

**WOW**  
**WINGS OVER WETLANDS**  
The UNEP-GEF African-Eurasian Flyways Project

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WOW – REGIONAL CENTRE for the MIDDLE EAST  
**SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT**

**REPORT #: 1**  
**REPORTING PERIOD: July-November 2007**  
**Report Prepared by: Ibrahim Al Khader**

<b>Country</b>	Jordan
<b>Regional Centre</b>	Middle East SRS - Jordan
<b>Countries Covered by this Regional Centre</b>	Bahrain, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Palestinian Territories, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, UAE, and Yemen
<b>Name of Local Implementing Agency/NGO</b>	BirdLife International, Middle East Division
<b>Total amount of funds under this Agreement</b>	163,817
<b>Expected project duration</b>	24 months
<b>Date of signature of the agreement</b>	
<b>Contact in Local Implementing Agency/NGO</b>	Name: Ibrahim Al Khader Title: SRS WOW Coordinator e-mail: <a href="mailto:Ibrahim.khader@birdlifemed.org">Ibrahim.khader@birdlifemed.org</a>

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## 1. Executive Summary

During a meeting in Yemen the project MOA documents were discussed between BirdLife and the Chief Technical Advisor for the WOW project, and the Regional Centre started operations as of June 2007.

The full project structure and SRS team composition was set-up and is operational under the BirdLife Middle East Secretariat (BLME). The Capacity Development Officer is in place in Amman, and was able to participate to the WOW workshop in Almen in September 2007, and organize the first regional Training Board Meeting. The Waterbird technical officer is employed as a part-timer working from Iraq following the post advertisement through BirdLife regional network and interviews of short listed candidates.

Currently, the Middle East (ME) SRS is working with BLI headquarters in the UK and WI to develop the 'Critical Site Network' tool in the Middle East region for flyway planning and management as the initial outcome component of the WOW project. The process includes drawing on data collected through the IBA and IWC program and assist in digitizing site boundaries. The ME SRS is also working with the UK headquarters in delivery of the demonstration project in Yemen. Both of these collaborations ensure cross component synergies in the region.

Informal discussions and meetings were conducted and the Sub-Regional Training Board (SRTB) is now established and operational. The first SRTB meeting was held in Amman on the 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> of November 2007 with 15 participants. A chairman was elected, and all board members pledged their full support to implementing the training programme in the region.

### 1.1 Key project achievements during the reporting period

Fill-in this table with what you consider to be the most important 5 project achievements in the reporting period.

#	Key Project Achievements
1	Team in place and operational shortly after signature of the MOA with UNOPS
2	Establishment of the regional Training Board
3	Holding the first regional Training Board meeting in Amman, Jordan in the 10 <sup>th</sup> and 11 <sup>th</sup> of November 2007
4	Project presentation in several regional events (Regional Partnership Meeting, Yemen, November 2006; Sustainable Hunting workshop, Amman, August 2007; and the BirdLife Regional Partnership Meeting, Amman, 12-15 November 2007.
5	Focused cooperation with Birdlife Partner in Jordan, RSCN, to develop two concept proposals for providing co-finance for the project were submitted to WI and to be submitted to the Dutch Embassy in Jordan.

### 1.2 Key issues & proposed solutions

#	Issue	Proposed Solution	Deadline	Party Responsible
1	Securing co-finance for the project	Identifying potential donors at regional level and submit proposals	Ongoing	WI, MESRS

		in collaboration with local and international NGOs and WOW partners		
2	Lack of representation from key NGO in the region to the TB	Follow up and effectively communicate TB meeting outputs to potential members and supporters in the region	Beginning of 2008	MESRS(CDO)

## 2. Project Management

Project management is a critical cross-cutting issue that affects all project components. Please use this section to highlight issues that affect project performance and achievement of expected outcomes, and describe proposed next steps. Please fill-in the following table:

CATEGORY	ISSUES Description of issues affecting project performance during the reporting period	PROPOSED SOLUTIONS Description of decisions / actions to be taken	DEADLINE	PARTY RESPONSIBLE
Recruitment & management of staff and consultants	The contractor to this MoU (BLI-MED) is acting the Local Entity on its current capacity. Most components of the project will be carried out using the existing staff. This could have the implication of overstretching the human resource capacity in the division, but at the same time this project will help tremendously in building their capacity.	Depending on the progress of the project, the overstretching on the division's staff should be overcome by recruitment of project personnel.	End of quarter 2 of year1.	SRS & UNOPS
	Water Bird specialist Post: this post is critical and hard to find qualified person to fill the post in the region. The SRS can not deprive contact NGOs from their capacities hence the post was adverted to the network CEOs.	The only suitable way of recruiting it is head hunting. However, the post was announced regionally throughout the BL network, and qualified candidates applied and were shortlisted for interviews. Best candidate already identified and SRS provided him an offer which was accepted.	End of Quarter 1	SRS
Finance & administration	Failing so far to secure the Co-	WI to identify potential donors	Ongoing	WI & SRS

	<p>financing by WI to support project components</p> <p>Shortage in funding available for holding key regional events</p> <p>Limitation in the travel budget line which limits possible/needed meetings with partners in the region to minimum</p>	<p>Fundraising the at the regional level</p> <p>Depend more on virtual discussions over the phone and by emails</p>	On going	Project team
Logistics & operations	None at this stage			
Reporting & communication	None at this stage			
Coordination with project partners	<p><b>Component I</b> No issues at this stage</p> <p><b>Component II</b> Some of the candidate experts identified to join the regional Training Board did not respond to the invitation letters</p> <p>The identified Board member from UAE was contacted to attend the meeting but unfortunately could not make it due to prior commitments</p> <p><b>Component III</b></p>	<p>Alternative communication approaches investigated and replacement candidates identified</p> <p>Since the travel budget is limited, communication for coordination will be handled over the phone and through virtual means</p>	January 2008	CDO

	None at this stage			
External issues (e.g. difficult access to the project site for political/social/environmental reasons, etc.)	None at this stage			
Other				

## 2.2 Regional Training Board (TB)

Use this section to illustrate whether or not the TB is working effectively to support project implementation. Please fill in the following table:

<b>Date of last TB Meeting</b>	<b>10-11 November 2007, Amman</b>
Proposed Date for next TB Meeting	November 2008 (?)

Please provide updated list of TB Members (list the TB Chairperson first):

Name	Title	Email	Phone
Mr. Azzam Alouash	Chairperson	<a href="mailto:azzam@alwash.net">azzam@alwash.net</a>	+962 7 955 555 69
Mr. Mohammed Yousef	Deputy Chairperson	<a href="mailto:mohammedyousef@rscn.org.jo">mohammedyousef@rscn.org.jo</a>	+962 6 533 7931
Dr. Saeed Mohammad	Member	<a href="mailto:saeed@alreem.com">saeed@alreem.com</a>	+973 3 964 4771
Mrs. Yasaman Rajabkhah	Member	<a href="mailto:yasaman_rajabkhah@yahoo.com">yasaman_rajabkhah@yahoo.com</a>	+982 1 882 416 59
Mr. Rami Jihad	Observer	<a href="mailto:rtraining@rscn.org.jo">rtraining@rscn.org.jo</a>	+962 6 533 7931
Mr. Mohammad Al Salamah	Member	<a href="mailto:mssalamah@yahoo.com">mssalamah@yahoo.com</a>	+966 1 441 5590
Dr. Akram Darwish	Member	<a href="mailto:akramisa@scs-net.org">akramisa@scs-net.org</a>	+963 9 447 125 79
Dr. Omar Al-Saghier	Member	<a href="mailto:omar.alsaghier@undp.org">omar.alsaghier@undp.org</a>	+967 7 777 101 74
Dr. Dionysia Hatzilacou	Member	<a href="mailto:hatzilacou@medwet.org">hatzilacou@medwet.org</a>	+302 1 080 892 70
BirdLife Network organization in UAE: Environment Agency –Abu Dhabi	Member	Official letter approving to join the Board. Representative name to be nominated later	



### 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

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

##### Activity 5. Compile the network of critical sites using Ramsar and IBA criteria

Consult experts in region on results	WI, BLI, SRSs	IP ( 50%)	Major Input achieved to advancing work on WOW IBA digitization, to develop a 'Critical Site	Minor issues related to defining and delineating IBAs
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		IP ( 20% )	Network' tool for flyway planning and management, drawing on data collected through the IBA and IWC programmes. For this digitized IBA boundaries were developed for more than 50% of the regional network partners  Gap Identification and Monitoring Workshop scheduled for April 2008 (participants identified)  BL MED conducted an IBA Monitoring Workshop Nov2007 ( IBA monitoring Framework ), which will scale down the monitoring component of the WOW workshop focusing on training needs assessment and network development. This has largely assisted this component in particular	boundaries
<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>				
Launch portal	WI/(WCMC), BLI, SRSs	NA		
<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	WI/(WCMC), BLI, SRSs	IP (15%)	Flyway approach communicated effectively during the ME Regional Partnership meeting,	

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conferences, meetings, workshops (active participation to raise awareness)			12-15 November, Amman, 2007  “ Coordinated monitoring of critical sites (IWC sites –WOW IBAs) promoted and operational “ is now an important output in the next Regional Program 2009-2012 drafted and endorsed during the last Regional Partnership meeting	
<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, SRSs	IP (15%)	SRS is helping relative NGOs identifying urgent conservation actions at some critical sites, namely in Iraq and Syria	These are ongoing activities of BLME that overlaps with WOW initiatives
Implement communication of network tool	WI/(WCMC), BLI, SRSs			
<b>Activity 9. Production of a publication to raise awareness of key issues in the flyway using the network as the basis</b>				
Produce and distribute publication	WI, BLI, SRSs	NA		
<b>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</b>				
<b>Activity 1. Identify gaps in spatial coverage and mobilise existing information</b>				

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Sub-regional check of coverage	WI, BLI, SRSs	IP (5%)		
Compile existing information through sub-regions	WI, BLI, SRSs	NA		
Organise regional workshops	WI, BLI, SRSs	IP (15%)	Gap Identification and Monitoring Workshop scheduled for April 2008 (participants identified)	
<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, SRSs	NA		
Perform additional targeted censuses to cover and fill gaps	WI, BLI, SRSs	NA		
Organise sub-regional workshops (same workshops as under act 1 of outcome 1.2, above)	WI, BLI, SRSs	NA	Gap Identification and Monitoring Workshop scheduled for April 2008 (participants identified)	
<b>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</b>				
<b>Activity 1. Harmonizing and strengthening data gathering capacity, thus ensuring better compatibility between and sustainability of monitoring networks</b>				

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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		
<b>Activity 2. Strengthening capacity for data gathering and monitoring</b>				
Experts to lead surveys to train on (integration of) monitoring activities	WI / (consultants), BLI, SRSSs	NA		
Sub-regional training censuses	WI, BLI, SRSSs	NA		
<b>Activity 3. Provide materials and equipment to facilitate and assist the training and data collection</b>				
Develop, print and provide field guide in Russian	WI/(consultants), BLI, SRS Central Asia			
Provide optical and other equipment	WI, BLI, SRSSs			
<b>Outcome 1.4 Species and critical site knowledge base supports management and planning decision-making in flyway conservation</b>				
<b>Activity 1. Compile existing ecological knowledge on species' migratory characteristics, site function and population</b>				

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<b>delimitation</b>				
Compile overview existing ecological knowledge and identify gaps in knowledge	WI / (consultant), BLI, SRSs	NA		
<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>				
Series of meetings with key training institutes	WI, SRSs	NA		

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Translate, print & distribute first draft model	WI, SRSs	NA		
<b>Activity 2 Training and Awareness Raising Programme Development Workshop</b>				
Hold Development Workshop	WI, PCU, SRSs	NA		
<b>Activity 4 Review of the programme model draft</b>				
Perform external review of training and awareness model	WI, PCU, SRSs	NA		
Conduct a full review of the model programme	PSC (sub-group), WI, PCU, SRSs	NA		
<b>Activity 5 Finalise the programme model</b>				
Translate & print final model, and distribute to contributing partners / networks and to project sub-regional centres for wide dissemination	WI, PCU, SRSs	NA		
<b>Outcome 2.2: Wetland and waterbird conservation Training and Awareness Raising Programmes produced ready for implementation in four sub-regions</b>				

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<b>Activity 1 Establish 4 Sub-regional Training Boards</b>				
Informal meetings in sub-region to establish board	SRSs, WI, BLI	In Progress (+90%)	Two meetings with the RSCN director of nature conservation division  Virtual discussions with candidate TB members through email exchanges and over the phone	Limitation of the budget available for travel  Lack of response from Oman  Hold side informal meetings with invited participants to the Middle East TB meeting Arrange for phone conference with the candidate member from UAE
Organise & hold training boards meetings	SRSs, WI, BLI	Completed	The first TB meeting was held in Amman on the 10 <sup>th</sup> and 11 <sup>th</sup> of November 2007	Candidate member from UAE did not attend  No response from Oman
Meeting reports	SRSs, WI, BLI	In progress (100%)		
<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		Review and comment on the first draft Comments delivered to the Global Training Coordinator	



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Training and Awareness Raising Programme Review Workshops & prioritisation of courses	WI, SRS, BLI		ME SRS Coordinator, ME RSRS CDO, YSWP and RSCN representatives participated in the Workshop held in Almen, NL in September 2007	
<b>Activity 3 Finalize 4 Sub-regional Training &amp; Awareness Programmes</b>				
Prepare final draft for approval by Training Boards	WI, SRS, BLI	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 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>				
<b>Outcome 3.1: Demonstrations of best practice management of migratory waterbirds and wetlands available across the flyway</b>				
<b>Activity 1 Execution of demonstration projects</b>				

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Banc D'Arguin, Mauritania	WI (SRS West Africa) and the local executing agency			
Kokorou and Namga, Niger	WI (SRS West Africa) and the local executing agency			
Hadejia Nguru Wetlands, Nigeria	BLI (SRS East Africa) and the local executing agency			
Saloum/Niumi, Senegal/Gambia	WI (SRS West Africa) and the local executing agency			
Wakkerstroom, South Africa	BLI (SRS East Africa) and the local executing agency			
Dar es Salaam Wetlands, Tanzania	BLI (SRS East Africa) and the local executing agency			

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Aden Lagoons, Yemen	BLI (SRS Middle East) and the local executing agency	IP (10%)	BLME SRS Continue to ensure good linkages between the demo project and the SRS  SRS facilitated the participation of the Project manager in a two days training workshop (organized by Med wet and RSCN) in Jordan 3-4 December 2007	
<b>Outcome 3.2. Strengthened mechanisms for governments and NGOs to communicate and work together on wise use of wetlands and migratory waterbirds</b>				
<b>Activity 1 Increase capacity for electronic exchange of information</b>				
Promotion of the new electronic communication facility	PCU, AEWA CO, SRSS, WI, BLI, Ramsar			
<b>Activity 2 Augmentation of and increased access to flyway contact information</b>				
Plan and implement data collection activities	AEWA CO, PCU, SRSS			
<b>Activity 3 Provide project information (updates, progress reports, publicity materials) in four languages for stakeholders</b>				
Disseminate newsletters	AEWA CO, PCU, WI, BLI, SRSS			

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Disseminate other project information	AEWA CO, PCU, SRSs, Demonstration Projects			
<b>Outcome 3.3. Mechanisms of exchange between and within sub-regions for improved flyway-level migratory waterbird and wetland management established</b>				
<b>Activity 4 Implement Exchange Programme activities</b>				
Exchanges of key sites personnel within their sub-region	WI, SRSs, demo projects, BLI, AEWA, Ramsar			
Exchanges of demonstration site personnel	WI, SRSs, demo projects, BLI, AEWA, Ramsar			
<b>Activity 5 Develop strategic partnerships and mobilise co-financing</b>				
Promote partnerships through communication & liaison	WI, SRSs			
Develop strategic partnership proposals	PCU, WI, SRSs			

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<b>Outcome 3.4 The wise-use of migratory waterbirds and wetlands is better understood and implemented by governments in focal sub-regions</b>				
<b>Activity 1 Development of sub-regional mentoring capacity</b>				
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, SRSS			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, SRSS			
Shadow activities in the field	WI, BLI, AEWA, Ramsar, PCU, SRSS			
<b>Activity 2 Production of key MEA texts and information in the predominant languages of the focal sub-regions</b>				
Translation of key MEA texts	PCU, AEWA, Ramsar,			

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	SRSSs, WI. BLI			
Printing and dissemination of translated documents	PCU, AEWA, Ramsar, SRSSs, WI. BLI			

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## 4. Funds Disbursement

### 4.1 Disbursement of GEF Funds

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

Total Budget approved for the provision of technical services:	\$163,817
Funds advanced by UNOPS to date:	\$24,500
Total expenditure this reporting period:	\$29,390.26
Funds requested (as per disbursement schedule):	\$61,659
Balance (if applicable):	\$(4,890.26)
Date of the next request for funds:	1/1/2008

Certified by Project Manager: Ibrahim Al-khader

General Category of Expenditure	Total Budget	Total expenditure to date	Total budget balance	Last payment received	Expenditure in reporting period	Balance at end of reporting period
Project Personnel	84,871	20,933.72	63,937.28	19,000	20,933.72	(1,933.72)
Travel on official business	5,000	2,591.808	2,408.192	1,500	2,591.808	(1,091.808)
Workshops & Training (1 <sup>st</sup> TB Meeting)	70,000	5,864.732	64,135.268		5,864.732	(5,864.732)
Equipment	4,000		4,000	4,000		4,000
Total	163,817	29,390.26	134,426.74	24,500	29,390.26	(4,890.26)

## 4.2 Status of co-financing

Please report on the status of funds received by other donors and partners as co-financing for this project using the following table.

Sources of co-financing	Total funds committed (cash)	Total in-kind contribution	Total co-financing (cash + in-kind)	Total received to date	Balance
	NA				
<b>totals</b>					
<b>List any additional sources of co-financing mobilized during project implementation</b>					
BirdLife Middle East in-kind					
Personnel	0	0	0	6,045.17	
<b>totals</b>				6,045.17	



## 5. Performance Evaluation

### 5.1 Project Impact

QUESTION	ANSWER
<b>STAKEHOLDERS</b>	
# of NGO staff involved in this project	4 (BLME staff), 3 (BL Global Secretariat), 2 (RSCN), 1(YSPW), 1(NI), 1 (MedWet), 1 (Ramsar Center),
# of Government Staff involved in this project	1 (Syria), 2 (NCWCD), 1 (EDA), 1 (Academia, Bahrain)
# of Volunteers involved in this project	None at this stage
# of Government staff involved in Flyways issues (AEWA in particular)	3 (Jordan, Syria, Saudi Arabia, Oman)
<b>TARGET BENEFICIARIES</b>	
# of beneficiaries involved in this project	45
# of people involved in project workshops	15 (TB meeting Amman), 30 (Partnership Meetings), 15 (Sustainable Hunting Workshops)
# of people trained under this project	1 (Yemen)
<b>COMMUNICATION ISSUES</b>	
# of press articles featuring the project and/or related issues	3 (Partnership Meeting, MedWet, AEWA)
# of TV/radio programmes featuring the project and/or related issues	Non at this stage
# of publications produced under this project	Non at this stage
Estimated # of people reached by project communication efforts	100 (not including involved NGOs and their Membership Base i.e. in ME adds up to about 4000)

## 6. Key Lessons Learned

Please report on any 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, and (c) contribute to best practice in wetlands management and conservation of migratory waterbirds.

### 1. Component (1)

- To large extent, good technical capacity already exists in the region to implement the IWC scheme. BirdLife is promoting and training partners on IBA monitoring framework, and a dedicated regional training workshop was conducted back to back with the WOW TB meeting and proved fruitful and successful.
- It's important to avoid overloading the regional capacity and confusion between different modules and protocols. Focusing on the IBA monitoring scheme is a win-win situation. This will help national coordinators in monitoring critical network of wetlands in an acceptable and familiar formula.
- In many countries NGOs are more active than government to follow up technical conservation issues and mobilize resource for implementation, publicizing success and advocate decision makers.

### 2. Component (2)

- Existing regional training centres and initiatives have training modules on themes already identified in the tool kit and the framework. Those centres and initiatives are interested in partnership and collaboration in the development and implementation of the training and awareness modules at the regional level.
- In some countries in the Gulf region, funds are available for conducting training at the national level, but not at the sub-regional level. This would allow immediate national implementation of the Training and Awareness Programme in these countries.
- The TB suggested hiring a deputy chairperson in addition to the original chairperson in order to enhance the momentum of resources mobilization and reducing the demand on the chairperson time.

## 7.1 Updated overall project workplan

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

ACTIVITY	YEAR 1		YEAR 2		YEAR 3		YEAR 4	
	S1	S2	S3	S4	S5	S6	S7	
<b>O1.1 Activity 5. Compile the network of critical sites using Ramsar and IBA criteria.</b> Consult experts in region on results		X						
<b>O1.1 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> Launch portal								X
<b>O1.1 Activity 8. Promote the network of critical sites as a conservation tool.</b> Produce and distribute publication								X
<b>O1.2 Activity 1. Identify gaps in spatial coverage and mobilise existing information.</b> Sub-regional check of coverage Compile existing information through sub-regions Organise regional workshops			X	X				
<b>O1.2 Activity 2. Fill the information gaps in the data sources.</b> Increase and focus sub-regional coordination of IWC and IBA to fill gaps Perform additional targeted censuses to cover and fill gaps Organise sub-regional workshops (same workshops as under act 1 of outcome 1.2, above)		X						X X
<b>O1.3 Activity 1. Harmonizing and strengthening data gathering capacity, thus ensuring better compatibility between and sustainability of monitoring networks.</b> Develop input for manuals on streamlining and integrating monitoring activities Sub-regional Workshops to implement integrated monitoring				X				X
<b>O1.3 Activity 2. Strengthening capacity for data gathering and monitoring.</b> Experts to lead surveys to train on (integration of) monitoring activities Sub-regional training censuses								X
<b>O1.3 Activity 3. Provide materials and equipment to facilitate and assist the training and data collection.</b> Provide optical and other equipment								
<b>O1.4 Activity 1. Compile existing ecological knowledge on species' migratory characteristics, site function and population delimitation.</b> Compile overview existing ecological knowledge and identify gaps in knowledge			X					
<b>O1.4 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								X
<b>O2.1 Activity 1 Develop a working draft of the model Training and Awareness Raising Programme</b> Series of meetings with key training institutes Translate, print & distribute first draft model								
<b>O2.1 Activity 2 Training and Awareness Raising Programme Development Workshop</b> Hold Development Workshop								
<b>O2.1 Activity 4 Review of the programme model draft</b> Conduct a full review of the model programme						x		
<b>O2.1 Activity 5 Finalise the programme model</b> Translate & print final model, and distribute to contributing partners / networks and to project sub-regional centres for wide dissemination						x	x	
<b>O2.2 Activity 1 Establish four regional Training Boards</b> Informal meetings to establish boards Organise & hold meetings Meeting reports			x	x	x	X		
<b>O2.2 Activity 2 Design &amp; Establish four working regional Capacity Development Programmes</b> Produce draft Training Programme modules Training Programme Review Workshops						x		

<b>O2.2 Activity 3 Finalise four regional Capacity Development Programmes</b> Prepare final drafts for approval by Boards Publish & print Training Programmes Meetings to introduce Training Programme						x	
<b>O2.2 Activity 4 Resource mobilisation for implementation</b> Resource mobilization outside the focal sub-regions Resource mobilisation inside the sub-regions			x	x	X		
<b>O3.1 Activity 1 Execution of demonstration projects</b>		x	x	x	X	X	
<b>O3.2 Activity 3 Provide project information (updates, progress reports, publicity materials) in four languages for stakeholders</b> - Disseminate newsletters, Disseminate other project information		x	X	x	x	x	
<b>O3.3 Activity 5 Develop strategic partnerships and mobilise co-financing</b> Promote partnerships through communication & liaison			x	x	x	x	
<b>O3.4 Activity 1 Development of sub-regional mentoring capacity.</b> Development of shadowing timetable for each staff member to coincide with appropriate MEA (Multilateral Environmental Agreements: i.e. AEWa, RAMSAR) activities					X		
<b>O3.4 Activity 2 Production of key MEA texts and information in the predominant languages of the focal sub-regions</b> Translation of key MEA texts and Printing and dissemination of translated documents							x

## 7.2 Workplan for next six months

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

PLANNED ACTIVITY	Period Dec 2007 - May 2008					
	M1	M2	M3	M4	M5	M6
Continue compile the network of critical sites using Ramsar and IBA criteria in consultation with experts in region on results and uploading data on WBDB	x	x				
Digitization of WOW IBAs (mainly from UAE, Saudi Arabia)	x					
Organize regional workshops related to gap analysis and monitoring (April 2008)		x	x	x		
Communication and informal meetings with the identified possible SRTB members from UAE and Oman	X	X	X			
Finalization and disclosure of the first Middle East SRTB Meeting Report	X					
Participate in the Project Regional Meeting in Netherlands	X	X				
Prepare and discuss draft resource mobilization plan		X	X			
Prepare and discuss draft marketing plan for the modules and the project			X	X		
Prepare concept paper (proposal) for the implementation of the modules in the Middle East Sub-Region				X		
Start the logistic arrangements for the second SRTB meeting and the Review Workshop					X	X
Hold the second SRTB meeting						Possible
Review the prepared draft regional modules				X	X	X
Provide support to disseminate project information and newsletters	x	x	X	x	X	x
Continue building synergy between the project and the Demo project in Aden	x	x	x	x	X	x

## 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)



inventory

Please send by email to the PCU:

- ✓ 1 photograph of the project team as a group, and passport size photo of project manager (if not already submitted)
- ✓ Photographs representing main aspects of project work, and illustrating project impact (i.e. of workshops, field research, education and awareness, ecotourism, volunteer groups. Please take pictures illustrating the impact of the project, i.e. of the situation “before”, “during” and “after” the project)
- ✓ general photographs illustrating the environment of the site
- ✓ 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 (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	Convened by	Organized by	# of Participants	Report issued as doc no	Language	Dated
1.	Sub regional Training Board Meeting	Ist Regional Meeting	Amman	9-11 November	BLI, PCU, WI	BLME	13 +2	1	English	Dec 2007

### b) Printed Materials

No	Type <sup>5</sup>	Title	Author(s)/Editor(s)	Publisher	Symbol	Publication Date	Distribution List Attached Yes/No
1.	None at this stage						
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)

**c) Media coverage**

No	Description	Date
1.	Regional Partnership Meeting, Amman 2007 addressing the Flyways Conservation Challenge (Arabic). Al-Dustor Newspaper	13 <sup>th</sup> November 2007
2.	MedWet Newsletter	November 2007
3.	AEWA Newsletter	November 2007

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

No	Type <sup>6</sup>	Purpose	Venue	Duration	Additional information for Grants and Fellowships ONLY		
					Beneficiaries	Countries/Nationalities	Cost (in US\$)
1.	Middle East Regional Partnership Meeting: 2007	Annual Meeting Addressing Flyways: The Conservation Challenge Development of Regional IBAs strategy Updating regional programme 2009-2012	Amman	4 days	BirdLife network in the MIE	Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Qatar, Iraq, Bahrain, Kuwait, UK.	About \$15,000
2.	Sustainable Hunting RAP Workshop	Development of regional Action Plan for sustainable Hunting in Mediterranean countries	Amman	2 days	Project countries	Lebanon, Tunisia, Jordan, Palestine, Syria, Cyprus, Egypt, Morocco.	About \$19,000

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

No	Description	Date
1.	AEWA/BirdLife Workshop on Sustainable hunting: Networking and Introducing WOW project as vehicle addressing a flyway conservation for building synergy	13-14 May 2007
2.	BLI regional partnership meeting, used as a platform for first regional Introduction and update to WOW project	November 2006
3.	Yemen Mission to build Synergy between the Demo project and the WOW	June 2007
3.	Soaring Birds Project (networking) Another Flyway Project in ME and Africa to build synergy	

<sup>6</sup> Technical Cooperation Type (Grants and Fellowships, Advisory Services, Staff Mission, Others)