

Detailed guide: Darwin Initiative: partnership projects

Updated: Updated the guidance under the 'How to apply' heading to make it clear applications need to be submitted through the Flexigrant application portal.

Partnership Projects are small grants intended to help organisations who are new to the Darwin Initiative to develop their application. The awards do this by:

- connecting organisations new to Darwin with partners who have experience of managing successful Darwin Projects; and/or
- supporting work to build new partnerships between applicant organisations

A successful Partnership Project should lead to a Main Darwin Initiative project application.

Partnership Projects support activities which might previously have been supported under a Darwin scoping award.

You can read more about a successful partnership project – which was awarded as a “Scoping Study” under a previous round of the Darwin Initiative, in this [case study – Yayu Biosphere Reserve, Ethiopia](#).

How to apply

You will need to apply online for Round 25 Darwin Initiative Partnership projects through the [Flexigrant application portal](#). Word versions of the application forms are available here for drafting purposes only.

You should first read:

- [Guidance notes for applicants \(round 25\)](#)
- [Darwin Initiative Round 25: Flexi-grant user guide](#)

Once you have read the guidance, complete the Partnership projects application form on the [Flexigrant application portal](#). For drafting purposes, you may find the [Partnership projects application form](#) (MS Word Document, 152KB)

useful.

When to apply

The timetable for Round 25 Darwin Partnership Awards is set out below:

- application process opens: 22 May 2018
- deadline for applications: Tuesday 13 November 2018
- expected notification of successful projects: February 2019
- expected start date for successful projects: From April 2019

Who can apply?

Applications for partnership projects must be to establish new partnerships and must not simply be to continue existing working relationships. We would normally expect applications from partnerships involving around 2-4 organisations.

Partnership Project lead applicants must also meet all of the following criteria:

- have recognised expertise in the sustainable use or conservation of biodiversity and/or development;
- have a proven track record of managing biodiversity-related and/or natural resource orientated development projects in partnership with local organisations
- can provide evidence of work which has had an impact on the sustainable use and conservation of biodiversity and/or sustainable economic development
- can demonstrate that alternative funding – including financial support from their own organisation – is not available to develop the Darwin project proposal in consultation with their partners. Partnership project funding should not be seen as an alternative to seeking matched funding from other sources.

Partnership Project partners:

- must include at least one organisation that has not previously received Darwin funding

Funding available

There is a maximum level for a partnership project, and further information on the size of Darwin partnership project funding can be found in the Guidance Notes for Applicants Round 25.