



EIDPS034



Submit by Monday 14 January 2013

### APPLICATION FOR DARWIN FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME ROUND 19

Please read the Guidance Notes before completing this form. Where no word limits are given, the size of the box is a guide to the amount of information required. Information to be extracted to the database is highlighted blue.

**1. Name and address of UK Host organisation** (NB: Notification of results will be by email and addressed to the main UK Expert listed in Section 5)

<b>Name:</b> Bristol Conservation and Science Foundation, an operating unit of Bristol, Clifton and West of England Zoological Society Ltd	<b>Address:</b> c/o Bristol Zoo Gardens, Clifton, Bristol, BS8 3HA
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**2. Name and official address of proposed Darwin Fellow** (include email and telephone details where available)

Misbahou Mohamed, ONG <i>Dahari</i> / Projet ECDD, BP 277, Mutsamudu, Anjouan, Comoros
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**3. Project dates, duration and total Darwin Initiative Grant requested**

<b>Proposed start date:</b> 1 July 2013 <b>Duration of project:</b> 12 months <b>End date:</b> 30 June 2014			
<b>Darwin funding requested</b>	<b>2013/13</b> £13,850	<b>2014/15</b> £8,600	<b>Total</b> £22,450

**4. Summary of proposed Fellowship** ie Purpose and expected outputs and outcome

(Max 100 words) <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) To develop the leadership, management and technical capabilities of a key member of the Comorian NGO <i>Dahari</i>.</li><li>2) To apply lessons learnt to improve the impact of <i>Dahari</i> and the ECDD project on the implementation of the CBD in the Comoros.</li><li>3) To develop regional and UK institutional support for the new local NGO.</li></ol> <p>This will be achieved through applied training in conservation management during the Durrell DESMAN course, training in English, on-the-job training in the management of conservation and rural development projects in Madagascar, and through mentoring and support from a number of conservation professionals in several institutions.</p>
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**5. Principals in the Project.** Please give the details of the individuals from the UK host organisations (and other institutions if relevant) who would be directly involved in supervising/working with the Darwin Fellow. Please provide a one page CV for each of these named individuals. You may copy and paste this table if you need to provide details of more than one overseas project partner.

Details	Main UK expert	Other expert	Other expert
<b>Surname</b>	Maddison	Terry	Doulton
<b>Forename(s)</b>	Neil	Andrew	Hugh
<b>Post held</b>	Head of Conservation Programmes	Head of Field Programmes	Comoros Project Coordinator
<b>Institution (if different to UK Host)</b>		Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust	
<b>Department</b>	Bristol Conservation and Science Foundation	Conservation Programmes	Bristol Conservation and Science Foundation
<b>Telephone</b>			
<b>Email</b>			

Details	Main UK expert	Other expert	Other expert
<b>Surname</b>	Schwitzer	Lewis	Young
<b>Forename(s)</b>	Christoph	Richard	Richard
<b>Post held</b>	Head of Research	Madagascar Programme Director	Head of Conservation Science
<b>Institution (if different to UK Host)</b>		Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust	Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust
<b>Department</b>	Bristol Conservation and Science Foundation	Conservation Programmes	Conservation Programmes
<b>Telephone</b>			
<b>Email</b>			

**6. Describe briefly the aims, activities and achievements of the UK Host organisation.**  
(Large institutions please note this should describe your unit or department)

(max 150 words)

Bristol Conservation and Science Foundation (BCSF) is an operating unit of Bristol, Clifton and West of England Zoological Society Ltd. It was created in 2008 to further develop the Society's existing international and national conservation projects. BCSF works in 10 countries around the world to deliver and support projects surrounding conservation of biodiversity and natural resources (see [www.bcsf.org.uk](http://www.bcsf.org.uk)).

BCSF's main project 'ECDD' is in the Comoro Islands, where it works with local communities to improve agricultural revenues and to manage natural resources, as well as performing ecological studies to identify conservation priorities and trends (see [www.ecddcomoros.org](http://www.ecddcomoros.org)). The main donor funding between 2009 and 2012 came from the Darwin Initiative, the French Development Agency, and the Global Environment Facility.

Other BCSF international projects include development work with communities surrounding the Dja biosphere reserve in Cameroon (EU funding) and the Pere David's Deer reserve in China (Chinese government funding).

**7. Describe briefly the aims, activities and achievements of the proposed Darwin Fellow's employing organisation. (Large institutions please note this should describe your unit or department)**

(max 150 words)

The statutes for the Comorian NGO *Dahari* will be deposited at the start of February 2013 as a key outcome of BCSF's Darwin project 'A participatory conservation programme for the Comoro Islands'.

Vision: A dynamic and cohesive Comorian Society in control of its future and living in harmony with its environment

Mission: To accompany local communities in agricultural development and natural resource management, for the benefit of man and biodiversity

Domains of intervention:

- Rural production (agriculture, forestry, livestock farming)
- Natural resource management
- Biodiversity conservation

There are 15 founder members of the NGO including prominent figures from the government and local development institutions, as well as members of the ECDD project team. A Comorian director and expatriate technical advisor will be charged with finding funding and recruiting the staff to implement its first activities, supported by the international partners of the ECDD project.

**8. Describe briefly the proposed Fellow's current role within their organisation and their link to a Darwin project (if applicable), including the project reference number, his/her role in that project and any ongoing involvement.**

(max 200 words)

Misbahou Mohamed was a key figure in the implementation of BCSF's Darwin Comoros project (17-011), which ran from April 2009 to December 2012.

Misbahou was a village facilitator and team leader for one of the intervention regions in 2009 and 2010, before being promoted to become the local coordinator of the project. He sat on the project's senior management team in the Comoros, and his role has included management of the local field team of 10 technicians and of relationships with local partners. In the field he was charged with managing social dynamics – supporting field technicians to develop management committees and select appropriate beneficiaries. He also participated in report-writing and in the project's steering committee meetings. Misbahou will continue in this role for a second phase of the project which will be run by the international partners in collaboration with the new local NGO.

Misbahou has also participated in the process of creation of the local NGO *Dahari*: meeting with other local NGOs to learn lessons, managing meetings of the reflection committee charged with developing the structure, elaborating the statutes. He is one of the founder members of the NGO and will have a leadership role within the structure.

## 9. Provide a concept note on the Darwin Fellowship. This should include:

### 9a A clear outline of the aim and objectives of the Fellowship

(Max 300 words)

Aim 1: To develop the leadership, management and technical capabilities of a key member of the new Comorian NGO *Dahari* through applied training and mentoring.

Objective 1a: Gain a high level of English fluency in order to be able to communicate and work with partners and funders.

1b: Gain a Graduate certificate in Endangered Species Management through the Durrell Conservation Academy:

<http://www.durrell.org/academy/Courses/Durrell-Endangered-Species-Management-Graduate-Certificate-2013/>. This 12-week course is designed to equip conservation professionals with a complete range of skills to maximise their effectiveness at managing conservation projects, including training in leadership, facilitation, management, and conservation strategies.

1c. Develop understanding of programme management, scientific research, public education and training through mentoring and support from BCSF and Durrell staff.

1d: Develop leadership and management capacities through mentoring from project managers from Durrell, WWF, BlueVentures and a rural development partner in Madagascar.

1e: Develop applied skills in GIS, scientific research, social marketing, programme management, agro-ecology, and landscape management through on-the-job training in Madagascar.

2: To apply the lessons learnt to improve the impact of the NGO *Dahari* and the ECDD project on the implementation of the CBD in the Comoros.

2a: Capitalise on mentoring and training experiences by producing a full report with recommendations for implementation of lessons learnt.

2b: Perform workshops with NGO and project staff to integrate lessons learnt into programme implementation.

2c. Return to Comoros to take up lead role in NGO and ECDD project.

3: To develop regional and UK institutional support for the NGO.

3a: Develop contacts in the host institutions in Madagascar and in other NGOs and develop support for the NGO *Dahari*.

3b: Develop links with potential partners and funders of the NGO in the UK through meetings facilitated by the host institutions and other supporters.

3c: Capitalise on links by developing collaboration proposals with the different organisations.

### 9b The role of the UK Host organisation, and others where relevant (including contacts)

(Max 300 words)

BCSF: Will organise English training for two months in Bristol, and organise a host family for the fellow to live with. During this period will provide in-house training and mentoring in public education programmes, conservation programme management, and scientific research. Will host the fellow for a visit to their lemur conservation project in Madagascar. The fellow will be supported throughout the fellowship by the named BCSF experts, who will also organise logistics and contacts with partner organisations in Madagascar.

Durrell: Will provide a scholarship for the fellow to gain a certificate in Endangered Species Management through the Durrell Conservation Academy. During his time in Jersey will also provide additional in-house training and mentoring in conservation programme management, scientific research, training and facilitation skills.

Will host the fellow in Madagascar for one month focussing on training in communicating biodiversity, in GIS, and in scientific research. Will serve as a home-base during the fellow's time in Madagascar and assist with networking.

The fellow will be supported throughout the fellowship by the named Durrell experts.

Other host institutions in Madagascar:

WWF will host the fellow for one month for training and mentoring. Contact: Richard Hughes, Regional Representative, RHughes@wwf.panda.org.

UK NGO BlueVentures will host the fellow for one month for training focussed on social marketing and community education programmes. Contact Shawn Peabody, Country Coordinator, shawn@blueventures.org.

The Reseau des Educateurs et Professionnels de la Conservation will invite the fellow on courses held for conservation managers during his time in Madagascar. Contact Domoina Rakotobe, National Coordinator, drakotobe@amnh.org.

Durrell and BCSF collaborate with several rural development organizations in Madagascar, notably Agronomes et Vétérinaires Sans Frontières, an important partner on the Comoros Project. An internship will be organized with one of these partners for specific training and mentoring related to the management and implementation of rural development initiatives.

9c Where appropriate, how the Fellowship will contribute towards sustainable development or sustainable livelihoods ie what the expected outcome of the Fellowship will be, with regard to the higher goals of the Darwin Initiative

(Max 300 words)

The second aim of this fellowship is for the fellow to apply the lessons learnt from the training and mentoring provided during the fellowship to improve the impact of the NGO *Dahari* and the ECDD project on the implementation of the CBD in the Comoros.

The second phase of the ECDD project (2013-2015) will be run in partnership between the UK NGOs BCSF and Durrell, and the local NGO *Dahari*. The project will continue to support beneficiaries to improve their agricultural revenues using sustainable techniques, whilst working towards collective natural resource management based on the committees developed during the first phase. The biodiversity data collected during the first phase will be used to integrate high-priority conservation areas into management planning, as well as to support the UNDP-led projected area programme.

A transfer partnership agreement will be signed between the NGO *Dahari* and the international partners which will detail training and capacity building to be performed, as well as setting dates for the transfer of responsibility for equipment, personnel, and programme implementation. *Dahari* will develop its own activities in addition to being a leading partner in the second phase of the ECDD project. Priorities identified include the expansion of ECDD-model initiatives to new zones, the development of a ridge to reef intervention with the UK NGO BlueVentures, the development of ecotourism trails, the development of consulting, and the production and sale of improved crop varieties.

By returning to the Comoros to take up a leadership role in both the second phase of the ECDD project and the NGO *Dahari*, and by integrating lessons learnt into implementation strategies, the fellow will both disseminate widely the experience gained during the Fellowship, and make an important contribution to the impact of these interventions on the implementation of the CBD in the Comoros.

**10. Legacy. Provide information on how the Darwin Fellow will utilise, promote and disseminate the benefits of the Fellowship on return to his/her home country. Will a strategy be developed during the Fellowship to ensure this is achieved?**

(max 200 words)

One month will be reserved in the Comoros at the end of both the Madagascar and UK trips to capitalise on the results of the fellowship. This will include the development of reports - with the support of the named experts - that include a strategy and recommendations for the implementation of lessons learnt, workshops delivered for *Dahari* and ECDD project staff, and development of international partnerships.

At the end of the fellowship the fellow will return to take up a leadership role in both *Dahari* and the second phase of the ECDD project. This will enable him to both implement the lessons learnt within the intervention strategies, and transfer the specific skills he has acquired to the other team members – enabling them to improve their work with local communities.

Through his leadership role in the NGO he will also be in a position to influence national discourse and strategy in the conservation and development sectors.

Throughout he will be supported by BCSF and Durrell, both by in-field expatriate managers, and from afar by the named experts. It is also anticipated that close support from new international partners will be secured as a direct result of this fellowship.

**11. How will the Fellowship assist the Fellow's organisation and/or local communities and/or home country in working towards the objectives (or implementation) of the CBD/CITES/CMS? Please refer to specific Articles or cross cutting themes as appropriate.**

(max 200 words)

This Fellowship will contribute widely to the realisation of the Comoros commitments to the international biodiversity conventions, as well as specifically to Article 12 of the Comoros national biodiversity strategy, which highlights the importance of capacity development. In the last national report to the CBD, the Comoros identified that a lack of capacity was one of the main obstacles impeding the implementation of the national biodiversity strategy: the country suffers from an exceptionally low level of core conservation capacity, a very small pool of local leaders, and a lack of competent and trustworthy local institutions.

The success of the first phase of the ECDD project relied heavily on the recruitment of expatriates to management positions. It is thus imperative that local members of the NGO receive higher-level training and support if it is going to become a viable independent institution that can have a long-term impact on the Comoros ability to meet their international biodiversity and sustainable development commitments. Success will also depend on ongoing support from international partners, hence the importance of developing closer links with regional institutions interested in assisting interventions in the Comoros.

**12. What collaboration has there been with the Darwin Fellow to date in developing the proposal, and what collaboration is planned for the duration of the Fellowship? Where relevant, describe any consultation or collaboration by the proposed Fellow within his/her own country.**

This fellowship proposal has been developed by Misbahou Mohamed, his manager Hugh Doulton, and the other named UK experts. It is based on his current personal development plan updated during his most recent evaluation, as well as the priorities for capacity development and networking identified by the reflection committee charged with developing the NGO *Dahari*.

Misbahou will continue to be closely supported by the named UK experts throughout the duration of the fellowship, and will be working directly with different experts at different points of the year.

The Director of the Environment for the Comoros has provided a support letter for this application.

**13. Where will the Darwin Fellow be based? Please be specific with organisational details and dates (where more than one location).**

(max 200 words)

July 2013 – Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust, Antananarivo, Madagascar with field visits. Durrell will serve as the point of contact and support organisation throughout the fellow's time in Madagascar.

August – BlueVentures, Toliara, Madagascar with field visits

September – Rural development partner, Antananarivo with field visits

October – WWF, Antananarivo with field visits

November – *Dahari*/ECDD, Anjouan, Comoros

December 2013 – mid-February 2014: with an English host family in Bristol, UK and at Bristol Zoo Gardens

Mid-February – end May: Durrell Conservation Academy, Jersey UK

June – *Dahari*/ECDD, Anjouan, Comoros

Darwin branding will be applied during the duration of the Fellowship (as for the ECDD project), including on all documents, reports and other communication materials produced as part of this Fellowship. Misbahou will be titled as a 'Darwin Fellow' in all interactions with partners.

**14. Provide a programme of work, including key milestones, through the duration of the Fellowship**

Activity	Duration	2013/14									2014/2015						
		J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	
Arrive in Madagascar. First month with Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust focussed on GIS, scientific research, and communication of biodiversity		■															
One month with BlueVentures focussed on social marketing and community education, programme management			■														
One month with rural development partner focussed on agro-ecology, landscape management, monitoring and evaluation				■													
One month with WWF shadowing a project manager of a forestry and agriculture project					■												
Networking with host institutions and other NGOs in Madagascar		■	■	■	■												
Capitalisation of Madagascar trip in Comoros: report write-up, integration of lessons learnt into project and NGO strategy, development of collaborations with networked institutions						■											
English training course in Bristol UK, living in a family house to assist with immersion							■	■	■								
Gain English language certificate								■									
Mentoring in programme management, public education, scientific research from named BCSF experts and other staff							■	■	■								
Networking with potential NGO funders and partners on UK mainland							■	■	■								
Participate in Durrell Endangered Species Management training course at the Durrell Conservation Academy									■	■	■	■					
Gain DESMAN Graduate Certificate												■					
Benefit from additional mentoring in conservation project management and scientific research from named Durrell experts and other Durrell staff									■	■	■	■					
Capitalisation of UK trip in Comoros: report write-up, integration of lessons learnt into project and NGO strategy, development of collaborations with networked institutions													■				



**15. Costs. Using UK Government Financial Years ie April 2013 – March 2014 etc), please set out your budget for the Fellowship**

	Unit cost	No of months		Total	
		2013/14	2014/15	2013/14	2014/15
<b>Fellow's Subsistence contribution</b>					
Arrival allowance	£300	NA	NA	300	
London based	£1,200 pcm				
UK (outside London)	£1,000 pcm	3	1	3000	1000
Overseas (Madagascar)	£600	4		2400	
Overseas (Comoros)	£250	1	1	250	250
<b>Host organisation's costs</b>					
UK	£300 pcm	4	2	1200	600
Overseas	£200	6		1200	
<b>Total Fellow and Host costs</b>				<b>8350</b>	<b>1850</b>
<b>Travel costs to Fellowship location (up to £2,000)</b>					
Return airfare	Details: Comoros-London			1200	
Travel to/from airports	Details: Anjouan – Moroni, Heathrow-London			200	
Visas, insurance, medical cover etc	Details: Student visa + insurance + medical cover			600	
<b>Additional travel costs (up to £500 local travel OR £1,500 for international travel)</b>					
Purpose of additional travel	Details: South Africa trip for UK visa + Madagascar trip				
Airfares/train fares	Details: Return flights to SA + Madagascar			1100	
Travel to/from airports/stations	Details: Pretoria + Antananarivo			100	
Subsistence costs (inc number of days and rates)*	Details: £50/ day x 4 days in SA			200	
Visas etc	Details: SA + Madagascar visas			100	
<b>Total travel costs</b>				<b>3500</b>	
<b>Fees and training costs</b>					
Academic fees	Details:				6750
English language training costs**	Details:			2000	
<b>Total fees</b>				<b>2000</b>	<b>6750</b>
<b>TOTAL REQUEST FROM DARWIN</b>				<b>£ 13850</b>	<b>8600</b>

\*for advice on rates please call the Darwin Application Unit 0131 440 5181

\*\*these costs are ringfenced and should be surrendered if not used.

**16. Other sources of funding: provide details and amounts**

£2250 scholarship funding from Durrell for the DESMAN course.  
 NB 2 months' subsistence costs in the UK have been taken out as these are covered within the DESMAN course fee (subsistence claimed for 4 months instead of 6)

**FCO NOTIFICATION**

Please check the box if you think that there are sensitivities that the Foreign and Commonwealth Office will need to be aware of should they want to publicise details of the Darwin Fellowship and the resultant work in the UK or the Darwin Fellow's home country

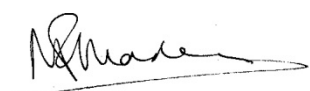
**CERTIFICATION**

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.

I enclose CVs for project principals and letters of support as requested in the Guidance Notes. Our most recent audited accounts and annual report are also enclosed:

<b>Name (block capitals)</b>	<b>NEIL MADDISON</b>
<b>Position in the organisation</b>	Head of Conservation Programmes

**Signed**



**Date:**

14 January 2013

## Fellowship Application - Checklist for submission

	Check
Have you provided actual start and end dates for the Fellowship?	Yes
Have you provided your budget based on UK government financial years ie 1 April – 31 March?	Yes
Have you checked that your budget is complete, correctly adds up and that you have included the correct final total on the top page of the application?	Yes
Is the concept note within 1,000 words?	Yes
Has your application been signed by a suitably authorised individual? <b>(clear electronic or scanned signatures are acceptable)</b>	Yes
Have you included a 1 page CV for the proposed Fellow and the UK experts listed in Section 5?	Yes
Have you provided the relevant letters of support?	Yes
Have you included a copy of your most recent annual report and accounts? <b>An electronic link to a website is acceptable.</b>	Yes
Have you read the Guidance Notes?	Yes
Have you checked the Darwin website immediately prior to submission to ensure there are no late updates?	Yes

Once you have answered Yes to the questions above, please submit the application, not later than 2359h GMT on **Monday 14 January 2014** to [Darwin-Applications@itsi.co.uk](mailto:Darwin-Applications@itsi.co.uk) using the name of the proposed Fellow as the subject of your email. If you are e-mailing supporting documentation separately please include in the subject line an indication of the number of e-mails you are sending (eg whether the e-mail is 1 of 2, 2 of 3 etc).

**DATA PROTECTION ACT 1998:** Applicants for grant funding 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.