
DPLR1\1081

Restoration of grassland at Tristan da Cunha

Tristan's economy is based on traditional subsistence farming and sustainable fishing to provide islanders with their own food. Grazing animals are the most important farming enterprises on the island, which means that grass production is exceptionally important. Unfortunately, after floods in 2017 and storms in 2019 many areas of grassland are now boulder strewn, resulting in the lost of natural grassland habitat and grazing areas for the livestock. There is currently a reduction of about 100 livestock animals after the floods, and this could continue if grassland areas are not increased. Although grass has started to grow back, rocks scattered in the fields are reducing the areas where grass can re-grow. The goal is to restore grassland areas and slow coastal erosion by simply relocating the rocks from grasslands into coastal gulches. At least three main areas have been identified for restoration. The process will be to first remove the rocks and boulders, and then about a week later plant grass seeds in the empty spaces. The rocks and boulders will be deposit at two coastal gulches, filling in first the gulch closest to the main road (M1), which is threatening to destroy the road (See Maps attached here).

This project delivers measurable benefits for the local community and environment by restoring at least three grassland areas. It also contributes to the wellbeing of the community by increasing grassland for the livestock and food sustainability for the islanders, while simultaneously reducing the need for import goods from South Africa.

Success will be evident when three areas previously damaged by storms be completely covered by natural grasslands, with healthy livestock. This will be measured by the increase in areas covered by grassland. The project is simple and has no negative environmental impacts, moreover it intends to mitigate and slow coastal erosion. The planned activities are straight forward and achievable since all tools and personnel are already available on island.

CONTACT DETAILS

Title Mr
Name Neil
Surname Swain

Tel (Work) [REDACTED]

Email (Work) [REDACTED]

Address [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

DPLR1\1081

Restoration of grassland at Tristan da Cunha

Section 1 - Project Title & Contact Details

Q1. Project Title

Restoration of grassland at Tristan da Cunha

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

Organisation

CONTACT DETAILS

Title	Mr
Name	Neil
Surname	Swain
Tel (Work)	[REDACTED]
Email (Work)	[REDACTED]
Address	[REDACTED]

GMS ORGANISATION

Type	Organisation
Name	Agriculture Department TdC
Phone (Work)	[REDACTED]
Email (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.

St Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha*

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

Tristan da Cunha

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):	Neil Swain
Lead Partner name (if applying as an organisation; Guidance section 3.1):	No Response
Lead Partner Website (if applicable):	No Response
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):	There are no other partners. This project is solely carry out by TdC Agriculture Department. Atlantic Guardians MMSO is providing technical guidance on the application process only.
Summary of roles and responsibilities of each partner in the project:	Neil Swain, as Project leader and Head of the Agriculture Department is in charge of planning and executing the project with members of his team. He is also responsible for managing the grant, keep track of finances, monitoring, evaluating and reporting at the end of the project.


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).

 [NeilSwainCoverletterDPL](#)

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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.

The restoration of grassland at Tristan, if successful, will benefit the whole community by increasing grassland for livestock, and slowing coastal erosion. Traditional subsistence farming provide islanders with their own food, which means grass production is important for the livestock. Unfortunately, after floods and storms many areas of grassland are now boulder strewn, resulting in lost of natural grassland. The aim is to restore grassland areas and slow coastal erosion by transferring the rocks from grassland to coastal gulches.

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?


Tristan's economy is based on traditional subsistence farming and sustainable fishing to provide islanders with their own food. Grazing animals are the most important farming enterprises on the island, which means that grass production is exceptionally important. Unfortunately, after floods in 2017 and storms in 2019 many areas of grassland are now boulder strewn, resulting in the lost of natural grassland habitat and grazing areas for the livestock. There is currently a reduction of about 100 livestock animals after the floods, and this could continue if grassland areas are not increased. Although grass has started to grow back, rocks scattered in the fields are reducing the areas where grass can re-grow. The goal is to restore grassland areas and slow coastal erosion by simply relocating the rocks from grasslands into coastal


gulches. At least three main areas have been identified for restoration. The process will be to first remove the rocks and boulders, and then about a week later plant grass seeds in the empty spaces. The rocks and boulders will be deposit at two coastal gulches, filling in first the gulch closest to the main road (M1), which is threatening to destroy the road (See Maps attached here).


This project delivers measurable benefits for the local community and environment by restoring at least three grassland areas. It also contributes to the wellbeing of the community by increasing grassland for the livestock and food sustainability for the islanders, while simultaneously reducing the need for import goods from South Africa.


Success will be evident when three areas previously damaged by storms be completely covered by natural grasslands, with healthy livestock. This will be measured by the increase in areas covered by grassland. The project is simple and has no negative environmental impacts, moreover it intends to mitigate and slow coastal erosion. The planned activities are straight forward and achievable since all tools and personnel are already available on island.

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

 [Proposed areasreduce](#)

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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
Unchecked	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.

This is a small scale project that contributes to the local economy and community livelihood, while

supporting outcomes in three themes of Darwin Plus. In climate change, this project is a respond to unexpected floods and storms, that destroyed infrastructure and natural grasslands. The goal is to restore and mitigate its effects. Natural grassland areas will be increase at least three areas by removing rocks and planting grass seeds. Then intend to reduce coastal erosion and slow coastal degradation at two gulches by depositing the removed rocks and boulders.





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):
17 April 2023	29 March 2024	12 months

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

-  [GrasslandTdCR1-DPlus-Local-Implementation-Timetable](#)
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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).

Yes

How much matched funding are you seeking and where from?

I have secured matched funding of ██████ from Tristan Government to help cover about 50% of the fuel costs needed to execute the project. This is mentioned on the Letter of Support attached in this application.

Budget line	Explanation	Cost in GBP
Staff costs:	<p>The full team is composed of Neil Swain, project manager (@█/day) and a team of 6 pax (@█/day/pp = █/day) to work for a period of 74 days.</p> <p>There are a pool of 12 people available to work for this study. Since the work will also be carried out during the fishing season, the individuals will work on a rotational basis depending on who is available. This will ensure that there is always 6 people on the field working at one time.</p>	█
Overhead costs:	None	█
Travel & subsistence costs:	None	█
Operating costs:	<p>Operating costs are in two categories:</p> <p>1. Hire of machines - Occasionally need to use the JCB (GBP █ per day x 28 days) for the removal of boulders. The Telehandler (GBP █ per day x 74 days) will be used to transport crates with rocks and deposit into the gulches.</p> <p>2. Fuel for vehicles and machines-</p> <p>- Transport of team to sites: need 2 vehicles. Fuel: 25lt/vehicle/month. 1.2p/lit = █/vehicle/month.</p> <p>- Fuel (25lt/machine/day) x 2 machines (█/day), total = █, however 50% of this cost will be co-funded.</p>	█
Capital equipment:	Purchase of personal protective equipment (i.e Boots, gloves, glasses) and tools (i.e Spades, rakes).	█
Consultancy costs:	None	█
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)

1. Neil Swain, project manager, to work for a period of 74 days coordinating activities and writing the project report.

2. Rotational team to work a total of 74 days:

Natasha Glass, Vanessa Lavarello, Kelly Swain: Collect and plant grass seeds, remove light rocks by hand.

Riann Repetto, Christopher Swain, Jimmy Rogers, Kevin Glass, Jeremy Green, Raymond Green: Machine drivers & rock collectors.

Clifton Repetto, Martin Green, Damian Swain: Telehandler drivers.

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

No Response

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

No Response

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

There are in two categories:

1. Hire of machines - Most rocks can be removed by hand, but there are occasions needed to use the JCB for the removal of boulders. Then the Telehandler will be use to transport crates with rocks and deposit into the gulches.
 2. Fuel for vehicles and machines-
 - Transport of the team from village to allocated sites: need 2 vehicles.
 - Fuel x 2 machines: JCB and telehandler. Tristan Government has agreed to cover about 50% of this cost.
-

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

No Response

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

No Response


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:
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>

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.

No Response

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.


One of the local priorities is to maintain our traditional subsistence farming and be as self - sustainable as possible in our way of living. Since Tristan's 21st Century income is lower than that of twenty years ago, so


it is crucial to maintain our main food sources produced on island and reduce the need to import goods, which can be expensive. Furthermore, in the Tristan Operational plan, one of the aims is to understand our environment and identify how to mitigate climate change and manage the impacts on human activities. This project intends to address the impact of climate change and possibly mitigate its effects by restoring grassland and slowing coastal erosion.


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


Yes

Please attach evidence that you have Government support i.e. Letter of Support.

 [Letter of support-Restoration of grassland at Tristan da Cunha](#)

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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
Injury on legs/ feet by drop rocks	Protective gear such as boots will be purchase and use by all personnel during field work.
Injury/accident when using heavy machineries (i.e JCB or telehandler)	Only team members with experience on the use of heavy machinery will drive them, and only during good weather conditions.
No-native plants of grass settling on the cleared spaces.	All the grass seeds used during the study will be collected from natural grasslands found at Tristan. There will be no importation of seeds.

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: Neil Swain

**Position in the organisation:
(if applicable)** Head of Agriculture Department, Tristan da Cunha

Signature (please upload e-signature)  [neilSwainSignature_1](#)
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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.	Checked
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: Restoration of grassland at Tristan da Cunha

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	Organise logistics: Create roaster, book vehicles, purchase protective gear and tools.	1 – 2	√	√										
2	Removal of rocks at designated areas.	12	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
3	Deposit rocks at two most eroded coastal gulches.	12	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
4	Collect grass seeds and plant at cleared sites. *Planting of seeds must happen within a week after rocks have being removed.	11		√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
5	Assess cleared sites and grassland recovery.	6		√	√			√		√		√		√
6	Evaluate gulches were rocks have been deposit and monitor coastal erosion.	3				√				√				√
7	Monitor and evaluate removal and planting process at designated areas.	6		√		√		√		√		√		√
8	Reporting: collection of footage and evidence documents, write final report.	6	√		√		√			√			√	√