor forest condition and infractions.

### 3) Describing the real performance of the target tree species in reforestation

The PM will guide each FRAM to select four nurserywomen. Under direction from the APM, a small nursery will be installed adjacent to each school and training provided by one of MBG's most experienced nursery staff in best practice for the propagation of trees. Then the nurserywomen, assisted by the entire membership of FRAM, will propagate 500 seedlings of each of the target species and then out-plant these in trial plots located in badly degraded parts of the Analavelona Forest. These plots will be protected from wild fires using firebreaks - also installed by the FRAM members. The germination percentages and survival and growth rate of the young plants under different conditions over 12 months will be monitored by the seed collectors/rangers according to agreed protocols and the information used to inform potential buyers of species-specific performance. For success, this project must provide reforestation projects not just with high-quality seeds but also science-based advice on how they can be best used.

### 4. Creating a durable business to access/supply lucrative markets for seeds

Two graduates of management and two graduates of administration will be recruited by the PM (with the assistance of the Bara student's association at Tulear University) from among young Bara graduates. This small team will be installed in an office in the district capital (Sakaraha). The managers will be mentored to develop lucrative markets for seed samples collected from the Analavelona Forest, and then manage the supply chain to provision buyers; and the administrators will be mentored in business administration especially: invoicing buyers, managing payments to FRAM and auditing the use of these sums. MBG's administrative staff will provide mentoring in business administration, but the management mentoring will be provided by one or more business leader: ideally a local business person plus an ex-Chevening scholar with proven competence in business.

### 5. Communicating to scale-up

All protected areas have significant untapped value as a source of seeds of native trees. This model project will both demonstrate this value and show how it can be responsibly released by means of communications on social media throughout the project and a major workshop including site visit for key interested parties.

## Q14. Capability and Capacity

**How will you support the strengthening of capability and capacity in the project countries at organisational or individual levels, please provide details of what form this will take and the post-project value to the country.**

This project will build capability and capacity at local, regional and national levels. At the local level: 12 men will be trained and coached as seed collectors/rangers, (one-week training by professional Malagasy seed collectors from the Millennium Seedbank, then on-going coaching by APM); 12 local women will be trained and coached to propagate and nurture native trees (one-week training by experienced nurseryman from MBG and then coaching by APM); 2 local graduates in business management and 2 local graduates in administration will given the opportunity to develop an exciting new business (with mentoring from Malagasy business leaders and an experienced finance officer from MBG). Also, through participation in this group-initiative, the members of the three FRAM will develop experience in associative collaboration and confidence in the power of joint action especially since the business leaders and administrators will be tasked with ensuring good governance within these associations (through workshops to develop and apply a locally conceived manual of procedures and institutional rules).

At the regional level, this project will provide, for the first time, a reliable source of seeds of native trees and information on their successful use (provided by the trials) for those seeking to invest in environmentally sensitive reforestation endeavors. Ideally, given Madagascar's highly diverse environment and associated rapid spatial turnover in species, it is desirable that each distinct region within the country should have its own seed supply chains for tree species native to that area.

Nationally, the actors in this model project will constitute a resource who can help protected areas elsewhere in the country to develop similar projects aiming to release the value of these sites to local people as sources of native tree seeds.

## Q15. Gender equality

**All applicants must consider whether and how their project will contribute to reducing inequality between persons of different gender. Explain how your understanding of gender equality within the context your project, and how is it**



## reflected in your plans.

The benefits for local people provided by this project include training in new skills, employment, and support for improved education. The training and employment are linked. While some of the different jobs available in this project are not equally appropriate for females and males, we will provide an overall balance in the opportunities provided to the two genders. Thus, while, for reasons of security, the work of seed collecting and working as forest rangers is not suitable for females and therefore necessarily reserved for men, this preference will be balanced by reserving the work in the nurseries for females. Compensation rates will be equitable. In summary the following training and employment opportunities will be provided.

- one week training by Malagasy expert working for the Millennium Seed Bank and 2 years of employment and coaching will be provided for 12 male seed collectors
- one week training by Malagasy expert nurseryman and 2 years of employment and coaching will be provided for 12 female nursery staff
- mentoring during two years of employment for one male and one female graduate in business management
- mentoring over two years employment for one male and one female in business administration

In the this part of Madagascar, where schools exist, lessons are attended by more girls than boys (from our data 57% versus 43% respectively). This is because boys are required by their families to guard cattle. Thus girls will be the major beneficiaries of the improvements to education proposed in this this project.

## Q16. Awareness and understanding

**How will you raise awareness and understanding of biodiversity-poverty issues in your stakeholders, including who are your stakeholders, what approaches/formats/products will you use, how you will ensure open and free access to all data, and how will you know that the messages are understood?**

The primary stakeholders for this project are the Bara people who live in the landscape surrounding the Analavelona Forest. Traditionally these people have considered that the Analavelona Forest hosts the spirits of their ancestors and therefore they avoided any exploitation within this sacred area (excepting wood for coffins). This belief is reinforced by the local kings or Mpanzaka and constitutes an important part of Bara identity. However, recently, the spiritual importance of the Analavelona Forest has started to erode due to outside influences. In this project we propose to work with the Mpanzaka to restate the importance of the forest as part of Bara identity but also to introduce the complementary ideas that the forest is the source of many streams that feed local rice-fields and is the origin of the lucrative seed supply chain developed by the project. These complimentary justifications for the conservation of the Analavelona forest will provide compelling arguments for those who are now somewhat skeptical of the role of the forest as a spiritual refuge. The Mpanzaka will be encouraged to communicate this message at village meetings and other events (such as the rituals associated with the installation of firebreaks) in the manner that they see fit.

A second group of stakeholders include parts of the State apparatus and NGOs supporting community-based conservation. The message that we want to communicate to representatives of these organisations is the untapped economic value (especially for local people) of protected areas as a source of seeds of native trees. We will communicate this message using social media throughout the project duration and also by means of a major workshop and site visit at the end of the project. We will influence these stakeholders by present quantitative data on indicators as presented in the logic framework.

## Q17. Change expected

**Detail the expected changes to both biodiversity and poverty reduction, and links between them, 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).**

**When talking about how people will benefit, please remember to give details of who will benefit, differences in benefits by gender or other layers of diversity within stakeholders, and the number of beneficiaries expected. The number of communities is insufficient detail – number of households should be the largest unit used.**

The Bara people have long believed that the spirits of their ancestors reside in the Analavelona Forest. Thus, considered

sacred, the forest entered the 21C in an almost pristine condition. However, outside influences (such as Christianity, immigration, technology) are now eroding these beliefs and destructive behaviours within the forest are increasing, including, most importantly, exploitation of timber for sale and hunting of lemurs. These activities are associated with poverty and the consequent need to supplement meagre livelihoods based on subsistence farming with income from the sale of timber and meat from lemurs. In the short term this project will improve livelihoods of only a small number of local people (ca. 28, gender equitable) but it will enable a major improvement to the quality of education available at three local schools currently serving ca. 400 students (57% girls) but with the potential to increase numbers (should quality of education improve). This project focuses on educational improvement because currently the student pass rates at key exams are very low with high drop-out such that the majority of locals are illiterate. The educational support provided by this project will have an immediate impact on education outcomes and create additional life opportunities. This change will be appreciated by local people who, understanding the link between this benefit and the conservation of the forest, will become more supportive of the conservation of Analavelona thereby improving the likely long term outcomes for the important fauna and flora that reside here.

On a broader scale, while there is huge interest in Madagascar about reforestation, currently nearly all this work relies on plantations of eucalyptus – despite these trees often having a negative environmental impact. In part, this situation is due to the lack of reliable, high-quality supplies of native tree seeds and the knowledge whereby they can be used with success. This project will respond to both of these needs and therefore enable more reforestation projects to integrate native trees into their workplans (target = 75 hectare YR2, 150 hectare in YR3) . The use of some native trees in association with eucalyptus plantations will not just benefit Madagascar's native biodiversity but will also improve the performance of the eucalyptus plantations by acting as green firebreaks and reducing the frequency and extent of wild fires.

The project has been designed to ensure that, at the conclusion of support from Darwin Initiative, the activities will continue as part of a viable business - including support for local schools (through FRAM) as part of its branding. With demonstrable success, there will be great interest among protected area managers to replicate the project at their sites of intervention. Indeed, there is huge scope for scaling in this manner since, ideally, reforestation work in different parts of Madagascar should use the trees native to their specific regions.

Thus, in summary, locally, the main changes expected are reduced pressures on the Analavelona Forest and a better-educated local population; while nationally, barriers to the use of native trees in reforestation will be reduced.

## 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.**

Our Theory of Change addresses two problems: first, there are few methods whereby the local community living around protected areas can derive obvious and tangible benefits directly from nature reserves; and second, Madagascar's well-meaning reforestation plans risk, in the absence of sources of seeds from native trees, being entirely dominated by environmentally-damaging plantations of alien trees.

Our Theory of Change is that IF we identify native trees from the Analavelona Forest with the potential to survive and grow well in degraded landscapes, and IF train and support local seed collectors to collect samples of these species; and IF we train and support local people to propagate and evaluate these target species; and IF we mentor Malagasy business graduates to develop an enterprise to identify reforestation endeavors in the region and sell high quality named seed samples to them together with information on how they can be best used; THEN the income from this sale can be used to maintain the operations and also support local education; THEREBY increasing support for the conservation of the Analavelona Forest WHILE enabling native trees to be integrated into reforestation endeavours. Demonstration of this success will promote similar initiatives at other protected areas.





## Q19. Exit Strategy

**How the project will reach a sustainable point and continue to deliver benefits post-funding? Will the activities require funding and support from other sources, or will they be mainstreamed in to "business as usual"? How will the required knowledge and skills remain available to sustain the benefits? How will your approach, if proven, be scaled?**

Initially the proposed project will function only through the funds provided by the Darwin Initiative and the direction, management and administration provided by MBG staff. To enable the project activities to continue into the future these

two inputs must be replaced. Given the Malagasy government's stated commitment to the reforestation of a proportion of its vast degraded landscapes and the increasing global commitment to integrating native trees into such endeavours, we are confident that substantial and lucrative markets do and will exist for high quality seeds suitable for reforesting degraded landscapes. Thus, assuming that our proposed Business Unit functions effectively, sufficient income will be generated to maintain the work required to feed the supply chain and also to provide payments to the FRAM so that they can maintain the improvements to education. The management of the project, that was initially ensured by MBG, will need to be embraced by the staff of the Business Unit. Thus it is evident that Project' sustainability will depend on the capacity and integrity of this Unit and their commitment to maintain support for the FRAM as part of their branding. While we wish to see this Unit as fully independent and will work to this goal, MBG will remain committed, post-project, to auditing their work and also providing advice and support as required. MBG has had success in the past with a similar endeavour where we worked with a business women to develop a supply chain based on handicrafts woven from sedges (from a PA) in which we were the original managers but then withdrew to leave the management to a local entrepreneur. This value chain continues to this day, 20 years after its initiation, and supports some 130 local women as weavers (<https://www.tenbythree.org/>).

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

 [DIR2852-1035 SUPPORTING INFORMATION](#)  
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## Section 7 - Risk Management

### Q20. Risk Management

**Please outline the 6 key risks to achievement of your Project Outcome and how these risks will be managed and mitigated, referring to the [Risk Guidance](#). This should include at least one Fiduciary, one Safeguarding, and one Delivery Chain Risk.**

**Projects should also draft their initial risk register using the [Risk Assessment template](#) provided, and be prepared to submit this when requested if they are recommended for funding. Do not attach this to your application.**

Risk Description	Impact	Prob.	Gross Risk	Mitigation Header	Residual Risk
<b>Fiduciary</b> New graduates in business recruited by this project will have endured considerable hardships during their study and therefore may be tempted to use project funds for personal gain with consequent loss of resources for project activities and causing erosion of trust among project participants and the donor.	major	possible	major	MBG will impose rules for the management of resources, will train and coach the Business Unit team in the application of these rules, and then carefully and thoroughly audit administration. Staff of the Business Unit will be informed of zero tolerance to purposeful misuse of resources.	minor

<p><b>Safeguarding</b></p> <p>Opportunities to access paid employment with fair compensation are rare here therefore those selecting among candidates for posts may seek favours for access. Corruption of this type would compromise the integrity of the project and its potential to promote ethical best practice within the community.</p>	major	possible	major	<p>Employment contracts will be awarded through a transparent process with clear selection criteria and a selection panel of &gt; four people including suitably-qualified person from outside the the management structure. All those recruited will be informed of the whistle blowing mechanism for use when issues arise that make them uncomfortable.</p>	minor
<p><b>Delivery Chain</b></p> <p>To be successful in the long-term this project requires that seeds collected locally are purchased by organisations supporting reforestation endeavours. If such markets cannot be accessed then the value chain will not exist and the project will fail.</p>	severe	possible	severe	<p>Ensure that the chosen Business Unit staff have sales skills and are coached to effectively find/nurture purchasers. Support them in this work by providing an effective website as a sales interface, and coaching in the effective use of contacts and the social media.</p>	moderate
<p><b>Risk 4</b></p> <p>Some tree species at Analavelona are very rare. If large numbers of seeds of these species were collected then their potential to regenerate might be reduced impacting he future survival of the species. Such an outcome would be in conflict with both MBG's and Darwin Initiative's mission.</p>	insignificant	rare	minor	<p>This project will target seed collection from native tree species likely to prosper in degraded conditions. These species are likely to be pioneer species and thus unlikely to be rare/threatened. However to ensure that no native tree is negatively impacted we will not collect &gt;10% seeds from any one tree.</p>	minor
<p><b>Risk 5</b></p> <p>Currently two species of eucalyptus are used for nearly all reforestation work in Madagascar because they survive and grow well in degraded landscapes. Directors of reforestation projects are not likely to replace eucalyptus with native trees if the latter perform very poorly. No seed purchasers = no project.</p>	severe	possible	severe	<p>When native tree species are used blindly for restoration then the results are typically very disappointing thus we will a) select a short-list of native tree species with attributes suggesting they may prosper under degraded conditions; b) trial these candidate species to evaluate real survival and growth under degraded conditions.</p>	minor
<p><b>Risk 6</b></p> <p>Annual precipitation in the south west of Madagascar (where Analavelona is located) is notably variable and periods of drought may impact the availability of seeds. Also in this isolated part of Madagascar social conflict, often triggered by theft of cattle, may cause conflict between different villages implicated in the project.</p>	minor	likely	minor	<p>This project does not require large quantities of seeds therefore, even in a drought year, properly motivated seed collectors will be able to locate sufficient seeds from most target species. MBG is has already worked at this site for a decade and is experienced with working effectively despite social conflicts.</p>	minor

## Section 8 - Implementation Timetable

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### Q21. 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 Word 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.

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 [R28 Darwin Implementation Timetable Template Fl](#)  
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## Section 9 - Monitoring and Evaluation

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### Q22. Monitoring and evaluation (M&E)

Describe 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](#)).**

At the start of the Project, the Director, the Project Manager (PM) and the Assistant Project Manager (APM) will meet for two days to develop a set of pragmatic but science-based protocols to provide the evidence required to track the various indicators that are included in the logic framework. These protocols will be written down, and thereby fixed, as a monitoring guidelines. This document will also include appendices with the model data-collection sheets. Previous experience has shown that such sheets help to standardise monitoring protocols over time so that data collected at several different time points is less subject to sampling errors due to shifts in methodologies. The field-based APM will be responsible for ensuring the application of these protocols according to the agreed guidelines - sometimes directing and coaching the seed collectors/rangers, teachers and the nursery women to collect raw data. While, generally, data collection by those implementing activities (compared to an exclusive monitoring remit given to one person only) is beneficial (because it facilitates reflection on the progress and results of an individual's work), at this site only a minority of people are literate and therefore we will need to identify these people and give them special responsibilities for collecting data concerning the work of their team. The raw data will be analysed by the PM under the direction of the Project Director. Both these parties, and indeed the APM too, have published peer-reviewed scientific articles and therefore have the capacity to design effective and eloquent monitoring protocols and to analyze and interpret the data gathered.

While monitoring and evaluation is often conducted at the request of donors, we believe strongly that the primary beneficiary of such work should be the project itself through the use of the data to inform adaptive management, hence, every 3 months, the PM and the whole site-based team will meet to review the progress of the project and consider any issues arising. Annually the Project Board, including all partners, will meet with a similar objective. At these meetings progress to each of the outputs will be considered and informed using data from monitoring. Changes to the methodologies may be required on the basis of these reflections. Information from monitoring and evaluation will also be

used to enrich the project website enabling outside interested parties to objectively track the progress of the project. Finally, at the end of the project this information will be essential to demonstrate the success of the initiative and to enable other protected area managers to evaluate whether similar initiatives could be a worthwhile addition to their work programs.

The budget for M&E, as presented below, is based on the cost of 10% of the total salary of PM and 25% of the total salary of the APM plus the cost of the equipment used for monitoring. The number of days planned for M&E is calculated as 15 days/year x 3 years for PM and 5 days/mo for the APM plus associated travel and subsistence.

<b>Total project budget for M&amp;E in GBP (this may include Staff, Travel and Subsistence costs)</b>	██████████
<b>Percentage of total project budget set aside for M&amp;E (%)</b>	█
<b>Number of days planned for M&amp;E</b>	210

## Section 10 - Logical Framework

---





### Q23. Logical Framework

Darwin Initiative projects will be required to monitor and report against their progress towards their Outputs and Outcome. 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.

- [Stage 2 Logframe Template](#)

Please complete your full logframe in the separate Word template and upload as a PDF using the file upload below. – **please do not edit the template structure other than adding additional Outputs if needed as a logframe submitted in a different format may make your application ineligible.** Copy your Impact, Outcome and Output statements and your activities below - these should be the same as in your uploaded logframe.

#### Please upload your logframe as a PDF document.

-  [R28\\_Darwin\\_St2\\_Logical\\_Framework\\_Template\\_FINAL\\_DIR28S2-1035](#)
-  18/01/2022
-  07:56:36
-  pdf 89.98 KB

#### Impact:

Some Malagasy protected areas provide immediate and tangible additional benefits to local people as sources of saleable seeds of native trees and are thus more appreciated and more secure

#### Outcome:

A model project demonstrates that more people around Analavelona Forest value and cherish it because of the educational benefits it generates by supplying native tree seeds to improve reforestation.

#### Project Outputs

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##### Output 1:

Improved education for children at three local schools that is understood by local people to be derived from the sale of seeds originating from the Analavelona Forest

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**Output 2:**

High quality seeds of named and evaluated native tree species provided to reforestation projects

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**Output 3:**

The creation of an effective self-sufficient business with capacity, post-funding, to continue operating the “community-based” seed supply chain, on a commercial basis.

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**Output 4:**

The managers of other protected areas in Madagascar are sufficiently aware of the methods and results of this model project that they can evaluate its relevance at the sites where they work

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**Output 5:**

*No Response*

---

**Do you require more Output fields?**

**It is advised to have fewer 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. Project Manager (PM) and Assistant Project Manager (APM) meeting with key stakeholders (FRAM, Mpanzaka and MEDD) to explain project, take feedback and conceive and sign collaborative agreements
- 1.2. PM and APM (and others) recruit of new teachers/local animators x 3, seed collectors/rangers x 12 and nurserywomen x 12, with choice being validated by Mpanzaka
- 1.3. APM organises meeting with FRAM members (in presence of Mpanzaka and with his social framing) to develop a Manual of Procedures to promote good governance and then train and coach the committee of each FRAM in its use
- 1.4. APM (with audit by MBG’s Finance Officer) provides oversight for the receipt and use of funds received by FRAM from sale of seeds with annual restitution to parents
  
- 2.1. Research by PM and Project Director to identify 20 target tree species with attributes suggesting that potentially they could perform well when used to reforest degraded landscapes
- 2.2. Training of seed collectors/rangers x 12 and nurserywomen x 12
- 2.3. Install of 3 nurseries (adjacent to partner schools) and provide equipment and material for seed collection and propagation of native trees (oversight by APM and inauguration of infrastructure by Mpanzaka)
- 2.4. Coaching by APM of seed collection, seed preparation and storage, dispatch to Business Unit and the propagation of seedlings for trials
- 2.5. Installation of trials (500 individuals per species under various conditions) by APM and FRAM members to monitor the performance of target tree species under various types of degraded conditions (including protection of trials with fire breaks with spiritual blessing of Mpanzaka)
- 2.6. Monitoring of trials by APM and seed collectors/rangers, analysis of results and sharing of species-specific outcomes on sales’ website
- 2.7. Sampling and analysis to estimate wood density of target trees (this information is valuable to those seeking to sequester carbon)

- 3.1. With assistance of the association of Bara students “FIMPIBAMI”, the PM and APM will identify and recruit business manager x 2 and administrator x 2 from graduates of University of Tulear
- 3.2. The Project Director and PM will identify and recruit of two business mentors for the young staff of the Business Unit and with MBGs Finance Officer regularly review their progress
- 3.3. With oversight from the PM, the Business Unit will complete the process to be legally registered, and rent and equip a small office in the district capital Sakaraha from which they will work
- 3.4. With support of mentors, MBG’s Finance Officer, the Project Director, PM and APM, the Business Unit will conceive, create and maintain a webpage and other social media platforms as interfaces to share information about the project and the services available (services = knowledge of use of native trees and provision of high-quality seeds of native trees), they will actively network to seek and engage potential clients, and manage resources to ensure that orders and payments are managed professionally (including payments to schools).
- 3.5. Annual audit of Business Unit
- 4.1. Project Director and PM organises workshop with representatives of MEDD and managers of Malagasy projected areas to launch project including sharing the website and social media tags where the progress of the project can be tracked
- 4.2. PM maintains information flow concerning the project using social media and posts on website
- 4.3. Project Director and PM organises workshop with representatives of MEDD and managers of Malagasy projected areas to describe actual methodologies used by the project, issues arising, and outputs and outcomes.
- 4.4. From workshop described in 4.3., identify parties who are especially interested in this work and invite them to join an organised field trip to review the project

## Section 11 - Budget and Funding

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### Q24. 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 all Darwin Main should be using the over £100,000 template. Please refer to the [Finance Guidance](#) for more information.**

- [Budget form for projects over £100k](#)

**Please ensure you include any co-financing figures in the Budget spreadsheet to clarify the full budget required to deliver this project.**

**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.**

 [Budget over 100k Dec21 MASTER DIR28S2-035](#)  
 18/01/2022  
 13:57:26  
 xlsx 80.18 KB



## Q25. Financial Risk Management

**Explain how you have assessed the risks and threats that may be relevant to the successful financial delivery of this project. This includes risks such as fraud, bribery or corruption, but may also include the risk of fluctuating foreign exchange, delays in procurement or recruitment and internal financial processes such as storage of financial data.**

The main financial risks for this project concern fraud within the Business Unit because the young Malagasy graduates staffing this Unit will have real responsibility for the management of funds, and are likely to have suffered recent financial hardships as students, and therefore we must anticipate that they will be tempted to abuse funds. However, to reduce this risk we will articulate to these young people our zero tolerance policy to fraud (delinquents will be prosecuted) and the nature of the rigorous financial audits (by MBG's Finance Officer) that will be implemented yearly. Procedures such as joint sign-off on all financial transactions will also impede fraud by individuals. In general, with such measures in place, and an understanding among the Business Unit staff that posts such as theirs are rare and to be valued, temptation to fraud will be much reduced and, if occurring, will be rapidly detected. The fluctuating exchange rates of the British pound to Malagasy Ariary generally favours the disposable budget of projects based in Madagascar, while procurement does not represent a risk because the equipment and supplies required are minimal and the required items not subject to shortages.

## Q26. Funding

**Q26a. Is this a new initiative or does it build on existing work (delivered by anyone and funded through any source)?**

Development of existing work

**Please provide details:**

MBG's Madagascar Research and Conservation Program has supported community-based conservation at Analavelona Sacred Forest protected area since 2009 and maintains a site-based office and a small-site based team. With this capacity we implement a conservation program in which forest patrols and fire control are key elements. To date, the tangible benefits derived from this protected area by the local community have been small and irregular, and we urgently need to respond to this lacunae in our work. Thus, this project will build on an existing conservation program - completing an important gap in the work program.

The project proposed here to develop a seed supply chain to provide tangible benefits for local people is a new initiative for our project team at the Analalava. However, it is inspired by a modest existing initiative, based at another protected area managed by MBG, in which a Madagascar-based landscaping company is purchasing seeds from beautiful native palms growing in the Analalava Protected Area with income being paid to the FRAM at a local school. To date this project is proceeding well and furnishing benefits, albeit modest, to the target school.

**Q26b. Are you aware of any current or future plans for similar work to the proposed project?**

Yes

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

Please see Q26a in which a similar but smaller scale initiative is described to collect and sell seeds of native palms with income used to support a school at a different site in Eastern Madagascar. The project proposed in this application differs from this project because it will be of a much larger scale - aiming to supply hundreds of thousands of seeds to reforestation projects all over SW Madagascar.

## Q27. 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. If you are requesting more than 10% capital costs, please provide your justification here.**

The capital items purchased by this project will include a motorbike (for the Assistant Project Manager), five laptops and

software (for each member of the Business Unit and the APM), GPS units x 3 (for seed collectors/rangers), simple telephones x 5 (for staff of Business Unit + APM), and a digital camera to support monitoring and communication. Post-project we propose that these items will remain in the ownership of MBG's team at Analavelona because retention here will help to ensure the sustainability of the work.

## Q28. Value for Money

**Please describe why you consider your application to be good value for money including justification of why the measures you will adopt will secure value for money.**

The cost of this project is modest compared to its impact of conserving the Analavelona Forest that provides habitat to a rich fauna and flora including 7 threatened species of lemurs and 3 tree species known only from this forest. Funds will be used efficiently by an experienced on-the-ground Assistant Project Director who will be dedicated to this project, and gains will be consolidated through MBG's long-term commitment to this reserve.

Costs have been minimised while maintaining an effective project by providing salaries only for Malagasy staff, and the sole ex-patriate implicated in this project will contribute his time at no cost to the grant. The budget for the project includes no air-flights and local travel will be by mortobike while national travel will use public transport (i.e. bush taxis). The team will use some existing equipment (camping and collecting) which will also reduce costs.

## Section 12 - Safeguarding and Ethics

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### Q29. 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 Partner has the following policies in place and that these can be available on request:**

**Please upload the lead partner's Safeguarding Policy as a PDF on the certification page.**

<b>We have a safeguarding policy, which includes a statement of our commitment to safeguarding and a zero tolerance statement on bullying, harassment and sexual exploitation and abuse</b>	Checked
<b>We have attached a copy of our safeguarding policy to this application (file upload on certification page)</b>	Checked
<b>We keep a detailed register of safeguarding issues raised and how they were dealt with</b>	Checked
<b>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</b>	Checked
<b>We share our safeguarding policy with downstream partners</b>	Checked
<b>We have a whistle-blowing policy which protects whistle blowers from reprisals and includes clear processes for dealing with concerns raised</b>	Checked
<b>We have a Code of Conduct 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</b>	Checked

**Please outline how you will implement your safeguarding policies in practice and ensure that downstream partners apply the same standards as the Lead Partner. Please highlight any key safeguarding risks, including human rights issues, their assessment and measures to mitigate and manage them.**

As part of ensuring our work maintains good governance and high ethical standards, MBG applies a safeguarding policy which all staff agree to adhere to. The policy is shared with all project partners - both in hard copy and orally in their first language. The policy is reviewed annually and modified as required. Staff have been trained so they understand and can implement the policy in the real world. The policy includes procedures for reporting (including whistleblowing), investigating, archiving, and discipline. MBG consider that bullying and harassment are highly damaging to individuals and to creating a happy and productive work environment and therefore take incidents of these behaviours seriously. We require that individuals with whom we partner understand and share our concerns around these matters. In all our projects we apply a Grievance Procedure that is open to our staff and also all those with whom we work and we also keep a register of safeguarding issues arising and how they were treated.

### **Q30. Ethics**

**Outline your approach to meeting the key ethical principles, as outlined in the guidance.**

The proposed project will meet Darwin's ethical principles, in particular:

- a) MBG is the State-recognised manager of the Analavelona Sacred Forest New Protected Area and as such we will ensure that the activities proposed in this application will respect the zonation of this site and be integrated into program's annual work plans – plans that will be formally validated - locally by communities, traditional leaders (Mpanzaka) and regionally and nationally by the parts of the State apparatus.
- b) Those participating in the project will do so voluntarily and with full understanding of their rights and responsibilities including the grievance mechanism.
- c) At the launch of the project, the full array of local stakeholders will be informed using appropriate methods about the proposed activities, its methods and expected results and asked to share any concerns they may have and any suggestions they would like to share. These inputs will be seriously considered and a documented response will be provided and shared both locally and on the project webpage for global transparency.
- d) MBG will apply its health and safety guidance for each element in the project, and equipment and materials will be provided to minimise risk to staff and consultants as necessary.
- e) This project will not compete with any existing in-country businesses where rural Malagasy people gain livelihoods from the exploitation of the seeds of native forest trees (because there are no such projects)
- f) Seeds collected as part of the project will not be exported by us.

## **Section 13 - FCDO Notifications**

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### **Q31. FCDO Notifications**

**Please state whether there are sensitivities that the Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office will need to be aware of should they want to publicise the project's success in the Darwin Initiative in any country.**

No

**Please indicate whether you have contacted FCDO Embassy or High Commission to discuss the project and attach details of any advice you have received from them.**

Yes (no written advice)

## **Section 14 - Project Staff**

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### **Q32. Project staff**

**Please identify the core staff (identified in the budget), their role and what % of their time they will be working on the project.**

**Please provide 1-page CVs or job description, further information on who is considered core staff can be found in the**

Finance Guidance.





Name (First name, Surname)	Role	% time on project	1 page CV or job description attached?
Dr Chris Birkinshaw	Project Leader	7	Checked
Tefy Andriamihajarivo	Project Manager	31	Checked
Mael Jaonasy	Assistant Project Manager	100	Checked
Vola Raharijaona	Finance Officer	20	Checked

**Do you require more fields?**

No

**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.**

 STAFF CVS  
 30/01/2022  
 12:12:15  
 pdf 276.8 KB

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

Yes

## Section 15 - Project Partners

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### Q33. Project partners

**Please list all the Project Partners (including the Lead Partner - i.e. the partner who will administer the grant and coordinate the delivery of the project), clearly setting out their roles and responsibilities in the project including the extent of their engagement so far and planned.**

**This section should demonstrate the capability and capacity of the Project Partners to successfully deliver the project. Please provide Letters of Support for all project partners or explain why this has not been included.**

**The partners listed here should correspond to the Delivery Chain Risk Map (within the Risk Register template) which you will be asked to submit if your project is recommended for funding.**

**Lead partner name:** Missouri Botanical Garden, Madagascar Research and Conservation Program

**Website address:** <https://mobot.mg/conservation/> <https://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/>

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

MBG is the Project' focal point and responsible for its Direction and Management.

MBG is the oldest botanical garden in the US and world leader in plant taxonomy and conservation. The organization's largest overseas program, built over four decades, is in Madagascar, where the organization has an annual operating budget of [REDACTED] several offices, and 139 people on its payroll – all but one Malagasy. Historically, among activities such as taxonomic research, botanical exploration, and in-country capacity building, the organisation has also developed a Conservation Unit that focuses on the conservation of eleven priority areas for plant conservation (see: <https://www.mobot.mg/conservation/>). One of these sites is the Analavelona Forest where MBG has supported community-based conservation since 2009. Here, a site-based staff of 5 people and annually engages hundreds of local people in an array of conservation activities including installation of fire breaks, forest patrols, inventory, environmental education, small development projects etc. MBG is recognised as the delegated manager of this site by the Malagasy government. Among conservation organisations in Madagascar, MBG is considered a leader in forest restoration, participative research to develop natural resource management plans, and in training for good governance in community associations

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**Allocated budget (proportion or value):**

[REDACTED]

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**Represented on the Project Board**

Yes

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

Yes

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

Yes

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

Yes

---

**1. Partner Name:**

Fikanbanany Ray Aman-d'Reny ny Mpianatra (FRAM) x 3 schools (Parent's associations that help to support education at local schools)

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**Website address:**

None

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

Education in Madagascar is critically underfunded and many schools rely on the efforts of their Parent's Associations (FRAM) to support extra teachers and supplies. Typically these associations do not have a high capacity but will agree among themselves to make payments (often in the form of defined quantities of rice) to fund agreed interventions. In this project, with the guidance of the APM the FRAM members of three schools will provide labour to: a) collect and process seed samples from target tree species; b) propagate and evaluate young plants of each species; and c) direction of interventions to improve education. A majority of the funds requested from DI will be used to provide compensation for this labour. As part of this project we will work with the FRAM to build capacity for good governance and also ultimately to manage income generated from the sale of seeds, but initially such income will be held in a joint account requiring two signatures: one from the FRAM treasurer and one from MBG's APM. The president of the three FRAM with whom we will partner will be asked to attend annual meetings of the Project Board.

---

**Allocated budget:** ██████████

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**Represented on the Project Board**  Yes

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

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**2. Partner Name:** Direction Régionale de l'Environnement et du Développement Durable (DREDD) Atsimo-Andrefana – Madagascar (Regional Representative of Ministre de l'Environnement et du Développement Durable)

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**Website address:** <https://www.environnement.mg/directions-regionales/>

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**Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):** Necessarily the collection and sale of seeds from a protected area requires authorisation, and this authorisation will be obtained from DREDD for the region Atsimo-Andrefana. This document will provide the correct legal context for our work and will need to be reissued annually. Since this project is innovative it is likely that agents of DREDD will wish to validate the activities through one or more site visits. We will support such visits from the budget requested by MBG and this partner does not require an independent budget that might be open to misuse. For maximum transparency, and also so the project can gain from a wide array for experience, we are will also request that a member of DREED will attend yearly meetings of the Project Board, where project' progress and issues arising will be discussed and activities for the subsequent year discussed..

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**Allocated budget:** ██████████

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**Represented on the Project Board**  Yes

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

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**3. Partner Name:** FIMPIBAMI – Madagascar (association of Bara students at the University of Tulear)

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**Website address:** None

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**Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):** We are anxious in the project to maximise the gains for the Bara people who are often disadvantaged.  
As part of this we want to recruit the four staff for our Business Unit from Bara graduates of business and administration. To help us to identify potential candidates we will work with the Association of Bara students at the University of Tulear (FIMPIBAMI). Their tasks will be to publicise this training/employment opportunity and compile the dossiers of suitable candidates. We will supervise these activities and provide funding support (that will be very modest) as required. The President of this Association will be included on the Project Board as part of our overall engagement with the Bara people and also because he or she may provide valuable interpretations of socio-cultural factors potential impacting this project.

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**Allocated budget:** 

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**Represented on the Project Board**  Yes

---

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

---

**4. Partner Name:** Mpanzaka (or Lonaky) – Madagascar (local traditional leaders)

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**Website address:** None

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**Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):** The Mpanzaka or Lonaky are Kingly traditional leaders. Although their powers are waning somewhat they have long ensured that the Analavelona Forest was preserved as the home of their ancestor's spirits. We already have a good relationship with the Lonaky and respect them as the human bedrock of the Bara culture. As such we will work with them to present the work proposed here in an appropriate cultural context. For example when the community comes together to install the nurseries or create firebreaks we give them a prominent position in framing this work and providing it with their blessing. These interventions have little or no cost and therefore no special budget is allocated to the Lonaky. With rare exceptions the Lonaky are very elderly and likely would not be able to attend Board Meetings.  
However we will request each of these local kings to select a member of their family (a prince) who would represent the meeting on their behalf.

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**Allocated budget:** 

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**Represented on the Project Board**  Yes

---

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

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5. Partner Name: *No Response*

---

Website address: *No Response*

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Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): *No Response*

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Allocated budget: £0.00

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Represented on the Project Board  Yes  No

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

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6. Partner Name: *No Response*

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Website address: *No Response*

---

Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): *No Response*

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**Allocated budget:** £0.00

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**Represented on the Project Board**  Yes  
 No

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

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

*No Response*


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

 [LETTERS OF SUPPORT DIR28S2-1035](#)


 31/01/2022

 10:19:50

 pdf 362.76 KB

 [DI Analavelona accompanying letter](#)

 30/01/2022

 11:41:04

 pdf 192.12 KB

## Section 16 - Lead Partner Capability and Capacity

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Q34. Lead Partner Capability and Capacity

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

No

If no, please provide the below information on the lead partner.

**What year was your organisation established/ incorporated/ registered?** 01 January 1859

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**What is the legal status of your organisation?**  NGO

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**How is your organisation currently funded?**

MBG's Madagascar Research and Conservation Program receives a modest amount of core support from our Head quarters but most activities are funded through project-specific grants from a diversity of donors including foundations, private philanthropists, charities and governments. We are partner for three current Darwin Initiative grants: DIR27S2\1039 (lead Madagascar Fauna and Flora Group); DIR27S2\1027 (lead Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew) and DIR27S2\1028 (North of England Zoological Society) and one historic grant - 23-004 ref 3339 (lead Madagascar Fauna and Flora Group).

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

**Aims**

MBG is the oldest botanical garden in US and world leader in plant taxonomy and conservation. MBG's mission is "to discover and share knowledge about plants and their environment in order to preserve and enrich life". MBG has been active in Madagascar for 4-decades with 139 people on payroll.

**Activities**

Research : taxonomic research, botanical exploration, and in-country capacity building  
Conservation: community-based conservation of eleven priority areas for plant conservation (see: <https://www.mobot.mg/conservation/>) with full program of conservation activities including installation of fire breaks, forest patrols, forest restoration, environmental education, small development projects etc.

**Achievements**

Research: MBG has contributed more to the discovery of the Malagasy flora than any other organisation + compiled and shared this botanical information in World's largest botanical database.  
Conservation: indicators show we are succeeding in the conservation of all but one of the 11 PAs where we support community-based conservation.

**Provide details of 3 contracts/projects held by the lead partner that demonstrate your credibility as an organisation and provide track record relevant to the project proposed.**

**These contracts/awards should have been held in the last 5 years and be of a similar size to the grant requested in your Darwin application.**

**Contract/Project 1 Title**

Projet de structuration d'une filière Vanille et de soutien a l'agriculture familiale dans le District de Soanierano-Ivongo autour de l'aire protégée de Pointe a Larree

**Contract Value/Project budget (include currency)**

██████████

**Duration (e.g. 2 years 3 months)**

5 years

**Role of organisation in project**

Conception, implementation and reporting on an array of activities associated with the management of the Pointe a Larrée New Protected Area, Madagascar and the promotion of lucrative sustainable agricultural activities in the host landscape

**Brief summary of the aims, objectives and outcomes of the project**

This project aims to link sustainable and lucrative agricultural production with the management of a biodiverse landscape (location: Pointe a Larrée)

**Client/independent reference contact details (Name, e-mail)** Livelihoods- FFEM-AFD  
Thomas Braschi, Head of Investment  
[REDACTED]

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**Contract/Project 2 Title** Shared Resources Joint Solutions

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**Contract Value/Project budget (include currency)** [REDACTED]

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**Duration (e.g. 2 years, 3 months)** 5 years

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**Role of organisation in project** Grant management on behalf of the consortium consisting of five Malagasy organisations

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**Brief summary of the aims, objectives and outcomes of the project** To animate open exchanges and to conduct research provide information enabling participative planning of the sustainable use of natural resources by all stakeholders within the target landscapes (Ampasindava, Baie de Baly, Mandena Fort Dauphin).

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**Client/independent reference contact details (Name, e-mail)** IUCN Netherlands  
Mark van der Wal  
[REDACTED]

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**Contract/Project 3 Title** Conservation of endemic plant species high economic value and their valorisation for local communities at Agnalazaha and Pointe a Larrée Protected Areas.

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**Contract Value/Project budget (include currency)** [REDACTED]

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**Duration (e.g. 2 years, 3 months)** 3 years

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**Role of organisation in project** Conception and then implementation of species-focused plans to reduce the risk of extinction of endangered or critically endangered tree species located at the Agnalazaha and Pointe a Larrée Protected Areas.

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**Brief summary of the aims, objectives and outcomes of the project**

Reduction of the risk of extinction of twenty threatened tree and one threatened bird species in Madagascar.

**Client/independent reference contact details (Name, e-mail)**

Global Environment Facility to Malagasy Government  
Rabenasolo Solofoniaina Eric Olivier, Directeur National du Projet

**Have you provided the requested signed audited/independently examined accounts?**

**If yes, please upload these on the certification page. Note that this is not required from Government Agencies.**

Yes

## Section 17 - Certification

### Q35. Certification

**On behalf of the**

Trustees

**of**

Missouri Botanical Garden

**I apply for a grant of**

**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 project key project personnel, letters of support, budget, logframe, safeguarding policy 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**

Dr Chris Birkinshaw

**Position in the organisation**

Technical Advisor - Madagascar Research and Conservation Program

Signature (please upload e-signature)

 [CB signature and stamp](#)  
 20/01/2022  
 05:30:16  
 png 238.07 KB

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Date

20 January 2022





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Please attach the requested signed audited/independently examined accounts.

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 [Financial Report Missouri Botanical Garden 2019](#)  
 20/01/2022  
 06:03:06  
 pdf 623.41 KB

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 [Financial Report Missouri Botanical Garden 2020](#)  
 20/01/2022  
 06:03:05  
 pdf 565.27 KB

Please upload the Lead Partner's Safeguarding Policy as a PDF





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 [Report an Ethics Issue](#)  
 20/01/2022  
 06:02:38  
 pdf 37.17 KB





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 [MBG-2021 Employee Handbook](#)  
 20/01/2022  
 06:02:15  
 pdf 3.2 MB

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 [MBG-Conflict of Interest Policy](#)  
 20/01/2022  
 06:01:26  
 pdf 108.8 KB

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 [MBG-Code of Ethics](#)  
 20/01/2022  
 06:01:26  
 pdf 109.73 KB

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## Section 18 - Submission Checklist

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### Checklist for submission

	Check
<b>I have read the Guidance, including the "Darwin Initiative Guidance", "Monitoring Evaluation and Learning Guidance", "Risk Guidance" and "Financial Guidance".</b>	Checked
<b>I have read, and can meet, the current Terms and Conditions for this fund.</b>	Checked
<b>I have provided actual start and end dates for the project.</b>	Checked
<b>I have provided my budget based on UK government financial years i.e. 1 April - 31 March and in GBP.</b>	Checked
<b>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.</b>	Checked
<b>The application been signed by a suitably authorised individual (clear electronic or scanned signatures are acceptable).</b>	Checked
<b>I have included a 1 page CV or job description for all the Project Staff identified at Question 32, including the Project Leader, or provided an explanation of why not.</b>	Checked
<b>I have included a letter of support from the Lead Partner and partner(s) identified at Question 33, or an explanation of why not.</b>	Checked

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I have included a cover letter from the Lead Partner, outlining how any feedback received at Stage 1 has been addressed where relevant.	Checked
I have included a copy of the Lead Partner's safeguarding policy, which covers the criteria listed in Question 29.	Checked
I have been in contact with the FCDO 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 Partner, 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 the Darwin Initiative website.	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 the application form, including personal data, will be used by Defra as set out in the **Privacy Notice**, available from the [Forms and Guidance Portal](#).

This **Privacy Notice must be provided to all individuals** whose personal data is supplied in the application form. Some information may be used when publicising the Darwin Initiative including project details (usually title, lead partner, project leader, location, and total grant value).