



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs



Foreign &
Commonwealth
Office



Department
for International
Development



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

Submit by Monday 4 August 2014

Please read the Guidance Notes before completing this form
Information to be extracted to the database is highlighted in blue

1. Name and address of Applicant organisation (NB: Notification of results will be by email and addressed to the Project Leader listed in Section 5)

Applicant Organisation:	Marine Conservation Society (MCS)
Address:	Over Ross House, Ross Park,
City and Postcode:	Ross-on-Wye, Herefordshire,HR9 7QQ
Country:	UK
Email:	
Phone:	

2. Name and official address of proposed Darwin Fellow (include email and telephone details where available)

Proposed Fellow:	Luc Clerveaux
Address:	49 Long Bay Road
City and Postcode:	Providenciales
Country:	Turks and Caicos Islands
Email:	
Phone:	
Nationality:	Turks and Caicos Islands

3. Project dates, duration and total Darwin Plus Grant requested

Proposed start date: Sept 2015		Duration of project: 13 Months		End date: Sept 2016	
Darwin funding requested	2015/16 £16,235	2016/17 £ 12,700	Total	£ 28,935	

4. Summary of proposed Fellowship i.e. Outcome and expected outputs and impact

(Max 100 words)

This fellowship will build key technical capacity within the Turks and Caicos Islands' (TCI) Department of Environment & Maritime Affairs (DEMA). Mr Luc Clerveaux, DEMA Environmental Officer, will complete a MSc in Coastal and Marine Resource Management at

the University of Portsmouth. His knowledge and skills in research, planning and policy for marine ecosystem services management will be enhanced and brought back to DEMA. This will bring invaluable benefits to biodiversity conservation in the TCI, particularly through the implementation of key conventions such as CBD, CITES and CMS, and to some extent other Overseas Territories through joint projects and partnerships.

5. Principals in the Project. Please give the details of the individuals from the OT host organisations (and other institutions if relevant) who would be directly involved in supervising/working with the Darwin Fellow. Please provide a one page CV for each of these named individuals and the proposed Fellow. You may copy and paste this table if you need to provide details of more than one overseas project partner.

Details	Project Leader	Other expert	Other expert	Other expert
Surname	Richardson	Manco		
Forename(s)	Peter	Bryan		
Post held	Biodiversity Programme Manager	Project Manager		
Institution	Marine Conservation Society	Department of Environment and Maritime Affairs		
Department	Conservation	Caicos Pine Recovery Project		
Tel/ Skype				
Email				

6. Describe briefly the aims, activities and achievements of the applicant organisation. (Large institutions please note this should describe your unit or department)

(max 150 words)

The Marine Conservation Society (MCS) is the leading UK charity dedicated to protecting our seas, shores and wildlife. We work with the public, government, industry, commercial partners and communities to raise awareness of the serious issues facing our seas. Our role is to educate and inspire people to achieve measurable improvements in the state of our seas, marine biodiversity and fish stocks through changes in government policy, industry practice and individual behaviour, to preserve our oceans for generations to come.

Successful MCS campaigns for UK and Scottish Marine Acts means that historic proposals for the creation of a network of Marine Protected Areas in UK seas is now possible, and the development of this network is well underway across the UK. MCS's collaborative Turks and Caicos Islands Turtle Project, involving extensive stakeholder engagement, was instrumental in the TCI Government adopting recommended regulations to manage the traditional turtle fishery in 2014.

7. Describe briefly the aims, activities and achievements of the proposed Darwin Plus Fellow's employing organisation. (Large institutions please note this should describe your unit or department)

(max 150 words)

The Department of Environment and Maritime Affairs (DEMA) has overall responsibility for environmental stewardship and governance in the Turks and Caicos Islands (TCI). DEMA's main objective is to promote and coordinate sustainable management of the Islands' natural resources.

Activities focus on managing fisheries and other resources, implementing effective protected areas management and balancing conservation and commercial developments/activities through an effective EIA process. Programmes include coral reef and other ecosystem assessment/monitoring; biodiversity mapping; invasive species monitoring; fisheries assessment; coastal water quality analysis; and environmental education and outreach.

Research findings are used to direct policies, legislative improvements and management strategies, such as yearly adjustments to Queen conch Total Allowable Catch limits and fishing seasons. Recently DEMA has successfully enacted stricter regulations for the turtle fishery; implemented a ban on parrotfish capture to aid in reef preservation; and is currently developing artificial lobster habitats to increase productivity whilst diverting pressure from natural habitats.

8. Describe briefly the proposed Fellow's current role within their organisation and what relevance this has to management of the environment and/or climate change in the OTs.

(max 200 words)

The proposed fellow is currently employed as an Environmental Officer in the TCI Government's Department of Environment and Maritime Affairs (DEMA). His main responsibilities include,

- Collection and analysis of all fisheries landings and catch and effort data, giving special attention to Queen Conch (*Strombus gigas*) landings to ensure that annual quota is not exceeded;
- Maintenance of all fisheries exports records;
- Collection of biological and morphological data to aid in determining and/or modelling recruitment levels of Spiny lobster (*Panulirus argus*), Queen conch and other exploited species;
- Collection and analysis of marine water quality samples;
- Monitor beach profiles to measure accretion and/or erosion levels nationally;
- Reef monitoring to assess and identify indicators of stress, bleaching, diseases and mortality;
- Collection and maintenance of dive statistics;
- Monitoring of resident and migratory bird population;
- Participate and conduct presentations and other awareness programmes on the protected areas;
- Serve as secretary to the CITES Scientific Authority for TCI;
- Prepare annual ICCAT report.
- Assistance with other relevant research projects where appropriate, e.g. the Turks and Caicos Islands Turtle Project biological research.

9. Provide a concept note on the Darwin Fellowship. This should include:

9a. A clear outline of the aim and objectives of the Fellowship

(Max 300 words)

The Department of Environment and Maritime Affairs (DEMA) continues to be challenged by the limited technical capacity of staff, most of whom only have introductory knowledge of conservation science. This is compounded with high staff turnover rates, which decreases the productivity, efficiency as well as institutional memory when positions are left vacant. Long-term research and monitoring projects are also negatively impacted, as there is no overlap between incoming and outgoing staff to nurture continuation. Technical and junior staff continue to take on more responsibilities to assist in the environmental conservation and management of scarce natural resources of the TCI.

This fellowship aims to provide a capacity building opportunity for a long-term technical staff member to attain an MSc in Coastal and Marine Resource Management at the University of Portsmouth. He is currently involved in numerous projects geared towards sustainable management of the TCI coastal and marine environment. The attainment of an MSc in Marine Resource Management would provide training and knowledge to the fellow in support of his tasks and ultimately provide much needed strengthening of departmental capacity.

This fellowship will serve as a major step towards capacity building for the department, providing the fellow with improved knowledge base, and additional technical skill sets necessary for sustainably managing the natural resources of the country. The fellow will develop a more interdisciplinary understanding of the resources in coastal and marine environments, policy development, research planning, implementation and communication. Furthermore, through the MSc training at the University of Portsmouth the fellow's reasoning and problem-solving ability would be enhanced making the fellow more effective in formulating management plans and strategies.

In addition, on return to working at DEMA, the fellow will develop structured opportunities within DEMA to facilitate transfer of knowledge and skills gained from his training to appropriate colleagues within the department.

9b. The role of the applicant organisation, and others where relevant (including contacts)

(Max 300 words)

MCS contact person: Dr Peter Richardson

The MCS will administer the grant. Dr Richardson worked closely with Luc Clerveaux during our TCI Turtle Project research and will act as Luc's co-supervisor for his MSc thesis. This will involve regular remote and face to face liaison with Luc during 2015/2016, and one supervisory field trip during 2016 when Luc is in the field collecting data for his thesis.

The University of Portsmouth will provide the necessary training and pathway for the fellow to obtain the MSc in Coastal and Marine Resource Management, which is accredited by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors. The University will provide the fellow with an opportunity to explore and learn about the various strategies and methods used in conserving coastal zone and marine environments through lectures, case study analysis and field trips. The fellow will be introduced to various technical and analytical frameworks and concepts in; physical environment, value of coastal and marine resources.

Portsmouth University Contact person: Dr Jonathan Potts,

The course units include:

- Coastal and Marine Resource Management: This involves examining the theory,

concepts and frameworks of coastal and marine management.

- Coastal Physical Processes and Shoreline Management: Study the biophysical behaviour of contemporary coastal systems, investigate how and why coastal risk management is practiced and examine the effects of management upon 'natural' systems.
- Law of the Sea and Marine Spatial Planning: Examining the nature of coastal and marine policy and the forces instrumental in creating such policies, laws affecting the utilisation of marine space and resources, considering global approaches.
- Fieldwork and Research Methods: Examine the role and importance of fieldwork in coastal and marine resource management studies and practice.
- Dissertation: Opportunity for fellow to independently study a topic of choice related to coastal and marine resource management.

9c. Where appropriate, how the Fellowship will contribute towards environment and/or climate change management in the OTs i.e. what the expected outcome of the Fellowship will be, with regard to the aim of Darwin Plus.

(Max 300 words)

This Fellowship will strengthen the capacity of the fellow, and DEMA, to develop and implement more effective environmental management, particularly with respect to marine resource management. The fellow intends to focus his MSc thesis on management aspects of the queen conch fishery, an important export fishery that hundreds of TCI fishers rely on for income during the open season. Over the past five years, catch levels of queen conch have significantly declined in TCI. The Government is considering a temporary 5-year closure, to allow stocks to recover. It is intended that the fellow's dissertation/research project will focus on the stock status and the socio-economic impacts to the fishing communities, to assist the government in making an informed decision. While this thesis will focus on one target species, the skills learned through the training and project work will allow the fellow to employ similar adapted methods of data capture and analysis to assist with other marine resource use management.

As an archipelago with small, low lying islands having its highest point at approximately 50 metres, the TCI is extremely vulnerable to the effects of climate change and global warming. Due to the complexity of coastal ecosystems and steady increase in human activities on or surrounding the coasts in TCI, effective management is essential for developing resilience of coastal resources and communities to accommodate the likely impacts climate change.

Upon completion of the fellowship, the Fellow will be better equipped to formulate and implement sustainable management strategies, plans and policies in combating climate change and global warming. The skills and knowledge developed during the fellowship will support long-term strategic initiatives of TCI in the areas of climate change mitigation and adaptation, coastal and marine resource management, wetland habitat and wildlife conservation, and conservation projects focusing on other species and habitats.

10. Legacy. Provide information on how the Darwin Fellow will utilise, promote and disseminate the benefits of the Fellowship on return to his/her UKOT. Will a strategy be developed during the Fellowship to ensure this is achieved?

(max 200 words)

Luc remains committed to the ongoing development of technical capacity within DEMA. The fellow has fulfilled previous scholarships with bonds to TCIG, and will be required sign a similar bond requiring him to return to the TCI, and work with DEMA for a specified number of years.

Luc is actively involved in coastal and marine resource management through his work. In Luc, the fellowship will provide DEMA with a significant asset for the development and implementation of effective policies, management/monitoring strategies and action plans. Knowledge gained through the fellowship will allow Luc to play a major role in TCIG's efforts to sustainably manage coastal and marine resources.

Luc has a good track record of sharing knowledge of training from international training workshops and seminars he has attended on behalf of DEMA. A strategy will be developed during the fellowship to guide the process by which the benefits gained are disseminated and utilised in the TCI as much as possible. The fellow will be tasked with leading departmental teams to develop, implement and communicate research to facilitate transfer of skills and knowledge in coastal and marine resource management within DEMA and associated departments and agencies.

11. How will the Fellowship assist the OT's environmental priorities? Please refer to strategy papers, white papers or other materials as appropriate.

(max 200 words)

The fellowship will assist in capacity building for personnel involved in environmental management through the DEMA. The UKOT & CD Training and research Work Plan 2012-2015, dated February 2012, states that the aim of the programme is to address the various conservation issues of the UKOTS through 6 main objectives 2 of which include:

1. Training and capacity building for individuals and organisations in the OTs and CDs.
2. Implementation of OT and CD research and strategic priorities

Research priorities according to the UKOTS and CDs 2011 biodiversity snapshot include:

1. Marine ecosystem mapping and vulnerability assessment.
2. Develop Management plans for all protected areas and wetlands, in addition to capacity building to improve management skills.

The strategy for action to implement the environment charter states as key objectives:

- Training for personnel in the fields of wetlands research, management and wardening.
- Ensure the proper protection of coastal resources through the development and implementation of coastal zone management policies.

Upon completing the fellowship, the fellow would be able to assist in the development and implementation of coastal zone, protected area, and fisheries management plans and policies, towards achieving the mandates of the environment charter and other research priorities.

- 12.** What collaboration has there been with the Darwin Fellow to date in developing the proposal, and what collaboration is planned for the duration of the Fellowship? Where relevant, describe any consultation or collaboration by the proposed Fellow within his or her own territory.

(max 200 words)

Luc has been employed by the TCIG through DEMA (formerly DECR) since October 2005. DEMA is mandated with sustainably managing TCI's natural resources, and there is, therefore, direct consultation and collaboration with the fellow and the TCIG. DEMA has discussed and agreed the MSc course Luc has chosen and the subject area for his dissertation/research project. Given the current precarious nature of the queen conch stock in TCI, it was agreed that the study will focus on aspects of management of this fishery. The specifics of the dissertation topic will be refined before the commencement of the fellowship and discussions with University and MCS co-supervisors.

Luc has worked closely with MCS since 2005 through our Turks and Caicos Islands Turtle Project. Through this relationship, MCS recognised Luc as an intelligent and gifted individual who is committed to the conservation and management of TCI's marine resources. In recent years we have discussed the possibility of MCS supporting a Darwin Fellowship application, and we now feel the time is right to further develop our partnership. MCS fully supports Luc's course choice and research focus for his dissertation. MCS will strive to support Luc as much as possible during the fellowship.

- 13.** Where will the Darwin Fellow be based? Please be specific with organisational details and dates (where more than one location).

(max 200 words)

The fellow will be based at the University of Portsmouth, Eldon Building, Winston Churchill Avenue, Burnaby Road, Portsmouth PO1 2DJ.

The fellow will travel from his home country of Providenciales, Turks and Caicos Islands in early September 2015 to Portsmouth, and will be residing at one of the University's accommodation halls until the fellowship is completed in September 2016. The fellow is expected to travel back to Turks and Caicos for 30 days during May to June 2016 to carry out necessary research for dissertation.

On award of the fellowship, a schedule of remote and face to face meetings will be scheduled between Dr Richardson and Luc, and University staff when appropriate, to discuss and agree plans and fellowship progression, develop mitigation against any challenges, and make a comprehensive plan for the MSc thesis. Through these meetings and additional meetings with DEMA, we will also develop a strategy to share within DEMA and other agencies in TCI the benefits gained through the fellowship and Luc's learning.

14. Provide a programme of work, including key milestones, through the duration of the Fellowship

Activity	Duration	2015/16									2016/2017					
		J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S
Preparation of flight, accommodation, insurance and other necessities for travelling to UK, and successfully completing fellowship.	2 months	█	█													
Travel from Providenciales to Portsmouth University and settle in.	2 weeks			█												
1 st Semester completion of modules towards achieving the MSc Degree	4 months			█	█	█	█									
2 nd Semester completion of modules towards achieving the MSc Degree	4 months							█	█	█	█					
Field and desktop research, data collection, interpretation and analysis; preparation of dissertation and reports	4 months										█	█	█	█	█	
Finalise, complete and submit dissertation and reports;	2 months													█	█	█
Preparations for travel back to Turks and Caicos Islands to begin implementation and sharing knowledge.	1 month															█

15. Costs. Using UK Government Financial Years ie April 2015 – March 2016 etc), please set out your budget for the Fellowship

	Unit cost	No of months		Total	Total
		2015/16	2016/17	2015/16	2016/17
Fellow's Subsistence contribution					
Arrival allowance	£300	NA	NA	300	
London based	£1,200 pcm				
UK (outside London)	£1,000 pcm	7	6	7000	6000
Overseas	£tbc*				
Host organisation's costs					
UK	£300 pcm	7	6	2,100	1,8700
Overseas (based on known costs)	£tbc*		0.5		3000
Total Fellow and Host costs				9,400	10,800
Travel costs to Fellowship location (up to £2,000)					
Return airfare	Details: PLS:LHR:PLS			1300	
Travel to/from airports	Details:			100	
Visas, insurance, medical cover etc	Details:			200	400
Additional travel costs (up to £500 local travel OR £1,500 for international travel)					
Purpose of additional travel	Details: Fellow will carry out field work in home country for dissertation				1300
Airfares/train fares	Details:				
Travel to/from airports/stations	Details:				100
Subsistence costs (inc number of days and rates)*	Details:30 days				100
Visas etc	Details:				
Total travel costs				1600	1900
Fees and training costs					
Academic fees	Details:			5,235	
Total fees				5,235	
TOTAL REQUEST FROM DARWIN £				16,235	12,700

*for advice on rates please call the Darwin Application Unit 0131 440 5181

16. Other sources of funding: provide details and amounts

There are no other sources of funding available at this time.

FCO NOTIFICATION

Please check the box if you think that there are sensitivities that the Foreign and Commonwealth Office will need to be aware of should they want to publicise details of the Darwin Fellowship and the resultant work in the UK or the UKOTs

CERTIFICATION

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.

I enclose CVs for project principals and letters of support as requested in the Guidance Notes.

Our most recent audited accounts and annual report are also enclosed/can be found at *(delete as appropriate)*:

Name (block capitals)	Mrs Clare Perez
Position in the organisation	Company Secretary

Signed

Clare Perez.

Date:

04.08.2014

Fellowship Application - Checklist for submission

	Check
Have you provided actual start and end dates for the Fellowship?	X
Have you provided your budget based on UK government financial years ie 1 April – 31 March?	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)	X
Have you included a 1 page CV for the proposed Fellow and the UK experts listed in Section 5?	X
Have you provided the relevant letters of support?	X
Have you included a copy of your most recent annual report and accounts? An electronic link to a website is acceptable.	X
Have you read the Guidance Notes?	X
Have you checked the Darwin website immediately prior to submission to ensure there are no late updates?	x

Once you have answered Yes to the questions above, please submit the application, not later than 2359h GMT on **Monday 4 August 2014** to Darwin-Applications@ltsi.co.uk using the name of the proposed Fellow 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 (eg whether the e-mail is 1 of 2, 2 of 3 etc).

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 the Darwin Initiative. Application form data will also be held by contractors dealing with Darwin Initiative 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 (ie name, contact details and location of project work) on the Darwin Initiative and Defra 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 Foreign and Commonwealth Office posts outside the United Kingdom, 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.