

Applicant: **Francis, Sarita**
Organisation: **Montserrat National Trust**
Funding Sought: **0**
Funding Awarded: **£0.00**

DPLR3\1065

Fostering youth engagement in Biodiversity and Conservation in Montserrat

The project will strengthen the capacity of the Montserrat National Trust through the provision of a Youth Coordinator. They will develop the role to support the evolution of the youth programmes focusing on biodiversity and nature conservation at the Montserrat National Trust. In addition, the project will ensure the programme is inclusive by providing opportunities for all members of the youth community to participate through the purchase of a 16-seater van to facilitate safe transfer for outside school activities.

PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

Name Delmaude
Surname Ryan
Organisation Montserrat National Trust
Website (Work) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Tel (Work) [REDACTED]
Email (Work) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Address [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

CONTACT DETAILS

Title Mrs
Name Sarita
Surname Francis
Organisation Montserrat National Trust
Website (Work) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Tel (Work) [REDACTED]
Email (Work) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Address [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

DPLR3\1065

Fostering youth engagement in Biodiversity and Conservation in Montserrat

Section 1 - Project Title & Contact Details

Q1. Project Title

Fostering youth engagement in Biodiversity and Conservation in Montserrat

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 Delmaude
Surname Ryan
Organisation Montserrat National Trust
Website (Work) [REDACTED]
Tel (Work) [REDACTED]
Email (Work) [REDACTED]
Address [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

CONTACT DETAILS

Title Mrs
Name Sarita
Surname Francis
Organisation Montserrat National Trust
Website (Work) [REDACTED]
Tel (Work) [REDACTED]
Email (Work) [REDACTED]
Address [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

GMS ORGANISATION

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

Section 2 - Overseas Territory(ies)

Q3. Overseas Territory (Guidance section 1.3):

Which UK Overseas Territory(ies) will your project be working in? Please note that in case of a non-permanent resident population you need to demonstrate a clear, meaningful, long-term link to the territory.

Montserrat

* 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): Delmaude Ryan

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

Lead Partner Website (if applicable): www.montserratnationaltrust.ms

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:

UK Overseas Territories Conservation Forum
Department of the Agriculture
Department of Environment

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

The Montserrat National Trust (MNT) will administer project funds for the purchase of a vehicle and recruitment and management of a Youth Coordinator.

The Montserrat National Trust is the lead partner responsible for overall project implementation and management, financial management, reporting, and general administration of the project. The major components of the project will be undertaken by MNT's team which includes: MNT's Conservation Officer, Junior Conservation Officer, Project & Admin Officer and Finance Officer.

MNT takes a collaborative approach to its' work. It has the capacity to deliver the project entirely, but values the contribution others can make to elevate the projects outcomes. Additional partners include:

Department of Agriculture
Technical Advice on food cultivation and value added techniques


Department of the Environment
Technical Advice and use of equipment if necessary for establishing specific clubs;


United Kingdom Overseas Territories Conservation Forum
Technical Advice and support international programmes and networks to enrich youth engagement. Ensuring the project aligns within several other linked initiatives.


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- Fostering Youth Engagement in Biodiversity and Conservation in Montserrat](#)

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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 project will strengthen the capacity of the Montserrat National Trust through the provision of a Youth Coordinator. They will develop the role to support the evolution of the youth programmes focusing on biodiversity and nature conservation at the Montserrat National Trust. In addition, the project will ensure the programme is inclusive by providing opportunities for all members of the youth community to participate through the purchase of a 16-seater van to facilitate safe transfer for outside school activities.

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 Montserrat National Trust is a non-governmental organization, promoting the protection and preservation of Montserrat flora and fauna. In its efforts for demonstrating its mandate in conservation. The MNT is currently the only organization facilitating the direct involvement in youth in biodiversity and preservation of the islands natural habitat.

In its 2022-2025 Strategic Plan, the need to involve youth was raised by the youths themselves and the Trust has been intentional in carrying out its strategic priority in youth engagement and development. Specifically Goal 1. To facilitate the direct involvement of youth in the work of the MNT; objective 3: to provide a space and programmes in the next two years for young children to learn through interaction with nature.

Primary School Engagement

MNT has (with partners) secured several grants to develop a youth programme. With the support of DPLUS 155, the Monty's Messengers was re-established in 2022 with a membership of 70 children under the age of 11. Monty Club Sessions were held every two weeks on a Saturday, with the intention to have a different group each week, given the size of the club in ratio to the Trusts' human resources. Human resources and funding transportation for the club has been a challenge for the running of the group. Those less able to travel to the MNT office were missing out. In order to ensure inclusion of those from lower economic situations a bus was organised, however with this costing \$600 per session, it could only be used for off-site activities while staff or volunteers had to provide transportation from their own resources to avoid disappointment. This has been unsustainable for the Trust and deprives half the registered group from being involved in club activities and has lessen the interaction between youths and nature as programmes had to be reduced to once per month.

Secondary School Engagement

As Monty's started to run, there was a demand from the teenagers to be a part of an environment club or activities, and a need for progression beyond the primary years. Through Darwin Plus (DPLUS192), there is provision to develop a youth programme for this stakeholder group. Currently, 31 students are engaged from

the Montserrat Secondary School Leadership Council with the hope to launch the youth programme in February 2024. It is important that the momentum and interest from students are maintained.

With the building interest, the programme may have less reach without an efficient and permanent source of transportation for outside events and a youth coordinator to ensure that the programmes are seamlessly coordinated to give the different membership groups equal opportunities to be engaged.

The MNT Pipers lot outdoor classroom facility and nature trail at Friths, Salem (DPL00031), provides additional space to be utilised for nature activities by Trust children and youth programmes, its uptake for afterschool activities will be enhanced with the reliable and accessible source of transportation. The opportunity to increase youth engagement is restricted by the budget for bus hire, given the cost per trip. Therefore, a purchase of a bus addresses these challenges and create stronger safeguarding for children requiring transportation when attending the programmes to include after school environment clubs. The MNT already have a designated driver on staff and volunteers.

With this need being met through this project, the MNT can have a well structured youth programme for all children on Montserrat ensuring that it is truly inclusive. An increase in specialized nature based clubs for both the marine and terrestrial environment, and flexibility in supporting activities for children and youths (not limited to once per month).

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 long-term benefit of this project is to engage the island youth in developing a biodiversity consciousness, increasing the interest and stewards of nature, while developing a potential succession plan for future environmentalist. MNT has an active social media presence on Instagram and Facebook; the posts which highlight young person's getting involved in activities are the most viewed and popular posts, this will have the transient influence to change behaviors from the youth themselves and the community at large.


The project builds on several already demonstrated by the MNT with others and recognizes the gaps needed to fill for long-term future of these initiatives.


The immediate short-term benefit is MNT achieving its goal of increasing direct involvement of young people interacting with nature and increase the youth engagement in the work of the Trust by 50%


Vehicle maintenance will be absorbed through the Trust's general maintenance budget. The Trust continues to diversify its funding and has allocated funds from publications, products, and donations to the youth activities. The 12 month engagement of a youth coordinator will provide sufficient time to confirm a memorandum of understanding with the Ministry of Youth in supporting the youth programme in embedding this role.


(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:


 [MALHE Letter of Support to MNT\(1\)](#)


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 [Cover Letter- Fostering Youth Engagement in Biodiversity and Conservation in Montserrat](#)

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Section 5 - Project Outcome(s)

Q7. Project Outcome(s) (Guidance section 1.2)

Successful Darwin Plus Local projects must demonstrate measurable outcomes in at least one of the themes of Darwin Plus 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: Encouraging children to be part of initiatives such as biological recording (through iSeek/iNaturalist) is one example of how they can help us understand our natural world, how it changes and what actions can be done to reduce threats.

Environmental Quality: Youth engagement in nature will effect a cultural change over a period and develop a love and stewards of the environment.

Capability and Capacity Building: Students are engaged in training activities that builds knowledge and skills in biodiversity and conservation and opportunities for them in leadership (by volunteering), championing through becoming an ambassador for the Trust.

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 Template-Fostering Youth Engagement in Biodiversity and Conservation in Montserrat](#)

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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:	Cover cost of one Youth Coordinator; salary and liabilities	██████████
Consultancy costs:	n/a	£0.00
Overhead costs:	Overheads for MNT-Administrative support from the project to include financial management, , human resources and networking	██████████
Travel & subsistence costs:	n/a	£0.00
Operating costs:	n/a	£0.00
Capital equipment:	Purchase one 16 seater fuel efficient van, insure and licence	██████████
Other Costs	Design and Installation of logos (MNT; Darwin Plus) on Van	██████████
	Ice cooler igloo	██████████
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)

Youth Coordinator will manage and facilitate the programme for the Monty Messengers and Monty Ambassador groups over a 12-month period. The coordinator will also work with the Montserrat Secondary School after school environment clubs and work closely with the conservation officer and project Officer to design appropriate programmes for the youth. The cost will cover salary and liability cost.

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

Overhead to MNT for managing project administration, human resources and purchase of van.

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

No Response

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

No Response

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

The vehicle will be purchased through a local automobile dealer. The capacity to service electrical buses are not yet a reality in Montserrat.

The Trust will therefore seek to select the most fuel efficient model. The cost will also cover the initial insurance and license.

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

No Response

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

Design and Installation of logos (MNT; Darwin Plus) on Van ,
Ice cooler igloo and reusable water containers for outings

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:
XCD	3.40484	www.eccb-centralbank.org	27 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? 100

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

No Response

Section 8 - Local and National Priorities

Q10. Local and national priorities

Please explain how this project aligns with local and national priorities? You may wish to consider the project in the context of national environmental laws, objectives, strategies, territory specific agreements, action plans or policies.

Contributes towards the Government of Montserrat's Policy Agenda up to 2024 specifically: "2.4 Education provision improved to raise educational outcomes to be regionally and internationally competitive and equip people for sustainable livelihoods." and 2.8 " Enhanced youth development through national programmes and services".

[Source: <https://www.gov.ms/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/2021-22-Prioritised-Policy-Agenda.pdf>]

Montserrat's National Youth Policy (2013) specifically:

Strategic Area 5 Health Goal "To ensure that all young people in Montserrat develop and practice healthy lifestyles and benefit from optimum physical, emotional, and mental health."

Strategic Area 8 Youth Participation in Clubs and Organizations: Goal "Educate youth as to the important role that clubs and organizations have in the development of society as well as personal development and be creative in stimulating their interest to participate."

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 Risks	The imported vehicle will be subjected phytosanitary checks and the Ministry of the Environment Port Health inspections and biosecurity regulations.

Safeguarding as working with under 18s	Youth Coordinator will be vetted to ensure there is no history of child safeguarding breaches All Staff and volunteers of MNT signs a safeguarding charter and undertakes safeguarding training twice per year MNT Safeguarding Policy
Hurricane or rain storms	The vehicle will be safeguarded through MNT hurricane planning policy

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: Sarita Francis

Position in the organisation: Executive Director
(if applicable)

Signature (please upload e-signature)  [Sarita -e signature](#)
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Date: 29 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).