

Applicant: **Wood, Joseph**  
Organisation: **WDC, Whale and Dolphin Conservation**  
Funding Sought: **£9,992.00**  
Funding Awarded: **£9,992.00**

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# **DIR26PP\1027**

**DARPP205 Researching and reducing threats to Senegal's marine mammals and turtles**

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## Section 1 - Contact Details

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### PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

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**Title** Mr  
**Name** Joseph  
**Surname** Wood  
**Tel (Work)** [REDACTED]  
**Email (Work)** [REDACTED]  
**Address** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

### CONTACT DETAILS

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**Title** Ms  
**Name** Nicola  
**Surname** Hodgins  
**Tel (Work)** [REDACTED]  
**Email (Work)** [REDACTED]  
**Address** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

### GMS ORGANISATION

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Type	Organisation
<b>Name</b>	WDC, Whale and Dolphin Conservation
<b>Phone (Work)</b>	[REDACTED]
<b>Email (Work)</b>	[REDACTED]
<b>Website (Work)</b>	[REDACTED]
<b>Address</b>	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

## Section 2 - Title & Location

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### Q3. Working title of the proposed Darwin project

DARPP205 Researching and reducing threats to Senegal's marine mammals and turtles

### Q4a. Host country (of proposed Partnership Project trip)

Senegal

### Q4b. If this is not the intended host country for the proposed Darwin project, please justify here

N/A

### Q4c. Other collaborating country/ies

None

### Q5. Is this a resubmission of a previous scoping/Partnership application?


No

## Section 3 - Partnership Project Principals & Lead Organisation Summary

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### Q6. Principals in Partnership Project work i.e. the travellers

Please give the details of the individuals (up to 2) who would be directly involved in the Partnership Project work - i.e. making a visit to a host country. One page CVs must be uploaded below.

Details	Main traveller (Project Leader)	Second traveller
Surname	Hodgins	No Response
Forename(s)	Nicola	No Response
Post held	Policy Manager, Science	No Response
Organisation	WDC Whale and Dolphin Conservation	No Response
Email		No Response
Country travelling from	UK	No Response
Have you included an one page CV?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No

Please upload one page CVs for all Principals involved in Partnership Project work as a combined PDF.

## Q7a. About the lead applicant organisation

**Briefly discuss your expertise in sustainable use or conservation of biodiversity and/or development. Please refer to recent track record you have in this field. You may be asked to provide evidence of this track record.**

Whale and Dolphin Conservation is the leading global charity dedicated to the conservation and protection of whales and dolphins. WDC works through grassroots engagement with fishermen, their communities and governments at national and international levels to achieve sustainable fisheries practices to mitigate negative impacts on cetaceans and marine ecosystems.

WDC seeks to inform, raise awareness, research ecosystem biodiversity, understand fisheries practices and their impact on communities, and promote community-led solutions which will result in sustainable fisheries. National and international engagement is carried out through legislative processes which require collaboration with other NGOs, the fisheries industries and regulatory bodies.

Relevant experience:

- acted as Coordinator of the Technical Advisory Group of the CMS Convention of Cetaceans and their Habitats in the Pacific Islands MOU. This group is responsible for implementing an action plan on bycatch, fisheries and research;
- jointly facilitated the consultation and finalisation of the Pacific whale and dolphin action plan (2013-2017), with specific oversight of threats including bycatch and fisheries.
- managed a 3-year project in Fiji (2014 – 2016) working with fishing communities to build a sustainable ecosystem-based fisheries management plan to protect vital spinner dolphin habitat in the Moon Reef marine protected area in Dawasamu district.

## Q7b. Have you obtained a letter of support from the lead applicant organisation?

**(If yes, please upload with the partner letters of support on the next page)**

Yes

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## Section 4 - Project Partners

### Q8. About the partner organisation(s)

**Please list all the partners involved and explain their roles and responsibilities in the Partnership Project work. Briefly discuss your partner's expertise in sustainable use or conservation of biodiversity and/or development. Please refer to recent track record they have in this field. You may be asked to provide evidence of this track record. If there is more than 1 partner organisation, you can enter the details of more partners below. Please specify which of the partners is new to the partnership.**

**Partner name:** African Aquatic Conservation Fund (AACF)

**Website address:** <https://africanaquaticconservation.org/>

**Details of anticipated roles and responsibilities:**

AACF will lead the day-to-day partnership project operations on the ground, demonstrating survey methodology, coordinating in-country travel, arranging meetings with community and government stakeholders. AACF runs a Senegal-wide stranding network with extensive expertise working with local communities and fluency in local languages.

**Expertise in sustainable use or conservation of biodiversity and/or development:**

Dr. Keith-Diagne (AACF Director) has 30 years' experience researching with marine mammals around the world, including 13 years in Africa. Her doctorate (University of Florida) focused on phylogenetics and feeding ecology of African manatees.

She has a wide range of field experience with African manatees, cetaceans and sea turtles, focusing on threat assessments and conservation, ecology, population genetics and distribution. She has conducted rescues and post-mortem necropsies for more than 20 cetacean species worldwide.

Dr. Keith-Diagne has trained more than 90 African biologists in marine mammal field research/conservation techniques, and regularly works in partnership with local communities in Senegal.

She co-founded the Senegal Stranding Network in 2014, chairs the IUCN Sirenian Specialist Group's African Manatee Regional Subgroup and is a member of the Convention of Migratory Species Scientific Council- Aquatic Mammals and Aquatic Wild Meat Working Groups.

She is the author of the 2015 African manatee IUCN Red List Assessment. Keith-Diagne is based in Ngazobil, Senegal, and married to respected African turtle researcher, conservationist and AACF co-founder Tomas Diagne.

AACF's education and outreach programmes (reach 2,000 primary and secondary children age children in 12-14 schools in Senegal annually), raising awareness of the dangers of marine and freshwater pollution.

**Name of main contact and post held:**

Dr. Lucy Keith-Diagne, Director

**Letter of support submitted?**  Yes

**Do you have more than one partner involved in the Partnership Project work?**

No

**Please provide a combined PDF of letters of support from the lead organisation and partner(s).**

## **Q9. Can you confirm that at least one of the partners have not previously been in receipt of Darwin funds from the same lead partner?**

Yes

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## **Section 5 - Justification & Concept Notes**

### **Q10. Justification of need for a Partnership Project**

**Please provide written details of why alternative funding is not available from within your own organisation or from other sources. Will matched funding be provided?**

WDC's experience in managing and collaborating in projects in remote locations shows that establishing personal contact between partners and stakeholders is key to establishing trust and effective working relationships. A Partnership Project is needed to allow WDC's Policy Manager (Nicola Hodgins, Main Traveller) to understand the practicalities, limitations and opportunities of research in Senegal and to meet AACF staff and other stakeholders.

WDC's 2020 budgets are already allocated. While WDC does hold unrestricted reserves, financed over the past 5 years by higher than usual levels of legacy and corporate income, our Trustees have designated these for two main purposes:

1. A designated strategy investment fund to be used in investments which support WDC's strategy for growth.
2. Operational unrestricted funds. These reserves are held to cover for cash flow fluctuations, to provide for unforeseen costs and to provide for a buffer against a fall in income.

WDC therefore must raise funds from individuals, companies, trusts and foundations to enable us to carry on our policy work.

African Aquatic Conservation Fund's 2020 budgets are also already allocated to specific projects, such as threat assessments of African manatees. As a very small NGO with only three paid staff, African Aquatic Conservation Fund lacks the resources to apply for multiple small grants to make up this sum, the focus of their historic US funders has changed and they are having to focus their fundraising efforts on supporting existing core activities.

### **Q11. Concept note for the Partnership Project**

**This question concentrates on the Partnership Project work and should demonstrate the objectives of the project including:**

- objectives of the visit
- what work (including research, remote communications or other collaborations) has been carried out prior to applying for this project
- what work will be carried out under the Partnership Project - please see the guidance for advice on what type of activity can be funded
- evidence of the proposed partners' intentions to collaborate in your Partnership Project work

OBJECTIVES

WDC :

- o understand how main project activities would work in-country,
- o develop working relationship with AACF;
- o Familiarise with cetacean strandings in Senegal: species, extent, nature, causes;
- o Meet, scope engagement strategies for, key in-country stakeholders (communities, fishers, conservationists, government wildlife and fisheries representatives);
- o Familiarise with local cetacean, turtle & manatee meat trade;

#### AACF:

- o Establish logistics (strandings surveys & community/stakeholder outreach in new areas, primarily the Casamance region of southern Senegal);
- o expand contacts, introduce to WDC stakeholders in current work regions: north (Dakar to St Louis) and central (Petite Cote, Delta Saloum) coasts;
- o Identify centres of cetacean, manatee, turtle meat trade;
- o Understand Darwin Initiative's requirements.

#### PRIOR WORK

##### WDC

- review (2018) of published data on small cetacean hunts worldwide (<https://uk.whales.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/6/2018/08/small-cetaceans-big-problems.pdf>). Senegal p.25

##### AACF

- o quarterly north coast beach surveys (Dakar to St. Louis) July 2014 – May 2019;
- o collected 4 years' data, showing increase in cetacean and sea turtle numbers stranded each year in Senegal;
- o documented trade in and consumption of cetaceans, turtles and manatees, July 2014 to May 2019;
- o Developed a limited local stranding reporting network in the central coast;
- o preliminary research into fishery effort in Senegal showed underreporting and monitoring of fishery effort by 90%, resulting in lack of data on which to base marine conservation.

#### REMOTE COMMUNICATIONS

WDC/ African Aquatic Conservation Fund: 10+ conversations by email and Skype:

- To clarify mutual objectives, needs and scope for collaboration;
- To refine Partnership Project parameters;
- to define main project objectives and potential actions.

#### OTHER COLLABORATIONS

- AACF partner with Smithsonian Institution for one North coast stranding survey per year
- AACF provide expertise to the EAGLE network in Senegal (EAGLE collects data on illegal wildlife killing/capture/trade(<http://www.eagle-enforcement.org/>)) for marine mammals and turtles;

#### PARTNERSHIP PROJECT ACTIVITIES (WDC & AACF)

- Stranded cetacean, turtle and manatee beach surveys, recording all carcasses; documenting evidence of bycatch:
  - North and Central coast 6 days;
  - Southern coast (Casamance region, south of the Gambia 4 days)
- Building contacts with stakeholders (including 2 workshops):
  - fishing communities, to better understand how to develop local reporting of strandings and bycatch, and to document fishing methods and timing in each community/region:
    - North coast villages: Kayar, Mboro, Lompoul and/or Potou;
    - Central coast - local fishing committees in Joal, Fadiouth, Palmarin, and Mbour
    - seafood company in Joal, to introduce WDC and discuss how to increase buy-in from other fishing

companies;

- schools (Joal, Fadiouth, surrounding villages) to show AACF's education and outreach programmes to WDC;  
- government fishery and conservation departments in Dakar, Mbour, Joal, North Coast towns, to gauge interest in project and how best to collaborate.

- WDC workshop with AACF to introduce requirements of Darwin Initiative's main grants, eg logframes, reporting requirements;
- Planning with AACF to establish effective working procedures with WDC;
- Meetings with other potential partners eg EAGLE Network, <http://www.eagle-enforcement.org/> which works to reduce wildlife crime.

EVIDENCE OF PARTNER'S INTENTION TO COLLABORATE

- See letter of support from AACF

## **Q12. Concept note for the resultant project**

**This question concentrates on the full Darwin application you intend to submit after the Partnership Project and should discuss:**

- the expected Outcome and Outputs of the resultant Darwin project
- how the resultant Darwin project would meet a need in the host country (and the wider region if applicable e.g. if the proposed project would be based in a UMIC)
- how the project would contribute to any or all of the Conventions and Treaties supported by Darwin, including the SDGs
- how the project will contribute to sustainable development in the country concerned
- briefly explain the proposed partner role(s) in the resultant Darwin project
- briefly the expected role of the Partnership Project travellers in the resultant Darwin project.

The resultant project will combine field research and community and stakeholder outreach to benefit wildlife and people. Research will increase understanding of threats to cetacean, sea turtle and manatee species in Senegal. Community outreach will work to reduce these threats, provide local communities opportunities to participate in conservation and learn about the dangers of consuming marine mammals and turtles.

Cetaceans, manatees and marine turtles face the same threats in Senegal: bycatch, pollution, directed hunts, prey depletion. Rapid population growth and declining fish catches are undermining traditional reluctance to consume them while opportunistic consumption of bycaught animals is evolving into commercial markets. These pressures are likely to increase as human populations expand.

AACF will:

- conduct beach surveys and establish reporting networks to record stranded marine mammals and turtles along Senegal's entire coastline (quarterly surveys along the southern, Casamance region; quarterly increasing to monthly between May-September along the north coast);
- recruit graduate students to document North Coast strandings daily from May-September for 2 years, allowing the identification and quantification of animals dying, causes of mortality and fisheries responsible, to determine the full extent of summer season mortality;
- establish a rapid response team to analyse stranded animals and gather more detailed conservation data. Increased data is needed to support CMS WATCH Action Plans for small cetaceans and manatees, as well as CMS MOU for Marine Turtles in Africa and would support the concerted action on Atlantic humpback dolphins passed at CMS CoP12 in 2017.



- Expand current educational sessions with communities, schools and other stakeholders to beyond the central coast. Empower communities to take informed decisions about consuming marine mammal and turtle meat including contaminant dangers for human health, Senegalese conservation law and species' importance in maintaining productive marine ecosystems;
- work to reverse the growing acceptability of consuming cetacean, manatee and turtle meat and prevent opportunistic consumption of bycatch turning into illegal directed hun;
- investigate local markets at key coastal cities and villages (eg Dakar, St. Louis, Mbour, Joal and Fadiouth), to identify and quantify protected marine mammals and turtles sold and consumed and reduce local demand for protected species;
- partner with seafood companies to educate fishermen about protected species, work with artisanal fishers to document and reduce artisanal bycatch of all species, incentivise live releases and reduce species persecution;
- establish meetings with the Ministry of Environment (Water and Forestry, Marine Protected Areas, National Parks) and Ministry of Fisheries, to grow their awareness of the problems facing marine mammals & sea turtles, understand how existing laws are enforced and improve their application.

Nicola Hodgins will be WDC's project lead, drawing on her and WDC's experience to build capacity in AACF to:

- align data analyses and information with other global data for the greatest impact;
- understand how to work towards international conservation bodies (eg CBD, CMS, IWC) to improve marine mammal and turtle conservation in Senegal;
- engage more productively with government departments;
- to work with communities to develop their involvement with marine conservation.

## Section 6 - Costs

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### Q13. Costs

**Provide a detailed breakdown of costs to be funded by the Darwin Initiative in GBP.**

	Main traveller	Second traveller	Total
<b>Airfare including travel to airport</b>	£ [REDACTED]	£ [REDACTED]	£ [REDACTED]
<b>Visas and other travel documents</b>	£ [REDACTED]	£ [REDACTED]	£ [REDACTED]
<b>Daily subsistence rate per day</b>	£ [REDACTED]	£ [REDACTED]	

<b>Number of days subsistence claimed (max 30 days per traveller)</b>	█	█	
<b>Total daily subsistence claimed (calculated from figures above)</b>	£ █	£ █	£ █
<b>Workshop costs (please provide details below)</b>			£ █
<b>Other costs (please provide details below)</b>			£ █
		<b>Total request from Darwin (must not exceed £10,000)</b>	£ 9,992.00

### Workshop costs

**Please provide further details on your workshops costs (N/A if not relevant).**

Dakar (venue, transportation and lunch/coffee breaks) 20 people £ █  
 Joal ((venue, transportation and lunch/coffee breaks) 30 people £ █  
 In-country travel = £ █  
 Dakar overnight £ █ / person/ 2 day x 2 people = £ █ (AACF & WDC);

### Other costs

**Please provide further details on your other costs (N/A if not relevant).**

Survey costs = vehicle hire = £ █ @ £ █ /day;  
 AACF board/lodging northern survey (£ █ / person/ day; 3ppl/6 days = £ █  
 AACF board/lodging southern survey (£ █ / person/ day 2ppl/4 days= £ █  
 Main traveller salary costs while on partnership project (£ █ @ █ /day).

## Section 7 - Timetable & Activities

**Q14. Provide anticipated dates of travel (start and finish) and activities to be undertaken on your trip.**

**N.B.: this question is specifically about your travel plans - your dates and specific milestones during travel - NOT your timetable to Stage 1 application. Your application will be considered ineligible if this section does not specifically cover your planned Partnership Project trip.**

Date	Milestone
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02 November 2020	<b>START</b>
02 November 2020	Main traveller travel out, 1 day)
03 November 2020	North Coast Survey & community meetings (6 days)
09 November 2020	Meeting AACF staff and familiarising with AACF (Ngazobil) (2 days)
11 November 2020	AACF workshop (Ngazobil) – Darwin familiarisation (1 day)
12 November 2020	Workshop Dakar (overnight stay, 2 days)
14 November 2020	South Coast Survey & Workshop in Joal (4 days)
18 November 2020	(Main traveller travel home, 1 day)
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>
18 November 2020	<b>FINISH</b>

**Q15. In what year would you expect to submit the full Darwin project application?**

Round 28

**Section 8 - Certification**

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**Q16. Certification**

**On behalf of the**

trustees

**of**

WDC Whale and Dolphin Conservation

**I apply for a grant of**

£9,992.00

**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 Partnership 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 uploaded CVs for project principals
- I have uploaded letters of support from the lead application organisation and the partner(s)

Checked

<b>Name</b>	Joseph Wood
<b>Position in the organisation</b>	Trusts and Grants manager
<b>Signature (please upload e-signature)</b>	 <a href="#">DIR26PP 1027 JW e signature</a>  05/11/2019  15:28:57  png 7.74 KB
<b>Date</b>	05 November 2019

## Section 9 - Submission Checklist

### Checklist for submission

	<b>Check</b>
<b>I have read the Guidance Notes for Main projects as well as the Guidance for Partnership Projects and am satisfied that this concept would be eligible for a main project application.</b>	Checked
<b>I have read, and can meet, the current Terms and Conditions for this fund.</b>	Checked
<b>I have provided anticipated start and end dates for my Partnership Project trip.</b>	Checked
<b>I have checked that my budget is complete and correctly adds up.</b>	Checked
<b>My application has been signed by a suitably authorised individual (clear electronic or scanned signatures are acceptable).</b>	Checked
<b>I have included one page CVs and letters of support as required.</b>	Checked
<b>I have checked the Darwin website immediately prior to submission to ensure there are no late updates.</b>	Checked
<b>I have read and understood the Privacy Notice on GOV.UK.</b>	Checked

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

Unchecked

### **Data protection and use of personal data**

Information supplied in 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, but not personal data, may be used when publicising the Darwin Initiative including project details (usually title, lead organization, location, and total grant value) on the GOV.UK and other websites. Information relating to the project or its results may also be released on request, including under the 2004 Environmental Information Regulations and the Freedom of Information Act 2000. However, Defra will not permit any unwarranted breach of confidentiality nor will we act in contravention of our obligations under the General Data Protection Regulation (Regulation (EU) 2016/679).