

Applicant: **Zimmermann, Alizee**
Organisation: **Turks and Caicos Reef Fund**
Funding Sought: [REDACTED]
Funding Awarded: **£0.00**

DPLR3\1054

The Reefsaver Renovation Project - Built to Last

The Turks and Caicos Reef Fund (TCRF) is the country's only environmental advocacy NGO. TCRF is responsible for mooring installation (drilling) and maintenance as well as actively involved in multiple coral research projects including in-situ coral nurseries and stony coral tissue loss disease. The Reefsaver is a 30ft 1998 Island Hopper, purchased in 2016, and Darwin funds will support the full restoration and engine overhaul needed to get the vessel running smoothly and efficiently for another 10+ years.

PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

Title Ms
Name Alizee
Surname Zimmermann
Website (Work) [REDACTED]
Tel (Work) [REDACTED]
Email (Work) [REDACTED]
Address [REDACTED]

DPLR3\1054

The Reefsaver Renovation Project - Built to Last

Section 1 - Project Title & Contact Details

Q1. Project Title

The Reefsaver Renovation Project - Built to Last

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

Organisation

PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

Title	Ms
Name	Alizee
Surname	Zimmermann
Website (Work)	[REDACTED]
Tel (Work)	[REDACTED]
Email (Work)	[REDACTED]
Address	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

GMS ORGANISATION

Type	Organisation
Name	Turks and Caicos Reef Fund
Phone (Fax)	[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.

Turks and Caicos Islands (TCI)

* 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): Alizee Zimmermann

Lead Partner name (if applying as an organisation; Guidance section 3.1): Turks & Caicos Reef Fund

Lead Partner Website (if applicable): www.tcreef.org

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: None


Summary of roles and responsibilities of each partner in the project: The Turks and Caicos Reef Fund (TCRF) is the lead partner and is responsible for all logistics as well as overseeing the project's reporting and accounting. Alizee Zimmermann is TCRF's executive director and has extensive experience in organizing long-term scientific research projects as well as shorter actionable projects such as Snorkel site renovations and Coral Facility creation.


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).

 [DarwinLocal R3 Reefsaver Cover Letter](#)

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Section 4 - Project Summary & Description

Q5. Project Summary (Guidance section 3.8)

Please provide a brief summary of your project. This may be used in communication activities and/or published online, if your application is successful.

The Turks and Caicos Reef Fund (TCRF) is the country's only environmental advocacy NGO. TCRF is responsible for mooring installation (drilling) and maintenance as well as actively involved in multiple coral research projects including in-situ coral nurseries and stony coral tissue loss disease. The Reefsaver is a 30ft 1998 Island Hopper, purchased in 2016, and Darwin funds will support the full restoration and engine overhaul needed to get the vessel running smoothly and efficiently for another 10+ years.

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?

The overall objective of this project is to bring our trusty work vessel, The Reefsaver, back to peak performance so that we can continue to do our conservation work and research. The Turks & Caicos Reef Fund (TCRF) is a relatively small NGO, but we are growing at fast pace in direct correlation to the increased pressures and the need to be out there either learning about or working on restoring the coral reefs that we have so rapidly been losing over the past decades, a notable decline due to stony coral tissue loss disease which arrived in the islands in 2019 and unprecedented ocean temperatures.

The Reefsaver is the key to doing our work as almost every site we work at is only accessible by boat and around an hour commute. She is relatively good on fuel, but this project would only improve the fuel efficiency. Additionally, The Reefsaver is among the very few things we actually own as an organization, and it is key to our ability to work. Since 2016 she has served us very well and has already had some customizations making her the perfect work vessel for mooring installations as well as restoration work. The engine is an original 1998 Yanmar and is in need of a deep clean and overhaul. With that, our mechanic has assured us, the engine will continue running for years to come. The hull of the boat is also in need of being sanded and repainted, the bottom with an eco-friendly, anti-fouling paint and the bow and inside decking with anti-slip paint.

Ideally, we can get the boat hauled out and have all the work done both to the hull and engine at the same time,

helping reduce cost (not having to pull vessel out of the water multiple times) and keeping us out there working on coral rescue and restoration. We also need to replace the dashboard electronics as a large part of the switches are not functional. The boat's entire electrics could really use a thorough checking and cleaning up.

Success looks like a modest but fully functional and efficient working vessel that is seaworthy for 2-4 field days a week so that we can continue to work with training the local community to scuba dive, creating the next generation of marine conservationists as well as maintain and increase our 150+ moorings, 5,000++ coral fragments growing in-situ, and of course, continue to monitor changes in our coral reef health so that we can better respond and work towards a more resilient coral reef ecosystem.

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 give us at least another 10 years without having to worry about or lose weeks on end every year due to different small engine issues. The Reefsaver is in need of an engine overhaul and some hull work. Without it, we risk serious engine damage and losing our most important physical asset we. But with it, our work can not only continue, but grow. Currently, we use the vessel on an as-needed basis for a couple reasons, one of them being persistent issues with some of our mechanical parts. When the Reefsaver is running smoothly again, we'll be able to schedule 2-4 days every week, allowing us to expand our volunteer opportunities more widely to the community and get more work done.

A daily, weekly, monthly, yearly, and every "X" hours of engine use maintenance schedule will help make sure that she stays in peak condition for as long as possible. These are one off jobs that should not require sustainable funding as such. We do however keep a small budget aside for boat emergencies at all times.

(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:

No Response

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;**

Checked **Climate change: responding to, mitigating and adapting to climate change and its effects on the natural environment and local communities;**

Checked **Environmental quality: improving the condition and protection of the natural environment**

Checked **Capability and capacity building: enhancing the capacity within OTs, including through community engagement and awareness, to support the environment in the short- and long-term.**

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

Biodiversity – Preserving coral through SCTLTD intervention and our research into coral resilience.

Climate Change – Coral farming is a direct response to the increasing need for intervention. Working to keep live coral on the reefs that protect our islands.

Environmental Quality - Direct correlation by installing moorings and preventing anchor damage, we maintain over 150 moorings and install new ones each year to adjust for increased tourism and pressure.

Capacity building – Community is a corner stone of TCRF's mission, we use also the Reefsaver for teaching scuba diving and engaging community members of all ages.





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

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-  [R3-DPlus-Local-Workplan-The 'Reefsaver' Renovation - A Work Vessel Built to Last](#)
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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?

No

Budget line	Explanation	Cost in GBP
Staff costs:	N/A	£0.00
Consultancy costs:	Diesel Mechanic and Repairman inspection and labour hours Shipyard labour for top-side repairs from bottom to inside.	██████████
Overhead costs:	N/A	£0.00
Travel & subsistence costs:	N/A	£0.00
Operating costs:	N/A	£0.00
Capital equipment:	Engine overhaul and part replacements, electronic dashboard replacement. Also included here are parts for top-side overhaul, window gaskets, paint etc.	██████████
Other Costs	Dry dock costs during repair work Replacement of safety equipment and full servicing of all dive and safety equipment on board.	██████████
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)

N/A

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

N/A

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

N/A

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

N/A

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

Yanmar 6LPA STP2 Diesel Inboard engine - approximately ██████████ needed for parts and overhaul.

We've budgeted ██████████ for replacing dashboard electronics with new Garmin system and all new electrical.

8,000 is budgeted for Topside equipment including over ██████████ for eco-friendly antifouling paint and anti-slip deck covering. This also includes window gasket replacement and all other small replacements needed.

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

Caribbean Marine and Diesel are the only Yanmar diesel engine mechanics on island and we will be using their services for the work. The Shipyard at South Bank Marina is conveniently located at the same place and the work can all be done simultaneously. The cost of labour and pulling boat out as well as dry storage during work is covered under this section.

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

The cost of labour and pulling boat out as well as dry storage during work is covered under this section.

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	1.27	xe.com	29 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? 50

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

50% of the cost will be on purchasing new engine parts as well as materials for the renovation. All labour will be done on island, contributing to the local economy. The contribution that the vessel itself provides to community development and marine protection is its value, this remains fully in-country and is not quantifiable as it represents another decade or more of functionality. The true value of this project is access to the marine environment. It provides the ability to be flexible with our schedule and get more conservation initiatives going to help increase volunteer and training opportunities for the local community to get directly involved in active restoration and conservation efforts. The engine has a fixed cost but the value created for the community is limitless.

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 falls among the TCI environmental priorities that include sustainable use of natural resources and the protection and preservation of our National Parks. Mooring infrastructure is the first line of defence and the responsibility of public infrastructure such as moorings in our NPs falls on private donations and volunteers aboard the Reefsaver. Without this vessel, our work would be impossible to achieve, and basic infrastructure would be left to deteriorate. Additionally, the use of the Reefsaver extends beyond mooring installation and brings community together to access and learn about the marine environment through scuba diving programs

and volunteer run coral nursery work. 2018 JNCC report showed that tourism had an annual monetary value of over \$80 million. The report also showed that agriculture, fisheries, and local cultural services had only a \$26 million value collectively. The value of tourism to the islands is indisputable and protecting the marine environment is essential to keep that revenue. An increase of tourism and related watersports operations, demands an increase in protective moorings furthering the need for a fully functional and reliable work vessel for the TC Reef Fund.

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.

-  [DarwinLocal DPLR3-1054 TCRF DECRCRSupportLetter29112023](#)
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Section 9 - Project Risks

Q11. Project Risks

Please demonstrate your consideration of any risks involved in this project and how you intend to manage them. 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
Safeguarding participants	All in water activities are supervised by TCRF staff with divemaster certifications or higher. Boat drivers hold at minimum, TCI Boat Masters License. All staff are CPR and First Aid certified for adults and children and have an up-to-date STCW certificate.
Safeguarding the labour during overhaul	Only professionals will be involved in the overhaul of the engine and the topside work. We will not use volunteers for this project.
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>

Do you require more fields?

No

Section 10 - Terms & Conditions

Q12. Terms and conditions (Guidance section 3.10)

By applying for Darwin Plus Local you are adhering in full to the grant Terms and Conditions in full (available at: [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: Alizee Zimmermann

Position in the organisation: Executive Director
(if applicable)

Signature (please upload e-signature)  [AZ 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.	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).

The 'Reefsaver' Renovation – A Work Vessel Built to Last.

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	New Bottom Paint – Boat needs to be hauled out, bottom sanded and repainted with 2 coats of antifouling paint (ecofriendly)	1			X											
2	New Topside Paint – Currently peeling, the entire interior of helm needs to be sanded and repainted.	1			X											
3	Anti-slip coating added to decking and bow of boat.	1			X											
4	Full engine overhaul – stripping of Diesel engine, full clean, rebuild	2			X	X										
5	Fix Stern bilge pump switch	1				X										
6	Replace Dashboard electronics, GPS, Transducer etc	1				X										
7	Replace window seals and Windshield adjusters on all 3 windows at helm.	1				X										
8	Replace anchor line ad anchor locking pin.	1				X										
9	Replace Batteries	1				X										

The 'Reefsaver' Renovation – A Work Vessel Built to Last.

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
10	Install water cooler bracket for 10gallon lgloo.					X								
11	Install Weight locker for dive weights					X								
12														

The 'Reefsaver' Renovation – A Work Vessel Built to Last.

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