Applicant: **Eschen, Rene**
Organisation: **CABI**
Funding Sought: **£199,996.00**

DIR28CC\1115

Coordinated invasive plant management to protect Tanzanian biodiversity and livelihoods

Invasive alien plant species (IAPS) seriously threaten biodiversity and livelihoods. This project will support implementation of the Tanzanian National Invasive Species Strategy and Action Plan in the Lake Natron Basin, targeting the invasive tree Prosopis juliflora. We will strengthen coordination among actors at different decision-making levels, and engage them in jointly developing a prosopis strategy, setting up a surveillance system also suitable for other IAPS and in implementing coordinated management. The lessons learned will be shared with actors across Tanzania.

Section 1 - Contact Details

PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

Title	Dr
Name	Rene
Surname	Eschen
[redacted]	

CONTACT DETAILS

Title	Dr
Name	John
Surname	Richard Mbwambo
[redacted]	

GMS ORGANISATION

Type	**Organisation**
Name	CABI
[redacted]	

Section 2 - Title & Summary

Q3. Title:

Coordinated invasive plant management to protect Tanzanian biodiversity and livelihoods

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.

Invasive alien plant species (IAPS) seriously threaten biodiversity and livelihoods. This project will support implementation of the Tanzanian National Invasive Species Strategy and Action Plan in the Lake Natron Basin, targeting the invasive tree Prosopis juliflora. We will strengthen coordination among actors at different decision-making levels, and engage them in jointly developing a prosopis strategy, setting up a surveillance system also suitable for other IAPS and in implementing coordinated management. The lessons learned will be shared with actors across Tanzania.

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	Tanzania	**Country 2**	*No Response*
Country 3	*No Response*	**Country 4**	*No Response*

Do you require more fields?

⦿ No

Q6. Project dates

Start date:	End date:	Duration (e.g. 2 years, 3 months):
01 April 2022	31 March 2024	24 months

Q7. Budget summary

Year:	2022/23	2023/24	Total request
Amount:	£98,807.00	£101,189.00	**£** 199,996.00

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?

CABI: will share information material on community awareness and engagement and IAS management developed in the frame of the (funded) Woody Weeds project, which supports Kenyan institutions in the implementation of the new National Prosopis Strategy, NPS; the costs for developing the information material, listed as matched funding, amount to ca. [redacted] In the proposed project, the information material will be adapted to the needs of the local stakeholders.
TAWA: will co-develop actor network in the study area through a funded project on the encroachment of grasslands by native trees; matched funding of approx. [redacted]
TAFORI: will provide office space and facilities, and vehicles during field visits to both local and international partners, but also pay for airtime with the Tanzania Broadcasting Company to cover events and ensure wider dissemination of project

activities and interventions through television and radio programmes; amount to ca. [redacted]

Q9b. Total confirmed & unconfirmed matched funding (£) [redacted]

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?

All matched funding indicated above is confirmed.

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).

East-African grasslands, forests and lakesides are home to some of the world's most iconic megafauna and some of the poorest and most marginalized communities. Among the protected areas (PAs), Game Controlled Areas (GCAs) have a special status because they are gazetted for wildlife conservation but human activities, including settlements and livestock grazing, are allowed. In Northern Tanzania, Lake Natron GCA and Mto wa Mbu GCA form the northern part of the Tarangire-Manyara ecosystem and are home to iconic and/or protected species, including lesser flamingo, blue wildebeest, cheetah and East African sandalwood. They are connected to other biodiversity hotspots through wildlife migration. The two GCAs are administered by the Tanzania Wildlife Management Authority (TAWA), which contributes on average £ [redacted] annually to the surrounding villages, resulting from hunting revenues.

This region is under threat of invasive alien plant species (IAPS). One of the most important IAPS in East Africa is the evergreen Prosopis juliflora ("prosopis"), which was introduced in the 1970s to provide firewood and 'regreen' degraded landscapes. However, prosopis escaped from the initial plantations and has now invaded over 10 million ha in the lowlands of Ethiopia, Kenya, and, recently, northern Tanzania. Prosopis seriously impacts nature and human well-being. It reduces biodiversity, availability and accessibility of water and fodder for livestock, and increases the density of human disease vectors. Recently, prosopis was detected in Lake Natron and Mto wa Mbu GCAs, which is worrying since livestock and wildlife can spread prosopis seeds and large parts of the two GCAs and surrounding areas are suitable for prosopis growth. Species distribution models suggest that the region is also susceptible to invasion by other IAPS, including Parthenium hysterophorus and Tithonia diversifolia (Witt et al., 2019).

Management of IAPS at an early stage is the most promising and cost-effective strategy to prevent their further spread and to preserve the biodiverse and culturally important ecosystem in Northern Tanzania. However, protection of grasslands and other assets in a landscape that encompasses PAs and areas used by local communities requires joint decision making and coordinated action by all relevant stakeholders. Therefore, this project aims to implement Tanzania's National Invasive Species Strategy and Action Plan (NISSAP) of 2019, in compliance with the requirements of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in the region of Lake Natron and Mto wa Mbu GCAs. We will strengthen stakeholders' awareness of and knowledge about IAPS processes, impacts and management options using scientific evidence gathered in the Woody Weeds project (www.woodyweeds.org; e.g., Bekele et al. 2018; Eckert et al. 2019; Linders et al. 2019, 2020; Mbaabu et al. 2019; Shiferaw et al. 2019, 2021). We will then engage stakeholders in developing a spatially explicit management strategy for prosopis and, if desired, other IAPS at the early stage of invasion. Stakeholders will jointly develop a communication strategy that will foster coordination and collaboration.

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)
- ☑ Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS)
- ☑ Ramsar Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar)
- ☑ 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.

To comply with the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), Tanzania, one of the world's megadiverse countries, developed a NISSAP in 2019 which will be implemented over a 10-year period. This project will contribute to an accelerated implementation of the NISSAP by
a) strengthening the knowledge and awareness of key stakeholders regarding IAPS spread, impacts and management,
b) adapting, testing and disseminating communication tools developed in the Woody Weeds project to foster coordinated implementation of the NISSAP, both across spatial scales and inside and outside PAs, and by
c) sharing lessons learned and best practices with the stakeholders involved in the NISSAP.
Our approach supports the Aichi Biodiversity Targets relating to Strategic Goals B, C & E, as it aims to improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity, and to enhance implementation of sustainable ecosystem management through participatory planning, knowledge management & capacity building.
Also, our project contributes to achieving several targets of SDG 15 (Life on Land), particularly target 15.8 ('...prevent the introduction and significantly reduce the impact of invasive alien species...'), and the multiple interactions with SDGs 1 and 2 (reduction of poverty and hunger), 6 (availability of water), 13 (mitigating and adapting to climate change) and 16 (peaceful societies).
Over the last couple of years, more than 20,000 flamingos have been killed by landing on prosopis along Lake Bogoria, Kenya, a key non-breeding habitat of greater and lesser flamingos (Chebet, 2021). This project fulfils the Agreement on Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Water Birds, which requires Tanzania to protect habitat in the Lake Natron Basin, which is the only regular breeding area for Lesser Flamingo in East Africa and offers feeding opportunities for some 100,000 individuals of other species of waterbirds. The Lesser Flamingo is listed in Appendix II of CMS.

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?**

Current IAPS management in Tanzania and the communication and coordination pathways outlined in Tanzania's NISSAP face two important challenges:
a) NISSAP integrates local actors in the implementation of IAPS management practices but does not describe in detail how management actions should be coordinated at the subnational or national levels. Yet, biological invasions are spatial-temporal processes and need spatially coordinated management interventions to optimize the allocation of limited resources.

b) According to NISSAP, IAPS management inside and outside PAs should be conducted by different actors (Fig. 1). The management of PAs is coordinated by TAWA, TANAPA and other actors at national scale, and implemented by the local administrations of PAs. TAWA organizes regular meetings between local PA administrations and surrounding communities. However, TAWA and the local PA authorities do not have the capacity to design and implement IAPS management and to coordinate activities with surrounding communities, although IAPS are considered a key threat to PAs.
Capitalizing on experiences made in Kenya, we propose to implement the NISSAP in the target region by fostering communication and coordination across multiple spatial scales (e.g., between actors inside and outside protected areas; Fig.1) and co-designing a spatially explicit management strategy to guide the implementation of management interventions. To achieve this, we will form a Regional Working Group (RWG) consisting of experts and government officers from the national, regional and district level, including representatives from the GCAs, Natural Resource Management Organizations (NRMOs) and Community-Based Organizations (CBOs). The RWG will identify management objectives and identify financial means for implementing IAPS management.
At local scale, we will create LIGs consisting of NRMOs, including Tanzania Natural Resource Forum (TNRF), NGOs closely collaborating with CBOs, such as Community Research and Development Services (CORDS), administrators and rangers of the GCAs, as well as CBOs and leaders of villages bordering the GCAs. These stakeholders will reflect on the issue of biological invasions and their impacts on livelihoods and nature, and they will design coordinated surveillance and management measures. Both the regional and local structures will foster new capabilities of participants. In all these activities, we will adapt and use decision tools and information material developed in the Woody Weeds project.
We will also conduct training of trainers (ToT) events, during which extension officers, rangers and senior field staff from NRMOs, NGOs and CBOs, as well as village leaders will be trained in implementing and maintaining surveillance and management practices targeting prosopis and, if desired by the stakeholders, also other IAPS. These frontline actors will be established as change agents and will be scouting, reporting, and advising land users, and working closely with the national actors.
The earlier IAPS management is implemented, the cheaper and more successful it is. However, managing IAPS at the early stage of invasion requires a thorough understanding by all stakeholders, from policy makers to land users, of the process of biological invasions, particularly the risks of 'doing nothing'. This is challenging because several of these IAPS, particularly deliberately introduced trees like prosopis, initially also provide benefits (wood, shade, etc.). Once IAPS have invaded large parts of the landscape and the impacts become apparent, their management becomes very difficult. Experiences from the Woody Weeds project have shown that stakeholder engagement and the use of decision support tools can lead to widely accepted management objectives even with so-called conflict-of-interest species like prosopis, also during the early stages of invasion. This was primarily achieved by sharing experience with and scientific evidence for the negative impacts of prosopis on some of the fundamental ecosystem services pastoralist communities rely on, particularly water, fodder for livestock and access to dry-season grazing areas (Linders et al. 2019, 2020; Shiferaw et al. 2021; Bardgett et al. 2021). Ultimately, the most effective strategy to convince stakeholders to take action at an early stage of invasion is to let them experience first-hand the consequence of not acting when it is still feasible. Therefore, we will facilitate meetings and exchange events between stakeholders in the target area and those in parts of Moshi District where eradication of prosopis is no longer feasible and the impacts are being felt (https://youtu.be/jNswmj6CLIk).
The project will be co-led by CABI and TAFORI, who will coordinate the work and ensure good internal communication through regular e-meetings with all project partners, who will report bi-monthly to project leadership about their activities. Further bilateral communication using email, Whatsapp etc. will guarantee that the leadership is aware of progress and can respond to challenges.

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?

Effective and broadly supported decision making, as well as commitment to implementing management, requires engagement of all relevant and affected stakeholders, including women and youth. The project partners have an extensive network in the region and, through the Woody Weeds project, experience in engaging diverse groups of stakeholders in deliberative decision-making processes and development of spatial land management plans. Based on experiences made in other parts of Tanzania, Kenya and Ethiopia, the LIG meetings and training activities will help identifying champions who will take on particular roles in engaging communities and coordinating management. Women leaders will be identified to ensure direct engagement with women is possible and that their needs and concerns relating to the impact of prosopis and other IAPS are addressed.
The Tanzanian project partners, consisting of national research (TAFORI) and wildlife management institution (TAWA), a subnational NRMO (TNRF) and a local NGO specialized in collaboration with CBOs and communities (CORDS), are familiar with the societal, ethnic and cultural habits of the resident population, with power and gender relations and with

discussions surrounding the future management of GCAs (e.g., separation into areas occupied by communities and Game Reserves where access would be prohibited). The persons of TAWA responsible for the GCAs in the target region, Mr Samson Kiswaga, who did his MSc thesis in the Woody Weeds project, and Mr Ndimilanga know the local context and have established contacts with many of the actors that the project will engage. CABI and CDE have extensive experience working with East African stakeholders such as local communities, extension services and government agencies. In the Woody Weeds project, TAFORI, CABI and CDE have worked with Tanzanian stakeholders from the local to the national scale to develop and test-implement IAPS management through participatory mapping of landscapes and co-designing of management practices.

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.

IAPS affect economic activities that are performed by men (livestock keeping, tourist guiding, etc.) and by women (wood, water, care for sick livestock etc.) in different ways. Therefore, spatially explicit management strategies must consider the needs of both genders in order to make sure that all important socio-economic activities of the affected communities are taken into consideration. We will aim for a composition of the LIGs that reflects this reality. Given that leaders of Maasai communities are often men, specific efforts will be made to engage women leaders and youth representatives, if needed by organizing separate meetings. Their views will be fed back into the main LIG meetings, with clear facilitation to ensure they are considered in decision taking.

Joint, deliberative decision-making processes rely on a good and egalitarian understanding of invasion processes, impacts of prosopis and other IAPS and potential management strategies and practices by all participants. We will make sure that gendered realities are addressed in the designing of the management plan, for example by making a differentiated list of important assets for men and women and deduce specific measures to protect those assets. We will draft information material in such a way that both men and women can identify with the situations and actors portrayed, and draft versions will be tested with women, youths and men. Also, meetings will be held at times and in locations that are convenient for all participants, especially considering differences in availability based on traditional gender-based labour divisions. Finally, gender disaggregated data is essential to gender sensitive monitoring and therefore data collection linked to project impacts will be disaggregated according 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.

The proposed project will enhance the understanding about IAPS processes, impacts and management, because a better understanding of the current situation and possible future on-site and off-site impacts of IAPS is key to trigger change. Furthermore, the project aims to promote communication and decision support tools and the outputs of the project will foster co-ownership by all actors involved, improve coordination of IAPS management interventions at the local and regional level and thus facilitate and accelerate the implementation of the Tanzanian NISSAP.

In the short term, the outputs of the project will increase awareness among stakeholders regarding the potential impacts of prosopis and other IAPS and the importance of implementing preventive and mitigating measures already at an early stage of invasion. This increased awareness provides the basis for mobilizing actors and securing their participation in the designing and implementation of a spatially explicit prosopis management plan for the target area. Within this area, the prevention of further prosopis spread will directly benefit ca. 60,000 households in more than 30 villages. The project will empower women and youth as a result of adapted, appropriate information materials that have been designed and tested specifically for them, and through their active participation in the decision-making process that will foster ownership of the decisions and management plan. Overall, the project will increase capacity of all involved stakeholders to manage their landscape.

In the long term, the biodiversity and livelihoods in the region will benefit from the protection of valuable grassland habitat due to the prevention of further spread of prosopis in the area. This will also protect biodiversity and livelihoods in the entire region, as well as the related income opportunities provided by tourism. If desired by the stakeholders, measures to survey the region for new prosopis invasions will also be implemented targeting other high-priority IAPS, such as Parthenium hysterophorus. Furthermore, the methods developed in this project will be made available to actors in other parts of Tanzania and will initiate cross-border communication and collaboration with Kenya.
Overall, the project will increase capacity of all involved stakeholders to manage their landscape. Within the participatory process of co-design and implementation of IAPS management, stakeholders will value the effects of different IAPS management decisions (including 'doing nothing') on the supply of ecosystem services and reflect on trade-off and synergies, while integrating multiple social-ecological dimensions. Thus, the process itself will strengthen key capacities of the stakeholders and contribute to debates on the advancement of the SDGs, e.g. on sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems (SDG 15) and their interaction with water resources (SDG 6), poverty and food security (SDGs 1 and 2), and climate change (SDG 13).

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 be 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 implementation of the NISSAP will require more time and resources than is available in the project. Therefore, we focus on the participatory development of IAPS management strategies in one region but will establish strong links to national and subnational organisations from the outset of the project, which will facilitate outscaling also after the project's lifetime. Based on the lessons learned, we will draft best practices for implementation at national scale and for outscaling to other regions. Uptake of the lessons learned is also facilitated by the fact that three partners in the Woody Weeds project (including the co-leader of this project) were member of the Task Force of NISSAP and the chair of the Task Force, who is also a member of the Woody Weeds team, directly reports to the National Environmental Advisory Committee under the Vice President's office. Thus, consideration of the project findings during the implementation of NISSAP is guaranteed beyond the project lifetime (see also the Letter of Support by the chair of the NISSAP Taskforce, written on behalf of the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism).
The project will raise awareness and inform stakeholders about IAPS processes, impacts and management options through workshops and information materials that will be adapted to local conditions and disseminated to stakeholders in the region. Participation of stakeholders from the local to the national level in project activities, and the establishment by the project of structures that facilitate communication among stakeholders in GCAs and surrounding communities will ensure that the knowledge is internalized and that it reaches beyond project participants. Based on the fact that some of the participants will be influential community members, such as Laibon (Maasai leaders), village leaders, area managers or trained trainers, who will act as champions or ambassadors during discussions with community members who are not directly involved in project activities. Situations where IAPS occur and need to be managed across borders of communal land and PAs are widespread in Tanzania, a country with many PAs and GCAs. The structures, processes and materials developed during the project will have wide applicability, in other parts of Tanzania affected by IAPS and to other IAPS in early invasion stages and where management involving communities from surrounding areas is most likely to achieve success. The involvement of TAWA and the Tanzanian National Park Authority (TANAPA; will be a member of RWG), as well as representatives of other national and subnational authorities, will ensure that the capability and capacity developed during the project can be outscaled and applied elsewhere in the country where there is a need. Importantly, because project partners (CABI and CDE) also support Kenyan institutions in implementing the National Prosopis Strategy in Kenya, this project will help designing and implementing cross-border communication in IAPS management in Eastern Africa, a key objective mentioned both in the National Prosopis Strategy for Kenya and in Tanzania's NISSAP.

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 not used for intended purposes or not accounted for	Medium	Unlikely	Low	CABI will retain overall financial control over the project, and all partners will be expected to account specifically for funds provided to them. Furthermore, CABI adheres to PRINCE2 project management standards. Money will be transferred every six months after reception of a progress report.	Low
Safeguarding Harassment, staff safety and welfare, or unintended harm towards project participants and beneficiaries	High	Unlikely	Low	CABI employees are required to adhere to a high ethical conduct detailed in our code of conduct document. This code of conduct will extend to this project. All research involving human subjects must obtain prior approval from CABI's Internal Review Board.	Low
Delivery Chain No active engagement of stakeholders in project activities	High	Unlikely	Low	Participants will all have a stake in good and sustainable landscape management and it is therefore likely that they will actively engage. Furthermore, we have planned excursions to a prosopis invaded area elsewhere in Northern Tanzania and exchange with affected stakeholders to convince participants of the need to act now.	Low
Risk 4 Extension or more restrictive COVID measures prevents meetings of participants, as well as international travel	High	Likely	High	We expect the largest impact of stricter regulations on activities during the first six months of the project, when essential stakeholder meetings will take place. If this occurs, we will postpone activities and ask for cost-neutral extension. Many activities later in the project require fewer or no group meetings.	Medium

Risk 5 No uptake of IAPS activities by local stakeholders	High	Possible	Medium	Local community members and rangers and managers of the GCAs will visit a prosopis invaded area elsewhere in Northern Tanzania and exchange with affected stakeholders to convince participants of the need to act now. Demonstration of effectiveness of management practices will convince local communities.	Low
Risk 6 No uptake of IAPS related knowledge and activities by subnational or national stakeholders	Low	Unlikely	Low	The NISSAP has support on the highest political and administrative levels and funds have been set aside for implementation; inclusion of representatives of national government organisations and subnational organisations in the project partnership and in activities will guarantee information flow and ownership of project activities and outputs.	Low

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**).**

At the start of the project a detailed work plan, co-ordinated by the project manager, will set out responsibilities for activities according to the project implementation timetable and the M&E plan. Regular project monitoring will be conducted through bi-monthly virtual meetings of the partner organisations. This will be co-ordinated by CABI. More extensive M&E meetings will take place every six months, in line with the Darwin reporting schedule. Any changes in assumptions or risks, or new issues arising, will be noted and used to modify the workplan in consultation with the Darwin Secretariat.

As the activities for each Objective need to be conducted in sequential order, towards the end of each activity a limited evaluation with regards to any necessary adjustments will be undertaken. At these points in the project consultation with involved stakeholders will evaluate ongoing activities and correct procedures whenever required. Towards the middle of the project, the team will evaluate whether the rollout of activities and impact is as anticipated or if corrective action is required.

To evaluate changes in stakeholders' knowledge, perception and motivation regarding IAPS management in the target region, a semi-structured questionnaire will be designed which will be used to conduct stakeholder interviews at the end of the project with least 80 persons each either involved or not involved in project activities, which will be compared to the results of a survey conducted at the project start that aims to assess current knowledge and practices with regards to perceived IAPS impacts and management.

Total project budget for M&E in GBP (this may include Staff, Travel and Subsistence costs)	[redacted]
Percentage of total project budget set aside for M&E (%)	
Number of days planned for M&E	50

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 Biodiversity and livelihoods are strengthened through increased awareness and coordinated implementation of surveillance and management of Prosopis and other invasive alien plants (IAPS) inside and outside protected areas	- Awareness about NISSAP and the impact of Prosopis and other IAPS on nature and livelihoods increased in the project's target area; - Game Controlled Areas (GCAs), Natural Resource Management Organizations (NRMOs), Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) and communities are implementing surveillance system and management of Prosopis and other IAPS; - Lessons learned from coordinated implementation of NISSAP in the target region disseminated to and taken up in other parts of Tanzania	- Semi-structured interviews with at least 80 stakeholders involved/not involved in the project to assess change in knowledge, perception and motivation to manage prosopis and other IAPS; - IAPS surveillance and implementation strategy established and 50% of prosopis infestations or at least 25ha of prosopis infestation removed; - Best practice documents for coordinated implementation of NISSAP in other regions available and distributed
Output 1 Prosopis and IAPS management adopted as key function of GCAs, CBOs and society-rooted NRMOs and becomes integral part of land management plans and/or conservation and restoration programmes in target region	- Two meetings held with Regional Working Group (RWG) consisting of representatives of national and subnational authorities involved in NISSAP implementation, GCAs, NMROs and CBOs; - Both GCAs and at least four institutions/ programmes have adopted prosopis (and other IAPS) management; - Four meetings held with Local Implementation Groups (LIGs) consisting of actors from inside and outside PAs to establish communication pathways and to co-design surveillance and management practices	- Minutes of RWG meetings; - Prosopis and other IAPS management profiled and featured prominently in development and land management programmes of relevant governments, GCAs, NRMOs, NGOs and CBOs active in target region; - Written reports of LIG meetings
Output 2 Use social, electronic and printed media, factsheets and face-to-face exchange events to share information on impacts of Prosopis and other IAPS and management practices with stakeholders	- Information on impact and management of IAPS featured in social, electronic and printed media; - Factsheets, leaflets & posters on Prosopis and other IAPS management produced and shared with stakeholders in target region and beyond, and field days organised; - Information on impacts and changed perceptions of Prosopis and other IAPS shared with stakeholders	- At least 10 media appearances; - At least 10 factsheet and other information/ engagement material distributed and used, and at least 500 people reached with factsheets and/or during field days; - Questionnaire on knowledge, perception and motivation to be completed by 80 stakeholders each either involved or not involved in the project
Output 3 Extension agents, rangers and other frontline actors from CBOs, society-rooted NRMOs and communities support land users to carry out prosopis and IAPS surveillance and management	- Three Training of Trainer (ToT) events held with extension agents, rangers and senior field staff from NRMOs, NGOs and CBOs as well as with village and Maasai leaders; - Land users and other actors engaged in management of prosopis and other IAPS; - Number of prosopis and other IAPS infestations starts decreasing in the target region	- Training reports, with at least 30 trainers from different institutions trained; - Semi-structured interviews with CBOs, village leaders and land users to assess whether management of Prosopis and other IAPS has been adopted; - 50% of prosopis infestations or at least 25ha of prosopis infestation in and around Mto wa Mbu and Lake Natron cleared;

Output 4 Lessons from best practices for coordinated implementation of NISSAP inside and outside protected areas documented and disseminated to inform / guide implementation of similar interventions in other regions	- Documentation on best practices, including changes achieved within the project's lifetime, on establishing communication pathways among actors involved in NISSAP and on implementing IAPS surveillance and management in target region; - Best practice manual disseminated to representatives of national and subnational authorities involved in NISSAP implementation and to other regions	- Best practice manual available and distributed to all relevant actors; - Semi-structured interviews with national and subnational actors to assess whether best practice manual is known and understood

Activities

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

1.1 Two RWG meetings to develop a communication/coordination strategy and a spatially explicit prosopis management strategy for the target region;
1.2 Prosopis (and other IAPS) management integrated in at least three land management plans or conservation / restoration programmes;
1.3 Two LIG meetings for each of the northern (Lake Natron) and southern (Mto wa Mbu) parts of the region to co-design and prepare implementation of IAPS surveillance and management measures;
2.1 Disseminate news briefs via different media;
2.2 Draft factsheets and other information material on Prosopis and other IAPS management practices, and organise field days;
2.4 Compile questionnaire on stakeholder knowledge, perception and motivation and collect information at the beginning and at the end of the project;
3.1 Conduct at least 3 Training-of-Trainer events;
3.2 Compile questionnaire on local stakeholders' decision to adopt IAPS management;
3.3 Monitor removal of prosopis and other IAPS in target region;
4.1 Compile and distribute Best Practice Manual;
4.2 Compile questionnaire on national and subnational actors' knowledge on best practices for NISSAP implementation;

Important Assumptions:

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

1. All governance scales are committed to implementing the NISSAP;
2. CBOs and communities are granted adequate means to do so;
3. Communication pathways across scale and between inside and outside PAs are actively used;
4. Extension services, rangers and other frontline actors take up topic and advice pastoralists/land users;
5. The awareness creation and training material is useful and actively accessed by relevant stakeholders;
6. Relevant stakeholders have the required willingness and motivation to participate in implementation.

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:

This initiative builds on work in Ethiopia, Kenya and Tanzania done by the Woody Weeds projects (www.woodyweeds.org). Those projects were funded by the Swiss Government (through the r4d programme (www.r4d.ch) and by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC, respectively). The Woody Weeds project developed, collated and availed scientific knowledge about prosopis processes, impacts and management in three regions affected by prosopis but did not have the scope or means to support regional or national IAPS management. The Woody Weeds project does support development of prosopis management, but only in three Kenyan counties as part of the National Prosopis Strategy. Thus, the proposed project will build on extensive knowledge and experience from previous work, as well as already developed extension materials. Those materials will be adapted to the local conditions instead of developing entirely new materials, making implementation of the current project better value for money.

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.

Not applicable

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.

Prevention or EDRR are the most cost-effective interventions for mitigating risks associated with IAS, and the project addresses an IAS that has caused known, massive impacts in regions where it is abundant. Thus, this is the most cost-effective time to work with community members and other relevant stakeholders on removal of established prosopis from the area and prevention of new introductions/spread. It can be difficult to motivate action in early stages of biological

invasions because impacts are not seen or known while later it is often impossible or unfeasible to halt or reverse the spread of the IAS and its impacts. We therefore propose to bring the RWG members during a one-day excursion to an area that has high densities of prosopis, just south-east of Moshi town, where the members will interact with people who live in densely invaded areas to learn from their experiences. While unusual as this is rarely possible within a country, we expect that this low-cost activity will provide valuable insights that will influence thinking and decisions taken by the RWG. Hence, by preserving existing ecosystems this project will contribute to reduction of future costs due to prosopis in the area. Value for money will also be assured through existing, successful collaboration of the lead partners with several of the in-country partners in the Woody Weeds project.

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.

CABI has a Code of Business Conduct, which sets out fundamental standards of conduct that CABI always expects from all CABI staff members. All CABI employees agree to the terms of the Code of Business Conduct through countersignature
CABI will share its policies with downstream partners and seek agreement on the standards contained therein.
Application of Procurement policy to ensure value for money from suppliers
Integrated financial ledgers and finance organisation ensures transparency and clarity on programme expenditure.

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?

CABI, TAFORI and CDE have been working on the broad subject area in East Africa for more than six years, with close contacts to relevant actors on the local, subnational and national levels.

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?
René Eschen	**Project Leader**	6	Checked
John Richard Mbwambo	Project Co-leader, coordination	10	Checked
Samson Kiswaga	TAWA, communication, coordination	10	Checked
Zakaria Faustas	TNRF, stakeholder engagement, decision support	25	Checked

Do you require more fields?

⦿ Yes

Name (First name, Surname)	Role	% time on project	1 page CV or job description attached?
Lilian Joseph Looloitai	CORDS, stakeholder engagement, decision support	20	Checked
Winnie Nunda	Awareness raising and capacity building	16	Checked
Fernadis Makale	Awareness raising and capacity building	13	Checked

Albrecht Ehrensperger	GIS; spatial mapping, moderator of stakeholder workshops	5	Checked
Urs Schaffner	Invasive species specialist	2	Checked
NN	MSc student 1	100	Unchecked
NN	MSc student 2	100	Unchecked
No Response	*No Response*	0	Unchecked

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

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

[redacted]

Have you attached all project staff CVs?

⦿ No

If you cannot provide a CV or job description, please explain why not.

We have provided CVs for all project staff, but not for two students. We plan to hire two MSc students who will be enrolled in Tanzanian universities (for example the Nelson Mandela African Institution of Science and Technology in Arusha or Sokoine University of Agriculture in Morogoro). As these students have not been identified, we cannot provide CVs. The thesis topics have not been firmly decided, but the students are expected to work on the decision process in the RWG and LIGs, as well as on the changes in stakeholder capacity during the project.

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:	CABI
Website address:	www.cabi.org

Why is this organisation the Lead Partner, and what value to they bring to the project? **(including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):**	CABI will provide overall co-ordination, take a lead in drafting factsheets and other information material, and will also be responsible for organising RWG and LIG meetings and compiling the Best Practice Manual
International/In-country Partner	⦿ International
Allocated budget (proportion or value):	[redacted]
Represented on the Project Board	⦿ Yes
Have you included a Letter of Support from this partner?	⦿ Yes
Have you provided a cover letter?	⦿ Yes

Do you have partners involved in the Project?

⦿ Yes

1. Partner Name:	Tanzania Forestry Research Institute (TAFORI)
Website address:	www.tafori.or.tz
What value does this Partner bring to the project? **(including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):**	TAFORI has an extensive network on the national and subnational government level and will support in-country co-ordination of partners and activities. TAFORI will also be responsible for organising RWG and LIG meetings, as well as TOT activities.
International/In-country Partner	⦿ In-country
Allocated budget:	[redacted]
Represented on the Project Board	⦿ Yes
Have you included a Letter of Support from this partner?	⦿ Yes

2. Partner Name:	Tanzania Wildlife Management Authority (TAWA)
Website address:	www.tawa.go.tz
What value does this Partner bring to the project? **(including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):**	TAWA will, together with TAFORI, be the main link to GCAs in the area, bringing together stakeholders from and coordinating implementing activities within GCAs, and communicating experiences and lessons learned to PAs and surrounding communities outside the project area that face similar issues of IAPS in early stages of invasion.
International/In-country Partner	⦿ In-country
Allocated budget:	[redacted]
Represented on the Project Board	⦿ Yes
Have you included a Letter of Support from this partner?	⦿ Yes

3. Partner Name:	Tanzania Natural Resource Forum (TNRF)
Website address:	www.tnrf.org
What value does this Partner bring to the project? **(including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):**	TNRF will bring experience with the development of land management plans and community engagement inTanzania. TNRF has previously co-developed community land management plans that have resulted in recognised community land use rights.
International/In-country Partner	⦿ In-country
Allocated budget:	[redacted]
Represented on the Project Board	⦿ Yes
Have you included a Letter of Support from this partner?	⦿ Yes

4. Partner Name:	Community Research and Development Services (CORDS)
Website address:	www.cordstanzania.org

What value does this Partner bring to the project? **(including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):**	CORDS is a key partner for engagement of the Maasai communities in the target area, specifically as a result of their key programmes, that involve pastoralist land use planning and participatory rangeland management, which aim to enhance equitable access to rangeland resources (pastures, forages, fodder and water) while reducing environmental degradation.
International/In-country Partner	⦿ In-country
Allocated budget:	[redacted]
Represented on the Project Board	⦿ Yes
Have you included a Letter of Support from this partner?	⦿ Yes

5. Partner Name:	Centre for Development and Cooperation (CDE)
Website address:	https://www.cde.unibe.ch/
What value does this Partner bring to the project? **(including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):**	CDE has extensive experience with stakeholder engagement in participatory mapping of landscapes and co-development of sustainable land management practices in East Africa. CDE will produce maps and lead mapping exercises during RWG and LIG workshops. And contribute to the development of factsheets and other information material.
International/In-country Partner	⦿ International
Allocated budget:	[redacted]
Represented on the Project Board	⦿ Yes
Have you included a Letter of Support from this partner?	⦿ Yes

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

What value does this Partner bring to the project? **(including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):**	*No Response*

International/In-country Partner	○ International ○ In-country
Allocated budget:	£0.00
Represented on the Project Board	○ Yes ○ No
Have you included a Letter of Support from this partner?	○ Yes ○ No

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

No Response

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

[redacted]

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
DSPLUS157	Rob Reeder	Managing the pathogens threatening St Helena's biodiversity and food security
DPLUS074	Norbert Maczey	Improving biosecurity in the SAUKOTs through Pest Risk Assessments
DPLUS033	Norbert Maczey	Enhancing biosecurity and biological control capacity in the Falkland Islands
22/001	Steve Edgington	Rescuing and restoring the native flora of Robinson Crusoe Island

16/008	David Minter	Microfungi: a voice for unprotected and vulnerable organisms
15/004	Dave Moore	Conserving and Using Entomopathogenic Fungi and Nematodes within Chile

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

Company

of

CABI

I apply for a grant of

£199,996.00

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.)

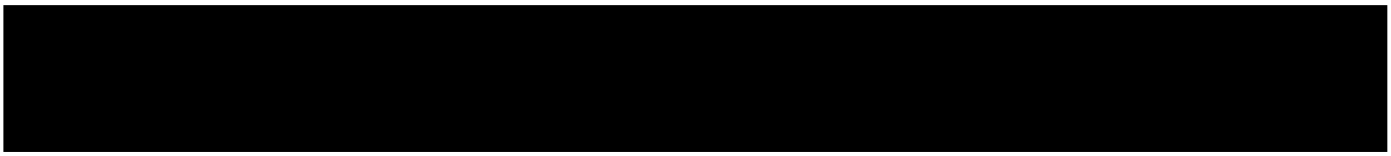
- **I have enclosed CVs for project key project personnel, letters of support, budget, safeguarding policy and project implementation timetable (uploaded at appropriate points in application)**
- **Our last two sets of signed audited/independently verified accounts and annual report (or other financial evidence - see Financial Guidance) are also enclosed.**

Checked

Name	Ulrich Kuhlmann
Position in the organisation	Executive Director, Global Operations
Signature (please upload e-signature)	
Date	06 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.

Unchecked

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).