

Applicant: **Mukhida, Farah**
Organisation: **Anguilla National Trust**
Funding Sought: [REDACTED]
Funding Awarded: **£0.00**

DPLR3\1041

Increasing capacity to safeguard Anguilla's endemic and culturally-important flora

Anguilla's low-lying scrub and dry tropical forest landscapes are comprised of diverse plant species that tolerate extreme conditions and nutrient-deficient soils, including endemic and culturally-significant species. With most (>90%) of land in Anguilla privately-owned and an emphasis on tourism development, high land conversion rates and indiscriminate clearing place Anguilla's plant life at risk. This project seeks to increase Anguilla National Trust's capacity to restore populations of the almost-extirpated cocoplum *Chrysobalanus icaco* and the ecologically-significant endemic Anguilla bush *Rondeletia anguillensis*.

PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

Name	Farah
Surname	Mukhida
Tel (Work)	[REDACTED]
Email (Work)	[REDACTED]
Address	[REDACTED]
	[REDACTED]
	[REDACTED]
	[REDACTED]

DPLR3\1041

Increasing capacity to safeguard Anguilla's endemic and culturally-important flora

Section 1 - Project Title & Contact Details

Q1. Project Title

Increasing capacity to safeguard Anguilla's endemic and culturally-important flora

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

Organisation

PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

Name	Farah
Surname	Mukhida
Tel (Work)	[REDACTED]
Email (Work)	[REDACTED]
Address	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

GMS ORGANISATION

Type	Organisation
Name	Anguilla National Trust
Phone (Work)	[REDACTED]
Email (Work)	[REDACTED]
Website (Work)	[REDACTED]
Address	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [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.

Anguilla

* 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): Farah Mukhida

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

Lead Partner Website (if applicable): www.axanationaltrust.com

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: Aurora Anguilla Resort and Golf Club, Landscaping Unit

As project lead, the Anguilla National Trust will be responsible for project management, including technical and financial management and reporting, and all aspects of project implementation.

Summary of roles and responsibilities of each partner in the project: Aurora Anguilla Resort and Golf Club's Landscaping Unit will provide technical assistance, nursery materials, and space to germinate cocoplum seeds in their temperature- and humidity-controlled greenhouse and will provide technical expertise and knowledge in trialing/experimenting with different Anguilla bush germination and growth methods.

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-Anguilla National Trust-cocoplum and rondeletia-FINAL](#)

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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.

Anguilla's low-lying scrub and dry tropical forest landscapes are comprised of diverse plant species that tolerate extreme conditions and nutrient-deficient soils, including endemic and culturally-significant species. With most (>90%) of land in Anguilla privately-owned and an emphasis on tourism development, high land conversion rates and indiscriminate clearing place Anguilla's plant life at risk. This project seeks to increase Anguilla National Trust's capacity to restore populations of the almost-extirpated culturally-important cocoplum *Chrysobalanus icaco* and the ecologically-significant endemic Anguilla bush *Rondeletia anguillensis*.

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?

Anguilla is low-lying and wind-swept. Its vegetation is predominantly characterised by dry shrubland, cacti fields, and dry tropical forest. Along the coastline, low-lying beach and dune vegetation grows on the white coralline sand. While at first glance, Anguilla's vegetative landscape appears to be nondescript, (incomplete) surveys indicate relatively high diversity with >500 species of plants, many holding cultural significance to Anguillians who harvest them for their medicinal values and for subsistence.

The cocoplum *Chrysobalanus icaco* (Figure 1) is one such species. Once found along many of Anguilla's sandy beaches, it is valued for its purple-pink, slightly coconut-flavoured fruit. Tourism development pressures, however, have led to clearing of coastal vegetation. The once prevalent cocoplum tree is now relegated to only one beach, with only four trees remaining (Figure3).

Anguilla is also home to a single (known) endemic plant species: the Anguilla bush *Rondeletia anguillensis*. (Figure 2). Comprehensive surveys (DPLUS086) indicate that the species is found almost exclusively on the eastern side of Anguilla, growing in small pockets of dirt in the limestone pavement (Figure 3). Almost all plants are located on private lands (Figure 4), with a single population (c.200 plants) protected within Fountain National

Park. Some of the largest clusters of the plant are on parcels of land that have been (or will be) subdivided for residential development.

During a JNCC-facilitated UKOT Biodiversity Strategy consultation held in April 2023, the perilous situation of Anguilla's cocoplum species was raised, with overwhelming calls to safeguard the species. Within the Anguilla endangered species conservation action plan (DPLUS086), there is similar emphasis on protecting Anguilla bush through acquiring lands on which the plant occurs but also by exploring ways in which the plant could be propagated ex situ and then out-planted to secure sites. Through our partnership with Aurora Anguilla as well as our Darwin Plus-funded pollinator project (DPLUS131) and through our own operational budget, we have almost all of the necessary tools and expertise to undertake this restoration initiative. We are, however, in need of some basic nursery supplies (potting soil), but more significantly, a heavy-duty pick-up truck that can be used on off-road conditions to access sites where these species are found and to transport nursery and out-planting equipment and the actual plants themselves when they are ready to be out-planted. Our current pick-up truck is a lighter-weight vehicle that unfortunately does not perform well in rough terrain conditions or with heavy loads.

The ultimate objective of this project is to restore at-risk culturally-important and endemic species by increasing ANT's capacity to conduct impactful restoration activities. Through the purchase of this vehicle, we will be able to:

1. Collect cocoplum seeds from the four remaining trees.
2. Germinate at least 300 cocoplum seedlings ex situ both in Aurora Anguilla's greenhouse and ANT's nursery.
3. Collect Anguilla bush seeds, seedlings, and cuttings from plants located on lands slated for development (permission granted from landowners).
4. Trial germinating Anguilla bush seeds and growing cuttings and seedlings ex situ in Aurora Anguilla's greenhouse and ANT's nursery.
5. Meet with relevant Government of Anguilla departments to identify sites for out-planting and to create a feedback mechanism where ANT will be informed of applications for development on lands containing either priority species, enabling either alteration of development plans or removal plants (existing or rewilded) prior to clearing of land.
6. Develop an out-planting map/rewilding plan to support rewilding initiatives and the distribution of plants to interested landowners.
7. Out-plant at least 300 cocoplums and any germinated Anguilla bush to secure and appropriate lands, including ANT-owned properties as well as backyard gardens.





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?

The vehicle purchased through this project will be owned and maintained by the Anguilla National Trust. With much of our work focused on the protection, conservation, and promotion of Anguilla's natural heritage, we are in the field conducting species and habitat conservation management across the island every day. The vehicle purchased through this project would not only be safe and reliable but would also support our varied and intense conservation work programme.

We recognise that oftentimes the work that we may conduct within the context of projects marks only the beginning of what is required for biodiversity and habitat conservation; while the project may end, the work usually needs to continue to ensure that conservation gains are at least maintained. We enter these projects with this understanding and, whenever and wherever appropriate and necessary, we mainstream project actions into on-going work programmes and operational budgets. This restoration work fits directly within our mandate to safeguard at-risk species and we will continue to grow and out-plant both cocoplums and Anguilla bush (if trials are successful) post-project.

(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:

-  [Cocoplum-and-Rondeletia-R3-DPlus-Local-Supporting-information-FINAL](#)
-  27/11/2023
-  19:52:13
-  pdf 4.05 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 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	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;
Unchecked	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. Please use quantitative information where possible here.

This project focuses on building ANT's capacity to restore populations of some of Anguilla's most at-risk plant species. A heavy-duty vehicle will provide ANT with the ability to access sites with cocoplum and Anguilla bush populations and to facilitate ex situ propagation. Ultimately, this project will allow for the restoration of two of Anguilla's threatened plant species through targeted and well-planned rewilding.

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-cocoplum and rondel](#)
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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?

Yes

How much matched funding are you seeking and where from?

Match and in-kind funding from the Anguilla National Trust have already been secured through the ANT operational budget to cover staff costs, fuel for the newly acquired vehicle, and most nursery supplies. Total funding secured is £13126.

Budget line	Explanation	Cost in GBP
Staff costs:	Provided in-kind by the ANT	£0.00
Consultancy costs:	n/a	£0.00
Overhead costs:	Includes overhead cost of 7.5% of total project budget (including project funding with additional 2.5% ANT match funding)	████████
Travel & subsistence costs:	Includes shipping costs of vehicle from Sint Maarten to Anguilla	████████
Operating costs:	Includes comprehensive insurance and registration for the vehicle for one year	████████
Capital equipment:	Includes purchase of a heavy-duty off-roading pick-up truck with extended cab and ability to carry at least 750kg of load in the flat-bed (purchased from Sint Maarten-based supplier)	████████

Other Costs	Includes magnetic branding logo/sign for vehicle, wire transfer fees to facilitate payments to Sint Maarten-based supplier (bank charges)	██████████
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)

No Response

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

Project management overheads, calculated at 7.5% of the total project cost ██████████

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

Cargo transportation from Sint Maarten to Anguilla (£1364)

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

Vehicle insurance for one year (after which the cost will be absorbed within the ANT operational budget)

██████████

Vehicle registration for one year (after which the cost will be absorbed within the ANT operational budget)

██████████

Nursery supplies (potting soil) ██████████

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

Heavy-duty pick-up truck with extended cab and ability to carry at least 750kg of load within the flat-bed, purchased from a Sint Maarten-based supplier ██████████

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

No Response

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

Branding magnetic logo x 2 ██████████

Wire transfer fees (for payment to St. Maartin-based supplier) ██████████

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:
USD	1.2295 USD: 1GBP	www.exchangerates.org.uk	08 November 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? 20

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

The type of vehicle that we would need to conduct the proposed work is not available on Anguilla. Anguilla-based suppliers would need to purchase and import the vehicle. Vehicles tend to be imported from St Maarten, the United States, or Japan and would be subject to import fees along with a Goods and Services Tax. Sourcing from the United States or Japan would entail higher shipping costs and a longer delivery time. As a statutory body, the ANT is able to take advantage of duty-free concessions (including exemptions from paying Goods and Services Tax) and it would be far more cost effective and efficient for us to purchase the vehicle directly from a Sint Maarten supplier.

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 supports the Government of Anguilla's National Environmental Management Strategy by facilitating improved national capability to manage natural resources (Strategy 34), promoting cooperation in the fields of science, technology, and other research (Strategy 43), and adopting techniques and methodologies that lead to effective environmental management (Strategy 45). It also supports the Anguilla Environmental Charter, through which the UK Government is committed to helping "build capacity to support and implement integrated environmental management" and through which the Government of Anguilla is committed to ensuring "the protection and restoration of key habitats, species and landscape features through legislation and appropriate management structures and mechanisms." This project also helps us to fulfill our objectives as defined within the Anguilla National Trust Act which mandates us to identify, assess, document, study, protect, conserve, rehabilitate, restore, and enhance Anguilla's natural environment.

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

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. 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
Biosecurity risk of importing vehicle from Sint Maarten	All imported goods and materials will be inspected at the port of entry. A full biosecurity inspection will also be conducted by ANT, with the vehicle being thoroughly cleaned prior to use.
Low seed production by existing cocoplum trees and inability to collect target number	Based on our observations, the remaining cocoplum trees on Anguilla fruit quite abundantly and we are quite confident that we should be able to collect enough seeds to grow at least 300 seedlings (recognising that not all seeds collect will germinate). If we are unable to collect the target number, seed collection will continue post-project as project legacy work.
Ex situ propagation of Anguilla bush through seed germination and/or stem clippings are unsuccessful	Failure to produce viable plants through ex situ propagation trials will require applying other conservation interventions to protect the species. Such interventions will likely entail working with landowners to remove entire plants (including root systems), translocating them to protected areas, and monitoring survival. With a population of Anguilla bush secured within Fountain National Park, there is also opportunity for natural reproduction (which will be monitored).

Do you require more fields?

Yes

Risk	Mitigation
Storms and hurricanes	Plants grown at the ANT nursery can be moved indoors into a secure ANT storage building located off-site. Aurora Anguilla's infrastructure is secure and sound, with the resort having comprehensive disaster response plans in place for the entire compound, including their greenhouse and nursery. We also minimise risk by storing seeds and seedlings at two different locations on the Anguilla mainland. In terms of out-planting, we minimise risk by planting seedlings across numerous locations and by distributing to community members for backyard planting.
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>

No Response

No Response

No Response

No Response

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: [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

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: Farah Mukhida

**Position in the organisation:
(if applicable)** Executive Director

Signature (please upload e-signature)  [FMukhida signature](#)
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Date: 27 November 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 or is addressing alien invasive species, 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 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: Increasing capacity to safeguard Anguilla’s endemic and culturally-important flora

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
1	Secure vehicle to support project implementation	1	x											
2	Monitor cocoplum trees for seed production and collect cocoplum seeds whenever ready	1	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			
3	Collect Anguilla bush seeds, seedlings, and cuttings	1		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			
4	Germinate collected cocoplum and Anguilla bush seeds in ANT and Aurora Anguilla nurseries	3		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
5	Trial propagating Anguilla bush seedlings and cuttings ex situ	3		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			
6	Meet with Government of Anguilla stakeholders (including Department of Natural Resources, Department of Lands and Surveys, Department of Physical Planning) to identify and map appropriate rewilding locations	0.25			x									