

Applicant: **Baum, Diane**
Organisation: **Ascension Island Conservation and Fisheries Department**
Funding Sought: **£38,090.00**

DPR7P\100071

Building Ascension Island's Biosecurity Capability

PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

Name	Diane
Surname	Baum
Website	
Tel (Work)	
Email (Work)	
Address	

Section 1 - Contact Details

PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

Name Diane
Surname Baum
Website
Tel (Work)
Email (Work)
Address

GMS ORGANISATION

Type	Organisation
Name	Ascension Island Conservation and Fisheries Department
Phone	
Email	
Website	
Address	

Q3. Lead organisation type

Please select one of the below options.

OT Government

Section 2 - Title, Dates & Budget Summary

Q4. Project title

Building Ascension Island's Biosecurity Capability

Q5. Project dates

Start date:

01 April 2019

End date:

01 April 2020

Duration (e.g. 2 years, 3 months):

1 year

Q6. UKOT(s)

(See Guidance Notes)

Which UK Overseas Territory(ies) will your project be working in? You may select more than one UKOT from the options below.

St Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha*

*** if you have indicated a territory group with an asterisk, please give detail on which territories you are working on here:**

Ascension Island

In addition to the UKOTs you have indicated above, will your project directly benefit any other country(ies)? If so, list here.

St Helena

Q7. Budget summary

Year:	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	Total request
Q7a. Request from Darwin:	£38,090.00	£0.00	£0.00	£ 38,090.00

Q7b. Proposed (confirmed and unconfirmed) co-financing as % of total project cost 37

Section 3 - Lead Organisation Summary

Q8. Lead organisation summary

Please provide the following information on the lead organisation

What year was your organisation established/ incorporated/ registered? 2001

What is the legal status of your organisation? Government

How is your organisation currently funded? Primarily through a business levy on island employing organisations and through corporation and income tax.

Have you provided the requested signed audited/independently examined accounts? If you select "yes" you will be able to upload these. Note that this is not required from Government Agencies. No

Please provide details:

No, not required for governments

Q9. Has your organisation been awarded Darwin Initiative funding before (for the purposes of this question, being a partner does not count)?

Yes

If yes, please provide details of the most recent awards (up to 6 examples)

Reference no.	Project leader	Title
DPLUS063	Dr Sam Weber	The Ascension Island Ocean Sanctuary (ASIOS): planning for the Atlantic's largest marine reserve
DPLUS047	Mike Haworth	Reduce, reuse, recycle – developing a waste management strategy for Ascension
DPLUS046	Dr Sam Weber	Tracking marine megafauna at Ascension Island: towards evidence-based 'blue belts'
DPLUS021	Dr Nicola Weber/Sam Weber	Ascension Island Marine Sustainability (AIMS) – A Fisheries and Marine Biodiversity Project
19-026	Dr Annette Broderick/Prof. Brendan Godley	Implementing a Darwin Initiative Biodiversity Action Plan for Ascension Island
DPLUS038	Dr Sam Weber/Nicola Weber	Mapping Ascension Island's Terrestrial Ecosystem

Section 4 - Project Partners

Q10. Project partners

Please list all the partners involved (including the Lead Organisation) and explain their roles and responsibilities in the project. Describe the extent of their involvement at all stages, including project development. This section should illustrate the capacity of partners to be involved in the project, and how local institutions, local communities, and technical specialists are involved as appropriate.

Please provide written evidence of partnerships. Please add fields for more partnerships, if required. Details on roles and responsibilities in this project must be given for the Lead Organisation and all project partners.

N.B. There is a file upload button at the bottom of this page for the upload of all letters of support.

Lead Organisation name: Ascension Island Conservation and Fisheries Department (AIGCFD)

Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): AIGCFD would lead this project and be responsible for delivering all outcomes and project management. The AIG Customs and Environmental Health teams would participate in the training and implementation of cargo checks and rapid response capability. The Finance and QSHE teams within AIG would provide financial management and M&E support.

AIGCFD is the government department responsible for implementing Ascension Island's Biodiversity Action Plan and Biosecurity Strategy. We have been working with APHA through the OT Biosecurity Project to identify gaps in Ascension's biosecurity capability and Dr Jill Key from APHA will continue to provide technical assistance through the delivery of this project.

Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation? Yes

Do you have partners involved in the Project?

Yes

The limit for any single file uploaded as supporting materials with your application is 6MB. Please ensure documents are saved in PDF form where possible in order to minimise size.

1. Partner Name: St Helena Agriculture and Natural Resources Division (ANRD)

Website address: <http://www.sainthelena.gov.sh/agriculture-and-natural-resources/>

Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):

ANRD would provide training and support to AIG staff in the development of a biosecurity capability. This will involve hosting two AIG staff members to gain practical experience of conducting checks, maintaining a response capability and surveillance monitoring. ANRD will share the import regulations and protocols they have developed and provide advice on how these can be tailored to Ascension. Lessons learned from ANRD's experience engaging with stakeholders will be shared and potential future opportunities to collaborate explored.

ANRD employ two dedicated biosecurity staff and have experience of developing a comprehensive biosecurity system and conducting cargo and passenger inspections.

Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation? Yes


Do you have more than one partner involved in the Project?

No

Please provide letters of support from the lead organisation and all partners as a combined PDF.

 **Letters of Support for Biosecurity capability**

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Section 5 - Project Staff

Q11. Project staff

Please identify the core staff on this project, their role and what % of their time they will be working on the project.

These should match the names and roles in the budget spreadsheet.

Please provide 1 page CVs for these staff.

Name (First name, Surname)	Role	% time on project	CV attached below?
Diane Baum	Project Leader	20	Checked
Victoria Knight	Project Officer	25	Checked
Julie Balchin	Biosecurity lead	10	Checked

No Response

No Response

No
Response

Unchecked


Do you require more fields?

No

Please provide 1 page CVs (or job description if yet to be recruited) for the Project staff listed above as a combined PDF. Ensure CVs clearly correspond to the named individual and role above.

The limit for any single file uploaded as supporting materials with your application is 6MB. Please ensure documents are saved in PDF form where possible in order to minimise size.

 **CVs Biosecurity**

 01/09/2018

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Have you attached all Project staff CVs?

Yes

Section 6 - Background & Methodology

Q12. Summary of Project

Please provide a brief summary of your project, its aims, and the key activities you to undertake. Please note that if you are successful, this wording may be used by Defra in communications e.g. as a short description of the project on GOV.UK. Please bear this in mind, and write this summary for a non-technical audience.

Ascension Island provides a classic example of how difficult and costly it is to control damaging, non-native species once they are established. Prevention is better than cure and through this project cargo and people coming to the island will be vetted and subject to inspection, with staff trained to respond rapidly and eradicate any non-native species detected. As a result, it is hoped Ascension will also become an exemplar for how a small island can act to prevent new introductions.

Q13. 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?

Ascension is a young, remote island with a native fauna composed of pioneer species with little resilience to withstand competition or predation. Non-native species have caused the extinction of at least three endemic species and brought about dramatic changes to the island. New invasives continue to pose additional risks to Ascension's native species, landscapes and human health.

Early detection and eradication are accepted as the most effective means of preventing damage from invasives, but at present there are no procedures on Ascension for checking cargo or visitors, nor any rapid response capability. In a 2017 review of biosecurity capabilities across UK OTs, Ascension was one of the lowest scoring territories with either no capacity or only basic structures in place across most of the

categories(1). The current situation is inadequate to deal with the risk, and the need to establish a biosecurity system has been highlighted in multiple reports(2). The Ascension Biosecurity Strategy lays out AIG's aspiration to tackle the issue(3) and a review conducted in 2016 made detailed recommendations on how to achieve this(4). This project will run in parallel with the development of a specific biosecurity ordinance and provide the practical capability to deliver and enforce biosecurity controls.

Q14. Methodology

Describe the methods and approach you will use to achieve your intended Outcome 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.

This project will focus on five key areas to create an overall biosecurity capability within AIG.

1. Establishment of standards, regulations and powers to detect and respond to threats We will draw heavily on the work already undertaken in St Helena to create import health standards and underpinning regulations that place the primary burden on importers to reduce the risk of invasion and give AIG the powers to inspect and treat contaminated cargo where necessary. Shared import pathways and importers mean that harmonising processes with those in place in St Helena will be vital. Following the introduction of the standards, a member of AIGCFD will visit importers in the UK and St Helena to ensure awareness and compliance.

2. Develop capability to check cargo and passengers

Three members of AIG staff will travel to St Helena to receive training from the ANRD biosecurity team in their inspection procedures. This knowledge will then be disseminated to a further six people from the AIG Customs, Conservation and Environmental Health teams. Inspection and quarantine areas close to points of entry on Ascension will be designated and new procedures initiated to risk assess shipments and passengers. All high risk categories and a random sample of other cargo and people will be detained for inspection.

3. Establish effective rapid response

Rapid response protocols will be developed for different categories of non-native species using the models developed by APHA. Three members of AIG staff will receive training and gain a qualification in the safe use of pesticides, and training in the appropriate treatment techniques for a range of invasives and cargo types on St Helena. A dedicated shipping container and a store of Virkon, permethrin and applicators will be purchased and positioned at the main entry point for cargo. This will allow for the effective containment, fumigation or spraying of contaminated cargo. Once the system is in place, exercises will be held to test and refine response procedures.

4. Improve surveillance monitoring

Using the results of the DPLUS056 Horizon Scanning exercise, we will identify high risk invaders and will design surveillance monitoring to maximise their detection. This will involve an increase in the type and frequency of traps set by AIG staff close to entry points, but monitoring will remain within existing staff capabilities.

5. Awareness raising

Information signs and leaflets will be created to highlight the risk of invasives to people living on Ascension and visitors. The Centre for Ecology and Hydrology (CEH) will act as consultants for this workstream drawing on their expertise and providing a link with the proposed Darwin Plus Biosecurity guidance and pathway actions project for SBAs Cyprus. Lessons will be learned from the approach taken on St Helena and efforts

made to ensure there is consistent messaging. Meetings will be held with the public and all employers on Ascension to explain the need for these procedures and how they can contribute to reducing the risk of importing pests and act as 'eyes' to detect new species.

If necessary, please provide supporting documentation e.g. maps, diagrams etc., using the File Upload below.

The limit for any single file uploaded as supporting materials with your application is 6MB. Please ensure documents are saved in PDF form where possible in order to minimise size.

↓ **Biosecurity references**

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Section 7 - Objectives, Stakeholders & Sustainability

Q15. Project Objectives

How does this project:

- **Deliver against the priority issues identified in the assessment criteria**
- **Demonstrate technical excellence in its delivery**
- **Demonstrate a clear pathway to impact in the OT(s)**

This project will address the Darwin Plus priority of dealing with invasive non-native species by preventing further introductions. It will also provide an exemplary example of partnership working across OTs by learning lessons from the existing capability on St Helena and linking with the proposed project at the SBAs Cyprus to create a harmonised system that avoids duplication of effort and gains stakeholder support across the territories.

The creation of regulations and standards will be driven by the findings of the OT Biosecurity Project, ensuring they are consistent across other OTs and represent international best practice. CEH's involvement in the public engagement strand of the project will bring their many years of expertise communicating biosecurity issues across multiple countries. The creation of a practical biosecurity capability on Ascension will follow the recommendations of the 2016 review, which was undertaken by an internationally-recognised expert in this field with experience of working across multiple countries. Incident planning exercises will be undertaken during the project to review the effectiveness of response activities and the results of these will be reviewed by AIG and ANRD staff to improve procedures.

The lack of any biosecurity capability leaves Ascension extremely vulnerable to potentially catastrophic new introductions. This project will create a fully-functioning biosecurity programme that is in line with international best-practice and consistent with our closest neighbour. The risk of new invasives can never be completely removed, but the procedures and capability created through this project will greatly reduce the threat they pose to biosecurity and public health. It will be a clear statement to the international community that Ascension takes its environmental responsibilities seriously and is prepared to act to protect its wildlife and people.

Q16. Project Stakeholders

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.

The main stakeholders in this project are AIG employees responsible for port operations, customs and environmental health. Team leaders from these departments have been consulted during the development of this project to establish the best way to undertake effective inspection and response action with current staff resource and minimising operational delays.

Both the organisations shipping goods and those on island receiving them will experience additional requirements and delays. The military and other employers on Ascension have been consulted on this and previous efforts to improve biosecurity control, and they accept the need for such intervention. They will be involved in delivery of the project to ensure no unnecessary burdens are introduced and that support and compliance remain high.

ANRD on St Helena are partners in this project and they will play a crucial role in ensuring lessons are learned from the design and implementation of biosecurity controls on St Helena. Harmonising the systems on both islands will be a key aim of the project since a significant proportion of freight and people arriving on Ascension is from or bound to St Helena. A consistent approach will help to ensure buy in from importers and passengers.

The population of Ascension will benefit from the reduced risk of new invasives this project will bring. However, they may also experience a degree of inconvenience as some imports are restricted and inspections result in short delays to deliveries. The public engagement strand of this project will be crucial to maintaining public support and understanding.

Q17. Institutional Capacity

Describe the lead organisation's capacity (and that of partner organisations where relevant) to deliver the project.

AIGCFD has extensive project management experience and have successfully delivered many externally-funded projects including previous Darwin projects with total budgets up to £1.2million. We have participated in Cross-OT biosecurity assessments including SAIS in 2009 and the ongoing OT Biosecurity Project, and prepared the AIG Biosecurity Strategy. Limited invertebrate surveillance monitoring is currently carried out by AIGCFD staff and some experience has been built in specimen preparation and identification either on island or remotely via FERA. It is hoped that the relationship with FERA can be maintained, but if not a precautionary approach to treatment will be adopted for urgent cargo.

Ascension has only one entry point for sea cargo and one entry point for air freight and passengers. Shipments are fairly infrequent averaging one to two per month. This means the staff requirement for effective inspection and response activities is relatively low and within current AIG staffing levels.

AIG customs and port operations teams already scrutinise shipment manifests and carry out cargo inspections for customs purposes. Training in specific biosecurity inspection techniques and changes in timing and location of inspections to ensure effective containment are required to incorporate biosecurity checks into the existing cargo handling procedures

The AIG EH team have experience of safe pesticide handling and use in domestic settings. They already carry out occasional treatment of contaminated food products when required on the island. They are well-placed to undertake the specific training necessary to treat a range of non-native introductions and then to form the core of a rapid response team. There are currently 3 full-time EH team members who

would be able to cover all incoming flights and shipments.

Further support for the project will be provided by the AIG Finance and QSHE teams who will provide accounting and quality assurance capabilities to assist with project management, reporting and evaluation.

ANRD have developed and successfully delivered St Helena's biosecurity programme. They employ a dedicated biosecurity officer and have a trained pest control team who work part-time on biosecurity issues. The similarities in location, import pathways and threat type make St Helena an excellent model for Ascension to learn from and build on.

Q18. 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 and how will it be funded?

The pre-border risk management system developed through this project will place much of the burden for biosecurity controls on importers. This is becoming standard practice across the globe and should be readily accepted by reputable transport companies. On Ascension, biosecurity protocols will be integrated into existing import handling procedures and become a routine part of the work of existing port, customs and conservation staff. The project will provide the necessary upskilling of environmental health staff and the creation of facilities to mount a rapid and effective response to any introductions. Once present on the island, these can be maintained through the AIG core budget at little additional cost.

Awareness raising amongst the public of Ascension will create long legacy of understanding about the risks of non-native species and the steps they can take to avoid introductions or report sightings. Coordinated effort between Ascension and St Helena will strengthen controls in both territories as people and importers working across them will receive consistent messages and be subject to the same inspections and regulations.

Section 8 - Funding and Budget


Q19. Budget

Please complete the appropriate Excel spreadsheet, which provides the Budget for this application. Some of the questions earlier and below refer to the information in this spreadsheet. Note that there are different templates for projects requesting over and under £100,000 Darwin Plus budget

- **R7 D+ Budget form for projects under £100,000**
- **R7 D+ Budget form for projects over £100,000**

Please refer to the Finance Guidance for Darwin and IWT for more information.

N.B.: 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.

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Q20. Co-financing

Are you proposing co-financing?

Yes

Secured

Provide details of all funding successfully levered (and identified in the Budget) towards the costs of the project, including any income from other public bodies, private sponsorship, donations, trusts, fees or trading activity, as well as any your own organisation(s) will be committing.

(See "Finance for Darwin & IWT" and the "Guidance for Applicants" documents)

RSPB will provide £X to support the employment of Victoria Knight as project coordinator. This role will be responsible for developing import health standards, designing and implementing inspection regime, creation of response capability, liaison with stakeholders and public engagement.

AIG will provide staff time, office overheads, line management and subsistence costs for Diane Baum and Victoria Knight. AIG's QSHE team will provide project M&E.

ANRD will provide staff time to help train AIG staff and advise on the creation of biosecurity regulations in Ascension.

Unsecured

Provide details of any co-financing where an application has been submitted, or that you intend applying for during the course of the project. This could include co-financing from the private sector, charitable organisations or other public sector schemes.

Date applied for	Donor Organisation	Amount	Currency code	Comments
No Response	No Response	No Response	No Response	No Response
No Response	No Response	No Response	No Response	No Response
No Response	No Response	No Response	No Response	No Response
No Response	No Response	No Response	No Response	No Response

Please give brief details including when you expect to hear the result. Please ensure you include the figures requested in the Budget Spreadsheet as Unconfirmed funding.

N/A

Do you require more fields?

No

Section 9 - Financial Controls, Value for Money & Open Access

Q21. 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?

Project Leader Diane Baum will be responsible for managing the project budget. She currently manages AIG's overall conservation project portfolio totaling £X. This and her previous role as Director of a fisheries NGO in Scotland has given her experience in monitoring income and expenditure, procurement, meeting the reporting requirements of funders and ensuring project finances are well managed.

AIG has an internal system for auditing restricted project funds, this system uses original budgets for projects, these are input into SAGE (accounting software) then AIG's Finance Officer monitors the expenditure and income against this and flags any major deviation to the Director responsible. This system has been very effective at rapidly identifying potential issues in project finances. All AIG's accounts are audited yearly.

Q22. Financial Management Risk

Explain how you have considered the risks and threats that may be relevant to the success of this project, including the risks of fraud or bribery.

AIG financial statements are audited annually which involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to AIG's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made; and the overall presentation of the financial statements. In addition, the auditors read all the financial and non-financial information in the Introduction to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements and to identify any information that is apparently materially incorrect based on, or materially inconsistent with, the knowledge acquired by them in the course of performing the audit.

All externally funded projects are also managed under AIG's financial regulations including the contract regulations for procuring, or tendering for works or goods, and the accounting officer is responsible for ensuring these regulations are followed.

Q23. 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.

Currently the only civilian access to Ascension is via a monthly flight meaning any consultant coming to

Ascension would need to stay for an entire month at significant cost. After considering various options, the most cost-effective way for AIG staff to receive comprehensive training is for three people to travel to St Helena to receive training from ANRD staff and from a professional pesticide trainer brought over for a week from the UK. The trained staff will then return to Ascension and disseminate their operational knowledge to other AIG employees.

The equipment costs included in the budget follow AIG's procurement procedures for obtaining at least three competitive quotes for all items over £X.

Where possible existing resources on the island including surveillance monitoring and pesticide application equipment have been used in the project to prevent the purchase of new items.

Q24. Outputs of the project and Open Access

All outputs from Darwin Plus projects should be made available on-line and free to users whenever possible. Please outline how you will achieve this and detail any specific costs you are seeking from Darwin Plus to fund this.

Documents produced by the project such as Import Health Standards, guidance for importers, leaflets and information signs will be made available on the project webpages held by AIG and shared with other OTs through the partnerships and contacts created through DPLUS056.

AIGCFD has a good online and social media presence, this will be used as a platform throughout the current project. The Darwin Plus brand/logo will be included on all materials and media produced.

Q25. Safeguarding

See Guidance Note 3.7

Projects funded through Darwin Plus must fully protect vulnerable people all of the time, wherever they work. In order to provide assurance of this, we would like projects to ensure they have the appropriate safeguarding policies in place. Please check the box to confirm you have relevant policies in place at that these can be available on request.

Checked

Section 10 - Logical Framework

Q26. Logical Framework

Darwin Plus projects will be required to report against their progress towards their expected Outputs and Outcome if funded. This section sets out the expected Outputs and Outcome of your project, how you expect to measure progress against these and how we can verify this.

Annex D and Annex E in the Guidance Notes provides helpful guidance on completing a logical framework, including definitions of the key terms used below.

Impact:

Significant reduction in the risk that new non-native invasive species will become established on Ascension

Project Summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of Verification	Important Assumptions
<p>Outcome: Ascension will have an international-standard biosecurity system incorporating pre-border requirements, compliance inspections, rapid response and surveillance</p>	<p>0.1 By Y1Q4 compliance with APHA biosecurity capability checklist 0.2 By Y1Q4 effective inspections and response capability incorporated within AIG core functions 0.3 By Y1Q4 greater public awareness and responsibility for biosecurity issues</p>	<p>0.1 Copy of completed checklist 0.2 Amended workplans, inspection reports, reports of incident response exercises 0.3 Records of attendance at public meetings, number of volunteers acting as 'eyes'</p>	<p>Appetite for introduction of biosecurity controls maintained within AIG and the Ascension Council. AIG employees and importing organisations open to new working arrangements and maintain ongoing support for biosecurity controls</p>
<p>Output 1: Pre border risk management system in place</p>	<p>1.1 By Y1Q2 Import health standards adopted for 4 key import types 1.2 By Y1Q3 uptake of 4 import health standards by all importing organisations 1.3 By Y1Q2 coordination of 4 import health standards with St Helena 1.4 By Y1Q3 Inspection visits made to 3 main importers in St Helena and UK 1.5 By Y1Q2 biosecurity declaration required for all visitors</p>	<p>1.1 Import health standard documents available online 1.2 Copies of compliance certificates for all cargo 1.3 Correspondence between AIG and ANRD 1.4 Records of inspection visits 1.5 Declaration proforma and records of passenger completion</p>	<p>AIG Council are persuaded of the need and recommend adoption of new biosecurity regulations or instruction comes down from Governor.</p>

<p>Output 2: On island inspection regime initiated</p>	<p>2.1 By Y1Q1 3 AIG staff trained in inspection techniques by ANRD 2.2 By Y1Q2 6 further AIG staff trained in inspection techniques by AIG staff who visited St Helena 2.3 By Y1Q3 inspections carried out on all high risk and proportion of all cargo and passengers at entry 2.4 By Y1Q4 inspection regime able to detect contaminated cargo in two simulated exercises</p>	<p>2.1 Record of training attendance 2.2 Record of training attendance 2.3 Copies of inspection reports 2.4 Results of simulated incident exercises</p>	<p>New biosecurity legislation is adopted giving AIG powers to inspect. AIG staff able to travel to St Helena. Training experience sufficiently comprehensive to allow effective dissemination and delivery of inspection regime</p>
<p>Output 3: Rapid response capability operational</p>	<p>3.1 By Y1Q2 4 Incidence response plans in place and understood by key AIG personnel 3.2 By Y1Q1 3 AIG staff gain qualifications in safe use of pesticides 3.3 By Y1Q4 appropriate treatment identified and deployed within 1 hour of detection in two simulated incidents</p>	<p>3.1 Copies of incident response plans 3.2 Qualification certificates 3.3 Results of simulated incident exercises</p>	<p>New biosecurity legislation is adopted giving AIG powers to treat or destroy cargo. Range of treatment options developed on Ascension are appropriate for all scenarios. AIG staff feel sufficiently confident and empowered to enact incident response plans</p>
<p>Output 4: 4. Effective surveillance monitoring for high risk threats</p>	<p>4.1 By Y1Q2 traps appropriate for high risk species deployed and checked at 5 key locations 4.2 By Y1Q2 effective procedures in place to identify any novel organisms</p>	<p>4.1 Copy of surveillance monitoring strategy and results of monitoring 4.2 Copies of MoU between AIGCFD and FERA</p>	<p>Cost effective monitoring strategies are available for all species identified as high risk invaders. FERA able to provide ongoing identification capability</p>

Output 5: Raised public awareness of non-native species and actions to prevent the	5.1 By Y1Q3 Leaflets and banners highlighting biosecurity risks on Ascension produced and distributed online and displayed at key locations 5.2 By Y1Q3 more people living on Ascension aware of non-natives 5.3 By Y1Q4 10 Volunteers trained to spot potential new introductions	5.1 Copies of leaflets. Photographs of banners displayed at port and airport 5.2 Attendance at public meetings and copies of leaflets and signs, results of questionnaires before and after project 5.3 Attendance at volunteer training and copies of monitoring forms filled out by volunteers	Public are willing to engage with the range of education activities run through the project. People sufficiently aware of the importance of the issue to volunteer their time.
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Do you require more Output fields?

It is advised to have less than 6 Outputs since this level of detail can be provided at the Activity level.

No

Activities

Each activity is numbered according to the Output that it will contribute towards, for example 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 are contributing to Output 1. Each new activity should start on a new line.

- 1.1 Create import health standards for fresh food, aggregate, plant materials and sea containers that are consistent with St Helena and international best practice
- 1.2 Incorporate health standards into new regulations
- 1.3 Communicate health standards to importing organisations and create verification and reporting procedures
- 1.4 One member of AIG staff travel to St Helena and UK to conduct inspection visits and communicate new import procedures with main importers
- 1.5 Communicate new biosecurity restrictions to SA Airlink for inclusion in passenger information and include biosecurity declaration in entry visa
- 2.1 Three AIG staff travel to St Helena to receive training in inspection techniques
- 2.2 Trained AIG staff in turn train 6 staff on Ascension in inspection techniques
- 2.3 Inspection protocol designed and tested
- 2.4 Inspections carried out on all shipments
- 2.5 Two simulated incident exercises to test effectiveness of inspections
- 3.1 Purchase of container, equipment and pesticides
- 3.2 Three AIG staff travel to St Helena to receive training and gain qualification in safe use of pesticides.
- 3.3 Biosecurity incident plans created, tested through two exercises then refined
- 4.1 Devise surveillance monitoring strategy to capture high risk species identified in horizon scanning project
- 4.2 Deploy traps at five locations on island to cover points of entry and different habitat types. Begin monthly checks
- 4.3 Review and strengthen existing sample preparation protocols and relationship with FERA to ensure ongoing identification of specimens
- 5.1 Creation of leaflets and signs be available at entry ports, online and provided to all visa and import applicants
- 5.2 Meetings with island employers and open public meetings

- 5.3 Dedicated biosecurity themed activities with school and community groups and focus on biosecurity at AIGCFD visitor centre and event stalls
- 5.4 Recruit and train volunteers to be vigilant for new introductions

Section 11 - Implementation Timetable

Q27. Provide a project implementation timetable that shows the key milestones in project activities





Please complete the Excel spreadsheet linked below to describe the intended workplan for your project.

Darwin Plus Implementation Timetable

Please add columns to reflect the length of your project.

For each activity (add/remove rows as appropriate) indicate the number of months it will last, and fill/shade only the quarters in which an activity will be carried out.

Once you have completed your implementation timetable please upload it using the file upload tool below.

-
-  [darwin-plus-round7-implementation-timetable Biosecurity capability](#)
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 -  xls 29 KB

Section 12 - Monitoring and Evaluation

Q28. Monitoring and evaluation (M&E) plan

Describe, referring to the Indicators above, how the progress of the project will be monitored and evaluated, making reference to who is responsible for the project's M&E.

Darwin Initiative projects are expected to be adaptive and you should detail how the monitoring and evaluation will feed into the delivery of the project including its management. M&E is expected to be built into the project and not an 'add' on. It is as important to measure for negative impacts as it is for positive impact.

AIG have an internal monitoring and evaluation (M&E) system, managed by their Quality, Health & Safety and Environment Department (QHSE), which conforms to ISO standards; 9001 and 18001. This project will fall under AIG's M&E protocols and be managed within its 'Key Performance Indicator' (KPI) matrix allowing for continual M&E of the project objectives by setting standards and requirements for specific project components. This system provides a robust M&E plan with input and oversight from a dedicated AIG Department. The QHSE department are aware of the project funding application and their costs have been

included as matched funding within the project budget application.

The general monitoring of the project will be done by the Project Leader working closely with the Project Officer to assess day to day progress and impacts, against the activity plan, outputs and budget. Regular updates and milestones will be loaded onto the KPI matrix for oversight by AIG. Flexibility is built in to the project plan allowing for changes in circumstances to quickly be addressed, problems resolved in a timely fashion and ensuring opportunities to improve are taken.

Number of days planned for M&E	10.00
<hr/>	
Total project budget for M&E (this may include Staff and Travel and Subsistence Costs) (£)	
<hr/>	
Percentage of total project budget set aside for M&E (%)	1.70
<hr/>	

Section 13 - Certification

Certification

On behalf of the

trustees

of

Ascension Island Government

I apply for a grant of

£38,090.00

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 applicant institution to submit applications and sign contracts on their behalf.)


- I enclose one page CVs for key project personnel and letters of support.**
- I enclose the most recent 2 sets of signed and audited/independently verified accounts.**


Checked

Name	Diane Baum
<hr/>	
Position in the organisation	Director of Conservation and Fisheries
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Signature (please upload e-signature)

 **Diane Baum signature**

 03/09/2018

 14:52:59

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Date

03 September 2018

Section 14 - Submission Checklist

Checklist for submission

	Check
I have read the Guidance documents, including the "Guidance Notes for Applicants" and "Finance Guidance".	Checked
I have read, and can meet, the current Terms and Conditions for this fund.	Checked
I have provided actual start and end dates for this proposed project.	Checked
I have provided a budget based on UK government financial years i.e. 1 April - 31 March and in GBP.	Checked
I have checked that the budget is complete, correctly adds up and have included the correct final total at Q7.	Checked
The application has been signed by a suitably authorised individual.	Checked
I have included a 1 page CV for all the Project staff (listed at Q11) on this project, including the Project Leader.	Checked
I have included a letter of support from the applicant organisation, main partner(s) organisations and the relevant OT Government.	Checked
I have uploaded a signed copy of the last 2 years annual report and accounts for the lead organisation, or provided an explanation if not.	Checked
I have checked the Darwin Plus website immediately prior to submission to ensure there are no late updates.	Checked
I have read and understood the Privacy Notice on GOV.UK.	Checked

We would like to keep in touch! Please check this box if you would be happy for the lead applicant (Flexi-Grant Account Holder) and project leader (if different) to be added to our mailing list. Through our mailing list we share updates on upcoming and current application rounds under the Darwin Initiative, Darwin Plus and our sister grant scheme, the IWT Challenge Fund. We also provide occasional updates on other UK Government activities related to biodiversity conservation and share our quarterly project newsletter. You are free to unsubscribe at any time.

Checked

Data protection and use of personal data

Information supplied in this application form, including personal data, will be used by Defra as set out in the latest copy of the Privacy Notice for Darwin, Darwin Plus and the Illegal Wildlife Trade Challenge Fund available **here**. This Privacy Notice must be provided to all individuals whose personal data is supplied in the application form. Some information, but not personal data, may be used when publicising the Darwin Initiative including project details (usually title, lead organization, location, and total grant value) on the GOV.UK and other websites.

Information relating to the project or its results may also be released on request, including under the 2004 Environmental Information Regulations and the Freedom of Information Act 2000. However, Defra will not permit any unwarranted breach of confidentiality nor will we act in contravention of our obligations under the General Data Protection Regulation (Regulation (EU) 2016/679).