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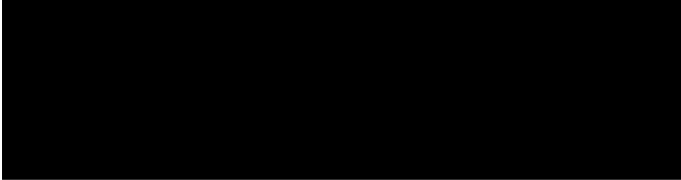
Mainstreaming livelihoods, health, poverty, and wellbeing into EDGE species conservation

We will increase the capability of early-career conservationists outside high-income countries to conduct successful conservation projects that reduce poverty and increasing wellbeing. To do this, we will co-develop a new livelihoods, health, poverty and wellbeing in conservation (LHPWC) training module. We will deliver the module to 24 EDGE Fellowship awardees, provide two years of close mentorship to aid Fellows in achieving objectives related to LHPWC, and disseminate the training materials to an additional 361 conservationists worldwide.

Section 1 - Contact Details

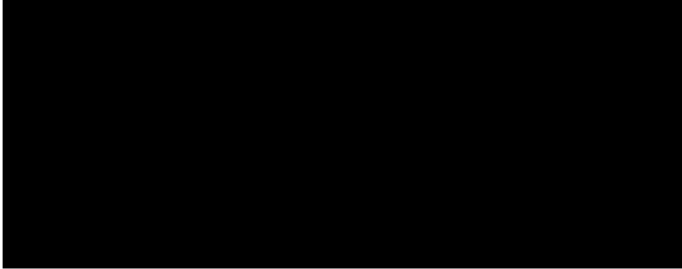
PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

Name Jasmine
Surname Pearson
Organisation The Zoological Society of London



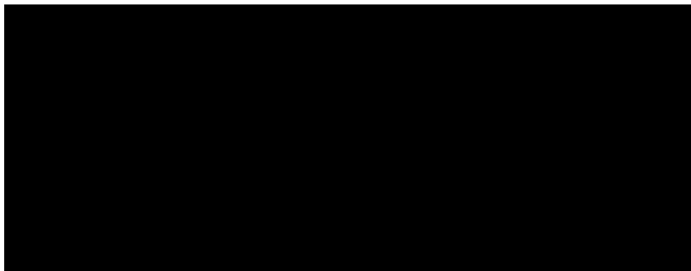
CONTACT DETAILS

Title Mr
Name Paul
Surname Barnes
Organisation The Zoological Society of London



CONTACT DETAILS

Title Ms
Name Olivia
Surname Couchman
Organisation The Zoological Society of London



GMS ORGANISATION

Type Organisation

Name The Zoological Society of London



Section 2 - Title & Summary

Q3. Title:

Mainstreaming livelihoods, health, poverty, and wellbeing into EDGE species conservation

Q4. Summary

Please provide a brief summary of your project, its aims, and the key activities you plan on undertaking. Please note that if you are successful, this wording may be used by Defra in communications e.g. as a short description of the project on the website.

Please write this summary for a non-technical audience.

We will increase the capability of early-career conservationists outside high-income countries to conduct successful conservation projects that reduce poverty and increasing wellbeing. To do this, we will co-develop a new livelihoods, health, poverty and wellbeing in conservation (LHPWC) training module. We will deliver the module to 24 EDGE Fellowship awardees, provide two years of close mentorship to aid Fellows in achieving objectives related to LHPWC, and disseminate the training materials to an additional 361 conservationists worldwide.

Section 3 - Title, Dates & Budget Summary

Q5. Project 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	Nepal	Country 2	India
Country 3	Sri Lanka	Country 4	Malaysia

Do you require more fields?

Yes

Country 5	Philippines	Country 6	No Response
Country 7	No Response	Country 8	No Response

Q6. Project dates

Start date:

20 April 2022

End date:

31 March 2024

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

1 year, 11 months

Q7. Budget summary

Year:	2022/23	2023/24	Total request
Amount:	£76,183.00	£80,090.00	£ 156,273.00

Q8. Proportion of Darwin Initiative budget expected to be expended in eligible countries: %

Q9a. Do you have matched funding arrangements?

Yes

What matched funding arrangements are proposed?

We are providing of the project total in matched funding, with of matched funding in year one confirmed. The Darwin Initiative support would focus exclusively on the development, delivery, and implementation of the LHPWC aspect of the programme, complementing the existing social, ecological, and leadership training already in place and funded by other donors. The donors providing the matched funding are long established relationships with funds are formalised in grant agreements. We are confident that the unconfirmed matched funding will be secured through 2022/23. This programme has successfully secured funding for annual cohorts of EDGE Fellows for the last 14 years.

Q9b. Total confirmed & unconfirmed matched funding (£)

Q9c. If you have a significant amount of unconfirmed matched funding, please clarify how you will fund the project if you don't manage to secure this?

We are confident in our ability to raise the matched funding required. Having delivered the EDGE Fellowship for almost fifteen years, ZSL has strong relationships with a good number of funders. For example, Fondation Segré has supported our work over the last six years, and we are in conversation with both Fondation Segré and Fondation Franklinia about submitting new proposals. We can also approach On The EDGE Conservation who have supported the programme over the last five years. ZSL is committed to the future of the EDGE Fellowship and will dedicate fundraising resources to ensure the required funding is secured.

Section 4 - Project need

Q10. The need that the project is trying to address

Please describe evidence of the capability and capacity need your project is trying to address with reference to biodiversity conservation and poverty reduction. For example, how have you identified the need? Why should the need be addressed or what will be the value to the country?

Please cite the evidence you are using to support your assessment of the need (references can be listed in a separate

attached PDF document).

This project addresses a shortfall in the capability and capacity of early-career conservationists from outside high-income countries to implement successful and effective poverty-biodiversity projects in their home countries.

The EDGE of Existence Programme has been running for nearly 15 years. In this time, it has supported 121 Fellowships lasting 28-months each across nine lower-, 14 lower-middle-, and 17 upper-middle-income countries. The programme's priorities are in-country capacity building and the conservation of Evolutionarily Distinct and Globally Endangered (EDGE) species with low conservation attention. EDGE Fellowship awardees (Fellows) typically work in biodiverse areas where resident Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs) have a high dependence on natural resources, and are disproportionately vulnerable to issues such as biodiversity loss, climate change, environmental policy, and land grabs (Fairhead et al., 2012; Kumar and Yashiro, 2014).

Evidence from the literature and our post-fellowship evaluations show that early-career conservationists lack capability and capacity in the social sciences, primarily due to their academic background, formal training, and their host organisation's priorities (Fox et al., 2006; Bennett et al., 2016; O'Connell et al., 2017). This deficit leaves them ill-equipped to deal with the multidisciplinary requirements of implementing effective and successful conservation projects in their home countries necessarily situated at the poverty-biodiversity nexus. In response, the EDGE Programme employed a Social Dimensions Specialist in 2018. Additionally, we now provide training on conservation history, international policies relevant to IPLCs, social research ethics, and a suite of technical sessions on project design, data collection, analysis, and fieldcraft for the social sciences.

This project builds on this foundational material with a new module on livelihoods, health, poverty, and wellbeing explicitly designed to fit within the context of biodiversity conservation. This training will enable future Fellows to understand better and successfully implement a greater proportion of their project activities on LHPWC. To our knowledge no other Fellowship scheme offers this unique combination of training targeted at early-career conservationists outside high-income countries. Our long-term aim is to equip Fellows with the skills, knowledge, and contacts to become future Darwin Initiative grantees.

The Fellowship model within which this project is embedded creates value in-country by equipping Fellows with the skills they need to implement effective and successful poverty-biodiversity projects. The Fellows are the immediate in-country benefactors, but the project will further achieve value and scale in several ways:

- 1) Fellows undertake their Fellowships concurrent with their existing professions, which constitute a broad range of public and third sector organisations (e.g., 47% of Fellows work in NGOs, 44% in research institutions, 6% in governments and 3% in zoos/aquariums). Our experience shows that Fellows cascade training to colleagues and peers in these partner organisations, ensuring that the training has a wider impact beyond the individual Fellow.
- 2) Successful Fellows often move into higher positions with greater authority, thus embedding the capability and capacity they gain in the organisations where they work in their home countries.
- 3) The projects undertaken by the Fellows will comprise activities directly focused on poverty-biodiversity issues in their home countries.

Section 5 - Darwin Objectives and Conventions

Q11. Biodiversity Conventions, Treaties and Agreements

Q11a. Your project must support the commitments of one or more of the agreements listed below.

Please indicate which agreement(s) will be supported.

- Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
- Global Goals for Sustainable Development (SDGs)

Q11b. National and International Policy Alignment

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

The first draft of the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework includes a long-term Goal (D) dedicated to closing the implementation gap in achieving the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity. Capacity building is fundamental to closing this gap, and indeed recognition of this is enshrined in a draft decision that “Emphasizes the need for capacity-building activities and the effective sharing of knowledge, in order to support ... especially developing countries ... in the implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework”. EDGE directly works to support this objective, primarily through an explicit lens of species conservation. One advantage of this is that global targets related to species conservation (such as current Aichi Target 12) are among those most frequently reflected in national targets in NBSAPs (see UNEP, 2018). Fellow’s projects focus on one or more highly threatened species that are not receiving adequate conservation attention, so the projects themselves (led as they are by in-country champions) directly contribute towards supporting countries achieve these targets in their NBSAPs, while the programme as a whole more broadly works to bridge the implementation gap through a focus on capacity building and skills transfer. Post-2020 NBSAPs can be expected to focus increasingly on the correlation between biodiversity and poverty reduction and sustainable development (a trend already observed in 2nd generation NBSAPs; UNEP 2018), so the LHPWC training will directly equip fellows to account for these linkages more directly in their project plans and outputs. The current project will support at least 24 fellows in up to 20 different developing countries; all will be signatories to the CBD at least.

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

Q12. Methodology

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

- How have you reflected on and incorporated evidence and lessons learnt from past and present similar activities and projects in the design of this project?
- Justification of your proposed approach, and how you will undertake the work (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.).
- What practical elements will be included to embed new capabilities?

The EDGE of Existence Programme has been evolving for nearly 15 years. Its principal goals are capacity-building and the conservation of EDGE species. We pursue these goals mainly by providing a 28-month Fellowship scheme for early-career conservationists outside higher-income countries who work on one or more EDGE species. Each year the EDGE Programme supports suitable Fellows (see Q13) from one of three regions, rotating annually between Asia, Africa, and Latin America. Cohort sizes range between eight and 16, so there are between 24 and 48 active EDGE Fellows at any one time. During a Fellowship, Fellows receive a four-week Conservation Tools training course at the beginning of the 28-months to provide essential training in planning and implementing poverty-biodiversity projects. Following this, Fellows work closely with Regional Project Managers (based in-region) and EDGE technical specialists to finalise detailed project plans before receiving a ██████ grant to undertake a two-year project. Fellows receive ongoing technical support and mentorship from the EDGE team delivered through one-to-one meetings, online modules, web-based tutorials, and field visits. In the final six months, EDGE Fellows complete a two-week Conservation Leadership training course in London to support them in scaling up their projects and providing them greater exposure to ZSL's network of technical specialists, partners, and donors.

This project will be embedded into the EDGE Programme's well-established Fellowship model. First, we will co-develop a new 6-day LHPWC training module that will be delivered alongside the Conservation Tools training course by the EDGE Social Dimensions Specialist, the relevant Regional Project Manager, ZSL's ESMS Specialist, and four external trainers with regional expertise in LHPWC.

Initially, we will interview at least three EDGE alumni whose projects were in high poverty areas. Building on these data, we will design a questionnaire, administering it online to the remaining alumni to better understand current gaps in capacity for LHPWC. We will then develop draft learning objectives and a training schedule based on results and consultation with four external trainers and three LHPWC experts. The external trainers are Dr Juliette Wright, Dr Micaela Camino (Proyecto Quimilero), Dr Sahil Nijhawan, and Dr Leejah Dorward (Bangor University). The external consultants are Prof Katherine Homewood (UCL Anthropology), Dr Tim Baird (Virginia Tech), and Jamie Copsey (IUCN-SSC Conservation Planning Specialist Group) who will advise and comment on the draft learning objectives and training schedule. This ensures meeting capacity-building requirements of the Fellows with the most engaging training methods and up-to-date science available. Although the final content is to be determined, the LHPWC module will likely comprise themes and sessions on:

- Background (livelihoods, poverty, health, and wellbeing)
- Livelihoods as a way of life
- Livelihood trajectories and change
- Alternative livelihoods in conservation projects
- History of poverty and how understanding has changed
- Kupanda poverty-conservation role play game
- Assumptions on global progress toward poverty alleviation
- Policy context
- Measuring wellbeing and poverty
- Participatory processes and project development with IPLCs
- IUCN Environmental and Social Management Systems

Once plans are finalised, we will produce the training materials and trial them online with the 2022 Asia cohort (8-Fellows). The online training module will consist of short video presentations, individual and group activities, group discussions, and interactive and problem-based learning activities. Based on evaluation and feedback, the new LHPWC training materials will then be adapted as needed (see Q19).

The finalised LHPWC module will be delivered in person to the 2023 Africa and 2024 Latin America cohorts during the Conservation Tools Courses held, respectively, in region. The training materials will also then be made available online to all current EDGE Fellows (24), EDGE alumni (121 former fellows), Fellows in-country networks (20), ZSL's conservation staff and researchers (220). To ensure meaningful dissemination through Fellows in-country networks, the Fellows will invite colleagues to participate in two webinars with the EDGE team where individuals can ask questions and discuss the training materials. During the webinars we will also place emphasis on ways to build links between in-country organisations and UK organisations.

Finally, to facilitate putting theory into practice, the EDGE team will support at least 24 Fellows to design detailed project plans incorporating SMART objectives and a log frame, timeline, budget, and evaluation strategy that contain objectives relating to LHPWC. EDGE Fellows are already required to gain ethical clearance on both their project's social and ecological aspects. Once finalised, the EDGE Fellows will undertake LHPWC project activities over two years, and they will be given close ongoing support and mentorship from the EDGE team throughout this period.

Q13. How will you identify participants?

How did/will you identify and select the participants (individuals and organisations) to benefit from the capability and capacity building activities? What makes these the most suitable participants? How will you ensure that the selection process is fair and transparent?

The EDGE Programme has a well-established selection process carefully refined over the last decade to ensure it successfully identifies suitable candidates. Suitable candidates must be in the early stages of their career (defined as <10 years paid experience) and looking for training and mentorship to build their career in conservation; nationals of the country where projects are situated to ensure that the country retains the increase in knowledge, experience, and capacity; and associated with an in-country organisation to ensure cascade training and localised support.

Following a three-month opportunity advertisement, Fellows are chosen based on a three-stage review and selection process:

- 1) Internal review, to eliminate those that do not meet the criteria
- 2) External review of the candidate and the project's feasibility
- 3) Formal interviews.

The process is rigorous, and we aim to ensure each cohort has a gender balance (see Q14) and a diversity of nationalities. We use regional Fellowship cohorts to encourage cross-collaboration, knowledge sharing, and peer-to-peer learning that last long after the Fellowship. We have already selected the Asia cohort starting in January 2022, and during the current project will recruit one cohort in Africa and one in Latin America.

We ensure the selection process is fair and transparent by:

- 1) Making selection criteria available to all applicants via the EDGE website;
- 2) Providing a standardised application form with associated guidance documents to ensure equal access to the same information
- 3) Requesting that all external (or internal) reviewers inform us of any conflicts of interest to ensure that personal bias does not influence the selection
- 4) Providing all unsuccessful candidates with justification for why they were not selected and feedback to support the refinement of their proposal for future opportunities.

Q14. Gender equality

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

Gender equality and women's empowerment are necessary to meet the sustainable development goals. Women are drastically underrepresented in natural resource decision making at all levels. They lack power relative to men in most local contexts, and at national levels, they hold only 12% of top ministerial positions in environment-related sectors worldwide (IUCN, 2020). There is an urgent need to equip and empower women at all levels to increase their meaningful representation in decision making positions.

Supporting women from outside higher-income countries working in conservation is a core value and priority for the EDGE programme. We will actively address gender (in)equity through several means in this project.

1) We will ensure gender balance across the Fellows. Since 2017 the programme has achieved gender balance across the Fellowship cohorts (28 women and 29 men). As mentioned in Q13, the selection process of the Fellows ensures an even split of male and female participants. The Asia cohort, selected in September 2021, consists of five females and three males in a direct attempt to combat the disparity in female applicants from Asian countries (~35% are female).

2) The project staff (4/4), external trainers (2/2), and external experts (2/1) will all have a gender balance between women and men.

3) There will be an equal gender split for the six Fellows who will have between 60-80% of their project's objective focused on LHPWC issues.

4) In the design and implementation of Fellows' two-year projects, they receive ongoing support and mentorship. Project objectives and activities are carefully developed to consider people's views and lived experiences and how these are differentiated on social axis, gender being one of particular importance. Emphasis is placed on how data are gathered, participation is achieved, and activities or interventions are implemented related to gender.

Q15. Change expected

Detail the expected changes to in-country capability and capacity will deliver for both biodiversity and poverty reduction. You should identify what will change (the Outcome) and who will benefit a) in the short-term (i.e. during the life of the project) and b) in the long-term (after the project has ended).

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

This project will improve the capability and capacity of early-career conservationists from outside higher-income countries to implement successful and effective conservation projects that reduce poverty and increase wellbeing. It specifically addresses the lack of available training currently available on LHPWC to early-career conservationists who apply to the EDGE Fellowship.

In the short-term, 24 early-career conservationists (Fellows) from up to 20 lower- to upper-middle-income countries will benefit directly through improved knowledge and skills related to LHPWC gained from a six-day training module delivered alongside an existing four-week Conservation Tools training course. Additionally, the training materials will be made available online to 385 conservationists in total. These 385 include 24 Fellows from the 2022 Asia, 2023 Africa, and 2024 Latin America cohorts, 121 Fellow alumni, 20 conservationists from the in-country networks of the Asia and Africa cohorts, and 220 of ZSL's UK (120) and international staff (100). By providing access to the most up-to-date and engaging training on LHPWC for early-career conservationists, recipients will be better able to understand, design, implement and measure joint poverty-biodiversity projects in their home countries and collaborate with UK based organisations in the development of future Darwin initiative projects (or at least be able to better account for and include LHPWC-related aspects in projects supported by other UK donors, which many Fellows go on to apply to). The improved access to training will be further embedded for at least 44 conservationists, 24 through the support and mentorship over the course of their 28-month Fellowship, and 20 through interactive webinars with the EDGE Programme.

Also in the short term, six Fellows will have between 60-80% of their project objectives on LHPWC, and the remaining 18 Fellows will have at least 25% on LHPWC. While most Fellows currently have at least one social objective in their projects,

this will represent a significant change in project scope. These LHPWC focused objectives mean that 24 projects in as many as 20 countries will receive direct activities on poverty-related issues implemented alongside biodiversity-related activities. While it is not possible to disaggregate the actual household level beneficiaries until the project plans of the Fellows have been finalised, past Fellows have typically focused their project activities in one to six communities. This project scale usually constitutes between 50 and 300 households in total per project.

In the long term, because Fellows work in a range of organisations, and because the Fellowship typically launches Fellows into higher-level positions, the project will embed the knowledge and skills gained into organisations and the countries where the Fellows work. Furthermore, due to the gender equity values in the programme and the active recruitment of women for the Fellowship, this project will contribute to the goal of more significant equity in the decision-making process over natural resources at all levels. First, the Fellowship will better equip more women to take up roles at national and international levels. Second, at the local level, through a greater emphasis on understanding and implementing poverty-biodiversity interventions as they differ across genders.

Q16. Exit Strategy

How will the built capability and capacity be maintained in-country? How will the new capability and capacity be replicated to strengthen additional future environmental leaders beyond the project? How will the benefits be scaled? Are there any barriers to scaling and if so, how will these be addressed? How will the materials developed during the project be made more widely accessible during and after the project?

The EDGE Fellowship Programme can demonstrate established and sustained capacity development and continued conservation benefits over the last 14 years, through our EDGE Fellow Alumni survey. The results show that 100% of alumni continue to work in conservation, with 84% continuing to work on their focal species and with associated project stakeholders.

All Fellows are nationals of the country in which they undertake their project to encourage the capability and capacity increase to remain in countries where it is most needed. EDGE alumni have gone on to win conservation awards, become leaders of large conservation NGOs, take up positions in government and secure significant, long-term investment to scale their work. Investment in training and mentorship at this early stage of their career provides them with a platform to grow and mature into successful conservation leaders.

The LHPWC module and the application of training through the Fellowship will continue past the end of the project. The EDGE Programme will fully integrate this training into the EDGE training curriculum, delivering it to all annual Fellows cohorts in the future. As long as the Fellowship persists, this training will continue to increase knowledge and support implementing poverty-biodiversity projects. We expect that by 2030, at least 50 new Fellows will have received the LHPWC training supported by this project. This training will increase the confidence of Fellows and their in-country organisations to implement poverty-biodiversity projects and apply for Darwin Initiative and other funding opportunities. While their knowledge of ecology and the natural sciences can be exceptional, there is a distinct lack of integration of, and confidence in, poverty reduction activities into their work.

The investment will not only result in improving the skills and confidence of the Fellows. It will also enhance the capacity of organisations within which the individual works, cascading out in terms of skills and knowledge transfer to peers and colleagues. By sharing the materials with the Fellows in-country organisations, complemented with guidance and follow up webinar sessions, we expect to scale the benefits of the training across 20 in-country organisations, consisting of civil society and research institutes.

The training module will be shared widely beyond the target cohorts and in-country organisations to increase the impact of the course. It will be shared with the 121 EDGE alumni across 46 countries in Asia, Africa, and Latin America where we will undertake a pre- and post-evaluation to understand whether there is a measurable increase in knowledge of LHPWC issues. The module will also be shared across ZSL, to increase our colleague's knowledge and confidence to integrate poverty reduction activities into their work. This has the potential to reach ~220 employees within the science and conservation departments, including ZSL regional offices in four countries (~100 from Philippines, Kenya, Nepal, and Benin).

The long-term conservation of our biodiversity can only be achieved by empowering the conservationists of the future, and this project combines both capacity and conservation outcomes to leave a legacy for poverty-biodiversity projects well beyond 2024.

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

Section 7 - Risk Management

Q17. 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 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	Residual Risk
Fiduciary Funds are mishandled by the EDGE Fellows due to a lack of financial management experience, resulting in reduced activities.	Major	Rare	Moderate	ZSL implements robust policies and procedures to mitigate financial risk including a Fraud, Corruption, and Anti-Bribery Policy, which all project staff and partners must acknowledge in the agreement. EDGE Fellows are trained in financial management, submit six-monthly expenditure breakdowns and monthly summaries to their supervisor.	Minor
Safeguarding Harassment, abuse or sexual exploitation of or by, Fellows during their interaction with stakeholders resulting in harm caused to individuals	moderate	unlikely	moderate	ZSL has rigorous in-house protocols and policies for safeguarding which all partners adhere to. ZSL has training for all project staff on safeguarding, GDPR and the Global Code of Conduct. This is implemented through locally relevant grievance and feedback mechanisms which are open to all project participants, partners and stakeholders.	Minor
Delivery Chain The project activities of Fellows coerce, displace, or dispossess members of IPLCs. This might occur across whole communities or may exacerbate power imbalance and/or marginalisation of particular social groups.	Moderate	Unlikely	Moderate	Gender Equity and Social Inclusion (GESI) is mainstreamed into the project approach ensuring the equitable inclusion of marginalised groups. This includes the implementation of participatory stakeholder engagement and Free, Prior and Informed Consent. This includes the use of grievance mechanisms and beneficiary feedback and disaggregated data collection	minor

Risk 4 LHPWC training module does not successfully achieve the learning objectives resulting in Fellows lacking the skills to undertake biodiversity-poverty reduction outcomes	Moderate	Rare	Minor	The project team are experienced in designing and delivering training sessions. Experts will support the development of the learning objectives to ensure they are realistic, appropriate and fill the knowledge gaps. The training sessions will be delivered with the support of regional specialists to keep the content local and relevant.	minor
Risk 5 Extreme weather affects Fellows fieldwork scheduling would result in delays or failure to meet the project outcome	Moderate	Rare	Minor	All project personnel are covered by ZSL's comprehensive travel insurance. Providers offer extensive knowledge and experience in assuring safe working conditions, both medically and security-wise, for international travel and those living outside the UK. Risk Assessments and Emergency Response Plans are reviewed regularly by the ZSL H&S team.	minor
Risk 6 Travel to the Africa and Latin America training centre is disrupted for all/ some of the participants or trainers due to Covid-19, impacting in-person participation and delivery of training.	moderate	unlikely	moderate	ZSL's health and safety team provides regular updates on travel risk. Fellows and staff will be supported to access necessary vaccinations and/or certificates to travel. The courses will abide by the relevant countries Covid-19 guidelines and requirements. If Covid-19 restricts travel to the site, the course can take place remotely.	moderate

Section 8 - Implementation Timetable

Q18. 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, linking them to your Outputs. Complete the Word template as appropriate to describe the intended workplan for your project ready for upload on Flexi-Grant.

[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.



Section 9 - Monitoring and Evaluation

Q19. 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 [Financial Guidance](#)).

The Social Dimensions Specialist will manage M&E with the Projects Coordinator, Programme Manager, and three Regional Project Managers all feeding into the process.

Progress toward the project outcome will be monitored after the training for each cohort and ongoing during the Fellows' project activities. We will monitor the change in self-assessed LHPWC knowledge/confidence pre- and post-training, training suitability and engagement from the Fellows standardised feedback for every session, and impact on LHPWC project activities from Fellows monthly reports. These M&E processes enable adaptive management.

Output-1 will be measured through the timely development of the trial LHPWC training materials based on consultation with EDGE alumni and external parties, evidenced through an interim report and the materials themselves.

Output-2 is fundamentally M&E and concerns the trial, evaluation, and adaptation of the LHPWC training module. The suitability and effectiveness of the new module will be evaluated through the programmes standardised pre/post-confidence assessments, Fellows' individual session feedback and evaluation, one-to-one post training qualitative assessments, and a post-training debrief report distributed to all trainers. This information will be used to adapt the training as required.

Output-3 also utilises the programme's existing training evaluation and feedback updated to include all the new LHPWC training. Results from these surveys and pre/post-confidence assessments for the online materials will feed directly into the outcome indicators.

Output-4 will be monitored through the Fellows detailed project plans and ongoing monthly reports. The allocation of themes to their project objectives and activities will determine what proportion correspond to LHPWC.

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



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

Number of days planned for M&E

75

Section 10 - Indicators of Success

Q20. Indicators of success

Please outline the Outcome and Outputs of the project and how will you show that they have been achieved by using SMART indicators and milestones.

See the [Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Guidance](#), and internet resources, for advice on SMART indicators and milestones.

Please note that the number of participants in training is not an output, please consider how to measure the success of the training rather than participation in training.

In the table below please outline your Outcome and between 1-4 Outputs. Each statement should have between 2-3 SMART indicators and end target (figure/state/quality) including how you would evidence achievement – i.e. “Means of Verification”.

	SMART Indicator	Means of Verification
Outcome Livelihoods, Health, Poverty, and Wellbeing in Conservation (LHPWC) is mainstreamed into the EDGE Fellowship programme, so Fellows and their networks have increased capability to understand, implement, and measure LHPWC interventions.	0.1 LHPWC is mainstreamed into the EDGE Fellowship programme by Q2-2	0.1.1 All EDGE documents and process have incorporated LHPWC training and activities
	0.2 Three-hundred and eighty-five conservationists have access to LHPWC training materials online by Q2-2	0.2.1 Webpage with LHPWC training module materials 0.2.2 Module downloads
	0.3 One-hundred and sixty-five conservationists (24 Fellows, 20 from Fellows in-country networks, and 121 Fellow alumni) from outside high-income countries increase their knowledge of LHPWC by 50%, by Q4-2	0.3.1 Subjective self-assessment for pre- and post-training results for Fellows 0.3.2 Post-webinar feedback and evaluation results for in-country conservationists
	0.4 Twenty-four Fellows (eight from Asia, eight from Africa, and eight from Latin America) incorporate LHPWC issues into their conservation project objectives by Q4-2	0.3.3 Subjective self-assessment for pre- and post-access to training materials for Fellow alumni
	0.5 One member of the EDGE alumni develops a Darwin main grant application, by Q4-2	0.1.1 All EDGE documents and process have incorporated LHPWC training and activities 0.2.1 Webpage with LHPWC training module materials 0.2.2 Module downloads 0.3.1 Subjective self-assessment for pre- and post-training results for Fellows 0.3.2 Post-webinar feedback and evaluation results for in-country conservationists 0.3.3 Subjective self-assessment for pre- and post-access to training materials for Fellow alumni

Output 1

LHPWC training module is developed with the EDGE Regional Project Managers, four external project partners, three external LHPWC experts, and at least 24 EDGE alumni.

1.1 At least 24 EDGE alumni consulted about LHPWC training requirements in Q1-1

1.2 At least three external experts in LHPWC consulted about training by Q1-1

1.3 At least four external trainers consulted about LHPWC training by Q1-1

1.4 LHPWC module learning objectives and training schedule completed in Q1-1

1.5 Draft training materials produced by Q2-1

1.1.1 In-depth qualitative interview findings from at least three alumni (representing each region)

1.1.2 Results from a quantitative survey with at least 24 alumni

1.2.1 List of experts who were consulted

1.2.2 List of suggested learning objectives with justification and comments on drafts

1.3.1 List of external trainers who were consulted

1.3.2 List of suggested learning objectives and justification and comments on drafts

1.4.1 Interim report outlining results from 1.1, 1.2, and 1.3, learning objectives, and training schedule

1.5.1 Training videos recorded

1.5.2 Supporting materials for training activities and exercises completed

Output 2

LHPWC training module is trialled online with eight Fellows from the 2022 Asia cohort, and detailed feedback and evaluation is used to adapt the module as required.

2.1 Pre-training confidence assessments are updated to include LHPWC module topics and completed by eight fellows in Q2-1	2.1.1 Results from fellows' pre-training confidence assessment for LHPWC module topics
	2.2.1 Session attendance lists
2.2 Eight fellows from Asia successfully complete LHPWC module as a stand-alone online course in Q2-1	2.2.2 LHPWC training module graduation certificates
	2.3.1 Feedback and standardised evaluation scores compiled into database
2.3 Feedback and standardised evaluation is completed by every Fellow for every session of the LHPWC training module in Q2-1	2.4.1 Results from Fellows' post-training confidence assessment for LHPWC module topics
	2.5.1 Qualitative summary of key points from one-to-one feedback
2.4 Post-training confidence assessments updated and completed by eight fellows in Q2-1	2.1.1 Results from fellows' pre-training confidence assessment for LHPWC module topics
2.5 Individual feedback discussions with each of the eight Fellows, completed in Q2-1	2.2.1 Session attendance lists
	2.2.2 LHPWC training module graduation certificates
2.6 Debrief workshop held with all trainers and report produced summarising data and required changes by Q4-1	2.3.1 Feedback and standardised evaluation scores compiled into database
	2.4.1 Results from Fellows' post-training confidence assessment for LHPWC module topics
2.7 Module learning objectives and materials adapted based on feedback and evaluation by Q4-1	2.5.1 Qualitative summary of key points from one-to-one feedback

Output 3

LHPWC training module delivered in person to the 2023 Africa and 2024 Latin America EDGE Fellowship cohorts, and the training materials are disseminated through ZSL's and Fellows' in-country networks.

- 3.1 LHPWC incorporated into fellowship call and application process for Africa and Latin America by Q1-1 and Q1-2
 - 3.1.1 Fellowship call advert
 - 3.1.2 EDGE fellowship application form
 - 3.2 LHPWC module delivered to eight fellows for the Africa cohort in Q4-1
 - 3.2.1 LHPWC session attendance lists for Africa tools course
 - 3.2.2 Africa tools course graduation certificates
 - 3.3 LHPWC module delivered to eight fellows for the Latin America cohort in Q4-2
 - 3.3.1 LHPWC session attendance lists for Latin America tools course
 - 3.3.2 Latin America tools course graduation certificates
 - 3.4 LHPWC mainstreamed into standardised feedback and evaluation processes by Q4-1
 - 3.4.1 Results from tools course pre-confidence, session feedback, post confidence assessments
 - 3.5 LHPWC training module materials available online for at least 385 conservationists, including existing Fellows, EDGE alumni, ZSL's staff, and Fellows' in-country networks by Q2-2
 - 3.5.1 Recipient list of organisations, individuals and their job titles
 - 3.5.2 Module materials downloaded
 - 3.6 Two LHPWC webinars delivered to 20 conservationists (10 in each) from the Fellows' in-country networks (e.g., conservationists from NGO's, universities, local government), by Q4-2
 - 3.6.1 Webinar recordings
 - 3.6.2 Webinar participant list
-

Output 4

Fellows from the 2022 Asia, 2023 Africa, and 2024 Latin America cohorts incorporate LHPWC objectives into their conservation projects and they receive technical supervision and mentorship during their fellowship.

4.1 Two Fellows from the Asia cohort incorporate LHPWC issues, accounting for at least 60-80% of their project objectives, by Q2-1	4.1.1 Asia Fellows final project plans 4.1.2 Monthly project update reports for Fellows from the Asia cohort
4.2 Six Fellows from Asia cohort (remainder of cohort) incorporate LHPWC issues, accounting for 25% of their project objectives, by Q2-1	4.2.1 Asia Fellows final project plans 4.2.2 Monthly project update reports for Fellows from the Asia cohort
4.3 Two Fellows from the Africa cohort incorporate LHPWC issues, accounting for at least 60-80% of their project objectives, by Q1-2	4.3.1 Africa Fellows final project plans 4.3.2 Monthly project update reports for Fellows from the Africa cohort
4.4 Six Fellows from Africa cohort (remainder of cohort) incorporate LHPWC issues, accounting for 25% of their project objectives, by Q1-2	4.4.1 Africa Fellows final project plans 4.4.2 Monthly project update reports for Fellows from the Africa cohort
4.5 Two Fellows from the Latin American cohort incorporate LHPWC issues, accounting for at least 60-80% of their project objectives, by Q4-2	4.5.1 Latin America Fellows final project plans 4.5.2 Monthly project update reports for Fellows from the Latin America cohort
4.6 Six EDGE Fellows from Latin American cohort (remainder of cohort) incorporate LHPWC issues, accounting for 25% of their project objectives, by Q4-2	4.5.1 Latin America EDGE Fellows final project plans 4.5.2 Monthly project update reports for EDGE Fellows from the Latin America cohort
4.7 All Fellows receive close technical supervision and mentorship from the EDGE Team during the project period	4.7.1 Report of project visits by the Asia and Africa Regional Project Managers or appropriate EDGE technical specialist 4.7.1 Calls between Fellows and the EDGE Social Dimensions Specialist and/or relevant Regional Project Manager

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 – LHPWC training module is developed with the EDGE Regional Project Managers, four external project partners, three external LHPWC experts, and at least 24 EDGE alumni.

1.1 Consult EDGE Regional Project Managers, external LHPWC experts, training partners, and EDGE alumni to develop key learning objectives and training schedule for the LHPWC training module.

1.2 Elaborate learning objectives and draft training schedule.

1.3 Produce training materials.

Output 2 - LHPWC training module is trialled online with eight Fellows from the 2022 Asia cohort, and it includes detailed feedback and evaluation which is used to adapt the module as required.

2.1 Update the standardised before-course confidence assessments to include LHPWC module and send out to Fellows.

2.2 Deliver 6-day LHPWC training module online to the 2022 Asia EDGE Fellows cohort as a stand-alone course.

2.3 Implement the standardised feedback process that is applied to every session of the annual tools course to evaluate each session in the 2022 trial LHPWC training module.

2.4 Implement additional feedback and evaluation processes dedicated to 2022 trial LHPWC training module.

2.5 Incorporate feedback and evaluation to adapt the LHPWC training module learning objectives and training materials where required.

Output 3 - LHPWC training module delivered in person to the 2023 Africa and 2024 Latin America EDGE Fellowship cohorts, and the training materials are further disseminated through their in-country networks.

3.1 Update the advertisement, review, and selection process to include LHPWC focus for the 2023 Africa and 2024 Latin America EDGE Fellowships.

3.2 Deliver updated LHPWC module during the four-week Conservation Tools field course held in Africa in January 2023.

3.3 Implement standardised evaluation mechanisms for four-week Conservation Tools field course held in Africa that now include LHPWC module (pre-confidence, session feedback, post confidence).

3.4 Deliver updated LHPWC module during the four-week Conservation Tools field course held in Latin America in January 2024.

3.5 Implement standardised evaluation mechanisms for four-week Conservation Tools field course held in Latin America that now include LHPWC module (pre-confidence, session feedback, post confidence).

3.6 Make LHPWC training module available online to EDGE Fellow alumni, existing EDGE Fellows, Fellows' in-country networks, and ZSL's science and conservation staff.

3.7 Deliver two LHPWC webinars to conservationists from the existing Fellows in-country networks.

Output 4 - EDGE Fellows from the 2022 Asia, 2023 Africa, and 2024 Latin America cohorts incorporate LHPWC objectives into their conservation projects and they receive technical supervision and mentorship during their fellowship.

4.1 Support EDGE Fellows from the 2022 Asia, 2023 Africa, and 2024 Latin America cohorts to develop detailed project plans that include LHPWC objectives.

4.2 Provide technical support and mentorship via regular calls (monthly as a minimum) with the EDGE Social Dimensions Specialist and/or the relevant Regional Project Manager.

4.3 Carry out project visits to Fellows from relevant staff member to provide support.

4.4 Provide distribution and financial oversight of project grants for Fellows to enable Fellowship objectives to be achieved.

4.5 Review the Fellows' progress and monthly reports.

Important Assumptions:

Please describe up to 6 key assumptions that, if held true, will enable you to deliver your Outputs and Outcome.

1) EDGE have the resources to deliver Fellowships, including internal capacity and funding.

2) Suitable early-career conservationists are interested and apply for EDGE Fellowships.

3) The advertisement and selection process identifies suitable Fellows / LHPWC issues are relevant and appropriate in the

Fellows' projects and the context of their focal EDGE species.

4) Covid-19 does not restrict the delivery of in-person Conservation Tools courses.

5) Covid-19 does not restrict Fellows application of training (esp. in context of LHPWC objectives).

6) Fellows' in-country networks desire training / uptake of webinars / materials are disseminated by Fellows.

Section 11 - Budget and Funding

Q21. Budget

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

- [Budget form for projects under £100,000](#)
- [Budget form for projects over £100,000](#)

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

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

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



Q22. Funding

Q22a. Is this a new initiative or does it build on existing work (delivered by anyone and funded through any source)?

- Development of existing work

Please provide details:

The proposed project is a new addition to an existing capacity development programme. The ecological training and implementation activities of each EDGE Fellowship are supported by other donors, while the LHPWC training and project implementation would be exclusively supported by the Darwin Initiative.

While Fellows have historically always included at least one social objective within their projects, these were often limited to stakeholder analysis and awareness raising activities to bring attention to overlooked EDGE species living within the landscape. Following feedback from the Fellows in 2015, we identified a gap in knowledge, practical training and supported implementation of poverty reduction activities within conservation. To combat this, we recruited a fulltime Social Dimensions Specialist in 2018 to mentor and supervise the EDGE Fellows, alongside the ecological supervisor, to increase the capacity of the Fellows in all aspects of social dimensions in conservation, from project design, data collection and ethics to analysis. However, there is still a significant gap in the training available to early-career conservationists, a gap that requires wider consultation and support from experts in the field and those with regional experience.

Q22b. Are you aware of any current or future plans for similar work to the proposed project?

- No

Q23. 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.

All capital items will remain with the EDGE Fellows once the project ends to support them in the development of their conservation careers.

Q24. Value for Money

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

This project will give at least 385 individuals access to training on LHPWC, at least 240 of whom are from outside higher-income countries across Asia, Africa, and Latin America. This training will be further operationalised for 24 of these individuals (Fellows) who receive 28-months of close mentorship and technical support. Additionally, the LHPWC module will continue to be delivered to future cohorts of EDGE Fellows, well past the end of the project.

The programme's rigorous evaluation over the last 14 years has allowed us to adapt and shape the most efficient and cost-effective delivery of training and implementation. Transitioning to a regional cohort model in 2018 allowed us to significantly reduce costs associated with site visits and training courses. We have also increased the amount of fundraising training and support we provide the Fellows to ensure the scaling of projects past the Fellowship. Our alumni survey shows that for every provided to a Fellow, they go on to secure an additional for their project, tripling the investment.

With 100% of alumni continuing to work in conservation we can evidence the value for money, longevity, and cascade effect of the carefully structured and in-depth capacity building efforts. This represents a much more reliable return on investment than occasional training workshops, where participants may or may not use that training in the future. Fellows will increase organisational capacity through continued sharing of resources and reinforcing skills and knowledge of their peers and colleagues.

Section 12 - Safeguarding and Ethics

Q25. Safeguarding

Projects funded through the Darwin Initiative must fully protect vulnerable people all of the time, wherever they work. In order to provide assurance of this, projects are required to have appropriate safeguarding policies in place.

Please confirm the Lead Partner has the following policies in place and that these can be available on request:

Please upload the Lead Partner's Safeguarding Policy as a PDF on the certification page.

We have a safeguarding policy, which includes a statement of our commitment to safeguarding and a zero tolerance statement on bullying, harassment and sexual exploitation and abuse	Checked
---	---------

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

We keep a detailed register of safeguarding issues raised and how they were dealt with	Checked
---	---------

We have clear investigation and disciplinary procedures to use when allegations and complaints are made, and have clear processes in place for when a disclosure is made	Checked
---	---------

We share our safeguarding policy with downstream partners	Checked
We have a whistle-blowing policy which protects whistle blowers from reprisals and includes clear processes for dealing with concerns raised	Checked
We have a Code of Conduct for staff and volunteers that sets out clear expectations of behaviours - inside and outside the work place - and make clear what will happen in the event of non-compliance or breach of these standards	Checked

Please outline how you will implement your safeguarding policies in practice and ensure that downstream partners apply the same standards as the Lead Partner.

ZSL has rigorous in-house protocols for ethical approval, adhering to international commitments for human rights and biodiversity and those of the Darwin Initiative. The project will be subject to a full risk-assessment to ensure any programmatic risks and possible negative impacts on communities and biodiversity are mitigated for and reported on. ZSL, in collaboration with project partners, already have in place mitigation measures which identify, monitor and manage human rights issues in a participatory manner. Fellows agree to abide by ZSL's policies throughout the duration of the Fellowship, as outlined in the EDGE Fellowship Agreement.

Section 13 - FCDO Notifications

Q26. FCDO Notifications

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

No

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

No

If no, why not?

If successful, contact with the relevant FCDO Embassy or High Commission will be made for all Asian countries in April 2022. Finalised project plans (including identification of any sensitivities) will not be available until the completion of the EDGE Conservation Tools course.

Section 14 - Project Staff

Q27. 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?
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Paul Barnes	Project Leader	80	Checked
Caroline Park	EDGE Projects Coordinator	50	Checked
Jyoti Das	EDGE Asia Regional Manager	23	Checked
Caleb Ofori-Boateng	EDGE Africa Regional Manager	23	Checked

Do you require more fields?

Yes

Name (First name, Surname)	Role	% time on project	1 page CV or job description attached?
Davi Teles	EDGE Latin America and Caribbean Regional Manager	13	Checked
Olivia Couchman	EDGE Programme Manager	15	Checked
Kimberley Fry	ZSL International Accountant	3	Checked
Helen Karki Chettri	ESMS Specialist	3	Checked
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	0	Unchecked
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	0	Unchecked
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	0	Unchecked
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	0	Unchecked

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

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



Have you attached all project staff CVs?

Yes


Section 15 - Project Partners

Q28. Project partners

Please list all the Project Partners (including the Lead Partner), clearly setting out their roles and responsibilities in the project including the extent of their engagement so far and planned.

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

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

Lead partner name:	Zoological Society of London
Website address:	www.edgeofexistence.org www.zsl.org
Why is this organisation the Lead Partner, and what value to they bring to the project? (including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):	(Max 200 words) (189) ZSL has an excellent reputation for building conservation capacity through educational programmes, workshops and Masters and PhD courses to support young conservationists. The institution partners on 3 MSc and 8 Doctoral Training Programmes (DTPs)/Centres for Doctoral Training (CDTs), and has also pioneered the EDGE Fellowship, a grassroots capacity-building programme that focuses on training in-country conservation leaders in applied research. ZSL provides unparalleled access to academic resources, expert scientists, and experienced conservation practitioners. The EDGE of Existence Programme has supported 121 EDGE Fellows since 2007, across 46 countries. EDGE has delivered 22 interactive training courses in this time, both online and in person. This is approximately 66 weeks, (500+ hours), of conservation training to early-career conservationists from across Africa, Latin America and Asia. The project team is made up of experienced regional conservation biologists, project managers and technical specialists. Our technical specialists include a Social Dimensions Specialist who has a PhD in Human Ecology and six years' experience working on poverty-biodiversity projects. Our three Regional Managers, based in Ghana, India and Brazil, have PhD's in applied conservation biology as well as a diverse range of experience in the social sciences.
International/In-country Partner	<input checked="" type="radio"/> International
Allocated budget (proportion or value):	
Represented on the Project Board	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes
Have you included a Letter of Support from this partner?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes
Have you provided a cover letter?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes

Do you have partners involved in the Project?

No

Please provide a cover letter and a combined PDF of all letters of support.

Section 16 - Lead Partner Capability and Capacity

Q29. Lead Partner Capability and Capacity

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

Yes

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

Reference No	Project Leader	Title
28-006	Monica Wrobel/ Tungalag Ulambaya	Protecting Mongolia's Gobi Desert for wild camels and herder communities
26-012	Hem Baral	Ghodaghodi's Guardians: Communities restoring a Ramsar wetland at watershed scale,
26-006	Rebecca Sennet-Day	Conserving Tsavo's wildlife by building community resilience and fostering coexistence,
25-024	Jeremy Huet	Securing marine biodiversity and fishers' income through sustainable fisheries, Mozambique
25-012	Gitanjali Bhattacharya	Steppe-up: Community-led recovery of Mongolia's iconic species and forest-steppe ecosystem
24-015	Gitanjali Bhattacharya	Community conservation of Chitwan National Park's freshwater ecosystems and Gharials

Have you provided the requested signed audited/independently examined accounts (or other financial evidence - see Financial Guidance)?

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

Yes

Section 17 - Certification

Q30. Certification

On behalf of the

Trustees

of

Zoological Society of London

I apply for a grant of


£156,272.00

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.

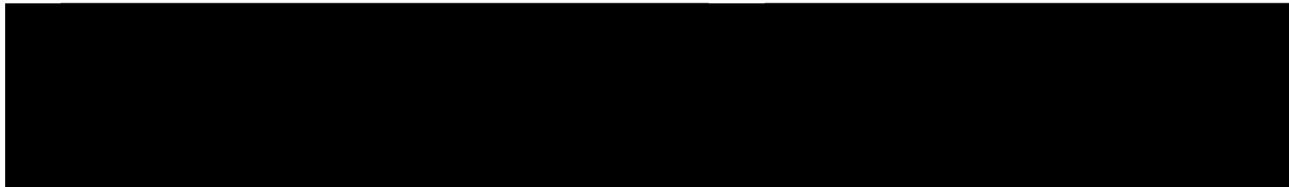
(This form should be signed by an individual authorised by the applicant institution to submit applications and sign contracts on their behalf.)

- I have enclosed CVs for project key project personnel, letters of support, budget, 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 (or other financial evidence - see Financial Guidance) are also enclosed.

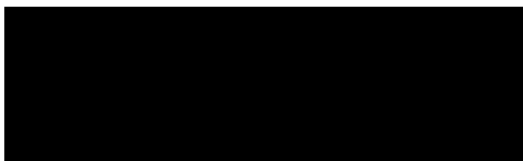
Checked

Name	Mike Hoffman
Position in the organisation	Head, Wildlife Recovery
Signature (please upload e-signature)	
Date	03 December 2021

Please attach the requested signed audited/independently examined accounts.



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



Section 18 - Submission Checklist

Checklist for submission

	Check
I have read the Guidance, including the "Darwin Initiative Guidance", "Monitoring Evaluation and Learning Guidance", "Supplementary Guidance for Capability & Capacity Projects", "Risk Management Guidance", and "Financial Guidance".	Checked

I have read, and can meet, the current Terms and Conditions for this fund.	Checked
I have provided actual start and end dates for the project.	Checked
I have provided my budget based on UK government financial years i.e. 1 April – 31 March and in GBP.	Checked
I have checked that our budget is complete, correctly adds up and I have included the correct final total at the start of the application.	Checked
The application been signed by a suitably authorised individual (clear electronic or scanned signatures are acceptable).	Checked
(If copying and pasting into Flexi-Grant) I have checked that all my responses have been successfully copied into the online application form.	Checked
I have included a 1 page CV or job description for all the Project Staff identified at Question 27, including the Project Leader, or provided an explanation of why not.	Checked
I have included a letter of support from the Lead Partner and partner(s) identified at Question 28, or an explanation of why not.	Checked
I have included a cover letter from the Lead Partner, outlining how any feedback received at Stage 1 has been addressed where relevant.	Checked
I have included a copy of the Lead Partner’s safeguarding policy, which covers the criteria listed in Question 25.	Checked
I have been in contact with the FCDO in the project country/ies and have included any evidence of this. If not, I have provided an explanation of why not.	Checked
I have included a signed copy of the last 2 annual report and accounts for the Lead Partner (or other financial evidence – see Financial Guidance), or provided an explanation if not.	Checked
I have checked the Darwin Initiative website immediately prior to submission to ensure there are no late updates.	Checked
I have read and understood the Privacy Notice on the Darwin Initiative website.	Checked

We would like to keep in touch!

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

Checked

Data protection and use of personal data

Information supplied in the application form, including personal data, will be used by Defra as set out in the **Privacy Notice**, available from the [Forms and Guidance Portal](#).

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