

Applicant: **Nawaz, Muhammad Ali**
Organisation: **Snow Leopard Foundation**
Funding Sought: **£273,450.00**

DIR28S2\1038

Community-based conservation of snow leopard and its habitat in Pakistan

In northern Pakistan, human-wildlife conflict, habitat degradation and poaching of snow leopards and their wild prey are major threats to snow leopard populations. Lack of interventions to reduce conflicts further exacerbate threats. This project will safeguard snow leopards, their wild prey and habitat through gender-aware integrated conservation and local livelihood improvement programs. This project will employ proven snow leopard conservation models including: livestock vaccination and insurance schemes, predator-proof corrals, women-led handicraft enterprises and youth environmental education.

PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

Title	Dr
Name	Muhammad Ali
Surname	Nawaz
Organisation	Snow Leopard Foundation
Website (Work)	[REDACTED]
Tel (Work)	[REDACTED]
Email (Work)	[REDACTED]
Address	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Section 1 - Contact Details

PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

Title Dr
Name Muhammad Ali
Surname Nawaz
Organisation Snow Leopard Foundation
Website (Work) [REDACTED]
Tel (Work) [REDACTED]
Email (Work) [REDACTED]
Address [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

GMS ORGANISATION

Type Community interest company (CIC)
Name Snow Leopard Foundation
Phone (Work) [REDACTED]
Email (Work) [REDACTED]
Website (Work) [REDACTED]
Address [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Section 2 - Title, Ecosystems, Approaches & Summary

Q3. Title:

Community-based conservation of snow leopard and its habitat in Pakistan

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

DIR28S1\1317

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

Savannas and grasslands

Biome 2

Freshwater (streams, rivers and lakes)

Biome 3

Polar-alpine

Conservation Action 1

Species management (harvest, recovery, re-introduction, ex-situ)

Conservation Action 2

Education & awareness (incl. training)

Conservation Action 3

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

Threat 1

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

Threat 2

Natural system modifications (fires, dams)

Threat 3

Climate change & severe weather

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.

In northern Pakistan, human-wildlife conflict, habitat degradation and poaching of snow leopards and their wild prey are major threats to snow leopard populations. Lack of interventions to reduce conflicts further exacerbate threats. This project will safeguard snow leopards, their wild prey and habitat through gender-aware integrated conservation and local livelihood improvement programs. This project will employ proven snow leopard conservation models including: livestock vaccination and insurance schemes, predator-proof corrals, women-led handicraft enterprises and youth environmental education.

Section 3 - Title, Dates & Budget Summary

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 Pakistan
1

Country *No Response*
2

Country *No Response*
3

Country *No Response*
4

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

Q8. Budget summary

Year:	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	Total request
Amount:	£64,207.00	£106,972.00	£102,271.00	£ 273,450.00

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



Q10a. Do you have matched funding arrangements?

Yes

What matched funding arrangements are proposed?

Snow Leopard Trust (SLT) will provide matching funds of £ during the project (June 2022 to March 2025) for the proposed project area and interventions.

The majority of the project funds are requested from the Darwin Initiative.

Q10b. Total confirmed & unconfirmed matched funding (£)



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?

Not applicable

Section 4 - Problem statement

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).

The mountain ecosystems of northern Pakistan contain biodiversity of global significance. Several threatened carnivore species including the snow leopard, wolf, brown bear, Pallas's cat, leopard cat, jackal and fox live in this region and prey on

six charismatic species of wild sheep and goats. Millions of agro-pastoral households coexist with wildlife and depend on ecosystem services for survival. A rapid increase in human population and livestock over years has resulted in the accelerated degradation of fragile mountain ecosystems and human-wildlife conflict.

Annual predation pressure on livestock in the snow leopard range averages 1.3 animals per family, which is about 30% of the cash income that communities gain through livestock marketing. This predation equates to an estimated annual economic loss of USD119 (PKR20,000) per household, which is more than one month's income. With over 50% of the families living below the poverty line, predation has serious economic repercussions, triggering poaching and illegal trading of snow leopard parts and other threatened wildlife..

Pastoral economies are further threatened by many contagious but preventable livestock diseases. The economic impact of livestock disease is ~10 times higher than predation. Diseases transmission from livestock to wildlife and humans and vice versa have also been reported, thus threatening the health of the entire ecosystem. As a result of these factors, livestock productivity in northern Pakistan is below the national average and households lose more potential income. Livelihood options other than agro-pastoral activities are rare, putting pressure on the ecosystems. . Social safety-nets and strategies to mitigate or compensate for predator- and disease-induced livestock losses are lacking, as are strategies to promote local livelihoods. Women and women-led households are particularly vulnerable as there are few income-generating opportunities for women. Resultantly, the ecosystems are degrading, species of ecological and economic importance are dwindling and pastoral livelihoods are under increasing pressure as time progresses. .

This project will address the ecological and socio-economic drivers affecting the ecosystems' degradation, decline of species and local livelihoods by implementing tested, gender-sensitive and integrated conservation-linked livelihood improvement measures at the landscape level.

Section 5 - Darwin Objectives and Conventions

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)
- Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS)
- Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)
- Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS)
- 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.

Pakistan's National Biodiversity Strategy Action Plan (NBSAP) calls for the strengthening of local communities' capacity to be actively involved in sustainable land management and designed its strategies to contribute to the implementation of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets (ABT). Strategies recommended by the NBSAP include introducing knowledge of the values of biodiversity and the consequences of its loss into the education system; expansion of Protected Areas and integration with landscapes effectively managed by communities; and improving knowledge on status and trends of threatened species. This project will contribute to Pakistan's NBSAP and the ABT (12 and 17) by: expanding Protected Areas by supporting the establishment of Khudaabad valley as a Community Controlled Hunting Area; empowering Valley Conservation Development Organizations (VCDs) with the skills and resources to act as custodians of Protected Areas; producing reliable population and distribution estimates of snow leopards (SL) and wild ungulates, and training local stakeholders in continued monitoring; and integrating environmental education into schools; SLF currently works with Pakistan's focal point for the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). The project aligns with CBD's Articles-7, 8, 11, 12 and 17 (Identification, Monitoring, In-situ conservation, Incentive measure, research, training and Exchange of information) through, as well as those of Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources Article-8, 9 and 22 (Special considerations Research, conservation, sustainable use, capacity) by: protecting threatened species including SL

and wild ungulates (blue sheep, markhor, ibex); contributing to the knowledge base for status of threatened species as well as best practises in conservation, and facilitating exchanges of information with stakeholders; promoting livelihood incentives for managing snow leopard-human conflicts; developing locally relevant and socially acceptable initiatives; and engaging local communities for in-situ conservation and incentive measures.

This project will build capacities for protecting several species listed by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species including the snow leopard (Appendix-I), blue sheep (Appendix-III), ibex and lynx (Appendix-II). Increased tolerance for SL and their wild prey will lessen opportunities for poachers to take advantage of retaliation killings for depredation and curb illegal trade of wildlife parts. This project promotes the Bishkek Declaration for Conservation of the Endangered Snow Leopard, ratified by all 12 snow leopard nations.

The project will contribute to the Sustainable Development Goal 2 and 15. Targets directly impacted by this project include: enhancing local communities' capacity to pursue a sustainable livelihood; ensuring the conservation of mountain ecosystems, including biodiversity; protecting threatened species and preventing their extinction; and ending poaching and trafficking of protected species.

The project contributes to the Pakistan's Nationally Determined Contributions' action, Establish Wildlife Corridors and manage notified PAs in collaboration with local communities . The project's adaptation actions support National Climate Change Policy 2012 and wildlife conservation contributes to draft National-Wildlife Policy.

The SL cyclically and predictably cross national jurisdictional boundaries so its conservation relates to Convention on conservation of migratory species of wild animals.

Livestock vaccination, capacity build and wildlife conservation supports climate change adaptation for livestock and wildlife related to the Article-4.1(b) of United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

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

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.).

The initiatives implemented through this project are tested models that were co-designed with stakeholder communities. Snow Leopard Foundation (SLF) will leverage the lessons learnt and best practices developed through the Darwin Initiative project 'Collaborative Conflict Management for Community Livelihoods and Conservation' (Project Reference 22-004, 2015-2018). SLF has implemented the approaches leveraged by this project in more than 35 communities so the work is being replicated sustainably. Participants reported that livestock losses were reduced by up to 50%, Snow Leopard Enterprise increased household income by up to 20%, and cases of poaching of snow leopards and wild prey decreased significantly (from 12 snow leopards killed in Gilgit-Baltistan in 2011-2016 to one snow leopard killed in 2018-2021).

SLF will work with 56,000 people in 8,000 households in 13 communities in Gilgit-Baltistan in northern Pakistan. Each community has a Valley Conservation Development Organization (VCDO) which will partner with SLF to:

Reduce livestock losses (saving 4,800 per year, based on other project sites) through predator-proof corrals.

Predator-proof corrals will be built in summer pastures, where families pool their livestock and the majority of predation events occur. SLF provides designs and some of the materials not available locally, and communities provide labour. SLF collaborates with the VCDO to ensure the corral will meet community needs and build capacities of the VCDO to assume maintenance and upkeep of the corral.

Reduce livestock losses and improve livestock productivity through livestock vaccinations. Vaccines are sourced through the local Livestock Department and Ecosystem Health Workers administer the vaccines and advise herders on better livestock management.

Offset economic losses via Livestock Insurance schemes. Households pay premiums into a community-managed fund for livestock they want to insure; elected committees investigate livestock kills and pay out claims. SLF provides seed funding to jumpstart the schemes. Premium and payout rates are jointly agreed by communities. The support of SLF for income generating initiatives and conservation agreements signed with them also assist in reducing human-carnivore conflicts and

retaliation.

It is not wise to encourage more livestock numbers by making herding more lucrative. Snow leopard enterprises will diversify the livelihood options and reduce the dependence of communities on livestock. The project will arrange sessions of Ecosystem Health Workers with communities to guide them for increasing livestock productivity. Timely vaccinations will also improve livestock productivity.

Improve livelihoods and gender equity via conservation-linked handicrafts under the umbrella of Snow Leopard Enterprises. Building on women's wool/felting skills and traditional artistry, SLF trains them to meet international market standards. Snow Leopard Trust (SLT) sets mutually-agreed base prices, and guarantees to purchase bulk orders and provide access to US markets.

Train teachers in environmental education to integrate into local schools and engage 200 youth in Nature Clubs and nature study camps.

In return, participants and community leaders sign "Conservation Contracts", agreeing to ban the killing of snow leopards and wild ungulates. Snow Leopard Enterprise participants gain a 20-30% bonus based on individual sales at the end of the year when the Conservation Contract has been upheld.

In each community, SLF's Social Organizer will train field implementers in community engagement and negotiation skills. Field implementers will hold meetings with community members and VCDOs to encourage uptake of combined programmes, and identify and engage community champions to support initiatives.

SLF will include three additional control communities with no interventions. We will evaluate success in multiple ways within (participants v non-participants) and between communities, by comparing household income, attitudes towards conservation programmes/predators/ungulates (disaggregated by gender), and the killing of predators and wild ungulates (between communities only).

We will derive estimates of snow leopard and wild ungulate (blue and Marco-Polo sheep, Ibex and Markhor) abundance in landscapes surrounding the target communities, using standard techniques refined by SLF and SLT based on double-observer techniques for wild ungulate and genetic analysis for snow leopards. Genetic-sampling and analysis is the chosen survey technique for this project because it can be difficult to obtain government permission for camera trapping in some project areas. Genetic analysis is considered equally effective as camera trapping. Researchers, students and community members will be engaged and trained in collection and preservation of non-invasive genetic samples, scat-identification using morphological characters and GPS. They will be supported by local guides and porters. Some surveying has already been completed and Darwin Initiative funding will enable SLF to cover new areas and study periodic changes in wildlife populations.

SLF will draft and present a management plan to the Wildlife Department to have the Khudaabad valley declared a Community-Controlled Hunting Area (CCHA).

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.

By the end of the project, Valley Conservation Development Organizations (VCDOs) will have the capacity to take over and manage corral maintenance and Livestock Insurance Schemes. At least one member from each VCDOs (8 men and at least 5 women) will be trained in community management skills, financial management and record-keeping.

Creating or strengthening women-led community-based organizations for Snow Leopard Enterprise will create new conservation-linked income generation opportunities for women and empower them as income-earners, in the long-term leading to greater gender equity within the community.

Training teachers (12 men and 12 women) in wildlife conservation education will build capacities of schools to deliver conservation education to students beyond the scope of this project.

Twenty men CBO members, 8 men from academia/students and 22 men from Wildlife Department staff will be trained in the Double-observer survey technique for monitoring wild ungulates. This will build stakeholders' capacity for implementing future conservation projects and initiatives.

The VCDOs will be linked with different stakeholders and projects/programs like Protected Areas initiative of Ten Billion Trees Tsunami project, WWF-Pakistan's Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool (SMART) initiative in Khunjab National Park, upcoming GEF/IUCN funded Strengthening governance and capacity for combating illegal wildlife trade in Pakistan project so that they can be involved in different community level initiatives and can participate in trainings to build their capacity to

conserve biodiversity and improve their livelihood.

Community members will learn better livestock management and disease prevention practices from Ecosystem Health Workers. This additional knowledge will allow them to enhance the productivity of their livestock, thus losing fewer animals and generating more income.

The project will result in sustaining the population of snow leopards and associated biodiversity in the project areas.

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.

Women in northern Pakistan are primarily responsible for family care, agriculture, livestock, preparing milk products and handicrafts. Many women have valuable indigenous knowledge regarding conservation, but have little decision-making power in the household and community. Without interventions, women have limited access and control over natural resources, low participation in community planning and governance, and limited access to socio-economic services and benefits.

This project was designed with a gender mainstreaming approach, which integrates a gender equality perspective at all stages of project design and implementation. Project staff will have stakeholder meetings with women to ensure their voices are incorporated into planning and implementation. Field Organizers will work with communities to form or strengthen women community-based organizations for Snow Leopard Enterprise (SLE). We have found that creating SLE groups in communities leads to women having more decision-making power in households and communities as a whole, as they gain status as income-earners. Project staff will receive guidance in gender sensitization to effectively engage women in meetings, make sure their voices are heard, and support women's participation in the predominantly male-run VCDOs. Field Organizers will highlight women-focused initiatives of the project and link the VCDOs with stakeholders that provide women-focused support.

Gender disaggregated data will be collected and analyzed for planning of conservation and development initiatives.

Gender-based indicators will be used for project monitoring. Project beneficiaries will be ~40% women. Livestock vaccinations, insurance schemes and predator-proof corrals will support women, as women are primarily responsible for livestock rearing in the project area. Girls will be members of Nature Clubs and take part in nature study camps. Training programs for academia, government staff and local communities will also include women participants.

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?

Awareness and understanding of biodiversity-poverty issues will be raised among stakeholders on multiple scales. The project staff will have at least monthly communications with communities in 13 valleys to share knowledge, understanding and discuss strategies in meeting with Valley Conservation Development Organizations (VCDOs), community-based organizations (CBOs) and individuals. The project staff will work closely with community champions who will advocate the importance of wildlife conservation and poverty reduction measures.

The project will raise awareness and understanding of students and teachers by establishing snow leopard clubs, nature study camps and teachers' training.

Resource material for motivation and dissemination of best practices will be developed and disseminated among stakeholders at the national level. The Wildlife Department and academia will be involved in training programs, particularly related to wildlife surveys and better management.

Snow Leopard Foundation (SLF) is also working with 35 valleys, various departments like Forest, Wildlife, Agriculture and Livestock in the 3 provinces/territories, Gilgit-Baltistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Azad Jammu and Kashmir as well as the Ministry of Climate Change at the national level. The project results will be disseminated during meetings and peer discussions to share best practices. The results will also be disseminated through SLF's and Snow Leopard Trust's website and social media.

SLF will share lessons learnt and best practices with international networks including the Global Snow Leopard Ecosystem Protection Plan and Snow Leopard Network, providing direct connection to more than 20 organizations and 550 snow leopard conservationists.

SLF staff will write papers in international scientific journals and national press and discuss the best practices in

international conferences (during or after the project timeframe). The range countries may improve wildlife related policies and management plans based on disseminated information

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.

Local communities struggle to coexist with snow leopards and other large carnivores because of threats to livelihoods. Expanding and strengthening conservation-linked livelihood initiatives in northern Pakistan will protect biodiversity by reducing motivation for poaching snow leopards and their wild prey. This project will benefit 8,000 rural families (approximately 56,000 individuals) including vulnerable people across 13 project valleys and assist in gender mainstreaming in the development process.

Changes by the end of the project:

8,000 households will have better protection against livestock losses and healthier, more productive livestock. As evidenced through projects in surrounding communities, predator-proof corrals and livestock vaccinations can save families' income. Based on other project sites, predator-proof corrals are expected to save 4,800 livestock per year from depredation.

100 women will increase household income by at least 40 GBP (10,000 PKR) per month through Snow Leopard Enterprise (SLE).

Valley Conservation Development Organizations (VCDs) and Snow Leopard Enterprise groups in 13 valleys (8,000 households) will have increased capacity to sustainably manage long-term conservation-linked livelihood improvement programs that will continue to scale and mature beyond this project.

8,000 households will have increased tolerance for snow leopards and wild ungulates.

8,000 households will comply with community Conservation Contracts by refraining from poaching snow leopards and their wild prey.

A management plan will be in place and submitted to the Wildlife Department to declare Khudaabad valley as a Community Controlled Hunting Area (CCHA).

26 educators (50% women) will be trained in teaching environmental education.

200 youth (50% girls) will have increased awareness of environmental conservation issues through Nature Clubs and nature study camps.

28 trainees will be trained and equipped for long-term population and distribution monitoring of snow leopards and wild prey. The 28 trainees include 8 academics (50% women), and 22 Wildlife Department Staff.

Long-term changes:

8,000 households will have higher incomes and experience fewer impacts of poverty.

8,000 households will have zero to low tolerance for poaching of snow leopards and their wild prey.

Local communities will take responsibility over conflict-management, with long-lasting benefits, including improved resilience towards predators, increased leadership and management skills, and greater long-term sustainability of conservation efforts.

Khudaabad valley will be a designated CCHA, strengthening collaboration between civil society and local government.

Women in 100 households will have increased voice and decision-making power within their households and communities, contributing to greater social movements for increased gender equity.

Community conservation initiatives and national policies will be informed by reliable population estimates of snow leopards and wild prey.

Snow leopards and wild ungulates will have viable, stable populations in the 13 project valleys.

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.

Local communities struggle to coexist with snow leopard (SL) and other large carnivores because of the threats to

livelihoods. Finding effective ways to support livelihoods and increase tolerance are central to both short- and long-term conservation. Predator-proof corrals and livestock vaccinations will reduce livestock losses. Livestock vaccination will also improve the general health of livestock and lead to better quality and quantity of products. Livestock Insurance schemes will help herders recoup losses and depredation occurs. Handicraft training and linkages to markets will increase income for women. Paired with Conservation Contracts that ban the killing of SLs and reward communities with bonuses when the contracts are upheld, tolerance for SLs will increase and incidents of poaching will decrease. Building capacities of Valley Conservation Development Organizations will ensure that these initiatives are sustainable. Integrating environmental education into schools will build awareness of environmental issues in future adults and empower youth as advocates within their households. The cumulative effect of project outputs will lead to stable SLs populations in 13 communities in northern Pakistan, and add to a growing knowledge base of effective biodiversity conservation initiatives.

SLF will address human-wildlife conflict, insufficient involvement, skills of local communities by strengthening VCDOs/CBOs, especially women participation.

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?

The project will continue beyond March 2025. The project approach empowers communities to take ownership of human-wildlife conflict mitigation with continued support from Snow Leopard Foundation (SLF).

To achieve a stable end point, this project will:

Train field implementers and community champions. Toolkits are available should there be turnover in field implementers or community champions.

Develop livestock insurance schemes with built-in self sufficiency. As community members pay insurance premiums, they build the insurance fund until it reaches a self-sustaining level, and the committee limits payout rates to 30% market value (a pre-negotiated rate with the community) to safeguard it from depletion.

Develop handicraft programs where approximately 50% of retail sales are paid directly to women and the other half is invested back into conservation programs. Snow Leopard Trust (SLT) will continue to buy products to sell through Snow Leopard Enterprises, but women will have the skills and resources to seek new distributors or markets.


Negotiate with communities to maintain corrals over the long-term in exchange for SLF's up-front improvements.

Prepare communities to assume costs of livestock vaccinations at the end of the project through financial management capacity-building.

SLF will continue to have a presence in the target communities and support them in the delivery of initiatives and continued monitoring of snow leopards and wild prey. SLT is a long-term partner of SLF and assists with seeking additional funding opportunities.

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

 [Valleys map](#)

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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
Fiduciary Misappropriation of project funds	Insignificant	Rare	Minor	SLF has a written policy for financial documentation practices and whistle-blower policy. All expenditures, receipts, and deposits are tracked and filed by a trained Accountant, and verified by a committee. SLF has security camera coverage in the office. A third-party accountant is used for annual audits.	Minor
Safeguarding Staff safety and welfare measures may not be taken by the SLF	Minor	Possible	Moderate	SLF provides health and life insurance for staff and their families. Staff receive yearly raises to account for inflation and cost of living. SLF has a written safeguarding policy and incidents of harassment, violence, exploitation, or abuse result in termination and/or legal action.	Minor
Delivery Chain Donor may not be providing timely funds and season of implementing activities is lost.	Minor	Possible	Moderate	SLF tracks cash flow and funding disbursement schedules to ensure funds are received as required to implement project activities. SLF follows reporting requirements to prevent compliance issues that may delay funding. SLF informs donors if funding delays will impact project activities.	Minor
Risk 4 Climate change and associated natural disasters may affect the implementation and results of project initiatives	Minor	Possible	Moderate	Collaboration with Pakistan Meteorological Organization (PMD) and informing the communities about the potential disasters/hazards through community-based early warning systems or during meetings with the VCDO/CBOs. Activities may be delayed until climate conditions allow safe implementation of activities.	Minor
Risk 5 COVID-19 outbreak in the program sites or among office staff may significantly slow down the project implementation and lead to delays in delivery of project outputs	Minor	Possible	Moderate	Staff will follow health and safety guidelines (PPE, social distancing, all staff are vaccinated). SLF will monitor the COVID-19 situation at the project sites and staff locations. Meetings/workshops can be virtual if needed. Staff with COVID-19 will be given leave until recovery with full pay.	Minor

Risk 6	minor	possible	moderate	SLF encourages gender equity/participation in culturally appropriate ways, confirming community buy-in for activities. A woman field worker will work to strengthen/form women's community-based organizations in each valley. Participation of women and vulnerable people in VCDOs will be tracked through M&E to monitor the need for inclusivity advocacy and capacity-building.	Minor
Efforts to engage womenfolk and vulnerable people among the community in project activities and benefits may be resisted by the communities, resulting in gender bias and an insufficient focus being given to the needs and priorities of women and vulnerable people.					





Section 8 - Implementation Timetable

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.

 [R28 Darwin Implementation Timetable Template 17.1.2022](#)
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Section 9 - Monitoring and Evaluation

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](#)).

There will be participatory monitoring of the project initiatives/activities and outputs. Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) plans will be developed for the project duration and annually using participatory processes and tools. The project's M&E is the responsibility of SLF. Standard M&E frameworks and methodologies will be prepared and shared with the monitoring team of the project that involves the Deputy Director, SLF, Regional Program Manager for GB and M&E Officer. During the first 4 months of the project, gender disaggregated data will be collected on demographic, socio-economic and ecological factors, available natural resources and its uses, livestock holdings, its production and grazing patterns,

pastures, its capacities, attitude/perceptions and local behavior towards predators, wild ungulates and environmental threats, climate change and its relation to livelihoods, natural disasters' occurrence during the last 3 years, occupations of the community members and household incomes.

All formal training will be monitored at the individual training level. Based on the objectives and planned sessions of the training, pre-tests will be taken at the start and post-tests after the completion of the training. The effectiveness of the training will be assessed by taking inputs of the participants at the end of the training day on prescribed formats.

Biodiversity surveys and monitoring will be done under the supervision of relevant experts of SLT as well as SLF and results will be discussed in their joint meetings. Local Wildlife staff and community members will be trained and involved in wildlife surveys to foster long-term community-based snow leopard and environmental monitoring and stewardship.

Before starting field activities through the VCDOs/CBOs, their organizational and financial management and record keeping capacities will be assessed. Their capacity will be built based on the gaps identified. The VCDO/CBOs will form Monitoring committees to monitor the implementation of construction of predator-proof corrals.

The M&E costs include staff time devoted to implement the project's monitoring plan, requisite portion of field operations, travel, accommodation and food costs.

Project outcome and impact assessment will be conducted during the second and third years of the project. The finance section of SLF and the internal auditor will assist in project financial monitoring. The project activities will be audited each year through a third party and based on the guidelines of the audit the program will be improved.

Total project budget for M&E in GBP (this may include Staff, Travel and Subsistence costs) ██████████

Percentage of total project budget set aside for M&E (%) █

Number of days planned for M&E 400

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.

 [Darwin Pakistan Logframe](#)

 31/01/2022

 12:47:02

 pdf 86.27 KB

Impact:

Snow leopard, its wild prey, landscapes and local livelihoods are safeguarded through integrated conservation and livelihood improvement programs and gender mainstreaming.

Outcome:

Conservation and livelihood programs supporting additional 8000 households in 12 valleys reduce livestock losses, increase income and improve attitudes, leading to stable or increased abundance of Snow-leopards and wild ungulates.

Project Outputs

Output 1:

No Response

Output 2:

No Response

Output 3:

No Response

Output 4:

No Response

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.

- Yes
 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 Vaccination of 50,000 cattle/ yak and 100,000 goat/sheep for Black Quarter, Enterotoxaemia, Foot and Mouth or other necessary vaccines recommended by Livestock Department and protection of animals against ectoparasites like Mange.
- 1.2 Twenty additional corrals built, protecting 14,000 livestock by yr. 3, over baseline of 6 corrals in project valleys
- 1.3 15,000 livestock in 12 communities protected through insurance schemes by yr 3, over baseline of 7 valleys and 5000 livestock.
- 1.4 One hundred households in 12 communities engaged in quality handicrafts by yr 3, over baseline of 0 households.
- 1.5 Twelve new conservation contracts signed for 12 communities, by yr 2.
- 2.1 Livestock losses inside predator-proof corrals will be completely curtailed, saving about 1% of livestock holdings in communities per annum from predation by yr 3,
- 2.2 Handicrafts increasing monthly income of 100 participating households by average PKR 10,000 per household by yr 3
- 2.3 Acceptance of snow leopards and other predators increased in project communities both men and women by yr 3.
- 2.4 Notification of the government to declare Khudaabad valley as a Community-controlled Hunting area (CCHA) by presenting its draft plan to Wildlife Department by yr. 3.
- 3.1 20 community activists (13 men & at least 7 women) trained in financial management and record keeping in yr 1
- 3.2 20 community conservation champions (13 men & at least 7 women) are actively engaged in dialogue with communities by end of yr 2.
- 3.3 24 teachers (12 men and 12 women) trained for conservation and training skills.
- 3.4 Capacity of 200 students (100 boys and 100 girls) increased through engagement in nature clubs and nature study camps.
- 3.5 Capacity of 20 men members of CBO, 8 members of academia (4 men & 4 women), and 22 Wildlife Department staff (all men) built in Wildlife survey Techniques.
- 3.5 Resource material including 5 posters and 5 leaflets on conservation topics developed and disseminated among stakeholders
- 4.1 Ungulate population trend in 12 project valleys understood through field surveys, showing that wild prey indices are stable (as compared with the baseline developed in Yr 1) in the project sites in yr 3
- 4.2 Snow Leopard population ascertained in 12 project valleys through collection and analysis of 400 genetic samples.
- 4.3 Killing of predators and wild herbivores reduced by 50% in participating households and communities by yr 3

- 4.4 Two peer reviewed papers submitted for publication by yr 3
- 4.5 One best practice documented and shared with stakeholders by yr 3.

Section 11 - Budget and Funding

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 update 31.1.2022](#)
 31/01/2022
 12:48:08
 xlsx 362.91 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.

SLF has a financial manual containing codes and standards for financial management, a finance department with reputable staff and an internal auditor to check the accounts for financial risk management. SLF maintains its standard of fiscal integrity. Fraud, bribery or other forms of corruption are not tolerated and any person found in such an activity is removed from their position and responsible for repaying damage. All requests for reimbursement must follow general accounting practices and be thoroughly documented as per accounting requirements. The project team involves a qualified Finance Manager.

Deposits are made within 2 days of receiving funds. Deposits and balances are verified by a committee composed of an Account representative, the Deputy Director of SLF and M&E Officer. The office has security cameras to protect assets and SLF has a whistle-blower policy to protect those who report wrongdoing.

If a VCDO/CBO is found to be involved in financial corruption, it will be dealt with according to Pakistan's legal system by informing security agencies and filing a case in the court.

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:

This project builds on long-term efforts by Snow Leopard Foundation (SLF) and partners to support pastoralist communities living with predators. Over the past decade, SLF has built close relationships with communities and developed best practices for individual programmes, funded by Darwin Initiative and private grants and donations.

Our partner, Snow Leopard Trust (SLT) oversees implementation of similar projects in Mongolia, India, and Kyrgyzstan. In all locations including Pakistan, results have been encouraging at both improving livelihoods and reducing retaliatory killing.

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.

The Government is implementing the Strengthening Protected Areas Management System in Gilgit-Baltistan (GB), and the Protected Areas Initiative of Ten Billion Tree Tsunami project. The focus is on Protected Areas management and infrastructure development, while our project will be supporting species based management by addressing the losses that the carnivores generate in communities living around the protected areas. Snow leopards have large ranges that exceed formally Protected Areas, thus it is critical to work in these buffer zones. Government is also implementing Green Climate Fund funded, Scaling up of Glacier Lake Outburst Floods Risk Reduction in Northern Pakistan project to strengthen public services to address the damages glacier outburst often causes in GB by helping communities in interventions to mitigate the damage. Its focus is different from our project.

Integrated Carnivores Conservation Program, GB, developed by SLF is also under consideration of the government. We will collaborate with the Wildlife Department for implementation of this project. Our project will also collaborate with WWF-Pakistan's Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool (SMART) to reduce poaching of wildlife in Khunjerab National Park which is adjacent to our project. SLF has signed an MoU with WWF-Pakistan to implement SMART in some of its program areas.

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.

Not applicable

We do not plan to purchase any capital item with Darwin funding.

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.

Finding cost effective ways of supporting coexistence of rural communities with large predators is extremely challenging. Top-down approaches, such as the relocation of villagers out of Tiger reserves in India, have proved financially costly, often ineffective and sometimes controversial.

Snow Leopard Foundation's (SLF) philosophy is to support and evaluate bottom-up approaches, encouraging communities to take ownership of schemes. This project builds on long-term partnerships and community relationships and is focused on the delivery of multi-pronged, collaborative schemes of individual programmes that are well-piloted, in regions where SLF already work closely with communities.

Therefore, this Darwin project will secure value for money by supporting the development of a robust, self-sustaining programme that will continue into the future under SLFs guidance. This project will directly benefit c56,000 people across 13 communities in extremely remote landscapes. It will reduce threats to endangered snow leopard, argali, ibex, blue sheep and other associated wildlife. Through Darwin funded evaluation we will better understand the attitudes towards interventions, and the consequences of interventions for livelihoods, attitudes, behaviour and abundance. The lessons learned will advise best practices for meeting national goals, and more generally those working to balance conservation

and livelihoods worldwide.

Strategies and policies using snow leopards as a focal species, such as the Global Snow Leopard Ecosystem Protection program (GSLEP) are already creating connectivity and landscape-level conservation (GSLEP landscapes cover >500,000 sq. km), and have potential in the future to elicit funding for community-led conservation from Governments and international bodies (e.g. GEF).

Section 12 - Safeguarding and Ethics

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.

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	Checked
We have attached a copy of our safeguarding policy to this application (file upload on certification page)	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 share 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 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

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.

Snow Leopard Foundation (SLF) and its partner Snow Leopard Trust (SLT) both have documented safeguarding and whistle-blower policies.

The project is being implemented on-the-ground by SLF. The project's safeguarding risks related to staff welfare, abuse of a vulnerable person, grievance redressal, sexual exploitation, sexual harassments, child labor and protection will be assessed and measures will be taken to mitigate these risks.

Such violations by an employee or associated person will be subject to disciplinary procedures that may lead to termination of the employee. In severe cases, the matter will also be reported to the appropriate law enforcement agency without delay.

A register will be maintained to record safeguarding issues raised and measures taken. Yearly safeguarding reports will be prepared. SLF will apply the IASC six core principles related to sexual exploitation and abuse and IASC Minimum Operating Standards on protection from sexual exploitation and abuse.

SLF will conduct yearly meetings with the staff to train them and discuss the safeguarding policy.

Q30. Ethics

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

This proposal builds on more than a decade of partnership with rural communities. The cornerstone of this project is respectful collaboration, supporting local communities and enhancing their ability to deal with the impacts of predators. SLF conducted regular meetings with the Valley Conservation Development Organizations (VCDOs) and community-based organizations (CBOs) to confirm community buy-in and ensure informed consent. Community-based project activities were developed using participatory techniques. Snow Leopard Foundation (SLF) leverages the PARTNERS Principles model of community engagement developed by Snow Leopard Trust (SLT) Executive Director Dr. Charudutt Mishra. These principles provide the required framework to develop and implement community-based conservation programs and ensure more effective, ethical, and inclusive conservation. They have also been identified as a priority approach for conservation across snow leopard habitats in the Bishkek Declaration

The project will nurture community conservation leaders and will directly strengthen the community engagement and conflict-management capacity of our local partners.

Ethical and health & safety issues for the research team and the communities will be discussed at the start up meeting between all project partners to ensure all field staff follow mutually-agreed, rigorous standards in protocols and risk assessments, and monitored throughout the project.

Section 13 - FCDO Notifications

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.

No

If no, why not?

We have attended some of the events organized by the British High Commission in Pakistan, and they also granted visa for participation in Whitley Award Ceremony in 2016. Apart from this we never had a chance to work with them, though we look forward to working with them.

Section 14 - Project Staff

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. Muhammad Ali Nawaz	Project Leader	10	Checked
Hussain Ali	Project Coordinator for GB	50	Checked
Muhammad Younus	Social Organizer	100	Checked
Tayyab Shahzad	Monitoring and Evaluation Officer	40	Checked

Do you require more fields?


Yes


Name (First name, Surname)	Role	% time on project	1 page CV or job description attached?
Shahid Tanveer	Manager, Finance	50	Checked
Ms. Ayesha Akif	Communication and SLE Coordinator	50	Checked
Ms. Rubina Bano	Social Organizer	50	Checked
Jaffar ud Din	Project Coordinator	30	Checked
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	0	Unchecked
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	0	Unchecked
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	0	Unchecked
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	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.

 [CVs of staff](#)

 31/01/2022

 13:21:39

 pdf 861 KB

Have you attached all project staff CVs?

Yes

Section 15 - Project Partners

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:	Snow Leopard Foundation
Website address:	www.slf.org.pk
Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):	<p>Snow Leopard Foundation (SLF) is the lead implementer for the project. SLF will be responsible for coordinating all project activities, training field implementers, project monitoring and evaluation, data management, dissemination of project results and learning including scientific articles, reporting, financial tracking, and capacity building with national and provincial stakeholders.</p> <p>Since its inception in 2008, the Snow Leopard Foundation has fostered science-based research and research-based conservation of wildlife and its habitat under the umbrella of snow leopard conservation in Pakistan. The dedicated and versatile team of the Foundation, composed of experienced ecologists and conservationists, has been implementing an integrated conservation program in more than 50 valleys in the snow leopard range in collaboration with the federal and provincial governments, academia, conservation institutions, and local communities. With numerous scientific publications on snow leopards, sympatric carnivores, their wild prey, and habitat under its belt, the SLF team has built the capacity of hundreds of wildlife professionals, postgraduate students, and community members in ecological research and management of human-wildlife conflict, over the years.</p>
Allocated budget (proportion or value):	██████████
Represented on the Project Board	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes
Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes
Have you provided a cover letter to address your Stage 1 feedback?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes

Do you have partners involved in the Project?

Yes

1. Partner Name:	Snow Leopard Trust
-------------------------	--------------------

Website address: www.snowleopard.org

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

Founded in 1981, the International Snow Leopard Trust (SLT) is a recognized world leader in snow leopard research and community-based conservation, and has worked closely with Snow Leopard Foundation since its inception in 2008. SLT is co-financing the project (£150,000) and will provide technical support in project monitoring and implementation, resource development and mobilization, and dissemination of information. Snow Leopard Enterprise (SLE) is SLT's flagship conservation-linked livelihood improvement program. SLT will purchase handicrafts from the SLE groups trained through this project at fair prices and re-sell to an international market. Profits will be re-invested into the beneficiary communities through bonuses at the end of the year when no snow leopards have been killed. SLT has collaborated with local nonprofit organizations in India, Mongolia, Kyrgyzstan, and Pakistan to build predator-proof corrals, survey wildlife populations, start livestock insurance schemes, create wildlife reserves, and implement conservation education for youth.

Allocated budget: ██████████

Represented on the Project Board Yes

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

2. Partner Name: *No Response*

Website address: *No Response*

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

Allocated budget: £0.00

Represented on the Project Board Yes
 No

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

3. Partner Name: *No Response*

Website address: *No Response*

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

Allocated budget: £0.00

Represented on the Project Board Yes
 No

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

4. Partner Name: *No Response*

Website address: *No Response*

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

Allocated budget: £0.00

Represented on the Project Board Yes
 No

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

5. Partner Name: *No Response*

Website address: *No Response*

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

Allocated budget: £0.00

Represented on the Project Board Yes
 No

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

6. Partner Name: *No Response*

Website address: *No Response*

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

Allocated budget: £0.00


Represented on the Project Board Yes
 No

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


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](#)


 31/01/2022

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 pdf 1.7 MB

 [Cover letter from Lead Partner for Darwin Initiative 30.1.2021](#)

 31/01/2022

 13:30:46

 pdf 1.62 MB

Section 16 - Lead Partner Capability and Capacity

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 2011

What is the legal status of your organisation? NGO

How is your organisation currently funded? Snow Leopard Trust is the principal donor.

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

Aims SLF's aim is to conserve viable populations of snow leopard and other wild carnivores as an integral part of landscape across Pakistan, while improving the lives of people who live in their habitats.

Activities Drafting Management plans and conducting surveys of snow leopards/ungulates to achieve Goal of Global Snow leopard and Ecosystem Protection Priorities for Pakistan. Preparing recommendations for Protected Area expansion. Human-carnivore conflict management: Livestock vaccination, Livestock insurance, Predator-proof corrals, Livestock Breed improvement, Rangeland management, Snow Leopard Enterprises, Natural resource management, and Ecotourism.

Achievements Drafted Management plans of 3 landscapes, snow leopards/ungulates surveys on 40% of snow leopard range in Pakistan. Landscape coordination committees established for GB; Chitral and Neelum district. Bi-annual vaccination of 300,000 livestock in 35 valleys, Livestock-insurance (26 valleys), 40 Predator-proof corrals, Livestock-Breed improvement (1 valley), and Ecotourism (1 valley).

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 Snow Leopard Program Pakistan

Contract Value/Project budget (include currency)

[REDACTED]

Duration (e.g. 2 years 3 months)

Continuous

Role of organisation in project

Implementation of the project.

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

Aim: conserve snow-leopards (SLs), their prey base and associated fragile mountain ecosystem promoting science-based research, research-based conservation, public-private partnership, conservation education and capacity building. Goals: develop SLF as a leading conservation organization to promote SL research and conservation paradigm in Pakistan; promote a landscape approach to SL conservation; enhance tolerance & build support for SL conservation; fill gaps in information required for SL conservation by enhancing information on SLs population, prey species and habitat; promote environment, develop capacity and facilitate SL research; enhance public awareness and understanding of SL ecology and conservation needs; quantify Program Impacts through Monitoring.

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

Dr. Charu Mishra, [REDACTED]

Contract/Project 2 Title Snow Leopard and Ecosystem Protection Program

Contract Value/Project budget (include currency)

[REDACTED]

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

Five years

Role of organisation in project Implementing Partner

Brief summary of the aims, objectives and outcomes of the project Aim: Remove barriers to snow-leopard conservation to achieve sustainable development and ecological security of Pakistan's forest and land resources. Objective: to promote a landscape approach for survival of snow-leopard and its prey species by reducing threats and applying sustainable land and forest management in critical habitats in Northern Pakistan. Outcomes: Improved management of snow-leopard landscapes integrating sustainable forest and land management and compatible conservation practice; Increased priority snow-leopard ecosystems in Protected Area network; Participatory conservation enhanced to reduce human-snow-leopard conflicts and improve livelihoods of community; Implementation, upscaling and replication of project approaches supported by effective knowledge management and gender mainstreaming.

Client/independent reference contact details (Name, e-mail) Muhammad Samar Hussain Khan
[REDACTED]

Contract/Project 3 Title Landscape approach to protection of critically endangered snow leopard in Pakistan

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

Duration (e.g. 2 years, 3 months) 2 year 0 months

Role of organisation in project Implementation of the project.

Brief summary of the aims, objectives and outcomes of the project The project aimed to promote snow leopard conservation in northern Pakistan by establishing the country's first-ever, model landscape management plan for snow leopards as part of a global strategy to conserve the species (GSLEP); expanding community-based conservation activities; improving capacity of wildlife managers; raising general awareness of snow leopard conservation; and undertaking the necessary research to aid in provincial and national decision-making for conservation. Major outcomes of the project are management strategy developed for the Karakoram-Pamir Landscape, data collected through camera trap (n=29) and ungulate surveys in four valleys, 25 Ecosystem-health workers' trained, livestock vaccination benefiting 315 households.

Client/independent reference contact details (Name, e-mail) Danni Parks
[REDACTED]

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

Company

of

Snow Leopard Foundation

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. Muhammad Ali Nawaz





Position in the organisation Director

Signature (please upload e-signature)  [Ali signature](#)
 31/01/2022
 15:04:08
 jpg 23.12 KB

Date 31 January 2022

Please attach the requested signed audited/independently examined accounts.


 [Auditor annual report and annual financial statement 2020](#)
 31/01/2022
 13:59:38
 pdf 5.76 MB

 [SLF Audited Accounts 2021](#)
 31/01/2022
 13:56:34
 pdf 823.66 KB

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

 [SLF Safeguard policy](#)

 31/01/2022

 14:03:55

 pdf 617.08 KB

Section 18 - Submission Checklist

Checklist for submission

	Check
I have read the Guidance, including the “Darwin Initiative Guidance”, “Monitoring Evaluation and Learning Guidance”, “Risk Guidance” and “Financial 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 Project Staff identified at Question 32, including the Project Leader, or provided an explanation of why not.	Checked
I have included a letter of support from the Lead Partner and partner(s) identified at Question 33, or an explanation of why not.	Checked
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).