

Applicant: **Randriamamonjy, Voahirana Claudia**  
Organisation: **Madagasikara Voakajy**  
Funding Sought: **£286,137.92**

# **DIR27S2\1007**

## **Enabling youths to lead lemur conservation in eastern Madagascar**

This project tackles a key driver of Madagascar's accelerated biodiversity loss: the growing population's need to clear forests for agriculture. Around three Reserves in eastern Madagascar, we will equip 200 youths with the knowledge, skills, and experience needed to increase yields through sustainable farming, adopt aromatic and medicinal plants in their farming systems and market their products with ethical enterprises. Youths will share their knowledge, skills, and experience in their communities and will engage all members in lemur conservation stewardship.

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## Section 1 - Contact Details

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### PRIMARY APPLICANT DETAILS

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**Title** Mrs  
**Name** Julie Hanta  
**Surname** Razafimanahaka  
**Organisation** Madagasikara Voakajy  
**Website (Work)** www.madagasikara-voakajy.org  
**Tel (Mobile)** [REDACTED]  
**Email (Work)** [REDACTED]  
**Address** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

### CONTACT DETAILS

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**Title** Mrs  
**Name** Voahirana Claudia  
**Surname** Randriamamonjy  
**Organisation** Madagasikara Voakajy  
**Website (Work)** www.madagasikara-voakajy.org  
**Tel (Mobile)** [REDACTED]  
**Email (Work)** [REDACTED]  
**Address** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
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### GMS ORGANISATION

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Type	Other
<b>Name</b>	Madagasikara Voakajy
<b>Phone (Work)</b>	[REDACTED]
<b>Email (Work)</b>	[REDACTED]
<b>Website (Work)</b>	[REDACTED]
<b>Address</b>	[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

## Section 2 - Title, Dates & Budget Summary

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### Q3. Project title:

Enabling youths to lead lemur conservation in eastern Madagascar

### What was your Stage 1 reference number? e.g. DIR27S1\100123

DIR27S1\1504

### Q4. Country(ies)

Which eligible host 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	Madagascar	Country 2	No Response
Country 3	No Response	Country 4	No Response

### Do you require more fields?

No

### Q5. Project dates

#### Start date:

01 July 2021

#### End date:

30 June 2024

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

3 years

### Q6. Budget summary

Year:	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	Total request
Amount:	£70,560.57	£96,871.10	£93,922.85	£24,783.40	£ 286,137.92

### Q6a. Do you have matched funding arrangements?

Yes

### What matched funding arrangements are proposed?

A total of £[REDACTED] matched funding is needed to successfully run the project. For Year 1, MV secured the additional £[REDACTED] through grants from Chester Zoo and the Mulago Foundation. For Year 2, MfM expects to raise at least £[REDACTED] for the project and MV will raise £[REDACTED] from Chester Zoo and Rufford Foundation. In Year 2, MV and MfM will apply for additional grants to cover the shortfall in Years 3 (£[REDACTED] and 4 (£[REDACTED]. However, MfM expects to be able to raise at least £[REDACTED] per annum in years 3 and

4 from existing committed donors.

**Q6b. Proposed (confirmed and unconfirmed) matched funding as % of total project cost (total cost is the Darwin request plus other funding required to run the project).** ██████████

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## Section 3 - Project Summary

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### Q7. Summary of project

**Please provide a brief summary of your project, its aims, and the key activities you plan on undertaking. Please note that if you are successful, this wording may be used by Defra in communications e.g. as a short description of the project on [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk).**

**Please write this summary for a non-technical audience.**

This project tackles a key driver of Madagascar's accelerated biodiversity loss: the growing population's need to clear forests for agriculture. Around three Reserves in eastern Madagascar, we will equip 200 youths with the knowledge, skills, and experience needed to increase yields through sustainable farming, adopt aromatic and medicinal plants in their farming systems and market their products with ethical enterprises. Youths will share their knowledge, skills, and experience in their communities and will engage all members in lemur conservation stewardship.

## Section 4 - Darwin Objectives and Conventions

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### Q8. Objectives for the Darwin Initiative

**Please indicate which of the fund objectives (listed on p.8 of the guidance) you will be addressing.**

- To understand and tackle impacts of agriculture practices on biodiversity, livelihoods and climate
- To promote the responsible stewardship of natural assets
- To promote the sharing of the benefits arising from the use of biodiversity
- Contributing towards reversing the increase in threats of extinction to the world's flora and fauna

### Q9. Biodiversity Conventions, Treaties and Agreements

**Q9a. Your project must support the commitments of one or more of the agreements listed below.**

**Please indicate which agreement(s) will be supported and describe which objectives your project will address.**

- Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
- Global Goals for Sustainable Development (SDGs)

### Q9b. Biodiversity Conventions

**Please detail how your project will contribute to the aims of the agreement(s) your project is targeting. You should refer to Articles or Programmes of Work here.**

Madagascar's biodiversity action plan (NBSAP) for 2015-25 envision 'Malagasy people living in harmony in a country where the environment is preserved and/or restored, taking advantage of its welfare and sustainable use and enhancement and reasoned with rich and valued biodiversity, resilient to environmental change'. This project will contribute to achieving four of the 20 objectives in this plan: #1 (by 2025, policymakers and 65% of the Malagasy people are aware of the value of biodiversity and the measures they can take to protect and use it sustainably), #2 (by 2025, biodiversity values, opportunities and benefits of conservation and sustainable use will be recognized and integrated into the country's socio-economic development activities), #3 (by 2025, positive incentives for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and natural resources will be developed and applied), and #4 (by 2025, the extinction of endangered species is reduced, and their conservation status improved).

**Q9c. Is any liaison proposed with the CBS / ABS / ITPGRFA / CITES / CMS / Ramsar / UNFCCC focal point in the host country?**

Yes

**If yes, please give details.**

This and previous phases of this project have been presented to the CBD focal point in Madagascar, Mrs. Ranto Rakotoaridera. Throughout the project, we will provide the CBD focal point with annual reports highlighting the indicators for the objectives specified above.

**Q9d. Global Goals for Sustainable Development (SDGs)**

**Please detail how your project will contribute to the Global Goals for Sustainable Development (SDGs)**

Youths have a key role to play in implementing the 17 SDGs. This project will enable youths in the target areas to implement five key targets of the SDGs: #1.5 (build resilience and reduce exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters), #2.4 (ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production, help maintain ecosystems, strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather, drought, flooding and other disasters, and progressively improve land and soil quality), #12.2 (achieve the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources), #15.2 (promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation), and #15.5 (take urgent and significant action to reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt the loss of biodiversity and protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species).

## **Section 5 - Lead Organisation Summary**

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**Q10. Lead organisation summary**

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

Yes

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


Reference No	Project Leader	Title
25-026	Julie Hanta Razafimanahaka	Securing healthy baobab populations through efficient fruit harvesting and use
No Response	No Response	No Response
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? If you select "yes" you will be able to upload these. Note that this is not required from Government Agencies.


Yes


Please attach the requested signed audited/independently examined accounts.


 [MV-Rapport-dauidit-2018-ENG -VF](#)


 03/12/2020

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 [MV-Rapport-dauidit-2019-ENG signé](#)

 03/12/2020

 18:04:35

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## Section 6 - Project Partners

### Q11. Project partners

Please list all the partners involved (including the Lead Organisation) and explain their roles and responsibilities in the project. Describe the extent of their involvement at all stages, including project development.

This section should illustrate the capacity of partners to be involved in the project. Please provide Letters of Support for the Lead Organisation and each partner or explain why this has not been included.

**N.B:** There is a file upload button at the bottom of this page for the upload of a cover letter (if applicable) and all letters of support.

**Lead Organisation name:** Madagasikara Voakajy

**Website address:** [www.madagasikara-voakajy.org](http://www.madagasikara-voakajy.org)

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

MV is a Malagasy conservation organization founded in 2005 to save Madagascar's endemic species from extinction. We started working in Mangabe in 2006 to search for the presumed extinct golden Mantella frog. Populations of this Critically Endangered frog were found in Mangabe and since then, we have worked with local communities and other stakeholders to improve its conservation status. MV leads the management of Mangabe Reserve since its creation in 2015. We started the Youths for Lemurs initiative in 2016 and are now working to improve and replicate the model. This project will be led by our team based in Moramanga from where we can access all the villages. We will be responsible for coordinating the project overall, with Voahirana Randriamamonjy's leadership and Harilefitra Ratovo-Andrianarisoa's coordination. Both graduated from the School of Agronomy in Antananarivo and specialized in Agriculture. Voahirana has led the Mangabe project since 2013. Harilefitra joined MV in 2019 to lead the second phase of the youths' initiative. They will receive support from Julie Razafimanahaka who currently leads a Darwin-funded project (25-026) and MV's finance and administration team who were assisted by the Fauna & Flora International team during the ongoing project to follow the Darwin processes.

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

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**Have you provided a cover letter to address your Stage 1 feedback?**  Yes

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**Do you have partners involved in the Project?**

Yes

**1. Partner Name:** Association Mitsinjo

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**Website address:** <https://associationmitsinjo.wordpress.com/>

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

Association Mitsinjo was formed in 1999 by residents of the village of Andasibe Commune. Interested to work as guides for the growing number of tourists visiting the region, Mitsinjo's work eventually grew into much more. In 2003, Mitsinjo gained management of the Analamazaotra Forest Station, now known as Mitsinjo Park, through a lease contract with the Malagasy government valid until 2037. Mitsinjo currently counts over 50 members. In addition to ecotourism in Analamazaotra, they run reforestation and community development activities in Torotorofotsy Ramsar with Asity Madagascar. Mitsinjo and MV have collaborated on other projects before (<http://p4ges.org/>).

Mitsinjo has an office and an information center in Andasibe that will be used to run this project. Key members of Mitsinjo who will be involved in the project are Fabrisse Oumadi (Agriculture technician) and Youssouf Martin (Mitsinjo's vice president and responsible of reforestation and conservation). Fabrisse will support the agricultural development scheme around Analamazaotra. Youssouf will work closely with LCBD to identify and grow wild aromatic and medicinal plants using his nursery management skills. Other members of Mitsinjo might be involved in the project as needed. Mitsinjo's model will be used as an example when training youths on entrepreneurship and cooperative management.

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

Yes

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**2. Partner Name:**

Money for Madagascar

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**Website address:**

<https://moneyformadagascar.org/>

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

MfM has over 30 years' experience supporting grass-roots Malagasy initiatives that protect the natural environment in biodiversity hotspots whilst sustainably improving local livelihoods.; Our approach is to support Malagasy people in finding their own solutions and changing their own communities. Where partner organizations have inspiration, strong technical skills, and local knowledge, MfM provides support with project development and coordination, ensuring that projects are well designed in a participatory manner and that monitoring, evaluation, and reporting are robust. We enable our partners to achieve their conservation and development ambitions. For example, since 1990 we have supported over 100 communities around the Betampona Special Reserve to develop sustainable alternatives to slash and burn agriculture and wildlife poaching, acknowledged by Madagascar National Parks as a key element in reduced deforestation. MfM has worked with Association Mitsinjo in Andasibe since 2015, supporting the community-led restoration of lemur habitat, environmental education, and sustainable livelihood development. MfM has been involved in designing this project. Tabitha Middleton, MfM's senior project officer, will provide on-going project supervision and support with M&E, reporting, and fundraising. Rianahary Andrisoa will be the M&E officer supporting the team on the ground with additional input from Lova Rasoalinoro, MfM's Country Representative.

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

Yes

**3. Partner Name:**

Label CBD Consulting

**Website address:**

<https://rb.gy/c4ng9m>

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

LCBD is a Malagasy registered company aiming to improve the value of natural ingredients, ensure biodiversity conservation and bring sustainable development. We reinforce capacity of local communities to produce high-quality products and connect them with national and international companies in the natural resources sector (agro-industry, aromatherapy, perfume, and cosmetics). While creating these links, LCBD supports both parties to comply with international standards on benefit access and sharing. In this project, we will identify the appropriate ingredients to be promoted (led by Malala Randevoson), train youths in product sustainable harvesting and appropriate processing (led by Malala and Anja Rakotomanga), and link communities with the businesses (led by Saroy Rasoloson). We will capitalize on our experience of working with community cooperatives in Vohimana (30-60km from the targeted villages) and will facilitate exchanges between the communities. LCBD and MV are currently collaborating on another Darwin-funded project (25-026) to secure healthy baobab populations through efficient fruit harvesting and use.

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

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**4. Partner Name:** Delegation de la Jeunesse Moramanga

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**Website address:** [https://www.mjs.gov.mg/?page\\_id=733](https://www.mjs.gov.mg/?page_id=733)

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**Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):** DelJS represents the Ministry of Youths and Sports in Moramanga. They have been involved in the first and second phases of the Youths for Lemurs initiative in Mangabe Reserve and were involved in designing this third phase. They will be responsible for designing and delivering key training for the youths: know-how, good manners, communications, leadership, and community engagement. During and after the project period, they will continue to provide support to youths who come to their offices in Moramanga. DelJS team is composed of one leader and three animators. The project will continue to involve two of the animators Rakotoarison Norotiana Huguette and Andrianomenjanahary Soloarimanga. During this project, they will train MV and Mitsinjo team members to become good animators. This will allow us to run project activities at multiple villages simultaneously.

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

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**5. Partner Name:** Circonscription de l'Agriculture, de l'Elevage et de la Peche

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**Website address:** <https://cutt.ly/tj6Kguv>

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**Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):** CIRAEP represents the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fishery in Moramanga district. The mission of the Ministry is to ensure food self-sufficiency in Madagascar. CIRAEP is responsible for achieving this mission in Moramanga and Anosibe An'Ala districts, which is why they have been involved in the Youths for Lemurs Initiative since the first phase. CIRAEP was and will continue to be responsible for delivering training on sustainable farming techniques to youths. When possible, they will also provide supplies, especially seeds, to youths and other community members who attended the training and want to try to adopt the techniques. CIRAEP has a team of 03 including agriculture, livestock, and fishery specialists. The relevant team members will be involved in the project as needed. CIRAEP will also deliver training to MV and Mitsinjo team members to ensure they can work in the field even when CIRAEP team members are not available.

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

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**6. Partner Name:** Circonscription de l'Environnement et du Developpement Durable

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**Website address:** <https://www.environnement.mg/>

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**Details (including roles and responsibilities and capacity to engage with the project):** CIREDD represents the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development in Moramanga and Anosibe An'Ala districts. Currently, the Ministry has three main challenges: restore the forest of Madagascar, preserve the remaining native forest ecosystems, and ensure biodiversity conservation is in harmony with social and economic development. CIREDD has to address these challenges in the two districts.

In this project, CIREDD will deliver training on environmental regulations to youths and all community members, especially those related to wild species harvesting. They will also ensure all businesses operating in this field in the district comply with these regulations. They will work closely with LCBD to determine which species can be harvested from the wild and/or farmed by the communities as a source of income.

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


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


Other partners in the project are the restaurants in Andasibe and Moramanga, and enterprises in the aromatic and medicinal plant industry that we will contact at the start of the project. Local communities are the key beneficiaries of this project. We provide a letter of support from the Head of Moramanga district who oversees all initiatives in the district.


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

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 [1504 Cover & Support Letters](#)

 09/02/2021

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## Section 7 - Project Staff

### Q12. Project staff

**Please identify the core staff on this project, their role and what % of their time they will be working on the project. Further information on who should be classified as core staff can be found in the guidance.**

**Please provide 1 page CVs for these staff, or a 1 page job description or Terms of Reference for roles yet**

to be filled. These should match the names and roles in the budget spreadsheet.

If your team is larger than 12 people please review if they are core staff, or whether you can merge roles (e.g. 'admin and finance support') below, but provide a full table based on this template in the pdf of CVs you provide.

Name (First name, Surname)	Role	% time on project	1 page CV or job description attached?
Voahirana Randriamamonjy	<b>Project Leader</b>	25	Checked
Harilefitra Ratovo-Andrianarisoa	Project Coordinator - MV	100	Checked
Victor Rakotomboavonjy, Falinirina Rakotonandrasana and 2 to be recruited	Project Officers in Mangabe and Ankeniheny - MV	100	Checked
Arthurin Fenoson Tsilavohery	Finance & Administration Manager - MV	15	Checked


**Do you require more fields?**


Yes


Name (First name, Surname)	Role	% time on project	1 page CV or job description attached?
Julie Hanta Razafimanahaka	Project advisor - MV	10	Checked
Oumadi Fabrisse Randrianantenaina	Project Officer in Analamazaotra - Mitsinjo	100	Checked
Martin Youssouf	Head of Forest Conservation - Mitsinjo	50	Checked
Hanjarinera Meva Saroy Rasoloson	Value Chain Analysis Specialist - LCBD	25	Checked
Malala Nirina Mahandry Randevoson	Sourcing Specialist - LCBD	25	Checked
Anja Nirina Rakotomanga	Entrepreneurship, Management & Marketing Specialist - LCBD	35	Checked
Riana Hary Andrisoa	Monitoring & Evaluation Officer - MfM	20	Checked
Tabitha Middleton	Senior Project Officer - MfM	10	Checked

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

**Ensure the file is named clearly, consistent with the named individual and role above.**

 1504 CV & JOB DESCRIPTION

 09/02/2021

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

Yes

## Section 8 - Problem statement

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### Q13. Problem the project is trying to address

**Please describe the problem your project is trying to address in terms of biodiversity and its relationship with poverty. For example, what are the drivers of loss of biodiversity that the project will attempt to address? Why are they relevant, for whom? How did you identify these problems?**

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

Rice is the staple food in Madagascar. The average consumption per capita is 138kg per year, so a family of five members will need to yield or buy 690kg. The average yield with the traditional technique is 1 ton per hectare. Hence, to provide for their consumption, a family of five requires at least 0.69 hectares of arable land. Since the total area of arable land in Madagascar is decreasing, fewer people, especially youths, have sufficient land. To survive, young families convert forest areas into agricultural land. Consequently, initiatives to create protected areas to save Madagascar's unique biodiversity are considered a barrier for the poorest needing to access fertile soil and escape poverty.

This project will try to reconcile the needs of people and biodiversity around three protected areas in Moramanga district, Alaotra-Mangoro Region, eastern Madagascar: Analamazaotra, Ankeniheny (southern part of Ankeniheny-Zahamena Corridor) and Mangabe-Ranomena-Sahasarotra (Mangabe in rest of application). All host Critically Endangered lemur species such as the indri (*Indri indri*) and the diademed sifaka (*Propithecus diadema*). Mangabe and Ankeniheny are difficult to reach and youths have poor access to education, markets, or technology. Subsistence agriculture is their main activity. They also rely on charcoal production, timber harvesting and wildlife hunting for their livelihoods. Analamazaotra is the most visited protected area in Madagascar. Although there are more job opportunities here, due to eco-tourism and the operations of large mining company Ambatovy, poor education levels mean few youths from nearby villages gain employment. Most (90%) still depend on agriculture. In addition, when problems such as political instability or the current pandemic disrupt employment, even youths involved in ecotourism or mining resort to agriculture, timber harvesting, charcoal production and hunting to survive.

Multiple research and development projects around the project area demonstrated that yields can be doubled or tripled. However, adoption rates have been low. Farmers from the target villages report the following reasons: improved techniques are too expensive to maintain (time and money); produce rots due to lack of markets; farmers still need assistance, but technicians are no longer available (project ended). Consequently, most households continue to produce less food than they need, and must rely on other activities, such as daily labour, charcoal production, logging or hunting, to survive. These households cannot afford to invest in technologies to increase yields on existing land. Therefore, to meet their basic needs, they continue clearing forests for agricultural land and harvesting wild products intensively, inadvertently

destroying unique habitats and reducing biodiversity.

In Madagascar's 'Emergence Plan', a textile industry development is planned for Moramanga district (<https://bit.ly/3aRx33A>). This development represents both an opportunity and a risk for the targeted Reserves and the local population. In fact, with this industry, the number of people in Moramanga and thereby the demand for food and other agricultural products will increase. It will therefore represent a good market opportunity for the population. However, with this increasing population, the risk of more forest clearing will also increase. Strong local conservation stewardship will be key to stopping this threat.

## Section 9 - Method, Change Expected, Gender & Exit Strategy

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### Q14. Methodology

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

- How you have analysed historical and existing initiatives and are building on or taking work already done into account in project design. Please cite evidence where appropriate.
- The rationale for carrying out this work and a justification of your proposed methodology.
- How you will undertake the work (materials and methods).
- How you will manage the work (roles and responsibilities, project management tools, etc.).

Past and existing initiatives:

Our methodology considers:

- MV's ongoing initiative to support youths to become lemur conservation ambassadors in Mangabe: considering feedback from previously supported youths, we will develop regular training at each village, focus on individual support for agriculture, and foster links between youths and local authorities,
- Experience from past projects to increase agricultural yields in Moramanga district: we will favour small and non-expensive improvements in the farming systems over high-performing but expensive technologies,
- Increasing demand for aromatic and medicinal plants: we will try to integrate them into the farming system and develop sustainable harvesting model of wild products,
- Long-term commitments of Mitsinjo and MV at the project sites: the project will include capacity building for members of these organizations,
- Potential changes in the social and economic context in Moramanga district: we will stay informed on the development of the textile industry project and share relevant updates with the local communities.

Why youths?

During our field activities, we noticed that although we speak to communities as a homogeneous group, youths often miss our calls. Most training and awareness campaigns involved adults (>30 years old) or children (<14 years old). Because of their lack of education and their occupation, youths do not attend community meetings, training sessions or awareness campaigns. However, those who cut down the forest are often recently married young men with small children. This project will train youths so that they can meet their needs without damaging biodiversity and can lead on development and conservation initiatives in their villages.

Project key activities:

#### 1. Recruit youth teams and focal points

As experienced in Mangabe, a youth team can take one month to two years to form and become stable. We will announce the project in each village, then run the first training session, getting interested youths to form a team and register. We will also recruit a 'focal point' from the village elders; an adult over 35 years old, whose role will be to help youths with each step of their activities.

#### 2. Promote sustainable farming techniques

We will promote composting and crop diversification and agroforestry using simple, cheap and local methods. Youths from past projects will be invited to share their experience of composting with other

youths. General training on crop diversification will be provided to all youths. A production plan will be developed with each youth based on the characteristics of their fields. We will identify aromatic and medicinal plants that can be grown in their fields. These will be the target species for agroforestry.

### 3. Develop entrepreneurial culture

Entrepreneurial culture involves at least four elements (creativity, innovation, responsibility, entrepreneurship) supported by required competencies (knowledge, skills and attitudes). Through annual training and ongoing mentoring, we will provide youths with the knowledge needed to establish and manage a community enterprise and advise on the skills and attitudes they will need to develop. In the second year, the youths will register as a cooperative giving them the legal status required to form contracts with buyers.

### 4. Engage private companies

Currently, farmers in project villages target markets in the towns of Moramanga and Andasibe or wait for collectors who come to their villages. In this project, we will help youths to access wider opportunities such as the tourism sector and private 'ethical' buyers. After undertaking a market study, we will invite potential commercial partners to take part in training and mentoring which will enable youth cooperatives and buyers to connect with each other and develop joint projects.

### 5. Establish conservation commitment

When negotiating contracts with the buyers, we will include a 'conservation bonus' in the price agreed for the products from the youth cooperatives. When paying this price, businesses will be able to label their products as sustainably sourced and use the cooperative names in their marketing. In order to receive this 'value-added' price, youth cooperatives will be required to report on their conservation stewardship activities to the businesses. If no actions have been completed the commercial agreement risks being stopped and the bonus lost.

#### Project management:

Monthly calls will be organised between each partner's project lead to review progress and plan the next steps. Quarterly, all project teams will meet in Moramanga or Andasibe for detailed discussions on the methodology, challenges, successes in the field and next steps. Training for the project team and financial updates will also be on the agenda of these quarterly meetings.

## **Q15. Raising awareness of the potential worth of biodiversity**

**If your project contains an element of communications, knowledge sharing and/or dissemination please provide a description of your intended audience, how you intend to engage them, what the expected products/materials will be and what you expect to achieve as a result.**

**For example, are you expecting to directly influence policy in your host country or is your project a community advocacy project to support better management of biodiversity?**

Our key audiences are the youths participating in the project, other youths and adults in the target and neighboring villages, decision-makers in the local and regional authorities, and decision-makers of other relevant NGOs and businesses:

- We will discuss directly with the youths participating in the project and provide them with training and supporting materials: books, leaflets, posters.
- We expect other youths and adults in the target and neighboring villages to adopt the techniques used by the youths. Youths will discuss directly with them. In addition, we will put posters in public places in the villages and broadcast monthly radio programs on the national and local radio stations.
- We expect decision-makers to consider youths and conservation in their decision process because of this project. For instance, in Mangabe, youths are currently invited to important meetings at the Commune level. We will share bi-annual updates of the project with all authorities. We will present the project at key events such as the regional fairs, world environment day, youth day, and lemur day celebrations. We will highlight the project on each organization's website and social media monthly. Throughout the project, we

will also take all opportunities to present the project at regional, national, or international conferences and symposia.

## Q16. Capacity building

**If your project will support capacity building at institutional or individual levels, please provide details of what form this will take and how this capacity will be secured for the future.**

This project will build the capacity of youths and the focal points in each village, and that of MV and Mitsinjo team members.

For the youths:

Youths will receive a minimum of 12 training and mentoring sessions on various topics throughout the project period: composting, improved agriculture, communications, leadership, entrepreneurship, marketing, social skills, conservation stewardship. All the sessions will be designed to include theory and practical sessions and consider the education level of all participants. Most trainings will be held in the villages, except when interactions between multiple groups are required (for example the entrepreneurship and cooperative management sessions). Training materials will include leaflets and posters that participants can reflect on during and after the training. We recognize that some trained youths might leave the village after the project period. We will ensure they can remember and apply their newly acquired knowledge.

For the focal points:

In addition to the training with the youths, the focal points will communicate monthly with the project team and will receive additional guidance on farming techniques, mentoring, reporting, etc. Unlike the youths, focal points are likely to stay in the villages. We will motivate them to continue supporting youths beyond the project scope and period.

For MV and Mitsinjo:

Members of these teams will be trained to become better educators and communicators by the DELJS team. We expect other members of the organization to attend this training in addition to those directly involved in the project so that we can maintain and use this capacity widely. During this project, MV and Mitsinjo will jointly improve our biodiversity monitoring system by learning from each other. We expect Global Forest Watch and METT to be used at both sites (currently only in Mangabe). MV also intends to learn from Mitsinjo's reforestation and ecotourism experiences.

## Q17. Gender equality

**All applicants must consider whether and how their project will contribute to reducing inequality between persons of different gender. Explain how your project will collect sex disaggregated data and what impact your project will have in promoting gender equality.**

We recognize that lasting changes in gender equality can only be achieved if greater gender awareness is mainstreamed. We will actively encourage the participation of young women in the youth teams (ensuring at least 40% of participants are girls) and will support all interested girls to overcome any issues that might prevent their involvement. We will ensure that all project activities are designed in an inclusive way. For instance:

- Training will be held in the villages as parents would be unlikely to allow young girls to attend if they were held in the cities.
  - For farming activities, we will encourage teamwork so that men help young girls in the hard labor such as plowing fields, and girls help young men in activities like sowing the seeds.
  - When gender-sensitive information is collected, separate meetings will be organized for men and women.
- In the most recent assessment of the impacts of the first phase of the youths' initiative, some community members regretted that we involved young girls in the project as, once they got married, they left the village and took their knowledge and skills with them. During this project, we will highlight that this is not



an issue, as we expect trained women to use their knowledge and skills wherever they are, and by doing so, to expand the reach of the project.

## **Q18. Change expected**

**Detail the expected changes this work will deliver. You should identify what will change and who will benefit a) in the short-term (i.e. during the life of the project) and b) in the long-term (after the project has ended).**

**Please describe the changes for biodiversity and for people in developing countries, and how they are linked. When talking about people, please remember to give details of who will benefit and the number of beneficiaries expected. The number of communities is insufficient detail – number of households should be the largest unit used. If possible, indicate the number of women who will be impacted.**

Poverty, lack of education, deforestation, biodiversity loss and climate change are intertwined issues, they all apply in the project area and should be addressed as coherently as possible. This project will address poverty and deforestation directly with expected positive impacts on education, biodiversity and climate. During the lifetime of the project, we expect that 200-300 youths (40% girls) will be totally convinced of the importance of sustainable farming techniques as a powerful means to improve their livelihoods without harming biodiversity. We hope to see 200-300 youths develop a strong personal commitment to promoting lemur conservation within their community and become young lemur conservation ambassadors: actively engaging their communities to improve their farming techniques, protect and restore forests; raising awareness to stop hunting lemurs and promoting the sustainable harvesting and equitable trade of aromatic and medicinal plant species. These youths will report that with the improved farming techniques, they can produce or buy enough food annually, and with the harvesting and trade of aromatic and medicinal species, they start building reserves for emergencies. By the end of the project, we expect to see at least another 250 households adopt the techniques used by youths, and five community cooperatives to be established, securing a 'value-added' market for 'lemur-friendly' produce with at least three private enterprises, increasing mutual trust between community members and improving social cohesion. We also expect to see a forest conservation and restoration plan to be established and starting to be implemented in each village, under trained youths' leadership. As a result, by the end of the project, each protected area's management effectiveness score will increase compared to the 2021 baseline, when evaluated with the Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool.

As the youth-led lemur conservation efforts gain momentum, and community commitment to preserve and restore the forest grows, we expect that the reductions in forest loss will be maintained over the long term and that lemur populations will even increase, as hunting is reduced, and the habitats improve. We expect that the number of community members practising improved sustainable agriculture will gradually increase over time as the youth cooperatives grow in effectiveness and reach and as people observe tangible economic benefits of their sustainable practises. When combined with an increased awareness of the value of the local forest and wildlife, widespread uptake of sustainable higher yielding techniques should result in more families able to meet their needs without having to resort to destructive slash and burn agriculture or wildlife poaching. Increased access to improved markets should also result in more families able to increase their income. The ultimate change will be that lemurs in these three reserves are secured within their natural habitat.

## **Q19. Pathway to change**

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

This project has been designed for impact at scale (<https://bit.ly/3rFYVPh>). Our mission is to save Madagascar's lemurs. Our idea is that if we provide support to develop sustainable agriculture, access to a market for sustainably produced products and training on the value of lemurs, rural farmers will practice sustainable farming and stop clearing forests and hunting. As a result, lemur populations will increase in secure natural habitats.

Strong communication, clear commitments and demonstration of benefits will be the key ingredients for progressing from outputs to outcome and impact. Relevant training combined with on-going mentoring and improved market access, dependant on conservation commitments, will motivate and empower youth to develop higher-yielding, non-destructive agricultural practices, reducing the need to clear new land for agriculture. Increased income from marketing their produce to 'ethical enterprises', will enable youths to save cash for emergencies. They will not need to rely on irrational logging and charcoal production.

Engaged to speak for lemurs, supported by the existing regulations, and gaining confidence, they be able to influence their communities to stop lemur hunting and habitat destruction. Threats to lemurs will gradually reduce as the communities follow the trained youths' leadership.

## Q20. Exit Strategy


**State how the project will reach a stable and sustainable end point, and explain how the outcomes will be sustained, either through a continuation of activities, funding and support from other sources or because the activities will be mainstreamed in to "business as usual".**


**Where individuals receive advanced training, for example, what will happen should that individual leave?**

To have lasting impacts, this project is designed to change people's habits and behaviour. Our goal is to make conservation farming the new tradition. Our principle is to instigate small and non-expensive changes to yield high benefits. We will also make sure the experiences in this project are memorable and remembered by the participants and their communities. We also rely on the focal points to continue training youths in the villages beyond this project. We recognize that community behaviour change takes time, and that we need to reach a large proportion of the community for conservation farming to become a social norm (or tradition). Luckily, Mitsinjo and MV are committed to working in Mangabe and Analamazaotra for at least ten years beyond the end of this project. We are committed to seeking additional funding and partners to continue to scale-up this work. For Ankeniheny, we will share project outputs regularly with Conservation International, and engage them to continue the efforts invested for the long term. With Money for Madagascar, we expect to raise additional funds that will enable us to take the project to a stable and sustainable end-point.

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

 [1504 Youths for lemurs - ToC 210208](#)

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## Section 10 - Budget and Funding

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### Q21. Budget

**Please complete the appropriate Excel spreadsheet, which provides the Budget for this application. Some of the questions earlier and below refer to the information in this spreadsheet. Note that there**

are different templates for projects requesting over and under £100,000 from the Darwin budget.





- [Budget form for projects under £100,000](#)
- [Budget form for projects over £100,000](#)

Please refer to the Finance for Darwin/IWT Guidance for more information.

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

Please upload your completed Darwin Budget Form Excel spreadsheet using the field below.

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 [1504 Budget 210209](#)  
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## Q22. Funding

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

- Development of existing work

**Please provide details:**

MV started the Youths for Lemurs initiative in 2016-17 with funding from IUCN Save Our Species and Chester Zoo. During this first phase, we set up seven youth teams within Mangabe Reserve. Winners of this first phase of the project visited Mitsinjo Park and discussed with the Mitsinjo members. This is when our idea to collaborate in delivering this project started. The second phase (2019-21) involves 16 teams from Mangabe and Ankeniheny and is still funded mainly by IUCN Save Our Species and Chester Zoo. This funding is expected to end in December 2021, and we are now seeking to continue and expand the positive work that has been started.

Why continuing and expanding?

In 2020, when we asked communities around Mangabe of the best interventions MV had done on the ground, three initiatives came out frequently: the support for youths, the support for education and the joint patrols by community members and authorities. Of all our projects, the Youths for Lemurs initiative is also the most popular and has received international media coverage (<https://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-48113501>). We believe in its effectiveness. Since 2018, the head of Alaotra-Mangoro Region recommended it to be scaled-up to the regional level.

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

- Yes

**Please give details explaining similarities and differences. Explain how your work will be additional to this work and what attempts have been/will be made to co-operate with and learn lessons from such work for mutual benefits.**

If yes, please give details explaining similarities and differences, and explaining how your work will be

additional and what attempts have been/will be made to co-operate with and learn lessons from such work for mutual benefits (Max 200 words):

Most organizations leading the management of protected areas are supporting communities to improve farming techniques and stop clearing forests. Most efforts target the community as a homogeneous entity. Our project is different as we focus on youths and the development of a 'value added' market for sustainably produced goods linked to conservation commitments. We are also the only organizations delivering this kind of project in the target villages. We already communicate with other relevant organisations and will continue to make opportunities to learn from their experiences and to share ours. In addition to protected area managers, we will connect with the Malagasy Youths Biodiversity Network (MYBN – <https://www.facebook.com/MalagasyYBN/>) at the start and throughout the implementation of the project. MYBN has been established to increase and promote youths' participation and engagement in biodiversity management. So far, most of their interventions are in the cities.

## Q23. Co-financing

Are you proposing co-financing?

Yes

Q23a. Secured

Provide details of all funding successfully levered (and identified in the Budget) towards the costs of the project, including any income from other public bodies, private sponsorship, donations, trusts, fees or trading activity, as well as any your own organisation(s) will be committing.

Donor Organisation	Amount	Currency code	Comments
Mulago Foundation	██████	USD	This is an unrestricted fund awarded to MV in 2020 to develop, replicate and scale up a working model. The total award is \$ ██████. \$ ██████ will be allocated to this project.
Chester Zoo	██████	GBP	For 2021, Chester Zoo awarded MV with £ ██████ for biodiversity monitoring and capacity building in Mangabe. £ ██████ will contribute to implementing this project.

IUCN Save Our Species



CHF

This project will start when MV will be closing the IUCN SOS grant. During the overlap period (July – December 2021), MV costs will be shared by the two grants

Money for Madagascar



GBP

MfM expects to raise these funds via donations from individual donors committed to their Forests and Livelihoods programme

### Q23b. Unsecured

**Provide details of any co-financing where an application has been submitted, or that you intend applying for during the course of the project. This could include co-financing from the private sector, charitable organisations or other public sector schemes. This should also include any additional funds required where a donor has not yet been identified.**

Date applied for	Donor Organisation	Amount	Currency Code	Comments
01 July 2022	Conservation, Food and Health Foundation		USD	We will apply to this grant after knowing more about the aromatic and medicinal plants
01 March 2021	Global Forest Watch		USD	To improve the monitoring and evaluation system before, during and after the project implementation
01 October 2021	Money for Madagascar		GBP	We will organize fundraising through MfM's website and expect to raise £ annually from 2022

01  
October  
2021

Chester Zoo



GBP

This funding will cover part of the youths mentoring costs and biodiversity monitoring in Mangabe

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**Do you require more fields?**

No

## **Section 11 - Open Access and Financial Risk Management**

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### **Q24. Outputs of the project and Open Access**

**Please describe the project's open access plan and detail any specific funds you are seeking from Darwin to fund this.**

At the project start, we will develop an MoU between the participating organizations, especially between MV, Mitsinjo, LCBD and MfM. This MoU will specify that all information collected within this project will be shared freely between the organizations and be open to other organizations too upon request. Each organization will share updates of this project on our respective website and social media pages. The Monitoring & Evaluation officer will be responsible of harmonizing these communications and ensuring we respond to all data or information requests appropriately.

### **Q25. Financial Risk Management**

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

MV has a zero-tolerance approach to fraud and bribery and has a written policy, referring to the Malagasy regulations as well as those of the UK and US where most of our partners are based. This policy will be included in the MoU between MV and partner organizations. These MoU will include all financial details and specify all payments that can be made to government officials and their rates. Authorized payments include food, accommodation, and transport costs while in the field.

For safety reasons, we will minimize the amount of cash the team carry in the field. Whenever possible, payments will be made by cheque. During the long fieldworks, we will allow the team to get cash from local bank.

The finance team at MV, Mitsinjo, LCBD and MfM will meet quarterly to review the status of our funding. MV's finance manager will be responsible for running regular checks on project accounting. This project will be included in MV's annual financial audit. Exchange rates will be monitored monthly and budget revisions undertaken in case of major changes.

We store all financial documents for 10 years after the project end.

### **Q26. 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.**

Not applicable

## **Q27. Value for Money**

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

This project offers an effective, efficient and sustainable approach to meeting young farmers' need to support their families and the need to protect Madagascar's unique biodiversity. Building on positive outcomes from past projects ensures that learning from previous investments continues to provide benefit and that more youths and wider community members are reached with a refined approach.

By emphasising youth empowerment and leadership, through development of appropriate skills that produce repeated long-term benefits, we propose an efficient method for reaching the wider community. Efficiency is achieved from a multiplier effect, where youth leaders spread benefit to the whole community at low cost in a way that engenders community solidarity and reduces project dependency. By facilitating development of youth cooperatives and their engagement with the private sector, via clearly defined contracts, which include clauses relating to conservation stewardship commitments, our approach engenders independence from aid and fosters long term sustainable income generation which contributes to biodiversity conservation.

All partner organisations have a 'no-frills' approach to working. This ensures that project overheads are kept to a minimum and that a significant proportion of project funds (40%) go directly to the target villages to train and support youths and their communities. For example, travel costs are minimised by organizing field visits jointly and maximising the value of each day when a vehicle is hired, limited vehicle hire days are established for each month, basic camping equipment is left in the villages so that there is no need to transport it for each visit.

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

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### **Q28. Ethics**

**Outline your approach to meeting Darwin's key principles for ethics as outlined in the guidance note. Additionally, are there any human rights and/or international humanitarian law risks in relation to your project? If there are, have you carried out an assessment of the impact of those risks, and of measures that may be taken in order to mitigate them?**

- Each organization has its own safeguard policy. MV will be responsible for ensuring that the project meets all legal and ethical obligations in Madagascar and MfM will ensure this for the UK. These responsibilities are assigned to Julie Razafimanahaka and Tabitha Middleton.
- The sustainable farming techniques that we will promote will be discussed with local communities and youths and will combine traditional knowledge with modern technologies. When choosing the businesses we should work with on the aromatic and medicinal plants, we will consult the ABS focal point and follow her recommendations.
- In Mangabe and Lakato, we have already obtained consent from the communities to run this project since 2019. We will review these consents for this project. In Andasibe, formal consent will be obtained at the project launch meetings.
- Health and safety risks will be discussed during the monthly project calls. Key known risks to date are:

flooding during the wet season, plague epidemic and banditry. Safe places to stay will be identified in advance in case of cyclones or heavy rain. Fieldwork will be avoided in the case of epidemics. To avoid the risks of banditry, the team will always work with local community members.

## Q29. Corruption

**This question specifically considers corruption. Explain how you have considered any risk of corruption that may affect the success of this project, and how you plan to manage this. This may include financial corruption, but may also deal with gifts or inducements, or other types of dishonesty or deceit.**

Risk 1: Communities are not happy because of different rules applied by the project team.

MV has a convention with the communities around Mangabe on the rules and rates that should be applied since 2018. This enabled us to reduce complaints on the team's approach and facilitated financial management. A similar convention will be established for Analamazaotra and Ankeniheny.

Risk 2: Team members falsify receipts and do not deliver the quality required.

MV has a procurement process and budget validation in place. Large purchases will be done in advance and verified by the relevant managers. These processes will also be applied to Mitsinjo, LCBD and MfM. Regular monitoring and evaluation will also prevent and detect such issues.

Risk 3: Overpayment to government officials

MV already has a convention with CIREDD Moramanga that applies to all government officials in this district. All payments to the government staff that are not included in this convention will need to be approved by MV director.

## Q30. Safeguarding

**Projects funded through the Darwin Initiative must fully protect vulnerable people all of the time, wherever they work. In order to provide assurance of this, projects are required to have appropriate safeguarding policies in place. Please confirm the lead organisation has the following policies in place and that these can be available on request:**

<b>We have a safeguarding policy, which includes a statement of our commitment to safeguarding and a zero tolerance statement on bullying, harassment and sexual exploitation and abuse</b>	Checked
<b>We have attached a copy of our safeguarding policy to this application (file upload below)</b>	Checked
<b>We keep a detailed register of safeguarding issues raised and how they were dealt with</b>	Checked
<b>We have clear investigation and disciplinary procedures to use when allegations and complaints are made, and have clear processes in place for when a disclosure is made</b>	Checked
<b>We share our safeguarding policy with downstream partners</b>	Checked
<b>We have a whistle-blowing policy which protects whistle blowers from reprisals and includes clear processes for dealing with concerns raised</b>	Checked



**We have a Code of Conduct for staff and volunteers that sets out clear expectations of behaviours - inside and outside the work place - and make clear what will happen in the event of non-compliance or breach of these standards** Checked


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

Voahirana Randriamamonjy will be responsible for implementing our safeguarding policies and sharing them with the project partners. At the project start, we will review the terms of this policy with all team members and make any amendments necessary for the project context. During the monthly calls, we will raise any issues encountered and discuss how they have been or should be addressed. A safeguarding committee will be established, including one representative of each organization. Each member of this committee will report any issues encountered to Voahirana. During the quarterly meeting, this committee will meet up separately to go through all issues and decide what should be done to prevent them from happening again, and assess if the measures taken by the organization are appropriate.

**Please upload the lead organisation's Safeguarding Policy as a PDF**

 [MV POLITIQUE ANTICORRUPTION 02102018](#)

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## Section 13 - Logical Framework

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### Q31. Logical Framework


Darwin Initiative projects will be required to monitor (and report against) their progress towards their expected Outputs and Outcome. This section sets out the expected Outputs and Outcome of your project, how you expect to measure progress against these and how we can verify this.


- [Stage 2 Logframe Template](#)

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

**Please upload your logframe as a PDF document.**

 [1504 Logframe 210208](#)

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### Impact:

Madagascar's lemurs secured within their natural habitats thanks to strong local stewardship and a favorable social, economic, and political environment

## Outcome:

Appropriately trained youths around Analamazaotra, Ankeniheny, and Mangabe Reserves enabled to demonstrate effective local conservation stewardship while driving social and economic development through sustainable farming and private sector collaboration

### Project Outputs

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#### Output 1:

200 youths take steps to move towards sustainable farming techniques in Analamazaotra, Ankeniheny, and Mangabe, including composting, agroforestry, and crop diversification

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#### Output 2:

Production of aromatic and medicinal plants becomes part of youths' farming system

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#### Output 3:

Youth-led cooperatives are established to drive social and economic development and biodiversity stewardship in the villages

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#### Output 4:

Three private enterprises, engaged in sustainability, commit to sourcing products from the youth-led cooperatives and support their development as a business and biodiversity steward entity in the villages

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#### Output 5:

Youths engage other community members in sustainable farming, cooperatives, and biodiversity stewardship

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### Do you require more Output fields?

**It is advised to have less than 6 Outputs since this level of detail can be provided at the Activity level.**

No

### Activities

**Each activity is numbered according to the Output that it will contribute towards, for example, 1.1, 1.2, 1.3 are contributing to Output 1.**

Project management, monitoring & evaluation:

0.1 Project team inception meeting (July 2021)

0.2 Recruit MV's additional staff (July – September 2021)

0.3 Annual METT evaluation

0.4 Training on using Global Forest Watch platform for monitoring forest loss and fire,

0.5 Monthly patrols by youths and local patrollers

0.6 Project monthly calls

0.7 Project quarterly meetings

0.8 Project reporting and communications

Project activities to deliver outputs:

1.1 Launch the project at the villages through community meetings, focus groups and one-to-one discussions (August-October 2021),

1.2 Collect annual data on agricultural practices adopted by communities at each village (November –

March annually),

1.3 Recruit and train focal points at the target villages (October – November 2021, then monthly training/meeting),

1.4 Provide initial training for all youths interested in participating in the project (November – December 2021),

1.5 Register youths who will continue to participate in the project (January – March 2022),

1.6 Locate and assess characteristics of youths' fields (April – June 2022),

1.7 Develop a production plan for youths' fields (July – September 2022),

1.8 Provide material support, training and mentoring for youths to implement the agreed production plan (from October 2022),

1.9 Monitor yields of youths and other community members (from January 2023)

2.1 Literature review, community interview, field surveys and market study to identify the candidate aromatic and medicinal plant species that should be considered in this project (August – December 2021),

2.2 Assess feasibility of growing the targeted species in the fields and at the nurseries (November 2021 – October 2022),

2.3 Assess availability of each product in the fields and in the wild annually from 2022,

2.4 Train youths to handle the products (April – December 2022),

2.5 Assess fair price for the products and develop a sustainable harvesting model (from May 2022 – March 2023).

3.1 Train youth team members on entrepreneurship, cooperative management and marketing (January-March 2023)

3.2 Accompany the youths to establish and register the cooperative (April-June 2023)

3.3 Accompany youth cooperatives to develop simplified business plan (July-September 2023)

3.4 Monitor youth cooperative's management and function (quarterly from October 2023)

4.1 Identify potential partner enterprises indicating their needs, the pros, and cons of collaborating with them (January-March 2022)

4.2 Help youth prospect markets and facilitate negotiation with five enterprises to explore collaboration with them in 2023 (October-December 2022).

4.3 Develop and sign contracts between youth cooperatives and three private enterprises including reference to biodiversity stewardship commitments (June-December 2023)

4.4 Develop action plan to implement the contracts (January-June 2024)

5.1 Train youth team members on communication, leadership, social skills, and awareness techniques (annually from 2022),

5.2 Monitor and attend awareness campaigns by youth teams in their villages on sustainable farming, cooperatives. and biodiversity stewardship (monthly from 2023),

5.3 Annually review the list of the cooperative members

5.4 Support youth teams to develop and start implementing youth-led biodiversity conservation and restoration plan in each village with all community members (March-June 2024),

5.5 Assess communities' engagement to implement the conservation and restoration plan

## **Section 14 - Implementation Timetable**

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### **Q32. Provide a project implementation timetable that shows the key milestones in project activities**


**Provide a project implementation timetable that shows the key milestones in project activities. Complete the Excel spreadsheet template as appropriate to describe the intended workplan for your project.**

[Implementation Timetable Template](#)


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

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 [1504 Implementation timetable](#)

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## Section 15 - Monitoring and Evaluation

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### Q33. Monitoring and evaluation (M&E)

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

**Darwin Initiative projects are expected to be adaptive and you should detail how the monitoring and evaluation will feed into the delivery of the project including its management. M&E is expected to be built into the project and not an 'add' on. It is as important to measure for negative impacts as it is for positive impact. Additionally, please indicate an approximate budget and level of effort (person days) to be spent on M&E (see [Finance Guidance for Darwin/IWT](#)).**

A monitoring and evaluation plan will be set up to: (1) keep track of the performance of the project in order to guarantee that progress is being made according to plan and to allow adaptive management where necessary and (2) assess how expected changes are being met through a midterm and final term evaluation, understanding the impact of the project on the community and its sustainability. The main aims of the monitoring and evaluation plan will be to track indicators related to:

1. Lemur-friendly Youth-led sustainable farming and harvesting (Track the attendance and effectiveness of training programs, changes and patterns in the adoption of sustainable farming practices and track associated changes and patterns in Youths' yield and income)
2. Lemur-friendly Youth-led business (Track the effectiveness of the youth cooperatives in generating sufficient benefits)
3. Youth-led biodiversity stewardship (Track the effectiveness of awareness campaigns, adoption of sustainable farming and integration of cooperatives, track the engagement with the conservation commitment)

Monitoring systems

The M&E officer will be in charge of coordinating M&E activities with the project team. Local tools such as registers and journals, cashbooks, attendance sheets, reporting templates will be designed and used by focal points to regularly collect data from the field. Questionnaires, interviews, focus group will also be part of M&E methods mainly for indicators requiring surveys. The project will deliver at least 12 mentoring and monitoring sessions along with site visits. A database will be set up to record all the project data and

facilitate their use. The data collected from the monitoring systems will be reviewed in the project quarterly meetings. Based on the reviews, readjustments to the project will be made as required.

Evaluation plan: Mid-term and final evaluations

The mid-term evaluation will be carried out at the end of Year 2 with the purpose of assessing the effectiveness of the project so far. It is key in complementing the quarterly meetings because it will provide a broader view of the achievements and challenges of implementation and strategic partnerships, allowing for corrective decisions to be made. The time chosen for this evaluation is adjusted so that any changes will have enough time to be implemented and evaluated later on.

The final evaluation will take place in the last two months of the third year of the project, and it will reassess the points in the mid-term evaluation. In addition to this, it will focus on the second purpose sought out for the M&E plan, which seeks to evaluate the overall effectiveness of having met the goal set for the project. A report will then be drafted of the findings which will be sent to relevant parties including the donor.

<b>Total project budget for M&amp;E in GBP (this may include Staff, Travel and Subsistence costs)</b>	£ [REDACTED]
<b>Number of days planned for M&amp;E</b>	252
<b>Percentage of total project budget set aside for M&amp;E (%)</b>	[REDACTED]

## Section 16 - FCDO Notifications

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### Q34. FCDO Notifications

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


No


**Please indicate whether you have contacted your Foreign Ministry or the local embassy or High Commission (or equivalent) directly to discuss security issues (see [Guidance Notes](#)) and attach details of any advice you have received from them.**

Yes (no written advice)

**Please attach details of any advice you have received.**

 [1504 Embassy Support](#)

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## Section 17 - Certification

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### Q35. Certification

**On behalf of the**

Trustees

**of**

Madagasikara Voakajy

**I apply for a grant of**

£0.00

**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, letters of support, budget and project implementation timetable (uploaded at appropriate points in application).
- Our last two sets of signed audited/independently verified accounts and annual report are also enclosed.

Checked

<b>Name</b>	Julie Hanta Razafimanahaka
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<b>Position in the organisation</b>	Executive Director
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<b>Signature (please upload e-signature)</b>	 <a href="#">DIR27S1-1504-Signature</a>  03/12/2020  18:29:41  jpg 40.72 KB
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<b>Date</b>	09 February 2021
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## Section 18 - Submission Checklist

### Checklist for submission

	<b>Check</b>
<b>I have read the Guidance, including "Guidance Notes for Applicants" and "Finance Guidance".</b>	Checked
<b>I have read, and can meet, the current Terms and Conditions for this fund.</b>	Checked
<b>I have provided actual start and end dates for the project.</b>	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 included a 1 page CV or job description for all the key project personnel identified at Question 12, including the Project Leader, or provided an explanation of why not.	Checked
I have included a letter of support from the the Lead Organisation and main partner organisation(s) identified at Question 11, or an explanation of why not.	Checked
I have included a cover letter from the Lead Organisation, outlining how any feedback received at Stage 1 has been addressed where relevant.	Checked
I have included a copy of the lead organisation’s safeguarding policy, which covers the criteria listed in Question 30.	Checked
I have been in contact with the FCDO in the project country/ies and have included any evidence of this. If not, I have provided an explanation of why not.	Checked
I have included a signed copy of the last 2 annual report and accounts for the Lead Organisation, or provided an explanation if not.	Checked
I have checked the Darwin website immediately prior to submission to ensure there are no late updates.	Checked
I have read and understood the Privacy Notice on GOV.UK.	Checked

**We would like to keep in touch!**

**Please check this box if you would be happy for the lead applicant (Flexi-Grant Account Holder) and project leader (if different) to be added to our mailing list. Through our mailing list we share updates on upcoming and current application rounds under the Darwin Initiative and our sister grant scheme, the IWT Challenge Fund. We also provide occasional updates on other UK Government activities related to biodiversity conservation and share our quarterly project newsletter. You are free to unsubscribe at any time.**

Checked

**Data protection and use of personal data**

Information supplied in this application form, including personal data, will be used by Defra as set out in the latest copy of the Privacy Notice for Darwin, Darwin Plus and the Illegal Wildlife Trade Challenge Fund available [here](#). This Privacy Notice must be provided to all individuals whose personal data is supplied in the application form. Some information, but not personal data, may be used when publicising the Darwin Initiative including project details (usually title, lead organisation, location, and total grant value) on the GOV.UK and other websites.

Information relating to the project or its results may also be released on request, including under the 2004 Environmental Information Regulations and the Freedom of Information Act 2000. However, Defra will not permit any unwarranted breach of confidentiality nor will we act in contravention of our obligations under the General Data Protection Regulation (Regulation (EU) 2016/679).