

DPLR1\1042

MNT- Pipers Lot Outdoor Educational Facility & Nature Trail

In 2020, 14-acres of land in Friths, Salem was donated to the Montserrat National Trust and would become one of several sites managed by the Trust to protect the islands biodiversity. Initial surveys in a joint project between Montserrat National Trust and the UK Overseas Territories Conservation Forum (DPLUS155) found that the majority of the site was in fact in a globally rare tropical dry forest. This will provide opportunities for the islands' young people to explore and study its unique wildlife, several of which are listed as vulnerable on the IUCN Red List.

The site consists of two parts. The lower area has a natural clearing, of about 500 metres, on which a nature trail will be developed. It consists of a gentle climb alongside a freshwater stream (or ghaut). The second section of the clearing is steep and requires some step construction. The trail will be established along the water outflow pipeline, which flows into the ghaut, with steps on the steepest part alongside the pipeline. From here, a route will be created through the upper part of the site to near the Montserrat Volcano Observatory.

On the upper site, the plan is to construct a small-scale farm area where young people (age 13+) can participate in supervised group activities such as, farm preparation and techniques to include budding and grafting, planting of medicinal herbs and preservation of these, and contributing to a medicinal plant herbarium which the Trust is developing. It is also envisaged that the site will be used for camping for visiting high school and college students as part of their fieldwork and foreign experience in environmental and scientific research. The plan is to include an open classroom area with covered platform where activities can take place, two toilets and shower, space to prepare food, and to store equipment and small furnishings. It is envisaged that an eco-friendly design with the use of compost toilets, solar panel for electricity and a water tank for rainwater catchment will be adopted.

The Trust is developing more activities for young persons. With the creation of a nature educational trail involving youths aged 13+ and the launch of a youth biodiversity club, this age group can now have a place in fostering and preserving our natural heritage and biodiversity. MNT already has a children's group (Monty's Messengers) that caters to children ages 5-12, and several activities have been organised which expose them to our rich biodiversity. The teenagers have often voiced their dissatisfaction of being left out. This project will provide nature based activities for this age group.

Students from the island's Secondary School, the Montserrat Community College, and youth clubs, will be invited to make use of the facility for training in climate sustainability, environment and biodiversity. This will also stimulate interest in careers in Science Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) subjects on themes including environment, agriculture, climate change and biodiversity.

This project will provide practical opportunities for young people to be involved in creation of a trail, interpretation, biological monitoring and management of a natural area alongside the future creation of a Youth Forum we are exploring (DPLUS192 which begins in April 2023). They will foster a connection with nature and an understanding of traditional use of land and natural balance between nature and subsistence and increase the awareness and knowledge of the biodiversity value of Montserrat's tropical dry forest habitat and associated biodiversity.

All aspects of the project will provide opportunities for young people to serve as apprentice in the construction of the facility and as cadets along side the Conservation Officer.

CONTACT DETAILS

Title Mrs
Name Sarita
Surname Francis
Organisation Montserrat National Trust
Website (Work) [Redacted]
[Redacted]
Tel (Work) [Redacted]
Tel (Fax) [Redacted]
Email (Work) [Redacted]
Address [Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

CONTACT DETAILS

Name Delmaude
Surname Ryan
Organisation Montserrat National Trust
Website (Work) [Redacted]
[Redacted]
Tel (Work) [Redacted]
Tel (Fax) [Redacted]
Email (Work) [Redacted]
Address [Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

DPLR1\1042

MNT- Pipers Lot Outdoor Educational Facility & Nature Trail

Section 1 - Project Title & Contact Details

Q1. Project Title

MNT- Pipers Lot Outdoor Educational Facility & Nature Trail

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

Organisation

CONTACT DETAILS

Title	Mrs
Name	Sarita
Surname	Francis
Organisation	Montserrat National Trust
Website (Work)	[REDACTED]
Tel (Work)	[REDACTED]
Tel (Fax)	[REDACTED]
Email (Work)	[REDACTED]
Address	[REDACTED]

CONTACT DETAILS

Name Delmaude
Surname Ryan
Organisation Montserrat National Trust
Website (Work) [REDACTED]
Tel (Work) [REDACTED]
Tel (Fax) [REDACTED]
Email (Work) [REDACTED]
Address [REDACTED]

GMS ORGANISATION

Type	Organisation
Name	Montserrat National Trust
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.

Montserrat

* 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)?

No

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):	Delmaude C Ryan
Lead Partner name (if applying as an organisation; Guidance section 3.1):	Montserrat National Trust
Lead Partner Website (if applicable):	http://www.montserratnationaltrust.ms
Is the Lead Partner based in a UKOT where the project is working (Guidance section 3.1)?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes
List other partners involved and where are they based (Guidance section 3.2):	The Ministry of Agriculture, Lands, Hosing & the Environment's Department of Agriculture, Brades, Montserrat & Department of the Environment, Brades, Montserrat
Summary of roles and responsibilities of each partner in the project:	<p>The Montserrat National Trust (MNT) is the lead partner responsible for overall project implementation and management, financial management, reporting, and general administration of the project. The major components of the project will be undertaken by MNT's team which includes: MNT's Conservation Officer, Junior Conservation Officer, MNT's Council Committees, Trail & Garden staff, and interns, with oversight by the Executive Director.</p> <p>MNT takes a participatory approach to its' work. It has the capacity to deliver the project entirely, but recognises the contribution others can make to elevate the projects outcomes. Additional partners include:</p> <p>Department of Agriculture, Ministry of Agriculture, Lands, Housing & the Environment Technical advice in Farming through the Extension Officer designated for the area. Participation as Facilitator for farming techniques in budding, grafting and farmland preparation.</p> <p>Department of the Environment, Ministry of Agriculture, Lands, Housing & the Environment Technical Advice and use of equipment for Youth Biodiveristy Club activities, as required. SServe as a reference point for unique flora and forna found on site.</p>

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- MNT-Pipers Lot Outdoor Educational Facility & Nature Trail	 MALHE Letter of Support
 14/02/2023	 14/02/2023
 21:15:22	 14:47:59
 pdf 759.5 KB	 pdf 1.03 MB

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.

This project enables the development of a nature trail with an environmental education and emersion area highlighting Montserrat's unique biodiversity and natural heritage for the benefit of Montserrat's young people and other visitors. A key role for some parts of the area will be biological surveying opportunities for students – for their training and for progressive benefit of the information base for the site. An onsite farming area will allow for teaching farming techniques and the production of medicinal plants.

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?

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nature trail will be developed. It consists of a gentle climb alongside a freshwater stream (or ghaut). The second section of the clearing is steep and requires some step construction. The trail will be established along the water outflow pipeline, which flows into the ghaut, with steps on the steepest part alongside the pipeline. From here, a route will be created through the upper part of the site to near the Montserrat Volcano Observatory.

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

-
-  [MNT-Pipers Lot- Upper & Lower Friths Salem-Montserrat](#)
 -  14/02/2023
 -  15:13:11
 -  pdf 1.73 MB

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;**
-
- Checked **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.

The lower trail is located in globally rare, tropical dry forest, never been developed, and can be used as a study area to examine the original habitat type. As owners, MNT will protect it forever! The project will document species found here; many which are only found in the Lesser Antilles region. We will demonstrate the importance of this habitat to biodiversity and environmental quality by comparing it with other areas on island informing how tropical dry forest ecosystems work. An outdoor classroom using solar technology and water catchment for sustainable agriculture will create an appreciation for Climate Change adaptability.

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 April 2023	31 March 2024	12 Months

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

[R1 DPlus Local Implementation Timetable -P
ipers Lot Outdoor Educational Facility& Natur
e Trail-Final](#)
 13/02/2023
 21:24:39
 pdf 175.65 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:	Salary for a Junior Conservation Officer & Social Security Contributions for 12 months	██████████
Overhead costs:	Administrative support including financial management and human resources management , office space, storage and communication network	██████████
Travel & subsistence costs:	n/a	██████
Operating costs:	Trail mapping - ██████	
	Drawings of Outdoor facility ██████	
	Small farming tools & small furnishings ██████	██████████
	Trail Construction ██████	
	Farmland clearance and Trainers ██████	
	Producing & Installation of Signs ██████	
Capital equipment:	Construction of Outdoor 700 sq.ft structure ██████	██████████
	Solar Panels ██████	
Consultancy costs:	n/a	██████

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)

, for a Junior Conservation Officer & Social Security Contributions for 12 months

This cost allocation is to cover salary for 12 months for a Junior Conservation Officer and Social Security Contributions.

The Junior Conservation Officer will be recruited from among existing cadets that have served in various roles in biodiversity and conservation with the Montserrat National Trust or the Department of the Environment, Montserrat over the past 18 months.

This role will empower one young person to continue to develop skills in conservation thereby increasing the pool of trained experts. He/ she will work closely with the Conservation Officer.

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

Provide storage for equipment to be used on project. HR management ; recruiting, orientation of Junior Conservaton Officer, Manage payroll, leave records and contract management.

Facilitate purchase of material for construction and other activities

Making space available for cadets and interns on project

Storage and copies of financial records and reports

Stationery, Printing , telephone and internet usage etc.

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

n/a

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

Trail mapping - [REDACTED]
GIS mapping and generation of maps for nature trail

Drawings of Outdoor facility [REDACTED]
Technical drawings of building

Small farming tools & small furnishings [REDACTED]
Farming tools (hoes, fork, shares, mattock) 16 folding chairs and 4 folding tables

Trail Construction [REDACTED]
Establishment of 800 m Trail, clearing of vegetation, construction of steps and railings, material and labour for 3 weeks

Farmland clearance and Trainers [REDACTED]
Clearing of farmland and 4 training sessions in farmland preparation and farming techniques

Producing & Installation of Signs [REDACTED]
Printing of signs , material fro sign poles and labour cost

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

Cost of constructing a 700 sq ft. structure [REDACTED]

Basic facility for outdoor educational sessions, and facilitate camping. This is a concrete building with wooden roof covered with galvalume. The structure will accommodate two toilets, an area to shower, a kitchen space to prepare food, storage cupboard for equipment, and a covered platform. Purchase of compostable toilets, and a water tank for rainwater catchment is included in this cost.

Solar Electricity [REDACTED]
Solar Panel installation; labour & material

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

n/a

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

n/a

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:
XCD	3.1959	Bank of Montserrat	14 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? [REDACTED]

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

n/a

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.

Montserrat's Conservation & Environmental Management Act (2014)

The Department of Environment will be supported to carry out its duties under the Act.

Montserrat's Agricultural Strategy AND Marketing Plan (ASMP) for Montserrat 2016-21 aim to improve food security. Opportunity identified to redesign and expand the youth programme to include horticulture. Aim to have 'Made in Montserrat' organic locally grown products available in limited quantities in Montserrat with potential to export.

Montserrat's National Climate Change Policy & Action Plan for Montserrat (DRAFT) Under "Food security and nutrition" 6a Develop strategies to encourage youth involvement in agriculture and fisheries including via the promotion of agriculture as a career and strengthening agricultural education in the schools via tailored courses and encouraging school gardens.

Montserrat's National Cultural Policy recognising the need to preserve traditional knowledge particularly on food and food production relating to cultural heritage.

Montserrat's National Youth Policy including Goal 8 on Gender & Equality.

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

Child safeguarding risks:

The project primarily will involve youth ages 14 +

All staff and volunteers of the MNT must sign a child safeguarding policy and abide by that policy in the interaction with children. No youth is left in the presence of one Adult only. Regular workshops are undertaken on child safeguarding matters as part of the Trust's employment policy. Staff is trained in basic first aid and first aid supply present at all activities.

Storm and Hurricane Risk - The building will be constructed during the Hurricane season.

The hurricane season begins in June and ends in November. Flexibility is included in construction time and trail implementation to factor in heavy rains or hurricane conditions. Material in use on site will be secured at MNT headquarters where possible. The outdoor facility will be constructed to Montserrat building code which take into consideration storms and hurricanes.

Health & Safety Risks on Construction site in the upper section (which is less environmentally sensitive)

Workers on constructions site and staff interacting are to wear hard hats, bright coloured clothing when on construction site inline with the local Labour Health and Safety regulations for construction sites.

Do you require more fields?

No

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: Sarita V Francis

Position in the organisation: (if applicable) Executive Director

Signature (please upload e-signature)  [S. Francis- E- signature](#)
 14/02/2023
 21:29:36
 pdf 115.05 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.	Checked
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: MNT-Pipers Lot Educational /Outdoor Facility & Nature Trail

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	Mapping of Trail (Lower to Upper Friths)													
2	Commission Drawings for Educational Outdoor Facility & seek planning approval													
3	Recruitment & Orientation of Junior Conservation Officer													
4	Prepare & Publish Tenders for Construction of Outdoor Educational Facility													
5	Undertake vegetation survey of flora and fauna of area to be developed as educational outdoor facility and trail													
6	Award of Tender for construction of facility													
7	Harvesting of seeds and slips of flora to be planted in upper site following construction of site and farmland clearance													
8	Drone & Map training for youths													
9	Construction of steps at site in lower Friths and install had rails													

Project Title: MNT-Pipers Lot Educational /Outdoor Facility & Nature Trail

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
10	Construction of Outdoor Educational facility (Toilets, shower, Kitchen, storage cupboard for farming equipment etc and a covered deck.													
11	Develop and produce trail materials such as interpretation, markers, guides (QR codes with sound and interactive features)													
12	Interpretation signage produced and installed on Trail and Outdoor Educational Facility													
13	Installation of Rainwater catchment													
14	Installation of Solar Panels													
15	Purchase of Table chairs and white board													
16	Equipment purchased for farming													
17	Opening of Nature Trail & Outdoor Educational facility													
18	Training in farmland preparation and cultivation of medicinal plants													
19	Landscaping around outdoor educational facility with native species													
20	Training for young people in herbarium for establishing an herbarium of medicinal plants and collect tropical dry forest vegetation for herbarium													

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			Calendar Year 2023									Calendar Year 2024		
			Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
21	School trips- introductory tours to the new trail and campsite & educational facility													
23	Training in budding & grafting													
24	Finalize usage policy for outdoor educational facility for use by visiting groups, researchers, or the public													
25	Completion of snag period for construction firm once all is functioning as it should on the outdoor educational facility.													