

DPR9S2\1023

Collaborative approach to managing coral disease in UK Overseas Territories

Stony Coral Tissue Loss Disease is spreading rapidly across reefs in Caribbean UK Overseas Territories (OTs), threatening biodiversity, tourism, food security, livelihoods and disaster resilience. An urgent priority, this project will develop a strong collaborative approach to managing the disease in the Cayman Islands, Turks and Caicos Islands, and British Virgin Islands and consider modelling approaches to inform adaptive management options. Knowledge exchange will be extended to all Caribbean OTs and a longer-term partnership to support coral reef resilience fostered.

Section 1 - Contact Details

PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

Name Bryony
Surname Meakins
Organisation JNCC
Tel (Work) [REDACTED]
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[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

GMS ORGANISATION

Type	Organisation
Name	JNCC
Phone	[REDACTED]
Email	[REDACTED]
Website	[REDACTED]
Address	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Section 2 - Title, Dates & Budget Summary

Q3a. Project title

Collaborative approach to managing coral disease in UK Overseas Territories

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

DPRS9S1\1016

Q4. UKOT(s)

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

- British Virgin Islands (BVI)
- Cayman Islands
- Turks & Caicos Islands (TCI)

* 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.

Anguilla, Bermuda, Montserrat, wider Caribbean countries.

Q5. Project dates

Start date:

01 July 2021

End date:

31 March 2024

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

2 years & 9 months

Q6. Budget summary

Year:	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	Total request
Darwin funding request (Apr - Mar)	£177,710.00	£177,880.00	£140,667.00	£0.00	£ 496,257.00

Q6a. Do you have proposed matched funding arrangements?

Yes

What matched funding arrangements are proposed?

Cayman Islands will provide in-kind contributions of staff time and disease treatment costs of £ [REDACTED] over the project life.

BVI will provide in-kind contributions of staff time and disease treatment costs of £ [REDACTED] over the project life.

TCI will provide in-kind contributions of staff time and disease treatment costs of £ [REDACTED] over the project life.

JNCC will provide in-kind contributions of staff time of £ [REDACTED] over the project life.

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.

Stony Coral Tissue Loss Disease is spreading rapidly across reefs in Caribbean UK Overseas Territories (OTs), threatening biodiversity, tourism, food security, livelihoods and disaster resilience. An urgent priority, this project will develop a strong collaborative approach to managing the disease in the Cayman Islands, Turks and Caicos Islands, and British Virgin Islands and consider modelling approaches to inform adaptive management options. Knowledge exchange will be extended to all Caribbean OTs and a longer-term partnership to support coral reef resilience fostered.

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.

Coral Reef Action Plans developed as part of the UK OT Coral Reef Initiative outline priorities for coral reef conservation in the UKOTs. A key priority is the requirement to improve collaboration across OTs to knowledge share and build capacity to support management action.

The UK OT Coral Reef Initiative was started as a response to the UK Government's 25 Year Environment Plan which states: "Coral reefs are under direct and sustained pressure. The UK's ambition is to champion and support their conservation and biodiversity in UK and Overseas Territories' (OTs) waters and around the world-to work with OTs to encourage the adoption of best sustainable management practice of coral reefs, as well as their associated ecosystems. We want to provide sustainability for fisheries and ensure food security while upholding social and cultural wellbeing." [1]

The UK government, and relevant OTs, has specific international obligations to meet under the Convention on Biological Diversity Aichi Target 10 [2] and new post-2020 framework, which is currently being negotiated.

Activities undertaken through this Collaborative Working Group will also be shared with members of the International Coral Reef Initiative and the Commonwealth Blue Coral Reef Protection And Restoration Action Group, both of which JNCC is a focal point for the UK Government. They are important fora for global coral reef conservation knowledge sharing, capacity building and funding. Similarly, UNEA Resolution 2/12 on sustainable coral reefs management and the broader Sustainable Development Goals 13 (climate action) and 14 (life under water); coral reefs are a critical component of both actions.

At national levels, the project supports goals in the TCI Vision 2040: 'SDD 3 – Healthy and Natural Environment and Heritage and Cultural Areas; NC3.1 Good Ecosystems, marine and aquatic resource management' by supporting the 'development of management frameworks and increasing management capacity through stakeholder partnerships'.

A TCI Environment Strategy is being developed and this work will support objectives: 1) 'Provide a framework for the sustainable management of natural resources to protect the future of healthy and productive ecosystems at land and sea' and 3) 'Facilitate the sharing of data between stakeholders so that the environment can be monitored and managed efficiently'.

The Cayman Island Environment Charter (CI/UK) outlines a commitment from the Cayman Islands Government to 'Ensure the protection and restoration of key habitats, species and landscape features through legislation and appropriate management structures and mechanism'. The project will contribute to Cayman Island National Biodiversity Action Plan (NBAP), particularly the Coral Reefs Habitat Action Plan supporting goals to 'maintain and manage the variety of habitats, communities and species on coral reefs' and 'seek improvement of coral reefs which have been degraded'.

The project will contribute to the goal outlined in The Green Paper on Environmental Management Climate Adaptation and Sustainable Development for the [British]Virgin Islands to 'actively promote and advance the restoration of the natural environment' and the (British) Virgin Islands Climate Change Policy, aiming to increase the resilience of ecosystems to climate change by reducing the stress on these systems from controllable local impacts.

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
19031	Tony Weighell	Mapping St Helena's marine biodiversity to create a marine management
DPLUS119	Megan Tierney	Technical assistance programme for effective coastal and marine management TCI
<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.

Yes

Please attach the requested signed audited/independently examined accounts.

 [jncc-annual-report-and-accounts-2020-a \(1\)](#)
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 [JNCC-Annual-Report-and-Accounts-2019](#)
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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:

Joint Nature Conservation Committee

Website address:

<https://jncc.gov.uk/>

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

JNCC has substantial institutional experience in successfully leading and collaborating on Darwin Plus projects and in delivering projects in the Caribbean UKOTs. JNCC have strong working relationships with the UKOTs and have provided the secretariat function for the Collaborative Coral Reef Working Group (CCRWG) pilot. JNCC has extensive experience and expertise in providing evidence, information, and advice to governments to support evidence-based natural resource management decisions, and technical expertise in developing modelling tools to support management in the OTs.

JNCC will be the overall project lead, including providing the project manager, project direction and leading on monitoring and evaluation activities.

JNCC will provide the secretariat function and additional support for the CCRWG in WP1, organising a training event in year 1 and a workshop in year 2.

JNCC will provide staff time for co-ordinating SCTL D response between OT project partners for WP2, setting up MOAs to transfer funds to partners to for treatment costs and provide staff resource to produce an annual review of the project SCTL D treatment and management strategy and SCTL D adaptive management plan.

JNCC will lead WP3, reviewing existing reef resilience models and developing a Reef Resilience Model Framework tool to inform coral reef management decision-making.

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 Islands Government (TCIG) - Department of Environment and Coastal Resources (DECR)

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

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

DECR is mandated "to promote protection and sustainable utilization of natural resources throughout the TCI". The DECR team, under the oversight of the Director, including Assistant Directors, Scientific Officers, Environmental Officers and Conservation Officers, will partake in and support the project. Some project team members have over 20-years of experience in this area and in supporting the conservation of TCI's marine ecosystems.

DECR will provide on-island project officers and fieldwork capability to undertake SCTLTD treatment, including hosting on-island workshops and training, and share treatment outputs to help optimise management of the disease. They will also provide staff time to participate in Project Management Group and the CCRWG, providing input and expertise into the strategy for the longer-term partnership and input to development of a Reef Resilience Model Framework.

Capacity of partner governments is limited but partners have committed to providing a project officer to oversee project work and engage stakeholders (e.g. dive operators, volunteers, NGO's) to support fieldwork for the duration of the project.

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:

British Virgin Islands Government (BVI) - Ministry for Natural Resources, Labour and Immigration (MNRLI)

Website address:

<https://bvi.gov.vg/content/ministry-natural-resources-and-labour>

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

The MNRLI is responsible for the effective management of the natural resources of the British Virgin Islands, the Ministry endeavours to effectively manage and administer the natural resources of the Territory in a manner that ensures long term sustainability. The Ministry has collaborated with JNCC in the development of the proposal at Stage 1 and refinement of the proposal under Stage 2. The Ministry has committed to ensuring that outputs from this project will inform all aspects of BVI's SCTL D response and deployment of solutions.

MNRLI will provide on-island project officers and fieldwork capability to undertake SCTL D treatment, including hosting on-island workshops and training, and share treatment outputs to help optimise management of the disease. They will also provide staff time to participate in Project Management Group and the CCRWG, providing input and expertise into the strategy for the longer-term partnership and input to development of a Reef Resilience Model Framework.

Capacity of partner governments is limited but partners have committed to providing a project officer to oversee project work and engage stakeholders (e.g. dive operators, volunteers, NGO's) to support fieldwork for the duration of the project.

Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?

Yes

3. Partner Name:

Cayman Islands Government (CIG) - Department of Environment (DoE)

Website address:

<http://doe.ky/>

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

The DOE is the lead environmental agency with responsibility for natural resources and currently employs 42 staff with a range of scientific, operational and technical qualifications to support the project. Operational capacity includes approximately 8 research and diving support boats, ranging in size from 20 to 46 ft. and full scientific diving capabilities. The Cayman Islands Government remains committed to providing significant in-kind contributions to this project through the commitment of 7 of its full time, marine qualified, staff to varying degrees; and utilization of operational resources.

DoE will provide on-island project officers and fieldwork capability to undertake SCTL treatment, including hosting on-island workshops and training, and share treatment outputs to help optimise management of the disease. They will also provide staff time to participate in Project Management Group and the CCRWG, providing input and expertise into the strategy for the longer-term partnership and input to development of a Reef Resilience Model Framework.

Capacity of partner governments is limited but partners have committed to providing a project officer to oversee project work and engage stakeholders (e.g. dive operators, volunteers, NGO's) to support fieldwork for the duration of the project.

Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?

Yes

4. Partner Name:

Nature2

Website address:

<https://www.facebook.com/N2Bonaire>

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

Nature2's Director, Kalli De Meyer, has over 30 years of experience in marine conservation in the Caribbean, including establishing and managing the Bonaire National Marine Park and the Dutch Caribbean Nature Alliance (DCNA). The DCNA is the region's first fully functioning network of protected areas, Kalli De Meyer was Executive Director of DCNA for over 10 years, raising over [REDACTED] Euro for their Conservation Trust Fund and managed projects valued up to [REDACTED]

Kalli De Meyer will Chair the CCRWG, support the development of group terms of reference and with the OTs, will also consider a long-term strategy for a sustainable future collaboration.

Kalli De Meyer has confirmed her availability for the duration of the project.

Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?

Yes

5. Partner Name: Dr Greta Aeby

Website address: https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Greta_Aeby

Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project): Dr Greta Aeby is a coral disease ecologist with extensive experience in coral disease research and management, conducting research in Florida, Hawaii, Indo-Pacific and the Middle East. Dr Aeby is a member of Florida's SCTL D response Disease Advisory Committee and leads on the Research and Environment subcommittee. Dr Aeby also provides training sessions of coral disease identification and ecology to the Florida SCTL D response teams and led on the development of Hawaii's Coral Disease and Bleaching Response Plan.

Dr Greta Aeby will be providing scientific expertise to support the fieldwork of the project (WP2), including assistance with SCTL D ID, monitoring and treatment techniques. She will also run virtual and in-person training sessions in WP1.

Dr Greta Aeby has confirmed her availability for the duration of the project.

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

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.

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?
Bryony Meakins	Project Leader	14	Checked
Jane Hawkrige	Project Director	6	Checked
Abbie Dosell	Project Officer and CCRWG Secretariat	22	Checked
Alexander McLeod	Project Officer TCI	20	Checked

Do you require more fields?


Yes

Name (First name, Surname)	Role	% time on project	1 page CV or job description attached?
Kathy Lockhart	Project Director for TCI	10	Checked
Mervin Hastings	Project Director for BVI	10	Checked
Argel Horton	Project Officer BVI	20	Checked
Croy McCoy	Senior Project Officer Cayman Islands	10	Checked


Timothy Austin	Project Director for Cayman Islands	10	Checked
Tammi Warrender	Project Officer Cayman Islands	20	Checked
Greta Aeby	Coral disease ecologist	6	Checked
Kalli De Meyer	Caribbean Governance specialist	17	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.

 [DPR91016 CVs](#)

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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).

UK Caribbean OT coral reefs are under serious threat from multiple stressors, compounded by climate change. Caribbean coral cover has declined by ~80% over the past 30 years[3], with the decline largely attributed to coral disease and bleaching. Stony Coral Tissue Loss Disease (SCTLD) has decimated coral reefs in Florida and other island nations[4,5]. Its recent arrival and rapid spread in TCI, BVI and Cayman Islands threatens biodiversity, tourism, food security, livelihoods and disaster resilience. Management intervention is underway using methods tried in Florida, and elsewhere, with variable results. The rate of spread is hugely concerning, and the OTs are now considering more widespread use of antibiotics, but there are concerns around the method, efficacy and drug resistance in the OTs. Alternatives are needed. The cross-boundary nature of the disease means that collaboration between countries is key in understanding an effective response. A JNCC organised, UK OTs Coral Reef Initiative Workshop[6] highlighted the need to build cross-territory capacity to address a range of coral reef issues.

This project will:

- support the OTs to actively manage the SCTL D outbreak and optimise treatment/management with a collaborative SCTL D treatment and management strategy, updated annually, and an adaptive SCTL D management plan;
- support a collaborative working partnership to facilitate rapid knowledge exchange, build capacity and foster relationships with experts to ensure decisions are based on the most up-to-date scientific thinking, including information sharing with Bermuda, Anguilla and Montserrat;
- support long-term coral reef management decisions by developing a Reef Resilience Model Framework based on existing models[7,8];
- advance a strategy for a long-term collaborative partnership, supported by UK agencies, to address multiple threats to reefs, including SCTL D;
- ensure links to other future Darwin Plus projects, Blue Belt or CSSF regional programmes to maximise the value of UK Government investment in the region.

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)

Project design drew on key lessons learnt from Florida's disease response: collaboration, response to the science, maintain dialogue, need for speed and the high cost. OTs need to act quickly but are under significant capacity constraints. This project will:

- develop a collaboration that takes account of challenges facing UKOTs, such that they can mount more effective responses together than they would individually
- reinforce existing links with Florida's SCTL D Response Programme[9] to maximise lessons learnt and benefit from their on-going scientific endeavour
- consider, when developing strategies, that UKOT reefs may face different pressures and are generally less degraded
- develop a parallel resilience-based management approach by considering available models that can inform decisions that maximise the ability of corals to naturally recover from disease episodes.

WP1 Using lessons learned from the pilot CCRWG, a fully operational group comprised of members from UKOT government departments, stakeholders and invited experts will be established. Chaired by Kalli de Meyer and secretariat provided by JNCC, the group will meet regularly and exchange information via cloud-based methods. Key partnerships will be established (e.g. NOAA, UNEP).


A SCTLD baseline status report will be produced in Y1 and used to inform WP2. Also in Y1, on-island project officers will work with Dr Aeby to run a 'train-the-trainers' event to increase capacity in coral disease ecology. In Y2 a partner/stakeholder workshop will update the SCTLD adaptive management plan developed under WP2 and produce a strategy for longer-term collaboration, for implementation in Y3.

WP2 will support the OTs in fieldwork to explore the efficacy of different SCTLD treatment and management methods. Facilitated by CCRWG, WP2 will be led by OT partners with JNCC supporting operations and reporting. Access to best available scientific data will be facilitated by Dr Aeby and others, as required. In Y1 a collaborative treatment strategy will be developed, implemented, and reviewed annually. The results of the treatment trials, alongside evidence from other SCTLD initiatives such as those already underway in BVI and Cayman Islands, will feed into the development of a broader SCTLD adaptive management plan, drafted in late Y1 and updated throughout the project. Strategies and plans will consider previously tried treatment and management approaches, concerns raised around antibiotic treatment methods, and the desire of some OTs to develop new alternative treatments (e.g. experimental methods for applying chlorine or firebreaks).


In WP3 JNCC will undertake a literature review to create a framework to guide a tailored ensemble reef-resilience modelling approach. A case-study will be prepared and shared with the CCRWG who will help to iteratively refine the tool. The framework will allow OTs to explore management options for increasing reef resilience. Understanding of how to use the model framework to make management decisions will be evaluated at project start and end.

WP4 will establish the project management and governance, comprising a JNCC-led project management group with partners to govern the work, manage risks, evaluate ways of working and ensure gender inclusion and monitoring and evaluation is carried out from project initiation.

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

 [DPR9S2_1023-Q19-references](#)

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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 main project stakeholders include OT governments and government officials, environmental non-governmental organisations (NGOs), researchers, dive operators, national trusts, field study centres, marine laboratories and ad-hoc volunteers; all key actors in the SCTLD response effort on each island.

Three UKOT governmental stakeholders have been included as partners in the project and have jointly developed the proposal alongside JNCC. Partner governments will lead on consulting on-island with additional stakeholders.

The Collaborative Coral Reef Working Group includes NGOs (e.g. TCReef Fund, Central Caribbean Marine Institute), dive operators, and academics; initial, very positive, engagement has already been established through the previously trialled Working Group. Additional stakeholders will be invited to participate in the group at the request of the OTs as the need and interest dictates. The CCRWG also involves governments and NGOs from Anguilla, Montserrat and Bermuda so that they have access to, and can also benefit from, knowledge sharing within the working group.

On island project officers will be responsible for local stakeholder engagement and management in each OT, including volunteer organisation and management, and co-ordination with dive operators etc to support fieldwork; many relationships have already been established through previous SCTL D responses and the project will actively encourage building on these existing and new relationships, including with the local community who have an important role to play in minimising the spread of the disease between locations.

Q15. Institutional Capacity

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

JNCC is the statutory adviser to UK Government and Devolved Administrations on UK and international nature conservation, and has an active OT Programme. JNCC has substantial institutional experience in successfully leading and collaborating on Darwin Plus projects and has strong working relationships with UKOT governments including TCI, BVI and Cayman Islands, demonstrated through the establishment of the CCRWG. We can confirm that JNCC staff with a range of technical and project management skills will be available to deliver the project, including providing alternative staff with appropriate skills sets should there be changes in project personnel.

Nature2/Kalli De Meyer is a Caribbean governance expert with proven experience in establishing similar regional mechanisms for collaboration including the Dutch Caribbean Nature Alliance.

Dr Greta Aeby is a coral disease expert with over 80 peer-reviewed publications. Dr Aeby led the development of Hawaii's Rapid Response Contingency Plan for Coral Bleaching and Disease and has been supporting TCI with SCTL D response through scientific advice and training. She is also an active member of Florida's SCTL D Response Team.

Nature2/Kalli de Meyer and Dr Aeby have confirmed their availability for the duration of the project.

Capacity of partner governments is limited but partners have committed to providing a project officer to oversee project work and engage stakeholders (e.g. dive operators, volunteers, NGO's) to support fieldwork for the duration of the project. Funds will be made available to partners to their work implementing the project on-island.

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.

-Training to improve coral disease identification and treatment skills, will directly upskill and benefit stakeholders and practitioners in three UKOT's. These will include government officials, dive operators, ad-hoc volunteers and NGO's.

-UKOT departments of environment and decision-makers will benefit by gaining access to scientific advisors and resources to trial and implement management interventions that will inform longer-term management decisions.

-The OT governments and stakeholders of Anguilla, Montserrat and Bermuda will have access to the most-up-date scientific thinking and evidence to inform future SCTLTD response and management.

Broader, indirect benefits are:

-Healthy and resilient coral reef systems able to support ecosystem services, eg, fisheries and tourism livelihoods, eg TCI Natural Capital Accounts (2018) Tourism value of US\$ [REDACTED].

-Managed reefs able to protect coastal communities and infrastructure from storm surge, eg in BVI 6% residential and 40% commercial property lies below 2m contour.

OTs well placed to benefit from potential future regional UK Government investment, including increased capacity to propose, lead on and manage programmes supported by the UK Government (e.g. Blue Belt Programme, CSSF and Blue Planet/ODA funding).

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?

The core members of the piloted working group are evenly split between men and women. Stakeholder training will aim for an even gender split in all events. Where possible, training will be staggered over two to three days, over multiple weeks and take place between school hours so that participants can still perform care-giving activities. Recordings will be used for providing accessibility at times convenient for stakeholders. In-person venues will be made accessible for those with physical disabilities. Training materials will be accessible to those with learning, visual or hearing impairments and follow Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications) (No. 2) Accessibility Regulations 2018.

Men and women use the marine environment of the OTs and will benefit from the project outcomes. Managing SCTLTD will benefit OTs, across genders, by continuing the provision of food and economically important reef species and the continuation of storm protection. Minimising habitat degradation will benefit reef fisheries, supporting fishers and their families that rely on their income and fish consumers.

Q18. Change expected

Detail the expected changed 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 changes:

- Optimised SCTL D treatment and management, implemented in TCI, BVI and Cayman to mitigate the disease and minimise impact on biodiversity.
- SCTL D treatment and management recommendations, informed by the best available science, available for application for CCRWG members and across the region.
- Outputs and recommendations from fieldwork and other UKOT SCTL D initiatives are incorporated into a wider SCTL D adaptive management plan benefitting Caribbean UK OTs.
- CCRWG members and OT project partners have increased skill and capacity as a result to respond to the current SCTL D outbreak through training, knowledge exchange on SCTL D interventions, expert advice and additional equipment and resource to support the response.
- CCRWG members have broader knowledge-base on SCTL D treatment methodologies and practicalities, and a clearer vision of which approach is most suitable and effective on their reefs, with minimal environmental impact.
- Collaborative approaches demonstrated by the project are transferable across the UKOTs.
- Through collaboration, CCRWG members are well placed to benefit from potential future regional UK Government investment, including increased capacity to propose, lead on and manage programmes supported by the UK Government (e.g. Blue Belt Programme, CSSF and Blue Planet/ODA funding).

Long-term changes:

- CCRWG members equipped with Reef Resilience Model Framework to inform long-term coral reef management with the goal of improving reef resilience against disease and climate change.
- Collaboration and knowledge exchange across all Caribbean UK OTs build capacity and support effective management of coral reefs.
- Caribbean UK OTs will have an updated strategy for sustainability and implementation of a longer-term vision for the CCRWG, which could act as a starting point for future projects.

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.

SCTL D is spreading rapidly and decimating reefs throughout the Caribbean, bringing severe ecological and socio-economic impacts. Given the limited capacity in the OTs to respond to SCTL D, a cross-territory collaborative approach is necessary to pool resources, share expertise and optimise disease treatment in all three OTs. In collaboration with BVI, TCI and Cayman Islands, along with external experts, this project will support the OTs to treat SCTL D and reduce the rate of spread. The project will identify ways to adapt and improve SCTL D treatment in line with best available scientific evidence. The CCRWG will identify skills gaps and facilitate knowledge exchange and training to build on-island response capacity to support

long-term coral reef management actions. The production of a Reef Resilience Model Framework will enable OTs to explore how management actions can help to remove localised pressures to improve reef resilience, thus improving a reef's ability to withstand disease outbreaks along with other pressures facing coral reefs, such as bleaching events.

The above outputs will deliver the project outcome and support the longer-term impact of developing collaboration across all UKOTs, facilitating knowledge exchange and capacity building to enable effective management that will in-turn, improve and maintain healthy coral reef ecosystems.

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 equip UKOT project governments and stakeholders with skills and resources to identify and manage coral disease and maintain high scientific standards. Training will be conducted in a 'train-the-trainer' style, to upskill, maximise capacity of at least 6 project officers. Alongside field techniques, training will improve coral reef and disease ecology knowledge, equipping OTs with skills to further understand and manage their reefs by identifying and understanding ecological changes, indicators, and pressures that will feed into their business as usual activities.

The project will seek to get the SCTL D adaptive management plan formerly adopted by partner governments such that it is carried forward and implemented beyond the life of the project so that it is useful for not only SCTL D, but also future disease outbreaks.

Similarly, the modelling toolkit produced under WP3 will be mainstreamed, enabling OTs to explore the impacts of long-term management interventions, such as land/catchment management, improving reef resilience to disease outbreaks and thus reducing reliance upon treatment.

Throughout the project, opportunities for collaboration will be fostered and additional spin-off projects encouraged to help with embedding the strengths and benefits of taking this collaborative approach into the everyday activities of the partner organisations and stakeholders.

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.

 [Stage2 Budget SCTLDv0.1](#)

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Q22. Funding

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

Development of existing work

Please provide details:

The development of the CCRWG was a concept originally identified through work to develop UKOT Coral Reef Action Plans under the International Coral Reef Initiative in 2019. It was also during this process that the OTs raised concerns about SCTLD and potential management.

At the time of stage 1 submission, there was no funding for a CCRWG. However, in September 2020, JNCC were funded by Defra to manage a project to launch a collaborative working group between the Caribbean UK OTs to address SCTLD. Funding ends in March 2021 and this project will be well placed to build upon and continue the collaboration. Lessons learnt from establishing the working group have been fed into this project proposal, most notably the costs of running the group and resources required by the Chair and Secretariat to foster collaborations.

The effort required to tackle SCLTD in the Caribbean is substantial and full financing of the response is far beyond the scope of this project. As such, all three OTs have secured funding for some of their response to SCTLD in the field, either via CSSF, Defra or national routes. These projects will contribute evidence into the SCTLD Adaptive Management Plan.

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

Yes

If yes, please give details explaining similarities and differences, and explaining how your work will be additional and what attempts have been/will be made to co-operate with and learn lessons from such work for mutual benefits.

-TCI/DECR are currently exploring the use of chlorine, honey and small-scale firebreak treatment methods to manage SCTLD in their waters. An NGO, TCReef Fund have been using antibiotic treatments and have placed a request for Best 2.0 funding to increase the locations of antibiotic treatments.

-The Cayman Islands DOE have been using large-scale firebreaks to manage the spread of SCTLD on the north coast of Grand Cayman, in addition to some small-scale treatment work using antibiotics.

-The BVI MNRLI have been working with local dive operators and the National Trust to monitor and treat the SCTL D outbreak in their waters using antibiotics, supported by CSSF funding.

-The resources needed to tackle SCTL D in the Caribbean is beyond the scope of a single project and the projects will complement each other, whilst producing distinct outcomes. Lessons learnt from all management interventions and projects will provide considerable knowledge to inform UKOT disease response efforts and will be evaluated for inclusion into the SCTL D adaptive management plan.

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
JNCC	██████	GBP	JNCC is committing £██████ to the project in in-kind contributions covering staff costs.
Cayman Island Government DoE	██████	GBP	Cayman Islands DoE is committing £██████ to the project in in-kind contributions. This consists of a proportion of staff time spent on this project as well as scientific survey consumables (e.g. boat fuel and dive tank re-fills) for island activities. They will also provide use of their boat and accommodation facilities for a training event held in Y1.

Turks and Caicos Island DECR	██████	GBP	TCI DECR is committing £██████ to the project in in-kind contributions. This consists of a proportion of staff time spent on this project as well as scientific survey consumables (e.g. boat fuel and dive tank re-fills) for island activities.
British Virgin Island MNL	██████	GBP	BVI MNL is committing £██████ to the project in in-kind contributions. This consists of a proportion of staff time spent on this project as well as scientific survey consumables (e.g. boat fuel and dive tank re-fills) for island activities.

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?

JNCC is a public-sector body bound by the rules and standards required of UK government organisations, including independent audit of its accounts and governance by the National Audit Office. JNCC has formal corporate monitoring and reporting processes in place, including internal audit review of control systems, and all project work is subject to an internal quality assurance system. JNCC will establish a specific project within this formal structure to deliver the proposed objectives. The project would be subject to quarterly scrutiny by the Director of Marine Operations and JNCC's Executive Management Board, and all financial claims will be reviewed and signed-off by one of two CCAB qualified accountants within JNCC's Finance team.

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.

JNCC has a long track record of working in the OTs and is familiar with the financial risks, has managed multimillion-pound projects in the past, and has effective and fully transparent contract letting and accounting procedures in place. JNCC considers the risks of fraud and bribery associated with this project are negligible although we will use our standardised financial policies and procedures including counter-fraud and anti-corruption policy, to ensure such external and internal risks are routinely reviewed as the project is implemented. JNCC have identified a project manager and technical specialists to oversee the effective implementation of the project. However, we have a number of individuals who would be capable of delivering the project outputs if there was staff turnover within the duration of the project. JNCC will transfer funds to OTs for fieldwork through signed Memorandum of Agreements and fluctuating exchange rates will be planned for accordingly.

Covid-19 risks have been carefully considered and catered for in budget planning, including higher travel costs, testing costs and potential quarantine costs. Attendees from the training event in Y1 will be facilitated by Kalli de Mayer (based in Bonaire), and all attendees will be from the Caribbean region, avoiding unnecessary long-haul travel.

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.

Project design considered lessons learnt from establishing the CCRWG pilot, allowing more accurate estimation of the costs for running the group, which represent █████ of the budget. This includes increasing the meeting frequency to accommodate partner desires to respond to the rapid spread of the disease.

Approximately [REDACTED] of the funds are allocated for supporting scientific expertise, as requested by the OTs, which also includes time from Dr Aeby for training and other specific disease ecology tasks and advice.

In total, [REDACTED] of project costs are allocated for OT partners, covering consumable costs for SCTLD treatment (WP2). On-island workshops and training will contribute additional spend in the OTs and includes expenses for accommodation and travel with-in the Caribbean (c [REDACTED] international travel is c [REDACTED]. Where available, materials and services for on-island activities will be purchased locally (e.g. local dive shops/caterers/boat captains).

The remaining [REDACTED] covers JNCC staff time which includes Project Management (WP4), Monitoring and Evaluation (WP4), developing the Model Framework (WP3) and supporting the OTs with implementing the treatment strategy (WP2).

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.

No capital items are planned in the project budget.

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.

We recognise this is a high-value project. By its very nature marine fieldwork is expensive and with sites that are difficult to access, costs are heightened. The project is also based in three of the most expensive OTs. The budget is based on JNCC's extensive experience working with Caribbean OTs and every effort has been made to minimise costs. We believe the project offers high value-for-money through:

- the use of virtual meetings;
- minimising travel;
- using a mix of senior/junior staff time;
- using world-renown coral disease experts, who, recognising the urgency, are partnering at greatly reduced rates,
- informing the SCTLD disease responses with the best available scientific evidence from across the Caribbean region and supporting fieldwork interventions.

The project benefits from significant prior investment by:

- building upon the Defra-funded pilot CCRWG and lessons learnt from establishing the group to inform project development and drive efficiency;
- utilising existing work undertaken by each OT to contribute to the baseline assessment;
- building upon lessons learnt from the Florida SCTLD response, partnering with Dr Greta Aeby, who has worked in Florida for over 20 years and is a key member of NOAA's Florida disease response teams; and
- drawing upon JNCC's vast experience of collaborative working and technical expertise.

The project will facilitate knowledge sharing within the region and with wider coral disease practitioners and researchers and will endeavour to prepare and equip other Caribbean UKOTs with the skills and knowledge required for fast response should any potential future SCTLD outbreak occur within their

waters.

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.

Wherever possible, this project will seek to ensure that information and outputs are made available online. The project will comply with the open data access required by the DPLUS terms and conditions. JNCC are fully committed to providing open access to data and information [10].

- Information: Reports, meeting notes, etc., will be made available via project and partner websites. Information about workshops and activities will also be promoted through these websites and other social media applications where appropriate. Recordings of training events will be made available through YouTube. Regular updates on project progress will be published on JNCC's website, in our electronic newsletter and through social media. Other opportunities will also be taken to promote the Darwin Plus project, for example, at conferences and seminars and at relevant international meetings.

- Data - metadata for all: Wherever possible, data collated through this project will be displayed/accessible online, including spatial data which will be available to the public through the AGRAA coral disease dashboard and made available to the Caribbean-GCRMN and other regional initiatives and groups. However, as this project will include collection of data from existing data sources, some datasets may have use restrictions associated with them; this information will be captured in a data protocol. Where possible, steps will be taken to ensure that these data can be made public, e.g. amalgamating to anonymise, or removing potentially sensitive data. Some key data may be bound by Intellectual Property Rights which will be transparently reported.

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.

JNCC is committed to creating a safe environment for all staff and those with whom we work. For JNCC, safeguarding means protecting our staff and communities from potential harm from coming into contact with anyone working for, or with us, or from our activities/programmes of work. Our primary safeguarding objective is to do no harm, and we take a zero-tolerance approach to anyone who contravenes our policies.

Each JNCC programme has its own risk assessment. Safeguarding is a specific risk for our organisational risk register. Our safeguarding policy makes clear our policy applies to all partners and contractors.

For this project, partner MoAs will: a) incorporate JNCC’s Safeguarding Policy or otherwise implement reasonable due diligence and monitoring procedures of its sub-awards consistent with JNCC’s Policy; b) include appropriate language requiring contracting entities/individuals, and their employees/volunteers to abide with a Code of Conduct that reflects standards of JNCC’s Policy; and c) expressly state that the failure of those entities/individuals to take preventive measures against sexual harassment, exploitation and abuse and child abuse, to investigate and report allegations in a timely manner, or to take corrective actions when breaches have occurred, shall constitute grounds for JNCC to terminate such agreements.

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

-  [JNCC Safeguarding-Policy April-2020\(draft\)](#)
-  02/02/2021
-  14:16:08
-  pdf 344.44 KB

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.

 [R9 DPlus St2 Logical Framework SCLTD FINAL](#)

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Impact:

Effective collaboration and capacity building through partnerships established to support the UK OTs to deliver shared actions for the protection, restoration and management of coral reefs

Outcome:

Effective collaboration is established that shares information, knowledge, skills, resources and tools that supports evidence-based decisions to address the spread of Stony Coral Tissue Loss Disease in three Caribbean OTs

Project Outputs

Output 1:

Collaborative partnership to optimise the treatment and management of Stony Coral Tissue Loss Disease (SCLTD) established

Output 2:

Optimised treatment and management of SCLTD using best available scientific evidence and expertise

Output 3:

Creation of Reef Resilience Model Framework to support the long-term management of coral reefs

Output 4:

Project management, monitoring and evaluation

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 CCRWG meet for project kick-off meeting;
- 1.2 Agree terms of reference and meeting scheduling and frequency;
- 1.3 Deliver agreed regular meetings;
- 1.4 CCRWG members identify regional bodies and scientific experts to invite to the group;
- 1.5 Agreements in place with identified bodies and experts;
- 1.6 Identify project officers and agree roles and responsibilities;

- 1.7 Identify training needs and plan in-person training session;
- 1.8 Run in-person training session in Y1;
- 1.9 Evaluate CCRWG ways of working, progress, governance.
- 1.10 Plan in-person follow-on virtual training as required throughout Y2&3;
- 1.11 Deliver virtual training sessions as required throughout Y2&3;
- 1.12 Plan Y2 workshop to evaluate group progress, review roadmap for longer-term collaboration and identify next steps and develop adaptive management plan;
- 1.13 Deliver workshop in Y2

- 2.1 Formalise existing SCTLTD status and intervention activities into baseline report for each OT and share with CCRWG;
- 2.2 Design and circulate first survey to capture current understanding and use of active research on SCTLTD.
- 2.3 Discuss collaborative SCTLTD treatment strategy in CCRWG meeting and produce first draft;
- 2.4 Agree final version of collaborative treatment strategy with CCRWG;
- 2.5 OT's implement collaborative treatment strategy and monitor regularly, with support from scientific advisors and CCRWG;
- 2.6 OT's evaluate progress and findings from first round of fieldwork and produce annual progress reports;
- 2.7 Progress reports are reviewed collectively through CCRWG meeting;
- 2.8 Draft adaptive management plan including findings from project fieldwork and other SCTLTD initiatives underway in UKOTs;
- 2.9 Treatment strategy is revised and updated based on outcomes of Y1 fieldwork to reflect changes and lessons learnt;
- 2.10 OT's implement revised treatment strategy and monitor regularly, with support from scientific advisors and CCRWG;
- 2.11 Design and circulate mid-project survey to capture current understanding and use of active research on SCTLTD.
- 2.12 Develop SCTLTD adaptive management plan;
- 2.13 Review SCTLTD adaptive management plan and refine through workshop;
- 2.14 OT's evaluate progress and findings from first round of fieldwork and produce annual progress reports;
- 2.15 OT's implement revised treatment strategy and monitor regularly, with support from scientific advisors and CCRWG;
- 2.16 Design and circulate end of project survey to capture current understanding and use of active research on SCTLTD.
- 2.17 Final review and update of management plan at end of project through CCRWG.

- 3.1 Review existing reef resilience and coral reef management models, considering geographical application and relevance, discriminators, and suitability for which models work best in which scenario;
- 3.2 Produce a draft framework to guide a tailored ensemble modelling approach based on review outputs;
- 3.3 Design and distribute surveys to evaluate understanding before and after stakeholder consultation;
- 3.4 Present draft framework to stakeholders, with a demonstration case study, through the CCRWG;
- 3.5 Refine and finalise framework, incorporating stakeholder feedback;
- 3.6 Produce a plan for next steps (e.g. building of a module with all open source code for all models in framework for ease of access an implementation), including identification of funding opportunities.

- 4.1 Establish Project Management Group (PMG), with TOR and meeting schedule;
- 4.2 Draft Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) plan;
- 4.3 Sign off M&E plan through PMG;
- 4.4 Gender disaggregation;
- 4.5 Monitor progress quarterly with PMG;
- 4.6 Produce Darwin+ mid-year report;
- 4.7. Produce Darwin+ end of year report;

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.

 [darwin-plus-round9-imp-timetable](#)

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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 project will be implemented as a partnership between JNCC, TCIG (DECRA), CIG (DoE), BVIG (MNLRI), Dr Greta Aeby and Kalli de Meyer (Nature2). These organisations will be members of the Project Management Group (PMG) whose main commitment and task is to monitor and steer the project.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between all of the project partners will be established at the start of the project and will articulate the roles and responsibilities of all parties in the delivery of the project. Additionally, as part of the project management structure, in the first six months of their appointment, the Project Leader, working with their on-island Project Officers, will prepare a detailed Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) plan in which a set of evaluation questions will be used to assess the effectiveness of the project's outcomes. Specific monitoring questions will be used to answer the evaluation questions and will be checked through indicators, data sources/methods to obtain the data, and the responsibilities for data collection (as mentioned in the MoU).

The M&E plan will be then submitted to the PMG for sign off. Oversight of the delivery of the M&E plan will be the responsibility of the Project Leader, signing off the implementation of the M&E plan will be the responsibility of the PMG. The Project Leader will present a quarterly report on progress against deliverables, including the M&E plan and a quarterly financial report. The PMG which will check that the project delivers its outputs on time, within the proposed budget, and that the quality of the outputs is of a high standard. A component of the M&E budget allocation will be used to bring in specialist, independent review if identified as required by the PMG during and/or at the end of the project process.

The PMG will invite stakeholders involved in the CCRWG, and beyond, to contribute to reviews of the work undertaken in the project and comment on the outputs of the project.

Summary reports of the project's outcomes will also be provided to the TCIG, BVIG and CIG Cabinet (through appropriate channels) and to the Darwin Initiative as required by the donors reporting mandates. An online project management and file-sharing system (e.g. MS Teams) will be established to ensure all partners have access to relevant documents, targets, etc. irrespective of geographic location.

Total project budget for M&E in GBP (this may include Staff, Travel and Subsistence costs)	£ [REDACTED]
Number of days planned for M&E	39.00
Percentage of total project budget set aside for M&E (%)	[REDACTED]

Section 16 - Certification

Certification

On behalf of the

company

of

JNCC

I apply for a grant of





£496,257.00

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	Marcus Yeo
Position in the organisation	CEO
Signature (please upload e-signature)	 Marcus Signature  02/02/2021  15:54:07  png 6.18 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).