DPLUS019

Darwin Plus: Overseas Territories Environment and Climate Fund
Project Application Form

Submit by Monday 23 September 2013

Please read the Guidance Notes before completing this form

Information to be extracted to the database and made public is highlighted in blue

Basic Data	
1. Project Title (max 10 words)	*Socioeconomic aspects of turtle conservation in the Cayman Islands*
2. UK OT(s) involved	Cayman Islands
3. Start Date:	1 April 2014
4. End Date:	31 March 2016
5. Duration of project (no longer than 24 months)	24 months

Summary of Costs	**2014/15**	**2015/16**	**Total**
6. Budget requested from Darwin	£77,943	£71,961	£149,904
7. Total value of Co-funding	£126,691	£118,365	£245,055
8. Total Project Budget (all funders)	£204,634	£190,326	£394,959
9. Names of Co-funders	Cayman Islands Department of Environment, University of Exeter		

10. Lead applicant organisation (responsible for delivering outputs, reporting and managing funds)	Cayman Islands Department of Environment (DoE)
11. Project Leader name	Dr Janice Blumenthal
12. Email address	Janice.Blumenthal@gov.ky
13. Postal address	PO Box 10202, Grand Cayman KY1-1002 Cayman Islands Environmental Centre, 580 North Sound Road
14. Contact details: Phone/Fax/Skype	

15. Type of organisation of Lead applicant. Place an x in the relevant box.													
OT GOVT	X	UK GOVT		UK NGO		Local NGO		International NGO		Commercial Company		Other (e.g. Academic)	

16. Principals in project. Please identify and provide a one page CV for each of these named individuals. You may copy and paste this table if you need to provide details of more personnel or more than one main, or other, project partner.

Details	Project Leader	Project Partner 1
Surname	Blumenthal	Broderick/Fisher/Godley
Forename(s)	Janice	Annette/Janet/Brendan
Post held	Research Officer and Marine Turtle Research Programme Coordinator	Senior Lecturer, Conservation Biology Lecturer, Environmental Social Science Chair in Conservation Science
Institution (if different to above)	Cayman Islands Government	University of Exeter
Department	Department of Environment	Centre for Ecology and Conservation Environmental Sustainability Institute
Telephone/Skype		
Email		

17. Has your organisation been awarded a Darwin Initiative award before (for the purposes of this question, being a partner does not count)? If so, please provide details of the most recent awards (up to 6 examples).

Reference No	Project Leader	Title
EIDPO045	Dr John Turner	*Assuring Engagement in Cayman's Enhanced Marine Protected Area System (£190,000*) [DoE was main project partner and host country coordinator]
18-016	Dr John Turner	*Darwin Initiative to Enhance an Established Marine Protected Area System, Cayman Islands* (£273,914) [DoE was main project partner and host country coordinator. The DoE director was co-leader of the project.]
14-051	Prof Brendan Godley	*In Ivan's Wake: Darwin Initiative BAP for the Cayman Islands* (£178,822) [DoE was main project partner and host country coordinator]

18. If your answer to Q17 was No, provide details of 3 contracts previously held by your institution that demonstrate your credibility as an implementing organisation. These contacts should have been held in the last 5 years and be of a similar size to the grant requested in this application. (If your answer to Q17 was Yes, you may delete these boxes, but please leave Q18)

JNCC/DoE Environmental Economics Project and Lionfish response strategy (initiated in 2013).This project includes an Environmental Economics exercise to identify the key marine and terrestrial ecosystem components in the Cayman Islands and an assessment of the need for a

Caribbean / Western Atlantic lionfish response strategy for the UK OTs. Funds are administered by DoE and total £65,000.

Shark Conservation fund (initiated in 2012, ongoing). The objective of this project was to develop a novel and accessible community outreach programme to promote the conservation of sharks in the Cayman Islands. In partnership with a local brewery, a portion of sales from specially designed CayBrew White Tip beer ("shark beer") are directed toward shark conservation. Funds are administered by DoE and totalled £17,641 in 2012. This is an ongoing project with proceeds received on a quarterly basis.

Lionfish control fund (initiated in 2009, ongoing). This grant was originally funded by JNCC to support the Department of Environment in initiating control of invasive lionfish. Funds are administered by DoE and totalled £20,000 in 2009. The DoE continued to operate the fund with support from public donations, maintaining a sustainable long term lionfish control programme.

Project Details

19. Project Outcome Statement: Describe what the project aims to achieve and what will change as a result. (50 words max)

This project will assess socioeconomic drivers in the demand for turtle meat in Cayman including the role of the Cayman Turtle Farm in meeting this demand and the vulnerability of wild stocks to illegal take. Resulting knowledge will be used to inform management and reduce threats to wild marine turtles.

20. Background: (What is the current situation and the problem that the project will address? How will it address this problem? What key OT Government priorities and themes will it address? (200 words max)

The Cayman Islands once hosted one of the world's largest turtle rookeries. For 500 years, turtle fishing underpinned economy and culture: the turtle is a national emblem enshrined in the flag and currency and turtle meat is considered a national dish.

Nesting was nearly extirpated through harvesting so in 1968 a commercial captive breeding operation – Cayman Turtle Farm – was established to provide meat, reduce demand on wild stocks, and replenish them through releases. The farm is now owned by the CI government and legal protections for wild turtles were instituted in 1978.

Wild stocks are recovering (1998: <30 nests; 2012: >300 nests) with some evidence of farm turtles released as hatchlings and yearlings returning to nest. However, illegal take threatens population survival and may be incentivised by increased price and decreasing availability of farmed meat. The farm is currently subject to an international campaign to end commercial sale of turtle meat, but despite 30 years of production, impacts on wild stocks have not been evaluated.

This project will provide robust scientific data on the role of the farm and facilitate a decrease in illegal take. It is a priority identified in the National Biodiversity Action Plan and will assist in meeting Aichi targets.

21. Methodology: Describe the methods and approach you will use to achieve your intended outcomes and impact. Provide information on how you will undertake the work (materials and methods) and how you will manage the work (roles and responsibilities, project management tools etc). Give details of any innovative techniques or methods. (500 words max)

Our aim is to conserve a national cultural icon by: 1) assessing the effect of the farm in supply and demand for turtle meat, 2) assessing illegal take and how this may be influenced by supply and demand, 3) establishing management targets to reduce illegal take 4) evaluating the contribution of the farm to wild stocks.

To **determine factors driving illegal take,** a comprehensive socioeconomic survey will be conducted.

Interviews with individuals and restaurants will establish the cultural importance of turtle meat and the influence of price, preference for farmed or wild meat, demand, availability, willingness to pay and environmental awareness in incentivising take of wild turtles. To gain information on the consumption of wild animals, which may not be truthfully reported, we will use methods such as the randomised response technique, which are effective and ethical means of allowing respondents to answer truthfully without fear of repercussions. These data will be used to develop a model which will allow the CI government to understand and manage the role that pricing and availability of farmed meat plays in determining levels of illegal take. In concert, stakeholder meetings will be conducted to raise awareness (funded by DoE) and a workshop will be held to train law enforcers.

To accomplish these goals, a Darwin Project Officer (socioeconomic researcher at post-doctoral level) will be recruited to design and conduct socioeconomic surveys, analyse data, coordinate workshops, and develop an evidence-based management plan. Turtle conservation interns will be recruited to assist with fieldwork and surveys.

To **assess vulnerability of wild stocks to illegal take**, comprehensive night surveys will be used to determine population size and identify nesting turtles that originated from the farm. Turtles released from the farm as hatchlings or yearlings can be identified through flipper tags or living tags (carapace markings) applied before release. In 2013, a pilot study funded by the CI Governor's Office demonstrated the feasibility of night surveys to determine farm contribution to wild stocks: by documenting living tags we were able to identify turtles released from the farm >25 years previously. Darwin funding will allow a full scale study to be implemented. Additionally, tissue samples will be collected from captive farm breeding stock, wild nesting females, and wild hatched nests for genetic analysis using microsatellites to further refine estimates of population size and farm contribution and ultimately allow identification of farm turtles from hatchling tissue. Daytime nesting beach surveys have been conducted by DoE since 1998; however, the Department lacks resources to expand this work to conduct comprehensive night and genetic studies which are essential for assessing the contribution of the farm and vulnerability of the population to illegal take.

Clear milestones will facilitate monitoring and evaluation through steering group meetings and **careful consideration has been given to sustainability**. To reduce illegal take of marine turtles, stakeholders will be engaged and a clear deliverable management plan/model will be presented to facilitate decision making. Overall, this project will result in integration across sectors (government, the Cayman Turtle Farm, traditional users, CI community) and allow the Government of the Cayman Islands to understand and manage the supply and demand for turtle meat and the role of the farm.

22. How does this project:
a) Deliver against the priority issues identified in the assessment criteria
b) Demonstrate technical excellence in its delivery
c) Demonstrate a clear pathway to impact in the OT(s)
(500 words max)

a) Priority issues:

This project will contribute to **species conservation** – facilitating recovery of Cayman Islands turtles. **Long term outcomes are:** 1) generation of an evidence-based management plan to reduce illegal take 2) new biological data which will allow management of nesting populations. These outcomes are **measurable** through decreasing incidents of illegal take and increasing nest counts documented in long-term monitoring, as well as achievement of deliverables.

The project will contribute to priorities identified in the **Environment Charter** and help the Cayman Islands and UK meet obligations under **multi-lateral environmental agreements** (CBD, CITES, CMS). It will assist in meeting **Aichi targets**, particularly A4 implementing plans for sustainable production and consumption, B7 managing aquaculture sustainably, C12 preventing extinction of threatened species, and E18 respecting the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and it is a priority identified in the Darwin-Funded Cayman Islands **National Biodiversity Action Plan**.

b) Technical excellence:

The project will make use of high commitment to the project within DoE, community enthusiasm, and UK technical expertise to facilitate strategic evidence-based management, **embedding processes for good environmental decision-making** into standard practice.

The project has a clear purpose of ensuring species survival and preserving local traditions. Partnerships and outputs are **practical** (designed to underpin management efforts) and **well-planned and achievable** (SMART). **Deliverables** will include at least one **scientific publication** and an **evidence-based management plan.**

Risks to the project (ambitious scope, staff-turnover, high operating costs, hurricanes) **have been identified** and steps taken to mitigate impacts: training will include junior and senior staff so skills are transferred in depth, high matched funding has been obtained, and DoE has a disaster management plan (off-site data backup and securing assets).

A monitoring and evaluation plan is in place: progress and change will be measured through achievement of SMART milestones (e.g. >100 interviews, two field seasons, genetic analysis of >500 samples, workshops, 50% reduction in illegal take). The exit strategy is well-defined: achievement of targets will mark a clear endpoint but leave a legacy of cooperation and capacity and a guide for decision-making.

Finally, the project offers **excellent value for money** due to existing infrastructure and extensive commitment of project partners and the community.

c) Impact:

This project has a high level of **local ownership**, evidenced by the bid being put forward by an **OT government** to address issues which have been internally identified as **highest priority.**

DoE has a **demonstrated capacity** to complete ambitious research and management projects, with a committed and highly trained staff experienced in research, policy, and public consultation. The department has extensive experience adhering to deadlines and meeting or exceeding requirements for deliverables in international grants.

Due to local ownership within the OT government and strong community support, the project is anticipated to be very successful in facilitating turtle population recovery. Nesting population protection will **benefit local people** by contributing to eco-tourism and the economy while ensuring **sustainable utilisation** of a cultural tradition which has persisted for 500 years. More widely, it provides a **case study** on the role of sound socioeconomic science for other OTs where turtle consumption and illegal take persist. Overall, the project will **increase local capacity**, both within and outside of government, and outcomes will be **sustained** through the production of a robust evidence-based management plan to inform current and future decisions.

23. Who are the **stakeholders** for this project and how have they been consulted (include local or host government support/engagement where relevant)? Briefly describe what support they will provide and how the project will engage with them. (250 words max)

Partnerships have been established with stakeholders (e.g. a working relationship has been developed between DoE and the farm, which will allow completion of the socioeconomic evaluation and genetic study) and DoE makes extensive use of community volunteers. Where possible, local volunteers and organisations will be involved at every stage of the project fieldwork, training, and awareness activities.

Once the project is underway we will consult with the wider public, in particular traditional users, the tourism sector, young people, divers, and others who are actively involved in the natural environment. Additionally, we will explore potential linkages with initiatives elsewhere in the UK overseas

territories/Caribbean.

See attached letters of support from:

- The **Cayman Islands Department of Environment** and the **University of Exeter** – assuring a high level of institutional support and commitment to the project.
- **Cayman Islands Governor's Office** – supporting this effort as a priority project.
- **Cayman Turtle Farm** – guaranteeing their support.
- **The Cayman Islands Tourism Association** – highlighting the need for this project and the support of their members.
- **The Marine Turtle Specialist Group (MTSG)** – discussing the contribution of this project to international marine turtle management.

These letters show that key players are keen for the project to take place and will be receptive to initiating or continuing partnerships with the DoE.

24. Institutional Capacity: Describe the implementing organisation's capacity (and that of partner organisations where relevant) to deliver the project.
(500 words max)

DoE will be the lead partner in the Cayman Islands. As the main agency responsible for biodiversity and conservation, DoE works to facilitate responsible management and sustainable use of the natural environment through environmental protection and conservation programmes and strategies.

DoE has monitored Cayman Islands marine turtle populations since 1998, and was the lead in-country partner for the Defra-FCO funded 'Turtles in the Caribbean Overseas Territories' (TCOT) project, the OTEP funded 'Turtles in the UK Overseas Territories' (TUKOT) project, a NERC funded investigation of hawksbill diving behaviour, a National Fish and Wildlife Foundation turtle project, and a Darwin grant which included development of a marine turtle Species Action Plan (as a component of the National Biodiversity Action Plan). Over the past 14 years, the Department has become a centre of excellence for Caribbean marine turtle science, maintaining active research programmes and producing many scientific publications. DoE has an excellent track record of community involvement and outreach, including working with key stakeholder groups such as fishers, traditional users, and coastal property owners and residents. This includes consultations, public talks, press releases, and an active and dynamic volunteer base (facilitated by email lists, newsletters, social media, and events).

The University of Exeter team will include Dr Annette Broderick and Prof Brendan Godley. Broderick and Godley have worked on marine turtle conservation since 1989, publishing >150 papers. They have been involved in biodiversity conservation in the Cayman Islands since 1998, when they assisted DoE in establishing the marine turtle research programme. Since then, their involvement in the Cayman Islands has further developed marine turtle research through the TCOT and TUKOT projects and conservation of threatened species and habitats through the Darwin Initiative project – leading to the request by DoE for them to contribute their academic expertise and experience managing multi-disciplinary grants to the current project. Dr Janet Fisher is an environmental social scientist interested in the interfaces between conservation, climate change and human development. She has expertise in environmental economics and commodity chain analysis, suited to understanding the drivers of illegal turtle exploitation and appropriate incentives to reduce harvesting. She also has expertise in public participation and balancing conflicting stakeholder interests in environmental policy.

25. Expected Outputs			
Output (*what will be achieved e.g. capacity building, action plan produced, alien species controlled)*	Indicators of success *(how we will know if its been achieved e.g. number of people trained/ trees planted)*	Status before project/baseline data *(what is the situation before the project starts?)*	Source of information *(where will you obtain the information to demonstrate if the indicator has been achieved?)*
1. Reduced incentive for illegal take of marine turtles	Generation of an evidence-based management plan to inform economic policy, enforcement, and awareness	Current processes are operating in absence of a robust evidence base. This will allow a SMART target of 50% reduction in illegal take to be set.	Management plan document, associated press releases and media outputs
2. Assessment of wild nesting population vulnerability and contribution of the Cayman Turtle Farm	Accurate estimate of population size and Cayman Turtle Farm contribution in 2 seasons (2014 and 2015)	DoE has lacked the capacity for comprehensive night monitoring and genetic analysis	Database of tagged turtles; results of genetic analysis (>500 samples) by the end of the project).

26. Expected Outcomes: How will each of the outputs contribute to the overall outcome of the project? (100 words max)

Illegal take is a critical threat to marine turtles in the Cayman Islands. However, current management is conducted in the absence of scientific data on socioeconomics of turtle meat sales and the contribution of the farm to wild stocks.

The overall outcome of the project – conserving a national cultural icon, Cayman Islands marine turtles – will be achieved by producing and implementing an evidence-based management plan, thus reducing incentives for illegal take of wild turtles and the ease which wild meat can be assimilated into local markets.

Target: 50% reduction of current level of illegal take by 2016.

27. Main Activities	
Output 1	Activities or tasks to be done to deliver the outputs. Include activities on open access information sharing and collaboration with other OTs
1.1	Socioeconomic assessment of the cultural value and drivers of turtle meat consumption and the prevalence of illegal take (Key milestones: methods training workshop Jun 2014, >100 interviews completed by Nov 2014, analysis completed March 2015)
1.2	Presentation of socioeconomic results so Government and the Cayman Turtle Farm have valid information on the role of turtle meat production in increasing or decreasing pressures on wild stocks (Key milestone: presentation of policy paper to CI Government Sep 2015).
1.3	A collaborative approach is developed to protect nesting female turtles (Key milestones: Workshop for DoE, Police, Tourism, and Customs Oct 2015)

1.4	Members of the public are aware of the need to reduce illegal take of marine turtles (Key milestones: educational materials produced and distributed, press releases, public consultation and recruitment of volunteers May 2014 and May 2015)
1.5	Management and Evaluation: (Steering group meetings April, July, Oct, Jan 2014; April, July, Oct, Jan 2015).
Output 2	
2.1	Quantification of marine turtle nesting population size and the farm contribution to assess vulnerability to illegal take (Key milestones: recruitment of interns for turtle nesting night survey fieldwork May 2014, May 2015, completion of two night survey field seasons 2014 and 2015).
2.2	Completion of genetic analysis of >500 samples (Jan 2016).
2.3	Management and evaluation (Steering group meetings April, July, Oct, Jan 2014; April, July, Oct, Jan 2015)

28. Risks			
Description of the risk	Likelihood the event will happen (H/M/L)	Impact of the event on the project (H/M/L)	Steps the project will take to reduce or manage the risk
Staff turn-over	L	L	Unlike many states in the Caribbean, within the Cayman Islands turnover of biodiversity staff is very low. To maximise institutional memory, all relevant staff in the CI will participate in training and fieldwork so that skills and knowledge are transferred in depth. This includes those in middle and senior management as well as those in posts usually expected to conduct fieldwork.
Ambitious aims	L	M	In this proposal, we aim to conduct a complex socioeconomic survey involving multiple stakeholders, conduct an ambitious night nesting beach monitoring programme, and carry out genetic analysis on >500 samples, with the purpose of collecting data which will guide future management efforts. Illegal marine turtle take is a large and intractable problem in many jurisdictions worldwide, but we feel that we have identified concrete, tractable steps which will make a large impact and create a lasting legacy.

Operating costs in the Cayman Islands could be prohibitive	L	L	The lead partner operates in the Cayman Islands; we have identified the fiscal challenges of operating in the jurisdiction and budgeted accordingly. Value for money will be increased by the tremendous goodwill for the project within the community, which will lead to in-kind donations.
Natural Disaster	L	M	We cannot rule out the possibility of a major hurricane impacting the project through loss of infrastructure. In the event of a natural disaster we would expect to discuss and perhaps renegotiate project timeframes. However, the CI government and DoE have demonstrated their ability to rapidly recover and rebound after the impact of Hurricane Ivan – resuming normal operations and initiating the highly successful Darwin Initiative project 'In Ivan's Wake' only months after the impact of this devastating Category 5 hurricane.

29. Sustainability: How will the project ensure benefits are sustained after the project has come to a close? If the project requires ongoing maintenance or monitoring, who will do this? (200 words max)

Project legacy will be achieved through:

1) **Improvements to local capacity**
2) **Lasting changes in management and policy, allowing decisions to be based on sound science**

This project will develop public sector capacity to manage sustainable use of natural resources. Creation of a management plan for sustainable use of farmed turtle and protection of wild stocks will engage stakeholders and create a legacy of evidence-based environmental management.

DoE has a track record of institutionalisation of training from overseas specialists: for example, the long-term marine turtle research programme was initiated by an FCO grant and has completed 14 seasons of work. The coordinator of the DoE marine turtle programme (Blumenthal) completed her PhD as a Caymanian student funded under the Darwin Project 'In Ivan's Wake'. She is now the leader in this bid, which aims to further develop the DoE's marine turtle research and management and facilitate marine turtle population increase – a clear legacy effect of prior investment by HMG.

30. Monitoring & Evaluation: How will the project be monitored and who will be responsible? Will there be any independent assessment of progress and impact? When will this take place, and by whom? (250 words max)

The progress of the project against key milestones and indicators will be appraised by a Steering Group made up of the partner organisations, with updates and input from stakeholders. Minutes from these meetings will be circulated with any necessary actions indicated.

There will be regular communication among project partners, facilitated by email, conference calls via Skype, and the field presence of the Project Officer in the Cayman Islands. The Project Officer will report to the Steering Group quarterly.

Management targets are quantifiable and time-specific to allow objective assessment and scientific outputs will be independently assessed via drafting of manuscripts and submission for peer review.

A number of key indicators that will show the progress of the project: these include the appointment of key staff (Project Officer, interns), training events, completion of field seasons/sampling (with associated metrics such as number of turtles tagged and number of samples collected), completion of genetic analysis, workshops, generation of the evidence-based management plan, and production of materials for public education. All of these are clearly described (with goals and deadlines) in the implementation timetable, which will allow us to assess how the project is progressing.

Where possible all of these indicators have been made SMART since the original application.

The project completion report is after the project is over and is linked to the final payment.

31. Financial controls: Please demonstrate your capacity to manage the level of funds you are requesting. (Who is responsible for managing the funds? What experience do they have? What arrangements are in place for auditing expenditure?)

DoE Administrative and Financial staff manage the annual Departmental budget and administer external grants. As an OT Government Department, DoE expenditure falls under the Ministry of Financial Services, Commerce, and Environment and auditing is conducted by the Cayman Islands Office of the Auditor General. However, for the purposes of the Darwin Plus, an independent audit of project expenditure would be arranged.

Please complete the separate Excel spreadsheet which provides the Budget for this application. Some of the questions earlier and below refer to the information in this spreadsheet.

NB: Please state all costs by financial year (1 April to 31 March) and in GBP. **Budgets submitted in other currencies will not be accepted.** Use current prices – and include anticipated inflation, as appropriate, up to 3% per annum. The Darwin Initiative cannot agree any increase in grants once awarded.

33. Value for Money

Please explain how you worked out your budget and how you will provide value for money through managing a cost effective and efficient project. You should also discuss any significant assumptions you have made when working out your budget.

(200 words max)

This project is cost-effective, presenting a strategic plan to address threats standing in the way of recovery a national emblem, Cayman marine turtles, within the budget framework.

DoE has a very small research staff, without socioeconomic expertise and with broad responsibilities for national biodiversity research and management. Therefore, a Darwin Project Officer will be recruited to design, conduct, and analyse surveys and coordinate other aspects of the project – adding value in terms of scope and impact. The University of Exeter is best placed to recruit a post-doctoral social scientist as Project Officer and UoE are supporting this project by waiving all overhead on this post and on the time of other staff.

Ambitious aims are only possible due to the commitment of DoE and the University of Exeter through matched funding (>£245,000; >60% of the total project costs is in kind). While travel and subsistence costs in the Cayman Islands are high, the T&S budget strategically minimises expenses wherever possible and ongoing work of DoE in the community has resulted in tremendous support for turtle conservation, which will provide excellent value for money e.g. through donations and volunteers assisting with fieldwork.

Infrastructure and partnerships are in place to carry out this project successfully and the project will be an excellent **case study** on the role of sound socioeconomic science in species protection for other Caribbean countries.

Provide a project implementation timetable that shows the key milestones in project activities. Complete the following table as appropriate to describe the intended workplan for your project (Q1 starting April 2014)

	Activity	No of Months	Year 1				Year 2				Year 3			
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Output 1	Reduced illegal take through creation of an evidence-based management plan													
1.1	Socioeconomic assessment of the cultural value and drivers of turtle meat consumption (Key milestones: a. methods training workshop for 10 participants by June 2014, b. interviews completed Nov 2014, c. analysis completed March 2015)	9	X	X	X	X								
1.2	Presentation of socioeconomic results so Government and the Cayman Turtle Farm have valid information on the role of turtle meat production in increasing or decreasing pressures on wild stocks (Key milestone: presentation of policy paper to CI Government Sep 2015).	3						X						
1.3	A collaborative approach is developed to protect nesting female turtles (Key milestones: Workshops for key stakeholders DoE, Police, Tourism, and Customs Oct 2015).	3							X					
1.4	Members of the public are aware of the need to reduce illegal take of marine turtles (Key milestones: press releases, public consultation and recruitment of volunteers (May 2014 and May 2015).	24	X				X							
1.5	Management and Evaluation: (Steering group meetings April, July, Oct, Jan 2014; April, July, Oct, Jan 2015).	24	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
Output 2	Assessment of nesting population vulnerability and													

	contribution of the farm.													
2.1	Quantification of marine turtle nesting population size and the farm contribution to assess vulnerability to illegal take (Key milestones: a. Recruitment of 4 interns for turtle nesting night survey fieldwork May 2014, May 2015). b. Completion of 2 night survey field seasons by Nov 2014, Nov 2015)	12	X	X	X		X	X	X					
2.2	Genetic analysis following 2014/2015 field seasons of >500 samples (Jan 2016)	3								X				
2.3	Management and Evaluation: (Steering group meetings April, July, Oct, Jan 2014; April, July, Oct, Jan 2015).	24	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				

CERTIFICATION

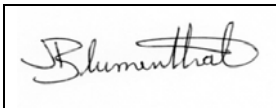
On behalf of the Cayman Islands Government Department of Environment

I apply for a grant of £149,904 in respect of **all expenditure** to be incurred during the lifetime of this project based on the activities and dates specified in the above application.

I certify that, to the best of our knowledge and belief, the statements made by us in this application are true and the information provided is correct. I am aware that this application form will form the basis of the project schedule should this application be successful. (*This form should be signed by an individual authorised by the lead institution to submit applications and sign contracts on their behalf.)*

I enclose CVs for project principals and letters of support. As discussed with your office, as an OT Government, the Department of Environment is **exempt from the requirement to provide audited financial statements.**

Name (block capitals)	Janice Blumenthal
Position in the organisation	Research Officer

Signed  **Date:** 23 September 2013

Application Checklist for submission

	Check
Have you **read the Guidance Notes**?	**X**
Have you **checked the Darwin Plus website** immediately prior to submission to ensure there are no late updates?	**X**
Have you provided **actual start and end dates** for your project?	**X**
Have you provided your **budget based on UK government financial years** i.e. 1 April – 31 March and in GBP?	**X**
Have you checked that your **budget is complete**, correctly adds up and that you have included the correct final total on the top page of the application?	**X**
Has your application been **signed by a suitably authorised individual**? (clear electronic or scanned signatures are acceptable in the email)	**X**
Have you included a **1 page CV for all the principals**?	**X**
Have you included a **letter of support from the main partner(s) organisations**?	**X**
Have you included a **copy of the last 2 years' annual report and accounts** for the lead organisation? An electronic link to a website is acceptable.	**X**

Once you have answered the questions above, please submit the application, not later than midnight GMT at the end of Monday 23 September 2013 to Darwin-Applications@ltsi.co.uk using the first few words of the project title **as the subject of your email**. If you are e-mailing supporting documentation separately please include in the subject line an indication of the number of e-mails you are sending (e.g. whether the e-mail is 1 of 2, 2 of 3 etc). You are not required to send a hard copy.

DATA PROTECTION ACT 1998: Applicants for grant funding must agree to any disclosure or exchange of information supplied on the application form (including the content of a declaration or undertaking) which the Department considers necessary for the administration, evaluation, monitoring and publicising of Darwin Plus. Application form data will also be held by contractors dealing with Darwin Plus monitoring and evaluation. It is the responsibility of applicants to ensure that personal data can be supplied to the Department for the uses described in this paragraph. A completed application form will be taken as an agreement by the applicant and the grant/award recipient also to the following:- putting certain details (i.e. name, contact details and location of project work) on the Darwin Initiative and Defra/FCO/DFID websites (details relating to financial awards will not be put on the websites if requested in writing by the grant/award recipient); using personal data for the Darwin Initiative postal circulation list; and sending data to Governor's Offices outside the UK, including posts outside the European Economic Area. Confidential information relating to the project or its results and any personal data may be released on request, including under the Environmental Information Regulations, the code of Practice on Access to Government Information and the Freedom of Information Act 2000.