Applicant: **Malan, Lourens**
Organisation: **Environment and Natural Resources, St Helena Government**
Funding Sought: **£294,309.00**

DPR7P\100079

Fragmented cloud forest habitat rehabilitation through inovative invasive plant management

PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

Name	Lourens
Surname	Malan
Organisation	Terrestrial Conservation, St Helena Government
Tel (Work)	
Email (Work)	
Address	

CONTACT DETAILS

Title	Mr
Name	Derek
Surname	Henry
Organisation	Terrestrial Conservation, St Helena Government
Tel (Work)	
Email	
Address	

Section 1 - Contact Details

PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

Name	Lourens
Surname	Malan
Organisation	Terrestrial Conservation, St Helena Government
Tel (Work)	
Email (Work)	
Address	

CONTACT DETAILS

Title	Mr
Name	Derek
Surname	Henry
Organisation	Terrestrial Conservation, St Helena Government
Tel (Work)	
Email	
Address	

GMS ORGANISATION

Type	Organisation
Name	Environment and Natural Resources, St Helena Government
Phone	
Email	
Address	

Q3. Lead organisation type

Please select one of the below options.

⊙ OT Government

Section 2 - Title, Dates & Budget Summary

Q4. Project title

Fragmented cloud forest habitat rehabilitation through inovative invasive plant management

Q5. Project dates

Start date:	End date:	Duration (e.g. 2 years, 3 months):
01 April 2019	31 March 2021	3 years

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:**

St Helena and Ascension Island

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

No Response

Q7. Budget summary

Year:	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	Total request
Q7a. Request from Darwin:	£105,724.00	£93,351.00	£95,234.00	**£** 294,309.00

Q7b. Proposed (confirmed and unconfirmed) co-financing as % of total project cost	19

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?	1834
What is the legal status of your organisation?	⊙ Government
How is your organisation currently funded?	Domestic revenue and grant aid
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:

N/A

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
DPLUS077	Annalea Beard / Ralf Bublitz	Sustainable fishery management of St Helna's lobster population
DPLUS070	Annalea Beard / Alison Small	Oceanographic influences on St Helena Pelagic Ecosystem
DPLUS039	Elizabeth Clingham / Gerald Benjamin	Sustainable development and management of St Helena's fisheries and marine tourism

DPLUS051	Derek Henry / Ben Sansom	Water security and sustainable cloud forest restoration on St Helena
DPLUS052	Derek Henry / Sam Cherrett	Mapping St Helena's biodiversity and natural environment
DPLUS059	Darren Duncan / Ludi Kern	Establishment of the national framework of invasive plant management on St Helena

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:	St Helena Government
Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):	As project lead St Helena Government will have overall responsibility for project management, reporting to Darwin both financial and technical. They have proven capacity, experience and expertise completing successful Darwin projects.
Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?	⊙ Yes

Do you have partners involved in the Project?

⊙ No

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

Letter of Support ENRD 03.08.18
03/09/2018
17:02:32
pdf 221.81 KB

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?
Lourens Malan	**Project Leader**	20	Checked
Derek Henry	Project oversight	1	Checked
Vanessa Williams	Endemic Plants species support	10	Checked
Darrell Leo	Scotlan nursery chargehand	25	Checked

Do you require more fields?

Yes

Name (First name, Surname)	Role	% time on project	CV attached below?
Ross Henry	Cloud Forest nursery manager	25	Unchecked
Vacant	Project Manager	100	Unchecked
Vacant	Restoration Specialist	100	Unchecked
Vacant	Senior restoration technician	100	Unchecked
Vacant	restoration technician	100	Unchecked
Vacant	restoration technician	100	Unchecked
Vacant	restoration technician	100	Unchecked
No Response	*No Response*	*No Response*	Unchecked

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.

Vanessa Thomas CV one page
03/09/2018
13:09:17
pdf 55.64 KB

Lourens_concise_CV_1page
03/09/2018
13:09:03
pdf 514.11 KB

CURRICULUM VITAE - Derek Henry
03/09/2018
13:08:40
pdf 103.65 KB

Darrell CV
03/09/2018
13:08:23
pdf 224.68 KB

Have you attached all Project staff CVs?

No

Why have all Project staff CVs not been attached?

The Cloud Forest nursery manager does not have computer facilities as his post is 100% field based. If funding is granted, ENRD will compile appropriate TOR's for the vacant posts to be recruited under this project

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.

The project will expand fragments of important native biodiversity and link these via native vegetation corridors through managing invasive vegetation. Knowledge gained during this process will enhance our understanding of the applied ecology of the important endemic biodiversity hotspots and better quantify invasive vegetation management required to conserve St Helena's endemic fauna and flora sustainably.

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?

Second only to habitat destruction invasive species are the biggest biodiversity threat globally and on St Helena. From a total of 431 higher plant species recorded growing in wild situations (Lambdon & Darlow: 2008 SAIS vegetation survey) 370 are non-native with 99% of the island's vegetation cover is classified as non-native. The remaining area (less than 100 ha) is highly fragmented with some small pockets dominated by natives. This small area holds over 30% of the total endemic diversity of the UK and its 14 overseas territories and of significant international importance.

Conserving the 1% of natural habitat is undoubtably crucial to ensure the survival of the remaining endemic species. This has been corroborated by the currently running DPLUS059 invasive plant species management project that identified the rare endemic cloud forest as a key priority area for better targeted invasive plant species control.

Results from the recently completed DPLUS029 'Securing St Helena's rare cloud forest trees and associated invertebrates' project ascertained that small habitat fragments hold significant assemblages of rare endemic invertebrates which often are doomed to die out. Any further loss of habitat could have detrimental effects and would likely result in extinction for many of these unique species.

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.

We propose to utilise and build upon the existing invasive plant clearance protocol, developed through the recent project DPLUS029 'securing St Helena's rare cloud forest trees and associated invertebrates'. DPLUS029 also developed novel methods to survey and assess habitat quality which this project will use to identify and prioritise habitat fragments for restoration intervention. Site proximity, size, invertebrate niche availability, species richness and rarity will be considered in identifying priority habitat fragments and results will set a baseline. The DPLUS029 survey methods will be employed across likely native vegetation patches identified in the DPLUS052 project, 'mapping St Helena's biodiversity and natural environment' and shown in broad scale vegetation maps which were derived from multi-spectral satellite imagery (see attached map).

The DPLUS029 clearance protocol will be implemented across selected priority habitat fragments and further refined as and where needed. To better quantify impact and efficacy of clearance methods the baseline data in combination with drone photography will be used to map habitat fragment development and vegetation succession in the corridor areas over the three year project period. Invertebrate niche and habitat quality assessments will be undertaken at six month intervals in fixed sample plots to measure level of change in habitat function.

The species composition in priority habitat fragments will be supplemented with nursery grown stock from genetically diverse material sourced from the DPLUS029 genetic field gene-banks.
Fragmentation will be ameliorated through corridor creation by expanding the selected priority fragments toward one another.

The overall aim is to assess the level of input required to achieve corridor creation and the time it takes to successfully convert invasive dominated vegetation into novel native dominated vegetation corridors.

This data will be summarised and scaled up to a landscape level which could be adopted across the island in the forestry estate and agricultural sector for instance and discussed with stakeholders in workshops. Training of terrestrial conservation staff in the use of this model will better fit the long-term viability and sustainability management scenarios using this ecological approach to invasive plant management and presented to key stakeholders for agreement and adoption by SHG.
Y

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.

BioDiv_HabitatStatus
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png 812.72 KB

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 deliver against five areas in the assessment criteria;
i) Directly addressing one of the biggest threats to St Helena' endemic habitats - invasive non-native species by;

ii) pursuing new and innovative approaches that have shown great promise on a small scale and could be "game-changing" in achieving 'more for less' and having a strong potential to be replicable elsewhere, e.g. the larger scale invasive problems across the forestry estate and agriculture sectors.

iii) Increasing species richness and genetic diversity across the highest priority endemic habitat fragments. The project will strengthen habitat resilience needed to mitigate against potential impacts linked to global warming that could trigger population decline or species collapse if diversity is not preserved and or improved.

iv) Promoting conservation of the island's primary water capture resource through advancing ecologically sound restoration techniques to bolster rare native habitats in the cloud forest which sequester moisture from orographic cloud and store it for later release from deep peaty soils acting in effect like a wet sponge. In addition to this essential ecosystem service function, this wetland system is unique in holding the majority of native species in one place, making up nearly a third of all the endemic species found across the UK and its OTs.

v) Developing data resources and better defining and mapping habitat fragments of biodiversity priority to inform biodiversity action and management plans.

Technical Excellence;
Through this project, restoration practices and management of invasive vegetation will be developed so that conservation planning is evidence based and the correct levels of habitat protection are in place. Working with the terrestrial conservation staff will ensure expertise and local knowledge are on hand to give direction and guidance when needed and ensure that methods are developed with sensitivity to and specifically for the local situation.

The experience of managing several other Darwin projects have allowed this project budget, targets and

work plan to be based on realistic costs, timeframe and achievability. The match funding contributed by SHG ensures collaboration and excellent value for money against the total project cost.

Impact OT's;
A workshop and information exchange between St Helena Conservation and Ascension Island Conservation staff will be undertaken. The invasive plant problems on both islands are similar in nature and the restoration techniques developed on St Helena have potential benefit for Ascension. An exchange visit will enable transfer of knowledge and skills, broadening the horizon and knowledge base of both OTs are which are relatively isolated. Conservation officers of both islands hold large amounts of experience and expertise in high quality restoration of critically endangered species and are keen to see the fruits of a visit exchange. This project will have a significant legacy in terms of local capacity, data resources and better informed conservation management decisions to be sustained long after the project.

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 conservation of St Helena's remaining terrestrial diversity falls under the Terrestrial Conservation Section (TCS) that is overseen by the Director of Environment & Natural Resources Department (ENRD) as part of the Environmental management Division. Both have been involved from the onset of the project development. During a stakeholder meeting led by the Director of ENRD that focussed on discussing the conservation priorities and potential future projects, it was agreed that protection of endemic fauna and flora through invasive species management is a key priority. Following consultation with the Head of the Agriculture and Natural Resources department and their Invasive Plant Specialist the project idea was developed for applying for Darwin Plus Round 7. The implementing stakeholders in the TCS's Species team (Vanessa Williams) and Habitats team (Lourens Malan) will continue to provide guidance and support with regards to the practicalities, identifying priority needs and working out their involvement levels. All parties have been consulted at all stages of development and will be involved in the implementation through support and share of expertise where appropriate.

Throughout the project relevant stakeholders including Tourism, Agriculture, Forestry and Private land owners will be consulted and experience will be shared. Once effective methods have been established in collaboration with these stakeholders we will examine the potential for the application of these actions across other sectors and land uses.

Q17. Institutional Capacity

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

ENRD is responsible for environmental management for St Helena Government.
The ENRD is divided into two divisions; the Environmental Management Division (EMD) and the Agriculture and Natural Resources Division (ANRD).

The Terrestrial Conservation Section (TCS) staff form part of EMD and have been involved in previous Darwin Plus projects, including DPLUS051, DPLUS037 & DPLUS029 'securing St Helena's rare cloud forest trees and associated invertebrates' which first trialled and developed the game changing invasive control approaches to be quantified under this project.
ANRD are running the current project DPLUS059 'Establishment of the national framework for invasive

plant management in St Helena' which has highlighted the urgent need to capitalise on the advancements made through DPLUS029 and ensure establishment of effective methods which can safeguard the most important native diversity hotspot fragments.

EMD will co-ordinate the budget and monitor deliverables during bi-monthly meetings to review progress, identify any areas where the project has fallen behind schedule and how to address such issues. The meetings will also consider any requirements to adapt the project strategy in light of the monitoring performed. The Project Leaders will be responsible for reporting to the funding body as stipulated.

In kind staff time will be provided by:
• Four TCS staff
• Administrative, IT, HR and logistical infrastructure

EMD leads through creation and implementation of policy and regulation, and provides advice, underpinned by clear, transparent, evidence-based research. Day to day activities include; fieldwork, laboratory work, data analysis, report writing and awareness raising on all aspects of the marine & terrestrial environment to feed into wider island decision making

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?

All key sectors are closely involved in the project, with strong support from elected councillors. The innovative landscape scale approach to invasive plant management ensures that all sectors benefit, not just those involved in conservation. This strengthens buy-in to the project outcome and the likelihood that practices established under the project will continue post-project.
The corridors established to link the priority sites will increase connectivity between fragmented biodiversity hotspots and thereby improve the chances of natural succession of endemics and conservation of population genetics. Fewer resources are required to manage better connected and larger expansive vegetation units than is normal for small fragmented patches
Ecotourism and rare natural beauty have potential for growing St. Helena's economy. Combined with growing awareness of the water catchment potential of the cloud forest vegetation, this area is high on the agenda at all levels within Government as well as key stakeholders. Additionally further benefits accrued from the value gained from increased pollination, carbon sequestration and soil conservation.
This project will ensure that there is clear and supported evidence based advice, which will feed into conservation management planning and strategic documents, like the peaks management plan and St Helena biodiversity action plan.

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.

darwin-plus-round7-budget-over-100k
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16:35:44
exe 125 KB

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)

St Helena Government will contribute significant amounts of staff time and resources to support this project, including admin and financial management.

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.

All co-financing is secured and provided by ENRD

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?

All project funding will be routed through the ENRD accounts section, which operates under audited SHG accounting procedures.
All monies will be placed into a designated account and have a designated financial officer to ensure finances/budgets are monitored.
The Project Leads, the Terrestrial Conservation Officer and Director of ENRD will have an overview of the entire project and will regularly monitor the budget. Items purchased in the host country will be bought through the SHG procurement process which has strict guidelines for ensuring value for money and transparency. An independent auditor (St Helena Audit Service) will audit expenditure. ENRD already has experience of successfully managing projects totalling £1.7 million in 2014/15 along with core budget. Project managements only for 2015/16 totalling £X, 2016/17 totalling £X and 2017/18 totalling£X

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.

The SHG Internal Audit Department currently conduct reviews of other externally funded projects across SHG, the person accountable is Head of Internal Audit. SHGs Code of Management has a Fraud & Related Negligence Policy & Procedure and Whistleblowing procedure. The Internal Audit Department may choose to include this project on their audit plan & conduct reviews of the project to detect and deter fraud and errors. This will include checks to ensure that project funding is ring fenced and accurately accounted for. Any reports prepared by internal audit on the project will be shared with the project sponsor. Processes in place to detect and deter fraud and error on SHG projects includes:

• Internal audit conducting investigations for irregularity or suspicious activity;
• Segregation of roles, ensuring that no staff member can initiate and finalise a transaction without secondary checks;
• Preparing monthly bank reconciliation reports and other reconciliations on project activity;
• Set expenditure thresholds, stipulating authorisation required for each level;
• Ring fencing of funding using assigned project codes;
• Monthly budget monitoring reports, identifying and investigating any overspending;
• Maintaining record of project documentation;
• Restricting access to facilities were cash and other sensitive information is held

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.

The project endeavours to share its expertise with neighbouring Ascension to develop capacity and deliver outcomes that will be invaluable to the long-term management of St Helena and Ascensions terrestrial environments. Travel to and from St Helena is not cheap, but enabling cross territory collaboration, expertise can be shared and in house experts can gain recognition and experience the benefit of reaching beyond their shores in a cost effective means of delivering this project.
Significant matched funding will be contributed by EMD, which demonstrate the significance of this project to St Helena.

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.

A project web-page will be developed for dissemination of information and a Facebook page created for brief updates. Key reports from the project will be posted on the project web-site and on the SHG website. Meta-data from the project will be listed on the project web-site and data will be made available to users once the project has been completed. The Terrestrial Conservation database that will be expanded with project data will be made available over the SHG or SAERI web-site.
Any publications will be in Open Access journals or fees paid to enable Open Access

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:

Invasive plant species are managed sustainably at a national level with a resultant increase in biodiversity and water capture capacity, improving the tourism product and natural capital

Project Summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of Verification	Important Assumptions
Outcome: Invasive plant control protocol refined and quantified, allowing better targeted native habitat management decisions increasing biodiversity and reducing clearance requirements across the cloud forest habitats	0.1 Refined invasive control approaches defined and excepted by conservation section 0.2 Inclusion of Clearance Protocol in Peaks Management Plan 0.3 Adoption of Clearance Protocol in Biodiversity Management Plans 0.4 Inclusion of invasive plant control methods in ANRD work programmes 0.5. Botanical and invertebrate diversity in project areas (particular endemic species) shows an increase from baseline (to be established in the first year) 0.6 Project habitat corridor vegetation improve in quality and biodiversity value (from invasive dominated, to native dominated vegetation type) from baseline (to be established in the first year)	0.1 Versions of revision for Clearance Protocol document; email trails; meeting minutes 0.2 Peaks Management Planning document 0.3 Biodiversity Management Plan 0.4 QGIS layers showing Forestry and or Agriculture parcels identified as suitable for trialling project control method; maps; emails; meeting minutes 0.5 Bi-annual botanical and invertebrate surveys carried out in fixed sample plots in project priority habitat fragments; Drone footage 0.6 Drone footage of selected potential corridor areas	Peaks Management Plan will be completed before end of project. St Helena Biodiversity Management plan will be completed during the project life time. ANRD are interested to improve and adopt more cost effective methods to deal with invasive plant problems designed for benefiting biodiversity, which may not be their primary aim. Weather allows surveys and drone operation to be carried out in a timely fashion

Output 1: Strengthened local capacity to better protect priority habitat fragments against invasive plants	1.1. Training 19 field workers in applied ecology and new invasive plant clearance protocols in year two and end of year three 1.2. Training 10 staff in nursery scheduling and optimum production workflow six monthly basis 1.3. Training in habitat assessment techniques (year one) and working out restoration follow-up timing/schedules /programmes (year three) for 15 stakeholders	1.1Training attendance certificates 1.2Training attendance certificates 1.3Training attendance certificates	Attendance levels as expected
Output 2: Improved knowledge of applied ecology of vegetation succession enabling better scheduling of invasive alien plant control and restoration activities	2.1. Project work areas identified and habitat fragments prioritised over the first quarter 2.2. Define potential corridors to link priority habitat fragments over the first quarter in year one of the project 2.3.Botanical and invertebrate baselines set by quarter three in year one of the project 2.4. Clearance protocol tested and refined by close of project 2.5.Bi-annual botanical and invertebrate surveys completed	2.1. GIS data layers and photographs 2.2. GIS data layers and photographs 2.3. Project database and survey field notes 2.4. Revised protocol document 2.5. Project database; survey field notes and photographs; data analysis	Fieldwork conditions, especially in remote and difficult and steep terrain, are dependent on clear weather conditions. Specialist entomological expert is available.

Output 3: Improved knowledge and awareness of invasive plant management strategies and alternative approaches amongst key stakeholders (ANRD, Tourism, Private landowners, general public, ASCI conservation & StH terrestrial conservation, and the wider conservation community)	3.1. Two workshops, one on St Helena and one on Ascension Island on habitat restoration and invasive plant management to maximise biodiversity benefit 3.2. Project presentations at the yearly EMD nursery open days 3.3. Work experience exchange between two members of staff from Ascension and St Helena conservation in the second year of the project 3.4. Increased local awareness through newspaper articles at least once a quarter and bi-monthly radio interviews or segments. Project progress updates through SHG press releases and website. Share results, progress and data on local media and broader OT community	3.1. Workshop proceedings 3.2. Powerpoint presentation; photo evidence 3.3. Itinerary; Exchange visit reports. Photo evidence 3.4. Press releases; SHG web link; Articles	SHG and ASCG grants permission to enable exchange visits. Attendance at workshops
Output 4: *No Response*	*No Response*	*No Response*	*No Response*
Output 5: *No Response*	*No Response*	*No Response*	*No Response*

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 Write Job profiles, devise recruitment panel, prepare job adverts, and advertise posts
1.2 Recruit suitably experienced project personnel

1.3 St Helena staff trained in survey techniques, applied ecology and new clearance protocols
1.4 St Helena staff trained in nursery scheduling and managing production work flow
1.5 St Helena staff gain experience in conducting surveys, undertaking new clearance techniques and managing better nursery work flow
2.1 Collate existing knowledge and data and prioritise and map habitat fragments and corridors accordingly
2.2 Set fixed survey plots across selected priority fragments and corridors (project sites)
2.3 Conduct surveys and establish baseline database including Drone photo grid of project sites
2.4 Undertake clearance across selected priority fragments and corridors (project sites)
2.5 Conduct repeat surveys every six months, including drone photo grid of project sites
2.5. Analyse survey data and photo comparison
3.1 Plan, arrange and host workshops
3.2 Present & disseminate project information through newspaper articles, press releases, presentations, radio interviews
3.3 Collaborate with Ascension Island Conservation and St Helena Conservation to arrange an exchange visit between staff members from both organisations

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_fragmentation_rehabilitation
03/09/2018
13:50:29
xls 50.5 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.

The responsibility for M&E lies with EMD, and specifically in the post of Manager who will report to the TCS Officer and ENRD Director on a monthly basis. At the initiation of the project a detailed work plan will be developed, and milestones checked against progress. EMD will have technical and financial oversight of the project activities, and will be able to react and respond to the results of project activities, as well as to any other developments on the island, and feed it back into planning for each phase of the project. Iterative learning and adaptive management will be achieved through close working of the project team with other invasive plant managers on the island and a policy of open communication.

An MOU will be drawn up and will document the obligations of all parties for successful delivery of the project against the time frame ensuring all project outputs are on track. Outputs including training will form part of EMD staff annual targets and will be assessed by their line manager on a biannual basis. The project lead will report to the Head of ENRD on a monthly basis, reporting progress and any issues arising, impacts on the project and methods for mitigating against these.

All project products and materials will be placed on-line on the SHG webpage where they are available for external verification as well as for sharing lessons learned as widely as possible. Sector and area-specific techniques for management developed under output 3 will be incorporated in the workshop schedules. This will include not only lessons learned in what works best, but also what is less effective, so that both positive and negative impacts are reported.

Botanical surveys designed and initiated in year one that will continue throughout the project timeframe will increasingly yield data which will inform and guide the progress of the project. The surveying and assessment techniques developed to monitor and evaluate the efficacy of invasive plant clearance protocol, also allow the early detection of new emerging invasive species or previously overlooked species. The survey database will provide objective data which can be used to underpin environmental management decision making.

Number of days planned for M&E	72.00
Total project budget for M&E (this may include Staff and Travel and Subsistence Costs) (£)	
Percentage of total project budget set aside for M&E (%)	1.84

Section 13 - Certification

Certification

On behalf of the

company

of

St Helena Government

I apply for a grant of

£294,309.00

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	Lourens Malan
Position in the organisation	Terrestrial Conservation Officer
Signature (please upload e-signature)	**Lourens Malan Signature** 03/09/2018 16:45:19 pdf 96.66 KB
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).