



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs



Foreign &
Commonwealth
Office



Department
for International
Development



DPLUS028

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)	Assessing the conservation status of the Atlantic Yellow-nosed Albatross.
2. UK OT(s) involved	Tristan da Cunha
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	£51,370	£30,711	£82,080
7. Total value of Co-funding	£11,386	£11,728	£23,114
8. Total Project Budget (all funders)	£62,756	£42,439	£105,194
9. Names of Co-funders	Government of Tristan da Cunha, RSPB		

10. Lead applicant organisation (responsible for delivering outputs, reporting and managing funds)	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
11. Project Leader name	Clare Stringer
12. Email address	clare.stringer@rspb.org.uk
13. Postal address	The Lodge, Sandy, Beds. SG19 2DL UK
14. Contact details: Phone/Fax/Skype	

15. Type of organisation of Lead applicant. Place an x in the relevant box.								
OT GOVT	UK GOVT	UK NGO	x	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	Project Partner 2
Surname	Stringer	Glass	Vickery
Forename(s)	Clare	Trevor	Juliet
Post held	Head of UK Overseas Territories Unit	Head of Department,	Head of International Conservation Science
Institution (if different to above)	RSPB	Government of Tristan da Cunha	RSPB
Department	International Country Programmes	Tristan Conservation Department	Conservation Science
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
DPLUS005	Clare Stringer	Sustainable management of the marine environment and resources of Tristan da Cunha
19-011	Ian Barber	Conserving the critically endangered Bengal Florican - a Terai flagship species
19-012	Dr Rob Sheldon	Saving the critically endangered spoon-billed sandpiper from global extinction
19-028	Dr Richard Cuthbert	Addressing the threat of invasive species in Pitcairn Overseas Territory
18-008	Dr Juliet Vickery	Trans-boundary solutions to the Asian vulture crisis
18-017	Dr Richard Cuthbert	Developing knowledge to eradicate house mice from UK OT islands

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 contracts 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)

Deleted as not applicable

Project Details

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

We will obtain robust population estimates of Atlantic yellow-nosed Albatross (AYNA) on Tristan da Cunha (TDC) and build local capacity to provide standardised monitoring data on population trends.

By project end we will provide a global population estimate for the AYNA and have established a TDC population trend monitoring programme.

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)

Tristan da Cunha (TDC) is thought to hold around two-thirds of the global population of the Endangered Atlantic Yellow-nosed Albatross (AYNA) but there has been no population census since 1974 (estimate of 10,000-30,000 pairs). In April 2013, the Advisory Committee of the Agreement for the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (ACAP) identified the need to secure a robust estimate of this population as soon as possible to allow a global population estimate to be made and clarify the species' conservation status.

At the same time, the Tristan Conservation Department (TCD) are keen to expand their existing AYNA monitoring programme to allow ongoing assessment of population trends, which combined with the full census, would allow the conservation community to observe whether existing conservation measures are achieving conservation targets for this species, and whether other actions are needed to prevent population declines.

This project will carry out a population census of AYNA on TDC and generate a global population estimate. We will also support TCD to establish a TDC population trend monitoring programme which will provide ongoing assessments of population trends.

The project supports the goals of the new "Biodiversity Action Plan for the Tristan da Cunha Islands" (2013, in press).

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)

Census of AYNA population on TDC

Most AYNA nests on Tristan are located on rugged and inaccessible terrain that prevents regular ground-based survey. The population will therefore be surveyed from sequential overlapping aerial photographs taken from a helicopter flying low altitude circuits over the island. These will be merged using software to form photomontages following standard protocols and capitalising on recent advances in imaging quality and processing. Apparently occupied nests can be relatively accurately counted from these montages on-screen

The surveys will be conducted during the incubation period when nest occupation levels are at their highest (September/October). This period coincides with the availability of a helicopter from a regularly visiting ship (Agulhas II) in early October. The surveys will take approximately 4 hours of flying time and will require good visibility levels. Surveys will be coordinated by TCD and supported by RSPB scientists. The population estimate obtained from photographs will be ground-truthed by a TCD/RSPB field survey team. The output will be an estimate of the total breeding AYNA on Tristan da Cunha in 2014.

Calculating global population estimate for AYNA

Numbers of AYNA have been recently assessed at Gough (2004, 5300 pairs), and Nightingale (2007, 4000 pairs + 250 pairs at Middle and Stoltenhoff). The population at Inaccessible has not been assessed

since 1983 (1,100 pairs) and efforts will be made to visit Inaccessible and update this estimate during the project period. Trend information for Gough and Nightingale indicates the population at those two islands is currently stable. An updated population estimate on Tristan will allow a relatively accurate estimate of the global population to be made.

Developing a TDA population trend monitoring programme

The existing TCD AYNA annual monitoring scheme will be reviewed by TCD and a RSPB scientist to identify new approaches to methodology that would improve its accuracy and cost-effectiveness. At present, only two small colonies comprising less than 1% of the island's estimated population are monitored; this is too limited for a reliable trend to be established. The aerial photographs will be reviewed to see if there are additional areas suitable for regular monitoring. TCD staff will receive training from the RSPB scientist to improve the effectiveness of the monitoring scheme and the quality of the data collected so that continued annual monitoring of selected colonies will provide reliable population trend data in the future. TCD already carries out extremely effective monitoring of Northern Rockhopper penguins, and by the conclusion of this project, albatross monitoring should be similarly robust. The relatively inexperienced field workers who are responsible for albatross monitoring will be sufficiently skilled, technically, to take greater leadership in monitoring work from survey design and deployment through to analysis and reporting including scientific publications.

In addition RSPB scientists will endeavour to expand the ringing programme of AYNA. Subsequent data from individually marked birds can, in the long term, provide unique demographic data particularly in relation to survival rates. These in turn can provide insight as to the causes and underlying mechanisms driving population trends.

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) Deliver against the priority issues identified in the assessment criteria

This project will contribute towards the long-term strategic vision of the Biodiversity Action Plan for the Tristan da Cunha Islands *"To enable the people of Tristan da Cunha, in partnership with organisations from around the world and particularly the UK and South Africa, to conserve their globally important and unique biodiversity for the benefit of current and future generations"*.

The project will contribute towards Tristan da Cunha meeting its obligations under ACAP, and the Convention on Biological Diversity [Aichi targets 12 & 19]. It will deliver against the Biodiversity Action Plan for the Tristan da Cunha Islands (2013, in press) which includes a specific action in relation to a census of AYNA (action 6.4.5). It will contribute to meeting the commitments in Tristan's Environment Charter (Commitment 2 – Ensure the protection of key [...] species).

- b) Demonstrate technical excellence in its delivery

The census methodology to be used (aerial photography of albatross colonies) is relatively new in its application in the UKOTs. It was successfully used in determining the conservation status of black-browed albatross in the Falkland Islands. Integral to the project is the potential to expand and develop biodiversity monitoring skills on TDC. RSPB conservation scientists have a wealth of experience in monitoring and surveillance of bird populations including seabirds and have been involved in field research in TDC for over a decade. Training in skills relating to survey design, implementation analysis and reporting will enable the team on Tristan da Cunha, to lead on understanding and conserving their own wildlife. The project will lead to a peer-reviewed publication with local and UK-based co-authors.

- c) Demonstrate a clear pathway to impact in the OT(s)

TDC and RSPB have been working together since 2002, and Trevor Glass identified the need for the project in June 2013. The activities to complete the census are very achievable – the only risk being that on the days that the helicopter is available the visibility is too poor to obtain photographs of sufficient

definition to identify albatross nests. To mitigate against this we have included two field seasons within the project. The activities to establish the population trend monitoring programme are also practical and achievable and have been planned using our existing experience of developing a similar sustainable TDC monitoring programme for Rockhopper penguins. The RSPB will be providing long term ongoing financial and technical support to TDC Conservation Department which will support annual surveys. Based on seabird work elsewhere in the world we anticipate a full census would be required every 10 years unless the monitoring suggests a marked decline in the sub set of sites covered The annual monitoring will allow the Conservation Department and RSPB to identify when a further census is needed and plan and secure the necessary resources as required.

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)**

The host Government of Tristan da Cunha is the main stakeholder in the project and Conservation Department staff have been fully involved in the planning of this project. The Conservation Department has monitored the AYNA population since 2005 on an ongoing basis but the areas monitored are too small to estimate a population trend. With ongoing support from the RSPB this monitoring will be expanded and will play a central role in the project.

TDC Conservation Department staff will partner with RSPB staff in the planning of and execution of the census activities, gaining experience in aerial photography and the analysis of the images and ground truthing techniques from the RSPB scientists. In establishing the TDA population trend monitoring programme Conservation Department staff will again work alongside RSPB scientists in carrying out the population surveys, developing skills in bird population survey, and survey data analysis techniques. The project team will also work together to improve the monitoring procedure, techniques and timetable for future implementation. A member of the Conservation Department will present the TDC census data and global population estimate to members of ACAP at their next global meeting.

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

Project management experience

The RSPB is Europe's largest conservation NGO and has successfully delivered many Darwin and OTEP projects that have provided high quality scientific information on conservation issues as well as direct conservation action. We have strong financial management systems and processes in place, including a dedicated international project finance team. The project will be included in the ongoing TDC-RSPB work programme and progress in achieving project outputs and impact will be monitored and reviewed with the long established management processes including quarterly review discussions, financial and timesheet review, and an annual written report.

The TDC Conservation Department have successfully partnered RSPB and other organisations in a range of projects since the Department was created in 2009. The team has experience managing OTEP projects with a value of up to £50,000, as well as managing their own annual budget and the Tristan Environment Fund. The Tristan Conservation Department is currently managing an RSPB-funded project relating to follow-on work from the wreck of the *Oliiva* in 2011, with a total project value of £79,000.

Specific technical skills and experience

The RSPB has a long history of leading the development of bird monitoring methods both in the UK and internationally. The Society's scientists design and implement bespoke surveys for rare birds (e.g. breeding raptors and waders UK's uplands and Critically Endangered species such as Spoon Billed sandpiper and Bengal Florican).

In the UK RSPB led the production of the annual report on 'the State of the UK's Birds' which details the status and trends of the UK's birds including those of the UKOTs. These data are derived from a wide

range of surveys and census techniques in a diverse set of habitat types. The RSPB has also played a lead role in the national censuses of seabirds and the ongoing annual Seabird Monitoring Programme. As part of this, RSPB scientists have pioneered novel monitoring techniques in remote locations through use of cameras and sound recording.

Internationally, RSPB scientists have established monitoring programmes, using generic multi-species and specific single species surveys, in dozens of countries. Information from the UKOTs is derived almost entirely from surveys in which RSPB has supported with technical expertise or through financial contributions. RSPB scientists have been monitoring the endemic bird species on Gough for over 10 years including the Tristan Albatross and a range of other seabird species.

As noted above the TCD has been monitoring the AYNA and other seabird species for more than seven years. RSPB has worked with the Government of TDC since 2000 and has provided TCD with core funding support since 2009

25. Expected Outputs

Output (<i>what will be achieved e.g. capacity building, action plan produced, alien species controlled</i>)	Indicators of success (<i>how we will know if its been achieved e.g. number of people trained/ trees planted</i>)	Status before project/baseline data (<i>what is the situation before the project starts?</i>)	Source of information (<i>where will you obtain the information to demonstrate if the indicator has been achieved?</i>)
1. Obtain the first Global population estimate of the endangered Atlantic yellow-nosed Albatross.	-Aerial survey of TDC AYNA population completed October 2014 -Ground truthing of aerial surveys completed December 2014. -Reports on global population estimate produced March 2015.	Global population estimate not possible because current population of AYNA on TDC unknown.	-Aerial survey report. -Ground truthing report. -Population estimate report. -Peer-reviewed paper published on population estimate.
2. Establish a TDC AYNA population trend monitoring scheme that is realistic for the available capacity and gives reliable population trend data.	-Monitoring plan revised in January 2015 on TDC. -Staff trained throughout project period. -Ground surveys completed to highest standard in 2015 and 2016. -Chicks ringed Feb-March 2015 and 2016	Monitoring carried out, but annual ground counts provide insufficient data to gauge population trend.	-Revised monitoring plan. -Survey reports and data used in population estimate.

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

Obtaining a robust population estimate of AYNA on TDC will enable us to provide a global population estimate for the AYNA (combining existing data for Nightingale, Gough and Inaccessible with the TDC estimate). Building TDC's capacity to provide standardised monitoring data on the TDC AYNA population will enable TDC to provide data on trends in the TDC AYNA population in the long term. The robust population estimate and the ability to measure trends in the population will enable the conservation community to assess the conservation status of this ACAP-listed species and meet Tristan's obligations under ACAP and the CBD.

27. Main Activities

Activities or tasks to be done to deliver the outputs. Include activities on open access information

sharing and collaboration with other OTs	
Output 1	
1.1	Aerial photography survey to map Atlantic yellow-nosed Albatross nesting colonies on TDC (and Nightingale and Inaccessible Islands if time allows).
1.2	Analyse aerial photographs using established methods to census TDC AYNA population.
1.3	Ground truth population estimates at predetermined sample areas.
1.4	Population estimate analysis and report produced and published.
Output 2	
2.1	Review existing monitoring scheme and sites to identify improvements to allow scheme to deliver standardised quality population trend data.
2.2	Review aerial data to see if other sites could be suitable for long term monitoring.
2.3	Recommend modifications to current monitoring scheme to match needs and capacity.
2.4	TDC staff trained to deliver modified monitoring scheme (GPS handling, data recording, survey methods)
2.5	Atlantic yellow-nosed Albatross chicks ringed on Tristan da Cunha and Nightingale Islands to support monitoring.

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
Weather and logistics affect breeding season, arrival of boat/helicopter and accessibility of the colonies by foot or boat.	M	H	<p>Small logistical delays due to weather can be accommodated by adjusting timings.</p> <p>By running the project over two years, we have two opportunities to complete the aerial survey if a large variation in breeding season occurs/poor weather conditions prevail in the first year.</p>

<p>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)</p> <p>Project benefits will be sustained by the RSPB and TCD in their continuing partnership. The RSPB supports two core posts at the Tristan da Cunha Conservation Department, held by young Tristanians who currently lead on albatross monitoring. The RSPB will continue to support these posts and to invest in skills-development for conservation on Tristan.</p> <p>Ongoing monitoring of the AYNA will be carried out by the TCD in a more efficient and improved way.</p> <p>The project is designed to complement existing capacities, budget and programmes of the TCD and ultimately to support the quality of the work and to further their conservation goals. Key to this is working with local capacity, local staff and ensuring that their skills are utilised to the full and enhanced through on the job training where possible. The project will also seek ways of making monitoring of the AYNA and other seabirds more efficient and cost effective.</p>
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<p>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)</p> <p>Monitoring and evaluation will be underpinned by detailed work plans prepared by project partners</p>

collaboratively. This is particularly important before planning the field work and aerial surveys to ensure we adequately plan for logistics, weather and the remoteness of the work. This will be done by the TCD and the RSPB research biologist.

The RSPB will establish an internal working group to review project progress, comprised of members from the Global Seabird Programme (Cleo Small) who lead on our ACAP engagement; Conservation Science (Juliet Vickery); and Overseas Territories Unit (Clare Stringer). Clare Stringer will maintain close contact with Trevor Glass on TDC to ensure Tristan involvement –we have had a robust working relationship with TDC Conservation Department for the last six years. We will also share experience on techniques through the JNCC's ACAP officer (Anne Saunders) when she takes up her post, as well as with colleagues in the Falkland Islands (Falklands Conservation and New Island Conservation Trust as well as the Falkland Islands Government). We have developed a Logical Framework for the project and will monitor progress against indicators included at outcome and output level (as listed under question 25)

Key activities to be monitored per output will be:

Output 1. Progress with aerial photography; progress with ground-truthing surveys; progress with population estimate report and peer-reviewed paper.

Output 2. Progress with review of existing monitoring scheme; sites visited for expanded scheme; chicks ringed; delivery of local training and training reports.

Reporting/auditing will be carried out as required by Darwin Plus.

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?)

RSPB will manage the funds. The organisation has wide experience of managing project funding and of prioritising spending, and has a good track record with the management of Darwin Projects. The RSPB follows the highest standards of financial accountability and control.

RSPB will sub-grant to the Tristan Government and partners who will produce quarterly financial and technical reports and submit them to the RSPB. RSPB will contract any consultants through the appropriate tendering process that Darwin and RSPB require.

The project will be audited once it has ended and as final reports are submitted.

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)

Value for money will be enhanced through several means:

Procurement of supplies and equipment: Some equipment will be cheaper if purchased in South Africa or the UK, where there is a more competitive market.

Project management process: The project will be managed to the highest financial standards and monitored closely through financial procedures that reflect Darwin+ contractual obligations. A separate project budget will be established by RSPB. Monthly financial reports will be supplied. Regular financial reports (with transactions lists) will be submitted by the project partners and project leader.

Partnership working: Working as much as possible with staff recruited in Tristan is not only essential but will contribute to sustainability by building in-country capacity and providing value for money.

Project collaboration: Where possible we will utilise opportunities to collaborate with other ongoing projects to offer best value for money. The RSPB is already managing a Darwin Plus project at Tristan da Cunha and will seek to maximise any economies of scale available in relation to transport, accommodation, etc.

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		amj	jas	ond	jfm	amj	jas	ond	jfm				
1.1 Aerial photography survey to map Atlantic yellow-nosed Albatross nesting colonies on TDC (and Nightingale and Inaccessible Islands if time allows)	<1		x	x									
1.2 Analyse aerial photographs using established methods to census TDC AYNA population	2			x									
1.3 Ground truth population estimates at predetermined sample areas	4			x	x								
1.4 Population estimate analysis and report produced and published	2					x	x						
Output 2													
2.1 Review existing monitoring scheme and sites to identify improvements to allow scheme to deliver standardised quality population trend data	6			x	x			x	x				
2.2 Review aerial data to see if other sites could be suitable for long term monitoring	<1		x	x									
2.3 Recommend modifications to current monitoring scheme to match needs and capacity	1		x	x				x	x				
2.4 TDC staff trained to deliver modified monitoring scheme (GPS handling, data recording, survey methods)	12		x	x	x		x	x	x				
2.5 Atlantic yellow-nosed Albatross chicks ringed on Tristan da Cunha and Nightingale Islands to support monitoring	2				x				x				

CERTIFICATION

On behalf of the trustees* of The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
(*delete as appropriate)


I apply for a grant of £82,080 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. Our most recent audited/independently verified accounts and annual report are also enclosed/can be found at (delete as appropriate):

Name (block capitals)	CLARE STRINGER
Position in the organisation	Head of UK Overseas Territories Unit

Signed



Date:

23 September 2013

Application Checklist for submission

	Check
Have you read the Guidance Notes ?	Yes
Have you checked the Darwin Plus website immediately prior to submission to ensure there are no late updates?	Yes
Have you provided actual start and end dates for your project?	Yes
Have you provided your budget based on UK government financial years i.e. 1 April – 31 March and in GBP?	Yes
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?	Yes
Has your application been signed by a suitably authorised individual? (clear electronic or scanned signatures are acceptable in the email)	Yes
Have you included a 1 page CV for all the principals?	Yes
Have you included a letter of support from the <u>main</u> partner(s) organisations?	Yes
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.	Link sent

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.