

Applicant: **Havery, Sarah**
Organisation: **RSPB**
Funding Sought: **£299,603.00**
Funding Awarded: **£299,603.00**

DPR8S2\1006

DPLUS121 Strengthening biosecurity to protect Turks & Caicos' Iguana Islands

PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

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Section 1 - Contact Details

PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

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GMS ORGANISATION

| Type | Charity/ trusts |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Name | RSPB |
| Phone (Work) | [REDACTED] |
| Email (Work) | [REDACTED] |
| Website (Work) | [REDACTED] |
| Address | [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] |

Section 2 - Title, Dates & Budget Summary

Q3a. Project title

DPLUS121 Strengthening biosecurity to protect Turks & Caicos' Iguana Islands

Q3b. What was your Stage 1 reference number? e.g. DPR8S1\10008

DPR8S1\1028

Q4. UKOT(s)

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

Turks & Caicos Islands (TCI)

Q4b. In addition to the UKOTs you have indicated, will your project directly benefit any other Territories or country(ies)?

No

Q5. Project dates

Start date:

01 April 2020

End date:

31 March 2023

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

3 years

Q6. Budget summary

| Year: | 2020/21 | 2021/22 | 2022/23 | Total request |
|------------------------------------|--------------|------------|------------|---------------|
| Darwin funding request (Apr - Mar) | £ [REDACTED] | [REDACTED] | [REDACTED] | £ 299,603.00 |

Q6a. Do you have proposed matched funding arrangements?

Yes

What matched funding arrangements are proposed?

All partners will be providing some staff time as match funding. Additional travel and subsistence match funding will be provided by Waterloo Investment Holdings Ltd and Pine Cay Homeowners Association supporting project staff visiting Big Ambergris Cay and Pine Cay. The Department of Environment and Coastal Resources will provide use of a vessel and captain and use of a conference room for meetings. San Diego Zoo Global will provide match funding for use of live aboard research vessel and tender/runabout vessel, boat maintenance costs and use of a vehicle on Providenciales. RSPB will cover some international

travel and subsistence costs.

**Q6b. Proposed (confirmed & unconfirmed) 50
matched funding as % of total project cost
(total cost is the Darwin request plus
other funding required to run the project).**

Section 3 - Lead Organisation Summary

Q7. Summary of Project

Please provide a brief summary of your project, its aims, and the key activities you plan to undertake. Please note that if you are successful, this working may be used by Defra in communications e.g. as a short description of the project on [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk).

Please write this summary for a non-technical audience.

No Response

Q8. Lead organisation summary

Has your organisation been awarded a Darwin Initiative award 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 |
|--------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| DPLUS098 | Charlie Butt | Restoring and safeguarding wetlands of the Caribbean UKOTs |
| DPLUS095 | Jonathan Hall | Strengthening biosecurity for remote Territory communities and their World Heritage |
| DPLUS076 | Cleo Small | Reducing South Georgia albatross mortality in High Seas tuna fisheries |
| DPLUS062 | Andy Schofield | Securing the future of the Tristan marine environment |
| DPLUS055 | Elizabeth Radford | Saving the Iguana Islands of Turks and Caicos |


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.


Yes

Please attach the requested signed audited/independently examined accounts.


 [RSPB Accounts 17-18](#)


 26/11/2019


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 pdf 4.08 MB

 [RSPB Accounts 18-19](#)

 26/11/2019

 10:48:09

 pdf 2.13 MB

Section 4 - Project Partners

Q9. 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. Please provide Letters of Support for the Lead Organisation and each partner or explain why this has not been included.

N.B: There is a file upload button at the bottom of this page for the upload of a cover letter (if applicable) and all letters of support.

Lead Organisation name:

Royal Society for the Protection of Birds

Website address:

www.rspb.org.uk

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

The UK Overseas Territories are a major strategic priority for the RSPB, and we have a track record of successful project delivery in the OTs under both Darwin and BEST. The RSPB has been working with the OTs for over 20 years. The underlying principle of our work is to establish enduring relationships with local partners in order to help support the development of sustainable and locally-lead conservation programmes. RSPB has been supporting efforts to protect the Critically Endangered TCI rock iguana for over six years, initially focussing on supporting our partner Turks & Caicos National Trust with management of Little Water Cay. Through DPLUS055 RSPB's support has expanded to other iguana islands and has built a strong cross-organisational partnership.

RSPB has strong capacity to engage and deliver the project.

The RSPB will provide project management, technical support on invasive species management/biosecurity and site management, partner capacity development and policy development. Sarah Havery has over seven years of relevant experience working in the UK, UKOTs and Caribbean on invasive species management and project management, including DPLUS055 and the Pine Cay 'Save the Iguana' eradication project.

Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?

Yes

Have you provided a cover letter to address your Stage 1 feedback?

Yes

Do you have partners involved in the Project?

Yes

1. Partner Name: Turks and Caicos National Trust (TCNT)

Website address: <https://tcnationaltrust.org/>

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

The Turks & Caicos National Trust (TCNT) is a non-profit organisation established in 1992 to protect, conserve and promote the cultural, historic and natural heritage of the Turks and Caicos Islands. TCNT is responsible for the management of a suite of natural and cultural heritage sites in TCI.

TCNT is the management authority for two Iguana Islands – Little Water Cay and Little Ambergris Cay. TCNT are responsible for biosecurity on these islands. TCNT will also lead targeted awareness raising with tour/barge operators and with hotels to promote 'Iguana friendly' code-of-conduct.

Winema Sanders-Penn, Director, will support the project through advocating project activities with management authorities for other Iguana Islands and with TCI Government. Della Higgs has coordinated DPLUS055 and EU BEST activities for over 2.5 years. Della will coordinate TCNT's project activities, including biosecurity monitoring and targeted awareness raising with tour/barge operators. TCNT wardens on Little Water Cay will support fieldwork activities.

Currently TCNT does not have the capacity to fully deliver biosecurity across their Iguana Islands. This project will enable two positions to be established, a TCNT recruited Conservation Officer and a seconded RSPB-Biosecurity Officer position to support TCNT to reach their management ambitions for their Iguana Islands.

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

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

Yes

2. Partner Name: Department of Environment and Coastal Resources (DECR); Turks and Caicos Islands Government

Website address: <https://www.gov.tc/decr/>

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

The Department of Environment and Coastal Resources (DECR) is mandated to ensure the sustainable use of the natural resources of the Turks and Caicos Islands and to protect and promote biodiversity and economic prosperity through environmentally sustainable development and a Protected Areas system.

DECR is the management authority for four Iguana Islands within the Protected Areas network included in this project (Mangrove, Donna, Lizard and Bird Cays), and for the island planned for iguana re-introduction, Grouper Cay. DECR will provide both technical support through ecological expertise and logistical support in terms of facilitation of the project's policy and permitting components.

The staff members involved in the project have worked for the department a total of 25 years and have considerable knowledge of the species and habitats of the cays as well as important local knowledge and connections essential for the smooth running of the project. DECR is unable to deliver the biosecurity needed for the Iguana Islands under their remit with the current capacity available. This project will provide capacity through a seconded RSPB-Biosecurity Officer position to support DECR to reach their management ambitions for their Iguana Islands.

Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?

Yes

3. Partner Name:

San Diego Zoo Global (SDZG)

Website address:

<https://www.endextinction.org/our-work>

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

San Diego Zoo Global (SDZG) is the largest zoo-based conservation organisation in the world and has been a leader in the conservation and research of Caribbean iguanas for 25 years.

SDZG will lead iguana data collection and data analysis, to monitor the biological impact of the feral cat- and rat-eradication project delivered across the 10-island Pine Cay complex in 2019. SDZG will complete an impact assessment of the rodenticide used in 2019 on iguanas. SDZG will also lead the translocation planning and reintroduction of iguanas to Grouper Cay.

Building on DPLUS055, further iguana and boa surveys will be completed on Big Ambergris Cay to continue to monitor the impacts of tourism development on the most important sub-populations of TCI's iguanas and boas left in the world.

Glenn Gerber has over 20 years of experience in TCI studying and conserving iguanas and boas, including the successful re-introduction of iguanas to five offshore cays, and maintains a fifty-foot live-aboard research boat and small field station on Providenciales. Members of his TCI field team come from zoos, universities, and government agencies across the US and have an average of more than 10 years of experience working in the TCI.

Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?

Yes

4. Partner Name:

Department of Agriculture (DoA); Turks and Caicos Islands Government

Website address:

www.gov.tc/agriculture/

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

The Department of Agriculture (DoA) is mandated to protect and promote animal health and to control the movement of animals and animal products into, from and within the Turks and Caicos Islands. DoA is responsible for plant and animal import/ exports to TCI, animal welfare and control, and inspections and veterinary services. DoA has expertise in biosecurity policy and legislation at national level and performs surveillance and monitoring functions. DoA will support public awareness raising activities of the impacts of invasive species and the importance of biosecurity. DoA will assist with the development of a TCIG biosecurity code-of-conduct. DoA will provide both technical support through veterinary expertise and logistical support in terms of facilitation of the project's activities.

Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?

Yes

5. Partner Name: Environmental Health Department (EHD); Turks and Caicos Islands Government

Website address: <https://gov.tc/moh/about-us/departments-units/environmental-health-department>

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

The Environmental Health Department (EHD) has a mandate to control environmental hazards to human health through the prevention, detection and control of environmental vectors. EHD also has the responsibility of Port Health Services.

EHD's Vector Control team will lead on enhancing integrated pest management practices on key ports on Providenciales and will provide oversight of all use of rodenticides within the project. EHD will assist with the development of a TCIG biosecurity code-of-conduct. EHD will provide both technical support through Port Health expertise and logistical support in terms of facilitation of the project's activities.

The project will provide the needed capacity support to deliver EHD's ambitions for Port Health on Providenciales through provisions of equipment and training resources.

Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation? No

If no, please provide details EHD is aware and approves of the project, however were unable to send us a letter in time for the deadline

6. Partner Name: Pine Cay Homeowners Association (PCHA)

Website address: <https://meridianclub.com/>

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

The Pine Cay Homeowners Association (PCHA) is the management authority for the privately-owned Iguana Island - Pine Cay, and oversees the Meridian Club, the hotel responsible for the running of the island.

PCHA has significantly invested in invasive species management on Pine Cay, by providing most of the \$620,000 funds needed to complete feral cat and black rat eradication from the 10-island Pine Cay complex between 2017 and 2019.

PCHA and the Meridian Club have committed to being responsible for biosecurity on four Iguana Islands (Pine, Water, Fort George and Grouper Cays), which has included implementing new protocols and working to establish a quarantine facility on Pine Cay.

PCHA will support the project by providing in-kind logistical support for visiting project team members. The project will support capacity gaps on Pine Cay by providing training and coordination between the various Iguana Islands partners.

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





If you require more space to enter details regarding Partners involved in the Project, please use the text field below.





Waterloo Investment Holdings Ltd (WIHL) www.wihl.com are the investment company responsible for the management of the current development of Big Ambergris Cay – the most important TCI Iguana Island in the world.

WIHL are responsible for biosecurity on Big Ambergris Cay. WIHL remain committed to the partnership and to providing logistical support for visiting project staff.

Building on efforts achieved in DPLUS055, this project will support WIHL to deliver its' biosecurity plan through addressing capacity gaps on Big Ambergris Cay by providing training and coordination between the various Iguana Islands partners. The project will provide more oversight of management activities through facilitating a working relationship between WIHL and TCNT.

Please provide a cover letter responding to feedback received at Stage 1 if applicable and a combined PDF of all Letters of Support.

 [RSPB Application Support Letter 2019 FINAL signed](#)
 26/11/2019
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 pdf 185.2 KB

 [Letters of support ALL](#)
 26/11/2019
 20:24:25
 pdf 1.5 MB

Section 5 - Project Staff

Q10. Project Staff

Please identify the key project personnel on this project, their role and what % of their time they

will be working on the project.

Please provide 1 page CVs for these staff, or a 1 page job description or Terms of Reference for roles yet to be filled. These should match the names and roles in the budget spreadsheet. If your team is larger than 12 people please review if they are core staff, or whether you can merge roles (e.g. 'admin and finance support') below, but provide a full table based on this template in the pdf of CVs you provide.

| Name (First name, Surname) | Role | % time on project | 1 page CV or job description attached? |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Sarah Havery | Project Leader | 30 | Checked |
| Karen Varnham | Technical bio-security advice, training support. | 15 | Checked |
| Charlie Butt | Partner/policy support. | 5 | Checked |
| Biosecurity Officer | TCI biosecurity coordination, biosecurity monitoring, training. Seconded post to TCNT. | 100 | Checked |


Do you require more fields?


Yes


| Name (First name, Surname) | Role | % time on project | 1 page CV or job description attached? |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Della Higgs | Project management; finance; fieldwork support; targeted awareness raising with tour/barge operators. | 30 | Checked |
| Aravana Lucsama | biosecurity monitoring, surveys, education | 100 | Checked |
| Glenn Gerber | Iguana survey, monitoring, training | 25 | Checked |
| Giuliano Colosimo | Iguana survey, monitoring, training | 25 | Checked |
| Tarren Wagener | Blood analysis | 4 | Checked |
| Graham Reynolds | Boa survey and data analysis | 6 | Checked |
| Eric Salamanca | Project steering & support; logistical support, permits | 2 | Checked |

Please provide 1 page CVs (or job description if yet to be recruited) for the Project staff listed above as a combined PDF.


Ensure the file is named clearly, consistent with the named individual and role above.


 [CV RSPB Biosecurity Officer Job Specification](#)


 26/11/2019

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 pdf 69.78 KB

 [CVs ALL](#)

 26/11/2019

 20:27:51

 pdf 1.19 MB

Have you attached all Project staff CVs?

Yes

Section 6 - Background & Methodology

Q11. Problems the project is trying to address

Please describe the problem your project is trying to address in terms of environment and climate issues in the UKOTs.

For example, what are the specific threats to the environment that the project will attempt to address? Why are they relevant, for whom? How did you identify these problems? How will your proposed project help? What key OT Government priorities and themes will it address?

Invasive species are one of the greatest threats to biodiversity in the UKOTs; and biosecurity controls that minimise the risk of new arrivals are the most effective way of reducing this threat. TCI currently has the weakest biosecurity capacity of all UKOTs, shown in a UK Government Biosecurity Gap Analysis report*.

DPLUS055 set a strong foundation of cross-organisational partnership and improved local knowledge of biosecurity, with implementation of biosecurity on two Iguana Islands. Despite this, risks remain high; over the last 2 years there were three incursions of invasive rodents to Big Ambergris Cay, likely through transportation of building materials, and the 10-island Pine Cay complex now free of feral cats and rats remain vulnerable to incursions due to proximity to Providenciales, the main gateway to TCI. Because of DPLUS055, TCI partners now have a desire to further implement holistic biosecurity but have highlighted significant capacity gaps to achieve this ambition.

There has been significant investment from TCI partners, including funding the eradication and committing to designating biosecurity staff; however further support is needed to meet the challenge to ensure these investments remain sustainable. If these issues are not addressed, the likelihood of further incursions of invasive species to Iguana Islands will increase and the positive benefits of the eradication rapidly lost.

The TCI partners have further highlighted urgent need to address uncontrolled tourism on Half Moon Bay, TCI's premier eco-destination. Over 20 unregulated tour operators use Half Moon Bay, resulting in rubbish entangling Iguanas and poor etiquette, with people touching and feeding them.

TCI government priorities addressed:

- Revised National Parks Ordinance (2016);
- The National Tourism Policy and Strategic Implementation Plan (2015);
- The Environment Charter (2001, principle 7).

The project will support the delivery of:

- Priority conservation actions of IUCN TCI Iguana Species Action Plan

*<http://www.nonnativespecies.org//downloadDocument.cfm?id=1566>

Q12. Methodology

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

Provide information on:

- How you have analysed historical and existing initiatives and are building on or taking work already done into account in project design. Please cite evidence where appropriate.
- The rationale for carrying out this work and a justification of your proposed methodology.
- How you will undertake the work (materials and methods).
- How you will manage the work (role and responsibilities, project management tools etc.)

Please make sure you read the [Guidance Notes](#) before answering this question.

(This may be a repeat from Stage 1 but you may update or refine as necessary)

DPLUS055 has built a strong foundation of partnership which will be developed further through a holistic approach to biosecurity and implementing priority management actions identified during DPLUS055. Each partner will have specific responsibilities, but all will be involved in the different elements:

Output 1 Improving site management: Regular biosecurity checks will be initiated across the 10-island Pine Cay complex and Big Ambergris Cay to ensure rodent incursions are identified and rapidly responded to, following procedures in the respective DPLUS055 Biosecurity Plans. Long-term rodent control will be initiated at key ports on Providenciales to reduce the chances of high-risk invasive species being introduced to Pine Cay and Big Ambergris Cay. Management plans for two sites suffering from uncontrolled tourism/development, Half Moon Bay and Big/Little Ambergris Cays, will be agreed. Awareness materials and speed restrictions will reduce iguana road mortality on Big Ambergris Cay.

Output 2 Building biosecurity capacity: Building on the biosecurity gap analysis by UK Government, we will aim to address some of the essential needs of TCI partners to deliver effective biosecurity. The assessment will be repeated in year three to measure the impact of the project. Four TCI partners want to improve their biosecurity capacity, and one has already committed to hiring a Biosecurity Officer. Through an RSPB secondment, biosecurity capacity will be embedded within TCNT to train and support local staff of all TCI partners to deliver Outputs 1&4. A training programme will be developed and integrated into working practices of TCI partners. Long-term capacity needs will be addressed by strengthening institutional capacity for TCNT, a national biosecurity code-of-practice and partner-led training beyond the project to enable long-term national commitment to biosecurity/IAS management.

Output 3 Understanding ecological impacts: Confirmation of the invasive feral cat- and rat-free status of the

10-island Pine Cay complex will enable planning and delivery of iguana re-introduction to Grouper Cay. Plant surveys and monitoring of abundance and age structure of key native reptiles will provide a better understanding of the ecological impact of the eradication. Blood analysis through assays will determine how long toxins used in the eradication are persisting in iguanas to inform future eradication efforts for projects across the region involving iguanas. Iguana and boa surveys on Big Ambergris Cay will monitor the impact of the development activities allowing assessment of efforts made in Output 1 and 2.

Output 4 Increasing biosecurity awareness by tour/barge operators: Targeted biosecurity awareness raising with over 20 unregulated tour/barge operators to increase awareness and will improve biosecurity practices. An 'iguana friendly' voluntary code-of-conduct will be developed with the Tourism Board and agreements with five hotels to only use 'iguana friendly' operators will be in place. Recommendations will be submitted to TCI Government in respect to adopting a formalised accreditation scheme.

Output 5 Project management: RSPB will coordinate the project and all organisations involved; ensuring activities are delivered on time and to budget and the results shared between all participating organisations. Contracts will be made between RSPB and partners to ensure proper management of project funds.

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

No Response

Section 7 - Stakeholders and Beneficiaries

Q13. 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.

This project was fully devised following the DPLUS055 iguana conservation planning workshop in TCI in July 2019, where the Iguana Islands Partnership (all partners listed in Q9) and stakeholders agreed the priority actions needed for iguana conservation in TCI.

All partners (Q9) have been consulted in the development of this project. The Turks & Caicos National Trust (TCNT), San Diego Zoo Global and the Department of Environment and Coastal Resources (DECR) have directly inputted to the proposal.

TCI project stakeholders include:

- TCI Ports Authority, Lew Shipping and Tropical Shipping: The project will provide these stakeholders with biosecurity training and awareness materials, and these stakeholders will support rodent control at the key ports on Providenciales.
- Tourism Board and Visit TCI: TCNT will work with them to develop the 'iguana friendly' voluntary code-of-conduct.
- There is no authority with oversight of tour operators in TCI. Big Blue (an eco-friendly tour operator) will assist TCNT with effectively engaging with all tour operators.

International project stakeholders include:

- GB Non-Native Species Secretariat (GBNNS): The project has been designed to complement the GBNNS's 'OT Biosecurity Project'. GBNNS have been updated with the development of this project. The Project Manager will join the steering group for this project.
- Wildlife Management International Ltd (WMIL): delivered the cat and rat eradication from the 10-island Pine Cay complex. WMIL will provide technical input and advice and will deliver the thorough assessment of the 10-island Pine Cay complex.

Q14. Institutional Capacity

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

The UK Overseas Territories are a strategic priority for the RSPB, and we have a track record of successful project delivery in the OTs under both Darwin and BEST. RSPB has been supporting efforts to protect the TCI rock iguana for over six years. Through DPLUS055 RSPB's support has expanded to other iguana islands and has built a strong cross-organisational partnership.

RSPB will provide project management, technical support on invasive species management/biosecurity and site management. Sarah Havery has over seven years of relevant experience and has managed DPLUS055, building the Iguana Islands Partnership. Karen Varnham has over 20-years experience in predator control and biosecurity in the UK, Caribbean and elsewhere and has already worked closely with the Iguana Islands partners.

The different partners will bring different skills to the project:

- TCNT have strong skills in delivering education and awareness raising;
- DECRA have considerable knowledge of TCI species and habitats as well as important local knowledge and connections;
- San Diego Zoo Global have over 20 years of iguana data collection and data analysis and have successfully led and 5 iguana re-introductions;
- Department of Agriculture is responsible for plant and animal import/exports and will provide technical support through veterinary expertise and logistical support to facilitate the project's activities;
- Environmental Health Department will provide technical support through Port Health expertise and logistical support to facilitate the project's activities;
- Pine Cay Homeowners Association and Waterloo Investment Holdings Ltd will provide logistical support to facilitate the project's activities.

Q15. Project beneficiaries

Who will your project benefit? You should consider the direct benefits as a result of your project as well as the broader indirect benefits which may come about as a result of your project achieving its Outputs and Outcome. The measurement of any benefits should be included in your project logframe.

Over 20 staff from across 10 TCI partner/stakeholders will benefit from biosecurity training courses led by the RSPB-seconded Biosecurity Officer. TCI partner staff will benefit from TCI-based oversight and resources to deliver biosecurity on their respective Iguana Islands. Key staff from Turks & Caicos National Trust and DECRA will develop leadership in biosecurity, leading to improved capacity within TCI to collaboratively lead a holistic approach, which will be assessed through a repeated capacity assessment from the UK Government report baseline.

10+ tour/barge operators will have adopted a voluntary 'iguana friendly' code-of-conduct and five hotels will have agreed to only use 'iguana friendly' operators. This will show an increase in uptake of biosecurity practices. Recommendations will be made to TCI Government on formalising an accreditation scheme based on this, to enable sustainable management of these important eco-tourism destinations.

The project will also benefit the wider community of TCI by:

- Reducing the health risk to dock workers from rodents;
- Protecting tourism livelihoods based on key Iguana Islands;
- Reducing risk of inter-island spread of invasive species and the associated economic cost of control/eradication;
- Reducing risk of further introductions of invasive species to TCI;
- Protecting iconic species and sites.

Section 8 - Gender and Change Expected

Q16. Gender (optional)

How is your project working to reduce inequality between persons of different gender? At the very least, you should be able to provide reassurance that your proposed work is not increasing inequality. Have you analysed the context in which you are working to see how gender and other aspects of social inclusion might interact with the work you are proposing?

This project has been analysed to ensure that gender inequality will not be increased. Our project team comprises 44% women, ranging from technical delivery of biosecurity and awareness raising to Director-level project steering support.

Through DPLUS055 and the Pine Cay eradication project, women are starting to be seen in lead fieldwork and technical roles in TCI, which culturally is generally viewed as a man's role. This project will assist with providing an inclusive environment where women can lead in fieldwork roles.

This project will also help start to address the challenge that conservation jobs in TCI are often not seen as a career, particularly in the NGO sector, and therefore can suffer from high staff turnover. The TCNT wardens on Little Water Cay are often from disadvantaged backgrounds, therefore this project will provide training and support to these roles.

Awareness raising materials for barge operators will be produced in different languages to prevent exclusion.

Q17. Change expected

Detail the expected changes this work will deliver. You should identify what will change and who will benefit a) in short-term (i.e. during the life of the project) and b) in the long-term (after the project has ended). Please describe the changes for the environment and, where relevant, for people in the OTs, and how they are linked.

Short-term, the project will deliver strengthened biosecurity capacity within Turks & Caicos National Trust, TCI Government and private island managers, supported by international partners, to enhance protection of TCI's iguana islands from invasive species and uncontrolled tourism.

The following changes will be delivered:

- The 10-island Pine Cay complex will remain cat- and rat-free and Big Ambergris Cay will remain invasive-predator-free throughout project and beyond, because of increased local capacity and awareness, with effective responses delivered to incursions as they occur.
- The number of iguanas is stable or increasing on the 10-island Pine Cay complex and Big Ambergris Cay, with at least one iguana re-introduction planned and delivered.
- Management planning for Big/Little Ambergris Cays reduces the biosecurity risk of tourism development and reduces iguana road mortality through implementing effective mitigation.
- Improved capacity of TCI partners/stakeholders empowers them to lead biosecurity efforts collaboratively and independently compared to baseline through staffing and integrated training practices.
- Negative impacts of unregulated tourism on Half Moon Bay will be mitigated through awareness raising and establishing a voluntary 'iguana friendly' code-of-conduct.
- Increased biosecurity awareness shows greater compliance with biosecurity protocols from over 20 currently unregulated tour operators using Iguana Islands.
- Increased evidence of the benefits of invasive species eradication for iguanas, and regional recommendations for practitioners on multi-island eradication and biosecurity for islands at high risk of re-invasion.

Long-term, the project will help embed capacity to deliver effective and sustained biosecurity/control of invasive species. This improved control will ultimately help enhance the protection of natural assets in TCI, critical to tourism and wider national development. Working with key tour/barge operators to increase awareness and ensure biosecurity improvements are owned and embedded for the long-term, this project represents the first attempt at holistic management for invasive vertebrates in the Caribbean.

Q18. Pathway to change

Please outline your project's expected pathway to change. This should be an overview of the overall project logic and outline how you expect your Outputs to contribute towards you overall Outcome, and, longer term, your expected Impact.

There is a pressing need for improved collaboration, capacity and delivery of biosecurity/invasive species management across TCI partners/stakeholders to protect the critically endangered Turks & Caicos rock iguana.

This overall outcome will be achieved collaboratively, involving government, private sector and civil society, delivering applied management and mitigation of invasive species and unregulated tourism/development for the 10-island Pine Cay complex and Big Ambergris Cay (Output1). Improved management will be delivered through enhanced and sustained capacity building of government and civil society (Output2). Collaboratively engaging private sector stakeholders (tour/barge operators) will increase their 'ownership' of TCIs natural resources and invasive species management and address the key pathways for potential invasions (Output4). Improved understanding of the ecological impacts of recent eradication efforts will inform future island restoration/ biosecurity plans in TCI and regionally to be more effective (Output3). Efficient and adaptive project management following best practice is vital in building capacity and project delivery (Output5).

Collectively, this improved capacity, collaboration, understanding and recognition of biosecurity/invasive species impacts and improved management practices across TCI society will help ensure the unique species and habitats of TCI are protected and continue to provide critical nature based national development benefits into the future.

Q19. Sustainability

How will the project ensure benefits are sustained after the project have come to a close? If the project requires ongoing maintenance or monitoring, who will do this and how will it be funded?

Biosecurity require long-term commitment. TCI are a widely spread archipelago with multiple pathways meaning enforcement is challenging. The pathways include a trade route from Florida – a state struggling with invasive species. In the last month, green iguanas (an invasive species not currently established in TCI) have arrived on Providenciales.

It will be challenging and will take time to mainstream these measures into the day-to-day working of TCI partners/stakeholders; but is essential to prevent any further spread of invasive species. DPLUS055 has built a strong foundation but more effort is needed to sustain its' legacy and to scale up to the challenge.

The approach will involve top-down, working alongside local policy development processes and TCI Government to achieve sustainable legislative outputs; and bottom up, through training, up-skilling staff and on the ground conservation delivery. This project will scale up from two iguana islands covered in DPLUS055 to a total 11 islands, with impressive support from the TCI project partners, who are all determined to be implementing the biosecurity beyond the project, which will be supported by the project by addressing their individual capacity needs. The RSPB is committed to long-term partnerships with TCI to help ensure sustainability.

Section 9 - Funding and Budget

Q20. 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 from the Darwin Plus budget.


- [R8 D+ Budget form for projects under £100,000](#)
- [R8 D+ Budget form for projects over £100,000](#)


Please refer to the [Finance Guidance for Darwin/IWT](#) for more information.

N.B: Please state all costs by financial year (1 April to 31 March) and in GBP. Darwin Plus cannot agree any increase in grants once awarded.

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.

 [TCI biosecurity budget D+template v2](#)

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Q21. Co-financing

Are you proposing co-financing?

Yes

Q21a. 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 [Guidance Notes](#))

| Donor organisation | Amount | Currency code | Comments |
|----------------------------------------|--------|--------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| TCNT | ██████ | GBP | Core staff costs and time. |
| RSPB | ██████ | £0.00 | Staff time and overheads and travel for core staff. |
| Government and Private island partners | ██████ | <i>No Response</i> | PCHA (£██████) DECR (£██████) DoA (£██████) EHD (£██████) WIHL (£██████) |
| San Diego Zoo | ██████ | GBP | Staff time and boat use. |

Q21b. Unsecured

Provide details of any matched funding where an application has been submitted, or that you intend applying for during the course of the project. This could include matched funding from the private sector, charitable organisations or other public sector schemes. This should also include any additional funds required where a donor has not yet been identified.

| Date applied for | Donor organisation | Amount | Currency code | Comments |
|--------------------|--------------------|--------|--------------------|--------------------|
| <i>No Response</i> | <i>No Response</i> | 0 | <i>No Response</i> | <i>No Response</i> |
| <i>No Response</i> | <i>No Response</i> | 0 | <i>No Response</i> | <i>No Response</i> |
| <i>No Response</i> | <i>No Response</i> | 0 | <i>No Response</i> | <i>No Response</i> |
| <i>No Response</i> | <i>No Response</i> | 0 | <i>No Response</i> | <i>No Response</i> |

Do you require more fields?

No

Section 10 - Finance

Q22. 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?

The RSPB receives £15 million/yr grants and has great experience of managing such funding. RSPB has a good track record with the management of Darwin Projects, and procedures which follow highest financial accountability and control standards. Lead responsibility will rest with the Project Leader, Sarah Havery, in line with good project management practice. Wendy Cain in the RSPBs Project Development and Support Unit will oversee project spend. Wendy has overseen the financial management of multiple Darwin Plus and EU BEST over the past three years, including DPLUS055.

RSPB will sub-grant to San Diego Zoo Global and Turks & Caicos National Trust, and these partners will produce quarterly financial reports and submit them to the RSPB. Financial updates will also be a standing item on all project management and steering group meetings.

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

Q23. 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 RSPB takes financial risk very seriously, especially in projects implemented outside the UK, and has an International Financial Risk Management Working Group to predict and manage emerging risks. For the project proposed here, though, we consider the risk to be low.

There are three main reasons for this.

(1) The amount of money involved, although substantial, is a sum similar to previous Darwin and Darwin Plus projects which have been successfully managed.

(2) We have long-term partnerships and funding with all of our OT partners and they are stable, highly reputable, and well known to us.

(3) Most of the grant will be spent by RSPB or one of these partners, rather than by subcontractors – permitting greater control and reducing risk.

Through DPLUS055 we are familiar with the financial management systems of the partners. When RSPB staff do visit TCI, they will nonetheless conduct a financial spot check on behalf of our International Financial Risk Management Working Group. Internal RSPB procedures will ensure close monitoring of project spend- a separate budget line will be established and monthly financial reports issued.

Q24. 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.

This project represents excellent value for money because it combines expertise, staff time and other resources of multiple parties, including the TCNT, Turks and Caicos Government, specialists from international institutions and NGOs and local civil society. Combining experienced local and international actors will enable collective expertise to focus on securing recent investments to restore islands for the most iconic and one of the most threatened species in the Turks and Caicos, the TCI Rock Iguana. The project is timely as it follows a recent incursion from one of the most pervasive and economically harmful IAS in the Caribbean; the Green Iguana. It will bring and build urgently-needed biosecurity capacity to TCI. The biosecurity initiatives will bring significant added value for TCI's unique avifauna and other endemic threatened herptiles ensuring the recently restored Little Water Cay and surrounding islands remain IAS-free. Lessons learned from this project can be transmitted to other Caribbean UKOTs via the NGOs represented in the Caribbean Conservation Network (supported by RSPB) and shared at regional fora such as Birds Caribbean. The budget proposed is based on known costs from and experience implementing the current D+ project Saving the Iguana Islands of Turks and Caicos (DPLUS055).

Q25. Capital Items

If you plan to purchase capital items with Darwin Funding, please indicate what you anticipate will happen to the items following project end.

A laptop will be purchased for the RSPB-seconded Biosecurity Officer for the duration of the project and will remain with TCNT to use beyond the end of the project. GPS units will be purchased to be used by the project team and will remain with the TCI partners to use for completing biosecurity checks beyond the end of the project. Tablets purchased for the baseline surveys in advance of the biosecurity awareness activities will remain the property of TCNT.

San Diego Zoo Global will purchase pit tags to be used in iguanas for the translocation effort, and any remaining will be left in their storage facilities in TCI.

Q26. 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.

Open access to data and the products of research is a general policy of RSPB. All data, reports, leaflets, training materials, photographs, films and other outputs from the project will be free access, and available in digital form where possible and appropriate on the Darwin, RSPB, and Iguana Islands partners' websites. All data gathered and analysed during the project will be made available in digitised format.

All project reports will be made available on the Darwin website along with data collected during this project. Data collected on threatened species will be given to DECR in database format and available through them for conservation purposes. Annual and half-year reports to Darwin will also list project progress and the products available from them. All reports and recommendations will also be shared with the TCI Government. A minimum of one peer-reviewed paper is envisaged as part of the project outputs—depending on the 'accepting journal' these will also be available on line.

The Turks & Caicos National Trust will host a web page on the project where reports, updates and photographs will be posted with links from various facebook pages and twitter feeds. RSPB and other

Iguana Islands partners' will be able to promote photographs and stories arising. The management plans will be included within the Darwin reports.

Section 11 - Safeguarding

Q27. Safeguarding

Projects funded through Darwin Plus must fully protect vulnerable people all of the time, wherever they work. In order to provide assurance of this, projects are required to have appropriate safeguarding policies in place. Please confirm the lead organisation has the following policies in place and that these are available on request:

| | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| We have a safeguarding policy, which includes a statement of your commitment to safeguarding and a zero tolerance statement on bullying, harassment and sexual exploitation and abuse | Checked |
| We keep a detailed register of safeguarding issues raised and how they were dealt with | Checked |
| We have clear investigation and disciplinary procedures to use when allegations and complaints are made, and have clear processes in place for when a disclosure is made | Checked |
| We share our safeguarding policy with downstream partners | Checked |
| We have a whistle-blowing policy which protects whistle-blowers from reprisals and includes clear processes for dealing with concerns raised | Checked |
| We have a Code of Conduct in place for staff and volunteers that sets out clear expectations of behaviors - inside and outside of the work place - and make clear what will happen in the event of non-compliance or breach of these standards | Checked |

Section 12 - Logical Framework

Q28. 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.

Impact:

The unique species and habitats of the Turks and Caicos Islands are protected from invasive alien species and continue to provide critical nature based national development benefits into the future.

| Project summary | Measurable Indicators | Means of verification | Important Assumptions |
|------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
|------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|

Outcome:

Increased biosecurity capacity and stakeholder commitment to safeguard the endemic Turks & Caicos rock iguana and its natural habitats.

0.1. The 10-island Pine Cay complex remains cat- and rat-free and Big Ambergris Cay remains invasive-predator free throughout project and beyond, with rapid and effective responses delivered to invasive mammal incursions.

0.2. Reduction in human impact on iguanas on Big Ambergris Cay through 50% reduction in iguana road mortalities by 2023.

0.3. Improved capacity within TCI partners/stakeholders to lead biosecurity efforts collaboratively and independently by 2023.

0.4. Increased biosecurity awareness shows greater compliance with biosecurity protocols from 10 tour operators using iguana islands by 2023.

0.5. Number of iguanas are stable or increasing against baseline, across the 10-island Pine Cay complex and Big Ambergris Cay throughout project, with an increase in range through one re-introduction in 2021.

0.6. Increased evidence of the benefits of invasive species eradication for iguanas, and regional recommendations for practitioners on multi-island eradications, and biosecurity for islands at high risk of reinvasion, produced by 2023.

0.1.1. Quarterly biosecurity reports & incursion response reports for 10-island Pine Cay complex and Big Ambergris Cay

0.2.1 Big Ambergris Cay management plan; photos of road mortality mitigation measures.

0.2.2 Reports on iguana road mortality on Big Ambergris.

0.3.1. TCI partner staff work plans include leading biosecurity efforts and stakeholder training.

0.3.2. Repeated capacity assessment report against 2018 UK Government baseline.

0.3.3. Cabinet paper to TCI Government for addressing biosecurity capacity gaps.

0.4.1. Half Moon Bay management plan

0.4.2 MOU/agreement with Tourism Board for voluntary 'Iguana Friendly' code of conduct scheme

0.4.3. Repeated assessment report of barge/tour operator biosecurity practices.

0.4.4. Report to TCI Government with results of voluntary tour operator code of conduct outlining recommendations on formalising an accreditation scheme.

0.5.1. Report on iguana populations numbers.

0.5.2. Translocation plan for Grouper Cay.

0.5.3. Progress update report against IUCN SSC

TCI Government continue to see importance of biosecurity to TCI's native wildlife and related industries. Tour operators and developers ready to engage in discussions about biosecurity. The 10-island eradication project is successful at removing all invasive mammalian predators. The project is not affected by extreme weather events such as hurricanes.

Species Action Plan for TCI rock iguana.
 0.6.1. Recommendations paper submitted to IUCN Iguana Specialist Group, Invasive Species Specialist Group and regional group.

Output 1:

Improved site management of the 10-island Pine Cay complex and Big Ambergris Cay to enhance protection of endemic TCI rock iguana. Improved site management of the 10-island Pine Cay complex and Big Ambergris Cay to enhance protection of endemic TCI rock iguana.

1.1. Biosecurity checks completed across the 10-island Pine Cay complex and Big Ambergris Cay at least every 2 months throughout project.
 1.2. Rodent control initiated and enhanced at priority pathway points (key docks/ports) on Providenciales in 2020 to reduce rodent incursion risk for the 10-island Pine Cay complex and Big Ambergris Cay.
 1.3. A management plan is agreed and initiated by TCI partners for Half Moon Bay by end 2020.
 1.5. A management plan is agreed and implemented by TCI partners for Big Ambergris & Little Ambergris Cay by end 2021.
 1.6. The number of road kills of iguanas on Big Ambergris is reduced by 50% from the DPLUS055 baselines by the end of the project.

1.1.1 Quarterly datasheets, reports.
 1.2.1 Training materials, staff timesheets, data records.
 1.3.1 Management plan signed off by TCI Government for Half Moon Bay.
 1.4.1 Plan, Photographs, maps, staff timesheets
 1.5.1 Agenda, workshop report and management plan for Big Ambergris & Little Ambergris Cay; Signed MoU between TCI partners for management of Big Ambergris & Little Ambergris Cay.
 1.6.1 Data and report on iguana road kills on Big Ambergris Cay.

Private island owners remain committed to developing biosecurity. We believe this holds true as two have committed own funds and to being partners of this project. It remains possible for project staff to access all of the islands. This currently holds true due to equipment purchased in DPLUS055. Government agencies are committed to inputting and approving management plans. The key agencies are project partners and are fully supportive of the project.

Output 2:

Improved biosecurity capacity within TCI partners to implement effective biosecurity management across the 10-island Pine Cay complex, Big Ambergris Cay and at a national level.

2.1. Resources embedded within priority TCI partners/stakeholders through RSPB seconded post to build dedicated biosecurity capacity by Dec 2020.
2.2. Three TCI partners have strengthened biosecurity capacity by 2022.
2.3. Commitment from at least one TCI partner to establish permanent biosecurity role(s) by 2023.
2.4. TCNT owned institutional strengthening plan, which will include biosecurity, in place by Dec 2020 and strengthened institutional capacity by Dec 2021.
2.5. Training programme developed by mid-2021 for staff working on Little Water Cay, Big Ambergris Cay and other priority iguana sites with 6 training courses delivered and 20 newly trained staff by 2023.
2.6. the 2018 UK Government capacity needs assessment repeated at end of project to demonstrate training impact.

2.1.1 Staff in posts, contracts. Work programmes.
2.2.1 Contracts for new staff, work programmes.
2.3.1 Letter/MOU from TCI partner(s), biosecurity job description.
2.4.1 Agenda for strengthening workshop; signed attendee list.
2.4.2 Cabinet update paper on TCNT institutional strengthening plan; agenda and outcomes document from Strategic Operational Planning workshop.
2.5.1 Training materials, training programme schedules, attendance lists, feedback forms, photographs, biosecurity-inclusive work plans.
2.5.2 Biosecurity code of practice (CoP) cabinet paper, cabinet meeting minutes approving CoP.
2.6.1. TCI biosecurity capacity assessment report.

Successful recruitment of appropriate candidates.
TCI partners remain committed to addressing biosecurity capacity gaps, as demonstrated with hiring Biosecurity Officer for Pine Cay / Big Ambergris.
TCI Government continue to see importance of biosecurity to TCI's native wildlife and related industries.

Output 3:

. Improved understanding of the ecological impacts of recent IAS eradication efforts, to inform effective future island restoration/ biosecurity plans in TCI and across the region.

3.1. Ecological assessment of the 10-island Pine Cay complex to confirm rat- and cat-free status by end 2020.
3.2. Two datasets of iguana surveys from the 10-island Pine Cay complex and two plant datasets from Little Water Cay and Pine Cay to monitor biological impact of the cat- and rat-eradication project delivered in 2019.
3.3. Annual datasets and data analysis of iguanas and boas on Big Ambergris Cay to monitor impacts of ongoing development activities.
3.4. Establish a baseline blood analysis of rodenticide impact on iguanas in 2020 and monitor annually to determine toxin longevity in iguanas to inform future eradication projects and long-term management efforts.
3.5. Translocation suitability plan produced by mid-2021 and completion of an iguana reintroduction to Grouper Cay by the end of the project.

3.1.1 Final technical report publication reviewing Pine Cay eradication project, Photographs
3.2.1 Iguana & plant database owned by TCIG, reports
3.3.1 Iguana & boa databases; reports
3.4.1 Report on blood analysis outlining management recommendations
3.5.1 Plan document, photograph, iguana database, translocation report

Islands are accessible by project team.
Specialist group members (volunteers) willing to engage.
Appropriate consultant available for ecological assessment.
Rat- and cat-free status of the 10-island Pine Cay complex is confirmed.
An appropriate lab analysis of blood assays for rodenticide levels is available. We believe this will hold true as we have run some trail samples from DPLUS055 with a lab associated with the partners.
Big Ambergris management remain supportive of the project and to continue commitment of cofunding. We believe this will hold true as they are listed as a partner on the project.

Output 4:

Increased awareness of biodiversity, biosecurity and the impacts of invasive species resulting in improved/better managed tour & barge operator practices.

4.1. A baseline questionnaire survey on basic biosecurity practices of 100% tour/barge operators completed by end 2020 and repeated at end of project shows >50% have adopted new practices after a targeted public awareness campaign delivered 2020-22.
4.2. 'Iguana friendly' voluntary code of conduct developed and agreed by the Tourism Board by end 2022 and 10 tour operators and barge operators sign up.
4.3. Up to five tour companies expressing interest in signing up to a TCI Government-approved accreditation scheme, with voluntary agreement by five hotels to use only accredited operators for their guests by 2023.

4.1.1 Questionnaire surveys, data analysis report. Posters, radio sessions, tv advertisements, Leaflets, photographs of meetings
4.2.1 Signed voluntary agreements, protocol for sign up to voluntary scheme.
4.3.1. Cabinet paper submitted with recommendations for accreditation scheme.
4.3.2. Records of interest from tour companies and hotel agreement letters/MoUs.

Tour operators, barge operators and other stakeholders ready to engage in further discussions about biosecurity, demonstrated by attendance to 2019 iguana planning workshop. Tourism Board is in support of an accreditation scheme. There is interest from tour operators for adopting an iguana friendly code of conduct.

Output 5:

Project managed and monitored effectively.

5.1 Project monitoring plan developed in first 3 months and reviewed quarterly.
5.2 Regular communication maintained between the team; biannual skype calls and annual visits and reports from managers.
5.3 Annual face to face project meetings take action to address any challenges and maintain engagement of senior managers within project partners.
5.4 Technical and financial reporting to RSPB and Darwin accurate and on time and to high standard.

5.1 Monitoring plan and quarterly updates.
5.2 Skype meeting minutes and project manager's reports.
5.3 Meeting action points completed, attendance list for annual meetings.
5.4 Technical and financial reports and approval notes from Darwin.

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.

1. Improving site management

1.1. Biosecurity monitoring for rats and feral cats is completed monthly across the higher risk sites in the 10-island Pine Cay complex (Little Water Cay, Water Cay and Pine Cay).

1.2. Biosecurity monitoring for rats is completed every 2 months across the lower risk sites in the 10-island Pine Cay complex (Mangrove, Donna, Fort George, Grouper, Lizard and Bird Cays and Star Island).

1.3. Biosecurity monitoring for rats is completed monthly across Big Ambergris Cay.

1.4. Rodent control established at Heavin' Down Rock, the port that services Pine Cay, by Year 1 Q4 and maintained monthly throughout the project.

1.5. Rodent control established at the South Dock extension, the port that services Big Ambergris Cay, by Year 1 Q4 and maintained monthly throughout the project.

1.6. Facilitate a stakeholder workshop on the management of Half Moon Bay with key output of an agreed management plan, including biosecurity, by end 2020.

1.7. Facilitate a stakeholder workshop on the management of Big Ambergris Cay / Little Ambergris Cay with key output of an agreed management plan, including biosecurity, by end 2021.

1.8. Signage installed, awareness materials circulated to homeowners and construction workers and vehicle

speed restrictions enforced by Big Ambergris Cay management by end of the project.

2. Building biosecurity capacity

2.1. Recruit an experienced Biosecurity Officer in Year 1 Q2 to be seconded to TCNT by end December 2020 for 2 years to coordinate biosecurity efforts, training, staff development support and project delivery across Iguana Islands Partnership within TCI.

2.2. Three dedicated biosecurity roles to be established for Little Water Cay, Pine Cay and Big Ambergris Cay by Year 1 Q4 with at least one post maintained beyond the end of the project.

2.3. Facilitate workshop in Year 1 Q1 to establish an institutional strengthening plan for TCNT.

2.4. Produce a TCI Government-endorsed national biosecurity code of practice by end of project

2.5. Produce biosecurity training materials and resources by end of March 2021.

2.6. Develop biosecurity training programme and schedule by integrating into existing staff induction/training programmes for Iguana Islands partners by Year 1 Q2.

2.7. Deliver six biosecurity training courses over 2 years to 20 staff from 10 partner and stakeholders organisations.

2.8. In Year 3 and beyond the project, biosecurity training led by key DECR/TCNT/EHD staff for specialised roles across the Iguana Islands Partnership.

2.9. Complete a repeated biosecurity capacity needs assessment in Year 3 Q4 to assess improvements against UK Government 2018 baseline report.

3. Understanding ecological impacts

3.1 Complete a thorough rodent and feral-cat assessment survey of the 10-island Pine Cay complex subject to the 2019 eradication effort to confirm rat- and feral cat-free status by end 2020.

3.2 Complete two iguana surveys across the 10-island Pine Cay complex to obtain relative abundance and age structure to compare against baselines from DPLUS055 to assess impact of the 2019 eradication effort.

3.3. Complete two plant surveys across Little Water Cay and Pine Cay to compare against baselines from DPLUS055 to assess impact of the 2019 eradication effort.

3.4. Complete three annual iguana surveys on Big Ambergris Cay to compare against baselines from DPLUS055 to continue monitoring of development impacts.

3.5 Complete boa monitoring to compare against baselines from DPLUS055 to continue monitoring of development impacts.

3.5. Analyse iguana blood samples collected in 2019 from the 10-island Pine Cay complex during DPLUS055 and the 2019 eradication effort for a baseline rodenticide level.

3.6. Collect blood samples from a total of 30 iguanas per year and analyse blood samples to monitor rodenticide levels in iguanas against the 2019 baseline.

3.7 Write a peer-review paper outlining the rodenticide results and recommendations for future eradications on islands with iguanas present.

3.8. Produce a translocation plan for iguanas to Fort George and Grouper by mid-2020, in light of the results from 3.1.

3.9. Complete re-introduction of iguanas to Grouper Cay by end 2021 following translocation plan (Action 3.9).

4. Increased biosecurity awareness by tour and barge operators.

4.1. Design a repeated questionnaire survey on basic biosecurity practices and collect baseline data on 100% tour/barge operators in TCI by end 2020.

4.2. Develop an 'Iguana friendly' voluntary code-of-conduct with Tourism Board by end of 2020.

4.3. Produce biosecurity awareness materials and resources, promoting 'Iguana friendly' code-of-conduct by Year 2 Q1.

4.4. Deliver a targeted awareness campaign to tour & barge operators through meetings, workshops and events encouraging adoption of voluntary code-of-conduct.

4.5. Hold meetings to obtain voluntary agreements from five hotels in TCI on only using operators who are adopting the 'Iguana friendly' code-of-conduct by the end of the project.

4.6. Repeat the questionnaire survey on basic biosecurity practices at the end of the project.

4.7. Write a report and present the results of the biosecurity awareness of tour/barge operators and recommendations to TCI Government in respect to a formalised accreditation scheme by the end of the

project.

5. Project management

5.1 In Year 1 Q1 develop and agree project monitoring plan and use it as a project management tool to monitor implementation progress.

5.2 Bi-annual skype or conference call for core project team to plan forthcoming work schedule ensuring boats and personnel availability coincide.

5.3 Bi-annual internal (project team) technical and financial reporting to RSPB.

5.4 3x annual meeting of project team and management in TCI (Providenciales) just prior to the spring fieldwork session (March/April each year) for planning and sharing of data between all project partners from subsequent years.

5.5 Mid-term evaluation with project team.

Section 13 - Implementation Timetable


Q29. Provide a project implementation timetable that shows the key milestones in project activities


Provide a project implementation timetable that shows the key milestones in project activities. Complete the Excel spreadsheet template as appropriate to describe the intended workplan for your project.

[Implementation Timetable Template](#)

Please add/remove 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. The workplan can span multiple pages if necessary.

 [Implementation Timetable FINAL](#)

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Section 14 - Monitoring and Evaluation

Q30. 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. Additionally, please indicate an approximate budget and level of effort (person days) to be spent on M&E (see [Finance Guidance for Darwin/IWT](#)).

The coordination of project monitoring and evaluation of the project will be led by the project leader Sarah Havery and will comprise internal evaluations as follows:

- Establishing responsibility for indicators:

At project start up, the project partners will go through the indicators in the logframe and establish who will be responsible for ensuring that the data for each indicator is collected and collated including (but not limited to); meeting minutes, datasets, reports, recommendations, stakeholder meeting reports. The responsibility for the indicator will rest with the individual leading that work but who may then delegate elements. The data will be brought together by the project manager in close collaboration with responsible individuals. The details of these decisions will result in a project monitoring plan.

- Regular project management meetings, bi-annual project skypes/conference calls:

These will involve key operational personnel (planned for July and January each year) and the monitoring plan (above) will be assessed as progress against the log frame indicators is reported. Specific actions to address indicators that have not been achieved and the monitoring plan revised accordingly.

- Annual meetings:

The second and third annual project meetings will include an internal evaluation of the project covering technical and financial aspects as official mid-term reviews. Senior staff from participating organisations in TCI will be invited. Not only will these individual be able to see progress, they will be able to assess the quality and efficacy of work undertaken to date and set it in the bigger picture of conservation priorities within TCI and also help develop solutions to any challenges the project team might be facing.

Key monitoring areas and responsibilities:

1. Data collection across biosecurity monitoring and ecological impacts to inform management plans – TCNT, San Diego Zoo, Pine Cay and Big Ambergris Cay will all record biosecurity monitoring data, this will be collated by the biosecurity officer and will be stored centrally with DECR. A peer review paper will be produced to share lessons learnt.
2. Capacity Building – Achieved through appointing new staff, embedding an RSPB expert, training and learning by doing. Information will be collected and share by each partner on their own staff records and training plans and outcomes.
3. Awareness Raising – TCNT will lead the awareness raising work and manage relations with operators. This will include designing questionnaires and implementing and analysing the feedback to report to the management team. Discussions led by TCNT with tour operators and government officials will lead to drafts code of conduct and cabinet paper.

Costs of Monitoring and evaluation:

Project manager: 80% of time and 100% of travel and subsistence = £ [REDACTED]

Core field team: 5% of time = £ [REDACTED]

Rest of team: 1% = £ [REDACTED]

Meeting costs: £ [REDACTED]

Total project budget for M&E in GBP (this may include Staff, Travel and Subsistence costs) £ [REDACTED]

Number of days planned for M&E 12.00

Percentage of total project budget set aside for M&E (%) 4.94

Section 15 - Certification

Q31. Certification

On behalf of the

trustees

of

Royal Society for the Protection of Birds

I apply for a grant of

£299,603.00

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 have enclosed CVs for project key project personnel, letters of support, budget and project implementation timetable (uploaded at appropriate points in application).
- Our last two sets of signed audited/independently verified accounts and annual report are also enclosed.

Checked

Name Dr Andy Evans

Position in the organisation Head of Global Species Recovery

Signature (please upload e-signature)  [Andy signature](#)
 26/11/2019
 17:15:02
 pdf 21.34 KB

Date 26 November 2019

Section 16 - 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 I have included the correct final total at the start of the application. | Checked |
| The application has been signed by a suitably authorised individual (clear electronic or scanned signatures are acceptable). | Checked |
| I have included a 1 page CV or job description for all the Project staff identified at Question 14, including the Project Leader, or provided an explanation of why not. | Checked |
| I have included a letter of support from the Lead Organisation and main partner organisation(s) identified at Question 13, or an explanation of why not. | Checked |
| I have included a cover letter from the Lead Organisation, outlining how any feedback at Stage 1 has been addressed where relevant. | Checked |
| I have been in contact with the FCO in the project country(ies) and have included any evidence of this. if not, I have provided an explanation of why not. | Unchecked |
| I have included 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 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.

Unchecked

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 organisation, 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).