DPLUS038

Darwin Plus: Overseas Territories Environment and Climate Fund
Project 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

Basic Data

1. Project Title (max 10 words)	**Mapping Ascension Island's Terrestrial Ecosystem**
2. UK OT(s) involved	Ascension Island, St Helena Island & Falkland Islands
3. Start Date:	1 April 2015
4. End Date:	30 March 2016
5. Duration of project (no longer than 24 months)	12 months

Summary of Costs	**2015/16**	**2016/17**	**Total**
6. Budget requested from Darwin	£39,835	-	£39,835
7. Total value of matched funding	£21,027	-	£21,027
8. Total Project Budget (all funders)	£60,862	-	£60,862
9. Names of Co-funders	Ascension Island Government, South Atlantic Environment Research Institute, Royal Botanical Gardens Kew		

10. Lead applicant organisation (responsible for delivering outputs, reporting and managing funds)	Ascension Island Government Conservation Department (AIGCD)
11. Project Leader name	Dr Nicola Weber/ Dr Sam Weber
12. Email address	
13. Postal address	Conservation Office, Georgetown, Ascension Island, South Atlantic, ASCN 1ZZ
14. Contact details: Phone/Fax/Skype	

* Notification of results will be by email to the Project Leader in Question 11

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 2 project partners.

Details	**Project Leader**	**Project Leader**	**Project Partner 1**
Surname	Weber	Weber	Marengo
Forename(s)	Nicola	Sam	iLaria
Post held	Head of Conservation	Research Fellow	Project Manager – GIS Specialist
Institution (if different to above)	Ascension Island Government	Ascension Island Government	South Atlantic Environment Research Institute
Department	Conservation	Conservation	IMS-GIS data centre
Telephone/Skype			
Email			
Details	**Project Partner 2**	**Project Partner 3**	
Surname	Medcalf	Upson	
Forename(s)	Katie	Rebecca	
Post held	Environment Director	UKOTs Programme Officer (South Atlantic)	
Institution (if different to above)	Environment Systems	Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew (Kew)	
Department	-	UKOTs and Conservation Training	
Telephone/Skype			
Email			

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

Reference No	**Project Leader**	**Title**
DPLUS021	**AIG (N. Weber/ S. Weber)**	**Ascension Island Marine Sustainability (AIMS) – a fisheries and marine biodiversity project**

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).

Project Details

19. Project Outcome Statement: Describe what the project aims to achieve and what will change as a result. (50 words max)
The project will produce the first terrestrial habitat map of Ascension Island as a base layer for modelling current species distributions, predicting future ecosystem change and planning conservation action.

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)

Ascension Island has a varied landscape, ranging from barren lava flows to a lush cloud forest. The Island also has one of the world's most heavily invaded terrestrial ecosystems. More than 95% of plant species are introduced, many of which are invasive with rapidly expanding ranges. Indeed, habitat loss and ecosystem modification are widely regarded as the major threats facing the Island's native, terrestrial biodiversity. Accurate, fine-scale habitat mapping is urgently needed to understand current species distributions, identify opportunities for restoration, and model the future spread of invasive vegetation. However, apart from a crude vegetation map created by sight from satellite imagery in 2005, no land cover map exists for Ascension Island, and other fundamental geo-physical layers needed for habitat classification, such as rainfall, soil distribution and a digital terrain model (elevation, aspect, exposure) are also lacking. Using a variety of field-based and remote sensing techniques, this project will produce the first robust habitat map of Ascension Island, hosted within a regional GIS framework. The project will also develop potential applications and build the technical skills needed to carry out land cover classification within the South Atlantic UKOTs, thereby enabling future habitat mapping exercises in these highly dynamic environments.

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)

The project will be divided into three phases of data collection and analysis:

1) **Acquisition and processing of satellite imagery to create a preliminary habitat map**. Conducting systematic field-surveys across the entirety of the Island to delimit different habitat types is logistically unfeasible, partly due to the inhospitable terrain. Instead, spectral analysis of remotely-sensed, 0.5m resolution WorldView imagery will be used to perform an initial land cover classification. AIGCD already have vegetation data from a number of georeferenced locations to inform the classification process at the outset ('training data'), and this will be supplemented by additional ground-truthing conducted during the project (see Phase 2). A high resolution (5m) digital terrain model (DTM) will also be derived from imagery and used to produce a range of topographical raster layers, including elevation, aspect, exposure and erosion risk that will feed into the habitat map.

   Image analysis will be led by Environment Systems, a consultancy with considerable expertise in this area, supported by SAERI. These partners will also prepare manuals and host a regional training workshop on Ascension Island focussing on image classification and applications (see Phase 3) using open source GIS to ensure that skills are retained within the South Atlantic UKOTs. This is vital as the terrestrial ecosystems of Ascension Island and St Helena are in a state of flux, with land cover changing on a decadal scale.

2) **Ground-truthing and collection of additional habitat data.** The preliminary land cover map generated in Phase 1 will be ground-truthed by AIGCD, who already have a good knowledge of Ascension's flora, assisted by a fieldworker. The team will receive training in field survey techniques and support in species identification from the UKOTs team at Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. The results of the ground-truthing exercise will be used to refine image classification rules and generate a more robust land cover map. Additionally, the fieldwork phase will be used to collect and analyse soil samples (pH, depth, nutrients & trace elements), gather data on understory vegetation cover (photo quadrats), and deploy climate monitoring equipment (temperature & rainfall). These data will be geo-referenced and integrated with land cover and DTM layers within a GIS to produce a final habitat map.

3) Development of conservation applications. In the final phase of the project, three management-related applications for the new habitat map will be developed by all partners at the workshop:

- Modelling the future spread of aggressive, invasive plants, particularly mesquite *Prosopis juliflora* and *Casuarina equisetifolia*. Land cover maps generated from 2005 and 2015 satellite imagery will be used to assess rate and direction of spread over the past decade. Habitat suitability indexes based on current distributions will then be used to predict future spread over various timeframes and identify 'at risk' areas for management.

- "Opportunity mapping" to identify possible restoration areas for native and endemic plants based on habitat suitability metrics extracted from their current distributions.

- Population size and range assessment of the near-endemic land crab *Johngarthia lagostoma* through habitat-stratified density estimation and extrapolation by habitat type.

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:

- *Contribution to multilateral environmental agreements*. AIG has ratified the CDB and this project will contribute directly to Aichi Targets 5 (Reduction in the Rate of Loss of Natural Habitats), 9 (Identification and Control of Priority Invasive Alien Species), 11 (Management of Protected Areas), 12 (Prevention of Extinction of Threatened Species), 14 & 15 (Preservation and Enhancement of Habitats and Ecosystem Service Provision) and 19 (Biodiversity Knowledge Improved).

- *Contribution to national commitments*. The project will help AIG to meet commitments under the Ascension Island Environmental Charter, in particular commitments 2 (Protection of key habitats and species through management structures) and 7 (Review range and availability of data for natural resources and biodiversity). Additionally, the creation of a habitat map and its associated applications in conservation planning and research are key targets in a number of species and habitat action plans currently being developed as part of the Darwin Initiative Biodiversity Action Plan for Ascension Island (Project #19-026), due to be completed in December 2014.

- *Long-term strategic objectives and mainstreaming.* An understanding of how habitats are distributed in space is fundamental to effective land use planning, as well as to biodiversity research. The habitat maps produced through this project will be hosted within Ascension Island Government's GIS and provide the evidence base for environmental impact assessment and environmental mainstreaming in decision-making.

- *Priority areas:* This project falls into two of the priority funding areas identified for the 2014 application round: developing data systems on biodiversity to develop management plans; and dealing with invasive alien species through informed control measures.

b) Technical excellence

- *Environmental decision-making*. The project will provide the spatial data and information systems needed to inform land use planning and environmental impact assessments, identify areas at risk from invasive species and make evidence-based decisions on where to focus restoration and management efforts.

- *Project planning and value for money*. See Section 33

- *Monitoring and evaluation*. See Section 30

c) Impact:

- *Local ownership*. This project contributes to a direct policy need identified by the host country and has been developed by AIGCD with expert input from SAERI and Environment Systems. Locally, it will provide the evidence base needed to justify management decisions and the allocation of resources, as well as leaving a legacy of enhanced GIS capacity within Ascension Island and other SAOTs.

- *Institutional capacity*. The partnership assembled for this project brings together all of the necessary geo-statistical and mapping experience (Environment Systems; SAERI) and local field expertise (AIGCD; Kew) to ensure that it is delivered to a high standard. The partners involved already have demonstrably strong working relationships, having previously collaborated on a number of successful projects. See also Section 24.

- *Anticipated outcomes*. An accurate habitat map will be a valuable tool in on-going conservation work on Ascension Island, and is pre-requisite for a number of priority conservation actions. The output of the project is a tangible one for AIGCD, and one that will be made freely available to researchers, decision-makers and other stakeholders through SAERI.

- *Sustainability*. See Section 29

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)

AIGCD is the primary stakeholder in the project and has been responsible for driving the proposal. Senior management within AIG are supportive and committed to ensuring its timely delivery.

SAERI and St Helena Government are also direct beneficiaries of the project through training opportunities and access to datasets. Both partners will participate in a 10-day stakeholder workshop on Ascension Island aimed at developing the necessary technical and analytical skills to perform habitat classification from remotely-sensed imagery. SAERI will also host the spatial datasets produced within a new regional information management system funded by JNCC. These datasets will be made freely available to the wider research community, who are also stakeholders in the project.

Kew has an on-going investment in the conservation of Ascension Island's native and endemic flora and has been involved in a number of habitat restoration projects and botanical surveys on the Island over the years. Kew will provide support in the form of a 10-day training workshop in field survey techniques and stand to benefit from open access to habitat layers and other datasets created during the project. Existing botanical data, images and identification resources will be complied by Kew and provided to AIGCD.

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

Ascension Island Government
The Conservation Department was established by AIG in 2001 to help fulfil its commitments under the Environment Charter and multilateral environmental agreements. It has since established itself as the authority on Ascension Island's biodiversity, with core programmes in terrestrial ecology and seabird and marine turtle research and conservation. In the past 3 years AIGCD has been involved with externally-funded projects on green turtles, land crabs, endemic plants, national park access and

sustainable fisheries with a combined budget of more than £900,000. It is currently undertaking a major strategic planning exercise with the development of a National Biodiversity Action Plan (NBAP), funded by the Darwin Initiative. AIG project leads Drs Nicola and Sam Weber are postdoctoral ecologists who have lived and worked on Ascension Island for 4 years. They, along with other members of the conservation team, bring the considerable local knowledge necessary to implement this project on the ground.

South Atlantic Environmental Research Institute

SAERI is a Falkland Islands initiative. It aspires to increase and coordinate the volume and impact of environmental research in the South Atlantic by establishing world-class research platforms in each of the SAOTs from the equator to the ice in the Antarctic. SAERI research activities cover a variety of disciplines: marine and terrestrial biology and ecology, geology, oceanography, climatology, geographic information systems (GIS). Within SAERI, the Information Management System (IMS) and GIS data centre was born with the intention of establishing a data strategy for collating, curating and managing existing and future data (environmental and otherwise) in a consistent way across the entire SA region. The GIS data centre aims at building local GIS capacity, skills and knowledge by providing training and courses in open source GIS software and by supporting individual projects.

Environment Systems Ltd.

Environment Systems is a leading environmental and geographic intelligence consultancy. Backed by regular research activity and cross-sector collaboration we leverage our earth observation and mapping expertise, to help government and businesses understand and better manage our environment. We deliver solutions across the environmental, agricultural and land sectors specialising in an ecosystem approach to baselining and characterisation, mapping and monitoring. We then facilitate the application of this evidence base to current policy. We are at the forefront of developments in geographic intelligence gathering and experts in the field of ecosystems services mapping and modelling.

Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew (Kew)

Kew's mission is 'to inspire and deliver science-based plant conservation worldwide, enhancing the quality of life'. Kew's UKOTs Science Team has well-established links with the UKOTs, having collaborated with all UKOTs on plant conservation projects, providing technical support in plant identification, genetic analysis, habitat surveying & GIS, management plans and horticultural expertise. Kew is well experienced in capacity building and technology transfer, with partners in over 50 countries. Kew is one of the few organisations capable of providing this breadth of expertise and has a very successful track record of collaboration with AIGCD (e.g. Darwin 19026; OTEP ASC503 & ASC801).

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. Satellite imagery sourced and processed and a preliminary habitat map produced	Satellite image for 2015 will be acquired from which a preliminary land cover classification and DTM will be produced and sent to AIGCD.	Satellite imagery from 2005 and a crude vegetation map are available.	The output is a tangible product, so is a direct indicator of success.
2. Habitat map ground-truthed, refined and augmented with field	Final land-cover map generated; soil and climate data layers created; final habitat	Some geo-referenced botanical surveys from 2009 and 2014 to act as 'training data'; bedrock	Datasets will be accessible through SAERIs online information

data	map produced.	geology has been mapped; meteorological data available from four west coast stations.	management system.
3. Cross-territories workshop held on remote sensing techniques	Representatives from 3 South Atlantic UKOTs will attend a workshop held on Ascension Island. Training manuals will be produced. Advice & case studies will be provided for implementing Output 4.	Technical skills needed to analyse remotely-sensed imagery are lacking within the region.	Workshop report in AIGCD's quarterly newsletter; participants demonstrate enhanced geo-spatial analysis skills, as evidenced through Output 4.
4. Development of management applications informed by the habitat map	Invasion risk layers for *Prosopis* and *Casuarina* are produced; suitable habitat for endemic plant restoration is mapped; land crab distribution and population size are assessed.	Applications are hindered by the lack of a fine-scale habitat map.	Findings incorporated into Ascension's BAP, and reported in AIGCD's quarterly reports; papers submitted to peer-reviewed journals.

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

Each output is important for the successful delivery of the project. Outputs 1 and 2 are concerned with the production and ground-truthing of the habitat map itself, including the generation of vegetation, soil, climate and topographical raster layers. Output 3 ensures that the technical skills needed to produce and analyse habitat maps and apply them to real-world management decisions are retained within the South Atlantic UKOTs. Output 4 showcases the potential applications of the new habitat map in three priority areas: invasive species management, endangered species conservation and biodiversity monitoring.

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	**Satellite imagery sourced and processed and a preliminary habitat map produced**
1.1	Sourcing of suitable satellite imagery
1.2	Processing of imagery to create a preliminary land cover map
1.3	Creation of a DTM and associated topographical layers
Output 2	**Habitat map ground-truthed, refined and augmented with field data.**
2.1	AIGCD trained in habitat survey techniques
2.2	Collection of ground-truthing data to refine land cover classifications

2.3	Collection and analysis of soil samples
2.4	Collation of existing meteorological data and deployment of additional weather stations to fill spatial gaps
2.5	Production of final habitat map and integration within a regional information management system and GIS.
Output 3	**Cross-territories workshop held on remote sensing techniques**
Output 4	**Development of management applications informed by the habitat map**
4.1	Modelling the current distribution and future spread of key invasive plants
4.2	"Opportunity mapping" to identify areas for the restoration of endemic flora
4.3	Assessing habitat preferences, distribution and population size of land crabs

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
Suitable satellite imagery cannot be sourced within budget	L	H	Environment Systems have already searched archival imagery to ensure that suitable products are available and that the proposed budget is realistic.
Co-partners/stakeholders fail to provide assistance	L	M	Partners involved in the project have all collaborated previously and have proven working relationships. Should this risk occur then alternative collaborators will be sought.

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)

The project will result in a tangible product in the form of a habitat map and associated ecological and geo-physical data layers that will be made available through a regional, open access information management system. The project will therefore provide a lasting resource for local environmental managers and decision makers, as well as the wider research community, long after the project is over. In addition, the development of technical GIS skills within the South Atlantic UKOTs will help to ensure that future mapping exercises, and their application to management decisions, can be conducted in accordance with local needs and with less reliance on external organisations.

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 project will be implemented as a partnership between AIG and SAERI, along with other project

partners. A Memorandum of Understanding between the organisations and partners will articulate the obligations of all parties in delivering this project. Environment Systems Ltd. will carry out the technical GIS work and lead the training workshop in accordance with a contract signed with AIG. The terms of the contract will include deadlines for the completion of specific elements as well as reporting commitments. AIGCD will be responsible for delivering field elements of the project, with oversight on data collection and management provided by SAERI. Progress against milestones will be reported at quarterly SAERI IMS GIS data centre steering group meetings (attended by representatives from SAERI, JNCC and Governments and NGOs from within the South Atlantic UKOTs) for independent feedback and comments. Six-monthly and final reports will be submitted to the Darwin Initiative by the Project Leaders in accordance with reporting requirements.

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?)

Grant payments will be administered through Ascension Island Government's bank account, with project expenditures tracked by the AIG Finance Department. AIG has a fully dedicated financial accounting and management team, headed by a UK qualified Chartered accountant. The Government currently manages capital and reserves of £20 million. The Finance and Conservation Departments have jointly managed many biodiversity conservation projects large and small over the last 10 years, including those funded by RSPB, OTEP, JNCC and the Darwin Initiative. AIG's accounts are also subject to an annual, independent financial audit by Wilkins Kennedy LLP, based in London.

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)

Every effort has been made to ensure that the project delivers its objectives efficiently. A significant proportion of the budget is allocated to the acquisition of high resolution satellite imagery and to consultancy fees for Environment Systems Ltd. to produce the habitat map and provide training for local biodiversity professionals. These are unavoidable costs as satellite imagery of sufficient quality is not yet freely available and the technical skills needed to process and analyse such imagery are lacking within the South Atlantic UKOTs. Indeed, by building GIS capacity within the region, the project aims to reduce the reliance on third party contractors in future. All staff costs to AIG and SAERI are provided in-kind, thus ensuring excellent value for money against total costs.

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			
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Output 1	**Satellite imagery sourced, processed and preliminary habitat map produced**									
1.1	Sourcing of suitable satellite imagery	0.5	x							
1.2	Processing of imagery to create a preliminary land cover map	1.5	x							
1.3	Creation of a DTM and associated topographical layers	1.5	x							
Output 2	**Habitat map ground-truthed, refined and augmented with field data.**									
2.1	AIGCD trained in habitat survey techniques	0.5	x							
2.2	Collection of ground-truthing data to refine land cover classifications	3		x	x					
2.3	Collection and analysis of soil samples	3		x	x					
2.4	Collation of existing meteorological data and deployment of additional weather stations to fill spatial gaps	12	x	x	x	x				
2.3	Production of final habitat map and integration within a regional information management system and GIS	1.5				x				
Output 3	**Cross-territories workshop held on remote sensing techniques**	0.5				x				
Output 4	**Conservation planning and on-going research projects informed by the habitat map.**									
4.1	Modelling the current distribution and future spread of key invasive plants	1.5				x				
4.2	“Opportunity mapping” to identify areas for the restoration of endemic flora	1.5				x				
4.3	Assessing habitat preferences, distribution and population size of land crabs	3				x				

CERTIFICATION

On behalf of the ~~trustees~~/company* of Ascension Island Government

(*delete as appropriate)

I apply for a grant of £39,835 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)	NICOLA WEBER
Position in the organisation	HEAD OF CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT

Signed  **Date:** 03/08/2014

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** ie 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 Monday 4 August 2014 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.