

DPLR1\1037

Preventing Common Myna invasion in Akrotiri SBA and Cyprus

The overall project objective is to halt the spread of the Common Myna (*Acridotheres tristis*) in Akrotiri SBA and adjacent areas of Cyprus, preventing this recently arrived alien bird species - classified among the 'top 100' most dangerous invasive species globally - from breeding and becoming an established invasive in Cyprus, as it has done elsewhere in the region. The project will coordinate, support, reinforce and inform existing eradication control efforts, to ensure the Myna does not impact on local ecosystems and biodiversity.

The Myna was first seen in Cyprus within Akrotiri British Sovereign Base (SBA) in January 2022, when three individuals were located and subsequently controlled. In the months that followed, and despite initial control efforts, Mynas were recorded in other locations, centering around the Limassol Port, which borders Akrotiri SBA and may be the point-of-entry for the birds (ship-assisted arrival). Specifically, there were 37 Myna sightings between February 2022-January 2023, involving up to 20 birds and predominantly from Limassol District, but also from Paphos and Larnaka Districts (see attached map).

We will build on evidence of what has succeeded in controlling Mynas in other countries, ensuring actions are evidence-based. Drawing on existing scientific evidence and expertise - including through expert visits to Cyprus - we will try control methods that are innovative for Cyprus, such as specialized traps with lures.

The project partners will engage with government stakeholders to ensure effective Myna control, while aiming to also mitigate against future arrivals of Mynas or other alien bird species. The relevant authorities in the British Bases (SBA Environment department) and Cyprus Republic (Game and Fauna Service and RoC Environment Department) are already committed to engaging with the project.

Five project activities are proposed:

1. Project partners and government stakeholders establish a Myna control 'task-force', a working team to oversee and coordinate the effort to eradicate Mynas, while also building relevant contacts beyond Cyprus.
2. This task force will establish a Myna control response reporting system: an on-line, user-friendly reporting system for entering sightings/locations, providing up-to-date database of sightings.
3. This will in turn facilitate the technical aspects of the project, namely execution of Myna control programme, including the expansion of trapping capacity and increasing shooting effectiveness.
4. Awareness-raising: information campaign on invasives and need for their control, with a particular focus on birdwatchers, animal welfare organisations and the general public, using social media, events and production of an information / alert poster and a short information film (animation) as communications tools. Action aims to minimize negative response to need for killing Mynas, to ensure birdwatchers and members of public report sightings promptly on reporting system (Action 2).
5. Scientific aspects, in partnership with the University of Cyprus - the leading academic institution on the island, with a strong research focus on Akrotiri ecosystems. This will include gathering and managing relevant data, including Myna specimens, establishing on-going monitoring and publication of findings. A particular focus will be on identification of the origin of Mynas arriving in Cyprus, which will require genetic analysis of specimens. Knowing the route-of-arrival will enable targeted mitigation measures to be implemented. If, as expected, population genomics confirms origin was an Israeli port population, then monitoring of the Limassol port will help prevent future invasions.

The main success criteria for our project will be significant reduction in numbers of Mynas recorded in Cyprus, establishment of best practice procedure for monitoring, plus increased awareness of the invasives issue (success levels measured using response system records). Another success criterion will be the identification of the point-of-origin of the Mynas, which will enable mitigation measures to be put in place.

PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

Title Mr
Name Martin
Surname Hellicar
Organisation BIRDLIFE CYPRUS

Website (Work) [REDACTED]

Tel (Work) [REDACTED]

Email (Work) [REDACTED]

Address [REDACTED]

DPLR1\1037

Preventing Common Myna invasion in Akrotiri SBA and Cyprus

Section 1 - Project Title & Contact Details

Q1. Project Title

Preventing Common Myna invasion in Akrotiri SBA and Cyprus

Q2. Please select whether you are applying as an organisation or as an individual (Guidance section 3 and Guidance Glossary)

Organisation

PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

Title	Mr
Name	Martin
Surname	Hellicar
Organisation	BIRDLIFE CYPRUS
Website (Work)	[REDACTED]
Tel (Work)	[REDACTED]
Email (Work)	[REDACTED]
Address	[REDACTED]

GMS ORGANISATION

Type	Organisation
Name	BIRDLIFE CYPRUS
Phone (Work)	[REDACTED]
Email (Work)	[REDACTED]
Website (Work)	[REDACTED]
Address	[REDACTED]

Section 2 - Overseas Territory(ies)

Q3. Overseas Territory (Guidance section 1.3):

Which UK Overseas Territory(ies) will your project be working in? Please note that in case of a non-permanent resident population you need to demonstrate a clear, meaningful, long-term link to the territory.

Sovereign Base Areas of Akrotiri and Dhekelia (on Cyprus)

* if you have indicated a territory group with an asterisk, please give detail on which territories you are working on here:

No Response

In addition to the UKOT(s) you have indicated, will your project directly benefit any other UK OT(s) or country(ies)?

Yes

Please list these below and describe how they will benefit:

Republic of Cyprus: the neighboring RoC will benefit from project actions as the establishment of the Common Myna as an invasive species poses a similar threat to the native birds and ecosystems of the RoC as it does in the Akrotiri SBA. In fact, there is no sense in treating these adjacent territories as anything but one ecological entity in the context of this Myna control effort. Therefore, project actions will extend beyond the Akrotiri SBA boundaries to include RoC areas.

Section 3 - Project Partners

Q4. Project partners (Guidance section 3.2)

In this section, please give details of all the partners involved (including the Lead Partner) and provide a summary of their roles.

**Project Leader name
(Guidance section 3.1):** BirdLife Cyprus

**Lead Partner name (if
applying as an
organisation; Guidance
section 3.1):** BirdLife Cyprus

**Lead Partner Website (if
applicable):** www.birdlifecyprus.org

**Is the Lead Partner based
in a UKOT where the
project is working
(Guidance section 3.1)?** Yes

List other partners involved and where are they based (Guidance section 3.2):

University of Cyprus (UCY), based in Nicosia, Cyprus.

Summary of roles and responsibilities of each partner in the project:


BirdLife Cyprus (BC) is the leading nature conservation NGO in Cyprus, working across the Republic of Cyprus (RoC) and the Sovereign Base Areas (SBAs) for the protection of birds and their habitats. BC maintains an office with 14 qualified staff and has successfully managed projects funded by, among others, Darwin, the European Commission and the MAVA Foundation. BC led on the preparation of this proposal and will be responsible for overall project management and coordination, while also overseeing project spending and finances. In terms of specific project actions, BC will use its existing capacity and project funds to lead on awareness-raising and the setting up of the Myna control response reporting system, while actively supporting technical aspects (including trapping of Mynas) and the set-up and operation of the Myna control 'task force'.

The University of Cyprus (UCY) is the leading academic institution in Cyprus. The Behavioural Ecology and Evolution Lab, within the Biological Sciences department at UCY, has a strong research focus on both bird ecology in general and Akrotiri ecosystems specifically. UCY will lead on the scientific aspects of the project, focusing on gathering and managing relevant data, including Myna specimens, establishing on-going monitoring and publication of findings. Identification of the origin of Mynas arriving in Cyprus will be a particular focus, requiring genetic analysis of specimens. Knowing the route-of-arrival will enable targeted mitigation measures to be implemented. UCY will also participate in the project 'task force' and take an active part in technical aspects of Myna control.


I confirm that all listed partners are aware of this application and have indicated support:


Checked

Attach a Cover Letter for your application (Guidance section 4.2).

 [Cover letter for Cyprus Mynas R1 DPlus Loca](#)

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 14/02/2023

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Section 4 - Project Summary & Description

Q5. Project Summary (Guidance section 3.8)

Please provide a brief summary of your project. This may be used in communication activities and/or

published online, if your application is successful.

Our project aims to protect biodiversity by preventing the establishment of the highly invasive alien bird species, Common Myna, in Cyprus. First recorded in January 2022 within the Akrotiri British Base area, Mynas have since been recorded in other parts of Cyprus, despite initial control efforts. Coordination for recording and effective control of the Myna will be backed-up by targeted awareness-raising efforts and scientific research, including for the identification of where the bird arrived from, to help mitigate future introductions.

Q6. Description (Guidance section 2.1)

Please provide a description of your project, including:

- the overall objective
- the current situation and the problem the project is trying to address
- what success will look like and how you will measure it

Please be as specific as possible when describing the project, using quantified data and evidence where available. You may wish to consider: what are the specific threats to the environment that the project will attempt to address, and what should we know about these threats? What does your successful project look like? And how will you demonstrate whether and how your project has been successful?

The overall project objective is to halt the spread of the Common Myna (*Acridotheres tristis*) in Akrotiri SBA and adjacent areas of Cyprus, preventing this recently arrived alien bird species - classified among the 'top 100' most dangerous invasive species globally - from breeding and becoming an established invasive in Cyprus, as it has done elsewhere in the region. The project will coordinate, support, reinforce and inform existing eradication control efforts, to ensure the Myna does not impact on local ecosystems and biodiversity.

The Myna was first seen in Cyprus within Akrotiri British Sovereign Base (SBA) in January 2022, when three individuals were located and subsequently controlled. In the months that followed, and despite initial control efforts, Mynas were recorded in other locations, centering around the Limassol Port, which borders Akrotiri SBA and may be the point-of-entry for the birds (ship-assisted arrival). Specifically, there were 37 Myna sightings between February 2022-January 2023, involving up to 20 birds and predominantly from Limassol District, but also from Paphos and Larnaka Districts (see attached map).

We will build on evidence of what has succeeded in controlling Mynas in other countries, ensuring actions are evidence-based. Drawing on existing scientific evidence and expertise - including through expert visits to Cyprus - we will try control methods that are innovative for Cyprus, such as specialized traps with lures.

The project partners will engage with government stakeholders to ensure effective Myna control, while aiming to also mitigate against future arrivals of Mynas or other alien bird species. The relevant authorities in the British Bases (SBA Environment department) and Cyprus Republic (Game and Fauna Service and RoC Environment Department) are already committed to engaging with the project.

Five project activities are proposed:

1. Project partners and government stakeholders establish a Myna control 'task-force', a working team to oversee and coordinate the effort to eradicate Mynas, while also building relevant contacts beyond Cyprus.
2. This task force will establish a Myna control response reporting system: an on-line, user-friendly

reporting system for entering sightings/locations, providing up-to-date database of sightings.





3. This will in turn facilitate the technical aspects of the project, namely execution of Myna control programme, including the expansion of trapping capacity and increasing shooting effectiveness.

4. Awareness-raising: information campaign on invasives and need for their control, with a particular focus on birdwatchers, animal welfare organisations and the general public, using social media, events and production of an information / alert poster and a short information film (animation) as communications tools. Action aims to minimize negative response to need for killing Mynas, to ensure birdwatchers and members of public report sightings promptly on reporting system (Action 2).

5. Scientific aspects, in partnership with the University of Cyprus - the leading academic institution on the island, with a strong research focus on Akrotiri ecosystems. This will include gathering and managing relevant data, including Myna specimens, establishing on-going monitoring and publication of findings. A particular focus will be on identification of the origin of Mynas arriving in Cyprus, which will require genetic analysis of specimens. Knowing the route-of-arrival will enable targeted mitigation measures to be implemented. If, as expected, population genomics confirms origin was an Israeli port population, then monitoring of the Limassol port will help prevent future invasions.

The main success criteria for our project will be significant reduction in numbers of Mynas recorded in Cyprus, establishment of best practice procedure for monitoring, plus increased awareness of the invasives issue (success levels measured using response system records). Another success criterion will be the identification of the point-of-origin of the Mynas, which will enable mitigation measures to be put in place.

(Optional) Please upload any additional and supporting materials or files (such as maps of project sites, etc) below. Maximum of 5 pages:

-
-  [supporting material Darwin Local Cyprus](#)
 -  13/02/2023
 -  13:36:42
 -  pdf 823.85 KB

Section 5 - Project Outcome(s)

Q7. Project Outcome(s) (Guidance section 1.2)

Successful Darwin Plus Local projects must demonstrate measurable outcomes in at least one of the themes of Darwin Plus, either by the end of the project or soon after through a credible plan.

Please tick which theme(s) of Darwin Plus your project underpins:

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| Checked | Biodiversity: improving and conserving biodiversity, and slowing or reversing biodiversity loss and degradation; |
| Unchecked | Climate change: responding to, mitigating and adapting to climate change and its effects on the natural environment and local communities; |
| Checked | Environmental quality: improving the condition and protection of the natural environment |

Checked **Capability and capacity building: enhancing the capacity within OTs, including through community engagement and awareness, to support the environment in the short- and long-term.**

Please justify your selection.

In the Mediterranean, avian introductions have already resulted in the establishment of invasive alien species such as Rose-ringed Parakeet (*Psittacula krameri*), Red-vented Bulbul (*Pycnonotus cafer*) and Crested Myna (*Acridotheres cristatellus*). These and other alien species have been shown to impact local species, including through competing with native bird species over resources (e.g. nest sites) and altering native plant communities. Preventing avian invasions is therefore important for biodiversity conservation, but also for maintenance of ecosystem balance (environmental quality). Project actions will increase public awareness on invasives and build local capacity - especially within government departments - to tackle future biosecurity threats.





Section 6 - Project Timeline

Q8. Project timeline (Guidance section 2.2)

Please provide anticipated dates for the start and end of your planned project here. Please use the Darwin Plus Local Project Implementation Timetable Template (which can be downloaded below) to provide a list of the individual activities you have planned for this project, a brief description of what each activity entails, and the months in which the activities will be carried out. If the project involves only one activity (e.g. a purchase), please still provide project start and end dates (noting estimated times for procurement). Please note that your project will need to be completed by 31 March 2024.

Start date:	End date:	Duration (e.g. 3 months):
01 May 2023	31 March 2024	11 months

Please upload the completed Darwin Plus Local Project Implementation Timetable template with your proposed project activities below.

-  [Cyprus Mynas project R1 DPlus Local Implementation Timetable Template FINAL](#)
-  10/02/2023
-  14:49:33
-  docx 32.43 KB

Section 7 - Costs

Q9. Costs (Guidance section 2.2 and please read the Finance Guidance)

Please provide a breakdown of costs to be funded through Darwin Plus Local (in GBP).

Are you seeking any matched funding for this project? (Please note that this is optional and there is

no requirement to seek matched funding for Darwin Plus Local projects).

Ⓒ No

Budget line	Explanation	Cost in GBP
Staff costs:	<p>This covers the cost of three existing, experienced BirdLife Cyprus employees assigned to deliver project tasks. These tasks will include the overall running of the project, the convening and operation of the Myna 'task force' to be set up through the project, the set-up and operation of the Myna reporting system, the delivery of technical aspects (including Myna trapping) and of awareness-raising actions.</p> <p>Note that the BirdLife Cyprus Director and Financial Manager will be responsible for overall project management, including financial control, and their time will be covered through BC core funds (co-funding for the project).</p>	██████████
Overhead costs:	To cover the overheads of the lead partner, BirdLife Cyprus, to support the management and running the project.	██████████
Travel & subsistence costs:	<p>To cover travel and subsistence costs for project actions 1. Task force, 3. Technical aspects (Myna trapping and control), 4. Awareness-raising and 5. Scientific aspects</p> <p>Action 3, which will involve field work in following-up reports of Myna sightings and also control actions such as setting and checking traps for Mynas, is anticipated to involve the most travel and subsistence costs. But other actions will also involve such costs, principally for attending meetings with stakeholder groups and for awareness-raising events.</p>	██████████
Operating costs:	<p>These costs relate to the operation of key project actions, as follows:</p> <p>Action 2. Myna reporting system: set-up of user-friendly on-line reporting system for birdwatchers and others to enter Myna sightings.</p> <p>Action 4. Awareness-raising: cost of creating a short animated film and a poster as communications tools</p> <p>Action 5. Science aspects: cost of Myna specimen analysis for identifying the source population using population genomics (action to be led by University of Cyprus)</p>	██████████
Capital equipment:	<p>The cost of construction of purpose-built traps - including traps for use with live lures - for catching Mynas. We have based this on the cost of materials and labour for producing 15 Myna traps at a cost of 110 Euros per trap.</p> <p>These traps, made from heavy-duty galvanized wire mesh, will be durable enough to be used after project also, and as needed for ongoing Myna control purposes.</p>	██████████

Consultancy costs:

Cost of project visit by recognized, UK-based, Myna control and management expert Chris Feare, to advise on technical aspects in particular (trapping and other control methods). Chris Feare has already been consulted in the preparation stage of this proposal, after he visited Cyprus in early February 2023. There would be great value in a follow-up visit by Chris Feare as actions are set up, so we can draw on his long-term experience in tackling this challenging problem and avoid 'reinventing any wheels'. See the list of references attached under 'additional material' (under Q6) for relevant scientific publications by Chris Feare.

████████

Total:

████████

This section provides more information on the budget to help evaluators understand how you will use the funds you are requesting. You do not need to list all costs, but please list and detail costs of more than £1,000 per item below, under the appropriate budget line.

Details of staff costs over £1,000 (if relevant)

GBP 3,767: BC Campaigns Coordinator Tassos Shialis will devote an estimated 30 days over the 11-month duration of the project working mainly on project tasks 1 and 2 (Establishing Myna control 'task-force' & Set up Myna control response reporting system)

GBP 3,201: BC Campaigns and Monitoring officer Markos Charalambides will devote an estimated 40 days over the duration of the project, working mainly on project task 3 (Technical aspects: set up and execution of Myna control programme)

GBP 2,719: BC Communications Officer Elena Markitani will devote an estimated 25 days to working on the awareness-raising aspects of the project.

Details of overhead costs over £1,000 (if relevant):

Calculated as 5% of the total costs of the budget lines of the five project actions.

Details of travel and subsistence costs over £1,000 (if relevant):

No Response

Details of operating costs over £1,000 (if relevant):

Two costs in this category exceed 1,000 GBP:

1. Awareness-raising: cost of creating a short animated film, using a media company BC has worked with with good results in the past. This production cost is estimated at ██████ EURO (█████ GBP)

2. Myna specimen analysis for identifying the source population. This UCY-led action is estimated at ██████ EURO (█████ GBP). To identify source populations, UCY needs to perform population genomics of Myna whole genomes collected in Cyprus with likely sources (Israel, Lebanon, Turkey). Estimated cost ██████ for library preparation and sequencing (10X): 45 samples @ ██████ each = ██████ + shipping.

Details of capital equipment costs over £1,000 (if relevant):

Cost of materials and labour for each purpose-built Myna trap estimated at EURO (GBP) and we estimate we will need 15 traps.

Details of consultancy costs over £1,000 (if relevant):

Cost of return air ticket, accommodation, per diems and consultancy fee for international Myna control expert Chris Feare to visit the project.

Details of other costs over £1,000 (if relevant)

No Response

If your project budget was prepared in another currency and converted to GBP, please provide the exchange rate, its source, and the date it was accessed:

Other currency:	Exchange rate:	Source of this exchange rate:	Date exchange rate accessed:
EURO	0.8842	https://www.xe.com/currencyconverter/	12 February 2023

Darwin Plus Local has been created to build capacity and contribute to local economies in-territory.

What % of the total will be spent in the OTs?

If less than 80% of the total project spend is to be spent within the OT(s), please explain why.

The first Common Mynas ever recorded in Cyprus were birds sighted within Akrotiri SBA, but this high risk invasive has since been recorded mostly on the edge of the SBA (and predominantly around nearby Limassol Port). Preventing the establishment of the Myna is critical for the Akrotiri ecosystem, with its notably rich avian biodiversity, but cannot be separated from the need to tackle Mynas wherever they might appear on the island. Tackling Mynas on the SBA alone while ignoring Republic areas would not be a sustainable strategy, as the Mynas would return to the Akrotiri area from across the SBA boundary. Tackling this problem requires an approach that covers both the SBA and the Republic of Cyprus, and needs the active involvement of all relevant authorities (in SBA and RoC), which have committed to working with the project partners. Project actions are therefore designed to cover both the Akrotiri SBA and Cyprus Republic areas.

Section 8 - Local and National Priorities

Q10. Local and national priorities

Please explain how this project aligns with local and national priorities? You may wish to consider the project in the context of national environmental laws, objectives, strategies, territory specific agreements, action plans or policies.

The objectives of our project are in line with international efforts to control the spread of invasive alien species (IAS), which pose a recognised and growing threat to indigenous species and ecosystems, especially on islands.

The identification of invasion pathways, limitation, biological control and management of the most harmful invasive alien species is a priority under the EU Biodiversity Strategy 2020 and under EU Regulation 1143/2014 on the prevention and management of the introduction and spread of IAS.

There is evidence that Common Mynas are spreading westwards through some Middle East and eastern European countries (Magory Cogen et al. 2022) from their ancestral range in south-east Asia (Feare & Craig 1998). There is also a risk of escaped cage Mynas, as experienced in the western Mediterranean and eastern Atlantic islands (Saavedra 2010). Whatever the mechanism, the risk of establishment of Common Mynas in Cyprus is a concern in view of the impacts that Mynas can have on indigenous species (Feare et al. 2021).

This is recognised within the EU by the Myna's inclusion in the list of invasive animals of concern (EU 2014), and globally through the inclusion of Mynas among the 100 worst invasive species (IUCN 2014).

Will the project take place on Government owned land or water?

No

Section 9 - Project Risks

Q11. Project Risks

Please demonstrate your consideration of any risks involved in this project and how you intend to manage them. Depending on your project, you may wish to consider:

- Biosecurity risks – particularly for projects involving external equipment.
- Safeguarding risks – particularly for projects involving vulnerable groups such as children, older people or people with disabilities.

Risk	Mitigation
Risks relating to animal welfare, with regards to need for 'control' of invasive Mynas	<p>This project is focused on prevention of establishment of a dangerous invasive species, but where lethal control is required this will be humane according to national laws in Cyprus and recognized international standards in this important area. This will include following European Commission advice in the DG Environment 2018 study on invasive alien species, plus the guidance within the Humane management manual of IUCN (see attached references list for details).</p> <p>The project partners and key stakeholders are not opposed to Myna abatement, but are also committed to acting humanely.</p>

Risk of general public and birdwatchers failing to report sightings of Mynas, due to opposition to control of the species. This would have a negative impact on reporting of the species, hampering monitoring and control efforts.

The project will have a strong and specific focus on awareness-raising around the invasives issue in general and the need for swift action on Mynas in particular. Engaging in this way with the general public and key stakeholders like birdwatchers in Cyprus, will serve to minimize negative reactions to the need for abatement, thus encouraging the reporting of Myna sightings.

Biosecurity risks are low in relation to proposed project activities, but are none-the-less ever-present.

This project is focused on limiting such risks and preventing the establishment of the invasive alien species Common Myna in Cyprus, while setting up systems that can help with other avian invasive species. Biosecurity concerns will thus be uppermost in the minds of all officers involved in project implementation. No equipment will be imported from beyond Cyprus for the purposes of this project.

Do you require more fields?

Yes

Risk	Mitigation
Safeguarding risks - though this project does not have a focus on or particular involvement with vulnerable groups, project activities do involve contact with the general public so this risk area cannot be ignored.	<p>BirdLife Cyprus (BC) implements a Safeguarding Policy that has been approved by the organization's Council.</p> <p>The purpose of this policy is to protect people, particularly children, vulnerable adults and beneficiaries of assistance, from any harm (psychological, physical and any other infringement of an individual's rights) that may be caused due to their coming into contact with BC. The BC Safeguarding policy covers the organization's own employees and also all associated personnel whilst engaged with work or visits related to BC.</p> <p>As project leader, BC will ensure safeguarding principles and practices are applied in all project activities.</p>
COVID-19 risks: while the COVID-19 pandemic does not - at present - pose as big a risk as it did in recent years, there remains a risk that the pandemic could limit the carrying out of events, project meetings, field work and project activities in general.	This risk will be limited by using tele-conferencing and virtual events as alternatives as needed, and by following all up-to-date advise issued by health authorities in the SBAs and Republic of Cyprus, regarding precautions relating to COVID-19.
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>

Section 10 - Terms & Conditions

Q12. Terms and conditions (Guidance section 3.10)

By applying for Darwin Plus Local you are adhering in full to the grant Terms and Conditions in full (available at: <https://dplus.darwininitiative.org.uk/apply> and as referenced in the Guidance at section 3.10). For information, the Terms and Conditions include requirements for all applicants to (amongst other requirements as per the full Terms and Conditions):

- Uphold a zero tolerance for inaction approach to tackling sexual exploitation, abuse, and harassment.
- Where appropriate, make all reasonable and adequate efforts to address gender inequality and other power imbalances.
- Notify all cases of fraud and theft (whether proven or suspected) relating to the project to the Grant Administrator as soon as they identified.

Please indicate you have read, and understood, and will adhere to the Terms and Conditions.

Checked

If your application is successful: If your project application is successful, the Fund Administrator (NIRAS) will ask you to provide some financial evidence for due diligence checks before you receive your project grant. (Please see section 3.3 of the Darwin Plus Local Finance Guidance). Please be ready to provide this evidence promptly.

Financial evidence for organisations: Year-end financial statements, the latest management accounts or audited accounts (if you have these).

Financial evidence for individuals: Proof of identity such as a passport, ID card or driving licence and solvency (such as bank statements) and a police check.

Section 11 - Certification





Certification

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

Checked

I have the authority to submit an application on behalf of my organisation.

Checked

Name:	Martin Hellicar
Position in the organisation: (if applicable)	Director
Signature (please upload e-signature)	 MartinHellicar  08/02/2023  13:55:13  pdf 188.72 KB
Date:	14 February 2023

Section 12 - Submission Checklist

Checklist for submission

	Check
I have read the Guidance documents, including the “Darwin Plus Local Guidance” and the “Darwin Plus Local Finance Guidance”.	Checked
If my proposed project takes place on public lands or water, I have uploaded a Letter of Support from Government.	Unchecked
I have uploaded a cover letter that details the information requested in the guidance (Guidance section 4.2 has information on what this cover letter should include).	Checked
I have read, and can meet, the current Terms and Conditions for this fund.	Checked
I have provided actual start and end dates for the project.	Checked
I have provided my summary budget based on UK government financial years i.e. 1 April – 31 March and in GBP in the application form.	Checked
I have uploaded my project implementation timetable using the specific template provided.	Checked
(If copying and pasting into Flexi-Grant) I have checked that all my responses have been successfully copied into the online application form.	Unchecked
The application has been signed by a suitably authorised individual (clear electronic or scanned signatures are acceptable).	Checked
I have checked the Darwin Plus website immediately prior to submission to ensure there are no late updates.	Checked
I have read and understood the Privacy Notice on the Darwin Plus website.	Checked

We would like to keep in touch!

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

Checked

Data protection and use of personal data

Information supplied in the application form, including personal data, will be used by Defra as set out in the **Privacy Notice**, available from the [Forms and Guidance Portal](#).

This **Privacy Notice must be provided to all individuals** whose personal data is supplied in the application form. Some information may be used when publicising Darwin Plus including project details (usually title, lead partner, project leader, location, and total grant value).

Project Title: Preventing Common Myna *Acridotheres tristis* invasion in Cyprus

Darwin Plus Local

Provide a **Project Implementation Timetable** that shows the key milestones in project activities. Complete the following table as appropriate to describe the intended workplan for your project. Projects are based on UK Financial Years (**1 April – 31 March** - therefore starts April 2023).

Please add/remove columns to reflect the length of your project. For each activity (add/remove rows as appropriate) indicate the number of months it will last, and shade only the months in which an activity will be carried out. The workplan can span multiple pages if necessary.

Activity #	Description (max 25 words)	No. of months	UK Financial Year 2023/24												
			Calendar Year 2023									Calendar Year 2024			
			Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	
1	Establishing Myna control 'task-force' , a working team to oversee and coordinate the effort to eradicate Mynas, while also building relevant contacts beyond Cyprus	11													
2	Set up Myna control response reporting system : establish an on-line, user-friendly reporting system for entering sightings/locations, providing up-to-date database of sightings	11													
3	Technical aspects : set up and execution of Myna control programme. To include expansion of trapping capacity and increasing shooting effectiveness, plus external expert input.	11													
4	Awareness-raising campaign on invasives and need for their control; focus on birdwatchers, animal welfare organisations and the general public, using events and social media	8													
5	Scientific aspects : gathering and managing data, including Myna specimens,	11													

Project Title: Preventing Common Myna *Acridotheres tristis* invasion in Cyprus

Activity #	Description (max 25 words)	No. of months	UK Financial Year 2023/24											
			Calendar Year 2023									Calendar Year 2024		
			Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
	establishing on-going monitoring and identification of origin of Mynas arriving in Cyprus; dissemination of project findings													