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## **DIR28CC\1059**

### **Strengthening managers' and local communities' capacity for more resilient conservation**

If protected areas (PAs) are surrounded by impoverished, nature-dependent communities, they will be vulnerable to increasing pressures. Our work has shown that PA managers in Madagascar (including government, NGOs, and local communities) lack capacity to tackle these social dimensions as required by international commitments and national policy. We will provide training, follow-up support, and a synthesis of the evidence on social impacts of environmental and development interventions to empower each of these stakeholders to work better towards resilient PA management.

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## Section 1 - Contact Details

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### PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

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<b>Title</b>	Dr
<b>Name</b>	Onjamirindra Sarobidy
<b>Surname</b>	Rakotonarivo
<b>Organisation</b>	Ecole Superieure des Sciences



### GMS ORGANISATION

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Type	Organisation
<b>Name</b>	Ecole Superieure des Sciences Agronomiques



## Section 2 - Title & Summary

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### Q3. Title:

Strengthening managers' and local communities' capacity for more resilient 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.**

If protected areas (PAs) are surrounded by impoverished, nature-dependent communities, they will be vulnerable to increasing pressures. Our work has shown that PA managers in Madagascar (including government, NGOs, and local communities) lack capacity to tackle these social dimensions as required by international commitments and national policy. We will provide training, follow-up support, and a synthesis of the evidence on social impacts of environmental and development interventions to empower each of these stakeholders to work better towards resilient PA management.

## Section 3 - Title, Dates & Budget Summary

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### 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	Madagascar	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	30 September 2023	1 year 6 months

## Q7. Budget summary

Year:	2022/23	2023/24	Total request
Amount:	£66,506.00	£29,844.00	£ 96,350.00

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?

Bangor will contribute match funding by charging no overheads on NH's time = [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?

No Response

## 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).**

Madagascar has exceptional biodiversity but the world's highest recorded rate of extreme poverty (Jones et al. 2021). Despite global benefits of conservation exceeding local costs, and international agreements that the poorest should not bear the costs of conservation, our previous work has shown that biodiversity conservation in Madagascar has significant net costs for local people and that safeguard policies often fail to protect the poorest (Rakotonarivo et al. 2017, Poudyal et al. 2018, Hockley et al. 2018). As a result, some extremely poor people are made poorer by conservation, undermining the Sustainable Development Goals. National policy requires adequate social safeguards, yet our review of Malagasy PAs showed that none provided evidence that social safeguards were adequately planned and resourced to match expected impacts (Hockley et al. 2020) and most lacked a Community Management Convention (a formal agreement between PA managers and local communities required for Malagasy co-managed PAs).

Our previous work (<http://p4ges.org/>; <http://forest4climateandpeople.bangor.ac.uk/>) found that these implementation gaps stem from a lack of capacity of PA managers, government and donors, and gaps in the national guidance available to managers. We organized a national workshop in October 2020 with the Ministry of Environment on the obligations of PAs to ensure social safeguards for local people, reduce poverty and achieve sustainable development. Participants highlighted the need for clearer guidance on planning, implementing and evaluating social safeguards around protected areas and ongoing specialist support. The workshop led to the reform of the national safeguard policy in Madagascar and we have provided significant technical support to this process. We have also contributed to the development of the national protected area foundation's (FAPBM) social safeguard policy, as well as participating in the ministry's technical committees on PA management plans and environmental and social frameworks. At the request of the minister, we have helped draft a technical guide to social safeguard planning, implementation and evaluation. These processes will continue beyond our current funding.

We also held two workshops (February 2021, October 2021) with PA stakeholders, including local communities, who informed us that they lacked the capacity to i) comprehend the local costs of conservation and how to define project affected persons, and the different forms of compensation for the negative social impacts of PAs (including on customary rights), ii) identify and apply tools and methods in monitoring and evaluating the social impacts of conservation and safeguard projects, iii) identify and implement (with appropriate governance) more effective social safeguards and sustainable development approaches within PAs. These workshops also identified an explicit demand from conservation partners and government for synthesis and sharing of knowledge on these issues especially effectiveness of compensatory interventions (disaggregated by gender, wealth etc), their impacts on drivers of biodiversity loss (e.g. migration).

The design of this proposal has been informed by these experiences. Addressing these needs through training, evidence synthesis and ongoing specialist advice to government, NGO and community stakeholders will help ensure that Madagascar's PA network is equitably managed, avoids exacerbating extreme poverty, and enjoys better local support, becoming more resilient and effective.

## **Section 5 - Darwin Objectives and Conventions**

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### **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)
- United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
- 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.**

Under its commitments to the CBD, Madagascar has expanded its PA network to over 10% of its land area, and forest conservation and restoration are also key to its UNFCCC Nationally Determined Contribution. National policy requires PAs and reforestation to have social safeguards, so that conservation meets CBD and donor requirements as well as the government's requirement that conservation contributes to sustainable development. However, current policy and practice are deficient.

Madagascar's Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development is starting their five yearly review of all PAs, with a greater emphasis on social aspects. This project will strengthen Malagasy PAs' ability to meet these requirements, thus delivering more resilient PAs which have greater local and national support, and are better able to meet donors' safeguard requirements. The Ministry is also reforming its safeguard policy: this project will contribute to this policy development and help improve guidance to PAs.

We have discussed the project with the CBD focal point for Madagascar and the Direction Générale des la Gouvernance Environnementale (DGGE) who support the project (letters of support attached). We expect to have a representative from the DGGE on the project's steering committee, and will liaise frequently with the CBD focal point and relevant service chiefs throughout the project.

This project also contributes to Madagascar achieving the SDGs by helping to ensure that in future, conservation does no harm, and instead improves local livelihoods and catalyses sustainable development. The database platform and training of various PA stakeholders will equip them with new skills and knowledge to implement more effective and resilient social safeguards and development approaches around PAs. It will also be useful to development donors more generally, who seek to fund effective development interventions in areas like agriculture, education and access to capital, contributing to SDGs 1,2,3,4 and 8.

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

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### **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?

Our project team has learnt a huge amount about capacity strengthening needs and approaches, cross-disciplinary working, co-production of knowledge and impact over the last nine years. This project will:

Activity 0: Clarify stakeholder needs and opportunities for impact.

During the first months of the project, we will meet key stakeholders to ensure that our understanding of their needs and policy processes is up to date.

Activity 1: Establish a database of evidence on social safeguards

PA managers have asked for evidence on what works best to ensure that local people affected by PAs share equitably in the benefits generated by them, and on the determinants of success or failure. We will collate evidence on this from Madagascar and similar contexts elsewhere into an open-source database which will be permanently hosted by FAPBM, allowing stakeholders to continue to contribute to it after the end of this project.

Activity 2: Conduct two field training workshops plus follow-up support

Field training for key stakeholders will be delivered in collaboration with other specialists and people whose lives are

affected by conservation and restoration. The rationale for these trainings is that those involved in designing and implementing policy are detached from the reality of people's lives at the forest edge. By bringing Malagasy policy makers and implementers out to the forest frontier and encouraging direct discussions of difficult issues with some of the people most affected, we expect to achieve a transformational change in the views and understanding of key people. We also aim to ensure communities involved in hosting the event feel empowered by the experience to contribute to co-management of PAs. We will work closely with community participants to plan the training in advance, identify issues they wish to raise and share some of the national and international context to help them prepare.

The training will include: methods for assessing and mitigating impacts of PAs and restoration; issues of gender and marginalization; lessons learned from past research on impacts of forest conservation and reforestation; ethics (including Free Prior Informed Consent); requirements of the various safeguard systems and norms, both international (e.g. World Bank, Cancun) and national (e.g. REDD+, protected area code, mining code). The training will also be used to facilitate the sharing of best practices between participants.

One-off training will not be sufficient to achieve long-lasting change. We will therefore maintain contact with participants for the remainder of the project including at least one follow-up meeting with individual participants to discuss the application of the material covered in training in their organization and assess the impacts of the training. Beyond the lifetime of the project, all project personnel have ongoing commitments in Madagascar and will continue to engage with participants on these issues.

Activity 3: Train local communities on the "Convention de Gestion Communautaire"

Our review of Malagasy PAs found that very few had a convention communautaire which is a formal agreement between protected area managers and local communities, fundamental to co-managed PAs (Hockley et al. 2020). We will work with communities in three PAs to build their capacity to understand and develop a convention.

Activity 4: Support ongoing reform of Madagascar's national PA safeguard policies

Government agencies made it clear that while they recognize the importance of addressing social issues in conservation and restoration, they lack capacity to do this effectively. With the support of the Foundation for Protected Areas and Biodiversity of Madagascar (FAPBM) and GCRF, we have been providing support for the reform of PA social safeguard policies since February 2020. These are intended to assist PA managers, government agencies, NGOs and communities to ensure that PAs fulfill their potential as cornerstones for biodiversity conservation and as pillars for achieving sustainable development. We will continue providing this support throughout this project. We will additionally support Madagascar National Parks (a parastatal body managing 43 Malagasy PAs), which will be reviewing their social safeguard policies during 2022.

Roles and project management

OSR will be responsible for overall project management (including M&E and reporting to Darwin); planning and designing the training and database; producing project outputs and ensuring impact. HMR will lead the day-to-day management of all aspects of the project. MR will assist HMR. NH, BR and ZR will provide advice on the design of the training, policy development and the establishment of the database and contribute to at least one training course. NH will meet with the Malagasy project team fortnightly and will make one trip to Madagascar.

## 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?**

We will run two training courses adapted to different beneficiaries (activity 2):

1. A short field-based workshop for senior staff (8-10 participants) in the ministry of environment and sustainable development, the national office for REDD+ and Climate Change, conservation NGOs, and donors. Some organizations have been identified based on their key roles (e.g. the ministry) and will select their representatives (in consultation with us), representatives of NGOs will be selected after an open call.
2. An in-depth field-based training course, hosted and co-taught by people living around forests. The course will last 8 days and involve 15-20 participants. This is aimed at technical staff working in the forest and conservation sector (from ministries, national office for REDD+ and climate change and NGOs). Participants will be selected after an open call (criteria will be finalized with our advisory committee). Selection will aim for a diversity of disciplinary backgrounds and experience, and gender equality. The courses will be interdisciplinary and participatory, with the aim not simply to teach knowledge

and skills, but encourage reflection and debate among participants and course leaders. People living around forests will play an integral role in delivering the courses through: relating their experiences with PAs, taking part in role playing exercises working through different forest and reforestation-related scenarios, and providing detailed feedback to course participants.

Selected communities for activity 2 and 3 are those living in Itremo PA (savannah woodlands in the central highlands managed by Kew Madagascar Conservation Centre and beneficiary of the new UK-funded Biodiverse Landscapes Fund programme in Madagascar), in the Ankirihitra-Mariarano PA (dry forest in the Boeny region managed by Impact Madagascar) and Marojejy National Park (rainforest in North-eastern Madagascar managed by Madagascar National Parks). The project team (especially OSR) has existing relationships locally and with these managing organizations, which facilitates this work.

## 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.**

Our previous research showed that the poorest households bear a disproportionate share of the costs of biodiversity conservation and restoration in Madagascar and that efforts to mitigate these costs failed to reach the poorest. Female-headed households are often disproportionately represented among these poorer households, and may be particularly vulnerable. The training courses will cover issues particularly relevant to them. We will ensure that women from the villages are involved in delivery of the training.

The project leadership is overwhelmingly female as both the overall project lead (OSR) and the project manager (HMR) are women. Half of the key project staff are female.

We will pay heed to gender balance when inviting presenters and participants to training workshops and community events. We will aim for a minimum of 45% representation of each gender among training participants and speakers/trainers. We will monitor gender balance of attendance and other engagement with the project (e.g. responses to consultation, downloads of project outputs) and consider measures to correct any significant imbalances.

## 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.**

Short-medium term outcome:

Greater understanding among at least 30 key national stakeholders (government and civil society organizations) being applied to the design and implementation of safeguard and sustainable development approaches around PAs that will ultimately contribute to more resilient conservation.

Nine communities in selected PAs (Itremo, Ankirihitra and Marojejy PAs) will benefit from training and knowledge sharing meetings on the “convention de gestion communautaire” organized by the project.

The managing organizations of these selected PAs will gain advice and support from researchers with extensive policy-relevant experience from Antananarivo and Bangor on monitoring and evaluation methods, and Bangor and Antananarivo researchers will benefit from working closely with conservation practitioners.

The Project Leader (OSR) will gain experience as overall project lead (PI), building on her experience as Project Manager for the Forest4Climate&People project. Similarly HMR and MR will gain experience from assuming a project management role.

All team members from Madagascar and Bangor will gain further valuable experience and skills by closely engaging with stakeholders, including government, NGOs and donors. This project will continue to develop and deepen the collaborations that have been established between researchers/academics, policy makers and practitioners over the last two years.

Longer-term outcome:

The ultimate (ambitious) outcome is to influence national and donor policies to result in more resilient conservation and restoration through more effective social safeguards, and improved rural livelihoods and people's rights to land.

Through the database platform, those managing, funding and supporting protected areas in Madagascar (including donors NGOs and government agencies) will get empirical evidence on the social impacts of conservation initiatives, effective social safeguards, best practices on development investments around PAs, which will help them incorporate the social impacts of biodiversity conservation into decision-making.

Extremely poor local people around all PAs in Madagascar will benefit from better-designed compensation and development interventions backed by realistic funding per household/hectare, and better-designed safeguarding mechanisms that protect their rights.

The international community will benefit from more effective and resilient mechanisms to conserve global public goods including biodiversity and carbon sequestration.

## 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?**

Being policy-focused the project is somewhat discrete, in that we have identified specific knowledge outputs and routes into policy change that we can achieve during the life of the project. The lasting legacy will of course depend on application of project outputs by conservation practitioners and government agencies beyond the project's duration. By partnering with three conservation organizations (Kew Madagascar Conservation Centre, Impact Madagascar and Madagascar National Parks) and government officials (such as Director of Environmental governance from the Ministry of Environment and CBD focal point), who have a long-standing commitment to working in Madagascar, we have increased the chances that the knowledge co-produced by the project will continue to be applied in the future.

The workshops will involve a wider spectrum of stakeholders in the project's activities, which will further help to ensure lasting impact. Materials and resources generated by the project, especially the database, will be hosted by the national protected area foundation. Many training materials will be shared with partner organizations for them to use in future staff training.

Of the lead institutions, ESSA was established in 1963, and will continue to do applied research and training in this area long after the project is completed.

Bangor University's involvement in Madagascar now exceeds 17 years, and NH's personal involvement has lasted 20 years to date. Retention of key project personnel (who have worked together for two years in previous projects) will be maximized by careful initial selection and good management to ensure staff are supported and developed, but also given ownership. All the partner organizations have the capacity to replace staff if necessary (whether temporarily or permanently).

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





## Section 7 - Risk Management

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### 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
<p><b>Fiduciary</b></p> <p>Madagascar ranks 155/180 on Transparency International's corruption perceptions index, with a deteriorating score since 2012.</p>	moderate	rare	major	All funds will be managed either by lead partner ESSA or Bangor, both have extensive experience of complying with UK government's auditing requirements following several previous projects. Project management will employ both internal and external auditors, designed to minimise the risk of fraud and allow early detection of irregularities.	minor
<p><b>Safeguarding</b></p> <p>Appropriate procedures are not applied to safeguard against abuse or harm for the project team, partners, training participants, or local communities.</p>	severe	rare	major	ESSA's and Bangor university's safeguarding policies apply to the project team and govern the design and implementation of the project. We have also discussed as a team what is appropriate behavior in the workplace or in rural villages and will incorporate ethics and safeguarding into all trainings.	minor
<p><b>Delivery Chain</b></p> <p>Lasting change in practice which benefits biodiversity and poverty reduction depends on stakeholders' willingness to make changes to their policy and practice, which is out of our control.</p>	moderate	possible	major	By working with all stakeholders (donors, government, NGOs and communities), the project reduces reliance on any single stakeholder e.g. government. Project team has a very strong understanding of the institutional landscape, and can adapt activities (e.g. follow up support) to where impact is most likely.	moderate

<p><b>Risk 4</b></p> <p>Change in practice also depends on adequate resources, and the entire conservation sector is heavily dependent on international donors (and to a lesser extent, tourism revenues) and therefore vulnerable to political change. However, Madagascar is consistently a priority for donor investment (e.g. recent UK govt commitments).</p>	moderate	unlikely	moderate	<p>This project aims to directly tackle the resource issue by including donors among our stakeholders, to facilitate alignment of policies between e.g. donor and NGOs. The global trend is towards greater emphasis on social safeguards in conservation and our project is in part about helping Malagasy stakeholders adapt to this.</p>	minor
<p><b>Risk 5</b></p> <p>Levels of COVID and/or COVID restrictions in Madagascar/UK could disrupt the project's activities, especially overseas travel and fieldwork.</p>	moderate	likely	major	<p>During our previous Forest4Climate&amp;People project we developed a COVID policy and gained valuable experience of how to adapt and safely conduct activities, including through shifting meetings/training online. Only one project member (NH) is not based in Madagascar. Timing of field trainings will be kept flexible to work around restrictions</p>	moderate
<p><b>Risk 6</b></p> <p>Socio-political unrest in Madagascar affects the project and partners (including the govt, donors etc) NB: next presidential election not due until 2023, after or near end of project</p>	moderate	unlikely	moderate	<p>By working with international donors, NGOs (both national and international) and communities, as well as government, we have many pathways to impact not dependent on govt. Lead partner and most project staff are based in Madagascar, used to working remotely, and so day to day activities can easily be adapted.</p>	minor

## 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

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### 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](#)).**

M&E will be considered at each project management meeting (approx. fortnightly) consisting of OSR (Project Lead), HMR (Project Manager) and NH.

The Project Manager will report progress against the log frame, budget and implementation timetable. In the first year of the project the implementation timetable will be most relevant, with performance indicators identified in the log frame becoming more important later. Budgets will be closely monitored throughout the project (reviewed at least monthly).

Many of the indicators in the log frame have gender specific requirements/measures. As well as being reviewed ex post, they will be monitored during the planning of events, e.g. when inviting participants workshops.

The management committee will report on progress to a steering committee every quarter. This steering committee will be composed of representatives of each of the partners (Kew Madagascar Conservation Centre, Impact Madagascar, and Madagascar National parks) and at least one representative from the relevant government agency. This steering committee will have at least one member from each gender.

Project Leader (OSR) will be ultimately responsible for project M&E, working closely with the Project Manager. There will be scope for considerable learning and adaptation during the project. For example, early evidence synthesis from the database platform and training plans will be shared with project partners at steering committee meetings, which will allow for immediate learning and adaptation of the interventions.

Note that costs for M&E below are conservative, as they exclude T&S costs (which are difficult to apportion to M&E).

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

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

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**Number of days planned for M&E**

60

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## Section 10 - Indicators of Success

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### 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
<p><b>Outcome</b></p> <p>Government, donors, NGOs and communities are enabled to deliver fair and equitable conservation through more effective social safeguard processes and adequate investments in food security and poverty alleviation around PAs.</p>	<p>0.1 Stakeholders’ knowledge of resources and mechanisms necessary to achieve fair and equitable conservation is increased.</p> <p>0.2 Government, donor and / or conservation NGO policies change with respect to social safeguarding procedures (e.g., through the design and implementation of the community management convention) and development investments around PAs.</p> <p>0.3 Partner NGOs’ actions on the ground change as a result of the project.</p>	<p>0.1.1 Quantitative survey and qualitative interviews with key stakeholders (including the network of protected areas) early in project and near end of project, disaggregated by gender.</p> <p>0.1.2 Surveys at the start and the end of training workshops (disaggregated by gender).</p> <p>0.1.3 The data fed into the platform to be summarised quarterly into accessible reports and shared with all stakeholders. These reports will provide a synthesis on the effectiveness of compensatory or development interventions around PAs (disaggregated by gender, wealth etc), their impacts on drivers of biodiversity loss (e.g. migration) and the likely mechanisms through which they lead to impacts.</p> <p>0.2.1 Revised safeguard policies (incl Ministry and Madagascar National Parks) finalised and shared with all stakeholders (also including sustainable development approaches around PAs).</p> <p>0.3.1 Knowledge needs and policy and practice changes reviewed quarterly through the steering committee (allows changes made to actions on the ground to be identified).</p>

## Output 1

Database and evidence synthesis on effectiveness of social safeguards and development interventions produced and disseminated in multiple forms, and is used in changes to policy and practice.

1.1 Draft evidence synthesis and best practice manual generated by the database and circulated to stakeholders for comment at month 6, and quarterly updated as new data are fed in the platform.

1.2 Draft evidence synthesis and best practice manual presented to at least nine communities in three selected PAs (in Malagasy) during community meetings, and feedback elicited at these meetings and focus groups targeting marginalised groups e.g. women, poor or landless households.

1.3 Final evidence synthesis and best practice manual presented to stakeholders at dissemination event in Antananarivo to at least 60 attendees.

1.4. Partners (Kew Madagascar Conservation Center, Madagascar National Parks and Impact Madagascar) revise their safeguard policies and practices using the evidence synthesis and best practice manual, benefiting local communities and biodiversity around at least three protected areas in Madagascar.

1.5 Donors and government agencies revise their policies (and possibly practices) using the evidence synthesis and best practice manual (see also output 4).

1.1.1 Feedback from the steering committee and potential users anonymised and recorded, feeds into development of the synthesis

1.1.2 Website downloads, pop-up surveys and online feedback forms, disaggregated by gender

1.2.1 Presentations to communities filmed and published on project website (while preserving anonymity of community participants).

1.2.2 Feedback from communities collated and anonymized, used to develop the synthesis

1.3.1 attendance lists and feedback forms from workshop

1.4.1. Revisions to safeguard policies recorded, and cross checked for links to project outputs, whether explicit or implicit.

1.5.1 Comparison of revised policies with policies reviewed earlier in the project and cross checked for links to project outputs, whether explicit or implicit.

## Output 2

Training courses and follow up support delivered to at least 30 stakeholders (government and civil society organisations) leading to changes in knowledge, policy and practice.

2.1 Participants develop a more advanced understanding of planning, implementing and evaluating social safeguards and development interventions around PAs, followed up with support and mentoring for the remainder of the project.

2.2 Sharing of best practices facilitated by the course workshops.

2.3 Partners (Kew Madagascar Conservation Center, Madagascar National Parks and Impact Madagascar) revise their safeguard policies and practices following the training.

2.1.1 Training attendance list/ certificates, disaggregated by gender, plus records of follow up meetings.

2.1.2 Pre and post-training surveys (disaggregated by gender) to identify changes in participants' knowledge and understanding.

2.1.3 Follow up survey (6 months later) to identify changes to organisation policies or practice.

2.2.1 Pre and post-training surveys to identify any changes in participants' knowledge from the sharing sessions.

2.2.2 Pre and post-training surveys, incl 6 months later to identify any changes to organisation policies or practice from the sharing session.

2.3.1 Revisions to safeguard policies recorded, and cross checked for links to project outputs, whether explicit or implicit.

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## Output 3

Training delivered to local communities to further their understanding of the community management convention, leading to positive changes in engagement with co-management of conservation.

3.1 Community members knowledge, and capacity increased

3.2 Community Conventions established (or in progress)

3.1.1 Training attendance list/ certificates, disaggregated by gender.

3.1.2 Pre- and post-training surveys of knowledge, attitudes and perceived capacity (disaggregated by gender).

3.2.1 Copies of convention documents (signed or in progress).

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## Output 4

Technical support provided for the reform of the social safeguard policies around PAs by the Ministry of Environment and Madagascar National Parks leading to changes in knowledge, policy and practice.

4.1 Active involvement in committee meetings and review process

4.2 Revised safeguard policies established (or in progress)

4.3 Partners (e.g., Kew Madagascar Conservation Center, Madagascar National Parks and Impact Madagascar) revise their safeguard practices in accordance with the revised national safeguard policy.

4.1.1 Meeting attendance disaggregated by gender.

4.2.1 Copies of revised safeguard policy documents

4.3.1 Revisions to safeguard practices recorded, and cross checked for links to project outputs, whether explicit or implicit.

---

## 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 Establish and maintain a database platform on the social impacts of PAs as well as social safeguard measures and other development interventions around PAs,

1.2 Synthesize and disseminate evidence from the collated data

2.1 Design and run the field-training course for high-level national stakeholders and facilitate sharing of best practices,

2.2 Design and run the in-depth field-based training course aimed at technical staff working in the forest and conservation sector

3.1 Train local communities on the community management convention,

4.1 Support ongoing reform of Madagascar's national PA safeguard policies (led by the Ministry of Environment and Madagascar National Parks)

### **Important Assumptions:**

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

We can collate suitable evidence on safeguarding mechanisms around PAs to feed into the database platform and provide a broader evidence base on best practices.

We can influence the internal policies of stakeholders (having identified knowledge demand during previous projects and subsequent discussions).

Adequate funding is available for lasting changes in actions on the ground and political, security and health situation remain conducive.

Trainings and documents hold sufficient interest to key stakeholders. Key stakeholders will be able to access materials.

We can rigorously and/or pragmatically attribute policy change to project activities through surveys and face-to-face briefings with key stakeholders.

## **Section 11 - Budget and Funding**

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### **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 work will build on the following projects conducted by this team. This background has allowed us to identify a real need (see letters of support) for the work proposed in this project:

GCRF-funded "Reconciling Madagascar's New Protected Areas with poverty alleviation: good practices and novel approaches" closed end Dec 2020. This project reviewed social safeguard documentation and practice across 46 Malagasy PAs, co-organised a high level national workshop with the Ministry of Environment.

FAPBM-funded "Appui au Projet de Réforme du Cadre de Gestion Environnementale et Sociale des Aires Protégées de Madagascar": closing end Jan 2022. This project extended the review of PA safeguards to all Malagasy PAs, and is supporting the Ministry's reform process.

Forest4Climate&People funded by FCDO through the CLARE program (closing end Jan 2022): this project has focused on identifying tenure issues associated with forest conservation and restoration (Rajaonarivelo et al in press) and working closely with government and NGO stakeholders to integrate this knowledge into policy and practice.

P4ges 'Can Paying 4 Global Ecosystem Services values reduce poverty?' funded by the ESPA programme (closed early 2017): This project aimed to influence the development and implementation of REDD+ in the interests of poverty alleviation.

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

Yes

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

We are not aware of any directly similar plans to this proposal. However, the UK government's Biodiverse Landscapes Fund has identified Madagascar as one of six foci for major investment in biodiversity conservation and nature based solutions to climate change <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/madagascar-to-benefit-from-lifeline-for-some-the-worlds-most-precious-biodiverse-habitats>. The fund aims to ensure projects are "led locally and collaboratively within local communities" and "strengthen indigenous people's rights to sustainably manage their lands".

Our project will therefore be very complementary to this UK government investment by developing communities' capacity to engage with co-management of conservation, and helping to develop national, donor and NGO capacity to ensure conservation is implemented equitably.

## 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.**

The main capital items are: laptop (1), printer (1), materials (speakers, portable projectors, flip chart support, etc.), which will be purchased by the main project partner (ESSA) and used by the project staff employed by ESSA. All of these will be officially handed over to ESSA at the end of the project, for use by ESSA staff and students. ESSA will acknowledge receipt of



the equipment in writing.

## 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 is an excellent value for money as it mobilises a predominately Malagasy team (>90% of staff) and >86% of project budget will be spent by the Malagasy leading partner. It promotes local Malagasy leadership through its activities and ensures that its programmes and activities empower Malagasy institutions, building long-term human and institutional capacity and helping address existing informational, structural and power imbalances.

## Section 12 - Safeguarding and Ethics

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### 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.**

<b>We have a safeguarding policy, which includes a statement of our commitment to safeguarding and a zero tolerance statement on bullying, harassment and sexual exploitation and abuse</b>	Checked
<b>We have attached a copy of our safeguarding policy to this application (file upload on certification page)</b>	Checked
<b>We keep a detailed register of safeguarding issues raised and how they were dealt with</b>	Checked
<b>We have clear investigation and disciplinary procedures to use when allegations and complaints are made, and have clear processes in place for when a disclosure is made</b>	Checked
<b>We share our safeguarding policy with downstream partners</b>	Checked
<b>We have a whistle-blowing policy which protects whistle blowers from reprisals and includes clear processes for dealing with concerns raised</b>	Checked
<b>We have a Code of Conduct for staff and volunteers that sets out clear expectations of behaviours - inside and outside the work place - and make clear what will happen in the event of non-compliance or breach of these standards</b>	Checked

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

We will ensure that the privacy, dignity and integrity of everyone involved in this project is protected at all times. There are clearly potential power imbalances between the villagers, who will be involved in delivering the field-based training, and the participants (some of whom we expect will be quite senior representatives of government). We will be mindful of this and take great care to facilitate the training in such a way as to ensure a positive and empowering experience for the villagers involved.

Everyone involved in the project including workshop attendees) will sign up to our code of conduct.

## Section 13 - FCDO Notifications

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### 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.

Yes, advice attached

Please attach details of any advice you have received.



## Section 14 - Project Staff

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### 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?
O. Sarobidy Rakotonarivo (OSR)	<b>Project Leader</b>	40	Checked
H. Manoa Rajaonarivelo (HMR)	Project manager	80	Checked
Mirinindra Rakotoarisoa (MR)	Project assistant manager	50	Checked
Bruno Ramamonjisoa (BR)	Technical advice, will contribute to running one field training course Technical advice, will contribute to running one field training course	5	Checked

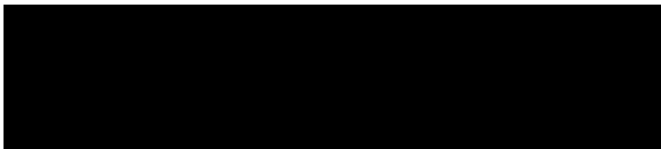
Do you require more fields?

Yes

Name (First name, Surname)	Role	% time on project	1 page CV or job description attached?
Neal Hockley (NH)	Technical advice, will contribute to running one field training course. Will meet every 1-2 weeks with the rest of team.	10	Checked
Zo Rabemananjara (ZR)	Technical advice, will contribute to running one field training course	5	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
<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

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### 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:** Laboratoire des Recherches Appliquées, Department of Forests, Ecole Supérieure des Sciences Agronomiques (ESSA-Forêts), University of Antananarivo

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**Website address:** <https://essaforets.wordpress.com/laboratoires-et-centres/laboratoire-de-recherches-appliquees/>

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**Why is this organisation the Lead Partner, and what value to they bring to the project?**

**(including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):**

ESSA, Université d'Antananarivo, is the leading higher education and research organization in Madagascar in the field of natural resource management and rural development. It has a proven track record in research and provides high quality, interdisciplinary education to doctoral level. Faculty frequently contribute to government policy making. It is the supporting institution for the Tampolo new protected area and a member of the Society for Conservation Biology. ESSA has collaborated with Bangor University since 2003, and was the main partner for NH's Darwin Scoping Visit in 2017, which contributed to this proposal.

Dr O. Sarobidy Rakotonarivo (OSR, 40%): will lead the project, line-manage the project manager (HMR, 80%) and assistant (MR 50%) and take primary responsibility for monitoring and evaluating the project and policy impact, having held numerous policy-advising roles including on the Malagasy delegation to COP26 at Glasgow.

Prof Bruno Ramamonjisoa, the Dean of the École Supérieure des Sciences Agronomiques, and Prof Zo Rabemanajara, the head of the Forestry Department are also advising this project (40 days total).

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**International/In-country Partner**  In-country

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

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**Represented on the Project Board**  Yes

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

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**Have you provided a cover letter?**  Yes

---

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

Yes

**1. Partner Name:** Bangor University

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**Website address:** <https://www.bangor.ac.uk/>

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**What value does this Partner bring to the project?**

**(including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):**

Bangor University has a long tradition of applied research and teaching in the areas of forestry, natural resource management and conservation. Our University strategy focuses on sustainability, and this proposal fits squarely within the most important area for research and impact for Bangor University. Our partnership with the Lead Partner now exceeds 17 years, and we have been working with the Project Leader for nearly 10 years and have worked with all the project team

NH has been involved in research, policy making and consultancy on conservation and community natural resource management in Madagascar for over 20 years and speaks Malagasy and French. He will work closely with the rest of the team, meeting every 1-2 weeks and contributing to all project activities. He will travel to Madagascar to contribute to the extended field training course and possibly the community convention training.

---

**International/In-country Partner**

International

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**Allocated budget:**

██████████

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**Represented on the Project Board**

Yes

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

Yes

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**2. Partner Name:**

Kew Madagascar Conservation Center

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**Website address:**

<https://www.kew.org/>

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**What value does this Partner bring to the project?**

**(including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):**

The Kew Madagascar Conservation Centre (KMCC) is a NGO working on plant research and conservation in Madagascar. It is a dependency of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew and Kew's only establishment outside the United Kingdom.

The community training will take place at one of the protected areas managed by KMCC (Itremo). Our proposed activities are very relevant to Itremo which is part of the new UK-funded Biodiverse Landscapes Fund programme in Madagascar and contains remnant fragments of humid gallery forest and tapia woodland interspersed in a savannah landscape typical of the Central Highlands.

While deforestation is low, unmanaged seasonal fires constitute a significant threat to both forests and woodland, particularly impacting forest edges and perhaps limiting regeneration in tapia woodland, and are likely a significant source of CO2 emissions. Additional threats include mining and invasive species (Pinus). KMMC has implemented a range of activities to address these threats, such as silk production in tapia woodland, establishing and maintaining fire breaks, sustainable agriculture (incl. agroforestry), and community education.

Kew Madagascar Conservation Centre's staff and local communities' time and involvement in this project will be appropriately compensated through the lead partner ESSA-Forets (through the consultancy and operating costs' budget section).

---

<b>International/In-country Partner</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> In-country
<b>Allocated budget:</b>	£0.00
<b>Represented on the Project Board</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes
<b>Have you included a Letter of Support from this partner?</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes

<b>3. Partner Name:</b>	Madagascar National parks (MNP)
<b>Website address:</b>	<a href="https://www.parcs-madagascar.com/">https://www.parcs-madagascar.com/</a>

<b>What value does this Partner bring to the project?</b>  <b>(including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):</b>	<p>(Max 200 words)</p> <p>Madagascar National Parks is a Malagasy association mandated by the government since 1991 to manage the Parks and Reserves of the Island. They currently manage 43 Protected Areas composed of National Parks of terrestrial and marine types, Special Reserves and Integral Natural Reserves. Created in 1990, the association was recognized of public utility via the decree n° 91-592 of December 4, 1991. Before, the name of MNP was "Association Nationale pour la Gestion des Aires Protégées" (ANGAP).</p> <p>The mission of Madagascar National Parks is to establish, conserve and manage in a sustainable way, a national network of Parks and Reserves representative of the "jewels" of the biodiversity and the natural heritage of the Island. These Protected Areas constitute a lever of economic incentives for the conservation and the local development. Madagascar National Parks will be reviewing its social safeguard policy during 2023, and this project will directly contribute to this process. In addition, Madagascar National Park's staff will contribute to trainings and benefits from the evidence synthesis.</p> <p>Madagascar National Parks's staff and local communities' time and involvement in this project will be appropriately compensated through the lead partner ESSA-Forets (through the consultancy and operating costs' budget section).</p>
--	--

<b>International/In-country Partner</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> In-country
<b>Allocated budget:</b>	£0.00
<b>Represented on the Project Board</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes
<b>Have you included a Letter of Support from this partner?</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes

<b>4. Partner Name:</b>	Impact Madagascar
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**Website address:** <http://impactmadagascar.org/>

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**What value does this Partner bring to the project?** Initially conceived in 2013, Impact Madagascar is a Malagasy non-profit organization whose focus is implementing and maintaining actions to benefit and empower local communities.

**(including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):** Their mission is to work with the people of Madagascar to provide solutions for the problems of deforestation, pollution, and poverty. They work alongside local people, sharing their expertise in ecology, sustainability, education and development, in order to build capacity at the community level. Their goal is to protect and conserve Madagascar's unique biodiversity while improving the lives of its people. They wish to implement permanent change through collaboration with local people, creating a foundation on which we can build a better world and aim to make a positive impact, through the support of local people and the protection of biodiversity.

Their integrative approach to biodiversity conservation and development is reflected in their range of projects; from ecological conservation to training and education, and from recycling to construction. Impact Madagascar will contribute to the project in a similar way to Kew Madagascar Conservation Centre.

Impact Madagascar's staff and local communities' time and involvement in this project will be appropriately compensated through the lead partner ESSA-Forets (through the consultancy and operating costs' budget section).

---

**International/In-country Partner**  In-country

---

**Allocated budget:** £0.00

---

**Represented on the Project Board**  Yes

---

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

---

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

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**Website address:** *No Response*

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**What value does this Partner bring to the project?** *No Response*

**(including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):**

**International/In-country Partner**  International  
 In-country

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**Allocated budget:** £0.00

---

**Represented on the Project Board**  Yes  
 No

---

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

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

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**Website address:** *No Response*

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**What value does this Partner bring to the project?** *No Response*

**(including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):**

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**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

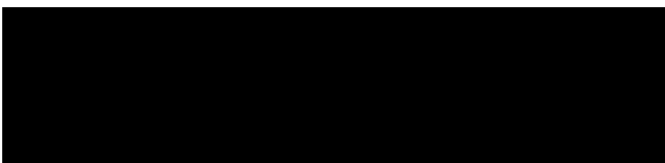
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**If you require more space to enter details regarding Partners involved in the project, please use the text field below.**

*No Response*

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



## **Section 16 - Lead Partner Capability and Capacity**

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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)?**

No

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



**What year was your organisation established/ incorporated/ registered?** 01 January 1994

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**What is the legal status of your organisation?**  Other (if selected, please explain below)

---

**Other explained** Research unit of the the forestry department of Ecole Supérieure des Sciences Agronomiques (ESSA), University of Antananarivo. Registered under N°250/11-MI/DIRAT/ANT/ASS incorporated under Act 60-133.

---

**How is your organisation currently funded?** LRA ESSA-Forets is funded by the University of Antananarivo and various funders through the research or implementation projects they are hosting or partnering with.

---

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

**Aims** LRA is a unit of the forestry department of Ecole Supérieure des Sciences Agronomiques (ESSA), University of Antananarivo. Their aims are to contribute to evidence-based policy, produce knowledge and give young graduates the opportunity to gain professional experience on natural resource management.

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**Activities** They teach students up to Doctoral level and conduct research in many different places in Madagascar on all types of natural resource management issues. In addition to these activities, they have since the 1990s managed the protected area of Tampolo (675ha in Analanjirofo region).

---

**Achievements** They have ensured through the various projects they have been involved in that the research they do has an impact on the policy and the practices in Madagascar. They have a lot of experience of achieving this, and frequently assist with national policymaking processes.

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

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

**Contract/Project 1 Title** Forest for Climate and People: "Putting local people at the centre of decisions about forest conservation and restoration"

---

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

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<b>Duration (e.g. 2 years 3 months)</b>	2 years
<b>Role of organisation in project</b>	LRA ESSA-Forets employs four researchers and is co-leading the project with Bangor University.
<b>Brief summary of the aims, objectives and outcomes of the project</b>	<p>The aim of this project is to ensure forest carbon programmes in Madagascar are more effective (can ultimately lock up more carbon) and pro-poor (avoid negative impacts on poor, vulnerable people and, where possible, bring benefits).</p> <p>The specific objectives are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To ensure that social issues vital for effective and equitable outcomes from REDD+ and forest restoration are addressed in policy design in Madagascar.</li> <li>2. To review the evidence on the influence of current tenure rules on both the likely effectiveness of forest carbon programmes and the impacts on forest edge communities.</li> </ol>

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

**Contract/Project 2 Title** Reconciling Madagascar's New Protected Areas with poverty alleviation: good practices and novel approaches

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

**Duration (e.g. 2 years, 3 months)** 15 months

**Role of organisation in project** Partner: employed the project manager and assistant, assured all financial reporting to Bangor University/GCRF.

**Brief summary of the aims, objectives and outcomes of the project** This project reviewed social safeguard documentation and practice across 46 Malagasy PAs, co-organised a high level national workshop with the Ministry of Environment and assisted with the Ministry's reform process.

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

**Contract/Project 3 Title** P4ges ('Can Paying 4 Global Ecosystem Services values reduce poverty?')

<b>Contract Value/Project budget (include currency)</b>	[REDACTED]
<b>Duration (e.g. 2 years, 3 months)</b>	4 years
<b>Role of organisation in project</b>	LRA ESSA-Forets employed six research assistants and co-led the project with Bangor University.
<b>Brief summary of the aims, objectives and outcomes of the project</b>	The P4GES project looked at the impacts on poverty of slowing greenhouse gas emissions by avoiding deforestation in Madagascar through REDD+ pilot projects. P4GES research highlighted that while this could be economically efficient, it can bring substantial costs to forest-edge communities; some of the poorest people in the world (Poudyal et al., 2018). We also highlighted how difficult it is to ensure that livelihood projects (designed to compensate for conservation costs) reach those most affected by conservation restrictions (Rakotonarivo et al., 2017; Poudyal et al., 2016). Many of the social issues identified during P4GES apply equally to reforestation.
<b>Client/independent reference contact details (Name, e-mail)</b>	[REDACTED]

**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**

Laboratoire des Recherches Appliquées, Ecole Supérieure des Sciences Agronomiques (LRA ESSA-Forêts), University of Antananarivo

**I apply for a grant of**

£96,350.00

**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.)

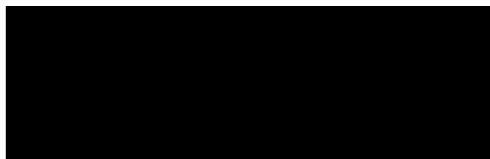
- I have enclosed CVs for project key project personnel, letters of support, budget, safeguarding policy and project implementation timetable (uploaded at appropriate points in application)
- Our last two sets of signed audited/independently verified accounts and annual report (or other financial evidence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

Checked

**Name** Prof Bruno Ramamonjisoa

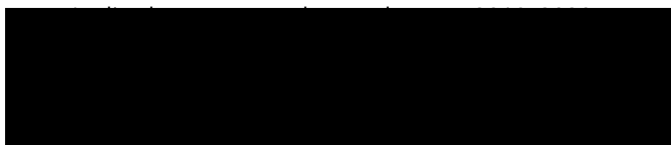
**Position in the organisation** Dean of the École Supérieure des Sciences Agronomiques

**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

	<b>Check</b>
<b>I have read the Guidance, including the "Darwin Initiative Guidance", "Monitoring Evaluation and Learning Guidance", "Supplementary Guidance for Capability &amp; Capacity Projects", "Risk Management Guidance", and "Financial Guidance".</b>	Checked
<b>I have read, and can meet, the current Terms and Conditions for this fund.</b>	Checked
<b>I have provided actual start and end dates for the project.</b>	Checked
<b>I have provided my budget based on UK government financial years i.e. 1 April - 31 March and in GBP.</b>	Checked
<b>I have checked that our budget is complete, correctly adds up and I have included the correct final total at the start of the application.</b>	Checked

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).