Applicant: **Mottram, Lawrence**
Organisation: **Action Against Hunger UK**
Funding Sought: **£0.00**

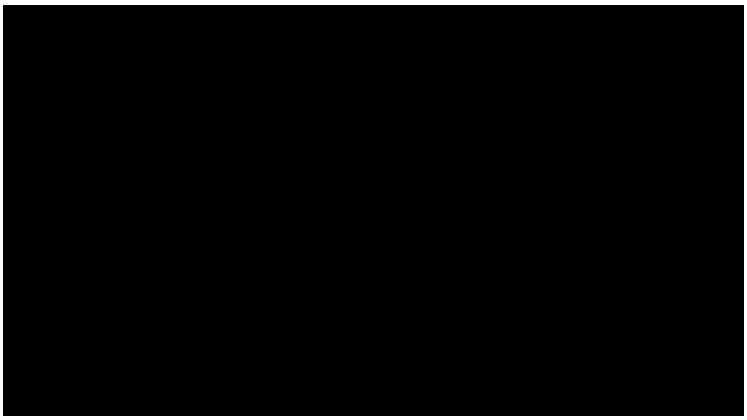
DIR28IN\1014

Farming with Alternative Pollinators for Increased Biodiversity and Smallholder Incomes

The project pilots an innovation whereby farmers plant their fields with different crop combinations to attract and benefit from pollinators. The innovation reduces the loss of biodiversity of pollinators, who in turn increase the quality and quantity of the crops and therefore the farmers' income. The demonstrations are done in farmers' fields together with agricultural and environmental advisors. Researchers, donors and policy makers engage through learning visits to promote expansion and scale up of the approach.

PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

Name	Lawrence
Surname	Mottram
Organisation	Action Against Hunger UK



Section 1 - Contact Details

PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

Name	Lawrence
Surname	Mottram
Organisation	Action Against Hunger UK

[redacted]

GMS ORGANISATION

Type	**Charity/ trusts**
Name	Action Against Hunger UK

[redacted]

Section 2 - Project Summary, Ecosystems, Approaches and Threats

Q3. Project Title

Farming with Alternative Pollinators for Increased Biodiversity and Smallholder Incomes

Q4. Key Ecosystems, Approaches and Threats

Please select up to 3 biomes that are of focus, up to 3 conservation actions that characterise your approach, and up to 3 threats to biodiversity you intend to address, from dropdown lists.

Biome 1

Savannas and grasslands

Biome 2

No Response

Biome 3

No Response

Conservation Action 1

Land/water protection (area/resource/habitat)

Conservation Action 2

Education & awareness (incl. training)

Conservation Action 3

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

Threat 1

Agriculture & aquaculture (incl. plantations)

Threat 2

Natural system modifications (fires, dams)

Threat 3

No Response

Q5. Summary of project

Please provide a brief summary of your project, its aims, and the key activities you plan to undertake. 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.

The project pilots an innovation whereby farmers plant their fields with different crop combinations to attract and benefit from pollinators. The innovation reduces the loss of biodiversity of pollinators, who in turn increase the quality and quantity of the crops and therefore the farmers' income. The demonstrations are done in farmers' fields together with agricultural and environmental advisors. Researchers, donors and policy makers engage through learning visits to promote expansion and scale up of the approach.

Section 3 - Dates & Budget Summary

Q6. Project Country(ies)

Which eligible host country(ies) will your project be working in?

Country 1	Zimbabwe	**Country 2**	*No Response*
Country 3	*No Response*	**Country 4**	*No Response*

Do you require more fields?

☐ No

Q7. Project dates

Start date:	End date:	Duration (e.g. 1 year, 8 months):
01 April 2022	30 June 2023	1 year, 3 months

Q8. Budget Summary

Darwin Funding Request	2022/23	2023/24	Total request
(Apr - Mar) £	£146,409.00	£42,432.00	188,841.00

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

Q10a. Do you have proposed matched funding arrangements?

☐ Yes

What matched funding arrangements are proposed?

AAH and NAZ will make use of match funding from USAID (BHA) and from AAH Internal Funds:
- [redacted] GBP under the NAZ budget will come from BHA
- [redacted] GBP under the AAH budget will come from BHA and [redacted] GBP will come from AHH Internal Funds

Q10b. Total confirmed & unconfirmed matched funding (£) £[redacted]

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

N/A

Section 4 - Darwin Objectives and Conventions

Q11. Problem the project is trying to address

Please describe the evidence of the problem your project is trying to address in terms of biodiversity and its relationship with poverty. What is the need, challenge or opportunity? For example, what are the drivers of loss of biodiversity that the project will attempt to address? Why are they relevant, for whom? How did you identify these problems?

Please cite the evidence you are using to support your assessment of the problem (references can be listed in a separate attached PDF document).

As 75% of food crops and almost 90% of wild plants globally depend, at least partly, on animal pollination for fertilization, pollination is one of the most important functions in maintaining and promoting biodiversity, securing agricultural production and food security.
Abundance, diversity and health of pollinators are threatened by different, mostly human made drivers, including climate change. In Zimbabwe, the global trends demanding for cheap goods and a modern and especially competitive economy, pushes the agricultural production system, resulting in high use of insecticides, unsustainable monoculture cropping,

cutting of trees for firewood and tobacco curing, and agricultural expansion, requiring clearing of land (e.g. deforestation, bushfires). Agriculture is considered the biggest contributor for pollinator loss in Zimbabwe. In addition, forest area has dramatically declined resulting in loss of biodiversity and habitat for wildlife, including alternative wild pollinators, impacting on crop productivity.
Consequently, there is a rapid decline of wild pollinators, which provide the majority of pollination services. Without the services of these pollinators, natural plants cannot be pollinated, as well as vital food plants and crops. While this is already having destructive effects on biodiversity, it is also adversely impacting production and food security of resource poor smallholder farmers who rely on ecosystem services for their production, like in many rural areas in Zimbabwe.
For smallholder farmers, preserving their livelihoods through agriculture and building resilience to withstand economic stresses and natural shocks, while maintaining the natural resource base for agriculture, is extremely difficult.
Protecting biodiversity and pollinators is not their priority and not considered profitable, especially as insects are regarded as pest. Government-financed schemes to protect pollinators and ecosystem services (as they exist in several developed countries, e.g. flower stripes) are not existent and affordable in countries like Zimbabwe. The challenge is to motivate farmers to engage in pollinator protection, while at the same time enable them to maintain and build up their agricultural livelihoods.
AAH and NAZ have been discussing practical ways of adapting their programmes to increase impact on household incomes and to become climate-smarter and implement an agro-ecological approach. “Farming with Alternative Pollinators” (FAP) was discovered by AAH through desk research and appears to fit this need.
FAP is an approach that uses parts of agricultural fields as habitat enhancement for pollinators, by planting 25% of the area around the main crop with Marketable Habitat Enhancement Plants (MHEP). It promotes resilience of agro-ecosystems and biodiversity and leads to higher and better quality of crop yields, through improved pollination by a diversity of wild pollinator insects. This leads to improved income for farming households, which in turn strengthens livelihood capacities.
This approach will therefore address the lack of awareness/appreciation of the role and importance of insects in agriculture by farmers, encouraging habitat protection and enhancement, by discouraging monoculture cropping and use of insecticides, and by introducing MHEP, increasing yield and income, which could reduce the need for unsustainable agricultural expansion (such as deforestation) and practices (harmful chemicals).

Q12. Biodiversity Conventions, Treaties and Agreements

Q12a. Your project must support the commitments of one or more of the agreements listed below.

Please indicate which agreement(s) will be supported.

- □ Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
- □ Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)
- □ Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS)
- □ United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

Q12b. National and International Policy Alignment

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

The project contributes to the achievement of national and international strategies on the conservation of biodiversity and ecosystems. It is aligned to the following national policies and strategies:
• National Climate Policy (2017)
• Climate Smart Agriculture Framework (2018-2028)
• Zimbabwe National Agriculture Policy Framework (2018-2030)
• National Environmental Policy and Strategies (2009)
• Environmental Management Act
• Zimbabwe Climate Smart Agriculture Investment Plan (2019)
The National Environmental Policy and Strategies aims to maintain essential environmental processes, and preserve the broad spectrum of biological diversity to sustain the long-term ability of natural resources to meet basic human needs, enhance food security, reduce poverty, and improve living standards of Zimbabweans. The project supports these objectives as it seeks to preserve biological diversity and contribute to improved income and food security.

Zimbabwe has also developed a country strategy and plan, which is aligned to the United Nations Convention on Biodiversity (UNCBD). Some of the objectives captured in the plan are; address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society, improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, and enhance implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity building. The project will contribute to these objectives by combining indigenous knowledge, research and innovations to conserve biodiversity and enhance the habitat of different crop pollinators.
The project also contributes to the National Agriculture Policy Framework (NAPF) 2018-2030 and the National Climate Change Response Strategy (ZNCCRS) through promotion and strengthening biodiversity.
This will contribute to the international policy frameworks which Zimbabwe is a signatory of, including the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) and the Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES)

Section 5 - Method, Innovation, Capability & Capacity

Q13. 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?**
- **The need for this work and a justification of your proposed approach.**
- **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 (roles and responsibilities, project management tools, risks etc.).**

Please make sure you read the guidance documents, before answering this question.

The project is to pilot an innovative approach Farming with Alternative Pollinators (FAP), by testing new layouts and crop combinations on smallholder fields, with approx. 75% field coverage with the main crop and 25% with plants for enhancing habitat for pollinators, Marketable Habitat Enhancement Plants (MHEP).
FAP has been developed through trials by the International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA), in Morocco and Uzbekistan. Their documentation shows the potential of FAP for increasing farmers' incomes and biodiversity conservation. In Morocco there was an average increase of net income per surface, FAP versus control, by 121% (e.g. for pumpkin 152% increase, eggplant 214%). Also recorded pollinator diversity in FAP fields was higher than in control fields. In both countries, farmer incomes increased through FAP, demonstrating the replicability of the approach. Lessons learnt and practical instructions from the trials will guide identifying suitable field layouts and crop combinations in Zimbabwe and appropriate agricultural practices for FAP.
AAH and NAZ have previously promoted low-cost input gardens for smallholder farmers and gathered evidence of the benefits and motivation of famers to engage. The inclusion of trusted, innovative farmers (lead farmers) in promoting new approaches has proven particularly successful and will be incorporated in this pilot. Lead farmers can be instrumental in awareness raising and appreciation of pollinators, especially countering farmers' fear of being stung.
Implementation will be in the Gokwe North and Gokwe South districts in Midlands Province where AAH and NAZ already work with farmers promoting good agricultural practices in low-input community gardens. These districts have low rainfall resulting in low production, food shortages and higher vulnerability to natural shocks, with 694,000 people in Midlands suffering from insufficient food consumption. Farmers often resort to cotton production with high use of chemicals and inorganic fertilizers, leading to biodiversity loss, especially wild pollinators.
We will pilot FAP using 50 FAP demonstration plots and compare with 30 control plots with 100% main crop.
Main activities:
1. Piloting performance of main crops and MHEP due to FAP methodology
2. Assessing wild pollinator diversity in and around FAP plots
3. Increasing capacity of farmers, AAH, NAZ, Agritex, EA and key stakeholders to deliver biodiversity-poverty reduction outcomes
4. Engaging key stakeholders with the innovation to assess potential scale-up and promote inclusion in national agricultural plans and strategies.
AAH will manage the pilot, ensuring quality implementation, risk management and focus on learning and information

exchange with stakeholders. NAZ, with AAH technical support, will implement the pilot at community level, working together with farmers and extension officers of the Ministry of Agriculture ('Agritex officer') in setting up demonstration plots, conducting trainings, monitoring and evaluation of progress.
Environment Africa will capacitate AAH, NAZ and Agritex in ecological aspects of pollination and plants relevant for FAP, lead in community assessments on biodiversity and identification of pollinators, and capacitate farmers, NAZ and Agritex in monitoring of pollinator populations, habitat quality and pollination performance on crops.

Q14. Innovation

Please specifically outline how your approach or project is innovative, noting the opportunity to describe the methodology is next.

Is it the application of existing evidence/technology/approach in a distinctly different sector, the development of new technologies/approach in an existing area, or is it a totally disruptive approach?

This pilot project is an opportunity to introduce an innovative and completely new approach for testing and adaptation to different geographic area, socio-economic and agro-ecological context.
Desk reviews and consultative processes have revealed that FAP is a novel concept without documentation and testing in Southern and even Sub-Saharan Africa. Likewise, there is not much data and documentation available about the situation and trends of pollinator populations and which wild pollinators are relevant for which crops and plant biodiversity in Zimbabwe.
However, FAP is an innovative methodology that can easily be brought together with traditional knowledge about ecosystem functioning and biodiversity and fits well into the situation and capacities of smallholder farmers. It is climate smart, low cost, uses readily available resources, is adaptable to the context and does not require a large investment in labour. This means it has the potential to lead to new effective local solution to poverty and biodiversity loss, which are farmer-centred and do not rely on outside support.
Given the scope and lifespan of the project its main aim is an initial pilot of the FAP approach, providing evidence for its replicability to the Zimbabwe context and influencing stakeholders - research institutions (national & international institutes, universities), international and national NGOs, UN organizations, donors, and eventually policy makers (Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Environment) - to it take up and bring it to scale.

Q15. Capability and Capacity

How will you support the strengthening of capability and capacity in the project countries at organisational or individual levels, please provide details of what form this will take and the post-project value to the country.

Capacities of local and national stakeholders to deliver biodiversity-poverty reduction outcomes are limited, especially regarding knowledge and expertise in wild pollinators and pollination services for smallholder crops. It is essential therefore that the implementing partners and also external stakeholders' capacities and capabilities are built to ensure the outcomes are sustained after the pilot is completed.
The project will bring in experts from EA (e.g. in plant- and bee-ecology) to strengthen NAZ and Agritex capacity through trainings and active participation in identification, quantification and documentation of pollinators, habitat conditions and plants preferred by pollinators. This will strengthen the capability of NAZ and Agritex to coordinate and conduct these in the future. At the same time, the project will engage the district officer of the Environmental Management Agency (EMA), which is under the Ministry for Environment, to participate in monitoring and learning visits to enhance the understanding of the environment-agriculture interface of biodiversity and position FAP as concept where both come together.
The involvement of these key ministries will work to enhance institutional capacity and sustainability, which is critical for post-project sustainability and value to the community and country. Moreover, it will promote inter-ministry discussion on biodiversity, a topic which traditionally has been situated in the environment sector, but is becoming increasingly recognised as critical to the agriculture sector.
The project will make use of community structures and through building the capacity of lead farmers, the community's knowledge and competency for biodiversity focused extension services will be further strengthened. AAH uses a community-led participatory approach, which ensures community participation in identification of needs, in project design, monitoring and adjustment throughout the project cycle. This plays a key role in capacity building in the community and enhancing post-project sustainability.

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

Q16. Gender equality

All applicants must consider whether and how their project will contribute to reducing inequality between persons of different gender. Explain how your project will collect gender disaggregated data and what impact your project will have in promoting gender equality.

Agriculture is the main livelihood for both women and men in Zimbabwe. However, women face many barriers accessing productive means (seeds, fertilizer, finance, labour, extension services), especially for participation in capitalized market-oriented agriculture. We have supported small-scale and low-input gardening for women and have found it beneficial for women, leading to economic empowerment. We expect FAP to benefit female farmers similarly, as it has high potential to accelerate and boost benefits from gardening activities.
As an innovation it bears uncertainties about actual impact, perception and usability and how it addresses different needs, motivations and capacities of people of all genders. In order to properly assess the potential impact and scalability of FAP, the project targets a mix of women and men famers. First we will conduct a gender analysis to consider the distinct needs, preferences and capacities of women and men. By adapting accordingly, the project intends to address gender inequality by finding out how the approach can work for all genders. Sharing our gender analysis will support potential scale-up to also address gender inequality.
The project will involve women and men equally in decision-making, demonstrating gender equality in project roll-out and work to mitigate any potential negative impacts, especially for women and ensure that they remain in control of relevant resources.
As reflected in our activities:
- Understanding of gender-differences in knowledge about biodiversity, agriculture, ecosystems (particularly pollinators) and in utilization and control of resources (Act.1.2, 2.1)
- Identification of suitable crops and field layouts for demo-plots according to different needs, preferences and capacities of women and men (Act. 1.3)
- Understanding and monitoring how the introduction of an innovation influences and changes roles and responsibilities in agricultural and conservation activities, and control over resources.
- Monitoring gender-specific issues, ensuring they are properly captured and analysed in all documentation.

Q17. Awareness and understanding

How will you raise awareness and understanding of biodiversity-poverty issues in your stakeholders, including who are your stakeholders, what approaches/formats/products will you use, how you will ensure open and free access to all data, and how will you know that the messages are understood?

The project follows a knowledge based participatory approach where farmers and communities play a leading role in identifying biodiversity-poverty issues in their communities, building on traditional knowledge. Trainings, joint assessments and monitoring of crop and pollinator performance will reinforce this understanding and awareness for communities, NAZ and Agritex. The demonstration plots will therefore act as a focus for ongoing mutual learning and discussions to consolidate and ensure understanding.
We will also engage external stakeholders: research institutions (e.g. the University of Zimbabwe) and policy makers (Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Environment) and donors. These stakeholders will be identified through existing relationships, sector working groups, and engagement with the National Biodiversity Forum and EU-FAO biodiversity project (ACP-MEA 3), and encouraged to participate in learning activities. These will include field visits and meetings to discuss performance of the FAP pilot, assess opportunities to integrate trials into ongoing or future programmes of stakeholders, and possibilities to popularize FAP. AAH and EA will pay special attention to raising publicity through press releases and publication of FAP learnings in various print and online media during World Biodiversity Day and World Environment Day.
AAH will share a monthly newsletter/update documenting highlights and learnings from the field and exchange meetings. The updates will keep stakeholders informed about the pilot and engaged in the discussion. Furthermore, updates will be used to attract attention to the topic beyond the identified stakeholders and will be shared digitally via social media and in regional and global working groups. A comprehensive report will be compiled towards project end, presented and shared in a workshop at national level, and via individual presentations with high-level stakeholders (selected donors, ministries of agriculture and environment). Our M&E processes will include a focus on understanding and also feedback to support us in

formatting our products to be effective.

Q18. Change expected

Detail the nature of the outputs you expect from the project (for example report, practical demonstration, know-how, new process, product or service design) and how these will help you to target the identified need, challenge or opportunity in terms of biodiversity and poverty reduction, and links between them.

You should identify what will change and who will benefit a) in the short-term (i.e. during the life of the project) and b) in the long-term (after the project has ended).

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

Short-term outputs:

Output 1: Improved performance of main crops and MHEP due to FAP methodology:
• 50 FAP farmer households will experience an increased income due to better performance of FAP main crop and MHEPs.
• 30 non-FAP farmers, who participate in the pilot through set up and maintenance of control plots experience improvement in their livelihoods too due to: Provision of seeds, tools and materials to set up and maintain gardens.

Output 2: Increased wild pollinator biodiversity in and around FAP plots:
• 1 pollinator census report documenting pollinator populations and development around FAP plots in the project area.

Output 3: Increased capacity of farmers, AAH, NAZ, Agritex, EA and key stakeholders to deliver biodiversity-poverty reduction outcomes:
• 80 project farmers (50% women, 50% men) and at least 300 community members have an increased understanding of the effects of agricultural cropping systems on biodiversity and ecosystems at local level
• 10 project staff (AAH, NAZ), 10 Agritex officers, 50 project farmers are capacitated in the FAP methodology and specifically in the identification and quantification of alternative pollinators, as well as assessing the overall habitat health within the farming plot.
• 50 FAP famers will develop positive perception of biodiversity impact on agriculture performance increasing motivation to expand the FAP approach to more fields
• Increased experience for project team in experimenting and learning with famers, being open for including and allowing new ideas in advisory work, and taking risks in testing new techniques

Output 4: Key stakeholders are engaged with the innovation to assess the potential to scale up if successful:
• 12 monthly newsletters/updates highlighting key performance and learnings from the FAP demonstrations
• 1 comprehensive report assessing the performance of FAP plots with regard to yield and crop income, barriers and enabling factors to farmer adoption, and recommendations for upscaling FAP and inclusion in strategies and plans
• 1 national level workshop

Long term impact:

Local communities and stakeholders, including governments, demonstrate sustained improvement in policy and practice, which results in gains for biodiversity and reduced poverty.

Increase of wild pollinators and visibility of good crop performance on FAP fields lead to more and more non-project famers to adopt FAP methodology in project area. Along with improving incomes and livelihoods, pollinator populations and pollinator diversity in communities will increase due to the provision of habitat, having a positive effect on ecosystem services and biodiversity as a whole. The pilot helps in promoting the presence of wild pollinators in farming and hence helps positioning the topic in development organisations' and donors' agendas in Zimbabwe.
External stakeholders are motivated to allocate more funding and effort in replication of pilots and research. Also, by gaining more proof of the benefits of wild pollinators, stakeholders will be better positioned to effectively communicate such biodiversity considerations being embedded in agricultural plans and strategies and communicate to the agriculture

sector (given the fact that biodiversity topic is usually residing in environmental sector and related institutions).

Q19. Pathway to change

Please outline your project's expected pathway to change, including how your outcome can be scaled. This should be an overview of the overall project logic and outline why and how you expect your Outputs to contribute towards your overall Outcome and, longer term, your expected Impact.

This should directly relate to your overall project's Theory of Change which must be uploaded alongside your logframe at Q24. See the separate Theory of Change Guidance **and Section 2.3.2 of the** Darwin Initiative Innovation Supplementary Guidance **for further information on your Theory of Change.**

FAP demonstration plots (as well as control plots) will be set up and maintained by groups and individual farmers. The FAP methodology focusses on attracting and providing habitat for wild pollinators. The pollination services of these diverse pollinators in FAP plots will result in improved pollination of the main crop and the MHEP in the same plot.
Due to the improved pollination on the FAP plot, the main crops perform much better in terms of quality and quantity compared to the same crop in the control plot. This leads to better yield and eventually higher income from the FAP plot, compared to the control plot, benefiting the smallholder household (this will be supplemented further via additional income from MHEP on the FAP plot). Simultaneously, the diverse wild pollinators of the FAP plots will also pollinate natural and agricultural plants in the surroundings, contributing to increased biodiversity.
Farmers, NAZ, Agritex officers and external stakeholders will closely monitor performance and learn from the implementation of the trials. Visits by donors, regular updates and communications in national platforms and meetings will create awareness and interest of stakeholders in the FAP approach and its benefits and facilitate scaling up and uptake by famers.

Q20. Exit strategy

How will the benefits or outcome be sustained post-funding? Will the innovation be mainstreamed into "business as usual" to continue to deliver the benefits? How will the required capability and capacity remain available to sustain the benefits? How will your approach, if proven, be scaled? Are there any barriers to scaling and if so, how will these be addressed?

The exit strategy is strongly centred on capacity building and increasing interest in FAP in lead farmers and communities, NAZ and Agritex officers, and external stakeholders, such as research institutions agricultural universities, UN and NGOs. Their increased capacity and understanding of pollinators, agriculture and biodiversity will make them strong advocates for inclusion, scaling and further adoption of FAP into projects and plans. This is reinforced by a very strong documentation and knowledge management, which starts at the initial phase of the pilot and runs throughout. The project will make use of the ongoing shaping of collaboration between the Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Environment, as well as the strong and active participation and exchange with members of the National Biodiversity Forum (NBF), regional EU-FAO biodiversity project (ACP-MEA 3), relevant working groups (e.g., multi-stakeholder food security group) and other initiatives that will be brought on board.
One potential barrier is funding, however the advantage and uniqueness of FAP is that it is an extremely low-cost methodology, which builds on a combination of crops and produce benefits and the reduction/omission of herbicides or pesticides makes it cheaper for farmers. These circumstances make it very attractive for famers to carry on and expand FAP in their fields. Also, other farmers who witness the FAP trials can easily test it by themselves, as it does not carry any significant costs of investment apart from the costs for seeds, and the readiness to adhere to basic good agricultural practices.
AAH, NAZ, EA and Agritex, who are piloting the approach together, will also be motivated by the benefits to carry on FAP methodology, integrating in into their future projects and promoting it further.

Section 7 - Risk Management

Q21. 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 Risk, and one Delivery Chain Risk.

Projects should also draft their initial risk register, using the Risk Assessment template, 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 The risk of misappropriation of project funds through fraud and corruption	Major	Possible	Major	Action Against Hunger and its partners have zero tolerance to fraud and corruption as encapsulated in their Anti-fraud and whistle-blower policies. Action Against Hunger has an Internal Audit function at HQ and a Compliance resource in Zimbabwe. Further-more regular statutory and donor audits are carried out.	Minor
Safeguarding The risk of beneficiaries being sexually exploited, harassed and abused	Major	Possible	Major	Action Against Hunger has an International Safeguarding Policy and a Protection against Sexual Exploitation and Abuse policy where every staff member, partners, suppliers/service providers are made aware of and made to sign as acknowledgement and regular refresher courses	Minor
Delivery Chain Funding down streaming to a local partner can compromise accountability or delivery of outputs	Major	Possible	Major	Action Against Hunger carries out thorough due diligence processes when engaging local partners and signs explicit partner agreements for implementation. Furthermore, AAH has a long standing partnership with NAZ and record of successful joint implementation of several projects.	Minor
Risk 4 With elections upcoming in 2023, traditionally the year before in this case 2022 is campaigning season and project activities might be disrupted or at worse suspended.	Moderate	Possible	Major	Action Against Hunger and its partners have MOUs with the local authorities in areas of operation. Regular reports on project activities and plans are shared with the local authorities. This has resulted in little to no disruption of activities in the past as the relationship with the authorities is good	Minor

Risk 5 Inadequate capacity to implement the project	Major	Unlikely	Major	Action Against Hunger has highly skilled personnel and has strong support from Headquarters staff and from across the Network as needed. The local partners who work with Action Against Hunger went through a thorough due diligence exercise and they are regularly monitored	Minor
Risk 6 COVID-19 Restrictions leading to some planned activities failing to be carried out	Moderate	Possible	Major	Action Against Hunger has managed through the use of virtual space to carry out trainings remotely and abiding with the restrictions in numbers for gatherings. Currently restrictions have been relaxed however we will continue to monitor and make adjustments as needed.	Minor

Section 8 - Implementation Timetable

Q22. Provide a project implementation timetable that shows the key milestones in project activities

Provide a project implementation timetable that shows the key milestones in project activities. Complete the Word template as appropriate to describe the intended workplan for your project and upload this below as a PDF.

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.

- AAH Timetable FAP-ZIM
- 06/12/2021
- 17:53:31
- pdf 195.97 KB

Section 9 - Monitoring and Evaluation

Q23. 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).

Because of the novelty of FAP and the project's aim of testing, adapting and developing a strong understanding of barriers and enablers to scaling, the project implementation is built around the principle of continuous learning – not only for participating farmers, but also for project staff, NAZ and Agritex officers and the external stakeholders who are targeted to develop interest in promoting and scaling-up FAP.
To ensure this, the project has a strong MEAL team, comprising of the AAH MEAL Head of Department, who has the overall M&E responsibility for the project, who will work in tandem with and guide the NAZ MEAL Manager in the coordination and operationalization of all M&E activities. They are supported by a MEAL officer and data analyst who ensure the proper capturing and analysis of information and data from the trial. A MEAL assistant will be specifically assigned to the Darwin pilot at field level.
These M&E activities, facilitated by the MEAL Assistant at field level, will be jointly conducted by farmers, NAZ and Agritex officers at field level:
· Baseline situational assessment led by EA to identify traditional knowledge about natural resources and ecosystems, agriculture, pollinators and crops, which will serve as basis for understanding and awareness raising. The assessment will also determine benchmarking points to measure the extent to which the project achieved its objectives in terms of understanding and awareness raising about pollinators and biodiversity-poverty outcomes at local level. A gender analysis will be included under the technical lead of NAZ.
· Pollinator identification, census and documentation of habitat conditions around FAP plots as baseline and endline assessment to monitor change in pollinator populations, led by EA.
· Joint visitation of plots, assessment and documentation of:
- crop performance on FAP plots (monthly) and control plots (bi-monthly)
- plot yield and income assessments after each cropping cycle (2 assessments)
- quality of pollinator habitat and development of pollinator in FAP plots (quarterly)
- proper application of good agricultural practices (FAP and control) and FAP elements (FAP plots) (monthly)

A mid-term review and final evaluation will be conducted involving keys stakeholders.
A mechanism will also be put in place to give feedback/voice complaints regarding the overall implementation process of the pilot or specific aspects. Farmers' feedback and suggestions will be also be integrated into monitoring assessments and reports.
The project team will meet weekly to monitor the project and to agree on areas for follow up in terms of lessons learnt, good practices or unforeseen or negative impacts which need adjustment of implementation, or which require field teams to give advice about issues evident in specific demonstrations plots. General or specific adjustments of the demonstrations can be made every cropping cycle, following the plot yield and income assessments . The adoption of suggested changes will be discussed between the farmer, NAZ and Agritex advisors and agreed by the M&E and project team from AAH, NAZ and EA.

Total project budget for M&E (this may include Staff and Travel and Subsistence Costs)	£[redacted]
Percentage of total project budget set aside for M&E	[redacted]
Number of days planned for M&E	60

Section 10 - Logical Framework

Q24. Logical Framework

Darwin Initiative projects will be required to monitor (and report against) their progress towards their expected Outputs and Outcome. This section sets out the expected Outputs and Outcome of your project, how you expect to measure progress against these and how we can verify this.

Logframe Template

Please complete your full logframe in the separate Word template and upload as a PDF using the file upload below.

Copy your Impact, Outcome and Output statements and your activities below - these should be the same as in your uploaded logframe.

- Optional, References & Diagram
- 06/12/2021
- 14:13:47
- pdf 216.06 KB

- Logframe & TOC
- 06/12/2021
- 13:35:43
- pdf 287.35 KB

Impact:

Local communities and stakeholders, including governments, demonstrate sustained improvement in policy and practice, which results in gains for biodiversity and reduced poverty

Outcome:

To pilot and demonstrate an innovative approach (FAP) to increase biodiversity (wild pollinators and plant diversity) and reduce poverty (increased income at household level) in Gokwe North and Gokwe South

Project Outputs

Output 1:

Improved performance of main crops and MHEP due to FAP methodology

Output 2:

Increased wild pollinator biodiversity in and around FAP plots

Output 3:

Increased capacity of farmers, AAH, NAZ, Agritex, EA and key stakeholders to deliver biodiversity-poverty reduction outcomes

Output 4:

Key stakeholders are engaged with the innovation to assess the potential to scale up if successful

Output 5:

No Response

Do you require more Output fields?

It is advised to have less than 6 Outputs since this level of detail can be provided at the activity level.

- No

Activities

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

1.1. Identification of communities, farmer groups and individual farmers (including lead farmers) for FAP and control plots; sensitization of farmers and communities about FAP pilot and requirements for participation.
1.2. Baseline situational assessment and participatory analysis about biodiversity loss, land degradation, agriculture and poverty issues in communities, and setting of project benchmarks (to be done in alignment with Activity 2.1.). A gender analysis focusing on gender differences in conservation and natural resource use will be included.
1.3. Identification of main crops, Marketable Habitat Enhancement Plants (MHEPs), potential pollinators to be attracted, and agreement about optimal field layouts to attract a diversity of pollinators and facilitate improved pollination. This will be jointly done by the farmers in the same locality together with NAZ, EA and Agritex (to be done after Activities 2.1 and 2.2).

1.4. Setting up of fifty (50) FAP demonstration plots with the following crop coverage: 75% main crop, 25% different identified MHEP.
1.5. Setting up of thirty (30) control plots which will consist only of the main crop (100%).
1.6. Monthly crop performance assessments – both FAP and control – by farmers, NAZ and Agritex officers.
1.7. Plot yield and income assessments after every cropping cycle to determine yield, crop quality, market value and income realized when selling, jointly conducted by the respective farmer, NAZ and Agritex officers, and together with a lead farmer.

2.1. Participatory assessment of traditional knowledge about natural resources and ecosystems, agriculture, pollinators and crops. Including identification of suitable crops that are highly dependent on pollinators and of MHEPs that can best attract pollinators and suit farmers' capacities and preferences.
2.2. Awareness raising about pollinator conservation and their benefits to ecosystem services and agriculture.
2.3. Identification, quantification and documentation of pollinators, habitat conditions and plants preferred by pollinators in communities, jointly by farmers, community members, NAZ and Agritex officers and EA experts (to be done at the beginning, after 1st and after 2nd full cropping and flowering cycles, and at the end of the pilot project).
2.4. Bi-month qualitative assessment of habitat and pollinators in FAP plots, by NAZ and Agritex officers together with respective farmers.

3.1. Development of FAP training manual and practical guidance for farmers.
3.2. Training of fifty (50) FAP farmers and thirty (30) control farmers on good agricultural practices.
3.3. Training of ten (10) NAZ and Agritex officer and fifty (50) FAP farmers on wild pollinators, their identification, quantification and pollinator health and habitat maintenance, including conservation agriculture practices such as zero tillage and reduced pesticide use.
3.4. Monthly visits to FAP plots by NAZ and Agritex officers to advise and encourage farmers to follow the FAP methodology (and document discussions, learning).
3.5. Bi-monthly visits to control plots to follow up and advise on the 'usual' good agricultural practices for the main crop.
3.6. Quarterly exchange visits between FAP farmers and on-field discussion on identified well-performing FAP plots.

4.1. Identification of and networking with stakeholders with interest in promoting or funding initiatives with biodiversity-poverty-reduction outcomes (research institutions, donors, government ministries or agencies, NGO, UN).
4.2. Participation and presentation of FAP approach in regular working groups and sector meetings, as well as in national higher level fora (e.g. National Biodiversity Forum, agricultural fy groups, Head of Agency FSL group) as well as presentations to the Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Environment).
4.3. Organize at least four (4) field visits with interested stakeholders to learn from FAP plots and methodology, discuss with farmers about the approach and how they experience the performance of the crops and changes in pollinator diversity (and visit control plots for comparison).
4.4. Organize follow-up meetings after each field visit to discuss findings of the visits and document lessons learnt, good and poor practices and give recommendations for implementation and analysis.
4.5. Exchange meetings and workshops with different stakeholders.
4.6. Production and sharing of monthly update/newsletter documenting highlights and learnings from the field.
4.7. Compilation of a comprehensive report, documenting findings and lessons learnt during FAP implementation. The report will be compiled towards the end of implementation and made available to diverse stakeholders to support awareness.
4.8. Organization of a workshop at national level for relevant government ministries and departments, donors, national and international NGOs, research institutions, to present results of pilot project in order to promote learning and upscaling.

Section 11 - Budget and Funding

Q25. 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 under £100,000 and over £100,000. Please refer to the Finance Guidance for more information.

- Budget template for projects under £100k
- Budget template for projects over £100k

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

NB: 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 note the next section is about the financial aspects of your project, rather than technical elements.

- Proposed AAH FAP ZIM Budget Final
- 06/12/2021
- 16:41:18
- xlsx 79.92 KB

Q26. Funding

Q26a. Is this a new initiative or does it build on existing work (delivered by anyone and funded through any source)? Please give details.

- New Initiative

Please give details.

FAP is a new concept and a novelty for Zimbabwe and possibly the region. The FAP pilot builds upon previous work by AAH and NAZ in low-input gardening, promotion of good agricultural practices and the engagement of Lead Farmers who are identified as innovative and trusted by community members (the same approach AAH and NAZ are currently employing in a BHA-funded resilience building project in the same districts of Gokwe North and Gokwe South). However, while building upon these experiences and expertise, the FAP pilot is a new and distinct project.

Q26b. Are you aware of any current or future plans for similar work to the proposed project?

- No

Q27. Capital items

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

Capital items for the in-country partner NAZ during the project, will be donated as relevant on the project finish, in consultation with the Darwin Initiative.

Q28. Value for Money

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

All of our projects consider application of value for money and the 4Es in design and application. AAH has robust procurement policies and practices to ensure that we are securing our inputs at the right price and quality. This is a low-cost project, which is one of its benefits, however this does mean we have a higher proportion of staff costs against operational costs. This is value for money as the project needs sufficient staff time and experience to reach its outputs successfully. We are also working with a national partner which involves more support costs but this is also essential for

building local capacities and pathways to meaningful implement exit strategies.
As this is a small-scale pilot, we do not benefit yet from economies of scale, however by our activities to engage stakeholders and donors, we are actively looking to promote replication and the scale up of our innovation, benefiting beyond our initial cost per beneficiary cost. We are also leveraging existing projects, included one funded by USAID/BHA. There are so many potential benefits and lessons that will be learned from our pilot that contribute to its value for money, including the inclusion and economic empowerment of women farmers.

Section 12 - Outputs, Open Access, Ethics & Safeguarding

Q29. Safeguarding

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

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

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	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 in place 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 policies in practice and ensure that downstream partners apply the same standards as the Lead Partner.

Action Against Hunger is committed to responsible Safeguarding practice and takes seriously our obligation to ensure we, and anyone who represents us, do not in any way harm, abuse or commit any other act that may place persons at risk. Our Safeguarding Policy and a range of tools help operationalise our commitments. All employees sign adherence to relevant policies and receive regular mandatory training on these. Policies are incorporated in all our contracts with downstream partners and we build capacity here as needed. The Safeguarding Focal Point in Zimbabwe is Ronald Mujakachi, HR Expert, supported by our international Safeguarding team.

Q30. Ethics

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

Action Against Hunger and NAZ will uphold all ethical requirements of this project by ensuring that relevant legislation pertaining to the utilisation of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge in Zimbabwe are shared as and when required. As a general practice in Zimbabwe, project-based surveys do not require national ethics review process. We will ensure that all surveys are conducted by adhering to ethical principles and guidelines as prescribed in AAH research manual. We believe that understanding and respecting traditional knowledge in Zimbabwe can promote community

ownership and increase food security, income and biodiversity outcomes in targeted communities. Consent will be sought from targeted individuals prior to collecting data. The privacy of individuals participating in the project will be upheld by collecting data anonymously. Real names of project stakeholders will be used in reporting only after consent has been granted. No incentives will be provided for providing information that will be used to report on the performance of the project. Data collection tools will be piloted and if need be, refined prior to data collection. We will engage stakeholders throughout the project life cycle with the aim of promoting collaboration, learning and adaptation.

Section 13 - FCDO Notifications

Q31. FCDO notifications

Please 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 competition in the host country.

No

Please indicate whether you have contacted your Foreign Ministry or the local embassy or High Commission (or equivalent) directly to discuss security issues (see Guidance Notes) and attach details of any advice you have received from them. If you have not, please say why not.

□ Yes, advice attached

Please attached details of any advice you have received.

- AAH-FCDO communication
- 06/12/2021
- 14:16:13
- pdf 946.66 KB

Section 14 - Project Staff

Q32. Project staff

Please identify the core staff on this project, their role and what % of their time they will be working on the project.

Please provide 1-page CVs or a 1 page job description, further information on who should be classified as core staff can be found in the Finance Guidance.

Name (First name, surname)	Role	% time on project	1 Page CV or job description attached?
Admire Mukorera	**Project Leader**	10	Checked
Felix Gossrau	AAH FSL Head of Department	10	Checked
Logic Sithole	NAZ FSL Manager	10	Checked
Tafadzwa Mavhudzi	NAZ MEAL Manager	10	Checked

Do you require more fields?

□ Yes

Name (First name, surname)	Role	% time on project	1 Page CV or job description attached?
Antony Mabvirakare	AAH MEAL Head of Department	5	Checked
Karl Riber	AAH Country Director	3	Checked
TBC	NAZ Agriculture Officer	100	Checked
TBC	NAZ MEAL Assistant	100	Checked
No Response	*No Response*	0	Unchecked
No Response	*No Response*	0	Unchecked
No Response	*No Response*	0	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.

- □ AAH FAP-Zim CVs-JDs Final
- □ 06/12/2021
- □ 17:01:47
- □ pdf 740.36 KB

Have you attached all project staff CVs?

□ Yes

Section 15 - Project Partners

Q33. Project partners

Please list all the Project Partners (including the Lead Partner), 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:	Action Against Hunger

Website address:	www.actionagainsthunger.org.uk
Why is this organisation the Lead Partner, and what value to they bring to the project? **(including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):**	Action Against Hunger UK, as lead and signatory, has overall responsibility for ensuring project deliverables, contract adherence and donor reporting. We bring extensive experience in managing similar and relevant grants and contracts. The Action Against Hunger Zimbabwe Country Office will directly implement the project and be responsible for day-to-day operations, activities, monitoring, partner and stakeholder management. National, provincial, district level stakeholders and community leadership will all be engaged by Action Against Hunger Zimbabwe, along with implementing partners. The Country Office also provides financial, MEAL and compliance support and guidance to the partners. Global, regional and country technical advisors provide expertise and support, drawing on our 40 years' global experience, including pastoralist, livelihood, food security projects across Africa, supported by management, logistics, finance teams at field, national, HQ levels. As a lead partner we also benefit from support from our experienced management, logistics and finance teams at field, national and HQ levels. For brevity in this application we refer to Action Against Hunger as AAH.
Allocated budget:	[redacted]
International/In-country Partner	□ International
Represented on the Project Board	□ Yes
Have you included a Letter of Support from the organisation?	□ Yes
Have you provided a cover letter?	□ Yes

Do you have partners involved in the project?

□ Yes

1. Partner Name:	Nutrition Action Zimbabwe (NAZ)
Website address:	www.naz.co.zw
What value does this Partner bring to the project? **(including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):**	NAZ has extensive experience in nutrition and livelihoods in Zimbabwe. Working with smallholder farmers and community groups in nutrition gardens has been a key part of their work for the past several years. Their team has the skills and experience to work with individual farmers and groups of farmers in establishing nutrition gardens and gardens for FAP. They also work closely with Agritex on training and are well versed in community dynamics. NAZ has worked with Action Against Hunger in Zimbabwe as a partner for 7 years, since its inception and the two organizations work very well together. The value that NAZ brings is their focus on nutrition and community livelihoods aimed at strengthening community capacity to tap into locally available resources, along with their stakeholder relationships in the districts of operation. Their track record of well-managed grants, clear governance structure and support has helped to produce clean audits is also of significant importance.

Allocated budget:	[redacted]
International/In-country Partner	□ In-country
Represented on the Project Board	□ Yes
Have you included a Letter of Support from this partner?	□ Yes

2. Partner Name:	Environment Africa (EA)
Website address:	*No Response*
What value does this Partner bring to the project? **(including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):**	Environment Africa has worked with communities across Zimbabwe for nearly 30 years, (and in the region for over a decade), helping them sustainably manage their natural resources while finding locally relevant solutions for improved livelihoods and resilience. EA will be a technical partner in this project, overseeing the training of the farmers and farmer groups, and advising on the natural resource management aspects of community engagement. Their team has capacity in community based natural resource management, biological systems management, bee keeping, and ecology, all relevant to this project. EA has trained farmers to provide fruit pollination services to apple farmers in Nyanga and facilitated establishment of honey processing centres in five districts in Zimbabwe. The value they bring to the project is through the particular skills and experience working with honeybees as pollinators. This experience can easily be adapted to working with alternatives pollinators. More broadly from their orientation as an organization whose purpose is environmental protection and improved community livelihoods. They also have relationships with stakeholders and other institutions that AAH and NAZ do not have.
Allocated budget:	[redacted]
International/In-country Partner	□ In-country
Represented on the Project Board	□ Yes
Have you included a Letter of Support from this partner?	□ Yes
If no, please provide details	*No Response*

3. 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*
Allocated budget:	0
International/In-country Partner	□ International □ In-country
Represented on the Project Board	□ Yes □ No
Have you included a Letter of Support from this partner?	□ Yes □ No
If no, please provide details	*No Response*

4. 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*
Allocated budget:	0
International/In-country Partner	□ International □ In-country
Represented on the Project Board	□ Yes □ No

Have you included a Letter of Support from this partner?	□ Yes □ No
If no, please provide details	*No Response*

5. 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*
Allocated budget:	0
International/In-country Partner	□ International □ In-country
Represented on the Project Board	□ Yes □ No
Have you included a Letter of Support from this partner?	□ Yes □ No
If no, please provide details	*No Response*

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*

Allocated budget:	0
International/In-country Partner	□ International □ In-country
Represented on the Project Board	□ Yes □ No
Have you included a Letter of Support from this partner?	□ Yes □ No
If no, please provide details	*No Response*

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

No Response

Please provide a cover letter responding to feedback received at Stage 1 if applicable and a combined PDF of all letters of support.

- □ AAH ZIM LOS
- □ 06/12/2021
- □ 18:21:07
- □ pdf 862.27 KB

- □ Action_Against_Hunger_Cover_letter_ZIM_FAP_signed
- □ 06/12/2021
- □ 15:18:58
- □ pdf 827.56 KB

Section 16 - Lead Partner Track Record

Q34. Lead Partner Capability and Capacity

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

□ No

Please provide the below information on the lead organisation.

What year was your organisation established/ incorporated/ registered?	01 January 1995
What is the legal status of your organisation?	□ NGO
Other explained	*No Response*

How is your organisation currently funded?	Action Against Hunger UK is funded by grant based activities, donations and legacies, monitoring and evaluation services and other services to our Network. Action Against Hunger in Zimbabwe is funded by donor grants. Our primary grants in Zimbabwe have been DG-ECHO, USAID (BHA), UNICEF, Swedish Government (SIDA), French Embassy and some private foundations.

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

Aims	Our vision is for a world in which children and adults have access to sufficient nutritious food and clean water and are able to attain these with dignity. No child should ever die from hunger, and severe undernutrition should be eradicated.
Activities	In Zimbabwe we have been implementing multi-sector programming in the sectors of Nutrition, Health, Food Security and Livelihoods, and WASH, to enhance the livelihoods of food insecure households and tackle the root causes of poverty and stunting
Achievements	In 2020 in Zimbabwe we helped 347,282 people. 190,967 people with Health and Nutrition, 140,079 people with WASH and 16,236 people with Food Security and Livelihoods. We set up multi-sector emergency programs to provide for the most vulnerable people affected by prolonged drought and the socioeconomic crisis

Provide detail 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	USAID / BHA: Community System Strengthening for Reducing Vulnerability, Restoring Economic Sustainability, and Improving Recovery from COVID-19 in Zimbabwe
Contract value/Project budget (include currency)	USD [redacted]
Duration (e.g. 2 years, 3 months)	1 year, 3 months
Role of organisation in project	Action Against Hunger is the lead partner in the consortium (implementing partners are Nutrition Action Zimbabwe and Africa AHEAD), responsible for donor liaison, technical oversight, coordination, financial, M&E and compliance oversight of the project.
Brief summary of the aims, objectives and outcomes of the project	Activity Goal: to respond to immediate humanitarian needs in Mashonaland West and Midlands Provinces as well as to contribute to the long-term, national strategy of empowering communities and strengthening their resilience to hazards in the future Objectives: Objective 1: Strengthen household purchasing power through access to income and markets via household cash transfers Objective 2: Mitigate against continued household level food insecurity through agricultural production support Objective 3: Increase household safe access to water, hygiene and sanitation services
Client/independent reference contact details (Name, e-mail)	Marialice B. Ariens, Director Office of Humanitarian Assistance and Resilience USAID/Zimbabwe/Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance [redacted]

Contract/Project 2 Title	Intergrated Crisis and Resiliency and Response
Contract value/Project budget (include currency)	SEK [redacted]
Duration (e.g. 2 years, 3 months)	1 year
Role of organisation in project	Action Against Hunger is the lead partner in the consortium, responsible for donor liaison, technical oversight, coordination, financial, M&E and compliance oversight of the project.
Brief summary of the aims, objectives and outcomes of the project	Goal: to contribute to addressing the immediate and secondary impacts of the prolonged drought, food insecurity, protracted economic crisis and COVID-19 on the most vulnerable rural and urban populations in identified high-risk areas of Zimbabwe and in doing so recognising that women, men, girls and boys have differing support needs. Objective 1: To assess food security and WASH related needs prior to the intervention Objective 2: To determine a benchmark of indicators at the onset of the project so as to facilitate the measurement of the extent to which the project achieved its objectives; and
Client/independent reference contact details (Name, e-mail)	Sebastian Brandt, Programme Manager, SIDA [redacted]

Contract/Project 3 Title	Multisector emergency intervention for vulnerable Zimbabweans affected by climatic shocks and socioeconomic crisis
Contract value/Project budget (include currency)	[redacted]
Duration (e.g. 2 years, 3 months)	1 year
Role of organisation in project	Action Against Hunger is the lead partner in the consortium, responsible for donor liaison, technical oversight, coordination, financial, M&E and compliance oversight of the project.
Brief summary of the aims, objectives and outcomes of the project	To increase the resilience and reduce negative coping strategies of vulnerable households affected by the ongoing protracted drought and socioeconomic crisis or by new shocks in Zimbabwe Specific objective -To address multisector acute needs of the most vulnerable population affected by the ongoing or new crisis
Client/independent reference contact details (Name, e-mail)	Sylvie MONTEMBAULT JAMAL Technical Assistant for Southern Africa and Indian Ocean European Commission Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations [redacted]

Have you provided the requested signed audited/independently examined accounts?

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

□ Yes

Section 17 - Certification

Q35. Certification

On behalf of the

Trustees

of

Action Against Hunger

I apply for a grant of

£188,841.00

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, logframe, theory of change, 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	Jean-Michel Grand
Position in the organisation	Executive Director
Signature (please upload e-signature)	□ Certification_of_bid_-_Action_Against_Hunger_signed □ 06/12/2021 □ 15:28:54 □ pdf 187.53 KB
Date	06 December 2021

Please attach the requested signed audited/independently examined accounts.

□ Action Against Hunger UK Annual Report and Financial Statements_2019
□ 06/12/2021
□ 17:29:32
□ pdf 3.06 MB

□ Action-Against-Hunger-UK-Annual-Report-2020
□ 06/12/2021
□ 16:21:24
□ pdf 2.7 MB

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

- Safeguarding Policy 2021
- 06/12/2021
- 13:57:19
- pdf 2.16 MB

Section 18 - Submission Checklist

Checklist for submission

I have read the Guidance, including the "Guidance Notes for Applicants**", "**Supplementary Guidance for Darwin Initiative Innovation**", "**Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Guidance**", "**Theory of Change Guidance**","**Risk Guidance**" and "**Financial Guidance**".**	Checked
I have read, and can meet, the current Terms and Conditions **for this fund.**	Checked
I have provided actual start and end dates for my 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 the budget is complete, correctly adds up and I have included the correct final total at the start of the application.	Checked
The application has been signed by a suitably authorised individual (clear electronic or scanned signatures are acceptable).	Checked
I have attached the below documents to my application:	Checked
• my completed **logframe** as a PDF using the template provided	
• my 1 page **Theory of Change** as a PDF which includes the key elements listed in the guidance	Checked
• my **budget** (which meets the requirements above)	Checked
• my completed **implementation timetable** as a PDF using the template provided	Checked
• **1 page CV or job description for all the Project Staff** identified at Question 32, including the Project Leader, or provided an explanation of why not.	Checked
• a **letter of support** from the Lead Partner and partner(s) identified at Question 33, or an explanation of why not.	Checked
• a **cover letter from the Lead Partner,** outlining how any feedback received at Stage 1 has been addressed where relevant.	Checked
• a copy of the **Lead Partner's safeguarding policy**, which covers the criteria listed in Question 29.	Checked

• a signed **copy of the last 2 annual report and accounts** for the Lead Partner, or provided an explanation if not.	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 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 checked the Darwin website **immediately prior to submission to ensure there are no late updates.**	Checked
I have read and understood the Privacy Notice on the Darwin Initiative website**.**	Checked

We would like to keep in touch!

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

Checked

Data protection and use of personal data

Information supplied in this application form, including personal data, will be used by Defra as set out in the latest copy of the Privacy Notice for Darwin, Darwin Plus and the Illegal Wildlife Trade Challenge Fund available here. 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 organisation, location, and total grant value) on the GOV.UK and other websites.
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Project Title: Farming with Alternative Pollinators for Increased Biodiversity and Smallholder Incomes

Project Summary	SMART Indicators	Means of Verification	Important Assumptions
Impact: Local communities and stakeholders, including governments, demonstrate sustained improvement in policy and practice, which results in gains for biodiversity and reduced poverty			
Outcome: To pilot and demonstrate an innovative approach (FAP) to increase biodiversity (wild pollinators and plant diversity) and reduce poverty (increased income at household level) in Gokwe North and Gokwe South	- # of farmers who commit to adopt FAP on completion of the project - # of organizations that affirm interest in designing projects with a FAP component - # of farmers experiencing additional income from FAP demo plot compared to farmers' income from control plot - # of farmers experiencing additional income from MHEP	- Comprehensive report about FAP performance and learnings - Monitoring reports - Plot income assessment - Desk review following project	
Outputs: **1**. Improved performance of main crops and MHEP due to FAP methodology	- # of FAP plots and control plots - # of crop yield assessments conducted (main crop + MHEP) - # of crop quality assessment conducted (main crop + MHEP) - % of yield difference between FAP and control plot (main crop)	- Registration of FAP and control farmers - Registration and GPS location of plots - Distribution list of inputs - Perimeter walks and pictures of plots - Crop performance assessments (quality, yield)	Key district stakeholders approve the implementation of the project No major pests and diseases outbreak or climate hazard affects crop production Targeted farmers are collaborative and participate actively
2. Increased wild pollinator biodiversity in and around FAP plots	- # of focus group discussions on traditional knowledge about natural resources and ecosystems, agriculture, pollinators and crops - # of wild pollinators identified	- Register/inventory of known plant, crop and pollinator species - Wild pollinators log - Activity/monitoring reports	No major pests and diseases outbreak or climate hazard affects pollinator health

	- # of key stakeholder engagements conducted with the aim of assessing the state of pollinators and biodiversity - # of FAP plots showing increase in wild pollinator population		
3. Increased capacity of farmers, AAH, NAZ, Agritex, EA and key stakeholders to deliver biodiversity-poverty reduction outcomes	- FAP manual developed - # of agric officers (NAZ, Agritex) and farmers trained on the identification, quantification, and maintenance of wild pollinators - # of FAP farmers trained on good agricultural practices and habitat enhancement for FAP - # of monthly/bi-monthly monitoring and visits conducted by NAZ and Agritex - # of exchange visits with FAP farmers and control farmers conducted	- FAP training manual - FAP farmer guidance - Training registers - Monitoring visit reports - Lessons learned report from exchange visits	Up to 90% of Agritex and NAZ agric officers and farmers able to attend training courses
4. Key stakeholders are engaged with the innovation to assess the potential to scale up if successful	- # of field visitations conducted by key stakeholders - # of monthly newsletters produced - FAP findings presented at working groups and national level meetings - FAP workshop at national level - Availability of comprehensive report	- Field visit reports - Newsletter - Attendance register of workshops and meetings - FAP PPT and briefing notes - Comprehensive report about FAP performance and learnings	

Activities

1. Improved performance of main crops and MHEP due to FAP methodology

1.1. Identification of communities, farmer groups and individual farmers (including lead farmers) for FAP and control plots; sensitization of farmers and communities about FAP pilot and requirements for participation.

1.2. Baseline situational assessment and participatory analysis about biodiversity loss, land degradation, agriculture and poverty issues in communities, and setting of project benchmarks (to be done in alignment with Activity 2.1.). A gender analysis focusing on gender differences in conservation and natural resource use will be included.

1.3. Identification of main crops, Marketable Habitat Enhancement Plants (MHEPs), potential pollinators to be attracted, and agreement about optimal field layouts to attract a diversity of pollinators and facilitate improved pollination. This will be jointly done by the farmers in the same locality together with NAZ, EA and Agritex (to be done after Activities 2.1 and 2.2).

1.4. Setting up of fifty (50) FAP demonstration plots with the following crop coverage: 75% main crop, 25% different identified MHEP.

1.5. Setting up of thirty (30) control plots which will consist only of the main crop (100%).

1.6. Monthly crop performance assessments – both FAP and control – by farmers, NAZ and Agritex officers.

1.7. Plot yield and income assessments after every cropping cycle to determine yield, crop quality, market value and income realized when selling, jointly conducted by the respective farmer, NAZ and Agritex officers, and together with a lead farmer.

2. Increased wild pollinator diversity in and around FAP plots

2.1. Participatory assessment of traditional knowledge about natural resources and ecosystems, agriculture, pollinators and crops. Including identification of suitable crops that are highly dependent on pollinators and of MHEPs that can best attract pollinators and suit farmers' capacities and preferences.

2.2. Awareness raising about pollinator conservation and their benefits to ecosystem services and agriculture.

2.3. Identification, quantification and documentation of pollinators, habitat conditions and plants preferred by pollinators in communities, jointly by farmers, community members, NAZ and Agritex officers and EA experts (to be done at the beginning, after 1st and after 2nd full cropping and flowering cycles, and at the end of the pilot project).

2.4. Bi-month qualitative assessment of habitat and pollinators in FAP plots, by NAZ and Agritex officers together with respective farmers.

3. Increased capacity of farmers, AAH, NAZ, Agritex, EA and key stakeholders to deliver biodiversity-poverty reduction outcomes

3.1. Development of FAP training manual and practical guidance for farmers.

3.2. Training of fifty (50) FAP farmers and thirty (30) control farmers on good agricultural practices.

3.3. Training of ten (10) NAZ and Agritex officer and fifty (50) FAP farmers on wild pollinators, their identification, quantification and pollinator health and habitat maintenance, including conservation agriculture practices such as zero tillage and reduced pesticide use.
3.4. Monthly visits to FAP plots by NAZ and Agritex officers to advise and encourage farmers to follow the FAP methodology (and document discussions, learning).
3.5. Bi-monthly visits to control plots to follow up and advise on the 'usual' good agricultural practices for the main crop.
3.6. Quarterly exchange visits between FAP farmers and on-field discussion on identified well-performing FAP plots.

4. **Key stakeholders are engaged with the innovation to assess the potential to scale up if successful**
4.1. Identification of and networking with stakeholders with interest in promoting or funding initiatives with biodiversity-poverty-reduction outcomes (research institutions, donors, government ministries or agencies, NGO, UN).
4.2. Participation and presentation of FAP approach in regular working groups and sector meetings, as well as in national higher level fora (e.g. National Biodiversity Forum, agricultural fy groups, Head of Agency FSL group) as well as presentations to the Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Environment).
4.3. Organize at least four (4) field visits with interested stakeholders to learn from FAP plots and methodology, discuss with farmers about the approach and how they experience the performance of the crops and changes in pollinator diversity (and visit control plots for comparison).
4.4. Organize follow-up meetings after each field visit to discuss findings of the visits and document lessons learnt, good and poor practices and give recommendations for implementation and analysis.
4.5. Exchange meetings and workshops with different stakeholders.
4.6. Production and sharing of monthly update/newsletter documenting highlights and learnings from the field.
4.7. Compilation of a comprehensive report, documenting findings and lessons learnt during FAP implementation. The report will be compiled towards the end of implementation and made available to diverse stakeholders to support awareness.
4.8. Organization of a workshop at national level for relevant government ministries and departments, donors, national and international NGOs, research institutions, to present results of pilot project in order to promote learning and upscaling.