

Applicant: **Ryan, Delmaude**
Organisation: **Montserrat National Trust**
Funding Sought: [REDACTED]
Funding Awarded: **£0.00**

DPLR3\1067

Demonstrating healthy propagation practices to improve native plant production

The Montserrat National Trust have selected the most threatened native trees on island, namely, red cedar, white cedar, mangroves (white, black and red), and Lignum Vitae to regenerate positive production through improvement in healthy propagation practices thereby restoring, plants affected by over exploitation, development and disease. Through experiments the plants will be cultivated in various habitats to determine their survival in nature in an attempt to increase their numbers once seedlings survives the propagation stage.

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 [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Tel [REDACTED]
Email [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Address [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

DPLR3\1067

Demonstrating healthy propagation practices to improve native plant production

Section 1 - Project Title & Contact Details

Q1. Project Title

Demonstrating healthy propagation practices to improve native plant production

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	
Website (Work)	

CONTACT DETAILS

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

[REDACTED]

Type	Organisation
Name	Montserrat 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.

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): Sarita Francis

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:

Department of the Environment, Montserrat

United Kingdom Overseas Territories Conservation Forum (UKOTCF), UK

Montserrat National Trust

Lead implementer for this project. The Trust has the expertise of a recently appointed conservation officer, with skills in botany and propagation of key native plants such as mangroves. The project will provide space in its propagation unit, which is open to the public to learn skills in healthy practices in propagation.

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

Department of the Environment, Montserrat

The Department will provide technical support where needed and work jointly with the Trust in selecting appropriate Trust own lands for cultivation of seedlings along with identifying sites of known growth of mangroves in the past.


United Kingdom Conservation Forum


Will provide guidance and establish networking with other Overseas Territories who may have undertaken a similar project.


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).

 [MNT Application letter- Demonstrating Healthy Propagation Practices to improve threatened native plant production](#)

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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 Montserrat National Trust have selected the most threatened native trees on island, namely, red cedar, white cedar, mangroves (white, black and red), and Lignum Vitae to regenerate positive production through

improvement in healthy propagation practices thereby restoring, plants affected by over exploitation, development and disease. Through experiments the plants will be cultivated in various habitats to determine their survival in nature in an attempt to increase their numbers once seedlings survives the propagation stage.

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 Department of the Environment has informed of the near extinction of mangrove plants on island. Only one black mangrove, *Avicennia germinanas*, is found on the island and one patch button wood mangrove; *Conocarpus erectus*. Both the red mangrove; *Rhizophora mangle*, and white mangrove; *Laguncularia racemosa*, are no longer present on the island. The demand for red cedar for making furniture, has led to its exploitation while the white cedar is plagued with the white cedar thrip; *Holopothrips iniquilinus*. Mangroves are biologically important to our eco systems and these species mentioned are rated on the IUCN Red list as endangered, vulnerable and decreasing. The successful propagation of these will help to regenerate our mangrove forest.

In 2023 with a grant from John Ellerman a new Officer on a three year contract joined the team. His background is in Botany & Forestry. At the same time some support was supplied to review practices in the nursery and this resulted in some recommendations for the nursery team to implement (with support from DPLUS155). Some potting trialling of endemic species was done to see what would grow well and under what conditions (as part of DPLUS192). The team now wants to expand this work, but needs additional resources to do it. The species have been chosen due to demand, conservation status and local importance.

The unit will be equipped with :

1. An enhanced potting shed and bench,
2. a locker or changing room for both males and females.
3. Two germination bins with saran netting and poles
4. Concert layout for the propagation nursery flooring
5. Establishment of a hardening area with ground cover, saran netting and poles; and a
6. chiller and container for seed storage (seed bank)

The potting shed provides a dedicated space for gardening activities such as mixing soil, filling pots and planting seedlings and cuttings, making it easy to organize plant material, store tools, seeds, and plants. It is a safe space for working during wet or harsh sunny weather. The current potting area is not suitable for his task and requires the construction of a dedicated potting shed.

To improve its biosecurity , staff would now be encourage to adopt further practices that minimizes the transmission of disease in the propagation unit. The provision of storage for staff personal belongings and a designated space for changing before and after work activities in the garden will be established.

Germination bins will be introduced to increase the successes of native plant production. Germination bins are best suited for growing plants for seeds and cutting in a tropical climate. They allow easy sowing and large

quantities of plant production with a small space and number of staff. Netting will allow for the protection of young baby shoots and seedlings from the various weather conditions.

Having a sealed concert flooring will aid in keeping the propagation house in better control from pest and disease infestation. In 2021, x plants were lost through rodents and currently it is difficult to control the ground lizards that frequent this space. The propagation floor is partially sealed. The installation of a ground cover is essential for weed control, root pruning and planting arrangements for sale or distribution.


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?


A more enhanced propagation unit, that demonstrates best practices in propagation and improve biosecurity. The regular maintenance will become part of the Trust operations. Plant sales have increased from 263 in during Jan - Dec 2021 to 464 at the end of Dec 2022. In addition, the propagation unit supplies plants for Community projects to include those distributed under DPLUS 155.

The outcome would be an increase in survival rate of White Cedar and an increase in seedlings for cultivating in their natural habitat such as the mangroves and red cedars. It will halt the threat of decline of these native trees across Montserrat and will safeguard a healthy stock of plants reared in biosecure conditions.

(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:


 [R3-DPlus-Local-Application-UKOTCF2311 DPLR3 1067- Support letter](#)


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 pdf 106.24 KB

 [Demonstrating Healthy Propagation Practices to improve Native Plant Production-Minister](#)

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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: to reverse the loss of native plants such as red cedar to Montserrat through healthy propagation practices

Climate change:


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 FINAL - Demonstrating Healthy propagation practices to improve native plant production](#)

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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
	n/a	
Staff costs:	Existing staff and youth interns from MNT and DOE will participate in this project	£0.00
Consultancy costs:	n/a	£0.00
Overhead costs:	MNT overhead cost to facilitate administration , procurement and networking	████████
Travel & subsistence costs:	n/a	£0.00
Operating costs:	Construction of two germination bins ██████████ Installation of benches in potting shed ██████████ Lockers for Staff ██████████ Installation of concrete floor ██████████ material for shading germination bins ██████████ Chiller ██████████ Containers ██████████ Poles ██████████ Ground cover material ██████████	████████
Capital equipment:	Construction of 20ftx 32 ft Potting shed	████████
Other Costs	n/a	£0.00
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):

MNT overhead cost to facilitate administration , procurement and networking

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

No Response

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

Construction of two germination bins [REDACTED]
Installation of benches in potting shed
[REDACTED]
Lockers for Staff [REDACTED]
Installation of concrete floor [REDACTED]
material for shading germination bins [REDACTED]
Chiller [REDACTED]
Containers [REDACTED]
Poles [REDACTED]
Ground cover material [REDACTED]

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

Cost for construction of a potting shed and locker area with change room.

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

No Response

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

No Response

If your project budget was prepared in another currency and converted to GBP, please provide the exchange rate, its source, and the date it was accessed:

Other currency:	Exchange rate:	Source of this exchange rate:	Date exchange rate accessed:
XCD	3.40484	eccb.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? 85

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.

CEMA

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
Hurricane & Tropical Storms	The hurricane season begins in June and ends in November. Flexibility is included in construction activities during heavy rains or hurricane conditions. Material in use will be secured at MNT headquarters inline with MNT's Hurricane preparedness plan.
Safeguarding	During the implementation of this project,; young persons will be engaged in outreach activities and work experience. All staff and volunteers of the MNT must sign a child safeguarding policy and abide by that policy in the interaction with children. No youth is left without an adult presence, Regular workshops are undertaken on child safeguarding matters as part of the Trust's employment policy. Staff is trained in basic first aid and first aid supply present at all activities.
Health & Safety	Workers on constructions site and staff interacting to wear hard hats, bright coloured clothing when on construction site. Areas will be sectioned to prevent persons from entering the construction site

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: (if applicable) Executive Director

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).

Project Title: Demonstrating Healthy Propagation Practices to Improve native plant production

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	Drawings and designs for two potting sheds and benches.													
2	Construction of potting sheds and benches													
3	Drawings and designs for germination bins													
4	Construction of germination bins with saran netting and poles													
5	Building lockers and changing rooms for both males and females													
6	Ground preparation for the plant hardening area													
7	Construction of propagation plant nursery flooring.													
8	Stone layout to level on the ground for hardening area													
9	Establishment of a hardening area with ground cover, saran netting and poles													

Project Title: Demonstrating Healthy Propagation Practices to Improve native plant production

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	Purchasing a chiller and containers for seed storage.													
11	Education and outreach													
12	Procurement of plant and propagation material													
13	Procurement of topsoil													
14	Training on plant care and healthy habits													