



Submit by Monday 30 January 2012

**DARWIN INITIATIVE APPLICATION FOR UK OVERSEAS TERRITORIES CHALLENGE FUND:
Round 18**

Please read the Guidance Notes before completing this form.

1. Name, postal address and contact details of applicant organisation and main individual: (notification of results will be by email to this individual)	
Jon Parr, Marine Biological Association of the UK, Citadel Hill, Plymouth PL1 2PB	
E-mail address:	Phone:
2. Working title/name of the proposed resulting Darwin project (not exceeding 10 words):	
Falklands Marine Biodiversity Archive	
3. Proposed UKOT(s) involved	Other collaborating country/ies to be involved
The Falkland Islands	

4. Principals in Challenge Fund work

(a) Please give the details of the main individuals who will be directly involved in the Challenge Fund award. Please copy the table if you require more space. CVs must be enclosed (max 1 page each).

Details	Main individual	2nd individual
Surname	Jon	Dan
Forename(s)	Parr	Lear
Post held	Deputy Director	Data Team Leader
Department		
Telephone		
Email		

(b) Partners relevant to the Challenge Fund award. Please provide details below, plus letters of support. (These letters should express intention to collaborate, contribution to the Challenge Fund activity, endorsement of the proposed partnership, and the expected contribution of the proposed resultant Darwin project to the conservation of the biodiversity of the relevant UKOT(s).) If you are a UKOT applicant, with no partner, you should provide a letter from your own organisation addressing these issues as appropriate.

Details	Main project partner	Other partners
Organisation	Shallow Marine Surveys Group (SMSG) PO Box 598 Stanley Falkland Islands FIQQ 1ZZ	
Function/ Purpose of Organisation	Regional shallow water biota specialists, data holders, curators of local specimen collections	
Name of Main Contact	Dr Paul Brewin	
Post Held	Science Officer	

5. Concept note for the Challenge Fund award (max 500 words). This question concentrates on what the current application is for and should demonstrate the objectives of the award including

- **what work will be carried out under the award;**
- **the location and duration of this work;**
- **what you expect to achieve from receiving the Challenge Fund award;**
- **details of how you will monitor and evaluate the work (reporting requirements for this fund are in the process of being finalised).**

The project will deliver an electronic Web enabled archive service for marine species and habitat data for the Falkland Islands. The marine biodiversity of the Falkland's region is poorly understood. Progress is hindered by poor access to historic knowledge; making these data available in a georeferenced searchable database has been strongly recommended for this region. Historic sampling is a key foundation to our knowledge of Southern Hemisphere biodiversity and is important to current and future studies, especially with regard to environmental change.

Work undertaken

Overall goals are to unlock existing poorly accessible data sources, develop pathways for new data to be entered using the international standards and best practice protocols of the Marine Environmental Data Information Network (MEDIN), and set up a data archiving model for other UK Overseas Territories' biodiversity inventories. The project will build on the skills and expertise of the UK accredited data archive for marine seabed species and habitats (DASSH) based at the Marine Biological Association (MBA) alongside UKOT partners in the Falklands.

Working with Falkland partners (SMSG) we will establish the archive and populate it from; 1) existing electronic data and images and 2) the reports of the *RRS Discovery Expeditions (1925-1927, 1930-1931)*, and the *RRS William Scoresby Expeditions (1925-1927, 1929-1931)* of the South Atlantic. High quality electronic versions and original reports are held in the Falklands Government Archives. Additionally, the Challenge Fund award will allow for scoping of Falklands data held in the UK National Marine Biological Library (NMBL) and other UK academic institutions and recommendations for their entry into the archive.

The project will disseminate the data through existing Web portals ensuring maximum access to the records. DASSH currently disseminates data to the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF) and Ocean Biogeographic Information System (OBIS) and will also release records to regional projects such as SCAR-MarBin (<http://www.scarmarbin.be/>).

Location

The project will involve an initial visit to the Falkland Islands by DASSH staff to scope the range and breadth of the data and to provide training to Falklands experts in the standards, protocols and guidelines required for long-term data archiving. Salary costs have been allowed for a SMSG researcher to collate the data and create the required metadata. Salary costs in the UK have been allowed to create the archiving and dissemination infrastructure and additional data research. Provision has also been made for data storage costs.

Key outputs will be:

- A robust and future proof electronic archive to International standards of marine biodiversity of the Falklands region
- Data capture of key electronic and paper records
- Web interface integrated with regional and international portals
- Consolidation of UK research on Falklands marine biodiversity data
- Data archiving model for other UK Overseas Territories' biodiversity inventories
- At least one Review paper in a peer-review journal describing the newly captured data

Monitoring

The success of the project will be linked to a series of agreed milestones, deliverables, and delivery of the archive and the dissemination of records.

6. Concept note for resultant project (max 500 words). This question concentrates on the full Darwin application you intend to submit after the Challenge Fund award and should demonstrate:

- **Expected purpose and outputs of the resultant Darwin project**
- **How the resultant Darwin project would meet a need (and how this need was defined) in the UKOTs and help the territory/ies in its implementation of any or all of the following Conventions: the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)/Convention on Migratory Species (CMS)/Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES).**
- **Brief evidence of the proposed partners' intentions to collaborate in the Challenge Fund award and an outline of their expected role in the resultant Darwin project: include brief details of contact to date and planned ongoing collaboration. This would normally be supported by a letter or email of support, which may present the majority of this evidence.**
- **The expected role of the UKOTs and other UK expertise in the resultant Darwin project**

The resultant Darwin Fund will build upon the data archiving model established in the Challenge award. It will provide a long term, future proof, accessible archive to house these data and all future biodiversity data collections in the Falklands. Ongoing funding would ensure integration with emerging and existing policy drivers including reporting requirements for the Convention on Biological Diversity. The fund will also allow for the further development of related species and habitat information to be published on the Web, creating an "ecosystem based" source of information of the rich wildlife of the South Atlantic.

The Marine Biological Association has provided information on North East Atlantic species and habitats over the last 10 years and would seek to develop an online resource for marine species of the South Atlantic and other UKOTs. The Shallow Marine Surveys Group is currently fundraising for major expeditions to the UKOTs of Ascension Island and Tristan da Cunha Islands, with the aim of gathering essential baseline marine biodiversity data. These studies are highly likely to produce very large volumes of species and habitat data. Our resulting Darwin fund application will look to fully implement the data archiving protocols developed in the Challenge fund in those UKOTs, further develop technologies and infrastructure, and capture those new data for archiving and dissemination. Alongside capturing new data, we will archive historic biodiversity data found by SMSG and co-workers with respect to their projects. This will allow for greatly enhanced capabilities of local policy makers to develop and meet their biodiversity strategy targets, the tracking and early detection of non-native species, monitoring changes in distribution of those species indicative of climate change, and greatly aid in meeting CBD, CMS, and CITES obligations.

This project was first conceived in April 2011, when Paul Brewin (SMSG) considered the importance of historic biodiversity data regionally. Consultation with Taznie Newman, curator of the Falkland Islands Government Archives, showed that there is a great deal historic biodiversity data dating back almost 200 years. Immediately recognised were the technological and logistical difficulties in capturing such data and that funding and technology guidance was required. In early January 2012, Jon Parr (MBA) contacted Paul Brewin independently expressing interest in such work, offering data extraction, dissemination and archiving expertise. After an email exchange, it was determined that this essential and timely project would be highly successful and productive, and could be potentially tested in other UKOTs where SMSG have developing science programs.

The proposal is a partnership between the UK based Marine Biological Association and the Falklands based Shallow Marine Surveys Group. The MBA as a learned society and research charity has a long (126 years) tradition of working internationally on marine science and marine biology. SMSG has established itself as the knowledge base for biodiversity of the Falkland Islands and the South Atlantic region. This partnership will lead to many future collaborations, build capacity among both organisations, and create stronger knowledge and capacity exchange pathways between and among the UK and its Overseas Territories.

7. Justification of need for a Challenge Fund award. Please provide details of why alternative

funding is not available from within your own organisation or from other sources. Will matched funding be provided? (max 250 words)

A challenge Fund is perfect for this project as it promotes collaboration and knowledge exchange across UK and its overseas territories; concepts which are fundamental to this project. The archive infrastructure (DASSH) has been developed as part of the UK Government's commitment to the long-term management of marine biodiversity data and as part of the MEDIN programme. This proposal utilises the development work of MEDIN and DASSH to provide the funding to leverage this initial investment to provide a robust and scaleable infrastructure to UK Overseas Territories. The DASSH framework funding could be regarded as matched funding but is specifically committed to UK operations.

Further match funding is provided by the Falkland Island Government, who provide in kind office and lab space, administration, and IT infrastructure and support for Paul Brewin. In addition, SMSG members are primarily local volunteer marine scientists and enthusiasts. Since 2006, SMSG has been conducting quantitative biodiversity surveys around the archipelago supported by volunteers, limited FI government funding or highly competitive OTEP funding. We know of no other sources of funding that are as appropriate.

In kind Falkland Island Government support equivalent - £5000
 The Marine Biological Association will support the project through waiving one third of the overhead (£2,000)

8. Costs. Provide a detailed breakdown of costs to be funded by the Darwin Initiative.

Budget Line Please complete those appropriate to your application – they may not all be relevant	Year 1 Apr 2012 – Mar 2013	Year 2 Apr 2013 – Mar 2014
Travel costs (airfares, sea travel, visas, travel documents) Based on return airfare to Falklands (£2,222) and internal UK travel		£
Subsistence costs (specify by individual and number of days) One Senior Scientist for up to 5 days including accommodation		£
Overhead costs MBA overhead costs Falkland Island Government overhead and support		£
Operating costs (including conference/workshop/fieldwork costs)		£
Capital costs Dedicated archive hardware with future proofing		£
Other: Consultancy (please specify)		£
Other (please specify)		£
Salaries (specify by individual) MBA Senior Scientist Grade for 21 days SMSG (Dr Paul Brewin) 40 days		£ £
Total per year	£30,000	£0
TOTAL REQUESTED FROM DARWIN INITIATIVE		£23,000

9. Provide anticipated dates of award activity (including start and finish dates) and any milestones where relevant.

Date	Key Milestone
2/4/2012	START
2/4/2012	Project start date,
7/5/2012	Draft project web site in place. DASSH staff visit Falklands. SMSG appoint local researcher
30/9/2012	First data capture deadline. Web site launch and data passed to GBIF and OBIS
31/12/2012	UK research complete and data entered into Falklands Marine Biodiversity archive
15/02/2013	Final data release and report on long term development of the archive
28/02/2013	FINISH

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

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I certify that, to the best of our knowledge and belief, the statements made in this application are true and the information provided is correct.

Name (block capitals): Jon Parr

Position in organisation: Deputy Director

Signed:

Dated: 30 January 2012

Project title: Falklands Marine Biodiversity Archive

Challenge Fund Application - Checklist for submission

	Check
Have you provided anticipated start and end dates for your award?	x
Are both your concept notes within 500 words each?	x
Has your application been signed	x
Have you read the Guidance Notes and are you satisfied that your concept would be eligible for a main project application?	x
Have you included CVs and letters of support as required?	x
Have you checked the Darwin website immediately prior to submission to ensure there are no late updates?	x

Once you have answered Yes to the questions above, please submit the application in Word format, not later than 2359h GMT on Monday 30 January 2012 to Darwin-Applications@ltsi.co.uk using the title of the project (or first few words) as the subject of your email.

Please also send a hard copy of the signature page (only) to the Darwin Applications Unit, LTS International, Pentlands Science Park, Bush Loan, Penicuik EH26 0PL.

Applicants from UKOT institutions should fax a copy of the signature page to the Darwin Applications Unit on 0131 440 5501 or email a scanned original signature to Darwin-applications@ltsi.co.uk.

DATA PROTECTION ACT 1998: Applicants must agree to any disclosure or exchange of information supplied on the application form (including the content of a declaration or undertaking) which the Department considers necessary for the administration, evaluation, monitoring and publicising of the Darwin Initiative. Application form data will also be held by contractors dealing with Darwin Initiative monitoring and evaluation. It is the responsibility of applicants to ensure that personal data can be supplied to the Department for the uses described in this paragraph. A completed application form will be taken as an agreement by the applicant and the grant/award recipient also to the following:- putting certain details (ie name, contact details and location of project work) on the Darwin Initiative and Defra websites (details relating to financial awards will not be put on the websites if requested in writing by the grant/award recipient); using personal data for the Darwin Initiative postal circulation list; and sending data to Foreign and Commonwealth Office posts outside the United Kingdom, including posts outside the European Economic Area. Confidential information relating to the project or its results and any personal data may be released on request, including under the Environmental Information Regulations, the code of Practice on Access to Government Information and the Freedom of Information Act 2000