

## CONTACT DETAILS

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<b>Title</b>	Miss
<b>Name</b>	Joanna
<b>Surname</b>	Harris
<b>Tel (Work)</b>	[REDACTED]
<b>Email (Work)</b>	[REDACTED]
<b>Address</b>	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

# DPLR3\1003

Improving illegal mobulid catch data collection for effective conservation management

## Section 1 - Project Title & Contact Details

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### Q1. Project Title

Improving illegal mobulid catch data collection for effective conservation management

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

Organisation

#### CONTACT DETAILS

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<b>Title</b>	Miss
<b>Name</b>	Joanna
<b>Surname</b>	Harris
<b>Tel (Work)</b>	[REDACTED]
<b>Email (Work)</b>	[REDACTED]
<b>Address</b>	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

#### GMS ORGANISATION

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Type	Organisation
<b>Name</b>	Manta Trust
<b>Phone (Work)</b>	[REDACTED]
<b>Email (Work)</b>	[REDACTED]
<b>Website (Work)</b>	[REDACTED]
<b>Address</b>	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

## Section 2 - Overseas Territory(ies)

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### 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.

British Indian Ocean Territory (BIOT)

**\* 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:**

The UK, who enforce the BIOT MPA, is signatory to CITES and CMS and are members of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC). Collectively, this means they have a responsibility to ensure the exploitation of threatened species does not threaten their survival and measures to regulate poaching, share information, and adopt measures to prevent species decline. This project will help to ensure the UK's responsibilities are met by ensuring accurate and consistent illegal mobulid catch documentation and data sharing.

## Section 3 - Project Partners

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### 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): Joanna Harris

Lead Partner name (if applying as an organisation; Guidance section 3.1): Manta Trust

Lead Partner Website (if applicable): [www.mantatrust.org](http://www.mantatrust.org)

Is the Lead Partner based in a UKOT where the project is working (Guidance section 3.1)?  No

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**Please explain why this project is led from outside the UKOT:**

The UK-US military base on Diego Garcia has no residential population, but 2,000 contractors and 300 American and British military personnel who are not eligible for a grant as they are not UK residents and/or have work commitments. Filipino contractors engage in recreational fisheries; this project will follow a similar approach to the successful recreational fisheries project (DPLR1\_1034) and engage directly with these individuals through project activities. The Chagos Manta Ray Project has strong ties to BIOT, with Joanna Harris, spending 2-6 months at the base each year for her PhD. She will receive her doctorate in December 2023.

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**List other partners involved and where are they based:**

The project currently does not have formal partners but will involve key stakeholders, including the Marine Resources Assessment Group (MRAG), the BIOT Administration (BIOTA) of the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, community liaison officers, environment officers, and military personnel who will participate in project activities.

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

The proposed project will be implemented by three personnel from the Manta Trust, a charity that conserves manta and devil rays (mobulids), with collaborative projects in over 25 countries, including the Chagos Manta Ray Project in BIOT: Joanna Harris (Project Leader of the Chagos Manta Ray Project and Associate Research Fellow at the University of Plymouth), Dr Guy Stevens (Chief Executive and Founder) and Marta Palacios (Fisheries & Policy Assistant Manager). The project will be led by Joanna Harris, who has been researching mobulids in BIOT for five years and has authored ten peer-reviewed scientific articles. She will design and implement the project activities, lead fieldwork and supervise. It is anticipated that 30% of Joanna's time will be spent designing and planning fieldwork, 30% on fieldwork (delivery of training workshops, outreach, and community engagement) and 40% on remote support, managing data collection, analysis, and project reporting. Dr Guy Stevens, one of the world's leading experts in mobulids, has extensive experience overseeing hundreds of mobulid projects and is the author of the world's first comprehensive guide to mobulids, 'Guide to the Manta and Devil Rays of the World' that provides detailed information on the identification, characteristics, threats, and distribution for each of the species, will oversee, monitor, and evaluate project progress. Marta Palacios, a mobulid fisheries expert, will deliver training workshops, outreach, and community engagement. We estimate that 50% of Marta's time will be spent conducting fieldwork and 50% on fieldwork preparation, data analysis and preparation of outputs.

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


Checked

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

 [Cover Letter DPLR3\\_1003](#)

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## Section 4 - Project Summary & Description

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### 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.**

Manta and devil ray populations face serious threats due to fisheries. Although protected in BIOT, illegal fishing is common and limited catch recording is a significant barrier to effective management. This project will increase catch data recording accuracy and efficiency by providing expert training in data collection, species identification, and data management protocols. It will introduce a 'mobulid ambassador scheme' for consistent training through a trainer-development initiative. The project team and an interactive online tool will support the scheme long-term.

### Q6a. Description (Guidance section 2.1 and 6)

**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?**

Manta and devil rays (mobulids) are filter-feeding elasmobranchs that have experienced devastating declines due to exploitation for their gill plates that are used in the Asian medicinal trade. Their recovery is hindered by their slow growth, late maturation, and low fecundity, which has resulted in all species being listed as Endangered or Vulnerable to Extinction on the IUCN's Red List of Threatened Species. This declining trend will lead to local species extinctions, threatening marine biodiversity.

In the British Indian Ocean Territory (BIOT), mobulids are protected by a vast (640,000 km<sup>2</sup>) no-take MPA; however, illegal fishing remains a common issue. Developing conservation management strategies requires understanding how much mobulids are targeted, which relies on accurate catch data recording. Currently, the MPA is patrolled by an enforcement vessel that intercepts and broadly documents illegal fishing vessel catches. The primary objective of enforcement is to collect evidence necessary for prosecution, which does not require species identification. Furthermore, identifying mobulid species is challenging due to the considerable lack of taxonomic knowledge among data collectors. A recent analysis of historical illegal catch photographs suggests that 20 tonnes of mobulid rays were caught in only seven instances. However, this is likely a vast underestimation due to the lack of reliable catch data.

This project aims to support conservation efforts in BIOT by streamlining current catch-recording procedures. As there is a high turnover of personnel in BIOT, there is inconsistency in who documents the catches. This project will overcome this by forming logistical partnerships between the Manta Trust, illegal fishing management/enforcement bodies, and the community to implement long-term efficient data collection protocols. The project will trial a 'mobulid ambassador scheme' for long-term residents, including the local recreational fishing community in Diego Garcia, who are willing to assist in catch documentation. This scheme will begin with the project staff attending a global training workshop with one of the world's few mobulid and

mobulid gill plate identification experts. This training will be supported by an interactive 'Mobulid ID tool' created specifically for the project. Project staff will then provide essential training workshops to the community in Diego Garcia on mobulid species identification, illegal catch recording protocols, physical and biological data collection, equipment usage, and Mobulid ID tool operation. The Mobulid ID tool will be produced in English, Tagalog, French, and Mauritian Creole for accessibility. After the initial training, a core 'mobulid ambassadors' team will be identified to provide consistent training to new personnel through a trainer development initiative.

Fieldwork will span four weeks. In week one, the Manta Trust team will meet with authorities and community liaison teams and run short workshops to identify potential participants for the mobulid ambassador scheme. Public events will be held in week two to recruit 15 predominantly Filipino participants from the recreational fishing community in the same manner as the successful recreational fisheries project (DPLR1\_1034). Week three will feature incentivised training sessions. In week four, five participants will undergo additional training as part of a train-the-trainer initiative to form a core "mobulid ambassador" team for future personnel training. Mobulid ambassadors will receive ongoing remote support from the project team for the scheme's trial. The scheme will be incentivised through with mobulid ambassadors packs, including clothing and data bundles given to all participants who are willing to attend illegal catch landings to collect mobulid data.

Successful project implementation will be demonstrated by well-attended events, recruitment of mobulid ambassadors and data submission to the Manta Trust to be collated and facilitated to all other relevant bodies. The mobulid catch data generated will be analysed, and a conservation recommendations report will be submitted by March 2025.


## Q6b. Long-term sustainability (Guidance section 2.1 and 6)


**Please describe the long-term benefits of the project and the change it will bring about. How will the outcomes of the project be sustained after the funding is finished?**


This project will support management authorities and mobulid conservation efforts in BIOT by increasing the quantity and quality of illegal mobulid catch data collection and streamlining current catch recording procedures. The accurate and detailed catch data collected through this project will provide crucial information for designing and implementing effective conservation management strategies for mobulids in BIOT. Additionally, this project will establish logistical partnerships between the Manta Trust, illegal fishing management and enforcement bodies, and government representatives in BIOT and deliver a collaborative trainer development initiative, which will help ensure conservation efforts' long-term sustainability. Finally, the training and education initiatives implemented through this project will promote awareness of mobulid conservation issues among local communities and stakeholders, and enhance understanding of the extent and impact of illegal fishing in BIOT to support conservation efforts to help ensure the long-term sustainability of marine biodiversity in BIOT.

**(Optional) Please upload any additional and supporting materials or files (such as maps of project sites, etc) below. Maximum of 5 sides of A4, and is combined as a single PDF:**

 [Supporting information DPLR3 1003](#)

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## Section 5 - Project Outcome(s)

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### 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 with a clear focus on biodiversity and the natural environment, either by the end of the project or soon after through a credible plan.

Please confirm that your project has a clear focus on biodiversity and the natural environment.

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

**Please justify your selection. Please use quantitative information where possible here.**

This project will enhance and preserve biodiversity by implementing effective protocols for collecting and managing data on mobulids, which will allow a wider assessment and quantification of the impact of illegal fishing in the region and inform conservation management. The involvement of the local community in conservation efforts and the establishment of logistical partnerships between the Manta Trust and authorities, including those responsible for managing and enforcing illegal fishing practices, will build capacity within BIOT to support the conservation of manta and devil rays. Ultimately, these combined efforts will contribute towards the long-term protection and conservation of the natural environment.


## Section 6 - Workplan


### Q8. Workplan (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 Workplan (available at: [Darwin Plus website](#)) 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 must start after 1 April 2024 and be completed by 31 March 2025.**


Start date:	End date:	Duration (e.g. 3 months):
01 April 2024	31 March 2025	12 months

**Please upload the completed Darwin Plus Local Project Workplan with your proposed project activities here**

 [R3-DPlus-Local-Workplan-DPLR3\\_1003](#)

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## Section 7 - Costs

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### 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?

Yes

How much matched funding are you seeking and where from?

The total cost of the project is [REDACTED] match funding being provided by the Manta Trust for the time of Dr. Guy Stevens (5% for 12 months, £2,940); a Waterloo Foundation grant received by the Manta Trust for the global mobility identification training workshop to be delivered by Betty Laglbauer [REDACTED] and the Bertarelli Foundation for Rachel Jones [REDACTED] from ZSL to provide logistical support in Chagos.

Total match funding = £10,720

Budget line	Explanation	Cost in GBP
	Joanna Harris (PI and trainer) @ 100% (3 months) and 20% (6 months remote support) [REDACTED]	
	Guy Stevens (supervisor) @ 5% for 12 months [REDACTED]	
<b>Staff costs:</b>	Marta Palacios (research assistant and trainer) @ 100 % (3 months) [REDACTED]	
	Rachel Jones (ZSL) logistic support in Chagos for 12 months = [REDACTED]	
	Total matched funding of [REDACTED]	

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<b>Consultancy costs:</b>	<p>Betty Laglbauer: One of a handful of Mobulid Gill Plate Identification experts in the world. She will train a global group of mobulid conservation experts on ID (including project staff). She will also work with Marc Dando in the content for the Mobulid ID guide to support the training of locals. [REDACTED]</p>	[REDACTED]
	<p>Marc Dando: Scientific Illustrator and Publisher, expert in mobulid illustrations. Mobulid Identification tool, design, production, illustration costs and translation into English, Tagalog, French, and Mauritian Creole = [REDACTED]</p>	
	<p>Total matched funding of [REDACTED]</p>	
<b>Overhead costs:</b>	<p>The Manta Trust overheads are charged at 10% for this project on all budgetary items to represent a reasonable and justified representation of time and resources required = [REDACTED]</p>	[REDACTED]
<b>Travel &amp; subsistence costs:</b>	<p>Through ZSL's (Rachel Jones) experience working within BIOT, the cheapest options for travel and subsistence have been chosen wherever possible.</p> <p>Return AMC flight DG to Bahrain @ [REDACTED]</p> <p>Return flight from London to Bahrain @ [REDACTED]</p> <p>Transit accommodation - Accommodation in Bahrain (one night each way for two people) [REDACTED]</p> <p>DG accommodation - NGIS for 30 nights @ £99 for a 2-person shared room</p> <p>Fieldwork per diems @ [REDACTED] (includes stop in Bahrain)</p>	£ [REDACTED]
<b>Operating costs:</b>	<p>Data and communications for fieldwork staff @ [REDACTED]</p> <p>Mobulid ambassador packs including (including t-shirt, hat and printed ID guide) @ [REDACTED]</p> <p>Data and communications for mobulid ambassador packs 'core team' @ [REDACTED]</p> <p>Refreshments for community-based training workshops @ [REDACTED]</p> <p>Refreshments and spaces for environmental awareness events @ [REDACTED]</p> <p>Printing promotional material and hard copies of Mobulid ID Guides [REDACTED]</p>	[REDACTED]

<b>Capital equipment:</b>	Digital camera for photographic documentation of mobulids x 2 = [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
	Mobulid sampling equipment (biopsy tool, sample vials, ethanol and PPE) = [REDACTED]	
<b>Other Costs</b>	No other costs	£0.00
<b>Total:</b>		[REDACTED]

**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)**

As there is no permanent residential population on Diego Garcia, the projects require external staff to carry out the work to avoid conflicts with the existing work and contractual obligations of contractors and military personnel. We have minimised the salary costs as much as possible, including providing matched funding of [REDACTED] Dr Guy Stevens and Rachel Jones. Because of their prior experience and connections within the community, Joanna Harris and Marta Palacios are essential members of the project team.

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

In order to reflect the lowest amount necessary to complete related project activities, such as administrative and financial responsibilities, the Manta Trust has minimised its overhead costs.

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

Travel and subsistence costs have been kept to a minimum where possible. For instance, military flights from Bahrain to Diego Garcia have a set price each year, and there are no alternative transport options to BIOT. Additionally, accommodation options are limited to one provider, and we have chosen the cheapest twin-occupancy room available.

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

Mobile internet data prices are fixed in Diego Garcia as there is one provider. Data is required for project staff for communication and offered to participants as an incentive, but also for mobulid catch data sharing and submission. Mobulid ambassador packs (£1,500) will be purchased outside BIOT to ensure that the most economical items are supplied; multiple quotes will be obtained to minimise costs. Printing the Mobulid ID tool into four languages will essentially ensure that it is accessible to all nationalities that might be involved in illegal catch recording and that hard copies are also available to the community.

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

*No Response*

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

Betty Laglbauer is one of a handful of Mobulid and Mobulid Gill Plate Identification experts in the world. She will train a global group of mobulid conservation experts on ID (including project staff). The project staff will then have the knowledge to provide training workshops to locals in Diego Garcia. Marc Dando is an expert scientific illustrator and publisher; his work includes 'Guide to the Manta and Devil Rays of the World'. [REDACTED] match funding for the global training).

#### **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:**

<b>Other currency:</b>	<b>Exchange rate:</b>	<b>Source of this exchange rate:</b>	<b>Date exchange rate accessed:</b>
<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? 15

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

Because there is no permanent population in BIOT, external teams are necessary to manage environmental programmes, which results in the majority of project costs being spent outside of the region. This project will be delivered by scientists at the Manta Trust, a charity that has been working in the region for a decade. ZSL, who are supporting this project, leads and coordinates a programme of science in BIOT (Bertarelli Programme in Marine Science - BPMS). The BPMS comprises >100 scientists across 25 institutions from six countries with an interdisciplinary programme of work on conservation science in BIOT (<https://www.marine.science>).

## **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.**


This project aligns with several priorities relating to national environmental objectives, strategies, territory-specific action plans, and policies in the UK and BIOT. These include the UK government's '25 Year Environmental Plan to Improve Our Environment', which sets out plans to: "reverse the loss of marine biodiversity and, where practicable, restore it", "better manage existing protected sites", and "prevent human-induced extinction or loss of known threatened species in England and the Overseas Territories" (DEFRA, 2018). This plan also includes a commitment to the 'Blue Belt' of marine protected areas around the UK's overseas territories to act against problems of fishing and species extinction. As all mobulids are being driven towards extinction, ensuring they are protected in the BIOT no-take MPA is a crucial component of this strategy. This project also aligns with the BIOT Administration's objective of evaluating and monitoring the impacts of illegal fishing (BIOT Administration 2017), as this cannot be achieved without accurate catch data. Finally, this project also delivers against two of the BIOT Administration conservation priorities (<https://biot.gov.io/environment>): 'combating Illegal, Unregulated and Unreported (IUU) fishing in BIOT' and 'studying our key species and habitats to ensure we are providing the best protection and stewardship'.


**Will the project take place on Government owned land or water or involve biocontrol, invasive alien species control or eradication?**


Yes

Please attach evidence that you have Government support for this project i.e. a Letter of Support. Applications which indicate that they do not take place on Government land or water, but which propose work that appears to the reviewers would be difficult/impossible to carry out without working on government land or waters may be ineligible if no Letter of Support is provided.

 [BIOTA SUPPORT LETTER DPLR3 1003](#)

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## Section 9 - Project Risks

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### Q11. Project Risks

Please demonstrate your consideration of any risks involved in this project and how you intend to manage them. Please note the importance of health and safety and environmental risk assessment in the design of your project. If there is any possibility that your project may have negative impacts on the environment or human health, it is important that you provide a comprehensive analysis of potential environmental and human health risks, and the prevention measures you will take to ensure the work does not cause harm.

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
Bilateral negotiations are currently underway between the UK and Mauritius governments over the sovereignty of BIOT. It is uncertain what the result of these discussions will be, but there is a slight possibility that BIOT may no longer be under the control and authorisation of the UK and the USA.	Fieldwork will conclude by the end of 2024, and there is additional flexibility amongst the project team to conduct fieldwork earlier if required. All elements of this project are designed to be inclusive of all authorities and nationalities that are currently involved, or that may become involved in the collection of illegal fisheries data. Through the community-led trainer development initiative and long-term ongoing support from the Manta Trust's Chagos Manta Ray Project, we are satisfied that the project's main objectives will still be met.
No Response	No Response
No Response	No Response

Do you require more fields?

No

## Section 10 - Terms & Conditions

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### 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: [Darwin Plus website](#) 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

**Supporting documents list (please have these ready to attach with application)**

- Cover Letter of no more than two A4 pages. (Guidance section: 4.2 has information on what this cover letter should include).
- If the project takes place on public land or water or is addressing invasive alien species, a Letter of support from OT Government.
- Project Workplan in the template provided for Darwin Plus Local (available at: [Darwin Plus website](#)).
- Map and additional information (optional) maximum five additional pages.

**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**

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### **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:** Joanna Harris





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**Position in the organisation:** Project Leader, Chagos Manta Ray Project, Manta Trust  
**(if applicable)**

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Signature (please upload e-signature)

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Date: 28 November 2023

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## Section 12 - Submission Checklist

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### 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 or is addressing alien invasive species, 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 my project that fit this Round.	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 workplan using the specific template provided.	Checked
I have uploaded all supplementary documents if I have any.	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: Improving illegal mobulid catch data collection for effective conservation management

## Darwin Plus Local

Provide a **Workplan** that shows the key milestones in project activities. Complete the following table as appropriate to describe the intended workplan for your project. Round 3 is for a **maximum of 12 months** with activities starting from 1 April 2024. All activities must be completed by 31 March 2025.

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 2024/25											
			Calendar Year 2024									Calendar Year 2025		
			Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Creation of Mobulid ID PDF guide		1	x											
Preparation and Delivery of Global Mobulid ID training workshop		1		x										
Preparation of training for locals in DG		1			x	x								
Coordination and meetings with stakeholders in Chagos		1					x							
Outreach sessions		1					x							
Identify 15 participants for mobulid expert scheme		1					x							



Project Title: Improving illegal mobulid catch data collection for effective conservation management

Activity #	Description (max 25 words)	No. of months	UK Financial Year 2024/25											
			Calendar Year 2024									Calendar Year 2025		
			Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Delivery of in-person training for local participants in the scheme		1					x							
Project Monitoring and Evaluation		12			x			x			x			x
Ongoing remote support for local participants		6						x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Data analysis and report delivery		7						x	x	x	x	x	x	x