

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

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# DPLR3\1042

## **Identifying Important Plant Areas in Anguilla: a Dog Island assessment**

With two of five plant species at risk of extinction globally, plants are an under-represented taxa in terms of protection and conservation planning. In Anguilla, native plant species are threatened by natural habitat disturbance, conversion, and invasive alien species. Applying PlantLife International's criteria to assess if Dog Island qualifies as Anguilla's first Important Plant Area (IPA), this project establishes a replicable framework necessary to support targeted action planning for long-term flora conservation across the Anguilla mainland and offshore cays.

**PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS**

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<b>Name</b>	Farah
<b>Surname</b>	Mukhida
<b>Tel (Work)</b>	[REDACTED]
<b>Email (Work)</b>	[REDACTED]
<b>Address</b>	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

# DPLR3\1042

Identifying Important Plant Areas in Anguilla: a Dog Island assessment

## Section 1 - Project Title & Contact Details

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### Q1. Project Title

Identifying Important Plant Areas in Anguilla: a Dog Island assessment

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

Organisation

#### PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

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

#### GMS ORGANISATION

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

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

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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):	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)?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes
List other partners involved and where are they based:	n/a
Summary of roles and responsibilities of each partner in the project:	The Anguilla National Trust will be responsible for managing all aspects of the project, from project implementation through evaluation, and including financial management and reporting.
I confirm that all listed partners are aware of this application and have indicated support:	Unchecked

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

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🔗 [Cover Letter-Anguilla National Trust-Dog Island I](#)

PA-FINAL

📅 28/11/2023

🕒 12:34:32

📄 pdf 115.4 KB

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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.**

With two of five plant species at risk of extinction globally, plants are an under-represented taxa in terms of protection and conservation planning. In Anguilla, native plant species are threatened by natural habitat disturbance, conversion, and invasive alien species. Applying PlantLife International's criteria to assess if Dog Island qualifies as Anguilla's first Important Plant Area (IPA), this project establishes a replicable framework necessary to support targeted action planning for long-term flora conservation across the Anguilla mainland and offshore cays.

### 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?**

Two of five plants species around the world are at risk of extinction due to habitat destruction and conversion, unsustainable collection practices, invasive alien species, and climate change [01]. At the same time, plants are under-represented in conservation planning due to gaps in data about plant diversity and distribution [02]. Where data do exist, they are often not in formats that are easily accessible to decision-makers and natural resources managers.

In Anguilla, ANT has well-developed biodiversity monitoring systems in place for a wide range of species, including birds, marine and terrestrial reptiles, and pollinators. Using this data, we have adopted an evidence-based approach to identifying biodiversity hotspots, protected areas, and sites of international importance, including 16 IBAs and five KBAs. We have not, however, identified any Important Plant Areas (IPAs). This disparity is similarly reflected at the global level where there are over 13,000 IBAS [03] but fewer than 2400 IPAs. [04] In the Caribbean, a network of 18 Tropical IPAs has been identified and mapped in the British Virgin Islands [05] – the only Caribbean UKOT and island-state within the Caribbean to have such sites recognised, although work is also currently underway to identify TIPAs in the Turks and Caicos Islands.

IPAs are considered to be the most important places for plant diversity that can be protected and managed as

specific sites. They are identified based on meeting at least one of three principal and consistent criteria: presence of threatened species; exceptional botanical richness; and threatened habitats. While IPAs are not legal site designations, they help to identify and communicate the importance of key sites for wild plants and habitats and contribute to global plant diversity conservation. [02]

Dog Island IBA and KBA has been a priority site for restoration and conservation interventions for more than a decade. In 2012, ANT, Government of Anguilla, and international partners successfully eradicated invasive rodents. On-going biodiversity monitoring has indicated recovery of lizard and terrestrial birds, and a nesting population of over 150,000 pairs of seabirds makes this offshore island the most important island in the Lesser Antilles for seabirds. While we have conducted cursory plant surveys (e.g., to help inform rewilding efforts on Sombrero Island (DPLUS086)) and have monitored changes post-rodent removal through fixed point landscape photographs, a comprehensive assessment including a full species list as well as density and distribution maps – all of which are required for IPA identification and designation – are lacking.

This project takes a measured, systematic approach to applying IPA criteria and identification, beginning with one of Anguilla's most biodiverse offshore islands, Dog Island. More specifically, through this project, we will:

1. Complete the first comprehensive plant species list for Dog Island, including photographing all species (including stems, leaves, flowers, seeds) and creating on-line digital imagery database/archive.
2. Identify and map key habitat types, based on IUCN's Habitat Classification Scheme [06] and using drone and drone training provided by DPL00021.
3. Map distribution and density of priority native species, including those that are endangered and endemic (to Anguilla and the Anguilla Bank), orchids and melocactus spp.
4. Map distribution and density of invasive and non-native plant species.
5. Assess whether Dog Island would qualify for IPA status based on criteria and assessment protocols as outlined by Plantlife International [04].
6. If Dog Island meets the IPA criteria, submit IPA assessment form for approval/listing.
7. Develop list of recommendations for further action to support site-based IPA conservation.
8. Identify other priority sites in Anguilla for assessment and IPA criteria application.
9. Share lessons learned in at least one national presentation and one international media outlet.

## 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?**

Based on previous cursory flora assessments conducted on Dog Island, we are confident that the island will qualify as an IPA. This project will further cement Dog Island's status as a Key Biodiversity Area but and also raise the profile of the importance of Anguilla's plant biodiversity.





This project will also increase national capacity with ANT staff and volunteers learning and applying the IPA assessment process as well as raising capability in plant identification and documentation, with a comprehensive digital open-access database/repository being created to help with plant identification within the rest of Anguilla as well as the Caribbean region.

As part of the IPA identification process, we will identify additional management measures that will be needed to further safeguard Dog Island's plant biodiversity, with this initial detailed assessment establishing a baseline upon which the impact of future conservation actions can be measure (e.g., the impact of removing free-roaming goats from the island on flora recovery).

We also expect that following the designation of Dog Island as an IPA, and with increased capacity to assess and

identify IPAs, we will replicate IPA identification efforts on other sites, including potentially the Prickly Pear offshore islands, Scrub Island, and Fountain National Park.

**(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:**

-  [Dog-Island-IPA-R3-DPlus-Local-Supporting-information-FINAL](#)
-  23/11/2023
-  15:57:31
-  pdf 1.79 MB

## 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>
Unchecked	<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 supports targeted site-based conservation interventions to protect and restore plant biodiversity. By applying a scientifically robust approach to plant assessment and IPA identification, we will fill glaring data gaps, increase our understanding of Dog Island’s biodiversity, and help identify and prioritise previously unconsidered plant-focused conservation actions.

This project will also increase long-term national capacity to manage and protect flora biodiversity through the training of staff and volunteers in the IPA designation process as well as (native and non-native) plant identification – skills that can and will be applied to other Anguilla mainland and offshore island sites.

## Section 6 - Workplan





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### 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	30 March 2025	12 months

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

-  [R3-DPlus-Local-Workplan-dog island ipa - FINAL](#)
-  28/11/2023
-  11:07:27
-  pdf 123.91 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?**

Yes

**How much matched funding are you seeking and where from?**

Match funding from the Anguilla National Trust has already been secured to cover project overhead costs (partial – 2.5%), staff costs, as well as accommodation for and vehicle use by a regional plant expert who will assist with plant surveys. Total funding secured is £16593.

Budget line	Explanation	Cost in GBP
<b>Staff costs:</b>	Provided in-kind by ANT	£0.00
<b>Consultancy costs:</b>	Includes fees for services from St. Barthelemy-based Agence Territoriale de l'Environnement, including training in plant identification, assisting with plant surveys; fees for a webmaster to design and upload digital archive	██████████
<b>Overhead costs:</b>	Includes overhead cost of 7.5% of total project budget (including project funding with additional 2.5% ANT match funding)	██████████



<b>Travel &amp; subsistence costs:</b>	Includes travel and subsistence costs for ATE staff (St. Barthelemy-Anguilla), fuel costs for ANT vessel to support travel to and Dog Island (25 trips during the wet season); fieldwork subsistence costs	██████████
<b>Operating costs:</b>	Includes cost of drone deployment software (for habitat mapping), portable solid state drives for data/image storage and management, cloud storage platform, drone mapping software, venue and catering services for a public presentation about project findings and results	██████████
<b>Capital equipment:</b>	Includes cost of plant imaging equipment	██████████
<b>Other Costs</b>	Includes wire transfer fees to facilitate payments to ATE (bank charges)	██████████
<b>Total:</b>		██████████

**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):**

Ferries and departure tax for ATE consultants (one return trip for two people) (██████████)  
 Travel and subsistence for ATE consultants while in Anguilla (including daily stipend, temporary drivers permits, fuel for vehicle for 14 days total) (██████████)  
 Travel: Total of 25 trips from mainland Anguilla to Dog Island (cost of fuel) @ ██████████  
 Fieldwork subsistence: Subsistence costs for field team for 25 days of fieldwork (██████████)

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

Drone deployment software to support aerial habitat imaging @ ██████████  
 Portable Solid State Drives for additional/back-up storing and managing images of all plant species, three portable 1T drives @ ██████████  
 Cloud data management platform (██████████)  
 Adobe Cloud software (██████████)  
 Digital archive webpage (██████████)  
 Public presentation (venue and catering) (██████████)

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

Digital archival imagery system (including camera, lenses, camera stand, barcode reader) (██████████)

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

ATE (training in plant identification, assisting with Dog Island plant surveys, report writing), this external expertise is required as plant expertise in Anguilla is limited (██████████)  
 Webmaster (design and uploading of digital archive, including mobile capabilities) (██████████)

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

Wire transfer fee (for payment to ATE) (■■■■)

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**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

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**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? 87

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

*No Response*

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## Section 8 - Local and National Priorities

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### 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 Convention on Biological Diversity Global Strategy for Plant Conservation which calls for “at least 75% of the most important areas for plant diversity of each ecological region protected with effective management in place for conserving plants and their genetic diversity” (Target 5). IPA assessments and identification are amongst the first steps in delivering on this Target. It also meets at least three Targets under the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework by integrating biodiversity and its values into policy, regulation, and development processes (Target 14), strengthening capacity to conduct scientific research and biodiversity monitoring (Target 20), and ensuring that best available data are accessible to decision-makers, natural resources managers and the public to support equitable governance and effective biodiversity conservation (Target 21).

This project further supports the Government of Anguilla’s National Environmental Management Strategy by facilitating access to adequate and accurate information (Strategy 22), presenting environmental information/data clearly and easily accessible formats (Strategy 23), and by adopting data-driven, evidence-based approaches to biodiversity conservation and management (Strategy 43).

**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

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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
Storms and hurricanes hamper project implementation	Fieldwork on Dog Island will primarily be conducted during Anguilla's wet season, when most of Anguilla's plants are flowering and fruiting. While this overlaps partly with the hurricane season, fieldwork can be rescheduled due to inclement weather or rough sea conditions (which may prevent landing on Dog Island). Weather forecasts will be checked at least weekly during the hurricane season to monitor (and avoid) any upcoming weather disturbances.
Dog Island does not qualify as an IPA	Cursory flora assessments indicate the presence of at least one species of endangered tree (Endangered lignum vitae <i>Guaiacum officinale</i> ), suggesting that Dog Island could qualify as an IPA. Regardless of whether Dog Island qualifies or not, this project will build the capacity and knowledge of local staff in plant and habitat identification and the process of IPA designation which will be directly applied to other sites on Anguilla mainland and its offshore islands post-project.

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Inability to identify plant species

Using well-established relationships, we will work with regional plant experts from ATE and Mr. Kevel Lindsay, based in the United States, to help us identify unrecognisable plant species. ATE staff will be formally involved as expert consultants and will spend at least two weeks in Anguilla assisting with surveys on Dog Island. We have direct contact with Kevel through email, WhatsApp, and Facebook (including two pages he moderates: Flora of the Eastern Caribbean and Wild Caribbean). We will also draw on citizen science and collective plant biodiversity knowledge by contributing to and using iNaturalist.

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**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

<b>Name:</b>	Farah Mukhida
<b>Position in the organisation: (if applicable)</b>	Executive Director
<b>Signature (please upload e-signature)</b>	 <a href="#">FMukhida.signature</a>  23/11/2023  16:11:46  jpg 59.28 KB
<b>Date:</b>	28 November 2023

## Section 12 - Submission Checklist

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### Checklist for submission

	Check
<b>I have read the Guidance documents, including the “Darwin Plus Local Guidance” and the “Darwin Plus Local Finance Guidance”.</b>	Checked
<b>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.</b>	Unchecked
<b>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).</b>	Checked
<b>I have read, and can meet, the current Terms and Conditions for this fund.</b>	Checked
<b>I have provided actual start and end dates for my project that fit this Round.</b>	Checked
<b>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.</b>	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: Identifying Important Plant Areas in Anguilla: a Dog Island assessment

### 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	Conduct review of existing plant species lists for Anguilla and offshore islands	1	x	x	x									
2	Conduct comprehensive plant surveys on Dog Island, listing all plant species present, photographing them <i>in</i> and <i>ex situ</i>	2					x	x	x					
3	Conduct aerial mapping exercise of Dog Island using drones to assist with habitat type identification and plant species distribution	0.5						x	x					
4	Create digital on-line repository of all species recorded	2							x	x	x			
5	Create maps of habitat types, species density, and distribution	0.5								x				
6	Share survey results (including maps) with relevant Government of Anguilla (Department of Natural Resources, Department of Physical Planning, Department of Land and Surveys)	0.25									x			

Project Title: Identifying Important Plant Areas in Anguilla: a Dog Island assessment

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	
7	Compare plant biodiversity survey results with Important Plant Area criteria	0.25											x	x	
8	Complete Important Plant Area nomination form and circulate for peer review	0.5											x	x	
9	Submit Important Plant Area nomination form for Dog Island	0.25												x	
10	Identify/Recommend priority plant conservation actions	0.5													x