

Applicant: **Lanchbury, Kate**  
Organisation: **WWF-UK**  
Funding Sought: **£583,995.00**

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# **DIR29S2\1011**

## **Reviving Trans-Himalayan Rangelands: A community-led vision for people and nature**

This project addresses degradation of high-altitude rangelands, and associated biodiversity and livelihood impacts, by facilitating a community-led vision and rangelands co-management model in the Indian Trans-Himalayas. Pastoralist communities and key stakeholders will be convened through 'rangelands councils' for effective rangelands co-management. Interventions to improve human-wildlife coexistence, and augment women's income from 'rangelands-friendly' products, will contribute to livelihoods security. This project aims to ultimately restore the Changpas and Brokpas as stewards of rangelands for the benefit of people and nature.

# DIR29S2\1011

Reviving Trans-Himalayan Rangelands: A community-led vision for people and nature

## Section 1 - Contact Details

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### CONTACT DETAILS

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**Title** Mrs  
**Name** Kate  
**Surname** Lanchbury  
**Website (Work)** [REDACTED]  
**Tel (Work)** [REDACTED]  
**Email (Work)** [REDACTED]  
**Address** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

### CONTACT DETAILS

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**Title** Ms  
**Name** Nicola  
**Surname** Loweth  
**Organisation** WWF-UK  
**Tel (Work)** [REDACTED]  
**Email (Work)** [REDACTED]  
**Address** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

### CONTACT DETAILS

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**Title** Mr  
**Name** Rishi Kumar  
**Surname** Sharma  
**Tel (Work)** [REDACTED]  
**Email (Work)** [REDACTED]  
**Address** [REDACTED]

## GMS ORGANISATION

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Type	Organisation
<b>Name</b>	WWF-UK
<b>Phone (Mobile)</b>	[REDACTED]
<b>Email (Work)</b>	[REDACTED]
<b>Website (Work)</b>	[REDACTED]
<b>Address</b>	[REDACTED]

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

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### Q3. Title:

Reviving Trans-Himalayan Rangelands: A community-led vision for people and nature

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

DIR29S1\1278

### 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

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#### Biome 2

Deserts and semi-deserts

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#### Biome 3

Intensive land-use systems (agric., plantations and urban)

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**Conservation Action 1**

Land/water protection (area/resource/habitat)

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**Conservation Action 2**

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

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**Conservation Action 3**

*No Response*

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**Threat 1**

Agriculture & aquaculture (incl. plantations)

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**Threat 2**

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

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**Threat 3**

Other threats

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## Q5. Summary of project

**Please provide a brief summary of your project: the problem/need it is trying to address, 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.**

This project addresses degradation of high-altitude rangelands, and associated biodiversity and livelihood impacts, by facilitating a community-led vision and rangelands co-management model in the Indian Trans-Himalayas. Pastoralist communities and key stakeholders will be convened through 'rangelands councils' for effective rangelands co-management. Interventions to improve human-wildlife coexistence, and augment women's income from 'rangelands-friendly' products, will contribute to livelihoods security. This project aims to ultimately restore the Changpas and Brokpas as stewards of rangelands for the benefit of people and nature.

## 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**

India

**Country 2**

*No Response*

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Country 3 No Response

Country 4 No Response

Do you require more fields?

No

## Q7. Project dates

Start date:

01 April 2023

End date:

31 March 2026

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

3 years

## Q8. Budget summary

Year:	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	Total request
Amount:	£144,959.00	£245,692.00	£193,344.00	£0.00	£583,995.00

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?

WWF-India have committed to providing matched funding of £[REDACTED] for the next three years, to support with piloting the proposed community visioning approach at the two project sites, i.e. Changthang in Western Himalayas and Mago-Chu Valley of Eastern Himalayas. The matched funding will mostly support the interventions on documenting the traditional resource management, local institutions, workshops to establish community vision of rangelands, and multi-stakeholder workshops to help with co-developing community vision. The Darwin Initiative funding will focus on supporting development of the rangelands co-management plans with communities and other stakeholders, establishing rangeland councils and decreasing human-wildlife conflict, and diversifying livelihoods at both locations. In addition, the Centre for Pastoralism (Sahjeevan) has committed approximately £[REDACTED] and WWF-UK £[REDACTED]

Q10b. Total confirmed & unconfirmed matched funding (£)

£[REDACTED]

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

N/A

## 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. What is the need, challenge or opportunity?**

**For example, what are the drivers of biodiversity loss that the project will attempt to address? Why are they relevant, for whom? How did you identify these problems? Please cite any evidence you are using to support your assessment of the problem (references can be listed in a separate attached PDF document).**

The Trans-Himalayan high-altitude rangelands have sustained agro-pastoralist communities and a rich assemblage of wildlife for several millennia(1). The Changpa people of the Changthang, Western Himalayas, and Brokpas of the Mago-Chu Valley, Eastern Himalayas, live alongside wild carnivores and herbivores while rearing pashmina goats, yaks, and sheep. These regions historically had sustenance-based livestock economies, strong traditional resource management practices(2,3), and a high social tolerance for wildlife(4–6). The communities' stewardship contributed to well-managed rangelands that sustained ecosystem services and resources, and bolstered climate resilience and livelihood security.

In recent decades, however, weakening of traditional community institutions propelled by factors like tenurial insecurity and unsustainable policies, and the rising demand for livestock products (primarily pashmina/cashmere wool), have had considerable negative repercussions. The global wool market is expected to reach USD 48 billion by 2029(7). To cater to the cashmere market, livestock herds have increased rapidly (doubled in the target regions over the last 30 years) and their composition has changed drastically (e.g. >90% pashmina goats in Changthang)(8,9), and conflicts over rangelands use have intensified(1). These increasing pressures on rangelands are causing ecosystem degradation(8,10,11) and associated issues, e.g. food scarcity, exacerbated by climate change, impacting the well-being of people and wildlife.

As local societal norms around wildlife stewardship have eroded and livestock is valued more, tolerance of wild ungulates(12,13) and carnivores(4,6,14) has significantly reduced. Livestock predation causes an average annual loss of GBP 170 for each household, where the annual average income is ~GBP 2000(2). Retaliatory killing of wolves and snow leopards is now common, and wild ungulates such as Tibetan Argali (~350 remain) and Tibetan Antelope (<100 remain) have suffered major declines(15–17).

Lack of capacities for processing wool and value-addition, alongside weak market linkages, results in low pashmina-based income for locals, despite the potential for 20 times higher returns(18). A dearth of alternate sources of income exacerbates the issue. The pastoral communities also fear curtailment of rights by government policies that lean toward protected areas(19), which creates uncertainty and erodes their stewardship. Thus, being excluded from decisions concerning rangelands and unable to diversify livelihoods, these communities remain marginalised and poor(20).

Enabling a communities-led, shared vision and co-management of rangelands will benefit people and biodiversity, ensure that conservation is just, and foster communities' stewardship of high-altitude rangelands(21–23). Improved pastoralism has the potential to sequester 409 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> (i.e. 10% of global emissions) across grazing lands globally(24). Mobile pastoralism is low-emission and climate-adaptive, contributing to resilience in these regions where climate change is impacting livelihoods.

Strengthening livelihoods security through capacity building for product value-addition, improved market linkages, and diversification, in addition to raising incomes, will also decrease economic impacts of human-

wildlife conflict and increase tolerance of wildlife. There is a growing market for sustainable wool with positive social and environmental impacts. Almost two-thirds of buyers are willing to spend more on eco-friendly clothes(25). This presents opportunities for local enterprises to tap into this market for diversification of pastoral communities' livelihoods.

## 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

**Using evidence where available, 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.**

Globally, half of the grasslands are degraded due to unsustainable land-use, biodiversity loss, and climate change, aggravating livelihood, habitat and biodiversity losses, carbon emissions, food and freshwater insecurity(23,26,27). Political momentum on grasslands ecosystems has thus been building. Around 90 million hectares have been committed globally for restoration targets under the Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN), UNFCCC's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC), National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs), etc. Assessments show that one of the main causes of biodiversity depletion in Europe is the abandonment of sustainable pastoral practices(28). Also, 2026 has been declared the 'International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists'; this project aims to illustrate a globally scalable, pastoralist-led, rangelands co-management model by then.

India's Trans-Himalayan rangelands cover 186,000 square kilometres, of which 8.2% are strictly protected areas (PAs). The National Planning Commission of India has concluded that the PA approach is inadequate in conserving rangelands, as top-down conservation excludes pastoralists and wildlife is not restricted to PAs; influential stakeholders have contradicting goals and, despite their importance, none of the government departments take responsibility for rangelands(29). A report by a task force on 'Grasslands and Deserts' by the National Planning Commission, summarises the issue as follows: "Grasslands are not managed as an ecosystem in their own right by the Forest Department whose interest lies mainly in trees, nor by the Agriculture Department who are interested in agriculture crops, nor the Veterinary Department who are concerned with livestock, but not the grass on which the livestock depends. Grasslands are the 'common' lands of the community and while there have been robust traditional institutions ensuring their sustainable management in the past, today due to take-over by the government or breakdown of traditional institutions they are the responsibility of none." This project will address these critical issues through a community-led rangelands co-management model.

This project will contribute directly to various national and international policies and commitments for

India, including: the LDN target for restoring 26 million hectares of degraded land by 2030; NDCs for creating carbon sinks of 2.5-3 GtCO<sub>2</sub> by improving rangelands; and National Biodiversity Targets 1-3,5,6,8-11 of National Biodiversity Action Plan(30). The project will contribute to securing and improving the health of 500,000 hectares of high-altitude rangelands, which play a crucial carbon sink function.

The project's interventions for securing livelihoods for pastoralists and co-management of rangelands would contribute towards achieving several SDGs, including: 1 (no poverty), 2 (zero hunger), 3 (good health and well-being), 5 (gender equality), 8 (economic growth), 12 (responsible consumption and production), 13 (climate action), 15 (life on land through conservation, restoration, and sustainable use of degraded land, e.g., targets 15.1, 15.3, 15.4,15.5), 17 (partnerships), and others.

In the same vein, the project will contribute to CBD's AICHI targets: 2 (biodiversity values integration), 3 (incentives for conservation), 4 (sustainable consumption, use of grasslands), 5 (habitat loss reduced), 10 (pressures reduced), 14 (ecosystem services safeguarded), 15 (restoration and resilience), and 18 (traditional knowledge integrated).

## 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 reflected on and incorporated **evidence and lessons learnt** from past and present similar activities and projects in the design of this project.
- the specific approach you are using, supported by **evidence** that it will be effective, and **justifying why you expect it will be successful** in this context.
- how you will undertake the work (activities, materials and methods)
- what will be the **main activities** and where will these take place.
- how you will manage the work (governance, roles and responsibilities, project management tools, risks etc.).

The project design benefits from WWF's ongoing partnership with the Changpas and Brokpas, who were consulted for this proposal. WWF-India is already working in these areas on mitigating human-wildlife conflict(5,31), understanding communities' willingness to sustainably manage rangelands, value addition of pashmina products, and research on traditional beliefs and governance systems(32). This project also integrates insights from WWF's global work on snow leopard conservation and co-existence with people(33). This includes human-wildlife coexistence interventions, e.g. compensation schemes, and published research on biodiversity and poverty alleviation(34).

The project is built on a partnership with communities approach(35–37), and interventions will be moulded to their vision of rangelands co-management during the project. WWF and Centre for Pastoralism (CFP) will work with communities scattered across numerous villages in Changthang and Mago-Chu. In consultation with communities, WWF will target 350 households across Changthang's villages, and 200 households across Mago-Chu's villages for co-designing and implementing various project interventions. Community engagement will be through focus-group discussions and workshops for co-designing, training, piloting, monitoring, and other interventions.

Output 1 entails co-designing a rangelands conservation framework, through a radical listening approach



that honours traditional values and revives communities' stewardship of rangelands. Key activities include: documenting traditional knowledge, mapping institutions, and resource management practices; participatory workshops for developing a shared vision of healthy rangelands, with input from all groups (e.g. women and marginalised), that would focus on conserving the cultural, social and ecological values of rangelands along with convergence of development and conservation goals; and formulation of multistakeholder 'Rangelands Councils' representing communities, government, non-government, and private sectors.

Output 2 focuses on catalysing multi-stakeholder collaboration for delivering on the joint vision for rangelands, through planning that enables local economic benefits and sustains ecological integrity. Activities include: facilitating convergence of stakeholders' strategies around the vision, to develop rangeland co-management plans (with interventions, e.g. natural regeneration areas, agreed by communities) for each region; socialising these plans among stakeholders (e.g. government departments), and building capacities for sustainable rangelands and livestock management; piloting sustainable rangeland management interventions, covering around 8 villages in each of the 2 regions; and assessing the pilots' impacts and sharing lessons for replication.

Output 3 improves human-wildlife coexistence (HWC), to reduce biodiversity loss and ecosystem degradation, and improve livelihoods security. Activities include: assessing and improving perceptions and tolerance of wildlife; assessing gender-differentiated nature, extent, and impact of HWC; co-designing preventive and mitigative HWC solutions with communities to reduce costs of living with wildlife; testing mitigative solutions, e.g. WWF's community-based livestock insurance schemes, at two sites; piloting preventive measures, e.g. better corrals, fox-lights, and mountain guardians, in Changthang (2 sites) and Mago-Chu (1 site); monitoring livestock loss through SMART; and sharing lessons and best practices to facilitate replication at scale.

Output 4 involves diversifying and augmenting 'rangelands-friendly' livelihoods for about 200 Changpa and Brokpa women and their families, to enhance the sense of value for rangelands. Activities include: community and stakeholders consultations, and value-chain and market analyses, for 'rangelands-friendly' products, including pashmina and yak-wool from sustainably-reared livestock; trainings and equipment, e.g. looms for weaving, according to communities' needs and market analyses, for processing and value-addition of products; establishing 'rangelands-friendly' micro-enterprises (2 in Changthang, 1 in Mago-Chu), e.g. wool-based and dairy products, that benefit around 200 households; improving market linkages, e.g. through regional buyers' meets, and establishing a 'rangelands-friendly' marketing model. These interventions will build on WWF's market assessment and community-enterprises knowledge, alongside the sustainable product development and marketing expertise of women-led cooperatives, i.e. 'Looms of Ladakh' (Changthang) and 'It's All Folk' (Mago-Chu).

Additional activities include baselines and assessments, with gender-differentiated parameters, to inform project implementation and monitoring of outputs. These include: surveys on ecosystem and biodiversity health, e.g. vegetation index and species occupancy, and livestock health; participatory evaluation of management effectiveness; stakeholders' participation satisfaction questionnaire; and 'well-being' survey. WWF's adaptable Well-being Tool assesses indicators under the 5 capitals in the Sustainable Livelihoods Framework, and will cover human-wildlife conflict, tolerance, stewardship, livelihoods, and economic security for this project.

Project Governance: WWF-UK will be responsible for overall project management and quality assurance, including adherence to the Environment and Social Safeguards Framework, along with reporting to Darwin. Grant agreements will be in place between WWF-UK, WWF-India and the Centre for Pastoralism for delivering on the project.

A Project Steering Group (PSC) will be established at project inception and will meet biannually, with

representation of project partners, and two female and two male representatives selected by the local communities (potentially the same as those in Rangelands Councils).

## 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, who will benefit, and the post-project value to the country.**

The project ensures an inclusive and participatory approach throughout its design, which builds capacity of community and key stakeholders, from the initial participatory visioning to co-designing plans and implementation for multiple stakeholders and actors.

Activities under Output 1 will build capabilities on the process of visioning and multi-stakeholder platforms and development of Rangeland Councils for the implementation of the joint vision. Capacity of WWF-India and CFP teams on two fundamentally important approaches for community partnerships i.e. "radical listening" and participatory planning will improve.

Output 2 will build capacity through workshops and multi-stakeholder sessions on co-designing and implementing plans across government departments and institutions responsible for sustainable resource management. These capacities will enable government institutions to adopt inclusive approaches for rangelands management, and enhance collaboration and transparency. Pilots and assessments of sustainable rangelands management practices will build capacities of communities and stakeholders.

Output 3 will improve knowledge and capacities by co-designing and co-implementing human-wildlife conflict mitigation and prevention solutions, and evaluating effectiveness together. Conservationists will harness traditional ecological knowledge, and community partners will learn about SMART and Well-being Tools.

Output 4 will provide training and equipment to 200 women to produce wildlife-friendly pashmina and yak-wool based handicrafts. These are in demand by tourists visiting these regions, but women cannot sell well due to poor finish and quality. The communities' capability to diversify income sources will also be built by establishing three women-led micro-enterprises (2 in Changthang and 1 in Mago-Chu) for 'rangelands-friendly' livestock products, e.g. wool and dairy products. Women-led cooperatives such as 'Looms of Ladakh' will support capacity on product development and marketing.

By project end, key stakeholders will have enhanced capacity to collaborate on a shared vision of rangelands management. Communities will benefit over the long-term from diversified income from the 'rangelands-friendly' micro-enterprises and marketing model.

## 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. Please summarise how your project will contribute to reducing gender inequality. Applicants should, at a minimum, ensure proposals will not increase inequality and are encouraged to design interventions that proactively contribute to increased gender equality.**

Local women play an essential role in rangeland management; they are the primary caretakers of livestock

and develop products, e.g. wool, cheese and handicrafts. Their participation in decision-making is restricted due to traditional social norms and gender-differentiated roles. Research also shows that women suffer more due to human-wildlife conflicts and have poorer attitudes towards wildlife than men<sup>5,38</sup>. Through consultations, WWF has identified that women have poorer income from livestock relative to their labour and distress due to livestock predation, while men are concerned about uncertainties around land-tenure and pastoralist livelihoods.

The project will continually assess and cater to gender-differentiated: needs and priorities; biodiversity and resource use; interactions with wildlife; knowledge acquisition and usage; and project related participation. This includes enabling participation of women at each stage of the project, e.g. arranging separate sessions or facilitating transport.

**Inclusive participation:** The visioning process will ensure active women participation and inclusion. At least 50% of community representatives in the Rangelands Councils and other platforms will be women, and separate women consultations will be arranged if needed. The project staff includes local women (including a Changpa ex-village head). Community mobilisers will be local women, and meetings will have gender-responsive timings and locations. The project will assess communities' satisfaction on key parameters of participation.

**Enhancing livelihoods:** These activities are focussed on reducing inequality, e.g., training and equipping 200 women on value-addition of pashmina products, setting up three women-led, 'rangelands-friendly' micro-enterprises benefitting even more households. Women-led enterprises groups, e.g. Looms of Ladakh, will contribute to the co-management and marketing planning, and the Rangelands Councils.

**Monitoring:** Data will be disaggregated by gender for all indicators, from baselines to impact assessments, for integration throughout the project. The Well-being Tool and other assessments will address variance in socio-economic needs and monitor project impacts.

## **Q16. Awareness and understanding**

**How will you raise awareness and understanding of biodiversity-poverty issues in your stakeholders, including who your stakeholders are, 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 project is designed around bringing together stakeholders, particularly communities living alongside wildlife, to build joint understanding and awareness around biodiversity-poverty linkages, co-design plans, and collaborate on rangelands co-management.

**Community level:** Consultations and workshops will be conducted to co-develop a gender-responsive conservation vision, and initiate a rangeland conservation model that is based on local knowledge and needs of the community. Communities will have improved awareness, through workshops and discussions and associated communications material, about healthy rangelands and biodiversity, and opportunities to diversify income and reduce human-wildlife conflict. Women and wider community members will benefit from training materials on improving livestock-based products, in addition to better understanding about co-design and co-management approaches.

**Local authorities and organisations:** Stakeholders will be engaged through consultations, capacity workshops, and assessments on ecological data collection and its importance for informed conservation decision-making and land-use planning. These interventions and knowledge products, e.g. reports, will allow other organisations, e.g. Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council, Animal Husbandry Department, Central Arid Zone Research Institute, State Handicrafts and Handlooms Department, and

National Institute of Fashion Technology, to develop better understanding of co-management and rangelands-friendly products.

Partner organisations: Key stakeholders and actors will have an improved understanding of rangelands for biodiversity conservation, livelihoods, culture, and co-management of multiple-use landscapes. The central idea of bringing convergence, and enabling different stakeholders and actors to co-create a shared vision of rangeland management, is hinged upon identifying and understanding the ecological, social and cultural values of the landscape that everyone identifies with.

Knowledge sharing: WWF's communications teams will share project successes, particularly communities' stories, across its social media platforms to create awareness. Data generated will be shared openly (except sensitive information); findings will also be published in scientific journals. All materials will be deposited at a central repository with a Creative Commons licence.

## 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) and the potential to scale the approach.**

**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 project will consult communities on a transparent and equitable beneficiary selection method to shortlist the households that will be involved in this project's various interventions. Changthang has 16 villages with 661 households in total; the project will target 350 households across these villages. Mago-Chu has 15 villages with 2,869 households in total; the project will target 200 households across these villages. The average household size in these regions is 5, and the monthly per-capita income in these villages is around GBP 200.

### Biodiversity Benefits:

In the short-term, around 500,000 hectares of rangelands will be brought under co-management by communities and key stakeholders, reducing degradation through interventions such as revival of traditional rotational grazing practices, stabilising livestock numbers and stocking densities, enabling natural regeneration of vegetation, and recovery of wild ungulates, e.g. blue sheep and Tibetan argali. Sustainable rangeland management pilots, e.g. adaptive grazing, will be implemented with communities across 8 villages and ~140 households in Mago-Chu, and 4 villages and ~115 households in Changthang. Human-wildlife conflict solutions will prevent retaliatory killing of wild carnivores, e.g. snow leopards.

In the long-term, rangeland ecosystem services and resources will be sustained across both regions, improving water availability, grazing resources, and climate resilience for people and wildlife. Adaptive grazing areas and wildlife-friendly practices will increase wild ungulate populations, providing prey for carnivores, and further reducing livestock predation.

WWF-India's ongoing research on the influence of different livestock densities on rangeland vegetation and wild ungulates in the Himalayas will inform policies and planning. This will eventually ensure sustainable livestock management in the rangelands, harmonising pastoral livelihoods with biodiversity conservation.

### Community Benefits:

In the short-term, the project will improve livelihoods security for around 3,000 pastoralists, through interventions for augmenting and diversifying livelihoods and reducing losses. Around 200 women will be trained and equipped for value-addition and marketing of rangelands-friendly pashmina, yak-wool, and other products, and 3 women-led micro-enterprises (e.g. for wool products and goat/yak cheese) will be established, contributing to around 30% increase in 200 households' incomes. Human-wildlife conflict prevention (e.g. fox-lights) and mitigation (e.g. insurance) pilots will reduce livestock predation losses (currently GBP 170 annually) by 50% and improve wellbeing.

In the long-term, community-led rangelands co-management will improve ecosystem services and resources, support healthier livestock, and secure livelihoods for all. Replication of women-led, rangelands-friendly micro-enterprises and the marketing model will contribute to local socio-economic upliftment and have multiplier impacts on the regional economies.

### Potential to Scale:

This project will formalise and implement the community vision from a pilot in Ladakh and replicate it in Mago-Chu. India's flagship Snow Leopard Conservation Project advocates a community-partnership-based conservation approach, but this has received scant attention as a successful demonstration does not exist. By illustrating that community-led visioning can reconcile conservation and developmental outcomes, this project will potentially provide an effective and scalable co-management model for high-altitude rangelands and grasslands globally. Similarly, the rangelands-friendly products can be scaled to align with responsible wool and other sustainable standards globally.

## 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 why and how you expect your Outputs to contribute towards your overall Outcome and, longer term, your expected Impact.**

Rangelands conservation Theories of Change often situate communities on the periphery of the actions. This project will bring communities, which depend on rangelands for their livelihoods, to the centre of the ToC, through a community-led rangelands co-management model for a sustainable approach.

IF: A radical listening approach is taken to understand people's perceptions and interactions with rangelands and facilitate a "community vision" and co-management.

To address Barriers including:

1. Lack of inclusive governance and community stewardship
2. Lack of multi-stakeholder platforms and capacities for resource management
3. Human-wildlife conflict contributing to biodiversity loss and rangelands degradation
4. Limited livelihood opportunities for locals

By employing these Pathways to Change:

1. Enable stakeholders to find common ground for joint action (output 1)
2. Provide an actionable approach for sustainable co-management (output 2)
3. Reduce costs associated with coexistence with wildlife by co-designing solutions (output 3)
4. Diversify livelihoods and increase incentives for rangelands stewardship (output 4)

For establishing a community-led rangelands co-management model in Changthang and Mago-Chu and supporting livelihoods security for pastoralists (outcome).

THEN: People and wildlife will benefit from healthy, co-managed high-altitude rangelands in India's Trans-

Himalayas, with sustained ecosystem services and resources, improved human-wildlife coexistence, and enhanced local livelihoods (impact).

## Q19. Exit Strategy

**How will the project reach a sustainable point and continue to deliver benefits post-funding?**

**How could post-project scaling of the approach (if proven) be delivered: through new finance or through uptake by stakeholders or other mechanisms? Are there any barriers to scaling and how will these be addressed?**

**How will the required knowledge and skills remain available to sustain the benefits?**

The project will establish multi-stakeholder platforms, i.e. the Rangelands Councils, in each of the project regions to bring together communities, government, non-government organisations, and private sector on a joint vision for the rangelands. These Rangelands Councils will continue to function beyond the project, convened by local communities and their chosen representatives, to continue collaboration for implementation of the Rangelands Co-management Plans to realise the rangelands visions. Capacity building for stakeholders and this governance support will address gaps to ensure that communities and stakeholders are well equipped to continue monitoring, data collation, and management of the rangelands as planned. WWF and CFP will continue to engage with the Rangelands Councils over the long-term to support the micro-enterprises, insurance schemes, co-management, and other interventions, and address any new and emerging challenges, e.g. climate change.


The knowledge and communications materials prepared for dissemination of the climate-risk and value-chain recommendations, co-management plans, and enterprise development and marketing model, will be collated and made accessible in a central repository. WWF will also share knowledge and lessons under this project, e.g. scalable rangelands-friendly enterprises, visioning and co-management model, across the Global Snow Leopard and Ecosystem Protection Program (GSLEP) platform with 12 snow leopard range countries. In addition, WWF's other initiatives, e.g. Living with Big Cats, will contribute towards knowledge and lessons sharing over the long-run through internationally accessible online platforms.


WWF and its partners, including cooperatives (e.g. Looms of Ladakh), will be exploring options for blended financing from private and public sectors to address the private sector engagement barrier and make this approach financially viable. This includes encouraging government investment for improving livestock and pashmina sectors, tapping into the growing demand in finance and private sectors for nature-related investments, impact investment, and other green finance solutions for scaling "rangelands-friendly" enterprises.


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

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 [Stage 2 Annexes REF-TOC-MAP](#)

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 pdf 945.46 KB

## Section 7 - Risk Management

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## 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
<p><b>Fiduciary</b></p> <p>Funds are lost or not accounted for through mishandling or fraud, or not spent as per agreed budget. Multiple partner organisations receiving funds adds to the complexity of financial management. Any fraud or misuse of money could lead to failure to complete agreed project activities, reputational risk and donor withdrawal.</p>	Moderate	Unlikely	Moderate	<p>WWF has robust procurement, sub-granting and financial management processes across all of its offices and zero tolerance on fraud and corruption. WWF-country offices conduct proper due diligence of partners. There will be quarterly financial reporting in place for all partners with evidence of procurement and transaction lists, and annual audits.</p>	Minor
<p><b>Safeguarding</b></p> <p>Safeguards measures are not fully implemented by WWF or partners. Insufficient understanding of project staff leads to safeguards and mitigation plans not being fully or only partly implemented. Communities reject the project concept during the FPIC processes.</p>	Major	Unlikely	Moderate	<p>All WWF and partner staff will adhere to and are trained on WWF's Environmental and Social Safeguards Framework; including developing risk mitigation plans, and establishment of locally appropriate grievance mechanisms. Team meetings will support/review progress; alongside monitoring and reporting on compliance by WWF-India's risk &amp; internal audit team.</p>	Minor

<b>Delivery Chain</b>	Partners are unable to deliver according to requisite standards, and/or do not have the financial and/or technical resources for adequate management.	Major	Unlikely	Major	WWF will work closely with partners during the design and implementation, and support capacity and adaptive management through progress and M&E checks, for building requisite financial and technical management capacities.	Minor
<b>Risk 4</b>	Lack of ownership of the project approach by the local communities who are the primary stakeholder will lead to poor implementation and outcomes.	Major	Unlikely	Major	WWF has a long history of collaborative conservation with the communities at both sites. The community-led visioning, co-development and co-implementation of activities will ensure communities have ownership of the project and its approach. Letters of support for this project from local communities indicate enthusiasm to implement this project with WWF.	Minor
<b>Risk 5</b>	Lack of coordination and collaboration across relevant government departments at national and subnational levels.	Major	Possible	Major	WWF and the relevant government departments have a long-standing relationship, especially to ensure buy-in and investment in biodiversity conservation. The focal points from each relevant department will be included in the planning stages from the onset of the project, and will support the enabling conditions for successful implementation.	Minor



### Risk 6

There is no viable market to support rangelands-friendly enterprises for enhancing local livelihoods and protecting biodiversity.

Major

Possible

Major

WWF has assessed that this market exists. The project will collaborate with two pioneering women-led cooperatives, i.e. 'Looms of Ladakh' and 'Its All Folk', who bring in relevant experience and expertise for the sustainable products market sector. Both these local collaborators have provided letters of support for this project.

Minor

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## 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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 [India - BCF-Implementation-Timetable](#)

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 pdf 76.99 KB

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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](#)).

There are various assessments built into the project design for steering implementation, adaptive management, and M&E (e.g. 1.1, 2.8-2.12, 3.1, 3.4, 4.5). A detailed M&E framework, based on the logframe, will be developed upon project approval. As mentioned in the logframe and gender section, the project will ensure indicators are gender disaggregated, and that the project design caters to gender-differentiated needs and considerations.

Monitoring and Data Collection: Baselines, where needed, will be prioritised during the inception phase. Monitoring will involve communities and other stakeholders for data collection and validation to build capacity and ownership of evidence. An independent final project evaluation will inform knowledge sharing on effectiveness of the co-management approach.

At the Outcome level, a participatory evaluation of multi-use, co-management effectiveness of rangelands using Five Principles of Good Governance will be applied at both project sites at the mid and end points of the project implementation. Ecosystem and biodiversity health indicator assessments will also be conducted at the start and end of the project, including Soil Adjusted Vegetation Index and wildlife occupancy surveys. WWF's Well-being Tool will be applied through household surveys at the beginning and end of the project. It includes assessments of human-wildlife conflict and tolerance, livelihoods, and economic stability, which contribute towards indicators at the Outcome and Output levels.

Under Output 1, a survey will assess satisfaction among communities and stakeholders on key parameters (gender dis-aggregated) of representation and participation. Output 2 activities include assessments to monitor the rangelands co-management interventions and pilots, e.g. pre-and-post assessments of vegetation at treatment and control plots, and disaggregated livestock health and mortality data. Output 3 will use a mix of monitoring means, including the Well-being Tool to monitor wildlife tolerance, and data collated through SMART and surveys to assess livestock losses from HWC. The Well-being Tool will assess target households' income utilising gender disaggregated indicators to measure livelihoods impacts under Output 4.

Adaptive Management and Learning: Documentation of Rangelands Councils', government and other stakeholders' meetings will support adaptive management, transparency and accountability between all stakeholders. Engagement with community groups and stakeholders will provide feedback to ascertain satisfaction and grievances, support inclusion, enable co-design of adaptive management solutions, and ensure that grievance redressal mechanisms function. Progress will be gauged against the M&E framework quarterly to support and adapt implementation. Learnings on the marketing model for "rangelands-friendly" micro-enterprises, with market linkages and partnerships, will be shared to facilitate replication across the trans-himalayan rangelands.

Roles and Responsibilities: The key roles, responsibilities, confirmation of resource allocation, agreed formats for data collection and reporting, and fully defined indicators - with corresponding means of verification - will be discussed and finalised at the project inception. The project's M&E will be led by WWF-India's project team on the ground, in collaboration with the local communities' representatives. The WWF-UK's Design and Impact Advisor, with the project team, will support liaison with all implementing partners to support monitoring protocols, results reporting, household wellbeing surveys and feedback channels.

<b>Total project budget for M&amp;E in GBP (this may include Staff, Travel and Subsistence costs)</b>	£ [REDACTED]
<b>Percentage of total project budget set aside for M&amp;E (%)</b>	[REDACTED]
<b>Number of days planned for M&amp;E</b>	253

## Section 10 - Logical Framework

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### Q23. Logical Framework (logframe)

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](#)

The **logframe template** (N.B. there is a different template for Stage 1 and Stage 2) needs to be downloaded from Flexi-Grant, completed and uploaded as a PDF within your Flexi-Grant application – **please do not edit the logframe template structure (other than adding additional Outputs if needed) as this may make your application ineligible.**

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

 [India - BCF-St2-and-Single-Stage-Logical-Fram  
ework](#)  
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 pdf 103.37 KB

#### Impact:

People and wildlife benefit from healthy, co-managed high-altitude rangelands in India's Trans-Himalayas, with secure and sustained ecosystem services and resources, improved human-wildlife coexistence, and enhanced local livelihoods.

#### Outcome:

A scalable, community-led co-management model in Changthang and Mago-Chu improves high-altitude rangelands and biodiversity health across 500,000 hectares, secures the livelihoods of 3,000 pastoralists, and enables human-wildlife coexistence.

#### **Project Outputs**

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##### **Output 1:**

Shared, community-led vision developed for Changthang and Mago-Chu Rangelands, ensuring the inclusion of all local voices, particularly women and marginalised groups, through radical listening and participatory approaches.

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##### **Output 2:**

Multi-stakeholder co-management of rangelands, based on the community-led visions in both regions, contributing to improved ecosystem, livestock, and biodiversity health at pilot sites.

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**Output 3:**

Enhanced tolerance for wildlife in the two target sites, through a combination of preventive and mitigative measures for reducing livestock losses and cost of living with wildlife, improves human-wildlife coexistence.

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**Output 4:**

More than 200 Changpa and Brokpa pastoral households have diversified and augmented income from 'rangelands-friendly' products and micro-enterprises led by women.

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**Output 5:**

*No Response*

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**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.**

Output 1 Activities:

- 1.1 Document traditional ecological knowledge, resource management, and local institutions of the Changpa & Brokpa communities, and examine communities' disposition towards sustainable use of pastures and related natural resources
- 1.2 Conduct participatory appraisal workshops to explore the communities' vision of healthy rangelands, and establish the current reality, the vision, the difference between these, and what is needed to realise the vision
- 1.3 Conduct multi-stakeholder workshops to co-develop 2 vision documents with the Changthang and Mago-Chu communities, ensuring input and endorsement from all, especially women and other marginalised groups
- 1.4 Create 2 multi-stakeholder co-management platforms, i.e. one 'Rangelands Council' each for Changthang and Mago-Chu, for communities, government, non-governmental organisations, and private sector (with 50% communities representatives, of which 50% to be women), to collaborate for delivering on the joint rangelands vision

Output 2 Activities:

- 2.1 Support the regional Rangelands Councils with disseminating the 'Rangelands Vision' and advocating for the policy narrative to recognise the rangelands as unique ecosystems with significant ecological, livelihood and cultural values
- 2.2 Conduct an assessment on climate change impacts on rangelands, pastoral communities (particularly women), pashmina goats and other livestock, and pashmina market, to integrate climate recommendations in the rangelands co-management plans
- 2.3 Conduct two co-design core-capacity development workshops for all stakeholders and actors
- 2.4 Facilitate the Rangelands Councils with development of regional Rangelands Co-management Plans (1 for each region) for joint implementation and realisation of the rangelands visions, through workshops to bring together key stakeholders (including women-led enterprises and groups) for alignment of co-management objectives and actions

- 2.5 Socialise the Rangelands Visions and Co-management Plans among key stakeholders, particularly relevant government departments e.g. Wildlife and Sheep Husbandry, and bodies, e.g. Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council, for an inclusive, participatory approach
- 2.6 Conduct four workshops to strengthen the capacity of community institutions responsible for rangelands, natural resources, and livestock management
- 2.7 Establish pilots of sustainable rangeland management practices under the Co-management Plans at 2 sites, (covering 8 villages & ~140 households in Mago-Chu, and 4 villages & ~ 115 households in Changthang), e.g. revival of traditional grazing practices and adaptive grazing pilots covering at least 1000 hectares each
- 2.8 Conduct participatory evaluation of multi-use, co-management effectiveness of rangelands using IUCN's Five Principles of Good Governance, through focus-group discussions (FGDs) in 14 villages to determine impact of pilots
- 2.9 Conduct ecosystem and biodiversity health indicator assessments, including Soil Adjusted Vegetation Index (SAVI), Greening and Browning Patterns using Landsat and Sentinel Imagery
- 2.10 Conduct occupancy estimates of wild carnivores (using occupancy surveys) and wild ungulates (using double observer surveys)
- 2.11 Assess livestock health and mortality, to determine impacts on overall livestock productivity and disease transmission between domestic and wild ungulates
- 2.12 Assess the recovery of vegetation at pilot sites compared to baseline and control plots

#### Output 3 Activities:

- 3.1 Conduct assessments in both regions with WWF's well-being tool to gauge local attitudes, perceptions and tolerance toward wildlife, and factors driving willingness to coexist with wildlife
- 3.2 Examine the nature and extent of conflicts with wildlife (using SMART), and co-design solutions for conflict with the local communities through 66 FGDs in 21 villages, ensuring participation of women
- 3.3 Finalise and implement human-wildlife conflict mitigation solutions (e.g. compensation and micro-insurance schemes) and preventive solutions pilots (2 in Changthang and 1 in Mago-Chu), e.g. improved corrals, livestock guarding (mountain guardians) and fox lights, with communities across 10 villages
- 3.4 Assess livestock losses from human-wildlife conflict at the pilot sites, using SMART, to determine efficacy of implemented solutions
- 3.5 Facilitate knowledge sharing for replication at scale from existing pilots and best practices in other areas, e.g. in Himachal Pradesh

#### Output 4 Activities:

- 4.1 Conduct training sessions for 200 women and provide material support, e.g. looms, for processing raw pashmina and yak wool, and producing value-added, 'rangelands-friendly' products, through village level sessions with expert trainers
- 4.2 Support establishment of women-led micro-enterprises (2 in Changthang and 1 in Mago-Chu) for 'rangelands-friendly' products, e.g. wool-based or dairy products like goat/yak cheese, including training and equipment provision, to diversify income options
- 4.3 Conduct an end-to-end business and market analysis for rangelands-friendly pashmina and other products, to support value addition and secure market and finance linkages for communities' enterprises
- 4.4 Enable and disseminate learnings on the scalable marketing model for 'rangelands-friendly' micro-enterprises, with market linkages and partnerships, to facilitate replication across the trans-himalayan rangelands
- 4.5 Assess target households' income utilising gender disaggregated indicators to measure livelihood impact from enhanced economic agency of women

## 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 the Lead Partner's accounts at the certification page at the end of the application form.**

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 [BCF-Budget-over-100k-MASTER-Apr22 \(India\)](#)

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## Q25. Funding

Q25a. Is this a new initiative or does it build on existing work (delivered by anyone and funded through any source)?

- New Initiative

### **Please provide details:**

The proposed project is a new initiative but builds on needs identified and lessons from existing work. This includes projects funded by the WWF Network and partners, such as Panthera, and the work conducted by other organisations in the region. WWF-India has built the experience and lessons learnt from these projects, especially the perspectives of local communities, into the design of this proposed project.

Previous WWF projects in Ladakh, where Changthang is located, included a rangelands conservation project funded by Indian corporate donors, such as ICICI Prudential Life Insurance and Woodland. These included reducing livestock losses and mitigating human-wildlife conflicts by developing cheap and effective predator-proof corrals, and improving local livelihoods through homestays, eco-cafes, and handicrafts. Recently, WWF-India implemented a Panthera funded project to research issues around stewardship and management of rangelands.

Likewise, in Arunachal Pradesh, where Mago-Chu is located, our prior work included evaluating the social and ecological impacts of different governance regimes, supporting the development of community conservation areas, and monitoring mammalian wildlife of the high altitude rangelands, supported by multiple Indian corporates and WWF network funds. Currently, WWF is supporting the development of the State Biodiversity and Action Plan for Arunachal Pradesh, which provides opportunities for alignment.

Q25b. 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 project will align and cross-pollinate with relevant rangelands management, human-wildlife conflict management and livelihoods based interventions in the region. The "community visioning approach" and establishment of "rangelands-friendly" enterprises is a new approach by WWF.

'Looms of Ladakh' and Changthang Pashmina Growers Marketing Cooperative Society have been working on developing the skills of local artisans, and finding better value for the pashmina from the region, yet these are not linked to biodiversity conservation. Similarly, Snow Leopard Conservancy India Trust and Snow Leopard Trust have ongoing programs on human-wildlife conflict mitigation and improving local livelihoods. These have provided several useful lessons that WWF has integrated in the proposal.

What distinguishes this project from the ongoing work is the focus on integrating the complex social, ecological, and political dimensions to develop synergies for rangeland conservation, and bringing multiple stakeholders and actors on one common platform, which has not been attempted before. WWF has existing partnerships and collaborations with these institutions that will ensure cooperation and exchange of ideas on a regular basis. In Arunachal Pradesh, given the remoteness of the region and logistical challenges involved, WWF is the only organisation implementing conservation programs currently.

## Q26. Capital items

**If you plan to purchase capital items with Darwin funding, please indicate what you anticipate will happen to the items following project end. If you are requesting more than 10% capital costs, please provide your justification here.**

Capital items to be purchased with Darwin funding include:

- Fly shuttle looms (7), spinning wheels (7), knitting needles, wrapping drums (2) for training women in pashmina and yak-wool related handloom skills, which will be retained by the women groups at the end of the project.
- Foxlights (25), ultrasonic devices (20) will be provided to the nomadic community for preventing human-wildlife conflict and shall remain with the villages.
- Four tablets that will be used for field data collection, pastoral mapping and interviews. Post project, these will remain with the community representatives in the Rangelands Councils to continue monitoring of the co-management sites.

## Q27. Value for Money

**Please demonstrate why your project is good value for money in terms of impact and cost-effectiveness of each pound spend (economy, efficiency, effectiveness and equity). Please make sure you read the guidance documents, before answering this question.**

Within WWF, value for money (VfM) is analysed around the 4E framework (economy, efficiency, effectiveness and equity) to maximise results. These principles are embedded in the WWF Network Operational standards. VfM has been considered in the project design by building on approaches that are

proven to deliver, and weighing the benefits of approaches being taken with others. The budget was constructed with inputs required for implementing each activity and assigning known/estimated cost.

Economy: ensured through WWF's Finance and Operations Standards, programme management systems, and secured match funding. WWF benchmarks salary costs against other organisations to ensure experts are gained at a competitive price. WWF brings more field presence and experience than others; it is the only large organisation currently implementing conservation projects in Arunachal Pradesh (Mago-Chu).

Efficiency: Regular review of results to improve efficiency are core to WWF's approach. This involves regular monitoring of results for adaptive management; and designing interventions for sustainability and scalability, i.e. strengthening local institutions, systems and policies, to deliver both project results and secure their long-term benefits.

Effectiveness: demonstrated through project design based on (i) learning from pilots, established landscape programmes, and communities' and local partner knowledge; (ii) robust monitoring systems to evidence results and guide adaptive management; (iii) community needs-based capacity and equipment provision.

Equity: ensuring (i) interventions are community-owned, through collaborative design and delivery approaches; (ii) fair, consensus-driven capacity and equipment provision; (iii) natural resources are managed for future generations. Equity is embedded in WWF's social, gender, and indigenous people's policies.

## Section 12 - Safeguarding and Ethics

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### Q28. 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 all 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 and strengthen your safeguarding policies in practice and ensure that all partners apply the same standards as the Lead Partner. If any of the responses are “no”, please indicate how it is being addressed.**

The WWF Network has an Environmental and Social Safeguards Framework (ESSF) that ensures that internationally recognised best practices govern all projects. It encompasses: child safeguarding & protection of rights; poverty & conservation; gender; indigenous people; human rights; grievance redressal. The project partners have agreed to adhere to the ESSF and other standards, and WWF-India will undertake local ESSF monitoring and reporting on compliance. We will incorporate FPIC processes with communities during the first six months of the project.

## **Q29. Ethics**

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

WWF’s Environmental and Social Safeguards Framework mandates the following, per Darwin’s guidance:

Access and benefit sharing: Through inclusive planning processes involving local communities, any change to access rights will be negotiated with rights holders.

Participation: WWF-India has met with stakeholder representatives for initial planning; this will continue for project planning, with an emphasis on women, rights holders and vulnerable groups. Locally appropriate grievance mechanisms will be in place.

Consent: The rights of community members to be consulted, photographed, quoted or to participate in monitoring are part of WWF’s guidance documents. FPIC is one of our mandatory Standards, the principles of which underpin all our stakeholder engagement.

WWF Code of Ethics: Our staff, partners and consultants are bound by this.

Human Rights: WWF is a founding member of the Conservation Initiative on Human Rights and is active in updating the framework. Any potential human rights risks are mitigated through proper analysis with stake/rights-holders and vulnerabilities, ensuring meaningful and inclusive engagement and project co-development, and by ensuring that support for capacity assessments, appropriate training and explicit conditionalities on respect for human rights and dignity.

## **Section 13 - FCDO Notifications**

### **Q30. 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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### Q31. 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?
Nicola Loweth	<b>Project Leader</b>	10	Checked
Deborah Mackay	Finance grant manager	15	Checked
Rishi Sharma	Project implementation leader (in country) & technical advisor	50	Checked
Pijush Dutta	Community-based conservation approach expert - Arunachal (Mago-Chu) & Ladakh (Changthang)	30	Checked

Do you require more fields?





Yes

Name (First name, Surname)	Role	% time on project	1 page CV or job description attached?
Kamal Medhi	Lead and implement the project in Arunachal Pradesh	25	Checked

Bedango Kotoki	Lead the community visioning and development of co-management plans in Arunachal Pradesh	100	Checked
Project Officer (TBH)	Lead and implement the biodiversity assessments and monitoring & HWC mitigation in Arunachal Pradesh	100	Checked
Rohit Rattan	Lead and implement the project in Ladakh	75	Checked
Tsewang Rigzin	Project Officer- field data collection, implementation of livelihood interventions and liasoning with the communities in Changthang being a member of the same community- Ladakh	100	Checked
Project Officer (TBH)	Lead the community visioning and development of co-management plans in Ladakh	100	Checked
Project Officer (TBH)	Lead and implement the biodiversity assessments and monitoring & HWC mitigation in Ladakh	100	Checked
Anirrudh Sheth (CfP)	Project Lead - Coordination and Management	30	Checked

**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.**

 Combined CVs\_India Darwin  
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 pdf 2.21 MB

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

Yes

## Section 15 - Project Partners

### Q32. 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.

<b>Lead partner name:</b>	WWF-UK
<b>Website address:</b>	www.wwf.org.uk
<b>Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):</b>	<p>WWF-UK has worked in close collaboration with WWF-India to co-develop this proposal and will continue to provide support throughout implementation. Supporting WWF-India, who will be leading the project implementation in the region, WWF-UK will be responsible for overall programme, financial and quality assurance management for the project; ensuring that financial, monitoring, evaluation, accountability, learning, safeguarding, and project outcomes are achieved.</p> <p>Key roles include a project lead, responsible for overall accountability at 10% time, an M&amp;E advisor (5%) and a finance grant specialist at 15%.</p>
<b>Allocated budget (proportion or value):</b>	£ [REDACTED]
<b>Represented on the Project Board</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes
<b>Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes
<b>Have you provided a cover letter to address your Stage 1 feedback?</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes
<b>Do you have partners involved in the Project?</b>	
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	
<b>1. Partner Name:</b>	WWF-India
<b>Website address:</b>	www.wwfindia.org

WWF-India will implement the development of community vision of rangelands management, implement solutions for mitigating human wildlife conflicts and conduct ecological assessments of rangeland health and wildlife populations. More than fifteen years of working closely with the local communities in both the regions puts WWF India in a unique position to lead the implementation of this project. WWF has hands-on experience in the community based conservation approaches in the Eastern Himalaya where we successfully helped communities establish 12 community conservation areas.

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

WWF-India also has excellent expertise in biodiversity assessments, especially high altitude wildlife species. The Government of India has included WWF as the technical-knowledge partner for the National Snow Leopard and Mountain Ungulate Assessment of India. Overall significant capability also exists for mitigating human-wildlife conflicts with several decades of experience in multiple ecosystems, including Himalayas. WWF-India developed a Human-Wildlife Conflict mitigation strategy for the Western Himalayas as the lead technical agency in a National Project of the Ministry of Environment Forests and Climate Change, UNDP and two state governments in 2021.

WWF also has field offices at both the project locations with teams of coordination and technical staff.

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**Allocated budget:**

£ [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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**2. Partner Name:** Centre for Pastoralism (Sahjeevan)

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

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

The Centre for Pastoralism (CfP) will focus on mapping pastoral routes and landscapes, baseline studies on the pastoral economy, value chain and livelihoods and community and stakeholder consultations across various themes. The CfP is a Sahjeevan ([www.sahjeevan.org](http://www.sahjeevan.org)) initiative that works across India on research, livelihoods and the Forest Rights Act. Sahjeevan has three decades of experience working on biodiversity conservation, livelihoods and Pastoralism.

The CfP works with partners and stakeholders across India towards research and advocacy related to pastoral livelihoods and access to pastures. Their work so far has produced high quality data that has resulted in successful access to pastures claims, representation of pastoral mobility and addressing the misconceptions regarding grasslands and pastoralism contributing towards degradation and inefficient contributions towards global climate goals. CfP has worked with WWF-India in the past on mitigating the snow leopard-herder conflict in the Western Himalayas and brings complimentary skills for the project.

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**Allocated budget:** £ [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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**3. Partner Name:** *No Response*

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**Website address:** *No Response*

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

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**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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**4. Partner Name:** *No Response*

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**Website address:** *No Response*

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

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**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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**5. Partner Name:** *No Response*

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**Website address:** *No Response*

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

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**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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**6. Partner Name:** *No Response*

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**Website address:** *No Response*

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

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**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.**


 [Darwin Stage 2 Cover Letter India](#)


 10/12/2022


 15:07:59

 pdf 164.06 KB

 [Combined Letters of Support Darwin India2](#)

 10/12/2022

 15:06:59

 pdf 4.2 MB

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## Section 16 - Lead Partner Capability and Capacity

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### Q33. Lead Partner Capability and Capacity

**Has your organisation been awarded Darwin Initiative, Darwin Plus or Illegal Wildlife Trade Challenge Fund funding before (for the purposes of this question, being a partner does not count)?**

Yes

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

Reference No	Project Leader	Title
IWT106	WWF-UK	IWT-CF: Reducing IWT through community-led conservation in a transboundary landscape
29-022	WWF-UK	Darwin Initiative:Community-led fisheries management in the Mara Wetlands, Tanzania
DARNV008	WWF-UK	Sound Of Safety: Testing Pingers for River Dolphins and Fishers
Darwin - 14-013	WWF-UK	Community Management of NTFPs in Kangchenjunga Conservation Area, Nepal
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>

**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

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### Certification

**On behalf of the**

Trustees

**of**

WWF-UK

**I apply for a grant of**





£583,995.00

**I certify that, to the best of our knowledge and belief, the statements made by us in this application are true and the information provided is correct. I am aware that this application form will form the basis of the project schedule should this application be successful.**









(This form should be signed by an individual authorised by the applicant institution to submit applications and sign contracts on their behalf.)

- I have enclosed CVs for project key project personnel, cover letter, letters of support, a 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

<b>Name</b>	Kate Akhtar
<b>Position in the organisation</b>	Director of Public Sector Partnerships, WWF-UK
<b>Signature (please upload e-signature)</b>	 <a href="#">Kate's e-sig</a>  10/12/2022  15:11:38  jpg 18.43 KB
<b>Date</b>	10 December 2022

**Please attach the requested signed audited/independently examined accounts.**

 <a href="#">WWF-UK Annual Report and Financial Statements 2020-21_web</a>  10/12/2022  15:12:14  pdf 2 MB	 <a href="#">WWF-UK Annual Report and Financial Statements 2019-20</a>  10/12/2022  15:12:04  pdf 1.55 MB
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**Please upload the Lead Partner's Safeguarding Policy as a PDF**

 <a href="#">WWF UK Safeguarding Policy September 2022 - internal</a>  10/12/2022  15:12:31  pdf 223.57 KB	 <a href="#">WWF UK Safeguarding Code of Conduct - September 2022</a>  10/12/2022  15:12:26  pdf 110.03 KB
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## Section 18 - Submission Checklist

### 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 attached the below documents to my application</b>	
• <b>my completed logframe as a PDF using the template provided</b>	Checked
• <b>my budget (which meets the requirements above)</b>	Checked
• <b>my completed implementation timetable as a PDF using the template provided</b>	Checked
<b>I have included a 1 page CV or job description for all the Project Staff identified at Question 31, 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 32, or an explanation of why not.</b>	Checked
<b>I have included a cover letter from the Lead Partner, outlining how any feedback received at Stage 1 has been addressed where relevant.</b>	Checked
<b>I have included a copy of the Lead Partner’s safeguarding policy, which covers the criteria listed in Question 28.</b>	Checked
<b>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.</b>	Checked
<b>I have included a signed copy of the last 2 annual report and accounts for the Lead Partner, or provided an explanation if not.</b>	Checked
<b>I have checked the Darwin Initiative website immediately prior to submission to ensure there are no late updates.</b>	Checked
<b>I have read and understood the Privacy Notice on the Darwin Initiative website.</b>	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).

Project Title: **Reviving Trans-Himalayan Rangelands: A community-led vision for people and nature**

	Activity	No. of months	Year 1 (23/24)				Year 2 (24/25)				Year 3 (25/26)			
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Output 1	Shared, community-led vision developed for Changthang and Mago-Chu Rangelands													
1.1	Document traditional ecological knowledge, resource management, and local institutions	12	■	■	■	■								
1.2	Conduct participatory appraisal workshops to explore the communities' vision of healthy rangelands	12	■	■			■	■						
1.3	Conduct multi-stakeholder workshops to co-develop 2 vision documents	12			■	■			■	■				
1.4	Create two multi-stakeholder co-management platforms, i.e. one 'Rangelands Council' each for Changthang and Mago-Chu	9					■		■	■				
Output 2	Multi-stakeholder co-management of rangelands, based on the community-led visions													
2.1	Support the regional Rangelands Councils with disseminating the 'Rangelands Vision	18							■	■	■	■	■	■
2.2	Conduct an assessment on climate change impacts and integrate recommendations in the management plan	12			■	■	■	■						
2.3	Conduct two co-design core-capacity development workshops for stakeholders	12			■	■	■	■						
2.4	Facilitate the Rangelands Councils with development of 2 regional Rangelands Co-management Plans for co-implementation	9					■		■	■				
2.5	Socialise the Rangelands Visions and Co-management Plans among key stakeholders	18							■	■	■	■	■	■
2.6	Conduct four workshops to strengthen the capacity of community institutions	18			■	■	■	■	■	■				
2.7	Establish pilots of sustainable rangeland management practices under the Co-management Plans at two sites	24					■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
2.8	Conduct participatory evaluation of multi-use, co-management effectiveness of rangelands	6											■	■
2.9	Conduct ecosystem and biodiversity health indicator assessments	6	■	■									■	■
2.10	Conduct occupancy estimates of wild carnivores and ungulates	12	■	■	■	■								
2.11	Assess livestock health and mortality	6	■	■										

Project Title: **Reviving Trans-Himalayan Rangelands: A community-led vision for people and nature**

	Activity	No. of months	Year 1 (23/24)				Year 2 (24/25)				Year 3 (25/26)			
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
2.12	Assess the recovery of vegetation at pilot sites compared to baseline and control plots	12												
Output 3	Enhanced tolerance of community towards wildlife													
3.1	Conduct assessments in both regions with WWF's well-being tool	12												
3.2	Examine the nature and extent of conflicts with wildlife (using SMART), and co-design solutions for conflict with communities	30												
3.3	Finalise and implement human-wildlife conflict solutions	36												
3.4	Assess livestock losses from human-wildlife conflict at the pilot sites	6												
3.5	Facilitate knowledge sharing for replication at scale	18												
Output 4	Changpa and Brokpa pastoral households have diversified and augmented income from 'rangelands-friendly' products and micro-enterprises													
4.1	Conduct training sessions for 200 women and provide material support for rangelands-friendly wool-based products	30												
4.2	Support establishment of women-led micro-enterprises (2 in Changthang and 1 in Mago-Chu) for 'rangelands-friendly' products	24												
4.3	Conduct an end-to-end business and market analysis for rangelands-friendly pashmina and other products	15												
4.4	Enable and disseminate learnings on the scalable marketing model for 'rangelands-friendly' micro-enterprises	15												
4.5	Assess target households' income utilising gender disaggregated indicators	6												

Project Title: **Reviving Trans-Himalayan Rangelands: A community-led vision for people and nature**

Project Summary	SMART Indicators	Means of Verification	Important Assumptions
<p><b>Impact:</b> People and wildlife benefit from healthy, co-managed high-altitude rangelands in India's Trans-Himalayas, with secure and sustained ecosystem services and resources, improved human-wildlife coexistence, and enhanced local livelihoods.</p>			
<p><b>Outcome:</b> A scalable, community-led co-management model in Changthang and Mago-Chu improves high-altitude rangelands and biodiversity health across 500,000 hectares, secures the livelihoods of 3,000 pastoralists, and enables human-wildlife coexistence.</p>	<p>0.1 By Year 2, an effective, equitable, and scalable high-altitude rangelands co-management model is adopted in 2 regions of the Indian Trans-Himalayas, protecting multi-use rangelands.</p> <p>0.2 By Year 2 approximately 300,000 hectares, and Year 3 approximately 500,000 hectares of high-altitude rangelands in the two target regions are being co-managed.</p> <p>0.3 At the end of Year 3, the co-managed rangelands demonstrate measurable improvements in ecosystem and biodiversity health. (compared to baselines at start)</p> <p>0.4 At the end of Year 3, approximately 550 pastoralist households in the target sites have improved livelihoods security and tolerance for coexistence with wildlife. (compared to baselines at start)</p>	<p>0.1 Report on Participatory Evaluation, based on IUCN's Five Principles of Good Governance<sup>1</sup>, of co-management effectiveness in the target rangelands.</p> <p>0.2 Signed multi-stakeholder agreements, indicating areas under co-management, mapped using Google Earth.</p> <p>0.3 Reports on ecosystem and biodiversity health indicator assessments, at the start and end of the project, including metrics such as Soil Adjusted Vegetation Index (SAVI)<sup>2</sup>, Greening and Browning Patterns using Landsat and Sentinel Imagery (compared to a 2020 assessment), occupancy estimates of wild carnivores (using occupancy surveys<sup>3</sup>) and wild ungulates (using double observer surveys<sup>4,5</sup>).</p> <p>0.4 Report generated from Well-being Tool household surveys at the beginning and end of the project</p>	<p>Co-management leads to convergence of objectives, improved governance, more sustainable resource use, lower pressure from livestock, and consequently improves the health of rangeland ecosystems and biodiversity.</p> <p>All sectors and stakeholders are willing to co-manage the high-altitude rangelands to improve ecosystem health and biodiversity (as demonstrated by participation in the 'Rangelands Councils' and implementation of the co-management plans). A precedent exists in landscape-level management planning mandated by the Government of India's Project Snow Leopard.</p> <p>There are no significant external shocks in the regions, e.g. due to climate induced events, that negatively impact rangelands and pastoralists.</p>

**Project Title: Reviving Trans-Himalayan Rangelands: A community-led vision for people and nature**

	<p><b>Note:</b> All relevant indicators will be disaggregated by gender, age, social group, etc. for measuring poverty reduction and economic security impact holistically</p>	<p>(note: WWF's Well-being Tool is adaptable to project needs, assessments for this project will include wildlife conflict and tolerance, stewardship, livelihoods and economic stability).</p>	
<p><b>Outputs:</b> 1. Shared, community-led vision developed for Changthang and Mago-Chu Rangelands, ensuring the inclusion of all local voices, particularly women and marginalised groups, through radical listening and participatory approaches.</p>	<p>1.1 Two vision documents prepared and endorsed by the community representatives from the Changthang and Mago-Chu regions, by the end of Year 1.</p> <p>1.2 Two multi-stakeholder 'Rangelands Councils' formed in Year 1, one each for Changthang and Mago-Chu, bringing together communities, non-governmental organisations, government departments, and private sector on one platform (at least 50% communities' representation, and around 50% of these to be women).</p> <p>1.3 Percentage of community members across all groups, particularly women and marginalised groups, that express satisfaction about their participation in the design and decision-making of the rangelands vision documents, by Year 2.</p>	<p>1.1 Two vision documents signed by the community representatives from both sites; Minutes of community meetings.</p> <p>1.2 Membership lists of rangelands councils, attendance sheets and minutes of the consortium meetings.</p> <p>1.3 Questionnaire to assess satisfaction among local communities (women, men, and marginalised groups) on key parameters of representation and participation, including gender-differentiated forms of participation (quantity and quality) in decision-making processes; needs, demands and priorities expressed by men, women and marginalised groups; gender-differentiated biodiversity and resource access, control, and use, gendered knowledge acquisition and usage; differences in project</p>	<p>An inclusive, community-led vision and management of rangelands, accepted and facilitated by the Government and other key stakeholders, will enhance community stewardship for rangelands and bring convergence across diverse stakeholders' groups.</p> <p>Participation of women and marginalised groups will lead to their perspectives and concerns reflected in the vision documents.</p> <p>Government departments and other stakeholders welcome the empowerment of communities and co-management of rangelands.</p>



Project Title: **Reviving Trans-Himalayan Rangelands: A community-led vision for people and nature**

		related participation, benefits, outcomes and impacts between men and women; the effect of differences on project outcomes.	
<p><b>2. Multi-stakeholder co-management of rangelands, based on the community-led visions in both regions, contributing to improved ecosystem, livestock, and biodiversity health at pilot sites.</b></p>	<p>2.1 Convergence and alignment of rangeland management objectives and actions of key stakeholders around 'community vision of rangelands management' for establishing effective and scalable co-management of rangelands, by Year 2.</p> <p>2.2 Two regional rangelands co-management plans prepared for joint implementation by communities, government, and non-government organisations, by Year 2.</p> <p>2.3 On-ground sustainable rangeland management pilots at 2 sites (covering 8 villages &amp; ~140 households in Mago-Chu, and 4 villages &amp; ~115 households in Changthang), e.g. revival of traditional grazing practices and adaptive grazing pilots, by Year 3.</p> <p>2.4 Improved livestock health and reduced mortality, that improves overall livestock</p>	<p>2.1 Formal signed agreements between multiple stakeholders endorsing a community-led, shared vision of rangeland management, and alignment of objectives and actions across various groups and sectors; Minutes of meetings.</p> <p>2.2 The two regional co-management plan documents, one each for Changthang and Mago-Chu, outline stakeholder roles for the implementation of pilots and plans and area under co-management.</p> <p>2.3 Progress and M&amp;E reports and communications material from pilots, for dissemination of lessons for replication and scaling up.</p> <p>2.4 Disaggregated livestock health and mortality data from predation, disease, and natural events.</p>	<p>Multi-stakeholder agreements bring convergence across diverse stakeholders towards achieving a shared rangelands vision; similar to and in alignment with the mandate for convergence of objectives of different agencies under 'Project Snow Leopard' of the Government of India.</p> <p>Local communities and different stakeholders recognize the value of effective management of rangelands and conserving rangeland biodiversity, for long-term sustenance of local livelihoods and livestock-based economy, and hold greater value for rangelands and thus continue to contribute toward sustainable management of rangelands over the long term.</p> <p>Government agencies are open to listening to the voice of rangeland communities and building upon these to support co-management.</p>

Project Title: **Reviving Trans-Himalayan Rangelands: A community-led vision for people and nature**

	<p>productivity and reduces disease transmission between domestic and wild ungulates, by Year 3. (compared to baselines at start)</p> <p>2.5 Recovery of vegetation at pilot sites by Year 3. (compared to baseline and control plots)</p>	<p>2.5 Pre-and-Post assessment of vegetation at treatment and control plots.</p>	
<p><b>3. Enhanced tolerance for wildlife in the two target sites, through a combination of preventive and mitigative measures for reducing livestock losses and cost of living with wildlife, improves human-wildlife coexistence.</b></p>	<p>3.1 Community tolerance for wildlife improved, in both target regions, by at least 50% by Year 2, and 75% by Year 3. (compared to baseline at start)</p> <p>3.2 Community endorsed and co-designed mitigation measures, e.g., compensation and insurance schemes, initiated in both regions, by Year 2.</p> <p>3.3 Livestock losses from human-wildlife conflict reduced by at least 50% at three pilot sites (2 in Changthang and 1 in Mago-Chu), through co-designed prevention measures, e.g. better corrals and herding practices, by Year 3. (baseline: 6-8% of livestock mortality is caused by wild carnivores, i.e. GBP 170 per household annually; specific baseline for</p>	<p>3.1 Quantitative and qualitative pre-and-post assessment of people's tolerance towards wildlife at both the project sites as part of the Well-being Tool's surveys (mentioned under Outcome indicators).</p> <p>3.2 Evaluation reports of the effectiveness of mitigative measures, e.g. number of pastoralists covered by insurance schemes.</p> <p>3.3 Quantitative assessment of livestock losses pre-and-post preventive pilots, using Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool (SMART) and surveys.</p>	<p>Reduced human-wildlife conflict will improve livelihoods security for local communities and improve tolerance of wildlife (including reduced retaliatory killing of species such as snow leopards), contributing to enhanced biodiversity and ecosystem health.</p>

Project Title: **Reviving Trans-Himalayan Rangelands: A community-led vision for people and nature**

	target households will be established at project start)		
<p><b>4.</b> More than 200 Changpa and Brokpa pastoral households have diversified and augmented income from 'rangelands-friendly' products and micro-enterprises led by women.</p>	<p>4.1 Approximately 30% increase in 200 households' income by Year 3. (baseline: monthly HH income is ~GBP 200 for these 2 regions; specific baseline for the target households will be established at project start)</p> <p>4.2 Around 200 women trained and equipped for processing raw pashmina and yak wool, and producing value-added, 'rangelands-friendly' products, by Year 2.</p> <p>4.3 Three women-led 'rangelands-friendly' micro-enterprises, e.g. for wool-based and dairy products, established (2 in Changthang and 1 in Mago-Chu), to diversify income opportunities for approximately 200 households, by Year 3.</p> <p>4.4 A scalable marketing model for 'rangelands-friendly' micro-enterprises, with linkages and partnerships based on a market analysis, is in place by Year 3.</p>	<p>4.1 Pre-and-post assessments (HH surveys) of change in income amount and sources attributable to project interventions (part of the Well-being Tool's surveys mentioned under Outcome indicators).</p> <p>4.2 Training reports and records for community consultations on equipment needs (types and numbers to be ascertained for each village with partners); subsequent receipts of equipment provision.</p> <p>4.3 Registration documents and annual reports of the micro-enterprises; training and equipment provision records.</p> <p>4.4 Market analysis report, marketing plan, partnerships established, sales orders received and fulfilled.</p>	<p>Support for improved processing of pashmina and yak-hair based handicrafts and establishing micro-enterprises that are labelled 'rangelands-friendly' will improve incomes for the local communities and contribute towards biodiversity stewardship. WWF has evidence that a market for such products exists, e.g. snow leopard enterprises</p> <p>Women will see greater access to cash from income generation.</p> <p>There are no external shocks to the cashmere/pashmina market that impact demand and potential growth in the sustainable/responsible wool and other livestock products sector.</p>

## Project Title: **Reviving Trans-Himalayan Rangelands: A community-led vision for people and nature**

### **Activities**

#### Output 1 Activities:

- 1.1 Document traditional ecological knowledge, resource management, and local institutions of the Changpa & Brokpa communities, and examine communities' disposition towards sustainable use of pastures and related natural resources
- 1.2 Conduct participatory appraisal workshops to explore the communities' vision of healthy rangelands, and establish the current reality, the vision, the difference between these, and what is needed to realise the vision
- 1.3 Conduct multi-stakeholder workshops to co-develop 2 vision documents with the Changthang and Mago-Chu communities, ensuring input and endorsement from all, especially women and other marginalised groups
- 1.4 Create 2 multi-stakeholder co-management platforms, i.e. one 'Rangelands Council' each for Changthang and Mago-Chu, for communities, government, non-governmental organisations, and private sector (with 50% communities representatives, of which 50% to be women), to collaborate for delivering on the joint rangelands vision

#### Output 2 Activities:

- 2.1 Support the regional Rangelands Councils with disseminating the 'Rangelands Vision' and advocating for the policy narrative to recognise the rangelands as unique ecosystems with significant ecological, livelihood and cultural values
- 2.2 Conduct an assessment on climate change impacts on rangelands, pastoral communities (particularly women), pashmina goats and other livestock, and pashmina market, to integrate climate recommendations in the rangelands co-management plans
- 2.3 Conduct two co-design core-capacity development workshops for all stakeholders and actors
- 2.4 Facilitate the Rangelands Councils with development of regional Rangelands Co-management Plans (1 for each region) for joint implementation and realisation of the rangelands visions, through workshops to bring together key stakeholders (including women-led enterprises and groups) for alignment of co-management objectives and actions
- 2.5 Socialise the Rangelands Visions and Co-management Plans among key stakeholders, particularly relevant government departments e.g. Wildlife and Sheep Husbandry, and bodies, e.g. Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council, for an inclusive, participatory approach
- 2.6 Conduct four workshops to strengthen the capacity of community institutions responsible for rangelands, natural resources, and livestock management
- 2.7 Establish pilots of sustainable rangeland management practices under the Co-management Plans at 2 sites, (covering 8 villages & ~140 households in Mago-Chu, and 4 villages & ~ 115 households in Changthang), e.g. revival of traditional grazing practices and adaptive grazing pilots covering at least 1000 hectares each
- 2.8 Conduct participatory evaluation of multi-use, co-management effectiveness of rangelands using IUCN's Five Principles of Good Governance, through focus-group discussions (FGDs) in 14 villages to determine impact of pilots

## Project Title: **Reviving Trans-Himalayan Rangelands: A community-led vision for people and nature**

- 2.9 Conduct ecosystem and biodiversity health indicator assessments, including Soil Adjusted Vegetation Index (SAVI), Greening and Browning Patterns using Landsat and Sentinel Imagery
- 2.10 Conduct occupancy estimates of wild carnivores (using occupancy surveys) and wild ungulates (using double observer surveys)
- 2.11 Assess livestock health and mortality, to determine impacts on overall livestock productivity and disease transmission between domestic and wild ungulates
- 2.12 Assess the recovery of vegetation at pilot sites compared to baseline and control plots

### Output 3 Activities:

- 3.1 Conduct assessments in both regions with WWF's well-being tool to gauge local attitudes, perceptions and tolerance toward wildlife, and factors driving willingness to coexist with wildlife
- 3.2 Examine the nature and extent of conflicts with wildlife (using SMART), and co-design solutions for conflict with the local communities through 66 FGDs in 21 villages, ensuring participation of women
- 3.3 Finalise and implement human-wildlife conflict mitigation solutions (e.g. compensation and micro-insurance schemes) and preventive solutions pilots (2 in Changthang and 1 in Mago-Chu), e.g. improved corrals, livestock guarding (mountain guardians) and fox lights, with communities across 10 villages
- 3.4 Assess livestock losses from human-wildlife conflict at the pilot sites, using SMART, to determine efficacy of implemented solutions
- 3.5 Facilitate knowledge sharing for replication at scale from existing pilots and best practices in other areas, e.g. in Himachal Pradesh

### Output 4 Activities:

- 4.1 Conduct training sessions for 200 women and provide material support, e.g. looms, for processing raw pashmina and yak wool, and producing value-added, 'rangelands-friendly' products, through village level sessions with expert trainers
- 4.2 Support establishment of women-led micro-enterprises (2 in Changthang and 1 in Mago-Chu) for 'rangelands-friendly' products, e.g. wool-based or dairy products like goat/yak cheese, including training and equipment provision, to diversify income options
- 4.3 Conduct an end-to-end business and market analysis for rangelands-friendly pashmina and other products, to support value addition and secure market and finance linkages for communities' enterprises
- 4.4 Enable and disseminate learnings on the scalable marketing model for 'rangelands-friendly' micro-enterprises, with market linkages and partnerships, to facilitate replication across the trans-himalayan rangelands
- 4.5 Assess target households' income utilising gender disaggregated indicators to measure livelihood impact from enhanced economic agency of women