

Applicant: **Hayward, Emma**
Organisation: **Send a Cow**
Funding Sought: **£9,956.00**

DIR27PP\1088

Improving Ecological Connectivity for Enhanced Biodiversity and Livelihoods in MFCA

Section 1 - Contact Details

PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

Title Miss
Name Emma
Surname Hayward
Tel (Work) [REDACTED]
Email (Work) [REDACTED]
Address [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

CONTACT DETAILS

Title Mrs
Name Sheila
Surname Halder
Tel [REDACTED]
Email [REDACTED]
Address [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

GMS ORGANISATION

Type	Organisation
Name	Send a Cow
Phone	[REDACTED]
Email	[REDACTED]
Website	[REDACTED]
Address	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Section 2 - Title & Location

Q3. Working title of the proposed Darwin project

Improving Ecological Connectivity for Enhanced Biodiversity and Livelihoods in MFCA

Q4a. Host country (of proposed Partnership Project trip)

Uganda

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

Uganda is also the intended host country for the proposed Darwin project.

Q4c. Other collaborating country/ies

N/A

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








No

Section 3 - Partnership Project Principals & Lead Organisation Summary

Q6. Principals in Partnership Project work


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, or leading on the collaboration.


One page CVs must be uploaded below.


Details	Project Leader	2nd individual
Surname	Halder	Villeneuve
Forename(s)	Sheila	Michelle
Post held	Farm Systems Coordinator	Senior Programme Manager, Agricultural Landscapes
Organisation	Send a Cow (SAC)	Fauna & Flora International (FFI)
		 
		
Have you included an one page CV?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes

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

 [SAC-FFI-ICIPE Partnership Project CVs](#)

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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.

SAC has 30+ years' experience of inspiring and equipping African communities to use their land and resources sustainably to protect their environment and create a better future for themselves.

Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration – We support farmers to diversify, replenish and improve their natural resources and counteract the diminishing returns of degraded land. By enhancing their environment's biodiversity, SAC farmers sustainably improve soil, plant and animal health, which leads to increased food production: 93% people in a recent SAC Burundi project achieved food security (baseline 25%).

Gender & Social Inclusion – We help families and communities identify inequalities around participation, decision-making & resource control and to address these so that women & people with disabilities in particular are able to play a more significant role in sustainable natural resource management and can ensure that their specific needs & interests are met: 89% women in Kenya reported playing a more prominent role in household decision-making after SAC training (baseline 36%).

Sustainable Livelihoods – We empower farming families to establish environmentally, socially and economically sustainable income generating activities, many of which contribute to the regeneration of degraded natural resources: average annual income in a SAC Ethiopia project increased from £64 to £340.

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

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:	Send a Cow Uganda (SACU)
Website address:	https://sendacow.org/countries/uganda/
Details of anticipated roles and responsibilities:	As well as participating in all the Partnership Project activities, SACU will: arrange logistics for site visits and workshops; manage the Partnership Project budget and make payments; set up meetings; make introductions between project partners and local stakeholders; provide specific technical expertise in gender & social inclusion

Expertise in sustainable use or conservation of biodiversity and/or development: See Q7a.

Name of main contact and post held: Pamela Ebanyat – Acting Country Director

Letter of support submitted? Yes

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

Yes

2. Partner Name: Fauna & Flora International (FFI) – new to the partnership

Website address: www.fauna-flora.org

Letter of Support: FFI will provide technical expertise on citizen science methods and the collection and analysis of biodiversity data. FFI's work incorporates biodiversity data collection across its global portfolio, with an increasing focus on invertebrate abundance and diversity as an indicator for on-farm biodiversity, thus they are well-positioned to share expertise.

Expertise in sustainable use or conservation of biodiversity and/or development: Fauna & Flora International (FFI) is committed to supporting livelihoods strategies that reduce pressure on biodiversity and has good existing relationships with government parties and civil society partners who share this commitment. FFI's role as a partner in this project commits it to strong technical management of data collection, including impact monitoring, collating technical project information and technical reporting.

FFI has over 10 years of direct experience in Uganda and 5 years in the Murchison Falls Conservation Area, during which time it has displayed a dedication to biodiversity conservation that is well recognised by in-country partners such as the Uganda Wildlife Authority.

In other African landscapes, FFI's Agricultural Landscapes team has been working with farmers to elevate their role in on-farm data collection through citizen science methods of training and data capture. This benefits both science and the farmers themselves, who gain new insights into on-farm biodiversity, as well as heightened capacity to measure, monitor and manage it. With this partnership, we hope to work with SACU and ICIPE to develop a locally-appropriate model that will empower farmers to collect and use this data to improve their agricultural outcomes while keeping biodiversity conservation in mind.

Name of main contact point and post held: Michelle Villeneuve - Senior Programme Manager, Agricultural Landscapes

Have you included a letter of support from this organisation? Yes

3. Partner Name: International Centre for Insect Physiology and Ecology (ICIPE)

Website address: http://www.icipe.org/about/who_we_are

Details of anticipated roles and responsibilities: ICIPE will introduce project partners to the science behind Push-Pull technology and advise on appropriate methodologies for technology transfer, as well as outlining the biodiversity and development benefits. ICIPE will participate in all the Partnership Project activities and introduce project partners to other relevant stakeholders.

Expertise in sustainable use or conservation of biodiversity and/or development: Since 1970, ICIPE has been using insect science to contribute to the sustainable conservation and utilisation of Africa's rich biodiversity. By developing and disseminating environmentally safe, affordable, acceptable and accessible tools and strategies to control insect pests and disease vectors, ICIPE has been able to address the interlinked problems of environmental degradation, low agricultural productivity, poverty and poor health.

ICIPE developed Push-Pull technology in collaboration with Rothamsted Research and partners (including SAC) in East Africa. Push-Pull is a simple, nature-based cropping strategy that simultaneously addresses the five key constraints of cereal-livestock mixed production systems in Africa: insect pests (stem borers); the parasitic weed Striga (and other weeds); poor soil biodiversity; soil moisture management; the need for high quality animal feed.

Name of main contact point and post held: Dr Girma Hailu – Uganda Country Coordinator, ICIPE

Have you included a letter of support from this organisation? Yes

4. Partner Name: *No Response*

Website address: *No Response*

Letter of Support: *No Response*

Expertise in sustainable use or conservation of biodiversity and/or development: *No Response*

Name of main contact point and post held: *No Response*

Have you included a letter of support from this organisation? Yes
 No

5. Partner Name: *No Response*

Website address: *No Response*

Letter of Support: *No Response*

Expertise in sustainable use or conservation of biodiversity and/or development: *No Response*

Name of main contact point and post held: *No Response*

Have you included a letter of support from this organisation? Yes
 No

6. Partner Name: *No Response*

Website address: *No Response*


Details of anticipated roles and responsibilities: *No Response*

Expertise in sustainable use or conservation of biodiversity and/or development: *No Response*

Name of main contact point and post held: *No Response*


Have you included a letter of support from this organisation? Yes
 No


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

 [SAC-FFI-ICIPE Partnership Project Letters of Su](#)

[pport](#)

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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

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?

SAC is currently managing active programmes in 6 countries in East and Southern Africa. These programmes are funded through a combination of restricted grants and gifts from a range of donors, with matched funding from SAC's unrestricted reserve funds. All of our secured and forecast unrestricted reserve funds have been allocated to match fund our committed work, where grants and gifts do not cover the full costs. Therefore any new work (such as this Partnership Project) will require alternative funding from an external source.

Matched funding will not be provided for the Partnership Project (except in the case of staff costs, which will be shared with other funding sources) but we will endeavour to seek matched funding for any resultant Darwin project.

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

The objectives of the visit are:

- To establish working relationships between project partners and with relevant local stakeholders
- To build an understanding between the partners of the knowledge and skills needed to deliver a successful Darwin project
- To build the capacity of local partners and stakeholders to conduct a participatory context analysis
- To update our understanding of the impacts of agricultural practices on biodiversity and livelihoods in the Murchison Falls Conservation Area
- To identify potential approaches and technologies for the improvement of ecological connectivity in the Murchison Falls Conservation Area
- To collect quantitative baseline data to inform the design of a future Darwin project

In order to achieve these objectives, the project partners intend to:

- Participate in a partnership building and planning workshop
 - Conduct a site visit to understand the context and the nature of the problem to be addressed by a future Darwin project. Activities will include:
 - o key informant interviews
 - o focus group discussions
 - o gender & social inclusion analysis
- A range of participatory tools and exercises, co-designed by the Partnership Project team in the planning workshop, will be used to gather qualitative data to triangulate the findings of the survey (see below).
- Conduct a survey to collect quantitative baseline data. The survey will be co-designed and tested by the project partners prior to the visit.

If the Covid-19 pandemic still prevents international travel to Uganda in August/September 2021, the Partnership Project team will adapt their plans. It is hoped that the site visit could still go ahead with the in-country partners, with workshops and guidance taking place remotely using a digital platform such as Microsoft Teams.

Prior to applying for this project, SAC and SACU have established strong working relationships with ICIPE through the roll-out of Push-Pull technology and other biological pest management approaches in Kenya, Ethiopia and Central Uganda.

As part of its commitment to develop, articulate and measure the biodiversity benefits of its approach, SAC sought out the experience and expertise of FFI. After initial discussions to identify mutual areas of interest and opportunities for cross-learning, we agreed that the Partnership Project presented an excellent chance to explore these more purposefully.

Both SACU and FFI have been implementing projects in Murchison Falls Conservation Area since 2020 and 2016 respectively and have therefore developed positive relationships with the local authorities and communities, as well as a foundational understanding of the socio-economic and ecological context in the project location. This should create an enabling environment for the planned Partnership Project activities.

Evidence of the proposed partners' intentions to collaborate in the Partnership Project can be found in the letters of support attached to this application.

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 project falls within the Murchison Falls Conservation Area (MFCA) in Uganda's North Albertine Rift, a globally-recognised biodiversity hotspot including several wildlife reserves and protected forests. This area is critical for wildlife, including rich and diverse fish fauna such as the endemic Angara; 476 bird species, seven of which are threatened; and 109 mammals, including threatened species such as African elephant and Eastern chimpanzee.

Ecological connectivity within and beyond MFCA is crucial for dispersal and genetic flow of wildlife. The negative effects of agricultural expansion upon connectivity can already be seen in MFCA, as outlined in the Ugandan government’s Murchison Falls Management Plan. These existing impacts, coupled with a chronic lack of food security in the region and recent in-migration from oil development, are predicted to lead to increased clearance and encroachment into protected areas.

River-edge farmers within MFCA are dependent upon maize production, which is threatened by increasing prevalence of fall armyworm and witchweed, resulting in heavy application of agrochemicals to prevent crop losses. These agrochemicals have significant negative impacts upon local ecosystems, including insect and bird populations and the ecosystem services they provide, as well as on aquatic organisms such as Angara due to runoff into the adjacent White Nile river.

The project will address these negative impacts in support of ecological connectivity and ecosystem service provisioning in MFCA. Agrochemical use will be decreased via the introduction of Push-Pull technology, a biological pest management method that uses naturalised and indigenous plants to 'push' pests away from productive zones and 'pull' them towards marginal lands. Push-Pull will support increased yields, thereby decreasing the need for further agricultural encroachment. Additionally, supporting diversification towards climate-resilient native crops (e.g. sorghum and finger millet) will encourage farmers’ food and income security.

Project partners will work with farmers to:

- adapt agricultural systems for environmental sustainability
- monitor on-farm insect biodiversity, empowering them to assess the impact of agricultural interventions over time
- share information with neighbours, local authorities and beyond, through the development of locally-appropriate citizen-science data collection techniques

Sustainable natural resource management and agricultural productivity in Uganda are hindered by harmful gender and social norms including fixed roles and inequitable division of workloads, decision-making and access to or control of resources. The project will use SAC’s Transformative Household Methodology (THM) - a participatory and inclusive approach that engages household members in discussion, reflection and action for gender and social transformation - to ensure that women and people with disabilities benefit from project-promoted technologies and activities and play a more significant role in decision-making and control of resources.

The project will support SDG 15 (15.1,15.2,15.5) and CBD Strategic Goal B (5,7) by ensuring sustainable use of agroecosystems, while enhancing productivity and sustainability of agricultural practices contributes to SDG 2 (2.1,2.3,2.4). Restoring and enhancing ecosystem services provided by on-farm biodiversity contributes to CBD Strategic Goal D (14). The application of THM to ensure that women benefit from all project activities and can participate in decision-making and control of resources will support SDG 5 (5.1,5.5,5.a,5.b).

Section 6 - Costs

Q13. Costs

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

Project Leader	Second individual	Total
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Airfare including travel to airport	£ [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Visas and other travel documents	£ [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Daily subsistence rate per day	£ [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	
Number of days subsistence claimed (max 30 days per traveller)	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	
Total daily subsistence claimed (please provide details below)	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Workshop costs (please provide details below)			£ [REDACTED]
Other costs (please provide details below)			£ [REDACTED]
		Total request from Darwin (must not exceed £10,000)	£ [REDACTED]

Additional details to support the figures above

	Project Leader	Second individual
Average expected subsistence rate per day	£ [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Number of days subsistence claimed	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

Workshop costs

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

Costs include: lunch and refreshments for the 'core' Partnership Project team (10 people, excluding Main Travellers, who are accounted for elsewhere) during workshops and participatory context analysis; light refreshments for community members participating in context analysis; stationery.

Other costs

Please provide further details on Other costs e.g. subscription to communications platforms, purchase

of tablets for local partners etc (N/A if not relevant).

Costs (£■■■■) include: vaccinations and anti-malarials for the Main Travellers; internet dongles and SIM cards for Main Travellers (to be left with Ugandan partners); accommodation and subsistence for the 'core' Partnership Project team as they are not based in the project location (10 people, excluding Main Travellers, who are accounted for elsewhere); hire of vehicle and driver to transport the Partnership Project team Kampala <-> MFCA and around the community during the participatory context analysis.

Staff Costs: 20 days (10 for each Main Traveller) @ £■■■ per 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
27 August 2021	START
28 August 2021	Sheila Halder and Michelle Villeneuve (Main Travellers/Project Leaders) arrival in Kampala
29 August 2021	Partnership Project team travel to MFCA (project site)
30 August 2021	Partnership building and planning workshop: introductions, objectives, roles & responsibilities, policies & procedures, stakeholder mapping, co-design of tools for participatory context analysis, survey/data collection briefing
01 September 2021	Participatory context analysis and baseline data collection: survey, key informant interviews, focus group discussions, gender and social inclusion analysis
10 September 2021	Wrap-up meeting: data analysis, conclusions & recommendations from context analysis; documenting learning for Partnership Project Report; next steps, roles & responsibilities for Darwin Main application
11 September 2021	Partnership Project team return to Kampala
12 September 2021	Sheila Halder and Michelle Villeneuve (Main Travellers/Project Leaders) depart Kampala
No Response	No Response
No Response	No Response
No Response	No Response
No Response	No Response

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

Round 28

Section 8 - Certification

Q16. Certification

On behalf of the

trustees

of

Send a Cow

I apply for a grant of

£9,956.00

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


Name Dr Peg Bavin


Position in the organisation Director of Programme Funding

Signature (please upload e-signature)

 [Peg electronic signature](#)

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Date 19 January 2021

Section 9 - Submission Checklist

Checklist for submission

	Check
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.	Checked
I have read, and can meet, the current Terms and Conditions for this fund.	Checked
I have provided anticipated start and end dates for my Partnership Project trip.	Checked
I have checked that my budget is complete and correctly adds up.	Checked
My application has been signed by a suitably authorised individual (clear electronic or scanned signatures are acceptable).	Checked
I have included one page CVs and letters of support as required.	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 GOV.UK.	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.

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, 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).