
DPR9S2\1034

Protecting Anguilla's biodiversity by building capacity in invasive plant management.

The project will build capacity in Anguilla to reduce the risk of introduction and spread of invasive plant species. Through a programme of "learning by doing", skill sharing and community involvement five priority invasive plant species will be tackled, with eradication of at least three, and a monitoring programme established for early warning and rapid response. Biosecurity will be strengthened. Lessons learned will be shared with other regional UKOT territories, and an Invasive Plant Strategy developed to guide future work.

Section 1 - Contact Details

PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

Title Mr
Name Rhon
Surname Connor
Organisation Department of Natural Resources
(Government of Anguilla)
Tel (Work) [REDACTED]
Email (Work) [REDACTED]
Address [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

GMS ORGANISATION

Type	Organisation
Name	Department of Natural Resources (Government of Anguilla)
Phone	[REDACTED]
Email	[REDACTED]
Address	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Section 2 - Title, Dates & Budget Summary

Q3a. Project title

Protecting Anguilla's biodiversity by building capacity in invasive plant management.

Q3b. What was your Stage 1 reference number? e.g. DPR9S1\10008

DPR9S1\1045

Q4. UKOT(s)

Which eligible UK Overseas Territory(ies) will your project be working in?

Anguilla

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

No Response

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

Yes

Please list below.

Montserrat, Cayman Islands, British Virgin Islands and Turks and Caicos Islands.

Q5. Project dates

Start date:

01 July 2021

End date:

30 June 2024

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

3 Years

Q6. Budget summary

Year:	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	Total request
Darwin funding request (Apr - Mar)	£74,109.00	£86,912.00	£99,533.00	£24,201.00	£ 284,755.00

Q6a. Do you have proposed matched funding arrangements?

Yes

What matched funding arrangements are proposed?

Matched funding include in-kind contribution of salaried staff in the lead agency Department of Natural Resources to the value of \$ [REDACTED] Matched funding for the University of Durham is equivalent to £ [REDACTED] and for the NNS to £ [REDACTED]

The University of Durham will also fund a 2 week visit by Wayne Dawson in year 1 to carry out training on surveying and mapping techniques, valued at £ [REDACTED]

Match funding also includes the time of external expert members of the technical advisory group to participate remotely in meetings held quarterly, and for reviewing documents, estimated at a total of £ [REDACTED]

Q6b. Proposed matched funding as % of total project cost (total cost is the Darwin request plus other funding required to run the project). [REDACTED]

Section 3 - Project Summary and Conventions

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.

The project will build capacity in Anguilla to reduce the risk of introduction and spread of invasive plant species. Through a programme of “learning by doing”, skill sharing and community involvement five priority invasive plant species will be tackled, with eradication of at least three, and a monitoring programme established for early warning and rapid response. Biosecurity will be strengthened. Lessons learned will be shared with other regional UKOT territories, and an Invasive Plant Strategy developed to guide future work.

Q8. Biodiversity Conventions, Treaties and Agreements

Please detail how your project will contribute to the aims of the agreement(s) your project is targeting. What key OT Government priorities and themes will it address? You should refer to Articles or Programmes of Work here. You should also consider local, territory specific agreements and action plans here.

The project will contribute substantially to global, regional and national strategic objectives. Outputs will support the following:

Global objectives:

- Aichi Target 9 under the Convention on Biological Diversity: By 2020, invasive alien species and pathways are identified and prioritized, priority species are controlled or eradicated and measures are in place to manage pathways to prevent their introduction and establishment.
- UN's 2030 Sustainable Development Goal Target 15.8: By 2020, introduce measures to prevent the introduction and significantly reduce the impact of invasive alien species on land and water ecosystems and control or eradicate the priority species.
- Recommendation 20 in the 2019 Environmental Audit Committee on Invasive Species: The greatest gap in [the OTs] biosecurity has been found to be preventing species arriving, which is exacerbated by new infrastructure projects introducing invasive species and lack of biosecurity legislation and enforcement. We welcome the work carried out by the GB Non Native Species Secretariat supporting the OTs with pathway analysis and biosecurity legislation. This must be scaled up and fully resourced to ensure that each OT has up to date biosecurity legislation and adequate powers of enforcement and resources and expertise to carry it out by the end of 2020.
- Invasive Non-Native Species Framework Strategy for Great Britain, Key Action 9.5: strengthen support for the Overseas Territories and Crown Dependencies, for example by:
 - o continuing Defra support of the overseas territories identification service for invertebrate plant pests, delivered by Fera;
 - o sharing technical expertise;
 - o providing training, including biosecurity training.
- The UK government's response to the International Union for Conservation of Nature's Honolulu Challenge of 2016, calling for greater action to tackle the issue of invasive non-native species across the globe.
- UK Overseas Territories Biodiversity Strategy 2009, Strategic Objective ii preventing the establishment of invasive alien species, and eradicating or controlling species that have already become established.
- The UK government's obligations to the OTs under the Global Britain Strategy.

National strategic objectives:

- Environment Charter: Ensure the protection and restoration of key habitats, species and landscape features through legislation and appropriate management structures and mechanisms, including a protected areas policy, and attempt the control and eradication of invasive species.
- Biodiversity Action Plan: facilitate Anguilla's obligations under the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Aichi targets.
- Invasive Species Strategy: Ensures that Anguilla actively develop programmes to reduce the threat in alien invasive species, and engage stakeholders in capacity building initiatives for the management of such species .
- Biodiversity and Heritage Conservation Act: provide for the recovery of wildlife species that are extirpated, endangered or threatened as a result of human activity.
- Native Plant and Animal Habitat Conservation (Biodiversity) Policy: Take the necessary measures to control the intentional or accidental introduction or escape into or from the environment, of alien or modified organisms that are likely to impact adversely on other organisms or on the environment.

Section 4 - Lead Organisation Summary

Q9. 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
DPLUS91	Karim Hodge	Anguilla National Ecosystem Assessment
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>

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

If no, please provide details.

The lead agency is a Government agency.

Section 5 - 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. 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:

Department of Natural Resources (DNR),
Government of Anguilla

Website address:

<http://www.gov.ai/doi/>

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

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is an amalgamation of Department of Environment, Department of Fisheries and Marine Resources and the Department of Agriculture. These combined agencies have over forty (40) years' experience in project management. The agency is staffed with highly trained personnel with vast experience in managing Anguilla's natural resources in a sustainable manner. Additionally, the team at DNR has sound expertise in the management of several Darwin Plus Projects.

DNR will play the leading role in managing and coordinating all activities of the project. The agency will also work closely in organizing meetings with key partners GB NNSS and University of Durham specialists to ensure that all of the training and data gathering are completed in an efficient and timely manner. As the lead agency, DNR will also manage all financial components of the project, and ensure that all of the outputs are accomplished to a high standard which demonstrates value for money.

Rhon Connor of the Environment Unit will lead on the project. Rhon has considerable experience in invasive species science and has participated in a number of feasibility studies and eradication exercises for the removal of invasive rats from Dog Island.

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: GB Non-native Species Secretariat (NNSS)

Website address: <http://www.nonnativespecies.org/home/index.cfm>

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

NNSS will provide technical support to Anguilla on the development of management plans for the target species and the overall invasive plant management strategy, as well as on biosecurity, risk assessment and species prioritisation for action. As a core member of the project technical advisory group, the NNSS will also help guide the direction of the project and contribute to monitoring and evaluation.

From 2016 to 2020 the NNSS managed a UK-government funded project to improve biosecurity for invasive non-native species in all 16 OTs. Through the contacts and knowledge of the status of invasive species management in each OT developed in this project, the NNSS will assist in sharing lessons learned with other OTs.

The GB Non-native Species Secretariat (NNSS) was set up in March 2006 to help coordinate delivery of the response to invasive species across GB among the various government agencies, and subsequently to help deliver the GB Invasive Non-native Species Strategy. The NNSS is therefore ideally placed to assist Anguilla and other benefitting OTs with access to UK government agency expertise in invasive plant management and biosecurity, as required by the project activities.

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: University of Durham, UK

Website address: www.durham.ac.uk

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

Experience: The University of Durham has a strong track record in global change research, including invasive species (<http://www.conservationecology.org/>). Wayne Dawson has 16 years of research experience in the field of plant invasion ecology and has taught field courses in multiple tropical ecosystems. He is proficient in data collection and analysis, and in the use of the program R for statistical analyses and map creation. He participated in an invasive species horizon-scanning exercise for Caribbean UK OTs, organized by the GB Non-Native Species Secretariat.

Roles and Responsibilities: Designing and delivering the distribution mapping training workshop, designing the corresponding invasive plant database, and designing soil seed bank trials.

Involvement and Capacity: Wayne Dawson has contributed to the development and writing of the proposal throughout the application process. For institutional capacity, the University of Durham is consistently one of the top-10 universities in the UK, and is a well-resourced, research-intensive institution. Durham is fully capable of engaging with the project and will facilitate Wayne Dawson's participation through covering his salary during the lifetime of the project, providing expected standard access to digital/IT resources and administrative services during project planning, and providing access to travel funds to Anguilla.

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

3. Partner Name: *No Response*

Website address: *No Response*

Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): *No Response*

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

4. Partner Name: *No Response*

Website address: *No Response*

Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): *No Response*

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

5. Partner Name: *No Response*

Website address: *No Response*

Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): *No Response*

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

6. Partner Name: *No Response*

Website address: *No Response*





Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): *No Response*





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





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

No Response

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

 [Darwin Plus Application Protecting Anguilla's Biodiversity](#)
 02/02/2021
 23:05:38
 pdf 720.1 KB

 [Wayne Dawson Letter of support](#)
 02/02/2021
 23:03:33
 pdf 599.28 KB

 [NNS LoS Anguilla](#)
 02/02/2021
 23:03:26
 pdf 142.6 KB

Section 6 - 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. Further information on who should be classified as core staff can be found in the guidance.

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?
Rhon, Connor	Project Leader	2	Checked
Gillian, Key	Project Staff	5	Checked
Wayne, Dawson	Project Staff	15	Checked
Invasive Plant Specialist	Project Staff	100	Checked

Do you require more fields?


Yes

Name (First name, Surname)	Role	% time on project	1 page CV or job description attached?
Weed Control Assistant	Project Staff	100	Unchecked
Weed Control Assistant	Project Staff	100	Unchecked
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	0	Unchecked
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	0	Unchecked
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	0	Unchecked
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	0	Unchecked
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	0	Unchecked
<i>No Response</i>	<i>No Response</i>	0	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 the file is named clearly, consistent with the named individual and role above.


 [Invasive Species Plants Job Description](#)


 02/02/2021

 23:18:18


 pdf 252.5 KB

 [Weed Control Assistant-Darwin Plant Project](#)


 02/02/2021

 23:18:13


 pdf 115.87 KB


 [Curriculum Vitae Rhon-One page Jan 2021](#)


 02/02/2021


 23:15:45


 pdf 580.67 KB

 [Wayne Dawson CV](#)


 02/02/2021


 23:13:40

 pdf 69.71 KB

 [Jill Key- CV](#)

 02/02/2021

 23:13:26

 pdf 79.35 KB

Have you attached all Project staff CVs?

Yes

Section 7 - Background & Methodology

Q12. 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?

Please cite the evidence you are using to support your assessment of the problem (references can be listed in your additional attached PDF document which can be uploaded at the bottom of the page).

Invasive non-native species threaten Anguilla's endemic species and habitats. The off-shore Cays provide refuges for seabirds, three endemic lizards and one endemic plant: Dog, Scrub and Prickly Pear Islands are particularly important. Anguilla's wetlands are of significant ecological importance, forming habitats for various bird species, and during extreme weather events the ponds act as essential flood control areas¹.

Of the 216 invasive species recorded for Anguilla 196 are plants. These impact conservation and wetland areas through habitat transformation, reducing available seabird and turtle nesting areas, and displacing food plants for endemic lizards. Climate change will exacerbate the problem, as new invasive plant species establish, existing species change range, and new species initiate population explosions².

Five plant species were identified as candidates for eradication in the 2020 prioritisation exercise (Brazilian jasmine *Jasminum fluminense*, false puncture vine *Tribulus cistoides*, Madagascar rubbervine *Cryptostegia madagascariensis*, Texas bull nettle *Cnidocolus texanus* and yerba porosa *Porophyllum ruderale*), with a high potential impact and eradication is both possible and cost-effective. For the off-shore Cays, the main plant threat was the spread of *Tribulus cistoides* from the main island. For all plant species confidence in the situation assessment was low and the species distributions require confirmation. In addition, DNR staff lack the skills and knowledge to readily detect and eradicate plants³.

Through “learning by doing” at the end of the project DNR and local partners will be experienced in plant monitoring and eradication, as well as in community engagement and citizen science. Three invasive plant species will have been eradicated. Inter-island biosecurity will be strengthened, and improved early warning and rapid response capability will reduce the risk of new incursions. Other regional OTs share similar constraints of capacity and skills, and problem invasive plant species, and will benefit from the tools and lessons learned.

Q13. 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)

The proposed project builds on a prioritisation exercise on existing invasive species in-territory delivered as part of a UK government funded project to build capacity for invasive species management in the OTs^{3,4}. Local, regional and international experts worked collaboratively through a process of expert elicitation and consensus to identify the main invasive species threats both outside and within Anguilla, and their feasibility for eradication.

The project will recruit a weed specialist as overall coordinator, and local assistants will be recruited and trained to carry out the project activities. Work will be guided locally by a steering group comprising representatives of local stakeholders (including Anguilla National Trust, Agricultural Officers, and hoteliers) led by the lead partner, with project oversight provided by a Technical Advisory Group comprising the partners and key specialists with experience in this area.

The project methods use of tried-and-tested approaches that are known to work.

Year 1: Distribution, density and invaded area of the five target species (*Jasminum fluminense*, *Tribulus cistoides*, *Cryptostegia madagascariensis*, *Cnidocolus texanus* and *Porophyllum ruderale*) will be established with GPS units and field surveys. Distribution maps of these species will be created to better target management efforts. Field surveys will also record management-relevant information on the frequency of sexual reproduction (fruits and seedlings), and soil samples will be taken from representative sites to measure seed bank size by recording the number of seeds germinating in samples spread out over sand in trays.

After mapping, we will conduct trials of eradication methods known to work elsewhere (cutting, seedling removal, spot herbicide treatment). Assistants will receive training in the proper and safe use of herbicide

and removal treatments, the identification and removal of seedlings of target species. Experimental trials of methods for eradicating less well-known species (*Tribulus*, *Porophyllum*, *Cnidioscolus*) will be set up to build an evidence base.

Year 2: Large-scale management to eradication, informed by Year 1 activities. At each site, monitoring plots will be established to enable quantification of management effectiveness in subsequent years (recording of invasive and native species abundance). A citizen-science capacity-building programme will be set up to raise awareness about the target species, eradication efforts, and to foster reporting of species sightings in new areas. This will support further early detection-rapid response management. Information boards, leaflets and website/social media will be employed.

Year 3. Follow-up monitoring at management sites will be used to gauge longer-term feasibility of eradication. Biosecurity protocols will be developed to reduce the risk of introducing new invasive species, and also that of existing invasive species spreading internally. Further removal and treatment of species will be carried out where necessary, and an Invasive Plant Strategy and accompanying Weed Control Manual will be developed to summarise lessons learned and guide future work on invasive plants. Awareness-raising among the wider community will continue, on Anguilla and neighbouring islands.

The project will conclude with a workshop of project partners, members of the community and invasive plant workers in other regional Overseas Territories to share what has been learned through the project.

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

No Response

Section 8 - Stakeholders and Beneficiaries

Q14. 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 project stakeholders include a wide cross section of Anguilla's public and private sector, as well as non-government and civil organizations. The Government of Anguilla will contribute to the project by allowing personnel from their agencies to facilitate and participate in training initiatives. Team members will work closely with external partners in surveying and mapping the five targeted plant species identified for eradication. The private sector stakeholders will consist of persons from hotels, garden centres and landscaping companies. These stakeholders will allow staff to gain exposure to training. The staff will also actively participate in monitoring and controlling the identified targeted species at various resort and villa establishments.

The Anguilla National Trust (ANT) supports the project and forms part of the steering committee. They have pledged to engage with project partners by assisting with mapping, monitoring and eradicating of any targeted species found both on the mainland and Anguilla's offshore cays. Members of the Anguilla Farmers Association participated in the prioritization of invasive species workshop in 2020, and have indicated their interest in eradicating targeted species.

The project is in collaboration with Great Britain Non Native Species Secretariat and University of Durham. The representative from these institutions will be the key stakeholders engaged in the field assessment and development of the Invasive Plant Management Strategy for Anguilla. They will also be playing a leading role in the project steering committee with Anguilla's local counterparts. Collectively, this committee will actively lobby other persons within Anguilla's community to participate in the project.

Q15. Institutional Capacity

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

There is considerable experience in Anguilla to effectively organize and deliver of the targeted invasive plant species project. As the lead agency, DNR has over sixty years of combined project management and a team of over twenty 20 highly trained staff and technical workers. The Environment Unit which has responsibility to coordinate the project, has successfully managed and partnered on several Darwin Initiative and other external funded projects. These include, but are not limited to Anguilla National Ecosystems Assessment, Anguilla's Terrestrial Habitat Mapping, Enhancing CITES Legislation, National Capital Accounting, Greening the Economy, Anguilla's Coastal Resiliency Project, etc. The DNR and the ANT also facilitated a Rat eradication feasibility study (2007) and successfully eradicated rats from Dog Island in 2012.

The University of Durham is consistently one of the top-10 universities in the UK, and is a well-resourced, research-intensive institution. Durham is fully capable of engaging with the project and will facilitate its staff Wayne Dawson's participation through covering his salary during the lifetime of the project, providing expected standard access to digital/IT resources and administrative services during project planning, and providing access to travel funds to Anguilla.

NNSS has a strong working relationship with the DNR Environment Unit. NNSS has played a vital role in coordinating the prioritization of invasive species workshop in Anguilla in 2020. The agency is also highly recognized as one of the leading UK NGO to build capacity in the UKOT. They will work with DNR on developing strategic invasive species management plans.

Q16. 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.

The direct beneficiaries of this project will be the staff within the DNR and other local stakeholders participating in the project. They will gain first-hand knowledge and experience of the methodologies involved in the monitoring and eradication of plants. The "learning by doing" approach and the training mechanisms for the workshops will also expose the participants to the tools that are essential for establishing biosecurity protocols for reducing the risk of invasive species entering Anguilla.

Other beneficiaries will be the farmers, hoteliers' landscaping crew, and garden centre operators. They will be enlightened about the threat of invasive alien plants and the severity of their impact on native species and livelihoods. These stakeholders will also learn about management strategies that can be implemented to control the spread or eradication of the pest species.

The project indirect beneficiaries will include environmental managers and other stakeholders from other UKOTs. They will have access to the methodologies as outlined through reports of the project. The final invasive plant species management strategy will also be placed online on the collaborating partners' website for other interested stakeholders to follow and implement into their strategic plans.

Section 9 - Gender and Change Expected

Q17. 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?

Invasive species affect all social groups in that all members of the community are vulnerable to the introduction of new non-native species which could be harmful to public health or agricultural production. Increasing Anguilla's capacity to manage and eradicate harmful weeds will therefore have a positive effect on the entire community. In addition, raising public awareness and community inclusion in decision making promotes the participation of women and vulnerable groups in the development of invasive species management strategies.

Q18. 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.

The project will benefit many in Anguilla's community with a greatly improved ability to manage invasive weeds. Local environment teams will gain experience in invasive plant management, and methods developed will be publicly available. Reducing the threat from invasive plants will benefit Anguilla's natural heritage.

Short term changes:

- At least 3 species eradicated, following trials to identify methods appropriate to Anguilla's specific constraints;
- Local environment teams will have greatly improved knowledge of the distribution and abundance of invasive plants, captured in a database. Mapping and monitoring methods will also be applicable for assessing recovery of native plant species;
- Local environment teams, key stakeholders such as hoteliers, and members of the community will have received training in a range of techniques.
- An Invasive Plant Strategy will provide the framework for future action;
- A Weed Control Manual will provide practical guidelines and protocols for management of a range of invasive plant species;
- Biosecurity will be strengthened through the development of protocols for both inter-island and border controls.

Long term changes:

- DNR and partners will have the framework and capacity to plan and implement eradication projects for other invasive plant species, and tools to deliver them;
- A more supportive and aware wider community will be less likely to introduce new invasive plant species, or to facilitate the spread of existing ones;
- Through the citizen-science programme, Anguilla will be better able to detect new incursions of invasive plants, and have the tools to rapidly respond;
- Stronger links with other regional UKOTs with similar problems, with Anguilla recognised as a regional leader;
- Stronger professional networks with other UKOTs, UK agencies, and invasive plant experts globally.

The project will benefit other Caribbean UKOTs by sharing lessons learned in an invasive plant workshop on completion of project.

Q19. 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.

Protection of Anguilla's unique biodiversity from the threat of invasive non-native plant species will be achieved by increasing Anguilla's capacity to manage invasive plants. Capacity building will be done through a process of "learning by doing" in four work packages which equate to the Outputs:

- Improvement of baseline knowledge through mapping and surveillance;
- Eradication of at least 3 target invasive plant species using methods trialled and developed in-territory;
- Community engagement and citizen-science to support ongoing work and detect future incursions;
- Development of an invasive plant framework for Anguilla, and sharing of lessons learned both internally and regionally.

An invasive plant management specialist will teach local teams how to plan for and deliver invasive plant management actions, through training and working collaboratively to develop and implement management guidelines and protocols. Capacity building for both partner teams and the wider community will be prioritised and emphasised throughout the project. Strengthening of regional and professional networks through the external partners and the technical advisory group will support local environment staff in future activities, post-project. Capturing the lessons learned in an Invasive Plant Strategy and practical Weed Control Manual will provide a sustainable lasting legacy of the project

Q20. Exit strategy

State how the project will reach a stable and sustainable end point, and explain how the outcomes will be sustained, either through a continuation of activities, funding and support from other sources or because the activities will be mainstreamed in to "business as usual". Where individuals receive advanced training, for example, what will happen should that individual leave?

The project will build institutional capacity, fill knowledge gaps, strengthen partnerships and promote community engagement in invasive plant management at a landscape level, managing both existing problem species as well as responding to new outbreaks.. The project focuses on skill sharing and "learning by doing" so that post-project the government and local partner officers will have the capacity and confidence to eradicate and manage invasive species in Anguilla. All key sectors are closely involved in the project which strengthens buy-in to the project outcome and the likelihood that practices established under the project will continue post-project.

The Invasive Plant Strategy is a key policy document which will guide the planning and implementation of invasive plant work in the future, informing both Environmental and Agricultural work, as well as biosecurity.

Biosecurity protocols developed in collaboration with Agriculture and the ANT for border and internal controls will form part of normal working practices and be implemented by the appropriate authority in each case. Involvement of these key stakeholders in the project steering group will promote coordination between activities as well as due consideration for their respective interests, and ensure buy-in for the implementation of the Invasive Plant Strategy post-project by DNR

Section 10 - Funding and Budget

Q21. 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.


- [R9 D+ Budget form for projects under £100,000](#)
- [R9 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.

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Q22. Funding

Q22a. Is this a new initiative or a development of existing work (funded through any source)?

New initiative

Please provide details:

It is a new initiative to address the invasive plant species issues in Anguilla. A project of this scale has not been done in Anguilla previously.

Q22b. Are you aware of any other individuals/organisations/projects carrying out or applying for funding for similar work?

No

Q23. Co-financing

Are you proposing co-financing?

Yes

Q23a. 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

The project will build institutional capacity, fill knowledge gaps, strengthen partnerships and promote community engagement in invasive plant management at a landscape level, managing both existing problem species as well as responding to new outbreaks.. The project focuses on skill sharing and “learning by doing” so that post-project the government and local partner officers will have the capacity and confidence to eradicate and manage invasive species in Anguilla. All key sectors are closely involved in the project which strengthens buy-in to the project outcome and the likelihood that practices established under the project will continue post-project. The Invasive Plant Strategy is a key policy document which will guide the planning and implementation of invasive plant work in the future, informing both Environmental and Agricultural work, as well as biosecurity. Biosecurity protocols developed in collaboration with Agriculture and the ANT for border and internal controls will form part of normal working practices and be implemented by the appropriate authority in



GBP

In-kind contribution of salaried staff overseeing the project and attending training.

each case. Involvement of these key stakeholders in the project steering group will promote coordination between activities as well as due consideration for their respective interests, and ensure buy-in for the implementation of the Invasive Plant Strategy post-project by DNR

NNSS	██████	GBP	In-kind contribution of salaried staff overseeing the project.
University of Durham, UK	██████	GBP	In-kind contribution of salaried staff overseeing the project.
SWCA	██████	GBP	Match funding of the time of external expert members of the steering group and technical advisory group to participate remotely in meetings held quarterly, and for reviewing documents.

Q23b. 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
No Response	No Response	0	No Response	No Response
No Response	No Response	0	No Response	No Response
No Response	No Response	0	No Response	No Response

No
Response

No Response

0

No Response

No Response

Do you require more fields?

No

Section 11 - Finance

Q24. 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 DNR accounts section which operates under audited Government of Anguilla accounting procedures. The system is based on the government e-system of administration and accounting and is supported by an up-to-date back-up facility for all files and documentation.

All monies will be placed into a designated account and have a designated financial officer to ensure finances/budgets are monitored. The Project lead will have an overview of the entire project and will regularly monitor the budget. Items purchased will be bought through the Anguilla government procurement process which has strict guidelines for ensuring value for money and transparency. An independent auditor will audit expenditure.

DNR has experience of successfully managing Darwin Plus and other large scale projects.

Q25. Financial Management Risk

This question considers the financial risks to the project. Explain how you have considered the risks and threats that may be relevant to the successful financial delivery of this project. This includes risks such as fraud or bribery, but may also include the risk of fluctuating foreign exchange and internal financial processes such as storage of financial data.

The DNR will ensure all risk associated with the project are managed in an efficient and effective manner. A plan of action will be established to address potential risks that may be associated with the project.

- **Mismanagement of Funds:** It is also important to note that the Money for the project will be sent to the Government of Anguilla (GOA) general account, and then transferred to a separate below the line account that is set up for the project. This money will be ringed fenced, thus preventing it from being used for non-related work. Each time money is required, a formal request will be sent to the GOA accounting unit by the DNR's Officer Manager Norma Gumbs. Ms Gumbs will kept records of all monies spent on the project. Ms Gumbs has over 10 years managing Darwin Plus and other external project funds.
- **Fluctuation in Foreign Exchange:** The money sent from Darwin will be in in foreign currency (UK pound). This means that the exchange rate of the pound will fluctuate from time to time, thus resulting in additional fees. The project budget has catered for this, thus it should not have any significant impact on the finances.

Q26. Balance of budget spend

Explain the thinking behind your budget in terms of where funds will be spent. What benefits will the

Territory see from your budget? What level of the award to you expect will be spent locally? Please explain the decisions behind any funding that will not be spent locally and how those costs are important for the project.

The majority of the budget is for staff costs, namely the invasive plant specialist (IPS) who will be the technical lead for the project and the two local assistants who will work closely with the IPS. The project approach of skill sharing and “learning by doing” justifies this high level of investment in invasive plant management expertise which will be transferred and remain locally at the end of the project. Project operational costs cover local travel to survey key offshore cays and more extensive travel within the main island of Anguilla to deliver the project activities, as well as invasive plant management equipment and materials. The budget includes provision for the production of a range of communications and awareness materials, and costs for running local workshops to involve local partners, key stakeholders and the community.

Q27. Capital Items

If you plan to purchase capital items with Darwin Plus funding, please indicate what you anticipate will happen to the items following project end. If you are requesting more than 10% capital costs, please provide your justification here.

All capital equipment purchased through the project will remain with DNR post-project to be used to implement the Invasive Plant Strategy by monitoring and rapid response of new incursions, and further work to eradicate existing invasive plants. The total amount for capital equipment is less than 10%. Capital items purchased through the project primarily includes invasive plant management equipment such as knapsack sprayers with specialist nozzles for spot treatment of plants, equipment for safe storage and transport of pesticides around Anguilla, as well as equipment for the physical removal of plants. In addition, the local team will be equipped with GPS units and compact digital cameras for survey work, and a dedicated laptop

Q28. Value for Money

Please describe why you consider your application to be good value for money including justification of why the measures you will adopt will secure value for money.

The project is excellent value for money because it invests in building local capacity to manage the threat of invasive species. Expertise will be contracted to work closely with DNR, Anguilla National Trust and local partners, in a programme of “learning by doing” and skill sharing, delivered together with training in technical skills. The project legacy is strong as practical skills will remain in Anguilla with the local organisations committed to reducing the threat of invasive species and with the local community concerned about weeds impacting their land, crops, animals and livelihoods.

Community involvement and awareness are key aspects of invasive species detection and management in a small community such as Anguilla, as invasive species are everyone’s problem, and everyone is therefore part of the solution. This is recognised by the inclusion of a large element of community involvement. In addition key stakeholders such as hoteliers will be involved as members of the project steering group. Measures taken to secure this value for money include the development of an Invasive Plant Strategy to guide future work in this area. The Weed Control Manual will summarise lessons learned on plant management in a format suitable for all users, farmers, conservationists, and government environmental workers. Lessons learned and project outputs will also be shared with other regional Overseas Territories in order to strengthen professional and regional networks, thereby ensuring the projects reach is wider than just Anguilla.

Q29. 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.

All project products and materials will be placed on-line for wider dissemination of lessons learned to other UKOTs and interested parties, hosted on a project site created on the NNSS OTs webpage (<http://www.nonnativespecies.org/ots/otsMap.cfm>) and linked to the other partners webpage as appropriate. Project reports will be made available.

On-island, the Anguilla community is small and relatively accessible by traditional media in the form of local newspapers and radio stations, together with increasing use of the internet and social media such as Facebook and Twitter. The communications programme will focus on all of these to disseminate regular invasive plant information: traditional media, social media, direct contact and face to face meetings between stakeholders. Publicity materials for the general public will include a leaflet and poster on invasive plant species management.

Section 12 - Safeguarding

Q30. 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 our commitment to safeguarding and a zero tolerance statement on bullying, harassment and sexual exploitation and abuse	Checked
We have attached a copy of our safeguarding policy to this application	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

Please outline how you will implement your policies in practice and ensure that downstream partners apply the same standards as the lead organisation.


(Max 200 words)

The DNR is fully guided by the Government of Anguilla's safeguarding Code of conduct. This policy document is known as the General Orders and it governs all Civil Servants in Anguilla. The policy ensures that all persons working within the public sector abides by the principles laid out in the document. Its main purpose is to promote and sustain high standards in conducting Government business. The document also consists of strategic protocols for employees to follow when providing both internal and external services. It ensures that everyone is treated with respect and the right to voice their concerns. Partner organizations have also indicated that they have clearly defined policies with ensures that safeguarding and zero tolerance policies are practiced within their institutions.

Please upload the Lead Organisation's Safeguarding Policy as a PDF

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Section 13 - Logical Framework


Q31. Logical Framework


Darwin Plus projects will be required to monitor (and report against) their progress towards their expected Outputs and Outcome. 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.


- [Stage 2 Logframe Template](#)

Please complete your full logframe in the separate Word template and upload as a PDF using the file upload below. Copy your Impact, Outcome and Output statements and your activities below - these should be the same as in your uploaded logframe.

Please upload your logframe as a PDF document.

 [Log Frame](#)

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Impact:

Anguilla's unique biodiversity is protected from the threat of invasive non-native plant species, with a reduced risk of new incursions.

Outcome:

Anguilla has an improved capacity to plan and implement invasive plant species management actions.

Project Outputs

Output 1:

1. Baseline knowledge on existing priority invasive plant species improved through surveys and mapping, and Territory database created.

Output 2:

Local capacity built through “learning by doing”, with the delivery of large-scale management interventions to eradicate invasive plant species.

Output 3:

Key stakeholders (farmers, community members, hoteliers, government, NGOs, and land managers) are actively engaged in early detection and removal of invasive plants.

Output 4:

Lessons learned are consolidated into a long-term invasive plant management strategy, which is shared with other UKOTs in the region.

Output 5:

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.

- 1.1 Recruit the weed specialist.
 - 1.2 Recruit the local weed management assistants.
 - 1.3 Establish the local project steering group and external project technical advisory group.
 - 1.4. Run a training programme for the local team on survey and mapping techniques.
 - 1.5 Carry out a survey on the distribution, reproductive state, density and invaded area of the five target species (Brazilian jasmine (*Jasminum fluminense*), false puncture vine (*Tribulus cistoides*), Madagascar rubber vine (*Cryptostegia madagascariensis*), Texas bull nettle (*Cnidocolus texanus*) and yerba porosa (*Porophyllum ruderales*)).
 - 1.6 Create distribution maps of the five target species.
 - 1.7 Carry out trials on seed bank size and longevity, taking samples from representative sites.
 - 1.8 Develop monitoring protocols for the target species.
 - 1.9 Establish an invasive plant database.
 - 1.10 Train the local team in the use of the monitoring protocols and the invasive plant database
-
- 2.1 Train the local team on plant identification, herbicide use, safe disposal of plant material through a series of workshops.
 - 2.2 Carry out trials on methods of control known to work elsewhere, ie cutting, seedling removal, spot herbicide treatment.
 - 2.3 Set-up trials to evaluate methods of control for less-well known species (*Tribulus*, *Porophyllum*, *Cnidocolus*).
 - 2.4 Carry out a large scale eradication programme using tested methods of at least 3 priority species.

- 2.5 Set up post-eradication monitoring plots at each eradication site.
- 2.6 Develop a Weed Control Manual on best practice control methods for both professionals and the general public.
- 2.7 Establish a monitoring programme territory-wide to detect new incursions.

- 3.1 Develop and implement a communication and public awareness plan.
- 3.2 Plan and deliver an invasive plant awareness week.
- 3.3 Design and produce alert posters and signage to promote public awareness and involvement in the eradication programme, and detection of new species.
- 3.4 Develop an agreed code of practice for hoteliers, through consultation with relevant stakeholders.

- 4.1 Develop an Invasive Plant Strategy for long term management of existing invasive non-native species, agreed by government.
- 4.2 Mainstream invasive plant management actions into DNR annual work plans.
- 4.3 Develop biosecurity protocols for inter-island controls in consultation with appropriate local stakeholders (ie Anguilla National Trust).
- 4.4 Develop biosecurity protocols for border controls in consultation with appropriate local stakeholders (ie Agricultural Officers).
- 4.5 Plan and deliver a regional workshop to share lessons learned with other OTs and regional stakeholders.
- 4.6 Ensure relevant products of the project are placed on-line to allow wide use post-project





Section 14 - Implementation Timetable

Q32. 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.

-
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Section 15 - Monitoring and Evaluation

Q33. Monitoring and evaluation (M&E)

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 responsibility for M&E lies with DNR, and specifically in the post of Invasive Plant Specialist who will report to the local steering group and Technical Advisory Group. At the initiation of the project a detailed work plan will be developed, and milestones checked against progress. The steering group will have coordination 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. The Technical Advisory Group will provide higher-level project oversight, and a source of expertise in invasive plant management techniques, as required.

Iterative learning and adaptive management will be achieved through close working of the project team with stakeholders on the island and a policy of open communication.

All project products and materials will be placed on-line 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 2 will be incorporated in the workshop schedules, as well as summarised in the Weed Control Manual. 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 and taken into account in developing the Invasive Plant Strategy in output 4.

Invasive plant distribution surveys designed and initiated in year 1 will increasingly yield data which will inform and guide the progress of the project. The simple surveying protocols developed to monitor and evaluate the efficacy of invasive plant management programme, also allow early identification of new emerging invasive species. The invasive plant database will provide objective data which can be used to underpin environmental management decision making. Establishing a programme of routine surveying of key species which will contribute to updating a "living map" post-project under the direction of DNR.

Figures given below relate to the meetings of the steering and Technical Advisory groups, together with time for document preparation and review, these meetings being the most formal monitoring and evaluation mechanism in place. The overall budget for M&E is relatively low as some partner and project staff time is covered through in-kind costs.

Total project budget for M&E in GBP (this may include Staff, Travel and Subsistence costs)	£ [REDACTED]
Number of days planned for M&E	52.00
Percentage of total project budget set aside for M&E (%)	[REDACTED]

Section 16 - Certification

Certification

On behalf of the

company

of

Department of Natural Resources -Government of Anguilla

I apply for a grant of





£284,755.00

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	Rhon Connor
Position in the organisation	Principial Associate
Signature (please upload e-signature)	 Signature  02/02/2021  23:54:03  jpg 39.4 KB
Date	02 February 2021

Section 17 - 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 attached my completed logframe and timeline as a PDF using the templates provided.	Checked
I have included a 1 page CV or job description for all the Project staff identified at Question 11, 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 10, 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 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 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 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).