

# WINGS OVER WETLANDS

## The UNEP/GEF African Eurasian Flyways Project

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### *SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT*

REPORT #: 1

REPORTING PERIOD: 1 January 2007 – 31 May 2007<sup>1</sup>

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<b>Country</b>	<b>Regional</b>
<b>Project Title</b>	Wings Over Wetlands - The UNEP/GEF African Eurasian Flyways Project
<b>Contract ref. number</b>	WOW/001
<b>Name of Implementing Agency/NGO</b>	Wetlands International
<b>Total amount of funds under this agreement</b>	USD 966,001
<b>Expected project duration</b>	4 years
<b>Date of signature of the agreement</b>	1 January 2007
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*Report prepared for the UNOPS UNEP/GEF WOW Project Coordination Unit*

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<sup>1</sup> Being the first semi-annual report, this report covers also activities preceding start of the contract

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## 1. Executive Summary

### Project management

WI has issued and activated subcontracts to BirdLife International, the UNEP-WCMC, the East and the West African Subregional Subcontractors. WI works with the AEWA Secretariat to secure their co-funding contribution to the project. On the other hand, Wetlands International has managed to mobilize more co-funding than originally planned, mainly for strengthening monitoring capacity and gap filling in Africa and Central Asia.

### Component 1:

The development of the Critical Site Network has started. Steps have been taken to establish interoperability between the key databases, to develop the concept for the web-portal. Verification of the coordinates of IWC sites and collection of the digital site boundaries for IWC sites and Ramsar sites has also started. The digitalization of species range maps and flyways for each relevant waterbird populations have also started. Gap filling surveys took place in January 2007 in West and East Africa as well as in Central Asia. A first draft of a review paper on the state-of-the-art on waterbird monitoring has been prepared. Equipments have been purchased and shipped to the East and West Africa Subcontractors to strengthen monitoring capacity. A subcontract was issued and activated with BirdLife International to collect information on the WOW species ecological requirements to be made available through the web-portal.

### Component 2:

The WI has appointed its Capacity Development Coordinator as the project's Capacity Development Officer after a long but unsuccessful recruitment process. He has started developing the draft framework programme. Capacity Development Officers for East and West Africa met with WI staff to discuss the Framework Program in Entebbe, Uganda, on 28-29 April.

### Component 3:

WI staff has accompanied the PCU when visiting demo projects supported by WI in Estonia and Lithuania. The WoW concept was promoted by the WI project supervisor as a model for flyway conservation at 6 international meetings in other flyways and promoted the project at 5 relevant international meetings. The awareness of this project has increased dramatically with relevant stakeholders as a result of this and e.g. for the Americas there is interest in looking at how to apply this model to their flyway.

### 1.1 Key project achievements during the reporting period

Highlight the most important 5 project achievements in the reporting period.

#	Key Project Achievements
1	Subcontracts were signed in relation to the development of Critical Site Network Tool with BirdLife

	International (\$ 300,337), the UNEP-WCMC (\$ 282,081), BirdLife International species requirements subcontract (\$ 15,000). Additional subcontracts were signed with the Eastern Africa Subregional Subcontractor (\$ 233,432), the Western Africa Subregional Subcontractor (\$179,512) and a bridging contract with WWF/WI Russia for Central Asia (28,226) to cover waterbird work in Central Asia. From this the following payments were made by 31 May: UNEP-WCMC – 19,093 €, East Africa – 4,547 €, West Africa – 7,440 €, WWF/WI Russia – 20,000 €.
<b>2</b>	Recruitment of project staff has started in the Subregions of East- and West Africa, Subregional Waterbird Officer is in place in Central Asia. In the Eastern Africa Subregion the Site Network Officer is in place, through secondment from Wetlands International. The implementation of Component 2 has been subcontracted to the Kenya Wildlife Service and recruitment is ongoing. Coordination is being provided through secondment of BirdLife International capacity, and further recruitment is in progress. For the West African SRS all positions are in place. Since the signing of the contract, the departure of the Site Network Technical Officer has created a vacancy which is temporarily filled and which is being recruited into. For the Central Asian and the Middle East Subregional Centers subcontractors have been identified and modalities for contracting have been examined in collaboration with the PCU.
<b>3</b>	WI, BirdLife International and the UNEP-WCMC have started developing the critical site network tool. 2 technical workshops and 3 project meetings or teleconference took place. A concept for the web-portal has been developed. Available spatial data were combined to provide overview about their spatial distribution and quality. The data cleaning and verification process has started (20 % progress). A database was developed to extract and process the relevant information from the IBA and IWC databases to allow the analysis of the completeness of the site network based on the available information. Digitalization of range maps and flyway boundaries has been started (60 % progress). Methodology and the programme of the combined gap identification and monitoring workshops have been developed. Equipments have been purchased and transported to the Eastern and Western Africa Subregional Subcontractors. WI has drafted the basic text for a flyer and poster about the Critical Site Network Tool, which has been further elaborated by the Communication Officer and the PCU.
<b>4</b>	WI managed to secure USD 87,000 to contribute to the to gap filling and training surveys in Africa and Central Asia.
<b>5</b>	The first draft of the Training and Awareness Raising Framework Programme is being prepared and to be sent out for consultation within the WOW team and with the contribution of an initial small group of capacity development experts.
<b>6</b>	Good media interest and outreach, promoting the project as the model Flyway implementation project globally. Project is well recognized. The project was communicated to the media in a team effort and it is not possible to quantify what part was due to activities of WI specifically. WI promoted WoW as the model flyway implementation project in three strategic meetings in all the other major flyways of the world (American Flyway, East Asian Australasian Flyway, Central Asian Flyway) (not using project funding). Firm embedding and linkage of project with(in) AEWA implementation priorities through participation in Technical Committee and Standing Committee meeting of AEWA. The launch of the book Waterbirds around the World presented a good opportunity to communicate about the project as well.

## 1.2 Progress on project outcomes

Provide an overview of the contribution made towards progress & achievements for each project outcome during the reporting period.

Outcome #	Status (% achieved)	Progress & Achievements
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Outcome #	Status (% achieved)	Progress & Achievements
<b>Component 1: Establishment of a fundamental tool to assist planning and management in flyway conservation</b>		
Outcome 1.1 The network of critical sites is available as a tool for use by practitioners to underpin planning and management of and catalyse site level activity in, flyway conservation.	10%	<p>Site Network Technical Coordinator started from 14<sup>th</sup> August 2006. Site Network Technical Officer recruited at Wetlands International starting 1<sup>st</sup> of April 2007.</p> <p>1<sup>st</sup> Technical Workshop held in October 2006. Interoperability issues for sites and species identified and approach agreed. Species list agreed and a scoping document produced in collaboration with BirdLife International. A 2<sup>nd</sup> Technical Meeting was held in February to review progress with on-going work.</p> <p>3<sup>rd</sup> Technical Workshop held in April 2007. Standards for digitizing site boundaries, linking sites agreed, concept for web-portal, sources of information discussed.</p> <p>Draft flyer promoting the site network tool has been prepared and key events identified to raise profile of the initiative. In addition a poster promoting the site network tool was also produced in collaboration with the PCU.</p> <p>Work on digitizing IWC site boundaries started in collaboration with the WI Kiev Office. Guidelines to the national IWC about consolidating site data and digitizing IWC site boundaries were drafted. Concept for the Web-portal ready.</p>
Outcome 1.2. Primary data resources that underpin flyway conservation, planning and management activities enhanced to include all critically important sites in the AEWA region	20%	<p>Basic principles of gap identification discussed at a technical meeting held in February.</p> <p>Gap filling surveys in appr. 80 additional sites in East and West Africa and Central Asia took place in January 2007, mainly using additionally mobilized resources and focusing on some of the obvious gaps in coverage. For Africa, appr. USD 75,000 was raised from various sources to organize additional census work and on develop monitoring capacity. This was delivered in Angola: (2 sites), Congo: (1), Cameroon: 'coast' (ca. 10), Kenya: (ca. 5), Eritrea: (ca. 5), Ethiopia: (ca. 25), Sudan: (ca. 10), Malawi: (ca. 5), Nigeria: (ca. 5), so all together ca. 70 sites. Some 12K€ was mobilized from AEWA for census work in Central Asia, which was coordinated through the Moscow office of WI.</p> <p>Preparation for the gap identification workshops to identify and prioritize further areas for additional field surveys started in collaboration with BirdLife International. They are going to be held in the fourth quarter of 2007 in East and West Africa, and in the first quarter of 2008 in Central Asia and Middle East. Gap analysis was piloted on 10 species. This process is to be reviewed at the technical meeting between WI and BLI technical staff in June. Approach and agenda to the workshops was agreed.</p>
Outcome 1.3. Flyway data gathering and monitoring capacity strengthened to support the updating and maintenance of primary data resources that underpin conservation of the network of critical sites	20%	<p>6 scopes with tripods and 75 binoculars were purchased and shipped to Nairobi and Dakar to the East and West Africa subregional subcontractors. 5 additional binoculars and other field equipment (incl waders, boots and torches) were bought and brought to Nigeria. Capacity development and training was delivered to field teams in several countries in the project area, including Nigeria, Kenya, Mali, Malawi, Egypt, Ukraine, Turkey, Tunisia and into workshops addressing government officials in the field of environment, veterinary issues and health in West-, East - and North Africa, the Middle East and Eastern Europe in the framework of a parallel FAO project implemented by WI.</p> <p>Review of the state-of-the art on waterbird monitoring has started. First draft of the review paper to be discussed at the Technical Workshop on 17-18 April.</p>

Outcome #	Status (% achieved)	Progress & Achievements
Outcome 1.4 Species and critical site knowledge base supports management and planning decision-making in flyway conservation	5%	ToR and contract issued for BirdLife International to compile available information about the species ecological requirements.
<b>Component 2: Establishing a basis for strengthening decision-making and technical capacity for wetland and migratory waterbird conservation</b>		
Outcome 2.1 Transferable model Training and Awareness Raising Programme framework produced for developing wetland and waterbird conservation capacity	5%	Recruiting a Capacity Development Officer into the Wageningen project team was unsuccessful so far. The position was advertised in major journals, on websites and through the extensive networks of BirdLife and Wetlands International, the Ramsar Convention and AEWA. Interviews were held starting 21 March after long pre-selection process, followed by several more interviews. The first round did not deliver a candidate who has skills needed for the complex project situation. After a second attempt, negotiations were conducted with a candidate, but with no success. After all of these efforts, as an interim solution, the task of developing the capacity development framework was assigned to the WI Capacity Development Coordinator. He has started developing the first working draft of the Training and Awareness Raising Framework Programme in May. Organizing the Programme Development Workshop has also started.
Outcome 2.2: Wetland and waterbird conservation Training and Awareness Raising Programmes produced ready for implementation in four sub-regions	5%	The Subregional Capacity Development Officer is identified for West Africa, and the Kenya Wildlife Service Training Institute is subcontracted by the BirdLife International Africa Secretariat for East Africa. KWS will recruit a candidate for secondment to the Subregional Centre.
<b>Component 3: Enhanced availability and exchange of information through improved communications capacity and resource provision</b>		
Outcome 3.1: Demonstrations of best practice management of migratory waterbirds and wetlands available across the flyway	5%	WI provides technical backup for the demonstration projects The WI Site Network Technical Coordinator joined the PCU visiting the demonstration project in Estonia and Lithuania, several staff members of the WI West Africa Office joined to the PCU visiting the demonstration projects in West Africa. WI project supervisor visited the site in Nigeria in February and discussed with (future) project staff member.
Outcome 3.2. Strengthened mechanisms for governments and NGOs to communicate and work together on wise use of wetlands and migratory waterbirds	10%	The AEWA JPO made information about the project available on the AEWA website ( <a href="http://www.unep-aewa.org/activities/wow/index.htm">http://www.unep-aewa.org/activities/wow/index.htm</a> ). WI provides the preliminary project website ( <a href="http://www.wingsoverwetlands.org">www.wingsoverwetlands.org</a> ). He organized a launch of the project on 20 November in Bonn in collaboration with the German Federal Ministry for Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety. He works with the PCU on developing a contact database. WI project supervisor promotes WoW project and concepts in international and flyway meetings. This happened in the Philippines in October 2006, Indonesia in November 2006, Russia December 2006, Ecuador January 2007, China January 2007, Nigeria Feb 2007. Also within the flyway the project was promoted by presenting it to at least 5 relevant meetings in Bonn (CMS Standing Committee, Sept 06), Berne (WIGWAG and AEWA Technical Committee, Sept/Oct 06), Bonn (AEWA Standing Committee, Nov 06), Brussels (Ornis Committee, SCOFCA, EU DG ENV/DG SANCO, Dec 06). The awareness of this project has increased dramatically with relevant

Outcome #	Status (% achieved)	Progress & Achievements
		stakeholders as a result of this and e.g. for the Americas there is interest in looking at how to apply this model to their flyway.
Outcome 3.3. Mechanisms of exchange between and within sub-regions for improved flyway-level migratory waterbird and wetland	1%	No work scheduled for this reporting period. WI project supervisor has explored options for exchange with other flyways as well and there is tangible interest to develop such approach between the Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network from North America and the WoW project.
Outcome 3.4 The wise-use of migratory waterbirds and wetlands is better understood and implemented by governments in focal sub-regions	0%	Activity is postponed until the AEWA funding made available. In the framework of management of wild migratory birds as part of a risk management strategy for Avian Influenza the WoW project and its Critical Site Network tool has been promoted as an important tool in at least 5 international meetings with stakeholders.

### 1.3 Key issues & proposed solutions

Identify up to a maximum of 10 key project issues encountered requiring the attention of the UNEP/GEF, of the Steering Committee and/or of UNOPS. These issues will be selected and extracted from sections 2 & 3 of this report.

#	Issue	Proposed Solution	Deadline	Party Responsible
1	Delay with mobilization of co-funding	Identify alternative funding opportunities	30 August	AEWA, PCU, WI
2	Adjustment of the BfN contribution to the new project schedule and budget disbursement is not approved yet.	Continue liaison with BfN	30 June	WI, PCU
3	Insufficient input from CO	Some critical work to be contracted out to a consultant	30 June	WI, PCU, AEWA
4	Insufficient funding for the Western Africa SRS due to limited compatibility of MESA and part of ONCFS co-funding with the project's needs	Reallocation of co-funding from the budget of the Central Asia and Middle East SRS to the Western Africa SRS.  Mobilisation of alternative funding sources.	30 August	WI  WI, PCU, AEWA
5	Communication about the project partnership did not always reflect appropriately the role of project partners	Agree on clear protocols for communicating about the project	30 August	PCU, AEWA, WI, BLI
6				
7				
8				
9				





## 2. Project Management

Project management is a critical cross-cutting issue that affects all project components. Use this section to highlight issues that affect project performance and the achievement of expected outcomes, and propose next steps.

### 2.1 Key issues and proposed action

<b>CATEGORY</b>	<b>ISSUES</b> Description of issues affecting project performance during the reporting period	<b>PROPOSED SOLUTIONS</b> Description of decisions / actions to be taken	<b>DEADLINE</b>	<b>PARTY RESPONSIBLE</b>
Recruitment & management of staff and consultants	<p>Delays with recruiting</p> <p>(a) Site Network Technical Officer due to the time-consuming process of obtaining work permit for internationally recruited staff in the NL.</p> <p>(b) Capacity Development Officer due to lack of suitable candidate. Recruiting a Capacity Development Officer into the Wageningen project team was unsuccessful so far. The position was advertised in major journals, on websites and through the extensive networks of BirdLife and Wetlands International, the Ramsar Convention and AEWA. Interviews were held starting 21 March after long pre-selection process, followed by several more interviews. The first round did not deliver a candidate who has skills needed for the complex project situation. After a second attempt, negotiations</p>	<p>WI is considering to allocate the this tasks to its Capacity Development Coordinator to avoid causing any further delays in the implementation of the Capacity Development Component.</p>	Implemented	WI

	were conducted with a candidate, but with no success.			
Finance & administration	None			
Logistics & operations	None			
Reporting & communication	<p>Repetitive reporting form</p> <p>Communicating about the project's concept and about its implementation was suboptimal because the CO was unable to develop an integrated communication strategy.</p>	<p>It would be enough if subcontractors should report on activity level that would be summarised by the PCU. If there is an Executive Summary there is no pressing need to summarise activities first at outcome level, then distil information from this into key project achievements and then into an Executive Summary. A large degree of repetition occurs between sections 1.2 and 2.1. because most of the project issues naturally relate to project management.</p> <p>WI in collaboration with the PCU and with the support of AEWA has assigned one of its communication specialist to develop an integrated communication strategy in collaboration with project partners.</p>	<p>Next semiannual report</p> <p>September 2007</p>	<p>PCU</p> <p>WI, PCU</p>
Coordination with project partners & demo projects	None			
External issues (mobilization of co-funding, political/social/environmental reasons, etc.)	<p>Less than budgeted contribution from some project partners received. No definitive response from potential donors yet.</p> <p>Adjustment of the BfN contribution to the new</p>	<p>Continued fundraising efforts</p> <p>Identifying alternative/additional donors.</p>	<p>30 August</p> <p>30 June</p>	<p>AEWA, WI, PCU</p> <p>WI, PCU</p>

	<p>project schedule has not approved yet.</p> <p>ONCFS co-funding activities do not fit into the project schedule and scope</p>	<p>Continue liaising with BfN.</p> <p>Raising additional funds for Western Africa or transferring from the smaller Central Asia and Middle East regions.</p>	<p>30 August</p>	<p>WI</p>
<p>Other (please specify)</p>				

### 3. Progress / Issues / Proposed Solutions

Provide an overview of the contribution made towards progress & achievements for each project outcome and activity during the reporting period.

*Legend: abbreviations of project structures/organisations/positions*

AEWA	UNEP/AEWA Secretariat
BLI	BirdLife International
CO	Communications Officer (based in AEWA)
CTA	Chief Technical Advisor
PCU	Project Coordination Unit
PSC	Project Steering Committee
SRS	Sub-Regional Subcontractor
WCMC	UNEP-World Conservation Monitoring Centre
WI	Wetlands International

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**Component 1: Establishment of a fundamental tool to assist planning and management in flyway conservation**

**Outcome 1.1 The network of critical sites is available as a tool for use by practitioners to underpin planning and management of and catalyse site level activity in, flyway conservation.**

**Activity 1: Establishment of inter-operability between the main data-sources.**

WI issues a subcontract/MOA with WCMC (as a pre-selected sub-contractor, also identified in the Project Document) for the provision of technical advisory services towards the implementation of this component	WI	C	A subcontract has been issued to UNEP-WCMC for the period of time covering the lifetime of the project.	
Develop and map quality standards for databases	WI/(WCMC), BLI	IP 100%	It was agreed that linking the databases require two data to be standardized: species taxonomy and site locations.  Taxonomy and species codes used by Wetlands WI and BLI were checked. Taxonomic differences were discussed and agreed. It was agreed to follow the nomenclature of BLI with the exception of two AEWA species (which are not considered as full species by	

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			<p>BLI) A link table has been prepared with species codes and names in both organizations.</p> <p>Data quality of the Western Palearctic (Europe, Central Asia, Middle East and North Africa) and Africa Waterbird Census database was checked. 3338 sites have no central coordinates and 3072 sites have no site codes. Some sites have inaccurate central coordinates, Several sites have duplicate records. Therefore, all more than 27,000 site records shall be checked individually to enable accurate linkage of IBAs and IWC sites. The IWC site data has been sent to the national coordinators to help with this.</p> <p>Mapping standards have been investigated and are being implemented in the collection of data by the project partners. Standards for interoperability of GIS data have also been discussed and selected.</p> <p>Questionnaires on technical capacity for interoperability were provided to all partners by UNEP-WCMC and will be used in the creation of the portal concept</p>	
Integrate standards, test	WI/(WCMC), BLI	IP 50%	An interim database has been set up for the gap analysis. Species data can be linked, but site data cannot be linked reliably until the revision of central	

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			coordinates of IWC sites.	
Implement interoperability	WI/(WCMC), BLI	IP 10%	Data quality rules are being implemented during the production of the web-enabled version of the IWC database. Existing data are being consolidated.	
<b>Activity 2. Collection of spatial site reference data as a basis for database linkage in the site network</b>				
Map available data, gather new data	WI/(WCMC), BLI	IP 25%	A review of available Ramsar and IWC spatial information has been prepared for the 1st Technical Workshop.  Validating central coordinates for IWC sites and adding missing ones has been started with the coordination of the WI Black Sea Office. A methodology for consolidating central coordinates and for digitizing IWC boundaries using Google Earth technology has been developed and sent to national IWC coordinators.	
Digitise information	WI/(WCMC)	IP 10%	IWC central coordinates are being collected through national IWC coordinators.	

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Make spatial info accessible	WI/(WCMC), BLI	NA		
<b>Activity 3. Creation of the basis of the site network by linking the main data resources.</b>				
Link data sources by coordinates	WI/(WCMC), BLI	NA		
Link data sources by boundaries	WI/(WCMC), BLI	NA		
Analyse combined datasets	WI/(WCMC), BLI	7	Initial gap analysis has been undertaken with data from BLI, WI, Ramsar and WCMC.  Discussion at Cambridge Technical Workshop of how the combined spatial data-sets will be analysed and presented.	
<b>Activity 4. Development of a web-based portal to integrate the data from the main data sources, to display the network of critical sites to users via the Internet and to link into data on ecological requirements of species, site use and management advice</b>				
Develop plan for web based portal in consultation with custodians	WI/(WCMC)	IP 75%	The portal development plan has been presented and discussed at 2 workshops, Identifying areas for initial development and future enhancements	



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Programming of portal application, testing	WI/WCMC	NA (IP 5%)	Hosting server bought and installed on the network	Lack of progress is due to changes in staff and absences at UNEP-WCMC
Adapt databases for portal-linking	WI/(WCMC), BLI	NA		
<b>Activity 5. Compile the network of critical sites using Ramsar and IBA criteria</b>				
Review and apply criteria on datasets	WI, BLI	NA		
Analyse resulting site network	WI, BLI	NA		
Consult experts in region on results	WI, BLI, SRSSs	NA		
<b>Activity 6. Publication of the network of critical sites on CD ROM, in printed format (as a static document), and launch of the dynamic and interactive version on the internet</b>				
Compiling results of act. 1.5 into publication	WI/(WCMC), BLI	NA		
Edit and publish network	WI, BLI	NA		
Launch portal	WI/(WCMC), BLI, SRSSs	NA		

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<b>Activity 7. Raise awareness amongst practitioners, and train them in the use of the network of critical sites</b>				
Disseminate concept of critical site network at appropriate occasions like conferences, meetings, workshops (active participation to raise awareness)	WI/(WCMC), BLI, SRSSs	IP 50%	A brochure on the critical site network tool is being produced in collaboration with the PCU.	
<b>Activity 8. Promote the network of critical sites as a conservation tool</b>				
Develop communication plan for publicising the network of critical sites as a tool for conservation	WI/(WCMC), BLI, SRSSs	NA (IP 25%)	Key events coming up in 2007 and 2008 have been identified.	Communication plan has not been developed by the CO, yet. WI and the PCU agreed to hire a consultant to prepare the plan with the support of AEWA
Implement communication of network tool	WI/(WCMC), BLI, SRSSs	NA		
<b>Activity 9. Production of a publication to raise awareness of key issues in the flyway using the network as the basis</b>				
Compile awareness publication	WI, BLI	NA		
Produce and distribute publication	WI, BLI, SRSSs	NA		

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**Outcome 1.2. Primary data resources that underpin flyway conservation, planning and management activities enhanced to include all critically important sites in the AEWA region**

**Activity 1. Identify gaps in spatial coverage and mobilise existing information**

Map coverage of databases	WI, BLI	NA (IP 25%)	A map showing the location of all IBAs, IWC and Ramsar sites with known central coordinates has been produced.  A database was developed to automate the analysis the population coverage of individual species based on the IWC and IBA databases.  Digitalization of flyway boundaries has started.	
Sub-regional check of coverage	WI, BLI, SRSs	NA		
Compile existing information through sub-regions	WI, BLI, SRSs	NA		
Organise regional workshops	WI, BLI, SRSs	NA (IP 5%)	Preparation for the gap identification workshops has started to identify and prioritize further areas for additional field surveys started in collaboration with BirdLife International. They are going to be held in the fourth quarter of 2007 in Eastern Africa, and in	Insufficient funding is available for the Western Africa workshop. Fundraising for replacement funding is ongoing.

<b>ACTIVITIES</b> Output/Service (as listed in the approved project document)	<b>PARTY RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>STATUS</b> NA Not scheduled for current reporting period IP In progress (% completed) C Completed	<b>PROGRESS</b> Description of work undertaken during the reporting period	<b>ISSUES</b> Description of problems encountered; Issues that need to be addressed; Decisions / Actions to be taken
			the first quarter of 2008 in Western Africa, Central Asia and Middle East.	
<b>Activity 2. Fill the information gaps in the data sources</b>				
Increase and focus sub-regional coordination of IWC and IBA to fill gaps	WI, BLI, SRSSs	NA		
Perform additional targeted censuses to cover and fill gaps	WI, BLI, SRSSs	NA (PI 25%)	Gap filling surveys in appr 80 additional sites in East and West Africa and Central Asia took place in January 2007, mainly using additionally mobilized resources and focusing on some of the obvious gaps in coverage. For Africa, appr. USD 75,000 was raised from various sources to organize additional census work and on develop monitoring capacity. This was delivered in Angola: (2 sites), Congo: (1), Cameroon: 'coast' (ca. 10), Kenya: (ca. 5), Eritrea: (ca. 5), Ethiopia: (ca. 25), Sudan: (ca. 10), Malawi: (ca. 5), Nigeria: (ca. 5), so all together ca. 70 sites. Some 12K€ was mobilized from AEWA for census work in Central Asia, which was coordinated through the Moscow office of WI.	
Organise sub-regional workshops (same workshops as under act 1 of outcome1.2, above)	WI, BLI, SRSSs		Same as under act. 1 of outcome 1.2	

<b>ACTIVITIES</b> Output/Service (as listed in the approved project document)	<b>PARTY RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>STATUS</b> NA Not scheduled for current reporting period IP In progress (% completed) C Completed	<b>PROGRESS</b> Description of work undertaken during the reporting period	<b>ISSUES</b> Description of problems encountered; Issues that need to be addressed; Decisions / Actions to be taken
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**Outcome 1.3. Flyway data gathering and monitoring capacity strengthened to support the updating and maintenance of primary data resources that underpin conservation of the network of critical sites**

**Activity 1. Harmonizing and strengthening data gathering capacity, thus ensuring better compatibility between and sustainability of monitoring networks**

Map and analyse overlap and differences in monitoring activities between IWC and IBA and Wetland Inventories	WI, BLI	IP 75%	A first draft of a review paper on the state-of-the art on waterbird monitoring has been prepared. It was discussed at the Technical Workshop on 17-18 April.	
Develop input for manuals on streamlining and integrating monitoring activities	WI, BLI, SRSSs	NA		
Sub-regional Workshops to implement integrated monitoring	WI, BLI, SRSSs	NA (IP 5%)	These workshops will be organized back-to-back with the workshops on gap identification under act. 1. outcome 1.2 to enable more participants to take part in it.	

**Activity 2. Strengthening capacity for data gathering and monitoring**

Print and provide monitoring manuals	WI, BLI	NA		
Experts to lead surveys to train on (integration of) monitoring activities	WI / (consultants), BLI, SRSSs	NA		

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Sub-regional training censuses	WI, BLI, SRSS	NA		

**Activity 3. Provide materials and equipment to facilitate and assist the training and data collection**

Develop, print and provide field guide in Russian	WII(consultants), BLI, SRS Central Asia	NA		
Provide optical and other equipment	WI, BLI, SRSS	NA (IP 25%)	6 scopes with tripods and 75 binoculars were purchased and shipped to Nairobi and Dakar to the East and West Africa subregional subcontractors funded by BfN. 5 additional binoculars and other field equipment (incl waders, boots and torches) were bought and brought to Nigeria.	

**Outcome 1.4 Species and critical site knowledge base supports management and planning decision-making in flyway conservation**

**Activity 1. Compile existing ecological knowledge on species' migratory characteristics, site function and population delimitation**

Subcontract expert (consultant) to compile review of knowledge	WI, BLI	C	A subcontract was made for BirdLife International to compile existing knowledge.	
Consultation of network and literature	WII(consultant)	IP 10%	Pilot species review has been prepared by the	

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			consultant.	
Compile overview existing ecological knowledge and identify gaps in knowledge	WI / (consultant), BLI, SRSS	IP 0%	This task will follow the completion of the previous one.	
<b>Activity 2. Facilitate research to cover the gaps in knowledge of the use of sites by migratory waterbirds and of population limitation</b>				
Make available 'seed money' to help develop proposals to obtain funding for research to fill the gaps in knowledge	WI, BLI, SRSS	NA		
<b>Component 2: Establishing a basis for strengthening decision-making and technical capacity for wetland and migratory waterbird conservation</b>				
<b>Outcome 2.1 Transferable model Training and Awareness Raising Programme framework produced for developing wetland and waterbird conservation capacity</b>				
<b>Activity 1 Develop a working draft of the model Training and Awareness Raising Programme</b>				
Develop the draft Programme	WI (consultant)	IP 25%	The development of the 1 <sup>st</sup> draft of the programme has started in May due to delays caused by	The recruitment of a new CDO was not successful because as

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			difficulties to hire a new Capacity Development Officer (CDO).	described under Section 2.1 above.
Series of meetings with key training institutes	WI, SRSs	IP 10%	A meeting between WI staff and the Eastern and Western Africa SRS took place in Entebbe, Uganda on 28-29 April. An outline of the programme was agreed.  A meeting to review the first working draft is being organized for the 22 June in Wageningen involving WI, the two SRS from Africa, the PCU and three other capacity development experts from other organisations.	
Translate, print & distribute first draft model	WI, SRSs	IP 0%	This task is delayed due to the difficulties with the recruitment of the CDO.	
<b>Activity 2 Training and Awareness Raising Programme Development Workshop</b>				
Plan workshop	WI, PCU	IP 5%	Negotiation with the Kenya Wildlife Service Training Institute has started about having the meeting there in the end of August or beginning of September. Final dates will be decided at the meeting on 22 June .	



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Hold Development Workshop	WI, PCU, SRSSs	IP 0%		
<b>Activity 3 Draft the first full version of the model programme</b>				
Draft first full version of model	WI (consultant)	IP 0%		
<b>Activity 4 Review of the programme model draft</b>				
Perform external review of training and awareness model	WI, PCU, SRSSs	NA		
Conduct a full review of the model programme	PSC (sub-group), WI, PCU, SRSSs	NA		
<b>Activity 5 Finalise the programme model</b>				
Prepare the final version of the programme model	WI	NA		
Translate & print final model, and distribute to contributing partners / networks and to project sub-regional centres for wide dissemination	WI, PCU, SRSSs	NA		
<b>Outcome 2.2: Wetland and waterbird conservation Training and Awareness Raising Programmes produced ready for</b>				

<b>ACTIVITIES</b> Output/Service (as listed in the approved project document)	<b>PARTY RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>STATUS</b> NA Not scheduled for current reporting period IP In progress (% completed) C Completed	<b>PROGRESS</b> Description of work undertaken during the reporting period	<b>ISSUES</b> Description of problems encountered; Issues that need to be addressed; Decisions / Actions to be taken
<b>implementation in four sub-regions</b>				
<b>Activity 1 Establish 4 Sub-regional Training Boards</b>				
Informal meetings in sub-region to establish board	SRSs, WI, BLI	IP 25%	The two African SRSs started identifying Training Board members.	It turned out at the meeting of the CTA and the Project Manager of the Wetlands and Poverty Reduction Programme that it may strengthen the synergy between the two projects and would help avoiding duplication of efforts if there would be a common Training Board for both projects in Africa. The issue is to be discussed and decided at the 22 June meeting.
Organise & hold training boards meetings	SRSs, WI, BLI	IP 0%	See Issues under previous point.	
Meeting reports	SRSs, WI, BLI	NA		
<b>Activity 2 Design and establish 4 Sub-regional Training &amp; Awareness Programmes</b>				
Produce draft Training and Awareness Raising Programme models for consultation	WI, SRS, BLI	NA		

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Training and Awareness Raising Programme Review Workshops & prioritisation of courses	WI, SRS, BLI	NA		
<b>Activity 3 Finalise 4 Sub-regional Training &amp; Awareness Programmes</b>				
Prepare final draft for approval by Training Boards	WI, SRS, BLI	NA		
Publish & print the Training and Awareness Raising Programme	WI	NA		
Hold awareness-raising meetings to publicise & introduce the Training and Awareness Raising Programme	SRS, WI, BLI	NA		
<b>Activity 4 Mobilise resources for the implementation of the sub-regional training and awareness raising programmes</b>				
Mobilise resources outside the sub-regions	WI, BLI, AEWA, Ramsar, PCU	IP 0%		
Mobilise resources from within the sub-regions	SRSs, WI, BLI	NA		
<b>Component 3: Enhanced availability and exchange of information through improved communications capacity and resource provision</b>				

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**Outcome 3.1: Demonstrations of best practice management of migratory waterbirds and wetlands available across the flyway**

**Activity 1 Execution of demonstration projects**

Haapsalu-Noarotsi Bay, Estonia	WI (SRS) and the local executing agency (see Annex I for project report)	IP 5%	The project was visited by the PCU and WI staff between 6-9 March to review the current situation and to discuss issues related to the implementation of the project.	
Biharugra's Ponds, Hungary	BLI (SRS) and the local executing agency (see Annex I for project report)			
Nemunas Delta, Lithuania	WI (SRS) and the local executing agency (see Annex I for project report)	IP 5%	The project was visited by the PCU and WI staff between 8-11 May to review the current situation and to discuss issues related to the implementation of the project.	
Banc D'Arguin, Mauritania	WI (SRS) and the local executing agency (see	IP 5%	The project was visited by the PCU and WI Africa Office staff in January to review the current situation and to discuss issues related to the implementation	

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	Annex I for project report)		of the project.	
Kokorou and Namga, Niger	WI (SRS) and the local executing agency (see Annex I for project report)	IP 5%	The project was visited by the PCU and WI Africa Office staff in January May to review the current situation and to discuss issues related to the implementation of the project.	
Hadejia Nguru Wetlands, Nigeria	BLI (SRS) and the local executing agency (see Annex I for project report)			
Saloum/Niumi, Senegal/Gambia	WI (SRS) and the local executing agency (see Annex I for project report)	IP 5%	The project was visited by the PCU and WI Africa Office staff in January May to review the current situation and to discuss issues related to the implementation of the project.	
Wakkerstroom, South Africa	BLI (SRS) and the local executing agency (see Annex I for project report)			

<b>ACTIVITIES</b> Output/Service (as listed in the approved project document)	<b>PARTY RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>STATUS</b> NA Not scheduled for current reporting period IP In progress (% completed) C Completed	<b>PROGRESS</b> Description of work undertaken during the reporting period	<b>ISSUES</b> Description of problems encountered; Issues that need to be addressed; Decisions / Actions to be taken
Dar es Salaam Wetlands, Tanzania	BLI (SRS) and the local executing agency (see Annex I for project report)			
Lake Burdur, Turkey	BLI (SRS) and the local executing agency (see Annex I for project report)			
Aden Lagoons, Yemen	BLI (SRS) and the local executing agency (see Annex I for project report)			
<b>Activity 2 Publication of a book summarising the lessons learned from the demonstration project activities</b>				
Consultant contracted and structure for the book worked out	WI, PCU	NA		
Demonstration projects contribute information for book	WI (consultant), BLI, PCU	NA		

<b>ACTIVITIES</b> Output/Service (as listed in the approved project document)	<b>PARTY RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>STATUS</b> NA Not scheduled for current reporting period IP In progress (% completed) C Completed	<b>PROGRESS</b> Description of work undertaken during the reporting period	<b>ISSUES</b> Description of problems encountered; Issues that need to be addressed; Decisions / Actions to be taken
Consultant compiles and edits the book	WI (consultant)	NA		
Book reviewed	WI, PSC, PCU	NA		
Book finalised	WI (consultant)	NA		
Book printed, publicised and disseminated	WI, PCU	NA		

**Outcome 3.2. Strengthened mechanisms for governments and NGOs to communicate and work together on wise use of wetlands and migratory waterbirds**

**Activity 1 Increase capacity for electronic exchange of information**

Creation of project web area in the AEWA web-site	PCU, AEWA CO, WI, BLI	IP 20%	An interim website has been developed and is operational within the current WI framework.  The WI Communications Manager has provided training to the AEWA CO in February.  The project web-address was agreed by the Steering Committee and it has been registered by the CO on 16 March.  WI is going to host the project website on its platform and the WI Communications Manager has worked	
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<b>ACTIVITIES</b> Output/Service (as listed in the approved project document)	<b>PARTY RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>STATUS</b> NA Not scheduled for current reporting period IP In progress (% completed) C Completed	<b>PROGRESS</b> Description of work undertaken during the reporting period	<b>ISSUES</b> Description of problems encountered; Issues that need to be addressed; Decisions / Actions to be taken
			<p>with the JOM to reflect the project's needs. An intern of WI has supported the PCU in developing the web content.</p> <p>The CO has developed a website specifically devoted to the launch of the project took place at the United Nations Premises in Bonn, Germany on 20 November 2006. The website was featured in the first official WOW Press Release and was designed to provide a neutral "project area" on the web through which to offer additional resources and information to the press/media and the general public.</p> <p>Following the launch of the WOW Project in Bonn (20 November 2006), the CO developed a designated WOW page on the AEWA website (<a href="http://www.unep-aewa.org/activities/wow/index.htm">http://www.unep-aewa.org/activities/wow/index.htm</a>). The resource highlighted the launching event and provided links to available resources related to WOW on other websites. Once the central project website is ready, this section will be revamped so that it guides visitors to the AEWA website to the designated WOW website. The clickable map resource and other overview pages developed by the CO will also be used and expanded upon in the future WOW website currently being constructed.</p>	



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Creation of an intranet facility in the project web-site	PCU, AEWA CO, WI, BLI	IP 5%	This feature is included into the design of the web platform.	
Creation of an email discussion group	PCU, AEWA CO, WI, BLI	IP 5%	This feature is included into the design of the web platform	
Promotion of the new electronic communication facility	PCU, AEWA CO, SRSSs, WI, BLI, Ramsar	NA		
<b>Activity 2 Augmentation of and increased access to flyway contact information</b>				
Compile existing information from partner organizations for use in the contacts database	AEWA CO, PCU	NA (IP 50%)	An intern of WI is helping the PCU in compiling this information. To date, this covers almost completely the project partners and demo project stakeholders (275 entries so far).	
Develop data agreement	AEWA CO, PCU	NA		
Create, populate and maintain database on the AEWA web-site	AEWA CO, PCU	NA		
Plan and implement data collection activities	AEWA CO, PCU, SRSSs	NA		

<b>ACTIVITIES</b> Output/Service (as listed in the approved project document)	<b>PARTY RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>STATUS</b> NA Not scheduled for current reporting period IP In progress (% completed) C Completed	<b>PROGRESS</b> Description of work undertaken during the reporting period	<b>ISSUES</b> Description of problems encountered; Issues that need to be addressed; Decisions / Actions to be taken
<b>Activity 3 Provide project information (updates, progress reports, publicity materials) in four languages for stakeholders</b>				
Compile annual newsletters	AEWA CO, PCU, WI, BLI		The first project newsletter has been produced and distributed in Aug. 2006 by the PCU.	
Disseminate newsletters	AEWA CO, PCU, WI, BLI, SRSSs	IP 25%	A new newsletter has been prepared by the PCU. The first project newsletter has been distributed and available for download on the projects website hosted by WI.	
Disseminate other project information	AEWA CO, PCU, SRSSs, Demonstration Projects	IP 25%	The project has been presented by the WI Project Supervisor at meetings during and prior to the current reporting period in Bonn (CMS Standing Committee, Sept 06), Berne (WIGWAG and AEWA Technical Committee, Sept/Oct 06), Bonn (AEWA Standing Committee, Nov 06), Brussels (Ornis Committee, SCOFCA, EU DG ENV/DG SANCO, Dec 06), Utrecht (WIWO, 24 Febr.).  The project has been presented in the communication about the launch of the book "Waterbirds around the World" and at the event itself.  Three posters and two panels were prepared in collaboration with the PCU.	

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			WI Membership Newsletter March 2007 included a feature on the project.	

**Outcome 3.3. Mechanisms of exchange between and within sub-regions for improved flyway-level migratory waterbird and wetland management established**

**Activity 1 Establish informal networks along the main migratory flyways within the AEWA area**

Liaison with WI/BLI to agree on key sites / flyway networks	WI, BLI, AEWA, PCU	NA		
Develop preliminary networks of people for selected flyways	WI, BLI, AEWA, PCU	NA		
Detail and publicise networks on project website	WI, BLI, AEWA, PCU	NA		

**Activity 2 Designate focal points, responsible for servicing networks**

Identify & designate focal points for each flyway	WI	NA		
Focal points develop, maintain and service networks	WI	NA		

**Activity 3 Exchange Programme Planning Workshop**

<b>ACTIVITIES</b> Output/Service (as listed in the approved project document)	<b>PARTY RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>STATUS</b> NA Not scheduled for current reporting period IP In progress (% completed) C Completed	<b>PROGRESS</b> Description of work undertaken during the reporting period	<b>ISSUES</b> Description of problems encountered; Issues that need to be addressed; Decisions / Actions to be taken
Organise and hold Planning Workshop	WI, PCU	NA		
Distil flyway-level schedules and recommendations	WI	NA		
<b>Activity 4 Implement Exchange Programme activities</b>				
Exchanges of key site personnel between sites in different parts of the flyways	WI	NA		
Exchanges of key sites personnel within their sub-region	WI, SRSSs, demo projects, BLI, AEWA, Ramsar	NA		
Exchanges of demonstration site personnel	WI, SRSSs, demo projects, BLI, AEWA, Ramsar	NA		
<b>Activity 5 Develop strategic partnerships and mobilise co-financing</b>				
Promote partnerships through communication & liaison	WI, SRSSs	NA		

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Develop strategic partnership proposals	PCU, WI, SRSSs	NA		

**Outcome 3.4 The wise-use of migratory waterbirds and wetlands is better understood and implemented by governments in focal sub-regions**

**Activity 1 Development of sub-regional mentoring capacity**

Development of shadowing timetable for each staff member to coincide with appropriate MEA (Multilateral Environmental Agreements: i.e. AEWA, RAMSAR) activities	WI, BLI, AEWA, Ramsar, PCU, SRSSs	IP 0%	Only shadowing from the Western Africa Office was scheduled for this reporting period.	Funding for the implementation of this component is not available within the project budget. The implementation of this activity is therefore completely dependent on the mobilization of sufficient funding.
Shadow activities in MEA offices	WI, BLI, AEWA, Ramsar, PCU, SRSSs	IP 0%	See above.	See above.
Shadow activities in the field	WI, BLI, AEWA, Ramsar, PCU, SRSSs	NA		

**Activity 2 Production of key MEA texts and information in the predominant languages of the focal sub-regions**

<b>ACTIVITIES</b> Output/Service (as listed in the approved project document)	<b>PARTY RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>STATUS</b> NA Not scheduled for current reporting period IP In progress (% completed) C Completed	<b>PROGRESS</b> Description of work undertaken during the reporting period	<b>ISSUES</b> Description of problems encountered; Issues that need to be addressed; Decisions / Actions to be taken
Translation of key MEA texts	PCU, AEWA, Ramsar, SRSSs, WI, BLI	NA		
Printing and dissemination of translated documents	PCU, AEWA, Ramsar, SRSSs, WI, BLI	NA		

## 4. Report on the use of Funds

### 4.1 GEF Funds

Report on the status of GEF Funds managed under this Agreement with UNOPS.

Total Budget approved for the provision of technical services:

Funds already advanced to date:

Amount of expenditures:

Funds requested:

Balance (if exists):

Date of the next request for funds:

(DD/MM/YY)

Certified by: \_\_\_\_\_

**Table 1. Financial Report**

General Category of Expenditure		total budget	total expenditure to date	total budget balance	Last payment received	Expenditure in reporting period = in previous six months (including outstanding payments)	Balance at end of reporting period = of prior six months period (if any)	
<b>10</b>	<b>PERSONNEL COMPONENT</b>							
	1100	Project Personnel						
	1101	Project Supervisor (at standard WI charge-out rates)	59,734	10,885	48,849	5,199	10,885	-5,686
	1102	Critical Sites Network Coordinator - acts as Team Leader in absence of Supervisor	167,952	81,888	86,064		81,888	-81,888
	1103	Capacity Development Coordinator*	296,386	4,903	291,483	9,880	4,903	4,977
	<b>1199</b>	<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>524,072</b>	<b>97,677</b>	<b>426,395</b>	<b>15,079</b>	<b>97,677</b>	<b>-82,598</b>
	1200	Consultants						
	1201	General Consultants	86,463		86,463	6,694	0	6,694
	<b>1299</b>	<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>86,463</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>86,463</b>	<b>6,694</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6,694</b>
	1600	Travel on official business						
	1601	Project Supervisor	9,975	94	9,881	372	94	278
	1602	Critical Sites Network Coordinator	8,329	4,909	3,420	607	4,909	-4,302
	1603	Capacity Development Coordinator**	45,393	5,563	39,830	3,169	5,563	-2,394
	<b>1699</b>	<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>63,697</b>	<b>10,472</b>	<b>53,131</b>	<b>4,148</b>	<b>10,566</b>	<b>-6,418</b>
<b>1999</b>	<b>Component total</b>		<b>674,232</b>	<b>108,149</b>	<b>565,989</b>	<b>25,921</b>	<b>108,243</b>	<b>-82,322</b>
<b>20</b>	<b>SUB-CONTRACT COMPONENT</b>							
	2100	Sub-contracts (MOUs/Las for cooperating agencies)						
	2101	ONCFS costs	5,250		5,250		0	0
	2102	East Africa regional office	140,537		140,537		0	0
	2103	West Africa regional office	39,298		39,298		0	0



	2102	UNEP-WCMC	26,653		26,653	2,032	0	2,032
	<b>2199</b>	<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>211,738</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>211,738</b>	<b>2,032</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,032</b>
<b>2999</b>	<b>Component total</b>		<b>211,738</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>211,738</b>	<b>2,032</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,032</b>
<b>30</b>	<b>TRAINING COMPONENT</b>							
	3300	Meetings/Conferences						
	3301	Workshop costs	8,146	2,777	5,369	1,358	2,777	-1,419
	<b>3399</b>	<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>8,146</b>	<b>2,777</b>	<b>5,369</b>	<b>1,358</b>	<b>2,777</b>	<b>-1,419</b>
<b>3999</b>	<b>Component total</b>		<b>8,146</b>	<b>2,777</b>	<b>5,369</b>	<b>1,358</b>	<b>2,777</b>	<b>-1,419</b>
<b>40</b>	<b>EQUIPMENT AND PREMISES COMPONENT</b>							
	4200	Non-expendable Equipment						
	4201	Lap-top and printer	3,676	3,422	254	613	3,422	-2,809
	<b>4299</b>	<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>3,676</b>	<b>3,422</b>	<b>254</b>	<b>613</b>	<b>3,422</b>	<b>-2,809</b>
<b>4999</b>	<b>Component total</b>		<b>3,676</b>	<b>3,422</b>	<b>254</b>	<b>613</b>	<b>3,422</b>	<b>-2,809</b>
<b>50</b>	<b>MISCELLANEOUS COMPONENT</b>							
	5200	Reporting Costs						
	5201	Printing and dissemination	16,076		16,076	88	0	88
	5202	Awareness raising	46,131		46,131	1,943	0	1,943
	5203	Training materials	4,201		4,201	123	0	123
	<b>5299</b>	<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>66,408</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>66,408</b>	<b>2,154</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,154</b>
	5300	Sundry						
	5303	Miscellaneous coordination costs WI	1,801	235	1,566	96	235	-139
	<b>5399</b>	<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>1,801</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>1,566</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>-139</b>
<b>5999</b>	<b>Component total</b>		<b>68,209</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>67,974</b>	<b>2,250</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>2,015</b>
<b>99</b>	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>		<b>966,001</b>	<b>114,583</b>	<b>851,324</b>	<b>32,174</b>	<b>114,677</b>	<b>-82,503</b>

\* This amount covers the time of the Wetlands International Capacity Development Coordinator he has devoted to recruitment of a new CDO for the project in February, March and April.

\*\* This covers the travel and accommodation costs of two candidates who came for interview (2,042 €), the rest is travel, visa, accommodation and per diem for the WI Project Coordinator attending the meeting with the capacity development officers in Entebbe, Uganda (all costs of other participants of this meeting were covered by the Wetlands and Poverty Reduction Project).

## 4.2 Status of co-financing

Include a financial report on the status of funds received by other donors and partners as co-financing for this project.

Sources of co-financing	Total funds committed (cash)	Total in-kind contribution	Total co-financing (cash + in-kind)	Total received to date	Balance	Amount originally committed for reporting period <sup>2</sup>	Actual amount received = in previous six months	Next payment expected
Wetlands International	379,826 \$	280,480 \$	660,306 \$	182,000 \$	487,306 \$	43,620\$	182,000\$	0\$
BfN (Germany)	1,300,000 \$	0 \$	1,300,000 \$	158,335 \$	1,141,665 \$	155,245 \$	0	155,245\$
UNEP-AEWA	1,083,460 \$	282,000 \$	1,365,460 \$	51,734 \$	1,313,726 \$	267,616 \$	48,528	103,800\$
ONCFS	0 \$	353,755 \$	353,655 \$	0 \$	353,755 \$	86,754 \$	0\$	0
EPA (Sweden)	30,090\$	0	30,090\$	30,090\$	0 \$	30,090 \$	30,090\$	0 \$
Ramsar Convention S.	0	21,000\$	21,000\$	0 \$	21,000\$	10,500 \$	0	10,500\$
Denmark	12,000\$	0	12,000\$	12,000 \$	0 \$	12,000 \$	12,000 \$	0\$
MESA (France)	104,000\$	0	104,000\$	0 \$	104,000\$	68,158 \$	0	0
Birdlife	0	70,000\$	70,000\$	0 \$	70,000\$	cf. BL report		
UNEP-WCMC	0	27,619\$	27,619\$	0 \$	27,619\$	5,271 \$	0 \$	5,271 \$
BUWAL (Switzerland)	44,623\$	0	44,023\$	44,023\$	0 \$	44,623 \$	44,623 \$	0 \$
<b>Totals</b>				478,182 \$	3,519,071 \$	723,877 \$	317,241 \$	274,816 \$

<sup>2</sup> As the project duration was reduced to four years instead of five original co-funding commitments cannot be used as a reference for the reporting period. Here we present amounts committed to Year 1 of the project.

list any additional sources of co-financing mobilized during project implementation							
<b>Totals</b>							

## 5. Performance Evaluation

### 5.1 Logical Framework Tracking Form

Please update the relevant sections of the LFTF where your organization is explicitly listed as Party Responsible.

The strategy for monitoring and review, as it exists, was considered to be in need of revision especially of the indicators. The SC, in its first meeting, agreed with this and set a deadline for review by SC members by the end of January 07. Furthermore SC endorsed the need for a technical brainstorm session on the indicators. In the first quarterly report it was proposed by the PCU that this takes the form of a Monitoring and Evaluation Workshop, to be facilitated by a consultant. The cost of this was estimated at US\$5000 This was not foreseen in the PCU budget and there was no flexibility in the PCU budget to absorb further consultant costs. It was recommended that the above funding be identified within other project resources (i.e. co-financing) in collaboration with WI. The QR has proposed that the PCU will develop a workshop TOR and organize the workshop in collaboration with WI. It was identified as the role of WI to define the funding allocation and work with PCU to organize workshop. WI is willing to collaborate on the organisation of the workshop, but expects PCU to take the lead. Funding for M&E is not available as such within GEF funds nor in other project resources (co-funding). However, WI is ready to define funding allocation, but only from available and not strictly allocated sources. This excludes BfN, and most other earmarked co-funding sources. The most likely source is the GEF funds to Wetlands International, which has a subcontracting budget. Although this is GEF funding, it is not coming from the UNOPS budget, which the quarterly report probably refers to on page 11.

**Table 2. LFTF** (indicative only – to be finalized and approved by Project Steering Committee)

Intervention Logic	Indicators of performance	Means of Verification	Baseline Situation	Status as of December 2006	ACTION
Development Objective: Conservation of globally significant migratory waterbirds and wetlands enhanced in the African – Eurasian flyways.	1. Improvement in the average conservation status of migratory waterbirds in the project area, as established from comparison of the various trend categories in the Conservation Status Report.	1. Comparison of the trend categories in consecutive Conservation Status Reports presented to the AEWA MoPs. Each species contained in the Annexes to the agreement is assigned a trend category relating to its status and these will be compared. This will be evaluated in the Reports presented to the AEWA MoPs of 2008 and subsequent.	1. To be established at the start of the project. Baseline will be taken from the Conservation Status Report (CSR) that was published nearest to the start of the project (MoP 3, Nov 2005).	Baseline and M&E tables being defined	Prepare Baseline tables, ready for subsequent updating and comparison. Draft a table in excel, including: no. of species/populations, species/population status grouped by trend groups etc. Responsible Party: WI (Szabolcs)
	2. The numbers of sites designated using Ramsar Convention criteria 5, 6 (specific criteria based on waterbirds) as Internationally Important wetlands under the Ramsar Convention in the 119 countries of the AEWA region, increases by 10%, with respect to the start of the project.	2. Ramsar Database. Comparison of the numbers of Internationally Important Wetlands designated under criteria 5,6 (specific to waterbirds) in the AEWA Region	2. Number of Ramsar Sites fulfilling criteria 5 or 6 in AEWA region as of November 10, 2006 (from Ramsar Database) is 539. The target is to have 54 new Ramsar sites designated by project end.	539 sites (target: 593)	Responsible party: WI (Ramsar Database manager)
	3. The number of countries ratifying AEWA increase to 75 over the course of the project.	3. AEWA Website. Report of the Agreement depositary on the number of ratified States at the AEWA MoP4	3. Currently the number of countries ratifying the AEWA stands at 58 (source: AEWA Website,	58 countries (target: 75)	Responsible party: PCU (with CO AEWA)

Intervention Logic	Indicators of performance	Means of Verification	Baseline Situation	Status as of December 2006	ACTION
		and subsequent.	November 1 <sup>st</sup> ).		
Immediate Objective: Strengthened strategic capacity to plan and manage the conservation of migratory waterbirds and the critical sites along their flyways.	1. The effectiveness of Protected Areas management at the 12 WOW Demonstration sites (total area approx. 17,332 km <sup>2</sup> ), is improved.	1. The WB/WWF Alliance Protected Areas Management Effectives Tracking Tool will be applied at each site at the start, mid and end point of the project to establish the level to which the demonstration projects are improving at least some aspects of the management of the sites.	1. There is currently no baseline because the demonstration sites have not yet been evaluated using this technique. The baseline will be established at the project start.	Average PAMETT Score for the 12 demo project sites: N/A  Target: to be defined after first round of PAMETT	Conduct GEF PAMETT for all demonstration project at the onset of the project.  Develop PAMETT template for demo projects, communicate with PA managers, develop plan for site visits and PAMETT implementation during January-June 2007.  Target PAMETT scores: this will be defined after performance of the first round of PAMETT, as WOW demo projects will only affect some of the PAMETT indicators, not all.  PR: PCU, WI, BLI and demo project teams
	2. The numbers of government employees engaged in work related to the strategic	2. This information will be extracted from AEWA contacts database that includes all focal points and	2. The AEWA Database contains approx 1000 contacts of engaged stakeholders. However the	Database of approx 1000 contacts.	Review and Organize the AEWA contacts database by country/region/category,

Intervention Logic	Indicators of performance	Means of Verification	Baseline Situation	Status as of December 2006	ACTION
	implementation of the AEWA increases by 10 % in countries that have ratified the AEWA at the project's start.	any other Government staff who is involved in AEWA implementation	database is not organized by country/category/region.	However not organized by country/category/region.  Target: AEWA database is organized and searchable by country/category. Contacts increase by at least 10% over project period.	so as to allow use to monitor increase in engagement of partners in the AEWA region, and their classification by category.  PR: PCU (with CO AEWA)
	3. Number of National & Flyway level Species Action Plans produced or in preparation For AEWA cat. A species increases to 20 (international APs) and 40 (national APs)	3. Review AEWA National Report 2005, and develop a database to be updated at each MOP. Include also Flyway SAPs as of 2005	3. to be defined on the basis of review of AEWA national reports as of 2005	International APs: 8 completed, and 4 in preparation  National APs: database to be developed by AEWA	Review all AEWA National Reports issued at MOP 2005, (ref. section 2.3) – listing no. of Species Action Plans for cat. A species (categories: ready/in prep./not there)  PR: WI/AEWA (Florian, Szabolcs & Sergey to develop a database on national APs, to be updated at each MOP)
	4. The number of critical site management plans	4. Analysis of information available in the Ramsar	4. MPs in Place for Ramsar Sites in the	Database being analysed to	Ensure that Ramsar Database is updated

Intervention Logic	Indicators of performance	Means of Verification	Baseline Situation	Status as of December 2006	ACTION
	developed and implemented in sites of critical importance to migratory waterbirds increased by 15% by the end of the project.	database	AEWA region: ** of (539) = **% MP under implementation: ** of (539) = **%	define baseline. ** of (539) = **% ** of (539) = **%	during project implementation.  PR: WI (Ramsar Database Manager)
Component 1: Scientific basis for conservation activities strengthened through development of a comprehensive, flyway scale, critical site network planning and management tool.					
Outcome 1.1. The network of critical sites is available as a tool for use by practitioners to underpin planning and management of and catalyse site level activity in flyway conservation.	1. Number of registered CSN database users	1. Counts and evaluation of: # of access hits and # registered users to the CSN Database on-line # of CSN CDs distributed # and content of feedback from CSN users	1. Baseline is zero as the CSN database does not exist.	0	Take the user identification / counting / user feedback capability requirements into account when developing the CSN tool and web portal.  PR: WI/WCMC (Szabolcs)

Intervention Logic	Indicators of performance	Means of Verification	Baseline Situation	Status as of December 2006	ACTION
	2. Flyway information used in the development of species action plans for at least 5 species.	2. Reference to the site network tool in the Action Plan documents and/or direct enquiries to the agencies involved. One evaluation around the AEWA MoP4, 2008.	2. Does not exist. Species Action Plans cannot currently use the critical site network tool.	0 (target: 5)	Review of International Action Plan documents after CSN tool's launch. Information on national Action Plans will be derived from CNS users registration data. Take this requirement (user information and feedback) when developing the CSN portal  PR: WI / WCMC (Szabolcs)
Outcome 1.2. Primary data resources that underpin flyway conservation, planning and management activities enhanced to include all critically important sites in the AEWA region.	1. Data for at least 90% of the critically important sites in the AEWA area are available in the IWC and/or IBA database by the end of the project.	1. Compare the list of critically important sites established by the project against the database records in the IWC and IBA databases at project end. Comparison to the baseline will enable a demonstration of the improvement in this figure during the project.	1. Data does not exist. There is no CSN tool currently available to enable estimation. This will be evaluated as soon as the first version of the critical network tool is completed, based on point data. This is envisaged in Y2.  The IWC, IBA databases are not interoperable, and therefore it is not possible to define the level of information available for	Baseline to be defined by Q1, Y2	This baseline will be established in Q1, year 2 (once the IWC, IBA databases become interoperable). <i>Only at that stage</i> , an assessment of the amount of additional work required to reach the target of 90% will be possible.  PR: WI / WCMC (Szabolcs & CSN team) to define baseline at year 2.



Intervention Logic	Indicators of performance	Means of Verification	Baseline Situation	Status as of December 2006	ACTION
			the critical sites, nor to define how many critical sites are there in the flyway.		
Outcome 1.3. Flyway data gathering and monitoring capacity strengthened to support the updating and maintenance of primary data resources that underpin conservation of the network of critical sites.	1. Number of counters trained as a result of the project who are then involvement in waterbird counts for IWC and IBA Programmes, by the end of the project. Target: 75	1. Comparison of the database of trained waterbird counters against the data contribution records for IWC and IBA. This will be carried out annually from the start of the waterbird counters training.	1. Training courses have not yet started, and no data exists to establish the proportion of trainees that become long-term contributors to these counts. A database of counters that will be trained through project activities, will be set-up and maintained to monitor this indicator.	0 (targets: to be defined by June 2007)	Review target by June 2006 and include in WOW Semi-Annual Report # 2. Target to be reviewed to reflect actual available co-financing budget for this outcome.  PR: WI, PCU
	2. Proportion of newly recognised critically important sites that are included in one or both of the IWC/IBA Programme waterbird counts exceeds 75% by the end of the project.	2. Once the first version of the network of critical sites is established based on existing knowledge, a record of the sites that are subsequently added based on new information collected by the project will be maintained. Annually the inclusion of these sites in annual IWC and IBA counts will be reviewed to track progress.	2. No network of critical sites currently exists and so no baseline estimate is possible. This will be established from when the first version of the network that is based on the known sites is established.	Baseline to be defined by Q1, Y2	Define targets and new baseline by Q1, year 2 as part of the development of the CSN tool.  PR: WI / BLI / WCMC – CSN team

<b>Intervention Logic</b>	<b>Indicators of performance</b>	<b>Means of Verification</b>	<b>Baseline Situation</b>	<b>Status as of December 2006</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
Outcome 1.4. Species and critical site knowledge base supports management and planning decision-making in flyway conservation.	1. By the end of the project, 10 proposals to fill information gaps have been submitted to external donors.	1. Stakeholders who apply for seed-funding to help them develop proposals will be asked to report whenever they submit substantive research proposals to external donors (i.e. outside the project partnership). Evaluation will be ongoing and reported annually.	1. It is not appropriate to measure a baseline for this indicator because there is no systematic way of evaluating the number of research proposals developed by project stakeholders. This indicator will reflect the success of the project of stimulating new proposals.	0 of 10	At Q1 of year 2 it is expected that information gaps will be identified (output of a senior consultant hired by WI to identify gaps – activity 4.1). This will be triggering the formulation of relevant project proposals for additional research.  PR: WI and BLI identify priorities, prompt new proposals & monitor number of proposals developed with project funds & as a result of activity 4.1.
Component 2 Establishing a basis for strengthening decision-making and technical capacity for wetland and migratory waterbird conservation.					
Outcome 2.1. Transferable model Training and Awareness Raising	1. Model Training and Awareness raising Programme adopted as the basis for capacity	1. The Training Boards of the each Project sub-region will inform the PCU of its willingness to use the model	1. Not applicable. The model programme does not exist yet. This situation does not enable	Regional endorsement: 0 of 4 regions	Establishment of Regional training Boards and developing a model framework training

<b>Intervention Logic</b>	<b>Indicators of performance</b>	<b>Means of Verification</b>	<b>Baseline Situation</b>	<b>Status as of December 2006</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
Programme framework produced for developing wetland and waterbird conservation capacity.	development programmes in project focal sub-regions.	programme as the basis for its own sub-regional Programme development.	evaluation of its uptake.  Targets: T&A programme formally adopted by all 4 sub-regional Training Boards and used in at least 10 countries by project end.	Country Adoption: 0 of 10	programme are pre-conditions to the achievement of this outcome.  PR: WI (Capacity Development team)
Outcome 2.2. Wetland and waterbird conservation Training and Awareness Raising Programmes produced ready for implementation in four sub-regions.	1. A Training and Awareness raising Programme is available in each of the four project focal regions: Western and Central Africa; Eastern and Southern Africa; The Middle East; Central Asia/ Caucasus States.	1. Publication of Programmes in the predominant languages of each of the four focal sub-regions.	1. Currently there are no sub-regionally focused training and awareness raising programmes.	N/A	PR: WI (Capacity Development team)
Component 3: Enhanced availability and exchange of information through improved communications capacity and resource provision.					
Outcome 3.1. Demonstrations of	Each demonstration project has developed its	Protocols for data collection will be established in the	Baselines will be defined by each demonstration	Demo project not started.	Include adequate provision for the

<b>Intervention Logic</b>	<b>Indicators of performance</b>	<b>Means of Verification</b>	<b>Baseline Situation</b>	<b>Status as of December 2006</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
best practice management of migratory waterbirds and wetlands available across the flyway.	own log frame for the purposes of the project (see Annex G). At the project inception they will be asked to develop their own M&E plan based on these.	inception period by each demonstration project local executing agency, in consultation with their lead contractor and the PCU.	project local executing agency at the start of the project, in consultation with their lead contractor and the PCU.	M&E framework included in demo projects' reporting formats	formulation of M&E plans for each demo project  PR: PCU
Outcome 3.2 Mechanisms for governments and NGOs to communicate between themselves and with each other strengthened.	1. Annual number of visitors to the AEWA website increases threefold by the end of the project.	1. Annually the number of hits on the AEWA website will be reported to the Project by the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat. Comparisons will then be made to the year preceding the Project's start.	1. The number of hits on the AEWA website in 2006 was: (to be provided by WCMC)	N/A	Website Visitor Counter externally managed by WCMC – figure to be provided by WCMC to the CO AEWA / PCU  The counter should be transferred to AEWA CO if possible.  PR: Communication Officer AEWA / WCMC
	2. There are more than 200 subscribers to the email discussion group by the end of the project.	2. The Communications Officer for the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat will report to the Project, the number of subscribers to the discussion group annually.	2. There is currently no discussion group. So a baseline cannot be established.	Discussion group scoping and set-up being defined	Set-up discussion group  PR: CO AEWA, PCU
Outcome 3.3. Mechanisms of exchange between and within sub-regions for improved	1. At least two site twinning arrangements/joint site action plans established in each flyway exchange	1. Each flyway exchange network coordinator will report to the Project on twinning / joint site action plans that develop as a	1. During the establishment of the flyway exchange networks it will be a requirement that the number of	N/A	PR: WI

<b>Intervention Logic</b>	<b>Indicators of performance</b>	<b>Means of Verification</b>	<b>Baseline Situation</b>	<b>Status as of December 2006</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
flyway-level migratory waterbird and wetland management established.	network by the end of the project.	result. The numbers will in themselves be an indicator of success but their comparison to the baseline will provide further qualification of success.	existing twinning / joint site action plans pre-existing are reported.		
Outcome 3.4: Wise-use of migratory waterbirds and wetlands is better understood and implemented by governments in focal sub-regions.	1. # of countries ratifying the Ramsar Convention in the AEWA region. Target: More than 50% of the States in the AEWA regions which are not yet Ramsar Convention contracting parties, ratify it by the end of the project.	1. Annually the Ramsar Convention Database will be examined to establish the progress towards this target.	1. The number of States not ratifying the Ramsar Convention in the AEWA region at the start of the project is: 19 (source: Ramsar website – contracting parties and AEWA Secretariat)	0 of 19 (0 % increase from previous report)	Define baseline by analyzing the Ramsar Database  PR: PCU / WI
	2. Annual waterbird surveys take place in 90% of States in sub-regions by the end of the project.	2. Waterbird Census reports for western Palearctic and South-West Asia and the African regions of the IWC will be examined annually to establish the additional States that have contributed waterbird surveys since the start of the Project. This will be reported annually.	2. the number of Countries that have contributed waterbird surveys to the IWC in 2005 is: *** out of 119	Baseline being defined  ** of 119	Baseline & indicators to be defined with WI IWC database team.  PR: WI (IWC Database Manager)

## 5.3 Project Impact

Please provide relevant information for inclusion in the project monitoring and evaluation framework.

QUESTION	ANSWER
<b>STAKEHOLDERS</b>	
# of staff involved in the implementation of the project	14 (including management, technical, finance, administrative and communication support)
# of Volunteers involved in this project	100 (National IWC coordinators contributing to digitizing IWC boundaries)
<b>TARGET BENEFICIARIES</b>	
# of people involved in project workshops organised	36
# of people trained to date under this project	65 people were trained in field survey techniques through a project contributing to the WOW objectives (1.3.2.1) and part of WI's cofunding contribution.
<b>COMMUNICATION ISSUES</b>	
# of press articles produced and disseminated featuring the project	Press release about Waterbirds around the World which mentioned the project as an implementation mechanism for the recommendations of the conference and AEWA. At least 6 articles followed the press release, but 211 website was identified which used the WI press release distributed by Associated Press.
# of TV/radio programmes featuring the project and/or related issues promoted	3 related to the above event.
# of publications produced under this project	0
Estimated # of people targeted through institutional communication efforts	Around 100 directly in meetings, thousands through the project and AEWA website outreach and millions through radio and TV media outreach

## 6. Key Lessons Learned

Report on any key lessons learned during project preparation and implementation. Please focus on issues that may (a) help in the design of future projects, and/or (b) help in improving performance of the WOW project as a whole, and (c) contribute to best practice in wetlands management and conservation of migratory waterbirds.

- (1) Communication between the project partners and SRS has to be strengthened. It is important to ensure that team members remote from one another are kept informed on key decisions. Although new communication mechanisms can play an important role here, working face to face remains extremely important and

project travel budgets should be adequate to allow that (e.g. SRS staff visiting and working with the Wageningen team and vice versa).

## **7. Workplan for the Next Semi-annual Period**

### ***7.1 Updated overall project workplan***

Provide the overall project workplan, to reflect the actual start date and status of project activities.

### ***7.2 Workplan for next six months***

Provide a detailed workplan for the coming six-month period. You may add rows under each planned activity, do reflect any sub-activity that may be envisaged.



## ANNEXES

In each report, please include the following information in the annexes:

- ✓ List of workshops (title, date, location, # of participants) held in the period covered by this report
- ✓ List of technical reports produced in the period covered by this report
- ✓ List of media communication (TV/radio/press) released in the period covered by this report
- ✓ List of publications produced in the period covered by this report
- ✓ Updated inventory of equipment purchased with project funds (please use the table provided – double-click on the file icon below, insert items, and the “save” the file)



D:\Userdata\Projects  
Flyway Project\0 Proj

Please send by email to the PCU:

- ✓ 1 photograph of the project team as a group, and passport size photo of project manager
- ✓ Photographs representing main aspects of project work, and illustrating project impact (i.e. of workshops, field research, education and awareness, ecotourism, volunteer groups etc. Please provide pictures that may help illustrating the impact of the project, i.e. of the situation “before”, “during” and “after” the project)
- ✓ Soft copy of technical reports produced by project
- ✓ Soft copy of workshop reports

Please keep records of (for later review/consultation by the PCU)

- ✓ Financial records (original invoices, receipts) of all expenditure incurred with project funds
- ✓ Hard copy of press articles and publications produced by the project
- ✓ Copy of TV/radio programs

## Annex 1: Inventory of Outputs/Services

### a) Meetings

No	Meeting Type <sup>4</sup>	Title	Venue	Dates	Organized by	# of Participants	Report #
1.	Expert Group Meeting	Technical Workshop on “Developing a Critical Site Network Tool under the framework of the AEWA Flyway (Wings over Wetlands, WoW) Project”	Cambridge	5-6 Oct. 2006	WI/BLI/U NEP-WCMC	24	1
2.	Expert Group Meeting	2 <sup>nd</sup> WOW Technical Workshop	Cambridge	17-18 April 2007	WI/BLI/U NEP-WCMC	18	2
3.	Expert Group Meeting	Meeting on the Capacity Development Component of the WOW project	Entebbe	28-29 April 2007	WI	3	3

### b) Printed Materials

No	Type <sup>5</sup>	Title	Author(s)/Editor(s)	Publisher	Publication Date	Distribution List Attached Yes/No
1.						
2.						
3.						

<sup>4</sup> Meeting types (Inter-governmental Meeting, Expert Group Meeting, Training Workshop/Seminar, Other)

<sup>5</sup> Material types (Report to Inter-governmental Meeting, Technical Publication, Technical Report, Other)

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**c) Media coverage**

No	Description	Date
1.	Interim project website: <a href="http://wow.wetlands.org/">http://wow.wetlands.org/</a>	
2.	Preliminary WOW website (media resource): <a href="http://www.flywaysproject.org">www.flywaysproject.org</a>	
3.	WOW Project Resource page on the AEWA website: <a href="http://www.unep-aewa.org/activities/wow/index.htm">http://www.unep-aewa.org/activities/wow/index.htm</a>	
4.	AEWA Website News & E-Newsletter Announcements on WOW <a href="http://www.unep-aewa.org/newsletter/aewa_newsletter_9.htm">http://www.unep-aewa.org/newsletter/aewa_newsletter_9.htm</a> <a href="http://www.unep-aewa.org/newsletter/aewa_newsletter_10.htm">http://www.unep-aewa.org/newsletter/aewa_newsletter_10.htm</a> <a href="http://www.unep-aewa.org/newsletter/aewa_newsletter_11.htm">http://www.unep-aewa.org/newsletter/aewa_newsletter_11.htm</a> <a href="http://www.unep-aewa.org/newsletter/aewa_newsletter_12.htm">http://www.unep-aewa.org/newsletter/aewa_newsletter_12.htm</a> <a href="http://www.unep-aewa.org/newsletter/aewa_newsletter_12.htm">http://www.unep-aewa.org/newsletter/aewa_newsletter_12.htm</a> <a href="http://www.unep-aewa.org/newsletter/aewa_newsletter_13.htm">http://www.unep-aewa.org/newsletter/aewa_newsletter_13.htm</a> <a href="http://www.unep-aewa.org/news/news_elements/2007/wow_project_partnership.htm">http://www.unep-aewa.org/news/news_elements/2007/wow_project_partnership.htm</a>	
5.	Project related news on the AEWA website WOW Project Partnership helps highlight WMBD - celebrations take place at key sites - across the AEWA region: <a href="http://www.unep-aewa.org/news/news_elements/2007/wow_project_partnership.htm">http://www.unep-aewa.org/news/news_elements/2007/wow_project_partnership.htm</a> Start of the Wings Over Wetlands - African-Eurasian Flyways Project <a href="http://www.unep-aewa.org/news/news_elements/2006/wow_project_starts.htm">http://www.unep-aewa.org/news/news_elements/2006/wow_project_starts.htm</a> The 'Wings Over Wetlands' (WOW) Steering Committee meets for the first time <a href="http://www.unep-aewa.org/news/news_elements/2007/first_wow_steering_committee_meeting.htm">http://www.unep-aewa.org/news/news_elements/2007/first_wow_steering_committee_meeting.htm</a> Wings Over Wetlands from the Arctic to the Cape – UN launches project on bird migration routes in Africa and Eurasia (Press Release) <a href="http://www.unep-aewa.org/activities/flywaysproject/docs/press/wow_press_release/press_release_wow_english.pdf">http://www.unep-aewa.org/activities/flywaysproject/docs/press/wow_press_release/press_release_wow_english.pdf</a> The AEWA Technical Committee met in Berne, Switzerland (WOW Presentation) <a href="http://www.unep-aewa.org/news/news_elements/2006/tc7_e-news.htm">http://www.unep-aewa.org/news/news_elements/2006/tc7_e-news.htm</a>	

	<p>WOW Demonstration Projects  <a href="http://www.unep-aewa.org/activities/flywaysproject/demonstration_projects.htm">http://www.unep-aewa.org/activities/flywaysproject/demonstration_projects.htm</a>                      Lancement de Wings Over Wetlands – Projet de voies de migration en Afrique-Eurasie  <a href="http://www.unep-aewa.org/news/news_elements/2006/wow_project_starts_fr.htm">http://www.unep-aewa.org/news/news_elements/2006/wow_project_starts_fr.htm</a>                      Mise à jour du projet WOW: Accent sur le Réseau de sites critiques  <a href="http://www.unep-aewa.org/news/news_elements/2007/wow_project_update_fr.htm">http://www.unep-aewa.org/news/news_elements/2007/wow_project_update_fr.htm</a>                      Première réunion du Comité directeur de «Wings Over Wetlands» (WOW)  <a href="http://www.unep-aewa.org/news/news_elements/2007/first_wow_steering_committee_meeting_fr.htm">http://www.unep-aewa.org/news/news_elements/2007/first_wow_steering_committee_meeting_fr.htm</a>                      Wings Over Wetlands de l'Arctique au Cap – Les Nations Unies lancent un projet sur les voies de migration Afrique-Eurasie des oiseaux  <a href="http://www.unep-aewa.org/activities/flywaysproject/docs/press/invitation/invitation_to_press_wow_project_fr.pdf">http://www.unep-aewa.org/activities/flywaysproject/docs/press/invitation/invitation_to_press_wow_project_fr.pdf</a>                      Comité technique de l'AEWA s'est réuni à Bern, en Suisse, pour la septième fois  <a href="http://www.unep-aewa.org/news/news_elements/2006/tc7_e-news_fr.htm">http://www.unep-aewa.org/news/news_elements/2006/tc7_e-news_fr.htm</a></p>	
6.	“Call for global action to combat waterbird decline” - The Scotsman	13 March 07
7.	TV: NOS journal ((most important TV news in Netherlands- around million viewers at 18.00)	12 March 07
8.	NOS Teletext	12 March 07
9.	Interview with Ward Hagemeyer, Wetlands International on the Dutch Radio 1	12 March 07
10.	Interview with Ward Hagemeyer, Wetlands International on the Radio 2 Vara's ontbijtradio	12 March 07
11.	Samenwerking nodig om watervogel te beschermen (Collaboration is needed to protect waterbirds) in Volkskrant	13 March 07
12.	Foxnews ( <a href="http://www.foxnews.com/wires/2007Mar12/0,4670,Waterbirds,00.html">http://www.foxnews.com/wires/2007Mar12/0,4670,Waterbirds,00.html</a> )	12 March 07
13.	Building, pollution threaten waterbirds <a href="http://heraldtribune.com/">http://heraldtribune.com/</a>	12 March 07
14.	Development, pollution threaten many of world's waterbirds <a href="http://www.nctimes.com">http://www.nctimes.com</a> (North County Times)	12 March 07

**d) Technical Cooperation with relevant parallel initiatives**

No	Type <sup>6</sup>	Purpose	Venue	Duration
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1.	Staff mission	CMS Standing Committee meeting	Bonn	3 days
2.	Staff mission	WIGWAG and AEWA Technical Committee meeting	Bern	5 days
3.	Staff mission	AEWA Standing Committee	Bonn	1 day
4.	Staff mission	Ornis Committee, SCOFCA, EU DG ENV/DG SANCO	Brussels	1 day

**e) Other Outputs/Services (e.g. Networking, Query-response, Participation in meetings etc.)**

No	Description	Date
1.	1st WOW Communications Meeting	20/09/2006
2.	Launching press conference in Bonn	20/11/2006

## **Report #1**

# **Technical Workshop on “Developing a Critical Site Network Tool under the framework of the AEWA Flyway (Wings over Wetlands, WoW) Project”**

5-6 October 2006, Cambridge

**Organizers:** Szabolcs Nagy (Wetlands International, WI), Ali Stattersfield (BirdLife International, BLI), Rob Pople (UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre, UNEP-WCMC)

**Chair:** Edoardo Zandri (UNOPS)

**Host:** UNEP-WCMC

**Participants:** Rob Pople (UNEP-WCMC), Ian May (UNEP-WCMC), Christöph Zöckler (UNEP-WCMC), Tim Johnson (UNEP-WCMC), Frank Biasi (UNEP-WCMC), Daniel Jackson (UNEP-WCMC), Toon Helmink (Wetlands International), Ellen Diémé-Amting (Wetlands International), Szabolcs Nagy (Wetlands International), Ward Hagemeyer (Wetlands International), Nicholas Davidson (Ramsar Convention on Wetlands), Vito Perrone (University College London), Bert Lenten (UNEP/AEWA Secretariat), Baz Hughes (Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust), Peter Cranswick (Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust), Edoardo Zandri (UNOPS), Mike Evans (BirdLife International), Lincoln Fishpool (BirdLife International), David Thomas (BirdLife International), Leon Bennun (BirdLife International), Alison Stattersfield (BirdLife International), Martin Sneary (BirdLife International), Mark Balman (BirdLife International), Kristine Smith (Wildlife Conservation Society).

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## **Introduction**

Component 1 of the WoW Project aims to strengthen the rational basis for conservation measures through developing a comprehensive, flyway scale planning and management tool called hereafter as the Critical Site Network Tool. This tool will provide information on all the sites of critical importance to migratory waterbirds across the African/Eurasian area by combining the information held in the IWC, IBA and Ramsar databases through a web-portal.

Special thanks to the UNEP-WCMC for hosting the events and in particular to Gillian Warltier and Rob Pople for their hard work making the logistic arrangements for the event.

The presentations showed at the workshop can be downloaded from <http://193.115.203.182/temp/111106/Downloads/Presentations/index.cfm> until 11 November.

**Thursday, 5 October 2006**

**Project context and purpose of the workshop**

In his introduction, Edoardo Zandri explained that the aims of the workshop were (1) to develop a vision for the Critical Site Network Tool shared by the technical project partners (WI, BLI and UNEP-WCMC) and key user groups (e.g. the secretariats of the Ramsar Convention and AEWA, species specialist groups, the avian flu research and environmental impact assessment communities) and (2) to review the current state of the key datasets as five years have passed since the workshop held during the PDF-B phase of the project development.

**Overview to Component 1 Critical Site Network**

Ward Hagemeyer went on to explain various outcomes of the Site Network Component in more detail.

**Overview to Activity 1.4 Development of a web-based portal**

The aims of this component are (a) to integrate and make available to the potential users the data from the main databases; (b) to display the network(s) of critical sites to the users via the Internet and (c) to link these data to information on ecological requirements, site use and management advice.

This activity will build on work carried out under Activity 1.1, i.e. establishing interoperability amongst the key databases and the project plan foresees that the plans for the web-based portal will be developed from month 6 to 12 of the project and then testing and fine-tuning will take place more or less during the entire span of the project. However, the functional requirements expected from the portal shall determine the level of interoperability necessary amongst the key databases.

**End-users' perspectives on functionalities of the portal**

A card exercise was used to collect ideas from participants about the functions necessary for the tool making it a useful contribution to their work.

The results of the exercise can be grouped into groups of information on:

- Species: ecology, migration strategy, timing of site use, trends;
- Sites: summarised context information, attributes.

**Action points:**

***UNEP-WCMC will lead on this activity. Based on the outcome of the workshop it will develop a concept by 30 December that will be discussed by the data custodians by March 2007.***

**Overview to Activity 1.1 Interoperability of databases**

This activity aims to facilitate the linkages amongst the IBA, IWC and Ramsar databases by ensuring that certain minimum data standards are met by all databases. This activity



forms the basis of all other activities and starts at the beginning of the project. It is expected that mapping of existing quality standards and developing them further in order to enable linkage will be completed by Month 6 of the project. From Month 3 to 14 standards of different databases shall be integrated and tested.

**Existing relevant databases (IBA/WBDB, IWC, RSDS, WDPA)**

Presentations on each database are available on file at WI and UNEP-WCMC.

**Key observations:**

- Each database has unique functions critical for the conservation agenda of the organization developed them. This underscores the importance of data sharing rather than data merging.
- The IBA (WBDB) database has the most comprehensive thematic coverage, but other databases might contain more details on specific aspects, i.e. the Ramsar database on habitats and management, the IWC is able to produce time series of mid-winter counts for ducks, geese, swans and waders and has the most comprehensive geographic coverage. The Ramsar and WDPA can contain only ‘official’ data (i.e. as submitted / approved by the relevant national authority).
- All databases are in the process of renewal and each of them are looking into the possibility of using web-based tools to facilitate information flow. This provides a good opportunity for incorporating the changes necessary for the interoperability.
- Most databases have some problems with missing data.

**Group discussion on scope of early awareness raising material about the site network tool under Activity 1.7**

The project plan foresees that materials will be produced raising awareness of the importance of the tool and its process of development. These will be published by Month 6.

Although many participants felt that it is premature to promote a tool that does not exist yet, there were arguments in favour of it as well. Any early awareness raising material should carefully introduce the concept of flyway conservation to governmental focal points and site managers based on the Stroud & Boere paper from the Flyway Conference and in the context of their obligations under international agreements such as Ramsar, AEWA and the Birds Directive, raise the profile of the key datasets and institutions contributing to building Critical Site Network Tool.

**Action points:**

- *Based on the above recommendations Szabolcs Nagy, Camillo Ponziani and Florian Keil draft a leaflet and will send it to the project partners for comments by January 2007.*

**Group discussion on key international events to target during the course of the project: input to the communication strategy under Activity 1.8**

The project plan also foresees that key events will be targeted to promote the site network development. Important events may influence the planning of work. Therefore, a short discussion identified the key events relevant for the project:

- Launch of the proceedings of the Global Flyway Conference
- Ramsar COP 10 - October 2008
- Regional Ramsar meetings in 2007 (possible combined with GEF and AEWA events)
- MEDWET Meeting in 2007
- AEWA Technical Committee
- AEWA MOP4: end 2008, Madagascar
- BirdLife 2008 Global Conference
- BirdLife regional partnership meetings in Africa, Middle-East, Europe
- CBD 2008 Bonn
- CMS COP9 in November 2008
- Ramsar STRP working group mid-term workshops in March 2007
- Annual conference AIAI
- AIAI capacity building project (Nick)
- GAINS website (once there is something)

**Action points:**

- *Szabolcs Nagy, Camillo Ponziani and Florian Keil specify dates of the listed events and incorporate them into the communication plan to be drafted by March 2007.*

## **Friday, 6 October**

### **Group discussions on interoperability**

Participants discussed the issue of interoperability in two groups. One focused on *species*, the other on *sites*. The key question was what level of interoperability is needed for effective functioning of the web-based portal in the light of user requirements identified on the previous day.

In the case of *species*, interoperability can be established based on species name and location. In the case of names, problems might occur due to use of synonyms or taxonomy (acceptance or rejection of species), but it was felt that it should be possible to reconcile these discrepancies between the project partners. However, it might be more difficult to do so with international conservation treaties. Nevertheless, link tables can relatively easily address this problem.

Time of site use is an issue that requires further investigation as the IWC data are restricted to a narrow period (mid-winter), while the IBA data do not distinguish non-breeding occurrences at a finer resolution. Improvement is especially needed during spring/autumn migration.

For flyway management purposes, it is also important to assign the species data to the relevant populations. Probably a separate database, based on the Waterbird Population Estimates 4 and the flyway atlases, shall be set up and linked to the parent databases.

The interpretation of count data might be problematic in some cases because of possible varying scale of counts and different methods of data capturing in the IWC and IBA databases. However, this problem can be partially addressed by stating clearly the source of data.

In case of *sites* the group has listed several attributes that are necessary for linking sites such as site names, site codes, centroid, polygon, area, metadata (ISO, INSPIRE), species link. However, there are a number of challenges. E.g. in case of site names: languages, different alphabets, spelling, use of synonyms. In case of codes questions were raised about existing coding schemes and how to address existing IDs. In case of location data (centroids and polygons) the group has found that currently all systems strongly rely on countries, however this causes the following problems: the data may not be available to the competent authorities, lack of GIS capacity in country, inconsistent formats, lack of metadata, inconsistent quality and metadata, different boundary definitions, limited central capacity at WoW partners, limited funding for data creation and management.

The group has suggested the following solutions:

- Site names: synonyms through look up tables, fuzzy matching, std. site codes
- Site codes: WoW site codes based on central registry/coding system.
- Locations: improve WoW partner capacity, training, incentives for providing data, produce standards and guidelines, provide appropriate software tools, obtain detailed base map data.

In case of *sites*, the group concluded that linkages can be established fairly simply based on polygons. However, data quality issues should be addressed. The group also suggested several solutions to the problems.

**Action points:**

- ***Species Working Group is formed by BLI, WI and UNEP-WCMC to establish interoperability between IBA, IWC and other databases. Members: Lincoln Fishpool, Simon Delaney, Rob Pople.***
- ***BLI sends its species list for waterbird families to WI by 14 October.***
- ***WI reviews the list and identifies differences by 30 October.***
- ***Species Working Group discusses differences and identifies solutions for dealing with them on 6 or 7 November.***
- ***Sites Working Group is formed by BLI, WI and UNEP-WCMC to establish interoperability between the IBA, IWC, Ramsar and WDPA databases through spatial data. Members: Ian May, Mark Balman, Ellen Diémé-Amting, Toon Helmink.***

**Overview to Activity 1.2 Collection of spatial site reference data**

This activity will provide the basis for linking IBA, IWC and Ramsar sites based on their polygons by gathering existing site boundary data and ensuring that site boundaries of all sites are digitised. It is foreseen that the full digitalisation process will be completed by Month 36.

**Review of the status of spatial data (covering IBAs, IWC count sites, Ramsar sites, WDPA)**

**IBAs:** all IBAs have their central coordinates and approximately 50% of IBAs in the region (excluding Central Europe, Central Asia and Canada) also have digital boundaries linked to the database through a unique ID.

**IWC:** the scheme covers 23,500 sites in 64 countries. Mostly represented by their central coordinates, but boundary information is available from the UK, Ireland, the Netherlands, Ukraine and Romania. However, in some cases even the central coordinates are not available.

**Ramsar:** digital site boundary information is probably available for 67 countries. Data are being collected by EEA from 43 European countries, but have to be retrieved from the competent national authorities from another 24 countries. No digital site boundary information is available from 37 countries. The main gaps are in West Africa.

**WDPA:** protected area site boundary information is available to various degrees. Main gaps are in Central Europe, the Middle East and North Africa.

It was also considered that in the light of the discussion on interoperability, digitizing flyway maps is important and it was suggested that WI continues digitizing flyway boundaries.

Regarding the Ramsar site boundaries, the Ramsar Secretariat, referring to this project, will encourage the contracting parties to send digitised site boundaries. A cross-check with the data held in the WDPA would also be useful.

Apparently, the gap in the availability of spatial data is the biggest in case of the IWC sites, Therefore, some sort of prioritisation is necessary in case of IWC site boundaries. Probably it will be sufficient to digitise the boundaries of those sites that will be eventually selected for the inclusion into the critical site network (and do not overlap with IBAs). This can be best decided after the first linkage of the datasets based on central coordinates.

The digitalisation of IBAs is largely dependent on the availability of a dedicated person at the respective national BirdLife organisation. Nevertheless, the digitalisation of IBAs is the most advanced and therefore available IBA boundaries could be of great help even in the first step of linking the sites.

**Action points:**

- *WI shall identify the sites without central coordinates and assess the importance of these sites in the light of Ramsar Criterion 6 by 30 October.*
- *Central coordinates and names of all relevant sites of the IBA, IWC and Ramsar databases should be extracted and sent to UNEP-WCMC by 15 November.*
- *WI prioritizes IWC sites for digitalisation after having them overlaid with IBAs in the light of advice from the regional workshops to be held in early 2007 to review the results of the first overlay of the datasets by May 2007.*

- ***BLI identifies countries where assistance is needed to get IBA boundaries digitised by 30 November.***

**Quality standards for spatial data requested by donors and its implications; other obstacles to overcome**

The German government, one of the donors to the project, required that “Digitalization of surfaces has to be carried out based on harmonized geographical basic data and balanced projects (e.g. SABE, EuroGlobalMap and EuroRegionalMap). Current available guidelines from the INSPIRE-initiative of the EU-Commission have to be taken into account during digitalization. A relevant draft of directives can be found on the web. Designations of implementation are presently worked out and should be approved according to the 2006-planned adoption of the draft during the procedure of comitology. The acceptor of donation has to take into account both the draft of directives and available standpoint papers as well as drafts of designations of implementation”.

Ian May (UNEP-WCMC) and Mark Balman (BLI) have reviewed the requirements of the draft INSPIRE directive. Mark’s general conclusion was that the directive requires compliance with some common standards which would be anyway needed for establishing interoperability under this project. These can be addressed through guidelines for digitisation.

***Action points:***

- ***WI and BLI, with the assistance of UNEP-WCMC, review their guidelines for digitisation in the light of the decision (expected to be made at the European Council Meeting in December) on the INSPIRE Directive in January 2007.***
- ***Both organisations issue guidelines for their respective networks on the standards of digitisation in February 2007.***

**Overview to Activity 1.3 Creation of the basis of the Critical Site Network by linking the main data resources**

Under this activity sites from the various databases will be linked using two methods: by central coordinates and by boundaries to: (1) show coverage of the site networks to aid identifying underrepresented areas; (2) create a consolidated site database referable through common spatial coverage for further analysis; (3) show the distribution of critically important sites.

According to the project plan this activity starts in Month 7 and it is expected that a first overlap analysis can be carried out in the second year of the project based on existing site data, and then further refined once the digitisation of sites is completed. The completion of this activity is dependent on the completion of gap filling surveys as well.

**Group discussion on the basis of the network**

**Geographic coverage:** it was suggested that the project should aim to include the entire AEWA region including Greenland and NE Canada depicting entire flyways.

**Species coverage:** the conventions advised to set up the system in a way that allows flexibility, but all AEWA species should be included. It was suggested to start from the list of waterbird families and then filters can be used to define migratory congregatory waterbirds where the application of a site-based approach is most appropriate.

The following points were also made in relation to identification of key sites:

- In principal the Ramsar/IBA criteria shall be used as a basis for selecting sites for the critical network. However, IBA Criterion A4i has in some cases higher thresholds than Ramsar Criterion 6 as flyway populations were combined in Africa and the Middle East.
- It was proposed that high breeding densities could be used to identify key areas on breeding grounds where many waterbirds do not congregate so much as on migration (e.g. waders).
- Definition of site boundaries for the sites included in the critical network should follow the procedure applied in the IBA programme, as if these sites have really critical importance for the conservation of the species they are most probably already identified as IBA, and if not they should be defined under the IBA programme anyway.
- It was suggested to use information from existing wetland inventories and to make use information from radio-tracking and ringing studies.

**Action points:**

- *BLI and WI draw up a list of migratory congregatory waterbirds when they discuss the taxonomic issues on 6 or 7 November.*
- *BLI makes available existing IBA boundary data to UNEP-WCMC by 15 November to aid site linkage.*
- *UNEP-WCMC overlays the available data to aid identification of gaps in coverage and attempts linkage based on central coordinates by 7 December.*

## Short-term action plan

Expected Outcome	Action	Deadline	Party responsible
1.4 Develop a web-based portal making information available through the Internet	Develop a concept for the portal	30 December	UNEP-WCMC
	Discuss the concept with data custodians	March 2007	UNEP-WCMC, BLI, WI
1.7 Stakeholders are informed about the development of the critical site network tool	Draft awareness raising leaflet and send it for consultation to project partners	January 2007	WI, AEWA, UNOPS
1.8 Communication plan ready	Specify dates of listed events and incorporate them into the project's communication plan	March 2007	WI, AEWA, UNOPS
1.1 Standards underlining interoperability established	BLI sends its list of species for waterbird families	14 October	BLI (Mike Evans)
	WI reviews the list and identifies differences	30 October	WI (Simon Delaney)
	Species Working Group discusses differences and identify solutions for dealing with them	7 November	WI, BLI, UNEP-WCMC (Rob Pople)
1.2 Spatial data	WI shall identify the sites without central coordinates and assess the importance of these sites in the light of Ramsar Criterion 6	30 October	WI
	Central coordinates and names of all relevant sites of the IBA, IWC and Ramsar databases should be extracted and sent to UNEP-WCMC	15 November	WI, BLI
	WI prioritizes IWC sites for digitalisation after having them overlaid with IBAs in the light of advice from the regional workshops	May 2007	WI
	BLI identifies countries where assistance is needed to get IBA boundaries digitised	30 November	BLI
1.2 Quality standards set by donors met	WI and BLI, with the assistance of UNEP-WCMC, review their guidelines for digitalisation in the light of the decision (expected to be made at the European Council Meeting in December) on the INSPIRE Directive	January 2007	BLI, WI, UNEP-WCMC
	Issue guidelines to networks on the standards of digitalisation	February 2007	BLI, WI
1.3 Links between IBA, IWC	BLI and WI draw up a list of	7 November	BLI, WI

and Ramsar sites established primarily based on spatial coordinates	migratory congregatory waterbirds		
	BLI makes available existing IBA boundary data to UNEP-WCMC	15 November	BLI
	UNEP-WCMC overlays the available data to aid identification of gaps in coverage and attempts linkage based on central coordinates	7 December	UNEP-WCMC



## Report #2

# 2<sup>nd</sup> WOW Technical Workshop 17<sup>th</sup>–18<sup>th</sup> April 2007

### AGENDA

#### Technical meeting of the WOW Project, 17<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> April 2007

**Wetlands:** Szabolcs Nagy, Nicky Petkov, Simon Delany, Jappe Franke (databases) and Sergei Khomenko (digitisation). **UNEP-WCMC:** Ian May, Gerardo Fragoso, Nicholas Warren. **BirdLife:** Ali Stattersfield, Lincoln Fishpool, Stu Butchart, Vicky Jones, Mike Evans, Mark Balman (Tues, Wed am only), Dan Omolo (Tues only), Simon Mahood (Tues only), Rob Pople (Tues only), Ian Fisher (monitoring only)

#### Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> April (13.00 – 18.00 at BirdLife)

**Chair: Ali; Recorder: Fish**

- 13.00 – 13.30 Arrival, lunch and welcome
- 13.30 – 14.30 1. **Selecting species** – review and endorse the process to select the list of species to be covered by the project, discuss and resolve remaining issues (taxonomy, marginal species, pelagic species), and examine some individual cases (Vicky/Nicky)
- 14.30 – 15.30 2. **Mapping species** – review approach to mapping species' ranges (Wetlands Flyway atlases, BirdLife polygons), and agree how we will define flyways and fill distributional gaps (including timetable for this work) (Simon D/Simon M)
- 15.30 – 16.00 Coffee/Tea
- 16.00 – 17.00 3. **Digitising sites** – review approach to digitising boundaries (IBAs/IWC sites), and agree strategy for filling the gaps (including timetable for this work) (Mark/Dan/Sergei)
- 17.00 – 18.00 4. **Improving ecological information** – review ecological information already available in the WBDB, and agree TOR and process for developing and storing new information/data (Szabolcs/Stu)
- 18.00 Meeting ends

#### Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> April (09.00 – 17.30 at WCMC)

**Chair: Gerardo; Recorder: Nick**

- 09.00 – 10.00 5. **Developing the web portal** – present general vision for portal including how the flyway element could work, and discuss technical issues/limitations (based on feedback from questionnaire) (Ian M)
- 10.00 – 11.00 6. **Agreeing which data will be shared** – review proposed functionality (summarised from previous workshop) and identify fields (from which Organisations/Databases) that will be accessed through the web portal (Ian M/Mike E/Jappe)
- 11.00 – 11.30 Coffee/Tea
- 11.30 – 12.30 6. Continued.
- 12.30 – 13.00 Lunch

**Chair: Szabolcs; Recorder: Simon D**

- 13.00 – 14.00 7. **Harmonising monitoring** – discuss various approaches (IWC counts, IBA monitoring, common bird monitoring/Worldbirds) and plans to harmonise efforts (including draft document on this issue) (Szabolcs/Fish/Ian F)
- 14.00 – 15.00 8. **Identifying gaps** – present and discuss ideas for identifying gaps, and agree next steps and timetable for cleaning up data and sending it out for review (early Sept), prior to regional workshops (Szabolcs/Fish)
- 15.00 Meeting ends

**Input papers**

1. Draft paper on ‘Selection of target species’ (including species list and some associated information).
2. None.
3. BirdLife digitising guidelines.
4. Draft TOR for subcontract to develop ecological information.
5. None.
6. None.
7. Draft paper on monitoring.
8. Draft agenda for regional workshops.

## Selecting species

### Key decisions

- The team endorsed the general approach being taken to select and refine the species list, as presented by Vicky.
- The list should be divided into two sorts of species: (1) core species (migratory species including intra-African migrants, also some wetland-dependent resident species) which will benefit from the project (gap analysis, critical site selection); and (2) other species that occur within the region (marginal/pelagic/very dispersed/cryptic) which are unlikely to benefit from the CSN tool. Information relating to the latter group may be included in the Web Portal. [Note that this decision partly reflects a practical concern relating to capacity, especially given the current funding shortfall.]
- The technical work should be developed in such a way that additional species could be added at a later date.
- We need to agree the final list ASAP as the remainder of the technical work will flow from this.
- The list will reflect BirdLife’s current taxonomy. [Note, however, that there are two differences between BirdLife’s and WI’s taxonomies: One AEWA ‘species’, namely *Larus heuglini* is not currently recognised by BirdLife, rather it is treated as a subspecies of *L. fuscus*. In addition, BirdLife recognises *Egretta gularis* and *E. dimorpha* as separate species while WI considers these taxa as subspecies of *E. garzetta*. It is proposed that for the project data are analysed against the split taxa].

### Action points

- BirdLife/WI to finalise the species list, with supporting documentation explaining the process and rationale (Vicky/Nicky) **End of April**
- BirdLife to review the taxonomic status of *L. heuglini* and *E. garzetta* (Fish) **Timing uncertain**

## Mapping species

### Key decisions

- BirdLife will develop polygon maps for breeding, non-breeding and resident ranges.
- WI will develop the flyway maps for migratory species.
- Maps should relate to sub-populations.

### Action points

- WI to digitise maps already produced for Anatidae and to make these and wader maps available to BirdLife (Simon) **ASAP (end of May?)**

- BirdLife/WI to reconcile breeding/non-breeding ranges for species already mapped by both organisations and to agree process for producing joint maps (Vicky/Simon) **Mid-June?**
- BirdLife then to produce missing range maps (Vicky) **Staggered, all complete by mid-August**
- WI to produce missing flyway maps (Simon) **Staggered, all complete by mid-August**

## **Digitising sites**

### **Key decisions**

- The team endorsed the general approach being taken by both organisations.
- Given the magnitude of the task, digitisation should not hold-up the project. The aim should be to finish as many site boundaries as possible by the end of 2008, but otherwise and in the meantime to use central coordinates.
- Given the differences between IBAs and IWC sites, these should be digitised separately.
- However, where BirdLife Partners undertake IWC counts (29 countries), a joint approach to fill the gaps should be made.

### **Action points**

- WI to send BirdLife the list of countries/organisations undertaking both IBA monitoring and IWC counts (Szabolcs) **ASAP**
- BirdLife/Wetlands to agree on key BirdLife Partner organisations to support financially (Szabolcs/Fish) **ASAP**
- BirdLife to finalise its strategy for gap filling and to approach all Partners in relevant way (Mark/Dan) **ASAP (mid May?)**
- Wetlands to acquire missing African data and to tidy up coordinates (Szabolcs, plus ?) **ASAP (needed for gap analysis)**

## **Improving ecological information**

### **Key decisions**

- We need to distinguish different types of migratory strategy (short hops v. long trips), code ‘congregatory-ness’ by season/part of life cycle, and develop information on habitat/diet where limiting.
- We need to identify key managerial requirements (short bullet points?).

### **Action points**

- WI to revise TOR with new timings and associated sub-contract for BirdLife (Szabolcs) **ASAP**
- BirdLife to test by doing a pilot of 10 species and check timings (Stu) **ASAP**

## Developing The Web Portal

### Taxonomy

- Birdlife taxonomy agreed with synonyms
- Bring Birdlife and IWC taxonomy together (try to prioritise functions)
- Pull together threats on species (mostly Birdlife)
- Need to refine taxonomy for some species
- AEWA tool can refer to Birdlife taxonomy (open in a Birdlife window)

### Threats

- How to aggregate the threat species
- If information comes from a single information go directly to that database
- If information comes from several sources integrated in this portal?

### Sites

- Not all sites will be classified in any single scheme
- All schemes have separate polygons
- Could display it as an overlap of IBA/ IWC/ Ramsar / WDPA...
- Have an extra layer for agreed 'critical' sites
- Try and make sure it always goes back to a source
- At least 4 layers:
  - WDPA
  - Ramsar
  - IBA
  - Wetlands
- Some will be polygons others points
- Site threats only from IBA and Ramsar
- Try to encourage standardisation
- IBA is more up to date hence only referring to this?
- What are Ramsar criteria's?
- Do queries according to the new standards of threat classification

### Site / Species

- Breeding / Non Breeding / Passage Sites (sometimes they overlap)
- IWC have two counts per year and thus can categorise depending on time of year and location
- Site importance (Global, Regional, Sub regional...)
- For each species needs developing what proportion of the pop uses this site?
- Putting already existing sites into context for this project
- Where IWC sites exist IBA relies on IWC data for creating IBA status but might expand area to surrounding non wetland areas
- Could be useful to do a comparative analysis between IWC and IBA

### **Distribution Maps**

- Points Vs Polygons
- Flyaway issues
  - Could get complicated
  - Represented by a point of varying diameter in accordance to importance (maybe varying colours also)

### **Protected Status**

- From Ramsar straight forward / sites
- IBA
- Redlist / AEWA / CMS / Country Boundary/ Bern Conservation / Birds and Habitat: Directive – Species protection –
- Could link this to the ‘Resources’ section

### **Data Quality**

- Publish the sourcing (ownership)
- Birdlife showing partnership associations
  - All this can be discussed at a later stage

### **Portal Functionality**

- Data download – What format and how much? – Talk about it next year
- Commenting – Via E-mail

### **Networks and Linkages**

- How do sites link?
- Sub populations: What data do we have?
  - IBA – Do not have it but can
  - Going to prepare population boundaries for this project (IWC)
  - Can have overlap in space and time of different populations
  - Gap analysis at subpopulation level
  - 150 out of 235 AEWA listed species populations have been described and mapped – IWC
  - Birdlife – Breeding / Non breeding areas
  - IWC – Flyway areas
- Networks of sites for individual species
- Networks of sites with similar characteristics
  - Need to standardise data
- Flyways
  - Could overlaps different Flyways
  - Political / Aggregated / Individual / Site Flyways
  - How well recognised are these Flyways? (A useful visual tool only)
  - Flyways Vs Network of Sites
  - Do we need to describe Flyways?

- Maps will be at sub population level

### **Population Trends**

- Provide the data and guidance and give path to data analysis tools for people who wish to do further analysis (Or integrating this into the system)
- Refer back to owner data
- IWC data in count format
- IBA textual format

### **Prioritisation**

- All IBA have been coded to see if they meet Ramsar criteria
- Identifying different sites and their importance for different species
- Adding information on data quality (Good, poor etc...)
- Flag areas that need improvement

### **Management of Sites**

Coded | Implementation  
Coding





## **Harmonising monitoring**

### **Key decisions**

- The three-pronged approach for harmonising monitoring (harmonising networks, using IBA threat and conservation action data forms, exchange between databases for joint analysis) agreed.
- In countries where consolidation of reporting is pursued through Worldbirds, BLI/RSPB should promote inclusion of the IWC data fields.

### **Action points**

- BLI to review the draft document and amend it;
- WI to include a section on IBA monitoring and the role of IWC in it into its guidelines to the national IWC coordinators (Simon D./Fish)
- BLI to review the section on IWC in the existing IBA monitoring guidelines (Fish/Szabolcs)
- Review the overlap between IBA/IWC at site level before the subregional workshops country by country
- BLI/RSPB and WI to discuss amendments necessary to Worldbirds to allow accommodation of IWC data

## **Identifying gaps**

### **Key decisions**

- First priority is the 235 AEWA species, other species will be added as time allows and taking account of agreements on species selection.
- Analyse species coverage according to the order of the regional workshops.
- Key inputs into the workshop include map showing IBA and IWC sites where the species is known to occur, the percentage of the population/flyway covered by these sites at different stages of the species' annual life cycle, additional information
- Information can be presented according to a template format which includes description of distribution patterns at different stages of their annual life cycle, their migration strategy. Overview of gaps based on multi-species analysis.
- Information needed for this review include: species distribution maps, flyway/population delineation, site boundaries or validated site coordinates, map of wetland habitats
- At least one month should be left for consultation with SRS and experts before the subregional workshops. Deadline for East Africa: 1 September, West Africa: 1 October.
- BLI and WI develop the common approach and base maps together and first test approach on a few species with different distribution and migration strategies.

### **Action points**

- Finalise species list taking account of IBA coverage in the region (Vicky)
- Test approach and develop GIS and documentation templates (Vicky and Nicky)
- Agree on terminology for migration patterns to be used (draft to be prepared by Nicky)
- BLI to send over existing distribution maps to WI
- WI to digitise Anatidae flyway maps and send over to BLI
- WI to send over wader flyway maps to BLI after finalised
- WCMC to provide background map on wetlands
- WI to prepare preliminary population/flyway delineations based on WPE4 for species not yet covered by flyway maps
- BLI to explore with Graeme Buchanan the use of remote sensing to identify potentially suitable places for target species

## Report #3

### Meeting on the Capacity Development Component of the WOW project

Present: Tunde Ojei (TO), Abdoulaye Ndiaye (AND), Fred Omengo (FO), Szabolcs Nagy (SN)

#### The process of developing the Training and Awareness Raising Framework Programme

- TO will develop the 1<sup>st</sup> working draft of the Framework Programme by 31 May.
- It will be sent out for consultation to Tim Dodman, Esther Koppmans, KWS, Emmanuel Thevenin, Ballke Ottow
- TO incorporates comments into the 2<sup>nd</sup> working draft and sends it out to participants of a review workshop in Wageningen
- 22 June review Workshop in Wageningen with the participation of the new CDO at Wetlands International (if in place), Tim Dodman, KWS, AND the PCU.
- TO finalises the draft based on the discussions at the meeting
- TO sends out the final working draft of the Framework Programme to the participants of the Training and Awareness Raising Programme Development Workshop to be held possible in Naivasha, Kenya, suggested time between 15-20 July
- AND and Ward Hagemeyer/SN to visit KWS/KWS TI sometimes between 6 and 15 May or after 25 May to discuss whether the meeting can be held at Naivasha and other issues related to the subregional training and development programme. SN to clarify WH availability and FO to set up the meeting.

An open list of invitees to the Training and Awareness Raising Programme Development Workshop:

- LNV
- BfN
- PCU
- WI
- BLI Africa Partnership Secretariat
- Oliver Nashirwa
- KWS
- WI WAO
- Central Asia SRS
- BL Middle East Office
- WOW demo projects
- Ramsar Secretariat & Standing Committee
- AEWa Secretariat & TC
- IUCN West and East Africa Offices
- WWF East and West Africa Offices
- WWF Finland
- WetCAP Partnership
- Delta RIS
- ATEN
- Tour du Valat

- WWT
- Avian Demography Unit
- Regional Water Partnership
- WPRP African Training Board
- Siberian Crane Project – International Crane Foundation
- Wildlife Conservation Society
- FAO
- Horn of Africa Initiative
- East Africa Wildlife Society
- Repr. of SSGs – David Stroud?
- Dakar University
- Nigerian Ornithological Institute
- FIBA

The list above should be reviewed and prioritised. SN will look up existing contacts and TO and the subregions will complete the list of contacts. Mary Cisse will provide logistic support to organising the meeting.

### **Content of the working draft of the Framework Programme**

1. Introduction
  - 1.1. Project context
  - 1.2. Process leading to the development of the draft
  - 1.3. Follow up steps
2. Problems and challenges
3. Training Needs Analysis
  - 3.1. Current situation
  - 3.2. Gaps
  - 3.3. Existing initiatives (e.g. WPRP, ATEN)
4. Target audience (stakeholder groups the framework targets, their short description)
5. Proposed training framework table (Issues, training methods, duration, target group)
6. Delivery mechanism
7. Glossary

### **Development of the Subregional Programmes**

This will run parallel with the consultation on the Framework Programme.

The East and West Africa CDOs will work closely with the WI CDO, based on the 1<sup>st</sup> working draft.

It was proposed to set up the training boards for Anglophone and Francophone countries rather than based on regional boundaries. This would save costs and would make communication within the training boards easier.

It is important to provide adequate representation of the Anglophone countries of West Africa in the East African Training Board and vice

versa. It was agreed that the two subregions will discuss the proposed candidates at the meeting in Wageningen on 22 May.

At this meeting both subregions will be represented by their Capacity Development Officer, who will be responsible for the development of the programme. At this meeting both subregion presents their workplan for developing the subregional programme to ensure harmonisation.

In particular, harmonisation is needed between the subregions concerning the timing and venue of the Subregional Training and Awareness Programme Review Workshops. There is an option to link this to the regional AEWA meeting, which can ensure a broader participation of government representatives who will attend the AEWA meeting. SN will clarify the date of the AEWA meeting with Bert Lenten and communicate this to the subregions.

