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# IWTR10S2\1014

## **Supporting conservation and sustainable trade of threatened timber species**

The illegal trade of timber must be reduced to ensure that tree species avoid extinction and remain a source of sustainable timber. For most timber species the data to monitor the impact of trade on tree populations is incomplete or inaccessible. We will work with partners in three countries, to develop and disseminate a data collection protocol and produce a report, with best-practice case studies and recommendations, to enable better monitoring of the pressure from logging on timber trees.

# IWTR10S2\1014

Supporting conservation and sustainable trade of threatened timber species

## Section 1 - Contact Details

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### PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

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**Name** Malin  
**Surname** Rivers  
**Organisation** [REDACTED]  
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### CONTACT DETAILS

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### GMS ORGANISATION

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Type	Organisation
Name	Botanic Gardens Conservation International
Phone (Work)	[REDACTED]
Email (Work)	[REDACTED]
Address	[REDACTED]

## Section 2 - Themes, Species & Summary

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### Q3. Title:


Supporting conservation and sustainable trade of threatened timber species


### What was your Stage 1 reference number? e.g. IWTR10S1\1001


IWTE10S1\1132

Please provide a cover letter as a **PDF** document, responding to feedback received at Stage 1 if applicable.

 [Working Cover Letter](#)

 27/10/2023

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

Please tick all that apply. Note: projects supporting more than one will not achieve a higher score, and ticking themes that your project does not address may negatively affect project scores.

- Ensuring effective legal frameworks and deterrents
- Strengthening law enforcement

### Q5. Key Ecosystems, Approaches and Threats

Select up to 3 conservation actions that characterise your approach, and up to 3 threats to biodiversity you intend to address, from dropdown lists.

#### Conservation Action 1

Land/water protection (area/resource/habitat)

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**Conservation Action 2**

Education & awareness (incl. training)

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**Conservation Action 3**

Species management (harvest, recovery, re-introduction, ex-situ)

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**Threats 1**

Biological resource use (hunting, gathering, logging, fishing)

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**Threats 2**

*No Response*

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**Threats 3**

*No Response*

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## Q6. Species project is focusing on

**Please include both the common name and scientific name.**

Guibourtia pellegriniana (Bubinga) (EN)

Guibourtia tessmannii (Bubinga) (EN)

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Khaya spp. (African mahogany) (VU)

Pterocarpus erinaceus (Keno) (EN)

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**Do you require more fields?**

Yes

Pericopsis elata (Afromosia) (EN)

Pterocarpus soyauxii (African coral wood/Padouk) (to be published LC)

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Dalbergia spp. (rosewood) (Madagascar) (EN – CR)

Diospyros spp. (ebony) (Madagascar) (EN – CR)

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## Q7. Summary of project

**Please provide a brief non-technical summary of your project: the problem/need it is trying to address, its aims, and the key activities you plan on undertaking.**

The illegal trade of timber must be reduced to ensure that tree species avoid extinction and remain a source of sustainable timber. For most timber species the data to monitor the impact of trade on tree populations is incomplete or inaccessible. We will work with partners in three countries, to develop and disseminate a data collection protocol and produce a report, with best-practice case studies and recommendations, to enable better monitoring of the pressure from logging on timber trees.

## Section 3 - Title, Dates & Budget Summary

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### Q8. Country(ies)

**Which eligible host country(ies) will your project be working in?**

<b>Country 1</b>	Gabon	<b>Country 2</b>	Ghana
<b>Country 3</b>	Madagascar	<b>Country 4</b>	No Response

**Do you require more fields?**

No

**Q9. Project dates**

<b>Start date:</b>	<b>End date:</b>	<b>Duration (e.g. 2 years, 3 months):</b>
01 May 2024	30 November 2026	2 years, 6 months

**Q10. Budget summary**

Year:	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	Total request
Amount:	£65,273.00	£128,805.00	£44,161.00	£238,239.00

**Q11. Do you have matched funding arrangements?**

Yes

**Please ensure you clearly outline your matched funding arrangement in the budget.**

**Q12. If you have a significant amount of unconfirmed matched funding, please clarify how you will deliver the project if you don't manage to secure this?**

The project does not have significant unconfirmed matched funding, however we are still seeking additional funding from other sources (Fondation Franklina, US Botanic Garden and the US Forestry Service) to supplement the work of the project for greater impact. This would result in more funds to partners in country for additional field trails to test the protocol and gather more data on threatened tree species. We will also seek funding from CITES Secretariat to support a side event at appropriate CITES meetings.

**Q13. Have you received, applied for or plan to apply for any other UK Government funding for the proposed project or similar?**

No

## Section 4 - Problem statement & Gap in existing approaches

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### Q14. 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. What is the need, challenge or opportunity? Please describe the level of threat to the species concerned. You should 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.**

Since 2015, BGCI has led the Global Tree Assessment (GTA), assessing the world's tree species for the IUCN Red List. Working with >500 tree experts in >70 countries, we have gained a wealth of information on tree species conservation. One focus was the world's timber species, The Red List of Timber Trees [1], established that one third of the world's 4,945 timber trees are threatened with extinction. The majority of timber trees are assessed on the threat of habitat loss rather than impact of trade, largely because timber data is difficult to access and often collected under trade or genus names [1,2]. Consequently, the impact of the timber trade on the extinction risk of timber trees at the species level is still not fully known.

Similarly, in the production of non-detriment findings (NDFs) and quotas for CITES-listed tree species, the information needed to complete these is not widely available [3]. This can impact the effectiveness of CITES regulations and create loopholes for illegal trade. At CoP19, 150 new timber tree species were listed, bringing the total number of trees on any of the CITES appendices to 946. Consequently, strengthened guidance on NDFs and quotas was a key recommendation from CITES CoP19.

An effective method for gathering data for timber trees at the species level is needed. With limited resources, duplication of effort must be avoided to ensure that new data collection methods inform a variety of conservation activities. Data requirements for timber NDFs and timber Red List assessments and monitoring sustainable use will be the focus of this project.

The lack of data for timber trees means there is an underlying need to establish improved baselines from which to effectively manage sustainable use or monitor tree populations using set quotas. This is an essential data requirement for our identified project species (Q6). All identified species produce a heavy hard wood, in high demand for luxury furniture items on the international market. These species are all listed on CITES Appendix II, with the exception of *Dalbergia nigra* which is listed on Appendix I. *Dalbergia* and *Diospyros* from Madagascar are also subject to trade restrictions and this project will aid Madagascar in addressing CITES Decision 19.71 (CoP19) by providing data on species populations. It is critical that action to gather information on these species takes place, to best inform conservation action and guide their use and management.

Illegal logging operates in boom-and-bust cycles, which do little to benefit local communities [4,5,6,7]. Introducing methods of data gathering and sustainable timber use will generate sustainable and long-term livelihood benefits for communities and range States.

Currently, collaborations between conservationists, CITES experts, botanists, forest managers and local communities are limited. There is little exchange of knowledge and skills for managing, monitoring and gathering data for timber tree species. In this multidisciplinary project, we will address these issues and engage with all essential stakeholders to share expertise and build a data collection protocol that serves both forest ecosystems and local communities.

### Q15. Gap in existing approaches

**What gap does your project fill in existing approaches? How will you ensure activities are aligned and do not duplicate ongoing work in the region?**

The Global Tree Assessment (GTA) and CITES, identified information gaps on timber trees in the wild. Currently, there is no standardized method of data collection for gathering species-level data for monitoring sustainable or non-sustainable use and conservation of timber species. There are many guidelines and methodologies for managing commercial forestry (FSC, PEFC and project G3D in Madagascar). However, these do not provide the data needed for enforcement of CITES, producing NDFs or Red List assessments.

The CITES 9-Step NDF guide for timber species [8] in its current form provides little information on how to perform species-level evaluations with the paucity of data available for timber trees and there is insufficient information on how to collect the needed data.

The data collection protocol developed for this project will fill this data gap and be designed based on the needs of specific, existing conservation frameworks (e.g. CITES NDFs), ensuring that data gathered is directly applicable. The protocol will build on assessment methods used by the GTA and project partners in Gabon. Our aim is to develop a robust methodology that will be applicable to threatened and CITES-listed species, building on the knowledge and expertise of our partners.

## **Section 5 - Objectives & Commitments**

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**Q16. 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.**

Gabon's NBSAP (1999) aims to integrate economic development with biodiversity conservation and to use and conserve biodiversity sustainably. A new NBSAP is currently being developed and this project contributes here and will assist Gabon in this process.

Ghana's NBSAP (2017) aims to enhance the benefits of biodiversity via knowledge management and capacity-building. We will demonstrate ways to implement the NBSAP for timber tree species in Ghana, which is linked to the 40-Year National Development Plan and the Forestry Development Master Plan.

Madagascar's NBSAP (2016) has 5 goals, 20 national targets and 4 focus areas. This project contributes to (3) information management and communication, and (4) monitoring and evaluation.

By providing a protocol to collect data on timber species, we align with the 2018 London Conference Declarations: I, IV, VI, XVIII; Kasane Statement 2015: A1; D10, 11, 12, 13 and the Hanoi Declaration 2016 Section D. We contribute to the Global Goals for Sustainable Development #5, #13 and #15.

Data collection for timber species under this project contributes to the CBD's Global Biodiversity Framework, Targets 4, 5 and 9 on sustainable use of wild species.

With project partners and activities based in Gabon, Ghana and Madagascar this project is an example of international collective action to develop standard data collection for timber tree species which will be respectful of, and compatible with, local and traditional knowledge and is consistent with the CBD's programme of work on Article 8(j) and related provisions.

## Section 6 - Method, Change Expected, GESI & Exit Strategy

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### Q17. Methodology

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

- How you have reflected on and incorporated **evidence and lessons learnt** from past and present activities and projects in the design of this project.
- The specific approach you are using, supported by **evidence** that it will be effective and **justifying why you expect it will be successful** in this context.
- How you will undertake the work (activities, materials and methods).
- What will be the **main activities** and where will these take place?
- How you will **manage the work** (governance, roles and responsibilities, project management tools, risks etc.).

This project is based on findings from The Red List of Timber Trees [1], and IUCN Red List assessments produced as part of the Global Tree Assessment [9]. Project partners have extensive experience with field assessments of traded timber species. In particular, in Central Africa MBG have worked on use of inventory data to inform the assessment of widespread timber species. Experiences from all partners will be shared and used to create a data collection protocol for CITES-listed timber tree species.

The initial desktop study will allow us to fully understand data requirements and existing methodologies; the stakeholder survey will inform data accessibility decisions towards designing a universal data collection protocol. Using this information alongside existing sources (e.g. CITES 9-Step NDF guide for timber species [8]) and other tools and research occurring in our partner countries, we will incorporate both lessons learnt and best practices into the project.

BGCI will lead a desk-study gathering new and available biological, and trade information for the identified species. It will incorporate research on current sustainable timber management and survey methodologies [see Q15]. A survey of stakeholders in Gabon, Ghana and Madagascar, on data access and availability for threatened timber species will be undertaken. The design of which will be decided by the Steering Committee and guidance identifying respondents will come from in-country partners. In-country consultation will also take the form of conducting interviews, as part of the survey process if needed. The survey will identify additional national and local data sources for timbers and data and accessibility needs. Information gathered will be collated into species summary documents.

This information will be synthesised into the first version of the data collection protocol. Throughout these activities there will be consultation, via online meetings, with the project Steering Committee.

By the end of year one, an online e-learning course will be produced. This will provide information on how to use the data collection protocol with the overall goal of training in-country champions to apply the protocol and train others, using the Training of Trainers (ToT) approach. Following this, there will be partner led delivery and coordination of training with local communities and organisations at the end of year one and into year two.

The use of the training materials will be monitored through questionnaires carried out before and after training, and once the protocol has been applied in the field. Thus, the training materials can be adapted as needed. Production of training materials will be led by BGCI and monitored by the Steering Committee, while the selection of training champions will be by in-country partners. Training materials will be produced in French and English.



In the second year, the data collection protocol will be trialled in the field. Site and species selection will be made by in-country partners including conducting the full field trial of the protocol for project species. There will be a period of written feedback and consultation with the Steering Committee and in-country trainers and data collectors, to evaluate the data collection protocol. It will be BGCI's responsibility to manage the changes and reflect feedback in the training materials and final publication of the data collection protocol. These activities will be completed by the end of the project.

Information gathered on species during the trial phase will also be collated centrally at BGCI and inputted into international databases (IUCN SIS, Species+, SULi wildlife trade database).

The main knowledge tool to be delivered is a data collection protocol. In addition, a final report will be prepared, including recommendations and best practise case studies. These will be prepared by BGCI in year three of the project and an in-person Steering Committee meeting will be held to finalise these products and discuss next steps. Both products will be translated into French and English. Project products will be published and promoted by all partner organisations and their networks of collaborators and contacts; these will include in-country timber/logging companies whom the project will engage with over its course. More broadly, blog posts and articles will be produced throughout the project and one webinar will also be hosted.

It is important that the data collection protocol can be applied to international frameworks, thus BGCI will prepare individual papers to be submitted to CITES and The IUCN SSC Red List Technical Working Group. These will contain recommendations specific to the work of these organisations to influence forthcoming work on timber related activities.

## **Q18. Capability and Capacity**

**How will the project support the strengthening of capability and capacity of identified local and national partners, and stakeholders during its lifetime organisational or individual levels? Please provide details of what form this will take, who will benefit (noting GESI considerations), and the post-project value to the country.**

The project will utilise the Training of Trainers (ToT) approach and through this method after training initial trainers (champions) there will be a multiplier effect of people gaining skills and knowledge for the data collection protocol in-country. At least eight trainers will be trained and more than 20 individuals will receive training in the data collection protocol. In Gabon, the forest industry is male-dominated but across the three countries and project, capacity building will target at least 50% women.

The project partners draw on a long track record of capacity building at the national level. At project end, organisational and individual capacities developed through the project will become important assets for respective countries. The skills and protocol developed will be applicable to all threatened timber species of national and international concern. The project will enhance the ability to enforce CITES and other conservation policies, as well as contributing to NDFs and NBSAPs.

Beyond direct training in-country, the data collection protocol and training materials will be made available online in French and English. These knowledge products, alongside the final project report will be shared on project partner's websites, as well as formal and informal networks and social media conduits. These resources will be further promoted at policy advocacy events such as CITES Plants Committee Meetings. Making the products freely available will ensure the widest variety of social groups have access to the skills and knowledge gathered during the project.

Specific recommendation papers will be submitted to the CITES Plants Committee and IUCN Red List Technical Working Group, to promote adoption of the data collection protocol at the international level. Each partner

organisation has links with their country's CITES Scientific Authority, which can promote wider adoption of the protocol and may be a possible tool for fundraising for local institutions.

## Q19. Gender equality and social inclusion

**All applicants must consider whether and how their project will contribute to promoting equality between persons of different gender and social characteristics. Explain your understanding of how individuals may be excluded from equal participation within the context of your project, and how you seek to address this. You should consider how your project will proactively contribute to ensuring individuals achieve equitable outcomes and how you will engage participants in a meaningful way.**

Reaching gender equality and social inclusion is an integral part of the project cutting across all activities at every stage of implementation. The stakeholder survey will disaggregate data according to gender and vulnerable groups to ensure it captures different perceptions, roles and responsibilities related to data sources and accessibility in the three project countries. This is particularly important as in Madagascar, the impact of illegal logging is known to have a different impact depending on gender [3].

In order to ensure gender balance in project participation, and equity in receiving capacity building in data collection protocols of timber tree species, the project will work with local partners to identify poor and women-led households as part of the criteria for selection for project intervention. The project will make sure that women are considered for data-gathering roles and that they are active participants and beneficiaries of any dissemination and training. It will make sure that our gender equality actions have a 'no harm' approach against the local, traditional gender norms in each country, recognising where project actions may affect relationships in a negative way and mitigating this impact. The conservation of timber trees will have a broad impact on local communities, with the impacts of preserved biodiversity having a positive impact on as many sectors of society as possible, and especially local communities.

BGCI has non-discrimination policies and our standard grant agreements and MOUs with partners require that they adhere to the same policies. We will ensure that at least 50% of the project leaders on the Steering Committee will be female.

## Q20. 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) and the potential to scale the approach.**

**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.**

Through delivery of a data collection protocol, in the short term, more information on timber tree species will be collected and made accessible. The improved data for 12 CITES-listed species and the increased data gathering capability will help abate the threat of illegal logging by aiding national governments to revise export quotas, update threatened species lists and regional/national conservation assessments [8]. Additional information on trees will also help inform enforcement activities nationally and regionally. Nationally, data collection from the protocol will also contribute to NBSAPs [see Q16].

In the short term, we will gain a better understanding of the challenges and opportunities associated with

assessing and monitoring logging of timber species important to range States and local people's livelihoods. In Madagascar, work towards identification and building a reference collection for native *Dalbergia* and *Diospyros* species is already being done. We will build on this work and fill the biological data gap for these species, enabling actions that can be taken towards their sustainable management.

Beyond the national level and over a longer term, mainstreaming the data collection protocol in both CITES and by the IUCN Red List, will enable better implementation of these two frameworks. Evidence provided by the project is also expected to be considered in the formulation of better data collected for CITES NDFs for focal species, supporting their conservation and sustainable use at an international level. While better guidance and more informed IUCN Red List assessments for timber trees will help raise awareness; both can be used to achieve greater funding for saving species and supporting livelihoods and households. Ultimately, the culmination of these actions will reduce pressure on timber tree populations and lead to a reduction in illegal logging.

Additionally, by mainstreaming the protocol in different international settings and hosting the training materials online, the scaling up of this approach will have a wider reach to many more countries and communities associated with native timber trees.

The livelihood benefits of the project will not take place immediately. Through the continued application of the protocol, there will be opportunities for local people to become involved in the sustainable timber trade, including income and employment opportunities, such as in Ghana with previous work with community forest partners led by CSIR-FORIG here. Project actions will further promote and strengthen the role of local people as primary caretakers of their forest biodiversity in the long-term, including independent management of their local timber resources.

Beyond the life of the project, the training will provide people with skills in data collection and monitoring, which can be transferable to other employment opportunities. These skills can also increase livelihood opportunities for monitoring timber species and biodiversity, as green economies grow and biodiversity credits develop. In Gabon, the national economy relies mainly on the forestry industry, both for resources and employment. The data collection protocol will help ensure sustainable management of Gabon's forests, and skilled employment contributing to household income.

## Q21. Pathway to change

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

Our main project outcome is to enhance data access, availability and best practice for threatened timber species conservation and sustainable use for local people in Gabon, Ghana and Madagascar, to ultimately reduce the pressure from illegal logging and improve the recovery of CITES-listed and threatened species.

This requires the development of a data collection protocol for monitoring timbers to guide conservation and sustainable use, to identify the impact of logging at the species level (Output 1); the data collection protocol will be trialled and evaluated in three countries for CITES-listed species (Output 2), and; training material will be developed, and training provided to in-country champions to implement the protocol and train others (Output 3).

This project will have global impact by incorporating the protocol into CITES NDF guidelines and the IUCN Red List, and provision of training resources online. Our Theory of Change is, IF a best practice data collection protocol can be developed and implemented for assessing wild populations of CITES timber species, and IF that

protocol incorporates local knowledge and expertise THEN conservation and legal, sustainable use of timber can be implemented for the benefit of local people, including by employment within the timber industry.

## Q22. Sustainable benefits and scaling potential

**Q22a. How will the project reach a sustainable point and continue to deliver benefits post-funding? how will the required knowledge and skills remain available to sustain the benefits? How will you ensure your data and evidence will be accessible to others?**

The data collection protocol and project report will be freely available on the BGCI website (and other project partners), and promoted to other relevant stakeholders, such as BGCI's botanical and forestry networks and IUCN SSC specialist groups. Project outputs and lessons learned will be disseminated even further.

Recommendations and endorsement by CITES and IUCN Red List Technical Working Group will ensure that the protocol continues to be implemented and amplified beyond this project. These frameworks can also offer additional opportunities for feedback and knowledge sharing on the protocol.

People trained during this project, will be able to become involved in timber species monitoring, promoting and strengthening the role of local people as caretakers of their forest biodiversity in the long-term. Using the ToT approach also means skills can be shared beyond the time frame of the project. The online e-learning will be available on the BGCI website beyond the project.

**Q22b. If your approach works, what potential is there for scaling the approach further? What might prevent scaling, and how could this be addressed?**

The data collection protocol will be relevant to all CITES-listed and threatened timber tree species making it scalable to more tree species and countries. Our project will provide skills in-country, creating opportunities for collaboration and partnerships with more organisations at a local level. These can catalyse funding to carry out surveys in more localities.


The protocol will also be complementary to other biodiversity surveys (e.g. the Global Biodiversity Standard Q38). This system has additional poverty reduction and livelihood benefits and can include a timber function alongside its other survey components.


Capacity and funding is likely to be an issue for scaling. As the project is being conducted in three countries, this will ensure the data collection protocol is versatile and applicable to areas where data and resources are variable. Case studies in the final report will give examples of how best to apply the protocol in a variety of situations.


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

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 [Attachment round2 24Oct](#)

 27/10/2023

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## Section 7 - Risk Management

### Q23. 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**.

Risk Description	Impact	Prob.	Inherent Risk	Mitigation	Residual Risk
<p><b>Fiduciary</b></p> <p>Funds not used for intended purposes or not accounted for (fraud, corruption, mishandling or misappropriated)</p>	Severe	Rare	Major	Processes in place in BGCI and partner institutions to prevent fraud and identify misappropriated funds. By working with known partners with track record. M&E under the project will also assess the financial risks to take action if necessary.	Minor
<p><b>Safeguarding</b></p> <p>Project partners breaking the code of conduct and ignoring principles of safeguarding during training courses, practical field work and when collaborating with local communities.</p>	Moderate	Rare	Minor	Mitigated by working with reputable organisations. Safeguarding policies and processes in place in partner organisations. Project staff will receive safeguarding training and support.	Minor
<p><b>Delivery Chain</b></p> <p>Publication of species names, locations or timber value could enable illegal logging.</p>	Moderate	Unlikely	Moderate	Project team to avoid publishing sensitive information, following procedures used in previous work on red list assessments of trees by BGCI and partners. Unlikely that general publicity around the project will encourage this activity, and observations of any changes in logging of the 12 selected species will be monitored.	minor
<p><b>Risk 4</b></p> <p>Change of local authorities (e.g. elections or coup). Representatives of one or more local authorities change, disrupting project progress.</p>	Major	Possible	Major	Yearly grant agreements for project funds will require at least three months' notice for any partner leaving the project, providing time to address issues and identify new partners, if needed. BGCI will ensure meetings and updates will help to address issues as they arise, reducing the possibility of partners leaving.	Major

<b>Risk 5</b> Extreme weather events like drought, heavy rains and flooding affecting project progress	Major	Possible	Major	Activities are planned carefully based on meteorological forecasts to avoid unfavourable and extreme weather events.	Minor
<b>Risk 6</b> If partners in-country cannot complete training or online e-learning courses cannot be accessed, a new framework for the training of trainers (ToT) and field collectors would be required.	Minor	Unlikely	Minor	Expertise deployment risk is mitigated by online training which will complement face-to-face capacity building.	Minor

## Section 8 - Project Sensitivities and Workplan

### Q24. Project sensitivities

Please indicate whether there are sensitivities associated with this project that need to be considered if details are published (detailed species location data that would increase threats, political sensitivities, prosecutions for illegal activities, security of staff etc.).

Yes

Please provide brief details.


For site and species selection we will be guided by our partners knowledge, to only survey species in safe sites with correct permissions. Additionally, we will not share discrete locality information for individual trees or sites on public databases to reduce the specific targeting of valuable timber trees in these areas.


There will be a need to monitor the evolving political situation in Gabon. With current best information, work in forestry is still safe, as the new government is committed to continuing the legacy of the previous government in terms of forest management and supporting the sustainable timber industry.


### Q25. Workplan

Provide a project workplan that shows the key milestones in project activities.

 [BGCI Timber IWTCF Workplan 2324](#)

 24/10/2023

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## Section 9 - Monitoring and Evaluation

### Q26. 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.**

Botanic Gardens Conservation International (BGCI) will lead M&E, ensuring that activities are delivered according to the project plan and implemented consistently across the three project partners.

As a standard practice in project management, BGCI will establish a Steering Committee of national and international experts, including the main project partners and stakeholders. They will guide the project and will meet at least quarterly to assess progress, including any challenges that have arisen, review the risk register, and suggest adaptive management changes as needed. The Committee will approve data collection protocols, training materials before deployment and any publications from this project.

As the lead in-country partners, CSIR-FORIG, MBG and MSPG will have staff on the Steering Committee as well as operating on other aspects of the project. This will help to ensure activities are delivered to plan, especially the trial of the protocol (Output 2) and the training of in-country organisations or communities (Output 3).

Training impacts will be monitored and evaluated using a training monitoring questionnaire. This will be deployed, before and after training via the online module (ToT) to assess the impact of this course and the ToT approach. There will be additional feedback, once the in-country champions have delivered training for local organisations and communities and the data collection protocol has been trialled. In this way ensuring that all training materials are understandable, relevant and applicable.

Impacts on biodiversity will be monitored by collation of data on species during the trial of the data collection protocol. Data gathered will be stored at the institutional levels by in-country partners. It will also be shared with BGCI for compilation and contribution to international databases (IUCN SIS, Species +, SULi wildlife trade database). Therefore, data will be available beyond the time frame of the project to inform species monitoring.

All project impacts on local communities will be monitored throughout the project via continuous engagement with local groups, and via the Steering Committee, ensuring Gender Equality and Social Inclusion is considered, as far as possible. These consultations will give minority groups the opportunity to raise concerns and contribute to project decisions, adapting project activities accordingly.

We will have an in-person Steering Committee meeting at the beginning of year three of the project with the aim to evaluate the project and finalise project products, such as jointly developing publications. At this meeting we also plan to discuss how to scale up the project for other tree species and other countries.

BGCI will also lead financial auditing throughout the project.

**Total project budget for M&E in GBP**

£ [REDACTED]

**(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**





40

## **Section 10 - Logical Framework**

## Q27. Logical Framework (logframe)

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.

---

 [BGCI IWTCF Timber BCF-St2-and-Single-Stage-Logical-Framework](#)  
 24/10/2023  
 15:40:16  
 pdf 85.93 KB

### Impact:

Reduced pressure of illegal logging on threatened timber species through provision of species data to facilitate more effective and long-term conservation and sustainable timber use.

### Outcome:

Enhanced data availability for timber species threatened by logging, through the application of a data collection protocol in Gabon, Ghana and Madagascar, enabling improved species conservation and sustainable use.

### Project Outputs

---

#### Output 1:

Develop a best-practice data collection protocol for monitoring timber tree species to guide conservation and sustainable use, and to identify the impact of logging at the species level

---

#### Output 2:

Trial data collection protocol in the field for CITES listed timber species in Gabon, Ghana and Madagascar, to guide conservation and sustainable use

---

#### Output 3:

In Gabon, Ghana and Madagascar, training delivered (to trainers and trainees) and dissemination of best practice data collection protocol and delivery of recommendations to relevant stakeholders

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#### Output 4:

*No Response*

---

#### 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.**

- 1.1.1 Desktop analysis of all trade and biological information on 12 CITES listed timber species (BGCI)
- 1.1.2 Stakeholder survey on timber species data access in three countries (BGCI, Steering Committee and Partners)
- 1.1.3 Synthesis of desktop analysis (1.1.1) and stakeholder survey (1.1.2) into first version of data collection protocol (BGCI)
- 1.1.4 Meetings/online workshops with Steering Committee to present first version of data collection protocol (BGCI and Steering Committee)
- 1.1.5 Presentation of the results of desktop analysis (1.1.1) and stakeholder survey (1.1.2) (BGCI)
- 1.2.1 Update and publish final data collection protocol (based on activity 2.1.4) (BGCI)
- 1.2.2 Best practice recommendation papers submitted to Red List Technical Working Group and CITES Plants Committee for recommendation to Standing Committee (BGCI)
  
- 2.1.1 Finalise species selection and sites for data collection protocol trial via. online meetings with Steering Committee (BGCI)
- 2.1.2 Partner led field trial of first version of data collection protocol for selected CITES listed species (Partners)
- 2.1.3 Design of evaluation questionnaire for field trials of data collection protocol, to enable assessment and feedback from field trials (BGCI, Steering Committee and Partners)
- 2.1.4 Online meeting with Steering Committee to discuss feedback from data collection protocol trial (BGCI and Steering Committee)
- 2.2.1 Data collected from field trials analysed and inputted into IUCN SIS Database, for inclusion in the reassessment of 12 CITES listed species (BGCI)
- 2.3.1 Data collected from field trials added to IUCN SULi species use database, and paper of recommendations prepared for submission to CITES Plants Committee (BGCI)
  
- 3.1.1 Develop, translate and publish an online e-learning course (and associated worksheets and training material) for ToT - in the use of the data collection protocol (BGCI and Steering Committee)
- 3.1.2 Online e-learning course and other training material updated with new information on the data collection protocol based on Activity 1.2.1 and feedback from Activity 3.2.2 (BGCI)
- 3.2.1 Identify and train (registration and completion of online e-learning course) eight staff to be in-country champions and trainers of the data collection protocol (Steering Committee and Partners)
- 3.2.2 Develop a training monitoring questionnaire, for both trainees and trainers to be shared and completed before and after training (BGCI)
- 3.3.1 Partner led/in-country champions deliver training/coordinate training of local communities/organisations in data collection protocol in three focal countries (Partners)
- 3.4.1 Finalise, design and publish final report in English and French on BGCI and project partner websites (BGCI and Steering Committee)
- 3.4.2 Publicise the final report through dissemination on social media, organisations newsletters, targeted mailings and presentations at relevant international regional meetings (e.g. CoP 20). (BGCI)





## **Section 11 - Budget and Funding**

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### **Q28. 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.**

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 [BGCI FINAL BCF Budget over 100k MASTER A ug23](#)  
 27/10/2023  
 12:23:32  
 xlsx 94.23 KB

## Q29. Alignment with other funding and activities

**This question aims to help us understand how familiar you are with other work in the geographic/thematic area, and how this proposed project will build on or align with this to avoid any risks of duplicating or conflicting activities.**

**Q29a. Is this new work or does it build on existing/past activities (delivered by anyone and funded through any source)? Please give details.**

This project aligns with different data gathering projects occurring in the three partner countries. In Madagascar, this includes work towards G3D, the development of a specimen library for Malagasy Dalbergia and Diospyros and work towards production of NDFs for several species (funded by the EU and UNEP). Our project will build on all these processes, and in the final report we will discuss how these previous projects and similar work can contribute to NDF applications, NBSAPs and IUCN Red List Assessments.

In Gabon, there have been assessments for widespread tree species in collaboration with Gembloux Agro-Bio Tech University of Liège and currently there is work establishing a monitoring protocol and HCVFs assessments for FSC certification. Our project focuses on biological data gathering for CITES and conservation specifically. There will be opportunities to collaborate and learn lessons from MBG while preparing the data collection protocol.

We will contribute to work being carried out by the CITES NDF High Value Timber Working Group, and feed directly into this process to make sure there is alignment between the NDF needs and the protocol. We will work with BGCI's Global Tree Assessment initiative to provide data to update timber tree species Red List assessments.

**Q29b. Are you aware of any current or future plans for work in the geographic/thematic area 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.**

There are continuing forest management programmes and certification schemes in all partner countries. The project partners are also involved in these activities, so there will be the ability to cross-collaborate. The role of this project is to enhance and build on this national effort. BGCI and project partners are all committed to pursuing plant conservation activities in-country.

In Madagascar, a variety of work towards CITES enforcement and legality for Dalbergia and Diospyros is continuing. We will be guided by MPSG to avoid duplication of effort and ensure the focal project species are those most in need of research and project resources.

In Gabon, the RainforestTrust is pursuing research into enforcement and legality of Kevasingo (Guibourtia spp.) harvest and use. TRAFFIC operates within Madagascar and other African countries (not Ghana or Gabon). Their focus is specifically measuring trade of timber (not necessarily at a species level) and improving enforcement, legality and governance. Gabon and Ghana are ITTO producer member countries but currently there are no

concurrent projects in-country. The Steering Committee members have communication with all these organisations and currently we do not foresee any overlap between this work and our IWTCF project.

## Q30. Balance of budget spend

**Defra are keen to see as much IWT Challenge Fund funding as possible directly benefiting communities and economies. While it is appreciated that this is not always possible every effort should be made for funds to remain in-country.**

**Explain the thinking behind your budget in terms of where IWT Challenge Fund funds will be spent. What benefits will the country/ies see from your budget? What level of the award do you expect will be spent locally? Please explain the decisions behind any IWT Challenge Fund funding that will not be spent locally and how those costs are important for the project.**

Countries will benefit from increased knowledge of timber species to help develop NDFs and sustainable timber trade, local communities will benefit from improved skills and knowledge to monitor threatened timber trees which are transferrable skills. In Y1 most of the funding will be for the lead partner to initiate the project and assist partners to establish agreements in-country, conduct the desktop analysis and develop the online training course and other resources (e.g. feedback forms and a suite of training materials). This is critical for the success of the project to ensure standard approaches across all three countries and provide logistical/technical support in the foundational stage of the project, costs are for a dedicated project manager who will do this work. In-country spend in Y1 will be for in-person surveys as partners have highlighted this is the best method for gathering the data required. For Y2 the majority of funding will be spent in-country for training workshops and field trials, employing local researchers and training field data collectors. The remaining six months of Y3, BGCI will host a Steering Committee review meeting and develop publications and papers for dissemination to CITES, IUCN and its network.

## Q31. Value for Money

**Please demonstrate why your project is good value for money in terms of impact and cost-effectiveness of each pound spend (economy, efficiency, effectiveness and equity).**

To maximise Value for Money we will apply the 4Es approach – Economy, Efficiency, Effectiveness and Equity.

Trainers will be trained online and supported to run in-country training for local communities and organisations, limiting the need for international travel. Field trials of the protocol will both evaluate the protocol and gather species level data reducing the costs of additional field collection and increasing efficiency. All partners will engage their networks, whether conservation, policy or commercially focused, to support implementation of training and field trials to increase efficiency and effectiveness. Networks will also be engaged, including BGCI's network of over 800 global botanical and forestry institutions to deploy communications and products regarding the project.

Equity will be observed in all practices and will be part of standard operating procedures for reporting on Gender Equality and Social Inclusion.

The project ensures the best Value for Money in applying BGCI's financial and operations procedures. This includes the use of time-sheets, half year delivery of finance reports from partner organisations and regular meetings of the Project Lead with finance staff. This will ensure that budgets are reviewed and variations against it mitigated and investigated, and potential overspends identified and actions taken.

## Q32. Capital items

**If you plan to purchase capital items with IWT Challenge Fund 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 of high value are planned to be purchased with the IWTCF funding.

## **Section 12 - Safeguarding and Ethics**

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### **Q33. Safeguarding**

**All projects funded under the Biodiversity Challenge Funds must ensure proactive action is taken to promote the welfare and protect all individuals involved in the project (staff, implementing partners, the public and beneficiaries) from harm. In order to provide assurance of this, projects are required to have specific procedures and policies in place.**

**Please upload the following required policies:**

- **Safeguarding Policy**: including a statement of commitment to safeguarding and a zero tolerance statement on bullying, harassment and sexual exploitation and abuse.
- **Whistleblowing Policy**: which details a clear process for dealing with concerns raised and protects whistle blowers from reprisals.
- **Code of Conduct**: which sets out clear expectations of behaviours – inside and outside the workplace – for all involved in the project and makes clear what will happen in the event of non-compliance or breach of these standards, including compliance with IASC 6 Principles.

**If any of these policies are integrated into a broader policy document or handbook, please upload just the relevant or equivalent sub-sections to the above policies, with (unofficial) English translations where needed.**

**Please outline how (a) beneficiaries, the public, implementing partners, and staff are made aware of your safeguarding commitment and how to confidentially raise a concern, (b) safeguarding issues are investigated, recorded and what disciplinary procedures are in place when allegations and complaints are upheld, (c) you will ensure project partners uphold these policies.**

**If your approach is currently limited or in the early stages of development, please clearly set out your plans address this.**

All project partners will agree to adhere to BGCI's Code of Conduct which includes Anti-bribery and corruption, Anti-harassment and bullying, Dignity at work, Anti-money laundering, Equality, diversity and inclusion, safeguarding children, young persons and vulnerable adults and whistle blowing (<https://www.bgci.org/legal-and-policies/>).

BGCI staff and partners commit to adhere to these policies and sign our standard contracts and agreements (copies on request). All partners represent reputable organisations with track records ensuring safeguarding policies are followed. Adherence to BGCI's policies will regularly be reviewed by the Steering Committee. Additionally, safeguarding training will be provided to all project staff to ensure all partners are aware of their safeguarding responsibilities during project activities. This training will be led by BGCI and will include an overview of safeguarding audiences, definitions, and processes to follow, as well as interactive case studies and discussions. A dedicated safeguarding officer will be nominated from each organisation, BGCI will also act as the overall safeguarding contact and provide advice and refresher training each year of the project. An accessible and transparent grievance mechanism will be put in place to allow anonymous complaint reporting and any kind of allegations.

## Q34. Ethics

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

This project is designed to meet all legal and ethical obligations of all countries included, Gabon, Ghana, Madagascar and the United Kingdom.

It will respect the rights, privacy, and safety of people who are impacted by project activities and uses Prior Informed Consent principles, emphasising active community participation. It will protect the health and safety of project staff by regularly reviewing the project's risk register as part of the work of the Steering Committee. The Steering Committee will also regularly monitor that access and benefit sharing best practises followed and that the principles of good ethical practise are adhered to. Emphasis will be placed on leadership and participation from local project partners and stakeholders.

## Section 13 - FCDO Notifications


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### Q35. British embassy or high commission engagement


It is important for UK Government representatives to understand if UK funding might be spent in the project country/ies. Please indicate if you have contacted the relevant British 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.

 [FCOD Combined](#)

 20/10/2023

 16:35:45

 pdf 522.29 KB

## Section 14 - Project Staff

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### Q36. 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?
Malin Rivers	Project Leader	6	Checked
Megan Barstow	Project Manager	100	Checked

Nicholas Texier	Botanist and Ecologist (Gabon)	14	Checked
Carly Cowell	Technical Advisor	5	Checked


**Do you require more fields?**


Yes


Name (First name, Surname)	Role	% time on project	1 page CV or job description attached?
Ravaomanalina Bako Harisoa	Botanist and Malagasy Timber expert	36	Checked
Richard Randrianaivo	Botanist and Field Assessor	24	Checked
Sylvie Andriambololona	Botanist and Coordinator	24	Checked
James Oppong Amponsah	Research Assistant	70	Checked
TBD	CSIR-FORG Technical and Project assistant x 2	70	Checked
TBD	MBG Technical and Project assistant	30	Checked
Marina Rabarimanavro	Deputy Research Coordinator	16	Checked
TBD	MPSG Technical and Project assistant x 2	40	Checked

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

 [CVsCombined-compressed](#)

 26/10/2023

 15:39:53

 pdf 1018.01 KB

**Have you attached all project staff CVs?**

Yes

## Section 15 - Project Partners

### Q37. Project partners

**Please list all the Project Partners (including the Lead Partner who will administer the grant and coordinate the delivery of the project), clearly setting out their roles and responsibilities in the project including the extent of their engagement so far.**

**Lead partner name:** Botanic Gardens Conservation International

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**Website address:** <https://www.bgci.org/>

---

**Why is this organisation the Lead Partner, and what value to they bring to the project? (including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):**

Botanic Gardens Conservation International is at the centre of the network of an estimated 3,500 botanic gardens, arboreta, plant conservation and forestry organisations around the world. As a non-profit global membership organisation, we aim to support and empower the plant conservation community so that no plant species becomes extinct. For the last eight years BGCI has co-coordinated the Global Tree Assessment an initiative to assess the conservation status of the world's tree species, which has produced over 30,000 assessments for trees on the IUCN Red List, alongside several targeted red list publications such as The Red List of Dipterocarpaceae and The Red List of Timber Trees. BGCI also works with its membership towards CBD targets, and is the lead organisation for the development of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation. It has also led many successful Darwin Initiatives (see Q38) and will be the lead organisation for this first IWTCF project. BGCI will run the desk-based analysis, produce training materials and reports, chair the project Steering Committee and oversee M&E. BGCI will also lead the communications and outreach for the project.

---

**International/ In-country partner** International

---

**Allocated budget (proportion or value):** £ [REDACTED]

---

**Represented on the Project Board**  Yes

---

**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:** Missouri Botanical Garden

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**Website address:** <https://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/plant-science/plant-science/africa>

---

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

Missouri Botanical Gardens have been working in Gabon for several years. Their work here has been focused on forest conservation and sustainable forest use. Recent projects include a partnership with Gembloux University to assess 20 timber species for the IUCN Red List and provide information and reviews for native species towards The Global Tree Assessment. MBG is also leading the establishment of a method for identifying High Conservation Value forest for the FSC certification. MBG has connections with forest managers, The National Herbarium of Gabon and timber companies within Gabon. Staff from this organisation will provide expertise to the desk top survey, take part in project training and will complete the data collection protocol trial field trial. They will also have a role in the Steering Committee.

MBG is a large botanic garden in the US. They will be involved in the promotion and dissemination of the reports and results of the project.

Allocated budget: £ [REDACTED]

Represented on the Project Board  Yes

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

2. Partner Name: The Council for Scientific and Industrial Research – Forest Research Institute of Ghana (CSIR-FORIG)

Website address: <https://csir-forig.org.gh/>

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

CSIR-FORIG work closely with local communities, donor partners, civil societies and non-governmental organisations to undertake research and conservation actions to protect threatened species. CSIR-FORIG has been working with the Forestry Commission, Environmental Protection Agency, Institute of Nature and Environment Conservation (INEC) and other departments focused on timber use, trade and conservation. CSIR-FORIG has extensive experience working with threatened species including projects with focal species *Pterocarpus erinaceus* and *Khaya ivorensis*. The Institute has 13 Research Outstations, across the various forest zones in Ghana, which will facilitate the in-country field trials of protocols developed out of this proposed project

With committed and experienced staff, CSIR-FORIG have been working with BGCI on implementing a national Threatened Tree Conservation Action Plan. CSIR-FORIG is to enhance coordination amongst all stakeholders in the forest industry; an opportunity that can be used to disseminate the results of this project.

CSIR-FORIG sit on the project Steering Committee. They will be involved in liaison for the in-country stakeholder surveys for the desktop study and be some of the first trainers trained in the protocol. They will deliver onward training and complete field trials. As well as providing feedback associated with all project activities.

International/ In-country partner In-country



---

**Allocated budget:** £ [REDACTED]

---

**Represented on the Project Board**  Yes

---

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

---

**3. Partner Name:** IUCN SSC Madagascar Plant Specialist Group (including staff from Missouri Botanical Garden Madagascar Program and the University of Antananarivo)

---

**Website address:** *No Response*

---

The IUCN SSC Madagascar Plant Specialist group coordinates a network of botanists, ecologists and forestry experts across Madagascar. Key members of MPSG are based at Missouri Botanical Garden Madagascar Program and the University of Antananarivo, the later bringing a particular expertise on wood anatomy and experience from other CITES focused projects. Increasingly, the information on plant diversity accumulated by MPSG researchers is translated into usable knowledge for conservation planning and decision-making, globally and locally.

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

MBG Madagascar and the University of Antananarivo has a long history of collaboration with BGCI, with a focus on tree species, including work towards the GTA and assessments for all trees in Madagascar (including rare ebonies). There has also been collaboration to assess the Status of Madagascar's Trees for the Effective Conservation of Key Biodiversity Areas and Protected Areas, which gave us the opportunity to better understand the use of survey and inventory data to develop species management plans

MPSG will be involved in the implementation of the three main components of the project: elaboration of the standard data collection protocol (participation in the desk study and surveys), field surveys of the project's focal species and vulgarisation of the protocol through training.

---

**International/ In-country** In-country

---

**Allocated budget:** £ [REDACTED]

---

**Represented on the Project Board**  Yes

---

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

---

**4. Partner Name:** *No Response*

---

---

**Website address:** *No Response*

---

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

---

**International/ In-country partner** *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*

---

**International/ In-country partner** *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*

---

International/ In-country partner *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 combined PDF of all letters of support in the order they are presented in the table.**

 [BGCI IWTCF LettersofSupport\\_Combined\(all\)](#)

 27/10/2023

 09:50:25

 pdf 5.25 MB

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## Section 16 - Lead Partner Capability and Capacity

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### Q38. Lead Partner Capability and Capacity

**Has your organisation been awarded Biodiversity Challenge Funds (Darwin Initiative, Darwin Plus or Illegal Wildlife Trade 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
DAREX001	Paul Smith	Developing a Global Biodiversity Standard certification for tree-planting and restoration
29-006	Joachim Gratzfeld	People, Primates, Plants: Co-managing Biodiversity and Improving Livelihoods in Vietnam
29-004	Kirsty Shaw	Kaya Connect: Restoring the Eastern Africa Coastal Forest biodiversity hotspot

---

DARNV005	Alex Hudson	Understanding Ugandan native plant species' role in innovative sustainable landscapes
No Response	No Response	No Response
No Response	No Response	No Response

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

Yes

## Section 17 - Certification

### Q36. Certification

**On behalf of the**

Trustees

**of**

Botanic Gardens Conservation International

**I apply for a grant of**

£238,239.00

**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, a cover letter, letters of support, a budget, logframe, safeguarding and associated policies and workplan (uploaded at appropriate points in application).
- Our last two sets of signed audited/independently verified accounts and annual report (covering three years) or other financial evidence (see Finance Guidance) are also enclosed.

Checked





<b>Name</b>	Carly Cowell
<b>Position in the organisation</b>	Director of Conservation
<b>Signature (please upload e-signature)</b>	 <a href="#">BGCI Certification</a>  27/10/2023  12:37:41  pdf 52.73 KB
<b>Date</b>	27 October 2023

## Please attach the requested signed audited/independently examined accounts.

 [2021 annual report and accounts](#)  
 24/10/2023  
 15:27:58  
 pdf 1.3 MB

 [BGCI Accounts 2022 revised signed \(1\)](#)  
 24/10/2023  
 15:25:50  
 pdf 1.14 MB

## Please upload the Lead Partner's Safeguarding Policy as a PDF

 [BGCI Policies Combined](#)  
 27/10/2023  
 09:59:09  
 pdf 457.26 KB

## Section 18 - Submission Checklist

### Checklist for submission

	Check
I have read the Guidance, including the "IWT Challenge Fund Guidance", "Monitoring Evaluation and Learning Guidance", "Standard Indicator 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 the below documents to my application:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a cover letter from the Lead Partner, outlining how any feedback received at Stage 1 has been addressed where relevant, as a single PDF.</li></ul>	Checked
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>my completed logframe as a PDF using the template provided and using "Monitoring Evaluation and Learning Guidance" and "Standard Indicator Guidance".</li></ul>	Checked
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>my budget (which meets the requirements above) using the template provided.</li></ul>	Checked
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a signed copy of the last 2 annual report and accounts (covering three years) for the Lead Partner, or other evidence of financial capacity as set out in the Financial Guidance, or provided an explanation if not.</li></ul>	Checked
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>my completed workplan as a PDF using the template provided.</li></ul>	Checked
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a copy of the Lead Partner's Safeguarding Policy, Whistleblowing Policy and Code of Conduct (Question 33).</li></ul>	Checked
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>1 page CV or job description for all the Project Staff identified at Question 36, including the Project Leader, or provided an explanation of why not, combined into a single PDF.</li></ul>	Checked

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a <u>letter of support</u> from the Lead Partner and partner(s) identified at Question 37, or an explanation of why not, as a single PDF.</li> </ul>	Checked
I have <u>been in contact with the FCDO</u> in the project country(ies) and have included any evidence of this. If not, I have provided an explanation of why not.	Checked
My additional supporting evidence is in line with the requested evidence, amounts to a maximum of 5 sides of A4, and is combined as a single PDF.	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 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.

Checked

### 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 IWT Challenge Fund including project details (usually title, lead partner, project leader, location, and total grant value).

Project Title: **Supporting conservation and sustainable trade of threatened timber species**

Project Summary	SMART Indicators	Means of Verification	Important Assumptions
<p><b>Impact:</b> Reduced pressure of illegal logging on threatened timber species through provision of species data to facilitate more effective and long-term conservation and sustainable timber use.</p>			
<p><b>Outcome:</b> Enhanced data availability for timber species threatened by logging, through the application data collection protocol, in Gabon, Ghana and Madagascar enabling improved species conservation and sustainable use</p>	<p>0.1 By end of the project, two knowledge products (a data collection protocol and training course for monitoring timber tree species) published in French and English and endorsed by IUCN and CITES <b>[IWTCF-B05]</b></p> <p>0.2 At least four local organisations, in three countries with improved skills and knowledge to monitor threatened timber trees (including CITES listed species) as a result of the project <b>[IWTCF-D03]</b></p>	<p>0.1 Best practice protocol and training course published and available in two languages on BGC's website and endorsed by IUCN and CITES.</p> <p>0.2 Training records, with training monitoring on participant impact (incl. surveys taken before and after training to understand development in skills and knowledge).</p>	<p>All stakeholders in the country chosen are committed to reducing IWT for timber species. (Mitigation: working with stakeholders who recognize the negative impacts of the depletion of timber resources, and delivery of tools and training that enable effective and timely monitoring of sustainable use of timbers).</p> <p>Knowledge and skills gaps result in illegal harvesting of timbers. (Mitigation: empowerment of local communities to monitor and manage their own timber resources)</p>
<p><b>Outputs:</b> 1. Develop best-practice data collection protocol for monitoring timber tree species to guide conservation and sustainable use, and to identify</p>	<p>1.1 By end of Y1, a first version of data collection protocol developed <b>[IWTCF-D26]</b></p> <p>1.2 By end of project, the final version of the data collection</p>	<p>1.1 Summary data and survey results from data collection protocol preparation for each of the identified CITES Species.</p>	<p>All stakeholders in the country chosen are committed to reducing IWT for timber species. (Mitigation: working with stakeholders who recognize</p>

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<p>the impact of logging at the species level</p>	<p>protocol and recommendation papers shared with the international conservation sector, including two international frameworks formally contributed to <b>[IWTCF-B21]</b></p>	<p>1.2 Final data collection protocol and associated training resources available free via BGCI's website.  1.3 Paper of recommendations submitted to CITES Plant Committee and IUCN Red List Technical Working Group</p>	<p>the negative impacts of the depletion of timber resources, and delivery of tools and training that enable effective and timely monitoring of sustainable use of timbers).</p>
<p><b>2.</b> Trial data collection protocol in the field for CITES listed timber species in Gabon, Ghana and Madagascar, to guide conservation and sustainable use</p>	<p>2.1 By end of Y2, field trial of data collection protocol completed.  2.2 By project end, 12 CITES-listed timber species across three countries have improved data on their status in the wild, conservation and sustainable use <b>[IWTCF-D25]</b>  2.3 By project end, 12 CITES listed timber species across three countries with improved records added to accessible databases <b>[IWTCF-D23]</b></p>	<p>2.1 Results from evaluation questionnaire of field trials. Steering Committee minutes and online meeting recordings.  2.2 Updated population information available within range States and added to IUCN Red List of Threatened Species - SIS database, for inclusion in the reassessment of species.  2.3 Addition of species to IUCN SSC SULi Species Use database, and information documents submitted for publication on Species+.</p>	<p>Trial shows protocol does not work as expected (Mitigation: Protocol to be adapted as required through consultation with Steering Committee and stakeholders in-country)  Trial cannot take place due to severe weather, political instability etc. (Mitigation: Alternate sites/species/country identified for implementation)</p>
<p><b>3.</b> In Gabon, Ghana and Madagascar, training delivered (to trainers and trainees) and dissemination of best practice data collection protocol and delivery of recommendations to relevant stakeholders</p>	<p>3.1 By end of Y1, a training course for applying the data collection protocol and field methods, produced in French and English <b>[IWTCF-A16]</b></p>	<p>3.1 Training course available in French and English on BGCI's online e-learning platform.  3.2 Number of trainers that have completed the online e-learning</p>	<p>All stakeholders in the country chosen are committed to reducing IWT for timber species. (Mitigation: working with stakeholders who recognize the negative impacts of the</p>



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	<p>3.2 By project end, eight trainers trained in the data collection protocol, from four institutions reporting to have delivered further training to ≥24 people <b>[IWTCF-D01]</b></p> <p>3.3 By the end of the project, ≥24 people from local organisations and communities received training in the data collection protocol <b>[IWTCF-D02]</b></p> <p>3.4 By the end of the project a written report, including data collection protocol and best-practice examples and recommendations (as an Annex), produced and published in French and English <b>[IWTCF-D13]</b></p>	<p>course and proof of delivery of onward training.</p> <p>3.3 Training records, with training monitoring on participant impact (incl. surveys taken before and after training to understand development in skills and knowledge).</p> <p>3.4 Project report published on BGCI's and other partners' Websites; data collection protocol downloaded as a PDF guideline document.</p>	<p>depletion of timber resources, and delivery of tools and training that enable effective and timely monitoring of sustainable use of timbers).</p> <p>Trained staff remain in institution and in a position to use the skills provided. (Mitigation: Training of trainers approach helps to ensure that skills can be shared and passed on as staff rotate or leave).</p>
<p><b>Activities</b> (each activity is numbered according to the output that it will contribute towards, for example 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 are contributing to Output 1. Each activity should start on a new line and be no more than approximately 25 words.</p> <p><b>Output 1: Develop best-practice data collection protocol for monitoring timber tree species in the wild to guide conservation and sustainable use, to identify the impact of logging at the species level</b></p> <p>1.1.1 Desktop analysis of all trade and biological information on 12 CITES listed timber species (BGCI)</p> <p>1.1.2 Stakeholder survey on timber species data access in three countries (BGCI, Steering Committee and Partners)</p> <p>1.1.3 Synthesis of desktop analysis (1.1.1) and stakeholder survey (1.1.2) into first version of data collection protocol (BGCI)</p> <p>1.1.4 Meetings/online workshops with Steering Committee to present first version of data collection protocol (BGCI and Steering Committee)</p> <p>1.1.5 Presentation of the results of desktop analysis (1.1.1) and stakeholder survey (1.1.2) (BGCI)</p> <p>1.2.1 Update and publish final data collection protocol (based on activity 2.1.4) (BGCI)</p> <p>1.2.2 Best practice recommendation paper submitted to Red List Technical Working Group and CITES Plants Committee for recommendation to Standing Committee (BGCI)</p>			

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**Output 2: Trial data collection protocol in the field for CITES listed timber species in Gabon, Ghana and Madagascar, to guide conservation and sustainable use**

- 2.1.1 Finalise species selection and sites for data collection protocol trial via. online meetings with Steering Committee (BGCI)
- 2.1.2 Partner led field trial of first version of data collection protocol for selected CITES listed species (Partners)
- 2.1.3 Design of evaluation questionnaire for field trials of data collection protocol, to enable assessment and feedback from field trials (BGCI, Steering Committee and Partners)
- 2.1.4 Online meeting with Steering Committee to discuss feedback from data collection protocol trial (BGCI and Steering Committee)
- 2.2.1 Data collected from field trials analysed and inputted into IUCN SIS Database, for inclusion in the reassessment of 12 CITES listed species (BGCI)
- 2.3.1 Data collected from field trials added to IUCN SULi species use database, and paper of recommendations prepared for submission to CITES Plants Committee (BGCI)

**Output 3: In Gabon, Ghana and Madagascar, training delivered (to trainers and trainees) and dissemination of best practice data collection protocol and delivery of recommendations to relevant stakeholders**

- 3.1.1 Develop, translate and publish an online e-learning course (and associated worksheets and training material) for ToT - in the use of the data collection protocol (BGCI and Steering Committee)
- 3.1.2 Online e-learning course and other training material updated with new information on the data collection protocol based on Activity 1.2.1 and feedback from Activity 3.2.2 (BGCI)
- 3.2.1 Identify and train (registration and completion of online e-learning course) eight staff to be in country champions and trainers of the data collection protocol (Steering Committee and Partners)
- 3.2.2 Develop a training monitoring questionnaire, for both trainees and trainers to be shared and completed before and after training (BGCI)
- 3.3.1 Partner led/in-country champions deliver training/ coordinate training of local communities/organisations in data collection protocol in three focal countries (Partners)
- 3.4.1 Finalise, design and publish final report in English and French on BGCI and project partner websites (BGCI and Steering Committee)
- 3.4.2 Publicise the final report through dissemination on social media, organisations newsletters, targeted mailings and presentations at relevant international regional meetings (e.g. CoP 20) (BGCI)