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Living with snow-leopards: enhancing capacity for ethical conservation and livelihoods

Practitioners are rarely trained in local community engagement, often resulting in ineffective nature conservation and livelihood initiatives, or in human rights infringements. We will enhance the capacity of 100 conservation practitioners from 9 of the 12 snow leopard range countries in ethical community engagement for conservation and enhanced livelihoods. We will bolster our existing Darwin Initiative-funded program with 4 new training toolkits and also create policy advisories for government uptake through an existing intergovernmental alliance.

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Section 1 - Contact Details

PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

| | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Title | Dr |
| Name | Charudutt (Charu) |
| Surname | Mishra |
| Website | [REDACTED] |
| Tel (Work) | [REDACTED] |
| Email | [REDACTED] |
| Address | [REDACTED] |

GMS ORGANISATION


| Type | Organisation |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| Name | International Snow Leopard Trust |
| Phone (Work) | [REDACTED] |
| Email (Work) | [REDACTED] |
| Website (Work) | [REDACTED] |
| Address | [REDACTED] |


Section 2 - Title & Summary


Q3. Title:


Living with snow-leopards: enhancing capacity for ethical conservation and livelihoods

Please attach a cover letter as a PDF document.

 [SLT Darwin Round 30 Cover Letter](#)

 22/10/2023

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 pdf 157.58 KB

Q4a. Is this a resubmission of a previously unsuccessful application?

No

Q5. Summary of project

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

Practitioners are rarely trained in local community engagement, often resulting in ineffective nature conservation and livelihood initiatives, or in human rights infringements. We will enhance the capacity of 100 conservation practitioners from 9 of the 12 snow leopard range countries in ethical community engagement for conservation and enhanced livelihoods. We will bolster our existing Darwin Initiative-funded program with 4 new training toolkits and also create policy advisories for government uptake through an existing intergovernmental alliance.

Section 3 - Title, Dates & Budget Summary

Q6. Country(ies)

Which eligible country(ies) will your project be working in? Where there are more than 4 countries that your project will be working in, please add more boxes using the selection option below.

| | | | |
|-----------|------------|-----------|-------------|
| Country 1 | Kyrgyzstan | Country 2 | Mongolia |
| Country 3 | Nepal | Country 4 | No Response |

Do you require more fields?

No

Q7. Project dates

| | | |
|---------------|---------------|------------------------------------|
| Start date: | End date: | Duration (e.g. 1 years, 8 months): |
| 01 April 2024 | 31 March 2026 | 24 |

Q8. Budget summary

| Year: | 2024/25 | 2025/26 | Total request |
|---------|-------------|------------|---------------|
| Amount: | £107,886.00 | £92,114.00 | £200,000.00 |

Q9. Do you have proposed matched funding arrangements?

Yes

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

Q10. If you have a significant amount of unconfirmed matched funding, please clarify how you will fund the project if you don't manage to secure this?

Our unconfirmed matched funding totals 47,936 GBP. Based on discussions with the funders we have high confidence that these funds will be confirmed, but do not have formal agreements yet. If not received, Snow Leopard Trust will provide the remainder from general funds.

Section 4 - Project need

Q12. The need that the project is trying to address

Please describe evidence of the **capability and capacity** need your project is trying to address with reference to **biodiversity conservation and poverty reduction challenges and opportunities**.

For example, how have you identified the need? Why should the need be addressed or what will be the value to the country? Please cite the evidence you are using to support your assessment of the need.

The recently adopted Global Biodiversity Framework recognizes the importance of local and indigenous communities in biodiversity conservation [1]. Often, conservationists learn through trial and error how to effectively engage with local communities [2]. This highlights the critical need to build capacity in community engagement and ethical conservation practices. As the world grapples with environmental challenges, the imperative to work collaboratively with local communities has never been more evident. Conservation initiatives that neglect the involvement of these communities risk being ineffective, unsustainable, and even counterproductive. Therefore, building capacity in these areas is a strategic investment in the future of our planet.

The PARTNERS Principles training program, which emerged from a previous Darwin grant (Project Reference: 22-004), has significantly improved the quality and impact of conservation efforts across multiple countries in the snow leopard range, [3,4]. The PARTNERS Principles emphasize the importance of working alongside local communities, respecting their knowledge and traditions, and fostering genuine partnerships. The training program underscores the need for adaptive management and a nuanced understanding of socio-cultural contexts.

The newly formed Ethical Conservation Alliance (ECA), currently including conservation leaders from 28 countries, aims to create a worldwide movement and increase capacity in ethical and effective community engagement for conservation [5]. This alliance is committed to expanding the reach of the PARTNERS Principles and disseminating training modules developed therein beyond the snow leopard range.

Although the PARTNERS Principles and associated training programs have made significant strides, there remains a notable gap: the lack of specific toolkits for conservation-linked conflict management, sustainable economic development and local entrepreneurship. Building the capacity of local communities to engage in sustainable economic activities that align with conservation goals is essential for the long-term success of conservation initiatives [2]. Training toolkits could provide guidance on developing eco-friendly businesses, ecotourism ventures, and other enterprises that rely on as well as contribute to conservation of nature.

Another vital need is building in conflict management. Wildlife-caused damage, such as livestock and crop

degradation, pose significant challenges to conservationists and local communities [6]. Capacity-building initiatives can focus on effective conflict resolution strategies that minimise harm to wildlife and address the concerns of affected communities. Conservationists need to be better sensitised towards not just the economic and ecological aspects of such damage, but also the emotional trauma that affected families might experience. Furthermore, developing capacity-building resources for compensation and insurance programs can play a crucial role in mitigating the economic impact of conservation efforts on local communities. Ensuring these programs are fair, transparent, and accessible is essential for building trust and cooperation. Finally, participatory monitoring and evaluation are fundamental components of ethical conservation. However, many conservation practitioners and agencies lack expertise in this area.

Training toolkits and policy briefs focused on the aforementioned themes can empower practitioners and government agencies to implement participatory monitoring and evaluation programs effectively. These resources can provide guidance on data collection, community engagement, and adaptive management based on real-world experiences.

Section 5 - Darwin Objectives and Conventions

Q13. Biodiversity Conventions, Treaties and Agreements

Q13a. Your project must support the commitments of one or more of the agreements listed below.

Please indicate which agreement(s) will be supported.

- Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
- Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS)
- Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)
- Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS)
- Global Goals for Sustainable Development (SDGs)

Q13b. National and International Policy Alignment

Using evidence where available, please detail how your capability and capacity project will contribute to national policy (including NBSAPs, NDCs, NAPs etc.) and in turn international biodiversity and development conventions, treaties and agreements that the country is a signatory of.

While we hope to target practitioners from 9 countries (Bhutan, India, Nepal, Pakistan, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Mongolia and Uzbekistan), the three countries where primary project resources will be invested (Nepal, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia) list conservation of ecosystems, habitats, species and genetic diversity as priority areas in their National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs). Our project will help strengthen the capacities of conservationists to engage ethically and effectively with communities for conservation and livelihoods.

The NBSAPs also highlight the need to mainstream biodiversity into national and sectoral policies, plans and programs. Our project will collaborate with Environment Ministers to endorse policy advisories on participatory monitoring and evaluation, economic and non-economic valuation of provisional ecosystem services, sustainable economies and entrepreneurship among local and indigenous communities, and management of wildlife damage conflicts.

Lastly, each country is an endorsee to the Bishkek Declaration 2017, included in the reference materials, for

snow leopard and ecosystem conservation that highlights capacity-building needs for community-based conservation. The proposed activities are closely aligned with their national policy requirements, and help them bolster their respective contributions to the international conventions and declarations. Specifically, the proposed capacity-building program's activities are aligned with at least seven of the 23 action-oriented global targets for urgent action under the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework that mandate involvement of local and indigenous communities in biodiversity conservation.

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

Q14. Methodology

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

- how you have reflected on and incorporated evidence and lessons learnt from past and present similar 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 the main activities will be and where these will take place.
- how you will manage the work (governance, roles and responsibilities, project management tools, risks etc.).
- what practical elements will be included to embed new capabilities.

This project will scale up available expertise in ethical engagement with local and indigenous communities within the target countries; empower a cadre of conservation leaders to continue trainings within their countries; develop training resources available for use by any conservation organisation worldwide; and equip governments with policy advisories to guide improved conservation measures.

We will expand the PARTNERS Principles (PP) training toolkit by incorporating training modules and developing audiovisual training resources on a) participatory monitoring and evaluation, b) valuation of provisional ecosystem services, c) sustainable economies and entrepreneurship among local and indigenous communities and d) management of wildlife damage conflicts. For the audiovisual resources, we will engage a professional production house to script and film audiovisual training tools. The audiovisual tools will be shared with various partner organisations through the Ethical Conservation Alliance (ECA). These tools will be made freely accessible to any interested conservationist through the ECA website.

The intergovernmental Bishkek Declaration 2017 recognized the need to develop specialised capacity-building programs aimed at snow leopard and its ecosystem conservation. A set of policy advisories will be developed under this project for government agencies to imbibe and scale these as best practices across the snow leopard range. These advisories will be endorsed by the snow leopard range country governments at the Steering Committee Meeting of Environment Ministers under the intergovernmental Global Snow Leopard and Ecosystem Protection Program (GSLEP). They will be translated into multiple languages, customised and shared further by the respective governments within their countries. We will organise dedicated sessions at the GSLEP Inter-governmental Steering Committee Meetings to help with the uptake of the four thematic policy advisories. So far the GSLEP program has developed 13 policy advisories on specialised themes that have allowed countries to unify best practices on thematic issues such as managing unusual encounters with snow leopards, conservation education, disease risks in snow leopard habitat, and others [7].

The PARTNERS Principles training program actively involves the trainees in the evaluation process. Through comprehensive feedback sessions and structured discussions, we have gathered valuable insights and

recommendations from the trainees, which have been incorporated into the training modules. This iterative process ensures that our training content remains relevant, impactful, and responsive to the evolving needs of conservation practitioners.

Rather than being prescriptive, PARTNERS Principles is an immersive training based on sharing of and learning from both positive and negative experiences of practitioners. The program has been reviewed, tested, and applied successfully across multiple countries and cultures. It has been found to be species, culture, and ecosystem agnostic, and can be adapted and used effectively in diverse settings globally [2, 4].

In Year 1, we will train at least 15 senior conservationists from 9 of the snow leopard range countries (Bhutan, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Mongolia, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Pakistan, India and Nepal) through a week-long Training of Trainers (TOT) workshop. We will identify senior conservationists through the Snow Leopard Network and the GSLEP partner network. Workshops will be held in Kyrgyzstan, Nepal, and Mongolia to facilitate maximum participation from snow leopard range countries. We will continue engaging with the trained trainers through online interactions and the 'help solve-my-problem' interface established in the PARTNERS Principles training program.

In Year 2, we will support the trained trainers in delivering PARTNERS Principles training to at least 85 conservation practitioners from 4 or more snow leopard range countries. We will support at least three conservation practitioners financially and technically to apply the PARTNERS Principles to initiate community-based conservation programs.

The trained trainers will be offered follow-up mentorship from our team while developing and conducting their own training programmes. They will also have access to a training manual that is currently being prepared, and the online resources for further assistance. We will maintain a library of community-based conservation stories and experiences shared/exchanged amongst trained participants for future analyses and learnings.

So far, 320 conservationists, including 125 women, from nearly 28 countries have been trained in the PARTNERS Principles. Of these, 40 have been trained as trainers, leading to developing five toolkits and four thematic policy recommendations. The thematic white papers preceding the Bishkek Declaration 2017 set out the goal of building the capacity of at least 500 conservation practitioners [8]. This project will bring us closer to that goal by increasing the number of trained conservationists to 420 and building a foundation for further training. We also anticipate that the audiovisual resources developed through this project will enhance resources available for trained trainers and those new to the PARTNERS Principles.

Q15. How will you identify participants?

How did/will you identify and select the participants (individuals and/or organisations) to directly benefit from the capability and capacity building activities? What makes these the most suitable participants?

How will you ensure that the selection process is unbiased, fair and transparent? How have you incorporated GESI considerations in identifying participants?

For the Training of Trainers in Output 2, we will identify senior conservationists through a comprehensive online survey evaluating community engagement and training experiences. Our aim in selecting participants will be to ensure the greatest diversity in terms of country (at least 9 snow leopard range countries), skills, previous experience, ethnicity, and gender (at least 50% women).

We will use the Snow Leopard Network (SLN) and the Global Snow Leopard Ecosystem Protection Program (GSLEP) network of partner organisations to reach out to potential participants. SLN is a worldwide organisation dedicated to facilitating the exchange of information and insights between individuals worldwide for snow leopard conservation. It has more than 600 members from across 50 countries. GSLEP partners with more than 70 organisations, institutions and agencies from across the world.

For Output 3, interested PARTNERS trainees will be asked to submit brief proposals seeking to implement their acquired skills through actual community-based conservation initiatives. We will select three proposals to support financially and technically, based on their feasibility, ensuring geographical diversity and gender representation.

Q16. 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.

Social realities often dictate that in community-based or led conservation efforts, men from local and indigenous communities are disproportionately involved in decision-making. Apart from being undesirable and reflective of gender inequity, this also implies that women's ideas and concerns are not given enough attention in conservation efforts even when they are focused on the grassroots. In our experience, women from the communities find it easier to relate to and get involved when conservation initiatives are led by women. We will ensure that at least 7 women (about 50% of the trainees) are in the Training of Trainers for senior conservationists.

The PARTNERS Principles approach highlights gender equity and the role of women in co-creating conservation initiatives. The Training of Trainers workshops also emphasize the importance of considering group composition in workshops. Women may not feel as free to express themselves in groups where most participants are male. Trained trainers will be encouraged to think of social dynamics when planning workshops and make sure everyone has the opportunity to participate fully. We aim for at least 30 (about 35%) of the frontline conservationist trainees to be women.

As mentioned earlier, in addition to gender balance, we will also ensure inclusion of a diversity of nationalities, ethnicities and social groups while selecting our trainees.

Q17. Change expected

Detail the expected changes to both biodiversity and multi-dimensional poverty reduction, and links between them, that this work will deliver. You should identify what will change and who exactly will benefit a) in the short-term (i.e. during the life of the project – including capability and capacity building benefits) and b) the potential changes 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.

This project will focus on creating a cadre of conservationists trained in community engagement, working in different regions of Asia's high mountains, to promote a just approach to co-existence with wildlife. It will also provide a proof-of-concept by new trainees initiating community-based conservation programs using PARTNERS Principles in three communities, selected based on the need and feasibility assessment during the on-ground training.

The philosophy behind the project is to ensure that conservationists are equipped with ethical principles and effective means of creating conservation and livelihood partnerships with communities in their respective

landscapes. This project takes an innovative approach in bringing together conservationists to enhance their skills and share experiences in community-based conservation.

The project will draw upon a body of experience built upon by our team and collaborators in community engagement over the last 25 years. A Training of Trainers approach for conservation leaders will have the combined effect of strengthening advocacy capacities and transforming practice in their own program fields. Conservation leaders, frontline practitioners and government staff represent important agents of change without whom progress will be limited. Our goal in the medium term is to create resources for community-based conservation and build a cadre of informed and engaged frontline conservationists and government representatives. In the long run we aim to help improve the practice of conservation globally by enhancing the skills and knowledge of conservationists to benefit communities and wildlife. Our work will involve capacity enhancement in various facets of conservation and poverty alleviation including conflict management involving wildlife-caused damage, livelihoods, and sustainable economies, for which our team is well equipped, and includes trainers, experienced entrepreneurs, seasoned diplomats and decades of collective experience in community engagement, planning and development.

DIRECT BENEFICIARIES: At least 100 conservationists from across Bhutan, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Mongolia, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Pakistan, India and Nepal will have enhanced skills and knowledge in community-based conservation with a focus on ethical approaches. Out of those 100 conservationists, 15 will be senior conservationists trained as trainers and 85 will be frontline conservationists. Our aim is that at least 7 senior conservationists and 30 frontline conservationists will be women. Three conservationists will be supported to implement livelihood and conservation programs.

Environment Ministers from Bhutan, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Mongolia, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Pakistan, India and Nepal will be equipped with policy advisories to improve their ability to implement community-based conservation programs. Members of at least 3 new communities where new conservation programs will be initiated by technically and financially supporting the trained conservationists. With 30-100 households in each community, we hope to reach out cumulatively to approximately 150 households.

INDIRECT BENEFICIARIES: Although it is difficult to determine a precise figure, we estimate there are tens of thousands of local and indigenous communities living across snow leopard habitat that spans 12 countries in High Asia. We envision the long-term impact from engaging and sensitising the Environment Ministers of all 12 countries through policy advisories and developing resources for conservationists will contribute to building ethical and effective conservation efforts range-wide.

Q18. Sustainable benefits and scaling potential

How will the project reach a point where the benefits of strengthened capability and capacity can be sustained post-funding?

How will the capability and capacity be retained and remain available to deliver benefits in-country after the project? Is there potential for the new capability and capacity to renew itself or deliver additional capability and capacity, for example by building future environmental leaders beyond the project?

AUDIOVISUAL TRAINING RESOURCES: These resources will not only benefit the initial cohort of trainees but will remain available for future use by conservation organisations worldwide. They will be made accessible through the Ethical Conservation Alliance website, ensuring a broad reach and continued impact.


TRAINING OF TRAINERS: We will focus on empowering a cadre of conservation leaders to become trainers within their respective countries. By investing in their capacity, we aim to create a network of knowledgeable practitioners who can continue to disseminate critical knowledge and skills in their respective programs or regions. Through our organisational resources, our team will continue to provide support and mentorship to


interested project participants beyond the two years of project funding.


Our outstanding participants will be invited to join the Ethical Conservation Alliance, to contribute to, learn from, and sustain their work in collaboration with a global network of conservation leaders committed to spreading ethical, grassroots-focused conservation efforts.

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

 [Reference materials for Darwin round 30](#)

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Section 7 - Risk Management

Q19. 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, and one Delivery Chain Risk.

| Risk Description | Impact | Prob. | Gross Risk | Mitigation | Residual Risk |
|---|----------|----------|------------|---|---------------|
| Fiduciary (financial) Grant funds are not managed appropriately by SLT. | Moderate | Unlikely | Moderate | Financial accountability ensured through financial management by SLT's Executive Director, Grants Manager, and Finance, Admin & Compliance Director. All receipts and records of expenditures are filed and tracked. Independent Board of Directors exercises overall fiduciary oversight. SLT and partner organizations use third-party audits and have written policies for financial documentation | Minor |

| | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|---|---------------|----------|----------|---|-------|
| Safeguarding | Project staff or participants become injured or sick due to field travel. | Moderate | Unlikely | Moderate | We monitor travel advisories for recommended safety measures and do not conduct workshops in areas with significant safety concerns. First aid kits are present at workshops. We purchase travel insurance for project staff and pay for necessary vaccinations. Vendors providing food or accommodations are vetted for safety and health standards. | Minor |
| Delivery Chain | Language barriers between trainers and trainees slow down or reduce effectiveness of training. | Minor | Possible | Moderate | We contract interpreters when trainers are not fluent in the trainees' primary language. Trainings include a blend of lectures, discussions, visual aids, and activities for different learning styles. Audiovisual resources will be subtitled into Russian and English. | Minor |
| Risk 4 | COVID or other communicable disease outbreaks that limit travel and/or in-person training and meetings. | Moderate | Unlikely | Moderate | Training dates and meetings can be adjusted and moved to virtual platforms if necessary. SLT staff members are vaccinated for COVID, and we monitor health advisories at all project locations. We will provide masks and sanitizer at in-person events if needed. | Minor |
| Risk 5 | Women or people from other marginalized groups feel inhibited or uncomfortable in a group learning environment. | Minor | Possible | Moderate | Our PARTNERS Principles instructors are experienced in creating safe and inclusive learning environments among diverse groups. Trainers trained through this project will learn to consider group compositions when setting up workshops and remain aware of group dynamics to ensure everyone has the opportunity to participate fully. | Minor |
| Risk 6 | The GSLEP Steering Committee does not endorse policy advisories. | Insignificant | Unlikely | Minor | Policy advisories will be developed with input from members of the GSLEP Steering Committee. | Minor |

Q20. 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.).

No

Section 8 - Workplan

Q21. Workplan

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

 [Darwin Workplan Living with Snow Leopards FIN](#)
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Section 9 - Monitoring and Evaluation

Q22. 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.

Darwin Initiative projects are expected to be adaptive, and you should detail how the monitoring and evaluation will feed into the improved 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).

We are in the process of hiring a new Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist, and they will be key staff on this project. A draft of the job description is included with the CVs.

Activity indicators from the logframe will be regularly tracked using program records. These will be continually updated and reviewed by project staff on a quarterly basis to ensure that targets have been met.

At 1 and 2 year intervals of the project, comprehensive stakeholder consultations with trainees, trainers, frontline practitioners, and government staff will be conducted to assess how the PARTNERS Principles have been adopted in ongoing community conservation interventions. This will include assessing learning (measure the increase in knowledge of trainees) through focus groups and assessing behaviour (to what extent they applied the learnings to their work) through sampled interviews 6 months after training activities.

It should be noted that participatory M&E of conservation programmes is incorporated in the PARTNERS Principles training and we envision that participants will take forward such an approach in their context.

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Total project budget for M&E (£): | £ [REDACTED] |
| (this may include Staff and Travel and Subsistence Costs) | |
| Total project budget for M&E (%): | [REDACTED] |
| (this may include Staff and Travel and Subsistence Costs) | |
| Number of days planned for M&E | 80 |

Section 10 - Indicators of Success

Q23. Indicators of success

Please outline the Outcome and Outputs of the project and how you will show that they have been achieved by using SMART indicators and milestones.

| | SMART Indicator | Means of Verification |
|---|---|---|
| Outcome Enhance the knowledge and capacity of conservation practitioners from 9 snow leopard range countries in engaging effectively and ethically with local and indigenous communities for conservation and livelihood improvement. | By 31-March 2026, Government representatives from 9 snow leopard range countries have enhanced awareness and understanding of ethical conservation practices (baseline = 0) [Standard Indicator DI-A07] | Copies of communications with and between government agencies regarding dissemination of policy advisories Minutes and documents produced at GSLEP Steering Committee Meeting List of GSLEP Steering Committee Government representatives and their nationalities |
| | By 31-March 2026, at least 15 conservation organisations within the 9 snow leopard range countries have one or more personnel trained in the PARTNERS Principles (baseline = 0) [Standard Indicator DI-A07] | List of audiovisual resources and policy advisories produced and the latter translated in state languages from multiple snow leopard range countries List of training participants with their nationalities and organisations |

Output 1

Audiovisual training toolkit is strengthened by adding four thematic resources covering various aspects of livelihoods, sustainable economies, conflict management, and monitoring and evaluation.

By 30-September, 2025, audiovisual training resources on four topics (participatory monitoring and evaluation, economic and non-economic valuation of provisional ecosystem services, sustainable economies and entrepreneurship among local and indigenous communities, and management of wildlife damage conflicts) developed and endorsed by the Ethical Conservation Alliance (baseline = 0) [Core Indicator DI-C01]

Copies of the audiovisual resources posted on the Ethical Conservation Alliance website

Website visitation metrics

By 31-March 2026, audiovisual tools accessed via the Ethical Conservation Alliance website at least 100 times (baseline = 0) [Standard Indicator DI-C11]

Output 2

15 Senior conservationists from snow leopard range countries are trained as trainers to provide training on the PARTNERS Principles for ethical and effective community and livelihood engagement.

By 30-April, 2025, at least 15 senior conservationists (at least 7 women) from 9 of the snow leopard range countries complete the week-long training as trainers (baseline = 0 conservationists and 0 countries) . [Core Indicator DI-A01]

By 30-April, 2025, 15 conservation practitioners from 9 snow leopard range countries, including at least 7 women, have improved capability and capacity as a result of the project (baseline = 0) [Core Indicator DI-A03]

List of training participants and their nationalities

Certificates issued by the ECA committee to the trainers

Post-training survey responses

By 30-September, 2025, at least 4 trained trainers (including at least one woman) have delivered further training by the end of the project (baseline = 0) [Core Indicator DI-A05]

Output 3

Frontline conservationists from multiple countries are trained and supported in ethically co-creating projects for conservation, livelihood improvement and wildlife conflict management.

By 31-March, 2026, at least 85 conservation practitioners (at least 30 women) from 4 to 9 countries receive training from the trained trainers (baseline = 0 practitioners and 0 countries) [Core Indicator DI-A01]

List of participants in each country-specific training

By 31-March, 2026, 3 communities have new/improved plans for livelihood or wildlife conflict management [Core Indicator DI-B04]

Certificates issued by the ECA committee, co-signed by the trainers and host organisations/institutions

By 31-March, 2026, at least 50% of the trained conservationists report that they are applying new knowledge or capabilities 6 or more months after training (baseline = 0) [Core Indicator DI-A04]

Risk and feasibility assessments for community-based conservation initiatives

Post-training survey responses

By 31-March 2026, a 'solve-my-problem' platform is set up and at least three sessions held with trainees in need of guidance with their community-based work. (baseline = 0) [Custom Indicator]

Conservation Contracts drafted or signed with 3 communities

| | | | |
|-----------------|--|--|---|
| Output 4 | Policy advisories on participatory monitoring and evaluation, valuation of provisional ecosystem services, sustainable economies and entrepreneurship, and management of wildlife damage conflicts developed and shared with conservation practitioners and governments. | By 31-March, 2026, four policy advisories (participatory monitoring and evaluation, economic and non-economic valuation of provisional ecosystem services, sustainable economies and entrepreneurship among local and indigenous communities, and management of wildlife damage conflicts) developed, reviewed and endorsed by the GSLEP Steering Committee (baseline = 0) [Core Indicator DI-C01] | Official communication from range countries governments disseminating advisories within the country and various divisions |
| | | By 31-March, 2026 at least 9 Environment Ministers and/or their representatives attend the Inter-governmental GSLEP Steering Committee meeting (baseline = 0) [DI-C14] | Copies of policy advisories Minutes of meeting, Resolution, and report of the GSLEP Steering Committee |
| | | By 31-March, 2026, all policy documents are translated into at least 3 languages (Russian, Mongolian, Nepali) and provided to the snow leopard range country governments for further dissemination. (baseline = 0) [Custom Indicator] | Translated copies of the policy advisories available on the GSLEP website List of GSLEP Steering Committee meeting attendees and their roles/nationalities |

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 Prepare, review and revise the audiovisual resources for the four themes
- 1.2 Upload the resources on publicly accessible website of the Ethical Conservation Alliance (ECA) and share information about it via ECA newsletter and social media handles for wide dissemination
- 2.1 Conduct a survey to identify participants to be potentially trained as trainers to deliver the PARTNERS Principles' training.
- 2.2 Organise Training of Trainers in 3 countries (Kyrgyzstan, Nepal and Mongolia) to facilitate maximum participation from the snow leopard range countries
- 2.3 Maintain contact by organising follow-up interactions, and supporting further trainings in person
- 3.1 Identify organisations to host the in-country training for frontline conservationists
- 3.2 Provide support to the trained trainers to deliver PARTNERS Principles' training to the participants
- 3.3 Organise in-person and virtual trainings.
- 3.4 Identify three conservation programs based on risk and feasibility assessment in any of the nine range countries (Bhutan, India, Nepal, Pakistan, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Mongolia and Uzbekistan) to be

supported financially and technically to initiate a community-based conservation program

3.5 Provide and maintain a “help solve my problem” hotline for trainees to discuss any roadblocks or challenges in community engagement

4.1 Collaboratively write, review and produce policy advisories to be endorsed and released at the Inter-governmental Steering Committee Meetings.

4.2 Organise dedicated sessions at the Inter-governmental Steering Committee Meetings on the specific themes to discuss and deliberate on the four themes

Important Assumptions:

Please describe up to 6 key assumptions that, if held true, will enable you to deliver your Outputs and Outcome.

Participants are motivated and in a position to take forward community-based conservation and training activities with peers.

All trainees have a working knowledge of English, Nepali, Russian, Hindi or Urdu that our training staff are collectively proficient in or familiar with.

Conservationists are available and have time for the training sessions.

At least 3 trained conservationists (including at least 1 woman) will be ready to initiate community-based conservation projects with local communities


Environment Ministers or their representatives from at least 9 snow leopard range countries are able to attend the annual Inter-governmental Steering Committee Meetings for GSLEP.


Section 11 - Budget and Funding


Q24. 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.

 [FINAL Darwin budget over 100k round 30](#)

 22/10/2023

 20:53:59

 xlsx 274.68 KB

Q25. 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.

Q25a. Is this new work or does it build on existing/past activities (delivered by anyone and funded through any source)?

Development of existing/past activities

Please provide details:

This project builds upon the PARTNERS Principles (PP) training program created under a previous Darwin grant (Project Ref: 22-004) in 2015. Since then, the governments of all 12 snow leopard range countries set a collective goal to train 500 practitioners in PP for ethical and effective community engagement. So far 320 conservationists have been trained across the snow leopard range and 25 have been trained as trainers.

The Global Snow Leopard Ecosystem Protection Program (GSLEP) Steering Committee, which includes the Environment Ministers from all snow leopard range countries, convenes annually and is supported by the GSLEP Secretariat to align and support collective goals of snow leopard conservation actors.

The training materials developed under this project will also contribute to the work of the Ethical Conservation Alliance, which is bringing training ethical community engagement to conservationists worldwide.

Q25b. 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, avoiding duplicating and conflicting activities and what attempts have been/will be made to co-operate with and share lessons learnt for mutual benefit.

To date, 40 senior conservationists from 28 countries have been trained as trainers and committed to holding workshops in their respective regions. This project will enhance the resources available and add to the pool of trained trainers who can help conservationists develop skills and knowledge for ethical and effective conservation and livelihood initiatives.

Q26. 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). Why is it the best feasible project for the amount of money to be spent?

The majority (>79%) of Biodiversity Challenge Fund (BCF) funds will be spent in the nine aforementioned BCF-eligible countries. We anticipate the number of trainees for Outputs 2-3 will not be divided evenly between the countries. For greatest flexibility and efficiency the training/workshop expenses will be paid through the Lead Partner, which we anticipate will also reduce currency exchange loss and wire transfer fees.

A key element of this project will be supporting trained trainers to develop and implement PARTNERS trainings. Our estimates are based on previously supported workshops in the region. We will financially support three conservationists to implement community-based conservation initiatives using their new PARTNERS Principles skills. Assessment of cost-effectiveness will be built into the review process for selecting initiatives. The funds allocated for this output are based on our collective experience in the snow leopard range countries.

Travel was calculated based on the most current and economical combination of ground and air costs. Per diems were calculated based on the U.S. Department of State's Office of Allowances rates by location and averaging for the locations we anticipate travel.

The project's long-term outcomes will have a broad reach. By training a cadre of conservation leaders, this

project establishes a network of experts who can continue to train others within their respective countries, creating a multiplier effect. The audiovisual training resources will provide a cost-effective means of knowledge transfer that can be freely accessed by conservationists worldwide.

Q27. Capital items

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

We will not purchase capital items with Darwin funding.

Section 12 - Safeguarding and Ethics

Q28. 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.

Safeguarding procedures will be implemented when deploying personnel on this project in accordance with local and national laws and regulations. SLT will work with our partners to ensure local personnel receive training on safeguarding as applicable as well as provide training for our staff as needed. SLT's Whistleblower Policy Document provides a link to anonymously fill out a Safeguarding Report Form. SLT's Executive Director will follow up on any reports on safeguarding concerns in due process. SLT will maintain documentation for all personnel working on the project acknowledging receipt, understanding, and compliance of SLT's policies on safeguarding, whistleblowing, and general conduct requirements.


Section 13 - British Embassy or High Commission Engagement


Q29. 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.


 [FCDO email to Jonathan Reeves](#)


 22/10/2023


 00:21:36


 pdf 113.09 KB


 [FCDO email to Mongolia](#)


 22/10/2023

 00:21:35

 pdf 112.59 KB

 [Endorsement from FCDO for Living with Snow Leopards project Darwin round 30](#)

 19/10/2023

 22:34:13

 pdf 236.01 KB

Section 14 - Project Staff

Q30. 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.

| Name (First name, Surname) | Role | % time on project | 1 page CV or job description attached? |
|-------------------------------|--|-------------------|--|
| Charudutt (Charu) Mishra, PhD | Project Leader | 12 | Checked |
| Koustubh Sharma, PhD | Project Co-Lead | 12 | Checked |
| Ranjini Murali, Ph.D. | Conservation Scientist & PARTNERS Expert | 15 | Checked |
| Laura Farnitano, MPA | Finance, Admin & Compliance Director | 20 | Checked |

Do you require more fields?


Yes


| Name (First name, Surname) | Role | % time on project | 1 page CV or job description attached? |
|----------------------------|------|-------------------|--|
|----------------------------|------|-------------------|--|


| | | | |
|-----------------------------|--|----|-----------|
| Dylan Hannafious | Grants & Contracts Manager | 20 | Checked |
| Bayarjargal Agvaansteren | Ethical Conservation Alliance Regional Coordinator | 30 | Checked |
| To Be Hired | Monitoring & Evaluation Specialist | 15 | Checked |
| Purevjav (Pujii) Lkhagvajav | Project Manager, Mongolia | 15 | Checked |
| Kubanychbek Zhumabai uulu | Project Manager, Kyrgyzstan | 15 | Checked |
| <i>No Response</i> | <i>No Response</i> | 0 | Unchecked |
| <i>No Response</i> | <i>No Response</i> | 0 | Unchecked |
| <i>No Response</i> | <i>No Response</i> | 0 | Unchecked |

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

 [All CVs and JD combined for Darwin round 30](#)

 22/10/2023

 19:18:39

 pdf 580.61 KB

Have you attached all project staff CVs?

Yes

Section 15 - Project Partners

Q31. Project Partners

Please list all the Project Partners (including the Lead Partner who will administer the grant and coordinate 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: International Snow Leopard Trust (SLT)

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

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

Founded in 1981, International Snow Leopard Trust (SLT) is the largest and oldest organization primarily focused on snow leopard conservation, with over 40 years of experience working on international, national and local scales.

A dedicated team of researchers, conservationists, and grassroots leaders help bring together science, community-based conservation, awareness-building, advocacy, and international collaboration to safeguard snow leopards and their high mountain ecosystems. Leveraging this approach and expertise, we support work with all 12 snow leopard range countries and have field teams in Mongolia, India, Kyrgyzstan, and Pakistan.

SLT has worked alongside Snow Leopard Foundation in Kyrgyzstan, Nature Conservation Foundation in India, Snow Leopard Conservation Foundation in Mongolia, Snow Leopard Foundation in Pakistan, Shan Shui in China, Snow Leopard Newtork, the Global Snow Leopard Ecosystem Protection Program and several other government and non-government organisations since its formation. SLT has been the lead partner on several regional grants and provides ongoing capacity building.

SLT's Grants and Contracts Manager will ensure project deliverables are met and reporting is completed accurately and on-time. The Finance, Admin & Compliance Director will ensure compliance with all terms and conditions and support asset management. SLT's Executive Director will be responsible for project leadership and oversee asset management.

International/In-country Partner International

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

Represented on the Project Board (or other management structure) Yes

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

Do you have partners involved in the Project?

Yes

1. Partner Name: Global Snow Leopard Ecosystem Protection Program (GSLEP) Secretariat

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

What value does this Partner bring to the project?

The Global Snow Leopard Ecosystem Protection Program (GSLEP) is an intergovernmental alliance of all snow leopard range countries, represented by their Environment Ministers. The GSLEP Secretariat, based in Bishkek, coordinates and facilitates the implementation of conservation strategies set out by the GSLEP Steering Committee which meets every 12-18 months. The GSLEP Secretariat serves as a central hub for communication and coordination between the member countries, partner organizations, and stakeholders.

(including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):

For this project, the GSLEP Secretariat will leverage its existing collaboration with civil society organisations, institutions, and governments across all Central Asian range countries to reach conservation practitioners for training and workshops, disseminate toolkits, and maintain communication between stakeholder parties.

The GSLEP Secretariat will oversee the development of policy advisories and organization of dedicated sessions at the Inter-governmental Steering Committee Meetings.

| | |
|--|---|
| International/In-country Partner | <input checked="" type="radio"/> In-country |
| Allocated budget: | £ [REDACTED] |
| Representation on the Project Board (or other management structure) | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes |
| Have you included a Letter of Support from this partner? | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes |

2. Partner Name: Snow Leopard Conservation Foundation (SLCF)

Website address: snowleopard.mn

What value does this Partner bring to the project?

Snow Leopard Conservation Fund (SLCF), a Mongolian NGO, has been a leader in developing and implementing conservation programs that directly link protection of wildlife with economic benefits to communities. Founded in 2006, SLCF now has community based conservation, education, and research programs operating in every province in Mongolia that are home to snow leopards.

(including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):

SLCF will coordinate activities in Mongolia and offer continued advisory support to training participants implementing skills in their respective programs.

| | |
|--|---|
| International/In-country Partner | <input checked="" type="radio"/> In-country |
| Allocated budget: | £ [REDACTED] |
| Representation on the Project Board (or other management structure) | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes |

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

3. Partner Name: Snow Leopard Foundation in Kyrgyzstan (SLFK)

Website address: <https://snowleopard.kg/en/>

SLFK is Kyrgyzstan's first NGO dedicated to snow leopard conservation. SLFK has attained national recognition and respect from all levels of society and Government.

What value does this Partner bring to the project?
(including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):

SLFK currently manages comprehensive conservation efforts around the Sarychat Ertash Nature Reserve as well as in the Ala Too range of the Tien Shan, including research, community-based conservation programs, and wildlife monitoring. SLFK partners with 8 communities to implement community-based conservation programs such as conservation-linked income generation, livestock insurance, eco-education, and building predator-proof corrals.

SLFK will help coordinate activities of the project in Kyrgyzstan, including hosting training workshops, facilitating follow-up interactions between the trainers and trainees, and providing information and guidance to the on-ground implementation of the selected conservation initiative as and when required.

International/In-country Partner In-country

Allocated budget: £ ██████████

Representation on the Project Board (or other management structure) Yes

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

4. Partner Name: *No Response*

Website address: *No Response*

What value does this Partner bring to the project?
(including roles, responsibilities and capabilities and capacity):

No Response

International/In-country Partner International
 In-country





Allocated budget: £0.00

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

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

Staff from SLT, SLCF, SLFK, and the GSLEP Secretariat are among the founding members of the Ethical Conservation Alliance (referred to as the PARTNERS Conservation Alliance in the Kashka Suu Statement on Global Biodiversity Conservation, included in the supplemental materials). The Ethical Conservation Alliance (<https://www.ethicalconservation.net/>) represents a growing body of conservation leaders that aims to create a worldwide movement and increase capacity in ethical and effective community engagement for conservation. This alliance is committed to expanding the reach of the PARTNERS Principles and disseminating training modules developed therein beyond the snow leopard range.

Please provide a combined PDF of all letters of support.

 [Combined Letters of Support for Darwin round 30](#)
 22/10/2023
 00:48:08
 pdf 941.81 KB

Section 16 - Lead Partner Capability and Capacity

Q32. 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 |
|--------------|----------------------|---|
| IWT012 | Dr. Charudutt Mishra | Citizen-Ranger Wildlife Protection Program (CRWPP) in Kyrgyzstan |
| IWTX002 | Dr. Charudutt Mishra | Empowering communities and rangers for protection of Asia's mountain wildlife |
| No Response | No Response | No Response |
| No Response | No Response | No Response |
| No Response | No Response | No Response |
| No Response | No Response | No Response |

Have you provided the requested signed audited/independently examined accounts (or other financial evidence as indicated in the Finance Guidance)?

Yes

Section 17 - Certification

Q30. Certification

If this section is incomplete the entire application will be rejected.

Please note if you do not upload the relevant materials below your application may be made ineligible.

On behalf of the

Trustees

of

International Snow Leopard Trust

I apply for a grant of

£200,000.00

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 key project personnel, a cover letter, letters of support, a budget, logframe, theory of change, Safeguarding and associated policies, and project workplan.
- Our last two sets of signed audited/independently verified accounts and annual report (or other financial evidence – see Finance Guidance) are also enclosed.

Checked





Name Dr. Charudutt Mishra





Position in the organisation Executive Director

Signature (please upload e-signature)  [Charu Signature](#)
 22/10/2023
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 jpg 59.95 KB





Date 22 October 2023

Please attach the requested signed audited/independently examined accounts or other financial evidence (see Finance Guidance)

 [Audit Report 2021 Snow Leopard Trust](#)
 11/09/2023
 22:50:00
 pdf 431.12 KB

 [Audit Report 2020 Snow Leopard Trust](#)
 11/09/2023
 22:49:59
 pdf 361.26 KB

Please upload the Lead Partner's Safeguarding Policy, Whistleblowing Policy and Code of Conduct as a PDF

 [Safeguarding and Policy Documents for Darwin](#)
 22/10/2023
 01:52:02
 pdf 610.21 KB

Section 18 - Submission Checklist

Checklist for submission

| | Check |
|---|---------|
| I have read the Guidance, including the "Darwin Initiative Guidance", "Monitoring Evaluation and Learning Guidance", "Standard Indicator Guidance", "Risk Guidance", and "Finance Guidance". | Checked |
| I have read, and can meet, the current Terms and Conditions for this fund. | Checked |
| I have provided actual start and end dates for 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">a cover letter from the Lead Partner, outlining how any feedback received at has been addressed where relevant, as a single PDF. | Checked |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">my budget (which meets the requirements above) using the template provided. | Checked |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">a signed copy of the last 2 annual report and accounts for the Lead Partner (or other financial evidence – see Finance Guidance, or provided an explanation if not | Checked |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">My completed workplan as a PDF using the template provided. | Checked |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">a copy of the Lead Partner's Safeguarding Policy, Whistleblowing Policy and Code of Conduct (Question 27). | Checked |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">1 page CV or job description for all the Project Staff identified at Question 29, including the Project Leader, or provided an explanation of why not, combined into a single PDF. | Checked |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">A letter of support from the Lead Partner and partner(s) identified at Question 30, or an explanation of why not, as a single PDF. | 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 |

| | |
|--|---------|
| 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 Darwin Initiative website immediately prior to submission to ensure there are no late updates. | Checked |
| I have read and understood the Privacy Notice on the Darwin Initiative 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).

Project Title: Living with snow-leopards: enhancing capacity for ethical conservation and livelihoods

| | Activity | No. of months | Year 1 (24/25) | | | | Year 2 (25/26) | | | |
|-----------------|---|---------------|----------------|----|----|----|----------------|----|----|----|
| | | | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 |
| Output 1 | Audiovisual training toolkit is strengthened by adding four thematic resources covering various aspects of livelihoods, sustainable economies, conflict management, and monitoring and evaluation. | | | | | | | | | |
| 1.1 | Prepare, review and revise the audiovisual resources for the four themes | 12 | X | X | X | X | | | | |
| 1.2 | Upload the resources on the publicly accessible website of the Ethical Conservation Alliance (ECA) and share information about it via ECA newsletter and social media handles for wide dissemination | 1 | | | | | X | | | |
| Output 2 | 15 Senior conservationists from a majority of the snow leopard range countries are trained as trainers to provide training on the PARTNERS Principles for ethical and effective community and livelihood engagement. | | | | | | | | | |
| 2.1 | Conduct a survey to identify participants to be potentially trained as trainers to deliver the PARTNERS Principles' training. | 6 | X | X | | | | | | |
| 2.2 | Organise training of trainers in 3 countries (Kyrgyzstan, Nepal and Mongolia) to facilitate maximum participation from the snow leopard range countries | 9 | | | X | X | X | | | |
| 2.3 | Maintain contact by organising follow-up interactions, and supporting further trainings in person | 12 | | | | | X | X | X | X |
| Output 3 | Frontline conservationists from multiple countries are trained and supported in ethically co-creating projects for conservation, livelihood improvement and wildlife conflict management. | | | | | | | | | |
| 3.1 | Identify organisations to host the in-country training for frontline conservationists | 1 | | | | X | | | | |
| 3.2 | Provide support to the trained trainers to deliver PARTNERS Principles' training to the participants | 6 | | | | | X | X | | |
| 3.3 | Organise in-person and virtual trainings. | 9 | | | | | X | X | X | |
| 3.4 | Identify three conservation programs based on risk and feasibility assessment in any of the nine range countries (Bhutan, India, Nepal, Pakistan, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, | 12 | | | | | X | X | X | X |

Project Title: Living with snow-leopards: enhancing capacity for ethical conservation and livelihoods

| | Activity | No. of months | Year 1 (24/25) | | | | Year 2 (25/26) | | | |
|-----------------|---|---------------|----------------|----|----|----|----------------|----|----|----|
| | | | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 |
| | Tajikistan, Mongolia and Uzbekistan) to be supported financially and technically to initiate a community-based conservation program | | | | | | | | | |
| 3.5 | Provide a “help solve my problem” hotline for trainees to discuss any roadblocks or challenges in community engagement | 18 | | | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| Output 4 | Policy advisories on participatory monitoring and evaluation, valuation of provisional ecosystem services, sustainable economies and entrepreneurship, and management of wildlife damage conflicts developed and shared with conservation practitioners and governments. | | | | | | | | | |
| 4.1 | Collaboratively write, review and produce policy advisories to be endorsed and released at the Inter-governmental Steering Committee Meetings. | 9 | | | | X | X | X | | |
| 4.2 | Organise dedicated sessions at the Inter-governmental Steering Committee Meetings on the specific themes to discuss and deliberate on the four themes | 1 | | | | | | | X | |