

Applicant: **Morkel, Benoit**
Organisation: **Fauna & Flora International**
Funding Sought: **£97,500.00**

IWTR8S2\1038

Understanding wild meat demand, supply and trade in Western Equatoria

Whilst all forms of wildlife hunting are banned in South Sudan, trade in wild meat is commonplace and poses a significant biodiversity threat. Data to inform evidence-based conservation interventions is lacking. This project will gather evidence on wild meat trade and consumption to inform intervention strategies in Western Equatoria by: conducting surveys in urban and rural trade hubs; enhancing the Wildlife Service's data collection and analysis capacity; and scoping solutions to illegal wild meat trade with potential to reduce poverty.

PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

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Section 1 - Contact Details

PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

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GMS ORGANISATION

Type	Organisation
Name	Fauna & Flora International
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Section 2 - Objectives, Species & Summary

Q3. Title:

Understanding wild meat demand, supply and trade in Western Equatoria

What was your Stage 1 reference number? e.g. IWTR8S1\1001

WTR8S1\1164

Q4. Which of the four key IWT Challenge Fund objectives will your project address?

Please tick all that apply. Note that projects supporting more than one will not achieve a higher score.

- Strengthening law enforcement
- Developing sustainable livelihoods to benefit people directly affected by IWT

Q5. Species project is focusing on

Where there are more than four species that will benefit from the project's work, please add more boxes using the selection option below.

Chimpanzee (EN)

Giant ground pangolin (EN)

White-bellied pangolin (EN)

Giant eland (VU)

Do you require more fields?

Yes

Bongo (NT)

Red colobus (VU)

No Response

No Response

Q6. Summary

Please provide a brief summary of your project, its aims, and the key activities you plan on undertaking. Please note that if you are successful, this wording may be used by Defra in communications e.g. as a short description of the project on the website.

Please write this summary for a non-technical audience.

Whilst all forms of wildlife hunting are banned in South Sudan, trade in wild meat is commonplace and poses a significant biodiversity threat. Data to inform evidence-based conservation interventions is lacking. This project will gather evidence on wild meat trade and consumption to inform intervention strategies in Western Equatoria by: conducting surveys in urban and rural trade hubs; enhancing the Wildlife Service's data collection and analysis capacity; and scoping solutions to illegal wild meat trade with potential to reduce poverty.

Section 3 - Title, Dates & Budget Summary

Q7. Country(ies)

Which eligible host country(ies) will your project be working in? Where there are more than four countries that your project will be working in, please add more boxes using the selection option below.

Country 1 South Sudan

Country 2 *No Response*

Country 3 *No Response*

Country 4 *No Response*

Do you require more fields?

No

Q8. Project dates

Start date:

01 July 2022

End date:

30 June 2023

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

12 months

Q9. Budget summary

Year:	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	Total request
Amount:	£71,000.00	£26,500.00	£0.00	£0.00	£ 97,500.00

Q10. Proportion of IWT Challenge Fund budget expected to be expended in eligible countries: %

Q11a. Do you have matched funding arrangements?

Yes

What matched funding arrangements are proposed?

We have secured internal FFI funding that will support IWT scoping and wild meat surveys in Western Equatoria, with a focus on pangolins.

Q11b. Total confirmed & unconfirmed matched funding (£)

Q11c. If you have a significant amount of unconfirmed matched funding, please clarify how you fund the project if you don't manage to secure this?

No Response

Section 4 - Problem statement & Gap in existing approaches

Q12. Project stage

With reference to the application guidance, please select the relevant project stage.

Evidence

Q13. Problem the project is trying to address

Please describe the problem your project is trying to address in terms of illegal wildlife trade and its relationship with poverty. Please describe the level of threat to the species concerned. Please also explain which communities are affected by this issue, and how this aspect of the illegal trade in wildlife relates to poverty or efforts of people and/or states to reduce poverty.

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

Under current South Sudanese legislation, the harvest of any non-domestic animal is illegal. However, reports from the South Sudan Wildlife Service (WLS) and in-country conservation and academic organisations indicate that wild meat trade remains widespread (e.g., Bedford, 2019), and at levels that are likely to exert unsustainable pressure on threatened wildlife species. Anecdotal evidence suggests that chimpanzee, pangolin, bongo and giant eland are part of South Sudan's wild meat trade, and there are several known cases of live chimpanzees being traded domestically and internationally. In Western Equatoria specifically, recent relative political stability has resulted in perceivable increases in wild meat trade to urban and rural centres within the state, with existing smuggling routes across the Congolese and Central African borders (Global Initiative, 2017) potentially facilitating transboundary trade in wild meat. Despite this threat being widely

recognised, robust data on the precise nature and extent of illegal wild meat trade throughout the trade chain is lacking. More information is needed on the species involved, methods used, demand, and spatial and temporal trends.

As a result of conflict (2013-2020) and the ensuing economic collapse, food insecurity remains a significant challenge throughout South Sudan, with the World Food Programme currently estimating that over 70% of the population face “severe food insecurity” (WFP.org, 2022). Previous surveys conducted by FFI demonstrate that communities living around Bangangai and Bire Kpatuos Game Reserves in Western Equatoria, within which the majority ethnic group is the Azande who are primarily an agrarian society, rely heavily on wild meat as a protein source (FFI, 2018/20). Anecdotal evidence suggests that the same is true for communities living around Southern National Park, comprised predominantly of Azande and Balanda communities, another agrarian ethnic group reliant on wild meat for protein. Likewise, against a backdrop of ongoing financial crises, wild meat trade continues to provide one of few available economic opportunities to impoverished local community members. Additional motivations for wild meat trade, beyond food security and subsistence, are not well understood.

Whilst wild meat trade is clearly an important means by which to meet short-term needs, there are potential disease transmission risks, particularly when meat is transported longer distances to urban centres and across borders (FFI, 2020). Longer-term, unsustainable offtake threatens biodiversity and the survival of charismatic wildlife, which may result in future opportunity costs related to tourism development and ecosystem services, both within and outside of South Sudan’s protected area network.

Currently Bangangai, Bire Kpatuos, Southern, and South Sudan’s other protected areas harbour rich biodiversity, including endangered ungulates, primates, pangolin, elephant and carnivores, and maintain vital ecosystem services that can support stabilisation and human development. South Sudan’s protected and wilderness areas have largely been without investment in management for generations, underpinned by a lack of capacity and resources. This lack of management and protection enables unmitigated poaching, including for illegal wild meat trade; encroachment; and unsustainable natural resources use, underpinned by poverty and food insecurity, which directly threaten the species concerned.

Q14. Gap in existing approaches

What gap does your project fill in existing approaches? Evidence projects should describe how the improved evidence base will be used to design an intervention and the gap the intervention will fill. Extra projects should also provide evidence of the intervention’s success at a smaller scale.

Current understanding of IWT in Western Equatoria is poor, limiting the ability of government and conservation actors to design and implement targeted interventions to address trade-driven threats to biodiversity. Wild meat is commonly and evidently consumed and traded at markets, but the species and extent of trade are unknown. Decades of civil unrest have severely hindered development, including government capacity and institutions. The WLS operates with limited human, financial, physical, and technical resources, and has an ongoing capacity gap in data collection, management, and analysis.

By generating and disseminating evidence that describes and quantifies illegal wild meat trade in Western Equatoria, this project will fill existing knowledge gaps related to the actors involved and methods used to collect and trade wild meat illegally; drivers behind the consumption in urban and rural centres; and attitudes, barriers and opportunities to sustainable livelihoods that can serve to reduce demand for/slow illegal harvest/trade of wild meat and reduce poverty. In the process, the project will work with the WLS to fill capacity gaps related to IWT data collection, processing, and management. Resulting evidence will be shared nationally and regionally, helping to fill broader knowledge gaps, and will be used to inform strategic interventions.

Section 5 - Objectives & Commitments

Q15. Which national and international objectives and commitments does this project contribute towards?

Consider national plans such as NBSAPs and commitments such as London Conference Declarations and the Kasane and Hanoi Statements. Please provide the number(s) of the relevant commitments and some brief information on how your project will contribute to them. There is no need to include the text from the relevant commitment.

We will contribute to commitments associated with strengthening law enforcement (London 2014 XIII; London 2018 14; Hanoi C) by training and supporting the WLS in IWT and law enforcement data collection, processing and storage (NSAP Strategic Objective 2 [SO2]).

We will contribute towards commitments associated with reducing demands of illegal wildlife products (London 2014, I; London 2018, 20; Hanoi A; Kasane 1,2) by generating the data on both supply and demand sides to inform future strategic interventions.

We will contribute to commitments associated with working in partnerships with local communities (London 2018 13, 17; Hanoi D), to increase their ability to pursue more sustainable livelihoods (London 2014, XVII, XVIII; Hanoi D; Kasane 13), and better share information (NSAP SO7; London 2014 XVI; Kasane 12). We will do this by generating the evidence base for actors involved, methods used to collect and trade, drivers behind consumption and opportunities for alternative livelihoods.

At project end, a workshop held with key national and regional stakeholders will enable a collaborative design of evidence-based conservation and livelihoods interventions to address IWT in the project area (London 2014, XIX, XXI; London 2018, 16).

Section 6 - Method, Change Expected, Gender & Exit Strategy

Q16. Methodology

Describe the methods and approach you will use to achieve your intended Outcome and contribute towards your Impact. Provide information on:

- How have you reflected on and incorporated evidence and lessons learnt from past and present activities and projects in the design of this project?
- The need for this work and a justification of your proposed approach.
- How you will undertake the work (materials and methods).
- How you will manage the work (roles and responsibilities, project management tools, risks etc.).

This project's design recognises that wild meat hunting and consumption provide a critical nutrition source, supplement household incomes, are culturally valued, and pose a threat to biodiversity and public health, all of which are significant considerations in South Sudan. The project also acknowledges that behaviour in conflict-affected populations needs to be placed within a conflict dynamic, including Attitudes and Competition (Galtung conflict triangle).

Recognising this, this project builds on FFI's decade-long experience working in Western Equatoria with government and community partners. This includes activities undertaken with past Darwin Initiative support (25-002, 2018-2021; A grade). Data from household surveys conducted in 25-002 have informed this project's design.

Project design has also been informed by IIED's (2021) 'Wild meat alternative projects: practical guidance for project design', which provides a stepwise process for designing wild meat alternative projects, and CIFOR's (2019) 'Towards a sustainable, participatory and inclusive wild meat sector' report, which provides a nuanced approach to wild meat interventions based on their respective place along the trade chain. Proposed genetic sampling draws on past learning, which shows, in similar contexts, a significant difference between reported and actual species identification (Dell et al, 2021).

This project will collect the necessary evidence to design viable solutions that address unsustainable wild meat consumption/trade and reduce poverty, and will:

1. Improve understanding of the nature and extent of illegal wild meat trade, including place networks and transboundary dynamics, in key urban and rural centres.
 - (a) Secure survey permissions/support from local government and community leaders in Maridi, Yambio, Nzara, Ezo and Tambura counties.
 - (b) Raise awareness of planned surveys through local communication channels.
 - (c) Recruit and train three Zande-speaking (>one female) interviewers from state/national education institutions.
 - (d) Conduct market surveys (targeting >50% female, >20% youth [18-25yrs] of >200 respondents) in five urban (Yambio,

Maridi, Nzara, Tambura, Ezo) and five rural (Bazungua, Saura, Nadiapai, Sakaure, Makpandu) markets, four iterations per location, and analyse data. Three markets are on the international border and will illuminate cross-border trade. Market survey questions will focus on species identification, quantity, harvest location and method, transport method, protein options and cost. Data will be collected by interviewers; analysis led by FFI.

(e) Collect genetic samples of wild meat from the survey locations, following biosafety protocols. Under MWCT and Ministry of Environment permits, and using Zymo DNA RNA Shield, transport samples to Bucknell University. Led by FFI staff and interviewers, trained by Dr. Reeder (Bucknell University).

(e) Analyse collected genetic samples; undertaken by Dr. Reeder.

(f) Spatially map key places facilitating trade; undertaken by FFI's Analytics Team.

2. Increase knowledge and capacity of law enforcement agencies to monitor IWT-specific data, with enhanced protocols, data management systems and analysis.

(a) Conduct capacity assessments of >50 WLS personnel (Q1 and Q4) to understand training needs and monitor IWT data processing proficiency.

(b) With the WLS, develop IWT data gathering, processing and reporting protocols, including purchasing information systems infrastructure.

(c) Train >80 WLS officers (>10% women) on IWT data collection, processing and storage; conducted by FFI staff and consultant trainer, Adrian Garside.

(d) Provide technical and resource support to WLS rangers to collect IWT / law enforcement data; led by FFI.

(e) Analyse IWT/law enforcement data to determine spatial/temporal trends; collaboratively undertaken by FFI and the WLS.

3. Identify attitudes, barriers and opportunities for locally and culturally acceptable potential solutions to illegal wild meat consumption and trade.

(a) Conduct surveys and Focus Group Discussions (targeting >50% female, >20% youth [18-25yrs] of >200 respondents) in target areas to deepen understanding of illegal wild meat consumption and trade.

(b) Concurrent with 3a., explore opportunities, attitudes and barriers to potential solutions to illegal wild meat consumption and trade.

(c) Develop and document recommendations for potential solutions. As appropriate, this will include practical mechanisms to offset nutritional reliance on wild meat. Enforcement delivery must not move ahead of changing underlying nutritional drivers.

4. Document and share project learning and recommendations with key state, national and regional stakeholders.

(a) Document project findings and disseminate to key national and regional stakeholders.

(b) Hold key stakeholder workshop, national/regional stakeholders joining virtually, to design evidence-based conservation and livelihoods interventions to address IWT and reduce poverty in the project area.

The Project Leader, based in Yambio, will lead implementation supported by Yambio-based technical/operations staff and UK-based technical specialists. The Project Leader will lead planning and strategy, oversee activity implementation and partner/consultant coordination, and monitor and track progress against the workplan and outputs/outcomes. Project partners/key stakeholders will convene quarterly to review results and consider need for adaptive management.

Q17. Capability and Capacity

How will you support the strengthening of capability and capacity in the project countries at organisational or individual levels, please provide details of what form this will take and the post-project value to the country.

This project will be delivered in collaboration with the WLS, local government and communities. This includes developing: survey design and implementation; messaging around IWT and awareness-raising; IWT data collection, processing and analysis; and information sharing/learning. Beyond the dedicated capacity development element of the project under Output 2, this collaborative approach will provide opportunities for knowledge transfer and strengthen the capability to understand and address IWT on an individual and organisational level for FFI and local stakeholders.

Output 2 of the project is focused specifically on capacity building of law enforcement rangers and officers. Capacity development will focus on:

- Technical monitoring skills of IWT
- IWT data collection, processing and storage

Capacity development will focus on WLS personnel most closely associated with IWT, whether through being stationed at

Protected Areas or checkpoints along transits routes, or processing of data at HQs. The project anticipates a spill over of capacity development as WLS personnel are routinely deployed throughout the state. Additionally, the WLS have internal training arrangements. It is expected that the standardised protocols for IWT data collection and processing will be taught to WLS personnel beyond those who receive training directly from the project.

In addition, Outputs 1 and 3 include training local interviewers from the state or national education institutions to conduct market surveys, interviews and focus group discussions; thus, building capacity of nationals to conduct this work and gain transferable skills that can be used for other research purposes, development work and beyond.

Output 4 will engage local, national, and regional stakeholders on the information gathered and learnings of project, increasing overall knowledge and capacity to address IWT.

Q18. Gender equality

All applicants must consider whether and how their project will contribute to reducing inequality between persons of different gender. Explain how your understanding of gender equality within the context your project, and how is it reflected in your plans.

Gender is a key project consideration, so that project knowledge outputs are comprehensive and reflect the experiences/views of both women and men. The project has been deliberate in considering and integrating gender in its activity design, including but not limited to survey design and implementation. The project will work to recruit both female and male data collectors to avoid any barriers to survey access, which may be caused or influenced by gender. The project will organise and conduct surveying and focus groups at locations and times and in manners that are accessible to both women and men, and will consider female-specific outreach and engagement if the sample size of respondents becomes disproportionately male. The development of viable solutions under Output 3 will provide opportunity for meaningful participation of both men and women. The WLS is a male-dominated entity; however, the project will request that it puts forward female personnel (target >10%) for all training events and will incorporate women's perspectives in training design. All data will be disaggregated by gender, when possible.

Regarding FFI's project management and delivery team, there will be 5 men and 4 women working on the project. The project's operations lead, based in South Sudan, is a woman; the in-house IWT and biomonitoring experts assigned to the project are women; and the senior member of staff providing regional oversight is a woman. We note too that the lead technical expert for the genetic analysis, is also a woman. We believe the composition of female and male staff expected to be involved in project implementation will enable us to adequately design, implement, and monitor gender-sensitive activities over the course of the 12-month project period.

Q19. Change expected

Detail the expected changes to both illegal wildlife trade and poverty reduction this work will deliver. You should identify what will change and who will benefit, considering both people and species of focus a) in the short-term (i.e. during the life of the project) and b) in the long-term (after the project has ended).

When talking about how people will benefit, please remember to give details of who will benefit, differences in benefits by gender or other layers of diversity within stakeholders, and the number of beneficiaries expected. The number of communities is insufficient detail - number of households should be the largest unit used. Demand reduction projects should demonstrate their indirect links to poverty reduction.

In the short term, this project will have:

- Generated new knowledge, evidence and understanding on wild meat trade and consumption in Western Equatoria and associated urban centres and the transboundary linkages. Knowledge at all stages of the trade chain within Western Equatoria will be increased, and create a sound evidence base to guide future conservation planning and IWT threats mitigation strategies.
- Elicited and documented local men and women's viewpoints, attitudes, and motivations influencing their consumption and trade of wild meat, in support of designing future, culturally appropriate and viable solutions to illegal wild meat trade.

- Increased awareness of at least 200 local people involved in surveys and FGDs, including women and youth, on the threat of IWT and its negative impact on local environmental sustainability.
- Built data collection and management capacity of 80 WLS rangers (target >10% women), through new knowledge, skills, and equipment, and established new information management protocols and systems to support current and future IWT monitoring by government authorities.
- Increased the knowledge and awareness of government and national and regional conservation stakeholders as to the extent and impact of IWT threat on endangered wildlife in Western Equatoria.
- Employed from within Western Equatoria and procured equipment and supplies locally whenever possible, so as to contribute to the local economy.

In the long term, this project will:

- Directly influence and strengthen the design and implementation of evidence-based conservation strategies to reduce unsustainable wild meat trade and the associated unsustainable pressure on key threatened species.
- Directly inform and influence the design and implementation of local livelihoods initiatives that diversify economic and food security opportunities and create viable solutions to unsustainable wild meat consumption and trade. Two examples of potential sustainable solutions are the smoking of domestic animal meat to provide a similar taste to dried wild meat, and finding legal avenues for consumption of certain wildlife species where consumption is assessed to be sustainable.
- Serve as an example of effective, comprehensive social research methodology for potential use and replication by government authorities in other states afflicted by IWT.
- Support the maintenance and growth of wildlife populations in Western Equatoria.

Q20. 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 your overall Outcome and, longer term, your expected Impact.

This project will focus on three areas:

1. Investigating the nature and extent of illegal wild meat trade, including understanding the networks and transboundary dynamics established in key urban and rural centres in Western Equatoria.
2. Establishing and strengthening capacity to systematically collect and analyse IWT data for future monitoring efforts.
3. Surveying both men and women in rural markets and urban centres to uncover the attitudes, barriers and opportunities to culturally acceptable sustainable livelihoods related to illegal wild meat trade and consumption.

Project learning and outputs will be shared with key national and regional stakeholders, and will be used as a platform to scale up work carried out over this project.

Through these approaches, the project will gather evidence and build capacity for strengthened law enforcement strategies, and the development of appropriate and sustainable livelihood strategies that do not depend on illegal and unsustainable wild meat trade and consumption, forming a strong basis for future targeted conservation action to address IWT in Western Equatoria.

Implementation of future evidence-based strategies will ultimately lead to a reduction in IWT, enabling biodiversity to thrive, and more sustainable livelihoods strategies that contribute to poverty reduction and address food security in the local area.





Q21. Exit Strategy

How the project will reach a sustainable point and continue to deliver benefits post-funding? Will the activities require funding and support from other sources, or will they be mainstreamed in to “business as usual”? How will the required knowledge and skills remain available to sustain the benefits? How will your approach, if proven, be scaled?

FFI has worked in South Sudan since 2010, irrespective of conflict, and is committed to supporting government and local partners as they work to increase their capacity to plan and implement effective strategies that conserve biodiversity, increase resilience and support stabilisation and improved quality of life for people. This project will strengthen our ongoing partnerships with Ministry of Wildlife Conservation and Tourism (MWCT) and the WLS, enhancing their capacity through technical training and developing knowledge management systems to identify, monitor and address IWT. A strongly collaborative and a ‘train the trainers’ approach will ensure embedded capabilities and institutional sustainability post-project.

The project’s knowledge outputs – detailing species targeted in illegal trade, the actors involved, methods used, and drivers behind urban and rural consumption and trade – will be discrete and able to stand on their own to inform future IWT and conservation action post-project. FFI and our partners envision this Evidence project as the first step towards tackling the illegal wild meat trade in Western Equatoria. We anticipate dedicating future resources towards securing additional funding to act on the evidence generated by this project and design and implement conservation, management, and livelihoods strategies that make an appreciable difference in mitigating the threat of IWT in Western Equatoria. These may include, but not be limited to, more effectively deploying existing law enforcement capacities, undertaking behaviour change activities to reduce demand, coupling conservation action with agriculture and food security interventions, etc., and as guided by the evidence generated by this project.

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

-  [References acronyms and map](#)
-  21/03/2022
-  14:26:48
-  pdf 170.6 KB

Section 7 - Risk Management

Q22. Risk Management

Please outline the 6 key risks to achievement of your Project Outcome and how these risks will be managed and mitigated, referring to the [Risk Guidance](#). This should include at least one Fiduciary, one Safeguarding Risk, and one Delivery Chain Risk.

Projects should also draft their initial risk register, using the [Risk Assessment template](#), and be prepared to submit this when requested if you are recommended for funding. Do not attach this to your application.

Risk Description	Impact	Prob.	Gross Risk	Mitigation	Residual Risk
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Fiduciary	Minor	Unlikely	Minor	FFI has established financial policies/procedures that consider working in remote/underdeveloped areas and cover approvals/advances /reimbursements/documentation. FFI staff/consultants will document project purchases, securing receipts whenever possible. When receipts are not possible (e.g., taxis), staff/consultants will self-report. FFI finance staff will undertake regular monitoring and have ongoing knowledge of local rates.	Minor
Safeguarding	Moderate	Unlikely	Moderate	FFI will implement established Policies and Procedures to avoid/avoid enabling the impacts of gender-based/other inequities and elite capture. The project will ensure that women and other marginalised community members have equal access to project resources and information, equal participation in decision-making, and equal opportunities to benefit from project activities.	Minor
Delivery Chain	Minor	Possible	Moderate	The project will take care to know its audience, and design survey tools, questions, and methodologies and employ facilitation skills that are sensitive to local literacy and capacity levels.	Minor
Risk 4	Minor	Possible	Moderate	Adhere to international health and national government guidelines with regard to masks, social distancing, assembly, etc. Meet virtually when feasible and deemed as an effective delivery mechanism. Ensure adequate physical space when conducting focus groups/interviews.	Minor

Risk 5	Moderate	Likely	Major	The government is a key partner and is committed to project implementation. FFI will regularly engage with government to facilitate their participation; build capacity; leverage biodiversity to attract additional investment to improve sustainability; and fundraise to support conservation action at a scale that mitigates threats and conserves biodiversity.	Major
Risk 6	Moderate	Possible	Major	FFI takes a conflict-sensitive approach in South Sudan, integrating themes of stabilisation/conflict mitigation in its trainings and interactions with government authorities and communities. Surveys and focus group questions and methods will be conflict-sensitive, and enumerators will be trained to document conflicts that may be contributing to or influencing IWT.	Major

Section 8 - Implementation Timetable

Q23. 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 Word template as appropriate to describe the intended workplan for your project.

[Implementation Timetable Template](#)


Please add/remove columns to reflect the length of your project. For each activity (add/remove rows as appropriate) indicate the number of months it will last, and fill/shade only the quarters in which an activity will be carried out. The workplan can span multiple pages if necessary.

 [IWT-R8-Implementation-Timetable SouthSudan FINA](#)



 21/03/2022

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Section 9 - Monitoring and Evaluation

Q24. Monitoring and evaluation (M&E)

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

IWT Challenge Fund 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](#)).

FFI adheres to the principles of adaptive management for its conservation actions, which includes planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, and adaptation. As a key component of this project cycle, we have a rigorous monitoring and evaluation and reporting system, which will be applied in the proposed project. This includes an existing, internal MEL strategy specific to our South Sudan programme, into which this IWTCF project and its indicators will be fully integrated.

Data generated through market and community member surveys and focus group discussions will be recorded using Survey 123 on smart phones, which are already owned by FFI, and uploaded for collation and analysis by project staff in FFI's office in Yambio. Data from genetic analysis will be generated and recorded by Dr. Reeder at her laboratory, and made available to FFI. These data constitute original research and will support the establishment of baselines against which to monitor future trends and impact in wild meat supply and local knowledge and attitudes.

The project will use pre- and post- training assessments to identify the extent that law enforcement officers' knowledge and capacity have improved due to training. Following training, the project will continue to monitor officers' ongoing application of knowledge gained through self-reporting, and by accessing and monitoring the quality and completeness of law enforcement data (quality, volume, frequency), as indicators of applied knowledge and improved data management and systems.

The project will record the number and affiliations of those who receive project learning (via in-person and virtual event participation, and/or email) to ensure necessary (i.e., government authorities) and interested parties receive the information and are able to integrate it into their thinking and efforts on how to mitigate the IWT threat in Western Equatoria and more broadly.

To support collection of data needed to measure progress against each indicator, we will develop an M&E plan, detailing what types of quantitative and qualitative information is needed to establish baselines, verify progress, frequency of data collection, who is responsible for collection, who is responsible for analysis etc.

The Project Leader, based in Yambio, will be responsible for ensuring all data is collected and stored appropriately by the responsible project team members on a timely basis; will lead overall monitoring of progress against workplans and project indicators on a regular basis; facilitate adaptive management as needed, and will share progress with all team members on a monthly basis and with partners on a quarterly basis.

Total project budget for M&E in GBP (this may include Staff, Travel and Subsistence costs)	██████████
Percentage of total project budget set aside for M&E (%)	█
Number of days planned for M&E	21

Section 10 - Logical Framework

Q25. Logical Framework





IWT Challenge Fund projects will be required to monitor and report against their progress towards their 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 – **please do not edit the template structure other than adding additional Outputs if needed as a logframe submitted in a different format may make your application ineligible.** 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.

 [IWT-R8-St2-Logical-Framework South Sudan FINAL](#)
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Impact:

Biodiversity in Western Equatoria (South Sudan), including threatened species, is flourishing due to reduced threats from IWT, and sustainable livelihoods interventions are contributing to poverty reduction in the local area

Outcome:

Improved understanding of illegal wild meat trade and consumer motivations establishes evidence base for future conservation action to reduce poverty and IWT, supported by enhanced law enforcement capacity and systems.

Project Outputs

Output 1:

The nature and extent of illegal wild meat trade, including place networks and transboundary dynamics, in key urban centres and rural areas are understood.

Output 2:

At least 80 law enforcement rangers (target >10% women) demonstrate increased knowledge and capacity to monitor IWT-specific data, supported by enhanced protocols and improved data management systems and analysis.

Output 3:

Attitudes, barriers and opportunities associated with the implementation of locally and culturally acceptable potential solutions to illegal wild meat consumption and trade are understood.

Output 4:

Project learning and recommendations are documented and shared with key state, national and regional stakeholders.

Output 5:

No Response

Do you require more Output fields?

It is advised to have fewer 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, 1.3 are contributing to Output 1.

- Output 1: The nature and extent of illegal wild meat trade, including place networks and transboundary dynamics, in key urban centres and rural areas is understood
- 1.1 Secure survey permissions and affirm support from local government and community leaders
 - 1.2 Raise awareness of the planned surveys through local communication channels (radio, posters, stakeholder meetings)
 - 1.3 Recruit and train three Zande-speaking (including at least one female) interviewers from state or national education

institutions (e.g., University of Juba)

1.4 Conduct market surveys (>200 respondents of which >50% female, >20% youth[18-25yrs]), four iterations per location (five urban centres, five rural markets), and analyse data collected

1.5 Collect genetic samples of wild meat from the 10 survey locations, following biosafety protocols, and transport to Bucknell University

1.6 Analyse collected wild meat genetic samples

1.7 Using ArcGIS, spatially map key places facilitating trade

Output 2: At least 80 law enforcement rangers (target >10% women) demonstrate increased knowledge and capacity to monitor IWT-specific data, supported by enhanced protocols and improved data management systems and analysis

2.1 Conduct capacity assessments of >50 WLS personnel (in Q1 and Q4) to understand training needs and proficiency to collect and process IWT data

2.2 Develop IWT data gathering, processing and reporting protocols, including purchasing and installing information systems infrastructure

2.3 Train at least 80 WLS officers (target >10% women) on IWT data collection, processing and storage

2.4 Support WLS officers to collect IWT / law enforcement data

2.5 Analyse IWT data / law enforcement data to determine spatial / temporal trends

Output 3: Attitudes, barriers and opportunities associated with the implementation of locally and culturally acceptable potential solutions to illegal wild meat consumption and trade are understood

3.1 Conduct surveys and FGDs (>200 respondents of which >50% female, >20% youth[18-25yrs]) in target areas to deepen understanding of illegal wild meat consumption and trade

3.2 In the same surveys and FGDs (3.1), explore opportunities, attitudes and barriers to potential solutions to illegal wild meat consumption and trade

3.3 Develop and document recommendations for potential solutions to illegal wild meat consumption and trade

Output 4: Project learning and recommendations are documented and shared with key state, national and regional stakeholders

4.1 Document project findings and disseminate to key stakeholders, including national and regional stakeholders

4.2 Hold key stakeholder workshop, with national and regional stakeholders joining virtually, to design evidence-based conservation/livelihoods interventions to address IWT in the project area

Section 11 - Budget and Funding

Q26. 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 under £100,000 and over £100,000. Please refer to the [Finance Guidance](#) for more information.

- [Budget form for projects under £100k](#)
- [Budget form for projects over £100k](#)

Please ensure you include any co-financing figures in the Budget spreadsheet to clarify the full budget required to deliver this project.

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

Please upload your completed IWT Challenge Fund Budget Form Excel spreadsheet using the field below.

 [Budget-for-IWT-R8-under-£100K-Dec21-Final-MASTER](#)

 21/03/2022

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 xlsx 36.94 KB

Q27. Funding

Q27a. Is this a new initiative or does it build on existing work (delivered by anyone and funded through any source)?

New Initiative

Please provide details:

This project represents a new initiative by FFI and our partners in Western Equatoria, although builds on previous briefings on illegal wild meat trade in the border areas of South Sudan (Bedford, 2019).

Q27b. Are you aware of any current or future plans for similar work to the proposed project?

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.

The project complements IWTCF project IWT090, implemented by Space for Giants, which seeks to improve wildlife crime legal capacity and convictions in Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda and South Sudan. Space for Giants' work focuses heavily on judicial process, which is highly complementary to the work proposed under this Evidence project, which is focused on gathering data on the supply end of the trade chain. Communication with Space for Giants has already been established and we are committed to sharing lessons learnt with them. They will be an important stakeholder to involve in the planned workshop to design evidence-based conservation interventions.

Q28. Capital items

If you plan to purchase capital items with IWT 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.

The project will procure:

Two laptops, which will be used by the WLS to digitalise, store and analyse IWT data. These laptops will become the responsibility of the WLS after the project.

Infrastructure to support information systems for the state WLS headquarters, including a power supply (solar system), digital and physical storage units (hard drives and cupboards), and improved office protection (secure doors and windows).

Four motorbikes, which will be used by survey enumerators to collect data through interviews and focus groups in rural areas that are not readily or efficiently accessible by public transportation. Two bikes will be retained by FFI and two bikes will be donated to the WLS after the project.

Q29. 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.

This project's knowledge outputs will form the basis of future conservation actions to detect, deter, and disrupt illegal wild meat trade across Western Equatoria and potentially elsewhere in South Sudan, representing excellent value for money for the investment provided.

FFI already has staff and infrastructure in place to implement the project, minimising capital expenditures and start-up

costs, and the budget was estimated based on our past and ongoing knowledge of market prices. FFI has an operational and financial system in place to ensure the most cost-effective, transparent, and efficient expenditures. All procurement will comply with FFI's procurement policy or the donor regulations, whichever is more stringent. Procurement of any value is required to avoid conflict of interest and ensure value for money. Purchases of £ [redacted] upwards require quotations to be documented. Decisions may be made according to quality and safety as well as cost.

Sound planning and ongoing activity and financial performance monitoring will enable the team to identify where efficiencies can be made, for example by combining trips to the field and other international trips, to increase value for money within travel and subsistence. As an example of seeking to ensure efficiencies, Dr. Reeder will be engaged on a consultancy basis as an individual, rather than as a partner and through a sub-grant agreement with Bucknell University. This approach enables a significant cost saving whilst not impacting provision of her technical expertise.

Section 12 - Safeguarding and Ethics

Q30. Safeguarding

Projects funded through the IWT Challenge Fund 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 Partner has the following policies in place and that these can be available on request:

Please upload the lead partner's Safeguarding Policy as a PDF on the certification page.

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 (file upload on certification page)	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 for staff and volunteers that sets out clear expectations of behaviours - inside and outside 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 safeguarding policies in practice and ensure that downstream partners apply the same standards as the Lead Partner.

If your project involves data collection and/or analysis which identifies individuals (e.g. biometric data, intelligence data), please explain the measures which are in place and/or will be taken to ensure the proper control and use of the data. Please explain the experience of the organisations involved in managing this information in your project

FFI's Learning Management System enables compulsory online training in safeguarding policies and procedures, which all

FFI staff are required to complete. FFI's partner due diligence procedure will review existing project partner safeguarding policies and identify gaps. An action plan will be developed and implemented to ensure downstream partners apply standards to the same level as FFI. FFI's Safeguarding Children and Adults at Risk Policy & Procedure forms part of contracts and agreements with third-party contractors and sub-grantees.

The project will ensure proper control and use of survey data by implementing encryption systems on the smartphones used for data collection and ensuring safe storage of the data on FFI's data storage drive.

Q31. Ethics

Outline your approach to meeting the key ethical principles, as outlined in the guidance.

FFI's policy is to ensure its conservation activities do not disadvantage poor, vulnerable or marginalised, natural resource-dependent women and men. Wherever possible we seek to conserve biodiversity in ways that enhance human wellbeing and social equity. FFI is committed to respecting human rights, promoting their protection and realisation within our programmes, and supporting governance systems that can secure those rights.

This project will respect local knowledge and, with knowledge-holders' permission, use it alongside other scientific approaches and methods. FFI will recruit and engage with survey participants using the principles of free, prior, and informed consent.

When addressing illegal activities, including IWT, FFI supports appropriate law enforcement agencies to manage conflict and apply legitimate regulations fairly, using appropriate standard operating procedures, and ensuring due process in line with internationally recognised human rights standards. Our project is not directly funding law enforcement activity on the ground; however, during and after the project period, we will use the project's knowledge outputs to influence future IWT interventions, including law enforcement responses, and will use this opportunity to promote fair and proportionate law enforcement that respects human rights.

Section 13 - FCDO Notifications

Q32. FCDO Notifications


Please state whether there are sensitivities that the Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office will need to be aware of should they want to publicise the project's success in the Darwin Initiative in any country.


No

Please indicate whether you have contacted FCDO Embassy or High Commission to discuss the project and attach details of any advice you have received from them.

Yes

Please attach evidence of request or advice if received.

 [FCDO RE FFI South Sudan DARWIN Programme](#)

 21/03/2022

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Section 14 - Project Staff

Q33. Project staff

Please identify the core staff (identified in the budget), their role and what % of their time they will be working on the project.

Please provide 1-page CVs or job description, further information on who is considered core staff can be found in the [Finance Guidance](#).

Name (First name, Surname)	Role	% time on project	1 page CV or job description attached?
Benoit Morkel	Project Leader	12	Checked
Alegria Olmedo	Technical Specialist, Wildlife Trade	2	Checked
Cath Lawson	Regional Oversight	2	Checked
DeeAnn Reeder	Technical Specialist, Genetic Sampling	4	Checked





Do you require more fields?

Yes

Name (First name, Surname)	Role	% time on project	1 page CV or job description attached?
Adrian Garside	Technical Specialist, Ranger Training	4	Checked
Emmanuel Kutote	Project Officer (Biomonitoring)	9	Checked
Rachel Belkin	Operations Manager, South Sudan	12	Checked
Clement Salvatore	Project Officer (Community Engagement)	9	Checked
No Response	No Response	0	Unchecked
No Response	No Response	0	Unchecked
No Response	No Response	0	Unchecked
No Response	No Response	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.

 [SS CVs Final](#)
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 pdf 700.31 KB

Have you attached all project staff CVs?


Yes

Section 15 - Project Partners

Q34. Project partners

Please list all the Project Partners (including the Lead Partner), clearly setting out their roles and responsibilities in the project including the extent of their engagement so far and planned.

This section should demonstrate the capability and capacity of the Project Partners to successfully deliver the project. Please provide Letters of Support for all project partners or explain why this has not been included.

Lead partner name:	Fauna & Flora International (FFI)
Website address:	https://www.fauna-flora.org/
Details (including roles and responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):	<p>Since 2010, FFI has worked in South Sudan under a signed MOU with MWCT and provided support to the MWCT and local communities, focusing on biodiversity conservation and sustainable natural resource management in Western Equatoria. With extensive experience of operating in other conflict-affected countries, FFI has been able to maintain operations throughout South Sudan's often fraught political and security situation over this time. Through this continuous presence, FFI has garnered demonstrable support from partners, government and local communities.</p> <p>FFI's role as lead institution commits it to strong technical and operational management of the project, including tight oversight of activity implementation, proactivity on logistics and trouble-shooting, impact monitoring, collating technical project information and technical reporting. FFI also has a key role in applying best practice approaches for community engagement and drawing on extensive experience across a diverse range of environments and projects. FFI will provide in-house expertise in project management in conflict areas, IWT, ArcGIS, and design of evidence-based conservation/livelihoods interventions. FFI will be responsible for the overseeing IWT data collection and analysis, training design and delivery, collating and disseminating learning, fund management, and reporting.</p>
Allocated budget (proportion or value):	
Represented on the Project Board	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes
Have you included a Letter of Support from this organisation?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes
Have you provided a cover letter to address your Stage 1 feedback?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes

Do you have partners involved in the Project?

Yes

1. Partner Name: South Sudan Ministry of Wildlife Conservation and Tourism (MWCT) encompassing the National Wildlife Service (WLS)

Website address: <https://mwct.gov.ss/>

Details (including roles and responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):

MWCT provides the mandate to operate in South Sudan and FFI renewed a 5-year MoU with MWCT in February 2021. The MWCT, particularly the WLS representatives at state and county levels, are responsible for the provision of local expertise in biodiversity protection based on their knowledge of the threats and geography. They also support FFI's ongoing operations in South Sudan through joint work-planning and by providing administrative and operational advice, dedicating a full-time counterpart for translation and facilitation, organising approvals and permissions for field activities, providing permits and support letters for the procurement and import of equipment, liaison with other ministries and departments as necessary.

In addition to supporting the operational and administrative requirements of this project, the state WLS will be responsible, in consultation with FFI, for identifying and making available personnel to be trained in IWT data and due legal processes. They will also play an important role in ensuring this capacity is retained and further grown after project end. The WLS will also be a critical partner in developing evidence-based conservation interventions to address IWT and reduce poverty.

Allocated budget: ██████████

Represented on the Project Board Yes

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

2. Partner Name: *No Response*

Website address: *No Response*

Details (including roles and responsibilities and capabilities and capacity): *No Response*

Allocated budget: £0.00

Represented on the Project Board Yes
 No

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

3. Partner Name: *No Response*

Website address: *No Response*

Details (including roles and responsibilities and capabilities and capacity): *No Response*

Allocated budget: £0.00

Represented on the Project Board Yes
 No

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 capabilities and capacity): *No Response*

Allocated budget: £0.00

Represented on the Project Board Yes
 No

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 capabilities and capacity): *No Response*

Allocated budget: £0.00

Represented on the Project Board Yes No

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 capabilities and capacity): *No Response*

Allocated budget: £0.00





Represented on the Project Board Yes No





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.

 SS LoS
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 IWTCF Cover Letter FFI South Sudan S2
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Section 16 - Lead Partner Capability and Capacity

Q35. Lead Partner Capability and Capacity

Has your organisation been awarded IWT Challenge Fund funding before (for the purposes of this question, being a partner does not count)?

Yes

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

Reference No	Project Leader	Title
IWT089	David Gill	Building effective responses to illegal wildlife trade across Central Asia
IWT082	Fleur Scheele	Combating poaching and trafficking of Critically Endangered sturgeon
IWT081	Nay Myo Shwe	Enabling and promoting communities to tackle IWT in Southern Myanmar
IWT072	Alison Gunn	Reducing demand for marine turtle products in Nicaragua
IWT065	Simon Burdett	Strengthening Liberia's response to illegal wildlife trade
IWT049	Donny Gunaryadi	Reducing IWT in Sumatra across two globally important tiger landscapes

Have you provided the requested signed audited/independently examined accounts?

If yes, please upload these on the certification page. Note that this is not required from Government Agencies.

Yes

Section 17 - Certification

Q36. Certification

On behalf of the

Trustees

of

I apply for a grant of





£97,500.00

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, logframe, safeguarding policy and project implementation timetable (uploaded at appropriate points in application).
- Our last two sets of signed audited/independently verified accounts and annual report (or other financial evidence – see [Financial Guidance](#)) are also enclosed.





Checked

Name	Paul Hotham
Position in the organisation	Acting Senior Director, Regional Programmes
Signature (please upload e-signature)	 PH signature (1)  21/03/2022  16:02:41  png 4.98 KB
Date	21 March 2022

Please attach the requested signed audited/independently examined accounts.

- | | |
|--|--|
|  FFI 2020 Accounts
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Please upload the Lead Partner's Safeguarding Policy as a PDF

-  [Safeguarding Children and Adults at Risk Policy + Procedure \(1\)](#)
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Section 18 - Submission Checklist

Checklist for submission

Check

I have read the Guidance, including the “IWT Challenge Fund Guidance”, “Monitoring Evaluation and Learning Guidance”, “Risk Guidance” and “Financial 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 the project.	Checked
I have provided my budget based on UK government financial years i.e. 1 April – 31 March and in GBP.	Checked
I have checked that our budget is complete, correctly adds up and I have included the correct final total at the start of the application.	Checked
The application been signed by a suitably authorised individual (clear electronic or scanned signatures are acceptable).	Checked
I have attached my completed logframe as a PDF using the template provided	Checked
(If copying and pasting into Flexi-Grant) I have checked that all my responses have been successfully copied into the online application form.	Checked
I have included a 1 page CV or job description for all the Project Staff identified at Question 33, including the Project Leader, or provided an explanation of why not.	Checked
I have included a letter of support from the Lead Partner and partner(s) identified at Question 34, or an explanation of why not.	Checked
I have included a cover letter from the Lead Partner, outlining how any feedback received at Stage 1 has been addressed where relevant.	Checked
I have included a copy of the Lead Partner’s safeguarding policy, which covers the criteria listed in Question 30.	Checked
I have been in contact with the FCDO in the project country/ies and have included any evidence of this. If not, I have provided an explanation of why not.	Checked
I have included a signed copy of the last 2 annual report and accounts for the Lead Partner, or other evidence of financial capacity as set out in the Financial Guidance, or provided an explanation if not.	Checked
I have checked the IWT Challenge Fund website immediately prior to submission to ensure there are no late updates.	Checked
I have read and understood the Privacy Notice on the IWT Challenge Fund website.	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 and our sister grant scheme, the IWT Challenge Fund. We also provide occasional updates on other UK Government activities related to biodiversity conservation and share our quarterly project newsletter. You are free to unsubscribe at any time.

Unchecked

Data protection and use of personal data

Information supplied in the application form, including personal data, will be used by Defra as set out in the **Privacy Notice**, available from the [Forms and Guidance Portal](#).

This **Privacy Notice must be provided to all individuals** whose personal data is supplied in the application form. Some information may be used when publicising the Darwin Initiative including project details (usually title, lead partner, project leader, location, and total grant value).