

WINGS OVER WETLANDS

The UNEP/GEF African Eurasian Flyways Project

BIRDLIFE INTERNATIONAL – Lead NGO

SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT

REPORT #: 2

REPORTING PERIOD: 01 June 2007 – 30 November 2007

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Country	UK
Project Title	Wings Over Wetlands (WOW)
Contract ref. number	
Name of Implementing Agency/NGO	BirdLife International
Total amount of funds under this agreement	USD 225,930
Expected project duration	4 years (48 months)
Date of signature of the agreement	
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1. Executive Summary

Component 1: Good progress continued to be made in developing the Critical Site Network Tool, supported through three key technical meetings between project partners. These were two technical meetings between BirdLife and WI in Wageningen (The Netherlands), a technical meeting on the web portal, between BirdLife and WCMC in Cambridge (UK) and a third technical meeting between BirdLife, WI and WCMC in Cambridge (UK).

Species range mapping was completed for all WOW species and IBA boundary digitisation continued to progress, with all African WOW IBAs now digitised and good progress being made for other regions.

Using the IBA database, methods were developed largely to automate the complex series of GIS processes and calculations involved in the gap analysis. This allowed us to calculate what percentage of Africa-relevant WOW populations were covered by the IBA network in different seasons and helped us to focus gap-filling efforts (at the first workshop) on those populations which are poorly served by the current IBA network.

The highly successful East Africa workshop took place in November in Naivasha, Kenya and had 43 participants. Key outputs from the workshop were a regionally approved list of wetland sites of highest priority to survey in eastern and southern Africa and action plans for improving the coordination of IBA and IWC monitoring in each participating country.

Components 2 & 3

BirdLife International has continued to support the setting up of the two sub-regional training centres in Amman (Jordan) and Nairobi (Kenya), and participated in the first Regional Training Board meeting in Amman, as well as the overall training framework development workshop.

The BirdLife secretariat has also continued to support the BirdLife partner demonstration projects as far as possible, and progress is generally on track. Missions took place to two of the six countries to meet key stakeholders, and either help launch the project or ensure that progress was on track.

The Senior Technical Officer (Demo Projects) also participated in the review of the overall project's M&E framework.

1.1 Key project achievements during the reporting period

#	Key Project Achievements
1	Using the IBA database, methods were developed largely to automate the complex series of GIS processes and calculations involved in the gap analysis. The analysis

	of what percentage of the different populations is held in the IBA network in different seasons is now complete for all Africa –relevant WOW species.
2	Species range mapping was completed for all WOW species and IBA boundary digitisation continued apace, with all African WOW IBAs now digitised and good progress being made for other regions.
3	The eastern and southern African regional gap-filling and monitoring workshop took place in November 2007 and was very successful. Important outputs included a regionally agreed list of priority wetland sites to be surveyed, and national action plans on achieving harmonisation of coordination in IBA and IWC monitoring.
4	Missions to two of the six BirdLife International partner Demonstration Projects completed; projects reviewed; key stakeholders consulted.
5	Supported the setting up of two sub-regional training centres (Jordan and Kenya); participated in the design of the overall Project Training Component; and participated in the First Middle East Regional Training Board Meeting
6	Participated in the PCU review of the overall project M&E framework

1.2 Key issues & proposed solutions

#	Issue	Proposed Solution	Deadline	Party Responsible
1	Uncertainty re: some co-funding makes it difficult to plan future activities under the WOW project. In particular the failure of co-financing for Component 2 has made it extremely difficult to plan effectively for setting up the Sub-Regional Training Centres, and this is already having a serious negative impact on the work of the Middle East training board.	Secure replacement funding to allow project objectives to be fulfilled, or clarify how the project will be modified if no replacement co-funding can be secured.	January 2008	PCU, PSC, WI, BLI, WCMC
2	Difficulties with cleaning IWC database to produce unique, accurate site coordinates mean that IBA and IWC datasets cannot yet be merged into a single database for analysis.	All actions under activity 3 and any dependent actions, including those under activity 5 need to be postponed in the programme until the IWC dataset is available.	November 2007	WI, BLI, PCU, PSC

2. Project Management

2.1 Key issues and proposed action

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				
Finance & administration	Uncertainty/failure of some co-funding makes it extremely difficult to plan future activities under the WOW project, and is negatively impacting the projects outcomes.	Secure replacement funding to allow project objectives to be fulfilled or clarify how the project will be modified if no replacement funding can be secured.	January 2008	PCU, PSC, WI, BLI, WCMC
Logistics & operations				
Reporting & communication				
Coordination with project partners & demo projects	<p>No major issues within Component 3. Coordination has been good with all demo project partners, although perhaps sub-optimal in the cases of Nigeria and Tanzania.</p> <p>Internal coordination between components could still be improved further, although it is anticipated that this will improve in 2008 due to the overall project meeting and some</p>	<p>Continue to maintain good communications with demo projects, and increase efforts with less communicative partners, including monitoring missions where necessary.</p> <p>Improve the internal coordination of regular email communications between focal points for each component.</p>	Next report	BLI, SRSs, Demo Projects

	internal reorganisation.			
External issues (mobilization of co-funding, political/social/environmental reasons, etc.)	See above comment on the impact of the failure to secure co-financing.	Develop contingency plan to focus on successful delivery of key project outcomes with reduced budget.		
Other (please specify)				

3. Progress / Issues / Proposed Solutions

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 1.1.1 Establishment of inter-operability between the main data-sources.

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1.1 1.1 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		
1.1 1.2 Develop and map quality standards for databases	WI/(WCMC), BLI	C		
1.1 1.3 Integrate standards, test	WI/(WCMC), BLI	50%	Architecture developed and tested for IBA database. Standardised IBA data provided to UNEP-WCMC for inclusion in the test portal.	
1.1 1.4 Implement interoperability	WI/(WCMC), BLI	30%	WOW species IBAs assigned to individual flyways (polygons produced by WI). WOW species population data (from IBAs) combined with WI's WPE4 flyway population totals to calculate percentage population held in the IBA network during different seasons.	

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			IBA population, WI flyway, and species/ country distribution information from the WBDB combined using standards to identify priority populations by season for individual countries. IBA, IWC and Ramsar site information combined with wetland layer and mapped to enable analysis of gaps in the network by workshop participants.	
Activity 1.1 2 Collection of spatial site reference data as a basis for database linkage in the site network				
1.1 2.1 Map available data, gather new data	WI/(WCMC), BLI	50%	Species range maps now complete for all WOW species. WOW IBAs continue to be digitised at Secretariat or by BirdLife partners with capacity to do so. Some IBAs have been digitised on basis of newly sourced hard copy information.	
1.1 2.2 Digitise information	WI/(WCMC)	40%	Funds have been made available for IBA-digitisation in-country where capacity exists. IBA boundary digitisation now complete for	

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Africa, and gap-filling digitisation underway for the Middle East and Europe.				
1.1 2.3 Make spatial info accessible	WI/(WCMC), BLI	25%	All WOW species range maps have been made available to the wider technical project team on the project ftp site. Points, or where available, digitised IBA polygon boundaries have been made available to WCMC and included on maps used in eastern and southern Africa gap-filling workshop.	
Activity 1.1 3 Creation of the basis of the site network by linking the main data resources.				
1.1 3.1 Link data sources by coordinates	WI/(WCMC), BLI	0%	Central coordinates have been provided to WCMC and WI for all IBAs containing WOW species.	Further progress on linking datasets will not be made until WI have completed the process of cleaning IWC site coordinates.
1.1 3.2 Link data sources by boundaries	WI/(WCMC), BLI	15%	Site boundaries for those IBAs digitised so far have been provided to WCMC.	
1.1 3.3 Analyse combined datasets	WI/(WCMC), BLI	15%	Further discussion at technical meetings in Wageningen (June 07 and Oct 07) and Cambridge (Sept 07) and ongoing collaborative work to develop and test	

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			methods to analyse the data. Although so far this has been tested only on the IBA dataset, the methods and necessary Access software procedures have been developed to process the combined dataset. Therefore, once IWC site coordinates become available and have been reconciled with and linked to IBA coordinates, the process of analysing the combined dataset can be completed relatively quickly.	
Activity 1.1 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				
1.1 4.1 Develop plan for web based portal in consultation with custodians	WI/(WCMC)		Plan for web-portal discussed further with WI at technical meeting in Wageningen (June 07) and with WCMC in Cambridge (Aug. 07). Plan presented to and discussed with participants at eastern and southern Africa gap-filling and monitoring workshop in Kenya (Nov 07); feedback gathered from this potential user group.	
1.1 4.2 Programming of portal application, testing	WI/WCMC			

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1.1 4.3 Adapt databases for portal-linking	WI/(WCMC), BLI	5%	Meeting held with UNEP-WCMC (Aug 07) to identify key attributes from IBA data for inclusion in the web portal.	
Activity 1.1 5 Compile the network of critical sites using Ramsar and IBA criteria				
1.1 5.1 Review and apply criteria on datasets	WI, BLI	N/A	Not planned for this period.	
1.1 5.2 Analyse resulting site network	WI, BLI	N/A	Not planned for this period	
1.1 5.3 Consult experts in region on results	WI, BLI, SRSSs	N/A	Not planned for this period	
Activity 1.1 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				
1.1 6.1 Compiling results of act. 1.1 1.5 into publication	WI/(WCMC), BLI	N/A	Not planned for this period.	
1.1 6.2 Edit and publish network	WI, BLI	N/A	Not planned for this period.	
1.1 6.3 Launch portal	WI/(WCMC), BLI, SRSSs	N/A	Not planned for this period.	
Activity 1.1 7 Raise awareness amongst practitioners, and train them in the use of the network of critical sites				

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1.1 7.1 Disseminate concept of critical site network at appropriate occasions like conferences, meetings, workshops (active participation to raise awareness)	WI/(WCMC), BLI, SRSS	10%	Discussed concept of the WOW CSN at Manomet’s migration retreat in Boston (July 07). WOW project also discussed at Oct 07 meeting of WI’s Global Waterbird Advisory Group (WIGWAG). CSN concept presented and discussed with participants at eastern and southern Africa gap-filling and monitoring workshop in Kenya (Nov 07). Feedback on functionality gathered from participants.	
Activity 1.1 8 Promote the network of critical sites as a conservation tool				
1.1 8.1 Develop communication plan for publicising the network of critical sites as a tool for conservation	WI/(WCMC), BLI, SRSS			
1.1 8.2 Implement communication of network tool	WI/(WCMC), BLI, SRSS			
Activity 1.1 9 Production of a publication to raise awareness of key issues in the flyway using the network as the basis				
1.1 9.1 Compile awareness	WI, BLI			

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publication				
1.1 9.2 Produce and distribute publication	WI, BLI, SRSS			
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 1.2 1 Identify gaps in spatial coverage and mobilise existing information				
1.2 1.1 Map coverage of databases	WI, BLI	65%	<p>For Africa coverage of IBA, Ramsar and, where coordinates were available, IWC site networks, have been mapped for countries participating in the gap-filling and monitoring workshops. These maps, which include a wetland layer, were used in workshops to identify new sites that were priorities for survey.</p> <p>Using the IBA database to test it, methodology has been developed to calculate, for each population, the percentage of the total flyway population held at different IBAs in each of the breeding and non-breeding seasons. Where the approach was applicable this was calculated for all Africa-relevant WOW</p>	<p>The extent of coverage of the three databases will be assessed fully once the IWC coordinates are available.</p>

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1.2 1.2 Sub-regional check of coverage	WI, BLI, SRSs	10%	species. The prioritisation results were provided at the eastern and southern Africa gap-filling and monitoring workshop, country by country and used by workshop participants to help them focus on identifying new sites on the map provided, for those populations less well covered by the current IBA network. Workshop participants discussed their national survey priorities in sub-regional groups and then generated a short-list of the most important sites to be surveyed in the sub-region.	
1.2 1.3 Compile existing information through sub-regions	WI, BLI, SRSs	10%	Workshop participants also provided extra information from their own experience and contacts for other national experts, to help fill gaps in knowledge at the sub-regional level.	
1.2 1.4 Organise regional workshops	WI, BLI, SRSs	20%	Workshops were planned at technical meetings in Wageningen (June 07 and Sept 07) and Cambridge (Sept 07) and input materials were prepared for the eastern and southern Africa gap-filling and monitoring	

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			workshop. Dates have been set for remaining workshops W&C Africa: 10-13 Dec, Ghana; C-Asia: 11-16 March, Uzbekistan; Middle East: either 7-10 or 14-17 April Jordan.	
Activity 1.2 2 Fill the information gaps in the data sources				
1.2 2.1 Increase and focus sub-regional coordination of IWC and IBA to fill gaps	WI, BLI, SRSSs	15%	<p>Discussion at Wageningen technical meeting (Jun 07) re: harmonising IWC/ IBA coordination.</p> <p>Input paper on topic produced for East Africa gap-filling and monitoring workshop and presentation made on same.</p> <p>Session at eastern and southern Africa workshop analysing current level of coordination between IBA/ IWC at national level. Obstacles to better coordination were highlighted by participants and possible solutions were discussed. Each country present produced a national action plan for improving coordination between IBA and IWC.</p>	

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1.2 2.2 Perform additional targeted censuses to cover and fill gaps	WI, BLI, SRSS		WI to report.	
1.2 2.3 Organise sub-regional workshops (same workshops as under act 1.2 1.4 above)	WI, BLI, SRSS	20%	Workshops were planned at technical meetings in Wageningen (June 07 and Sept 07) and Cambridge (Sept 07) and input materials were prepared for the eastern and southern Africa gap-filling and monitoring workshop.	
<p align="center">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</p>				
<p align="center">Activity 1.3 1 Harmonizing and strengthening data gathering capacity, thus ensuring better compatibility between and sustainability of monitoring networks</p>				
1.3 1.1 Map and analyse overlap and differences in monitoring activities between IWC and IBA and Wetland Inventories	WI, BLI	80%	Discussed at Wageningen technical meeting (Jun 07). Input paper produced on harmonising IBA and IWC monitoring coordination for East Africa gap-filling and monitoring workshop. Presentation made at workshop on same topic and session spent time mapping national overlap between the two schemes and generating action plans for improved coordination at national level.	

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1.3 1.2 Develop input for manuals on streamlining and integrating monitoring activities	WI, BLI, SRSSs	15%	Further discussion on the nature of any input of IBA into IWC forms/ guidance and vice versa took place at the Wageningen technical meeting (Jun 07). However neither BirdLife nor WI feel there is a need to produce a separate manual given the rather different aims of the two schemes.	
1.3 1.3 Sub-regional Workshops to implement integrated monitoring	WI, BLI, SRSSs	15%	Eastern and southern African gap-filling and monitoring workshop completed. Presentation made at workshop on improving coordination of IWC/ IBA monitoring. Session spent mapping national overlap between the two schemes and generating action plans for improved coordination at national level.	
Activity 1.3 2 Strengthening capacity for data gathering and monitoring				
1.3 2.1 Print and provide monitoring manuals	WI, BLI		See 1.3.1.2	
1.3 2.2 Experts to lead surveys to train on (integration of) monitoring activities	WI / (consultants), BLI, SRSSs		WI to report	
1.3 2.3 Sub-regional training censuses	WI, BLI, SRSSs	5%	Eastern and southern Africa gap-filling workshop output was priority list of wetland	

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			sites to survey in eastern and southern Africa.	
Activity 1.3 3 Provide materials and equipment to facilitate and assist the training and data collection				
1.3 3.1 Develop, print and provide field guide in Russian	WI/(consultants), BLI, SRS Central Asia			
1.3 3.2 Provide optical and other equipment	WI, BLI, SRSS	20%	During eastern and southern Africa gap-filling and monitoring workshop, second-hand pairs of binoculars provided by BirdLife (from RSPB) to SRS in East Africa to distribute. The details for these will be included in the SRS East & Southern Africa report.	
Outcome 1.4 Species and critical site knowledge base supports management and planning decision-making in flyway conservation				
Activity 1.4 1 Compile existing ecological knowledge on species' migratory characteristics, site function and population delimitation				
1.4 1.1 Subcontract expert (consultant) to compile review of knowledge	WI, BLI	C	Lucy Malpas subcontracted by BirdLife International to carry out this work.	

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1.4 1.2 Consultation of network and literature	WI / (consultant – identified: BLI)	65%	Literature search completed on majority of AEWA species. Following agreement on template (Aug 07) consultant reviewed literature from BirdLife, but also spent a week searching literature from WI office.	
1.4 1.3 Compile overview existing ecological knowledge and identify gaps in knowledge	WI / (consultant), BLI, SRSS	65%	From review of available literature, ecological information on habitat, diet, behaviour, breeding site, migration pattern etc. compiled into text paragraph for majority of AEWA species. Clear guidance for site managers on habitat management was a gap in available information for most species.	This task was more time-consuming than had been anticipated. Therefore compilation of ecology information will be limited mostly to AEWA species. WI have provided an additional \$2600 to allow completion of this work
Activity 1.4 2 Facilitate research to cover the gaps in knowledge of the use of sites by migratory waterbirds and of population limitation				
1.4 2.1 Make available 'seed money' to help develop proposals to obtain funding for research to fill the gaps in knowledge	WI, BLI, SRSS	?	This activity may need to be reviewed in the light of anticipated funding constraints.	

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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 Programme framework produced for developing wetland and waterbird conservation capacity				
Activity 2.1 1 Develop a working draft of the model Training and Awareness Raising Programme				
2.1 1.1 Develop the draft Programme	WI (consultant)		BirdLife participated in the review of the draft overall training framework (Almen workshop, September 2007)	
2.1 1.2 Series of meetings with key training institutes	WI, SRSs			
2.1 1.3 Translate, print & distribute first draft model	WI, SRSs			
Activity 2.1 2 Training and Awareness Raising Programme Development Workshop				
2.1 2.1 Plan workshop	WI, PCU			
2.1 2.2 Hold Development Workshop	WI, PCU, SRSs		BirdLife participated in the training framework development workshop (Almen workshop, September 2007)	

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Activity 2.1 3 Draft the first full version of the model programme				
2.1 3.1 Draft first full version of model	WI (consultant)			
Activity 2.1 4 Review of the programme model draft				
2.1 4.1 Perform external review of training and awareness model	WI, PCU, SRSs			
2.1 4.2 Conduct a full review of the model programme	SC (sub-group), WI, PCU, SRSs			
Activity 2.1 5 Finalise the programme model				
2.1 5.1 Prepare the final version of the programme model	WI			
2.1 5.2 Translate & print final model, and distribute to contributing partners / networks and to project sub-regional centres for wide dissemination	WI, PCU, SRSs			
Outcome 2.2 Wetland and waterbird conservation Training and Awareness Raising Programmes produced ready for				

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implementation in four sub-regions				
Activity 2.2 1 Establish 4 Sub-regional Training Boards				
2.2 1.1 Informal meetings in sub-region to establish board	SRSs, WI, BLI	IP 95%	Supported the BirdLife International Middle East Division and Africa Partnership Secretariat in setting-up and contracting for the two sub-regional training centres in Jordan and Kenya, and discussed importance of maximizing synergies with Component 3 Demonstration projects and the training components within the forthcoming GEF/BirdLife "Soaring Birds" project.	
2.2 1.2 Organise & hold training boards meetings	SRSs, WI, BLI	IP 20%	Supported and participated in the first Middle East Regional Training Board meeting in Amman, November 2007. This meeting was extremely successful and will be reported in detail by the SRS.	
2.2 1.3 Meeting reports	SRSs, WI, BLI			
Activity 2.2 2 Design and establish 4 Sub-regional Training & Awareness Programmes				
2.2 2.1 Produce draft Training and Awareness Raising Programme models for consultation	WI, SRS, BLI			

ACTIVITIES Output/Service (as listed in the approved project document)	PARTY RESPONSIBLE	STATUS % completed to date (and in parenthesis: % in prior progress report)	PROGRESS Description of work undertaken during the reporting period	ISSUES Description of problems encountered; Issues that need to be addressed; Decisions / Actions to be taken
Legend: (IP) In progress; (C) Completed; ↗ increased with respect to prior report; (–) unchanged; ↘ revised downwards; (NA) Not scheduled for current reporting period.				
2.2 2.2 Training and Awareness Raising Programme Review Workshops & prioritisation of courses	WI, SRS, BLI			
Activity 2.2 3 Finalise 4 Sub-regional Training & Awareness Programmes				
2.2 3.1 Prepare final draft for approval by Training Boards	WI, SRS, BLI			
2.2 3.2 Publish & print the Training and Awareness Raising Programme	WI			
2.2 3.3 Hold awareness-raising meetings to publicise & introduce the Training and Awareness Raising Programme	SRS, WI, BLI			
Activity 2.2 4 Mobilise resources for the implementation of the sub-regional training and awareness raising programmes				
2.2 4.1 Mobilise resources outside the sub-regions	WI, BLI, AEWA, Ramsar, PCU			
2.2 4.2 Mobilise resources from within the sub-regions	SRSs, WI, BLI			
Component 3: Enhanced availability and exchange of information through improved communications capacity and resource provision				

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Outcome 3.1 Demonstrations of best practice management of migratory waterbirds and wetlands available across the flyway				
Activity 3.1 Execution of demonstration projects				
3.1.1.1 Haapsalu-Nooarotsi Bays, Estonia	WI (SRS) and the local executing agency (State Nature Conservation Centre)			
3.1.1.2 Biharugra Fishponds, Hungary	BLI (SRS) and the local executing agency (MME/ BirdLife Hungary)	IP (15%)	BirdLife and PCU completed a mission (10-12 October 2007) to review the project progress with the feasibility study for the full project, and to meet key stakeholders. The new project manager is performing adequately and the situation is improved on the last progress report. Please refer to the demo project progress report for further information about the demonstration project progress.	
3.1.1.3 Nemunas River Delta, Lithuania	WI (SRS) and the local executing agency			

ACTIVITIES Output/Service (as listed in the approved project document)	PARTY RESPONSIBLE	STATUS % completed to date (and in parenthesis: % in prior progress report)	PROGRESS Description of work undertaken during the reporting period	ISSUES Description of problems encountered; Issues that need to be addressed; Decisions / Actions to be taken
Legend: (IP) In progress; (C) Completed; ↗ increased with respect to prior report; (–) unchanged; ↘ revised downwards; (NA) Not scheduled for current reporting period.				
	(Institute of Ecology of Vilnius University)			
3.1.1.4 Banc D'Arguin, Mauritania	WI (SRS) and the local executing agencies (WIAP & PNBA)			
3.1.1.5 Namga-Kokorou Complex, Niger	WI (SRS) and the local executing agency (WWF & DFPP)			
3.1.1.6 Hadejia Nguru Wetlands, Nigeria	BLI (SRS) and the local executing agency (Nigerian Conservation Foundation)	IP (15%)	A local project manager has been recruited and activities are progressing well. BirdLife has now also recruited a technical officer to provide additional support to this project. Please refer to the demo project progress report for further information about the demonstration project progress.	Communications with the project team are not optimal, and will be improved during 2008, including a mission early in the year.
3.1.1.7 Saloum/Niumi, Senegal/Gambia	WI (SRS) and the local			

ACTIVITIES Output/Service (as listed in the approved project document)	PARTY RESPONSIBLE	STATUS % completed to date (and in parenthesis: % in prior progress report)	PROGRESS Description of work undertaken during the reporting period	ISSUES Description of problems encountered; Issues that need to be addressed; Decisions / Actions to be taken
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	executing agency (Department of Parks & Wildlife Management, Direction des Parcs Nationaux)			
3.1.1.8 Wakkerstroom, South Africa	BLI (SRS) and the local executing agency (BirdLife South Africa)	IP (20%)	Progress seems to be good with this demonstration project and work is largely on schedule. Please refer to the demo project progress report for further information about the demonstration project progress.	None.
3.1.1.9 Dar es Salaam Wetlands, Tanzania	BLI (SRS) and the local executing agency (Wildlife Conservation Society of Tanzania)	IP (15%)	A new project manager has been recruited following the unexpected departure of the previous manager. Progress is being made, but at a slower rate than optimal. BirdLife has now recruited a technical officer to provide additional support to this project. Please refer to the demo project progress report for further information about the demonstration	Communications with the project team are not optimal, and will be improved during 2008. A mission by the BirdLife Technical Officer will also take place to support the partner further.

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			project progress.	
3.1.1.10 Lake Burdur, Turkey	BLI (SRS) and the local executing agency (Doga Dernegi)	IP (15%)	BirdLife and the PCU carried out a mission to Lake Burdur with the project team in June 2007. Doga Dernegi and the local team are making good progress and are on schedule. Please refer to the demo project progress report for further information about the demonstration project progress.	None.
3.1.1.11 Aden Lagoons, Yemen	BLI (SRS) and the local executing agency (BirdLife International Middle East Division & Yemen Society for the Protection of Wildlife)	IP (15%)	Project staff have been recruited and progress is on schedule. Please refer to the demo project progress report for further information about the demonstration project progress.	None at present, although a mission will be carried out to support the partner during 2008.
Activity 2 Publication of a book summarising the lessons learned from the demonstration project activities				
3.1 2.1 Consultant contracted and structure for the book	WI, PCU			

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worked out				
3.1 2.2 Demonstration projects contribute information for book	WI (consultant), BLI, PCU			
3.1 2.3 Consultant compiles and edits the book	WI (consultant)			
3.1 2.4 Book reviewed	WI, SC, PCU			
3.1 2.5 Book finalised	WI (consultant)			
3.1 2.6 Book printed, publicised and disseminated	WI, PCU			
Outcome 3.2 Strengthened mechanisms for governments and NGOs to communicate and work together on wise use of wetlands and migratory waterbirds				
Activity 3.2 1 Increase capacity for electronic exchange of information				
3.2 1.1 Creation of project web area in the AEWA web-site	PCU, AEWA CO, WI, BLI			
3.2 1.2 Creation of an intranet facility in the project web-site	PCU, AEWA CO, WI, BLI			

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Legend: (IP) In progress; (C) Completed; ⬆ increased with respect to prior report; (–) unchanged; ⬇ revised downwards; (NA) Not scheduled for current reporting period.				
3.2 1.3 Creation of an email discussion group	PCU, AEWA CO, WI, BLI			
3.2 1.4 Promotion of the new electronic communication facility	PCU, AEWA CO, SRSs, WI, BLI, Ramsar			
Activity 3.2 2 Augmentation of and increased access to flyway contact information				
3.2 2.1 Compile existing information from partner organizations for use in the contacts database	AEWA CO, PCU			
3.2 2.2 Develop data agreement	AEWA CO, PCU			
3.2 2.3 Create, populate and maintain database on the AEWA web-site	AEWA CO, PCU			
3.2 2.4 Plan and implement data collection activities	AEWA CO, PCU, SRSs			
Activity 3.2 3 Provide project information (updates, progress reports, publicity materials) in four languages for stakeholders				
3.2 3.1 Compile annual newsletters	AEWA CO, PCU, WI, BLI			

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Legend: (IP) In progress; (C) Completed; ↗ increased with respect to prior report; (–) unchanged; ↘ revised downwards; (NA) Not scheduled for current reporting period.				
3.2 3.2 Disseminate newsletters	AEWA CO, PCU, WI, BLI, SRSs			
3.2 3.3 Disseminate other project information	AEWA CO, PCU, SRSs, Demonstration Projects			
Outcome 3.3 Mechanisms of exchange between and within sub-regions for improved flyway-level migratory waterbird and wetland management established				
Activity 3.3 1 Establish informal networks along the main migratory flyways within the AEWA area				
3.3 1.1 Liaison with WI/BLI to agree on key sites / flyway networks	WI, BLI, AEWA, PCU			
3.3 1.2 Develop preliminary networks of people for selected flyways	WI, BLI, AEWA, PCU			
3.3 1.3 Detail and publicise networks on project website	WI, BLI, AEWA, PCU			
Activity 3.3 2 Designate focal points, responsible for servicing networks				
3.3 2.1 Identify & designate focal points for each flyway	WI			

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3.3 2.2 Focal points develop, maintain and service networks	WI			
Activity 3.3 3 Exchange Programme Planning Workshop				
3.3 3.1 Organise and hold Planning Workshop	WI, PCU			
3.3 3.2 Distil flyway-level schedules and recommendations	WI			
Activity 3.3 4 Implement Exchange Programme activities				
3.3 4.1 Exchanges of key site personnel between sites in different parts of the flyways	WI			
3.3 4.2 Exchanges of key sites personnel within their sub-region	WI, SRSSs, demo projects, BLI, AEWA, Ramsar			
3.3 4.3 Exchanges of demonstration site personnel	WI, SRSSs, demo projects, BLI, AEWA, Ramsar			

ACTIVITIES Output/Service (as listed in the approved project document)	PARTY RESPONSIBLE	STATUS % completed to date (and in parenthesis: % in prior progress report)	PROGRESS Description of work undertaken during the reporting period	ISSUES Description of problems encountered; Issues that need to be addressed; Decisions / Actions to be taken
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Activity 3.3 5 Develop strategic partnerships and mobilise co-financing				
3.3 5.1 Promote partnerships through communication & liaison	WI, SRSSs			
3.3 5.2 Develop strategic partnership proposals	PCU, WI, SRSSs			
Outcome 3.4 The wise-use of migratory waterbirds and wetlands is better understood and implemented by governments in focal sub-regions				
Activity 3.4 1 Development of sub-regional mentoring capacity				
3.4 1.1 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			
3.4 1.2 Shadow activities in MEA offices	WI, BLI, AEWA, Ramsar, PCU, SRSSs			
3.4 1.3 Shadow activities in the field	WI, BLI, AEWA, Ramsar,			

ACTIVITIES Output/Service (as listed in the approved project document)	PARTY RESPONSIBLE	STATUS % completed to date (and in parenthesis: % in prior progress report)	PROGRESS Description of work undertaken during the reporting period	ISSUES Description of problems encountered; Issues that need to be addressed; Decisions / Actions to be taken
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PCU, SRSs				
Activity 3.4 2 Production of key MEA texts and information in the predominant languages of the focal sub-regions				
3.4 2.1 Translation of key MEA texts	PCU, AEWA, Ramsar, SRSs, WI, BLI			
3.4 2.2 Printing and dissemination of translated documents	PCU, AEWA, Ramsar, SRSs, WI, BLI			

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:	US \$ 225,930
Funds advanced by UNOPS to date:	US \$ 29,011
Total expenditure this reporting period:	US \$ 53,438
Funds requested (as per disbursement schedule):	US \$ 27,688
Balance [including balance from prior reporting period(s)]:	US \$ (24,427)

Certified by (Project Manager): _____

The Lead Contractor to import an MS Excel sheet of the financial report table below.

Table 1. Financial Report

	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
10	PERSONNEL COMPONENT						
	1100 Project Personnel						
	1101 Senior Staff Coordinator	5,349	1,642	3,707		0	
	1102 Senior Technical Officer (networks)	12,538	4,559	7,979		4,559	
	1103 Senior Technical Officer (demo projects)	90,790	29,565	61,225		24,309	
	1105 Technical Officer (Africa)	65,300	20,163	45,137		12,571	
	1106 Technical Officer (data management)	6,652	1,460	5,192		1,460	
	1199 sub-total	180,629	57,389	123,240		42,899	
	1600 Travel on official business	45,301	16,262	29,039		10,539	
	1699 sub-total	45,301	16,262	29,039		10,539	
	1999 COMPONENT TOTAL	225,930	73,651	152,279		53,438	
99	GRAND TOTAL	225,930	73,651	152,279	14,011	53,438	(24,427)

4.2 Status of co-financing

Sources of co-financing	Total funds committed (cash)	Total in-kind contribution	Total co-financing (cash + in-kind)	Total received to date	Balance
BirdLife International	0	674,225	674,225	187,939	486,286
totals					
List any additional sources of co-financing mobilized during project implementation					
totals					

5 Evaluation of Project Impact

QUESTION	ANSWER
STAKEHOLDERS	
# of BLI staff involved in the implementation of the project	13 (Component 1) 4 (Component 3) 2 (Administration)
# of Volunteers involved in this project	0
TARGET BENEFICIARIES	
# of people involved in project workshops organised by BLI	43 (East Africa gap-filling & monitoring workshop)
# of people BLI has trained to date under this project	0
COMMUNICATION ISSUES	
# of press articles produced and disseminated by BLI featuring the project	1 (+4 migration news items where WOW was the lead 'see also' item)
# of TV/radio programmes featuring the project and/or related issues promoted by the BLI Communications team	0
# of publications BLI has produced under this project	0
Estimated # of people BLI has targeted through institutional communication efforts	43 participants in East Africa gap-filling and monitoring workshop. 9000 via BirdLife website and the WOW press release.

6. Key Lessons Learned

1. Analysis and combination of data from WI and BLI to produce the maps and priority species lists for individual countries has highlighted the need for standardized naming and methodologies for combining information on sites and populations. In future it would be preferable to link information based on numbers or codes to minimize the risk of error and the need for additional effort.
2. There is still a need for better coordination between the three components. We have instigated better internal communication between the BirdLife team but coordination is still sub-optimal, but it is anticipated that this will improve during 2008 with an internal reorganisation.
3. All cofinancing should have been secured before commencing the project. The current failure of some cofinancing is impacting on planning and impact of the project

7. Workplan for the Next Semi-annual Period

7.1 Updated overall project workplan

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

Please see the attached workplan: "WOW Workplan.xls"

NOTE: following the PCU/Wetlands International/BirdLife International/UNEP-WCMC Technical Team meeting held in Cambridge on the 6-7 December (after this reporting period) this workplan will be revised in the next reporting period, so this version is included for information only.

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.

Please see the attached workplan: "WOW Workplan - detailed.xls"

NOTE: following the PCU/Wetlands International/BirdLife International/UNEP-WCMC Technical Team meeting held in Cambridge on the 6-7 December (after this reporting period) this workplan will be revised in the next reporting period so this version is included for information only.

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, training 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 (BLI-convened meetings only)

No	Meeting Type ⁴	Title	Venue	Dates	Convened by	Organized by	# of Participants	Report issued as doc no	Language	Dated
1.	Technical meeting	BirdLife/ WCMC meeting re: web portal	BirdLife International, Cambridge	21/8/07	BirdLife	Vicky Jones	4			
2.	Technical meeting	BirdLife/ WI/ WCMC technical meeting Sept 07	BirdLife International, Cambridge	13/9/07	BirdLife	Vicky Jones	6			
3.	Gap-filling and Monitoring Workshop	WOW East Africa gap-filling & monitoring workshop	Kenya Wildlife Training Institute, Naivasha, Kenya	18/11/07 to 22/11/07	WI & BirdLife	Oliver Nasirwa	43			
4.	Presentation	Wings over Wetlands general multimedia presentation	Amman, Jordan	20/08/07	BirdLife International	BirdLife International	c. 25	n/a	English	n/a

b) Printed Materials

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

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

⁵ Material types (Report to Inter-governmental Meeting, Technical Publication, Technical Report, Other)

3.							

c) Media coverage

No	Description	Date
1.		
2.		
3.		

d) Technical Cooperation with relevant parallel initiatives

No	Type ⁶	Purpose	Venue	Duration	For Grants and Fellowships		
					Beneficiaries	Countries/Nationalities	Cost (in US\$)
1.	Workshop running back-to-back with WOW workshop, with some overlap in participants.	Instituting effective monitoring of protected areas (Important Bird Areas) as a contribution to reducing the rate of biodiversity loss in Africa	Kenya Wildlife Training Institute, Naivasha , Kenya	3 days (23-25/11/07)			
2.	Staff mission	Hosting international workshop to develop a regional action plan for sustainable hunting of migratory birds with government, NGOs and hunters from Syria,	Amman (Jordan)	2 days (August 2007)			

⁶ Technical Cooperation Type (Grants and Fellowships, Advisory Services, Staff Mission, Others)

		Palestine, Lebanon, Jordan, Egypt, Tunisia, Algeria and Morocco (see attached participants list)					
2.	Staff involvement	BirdLife Senior Technical Officer (Demonstration Projects) is ensuring full synergy between the WOW project and a forthcoming GEF/BirdLife 10-year, 11-country, project " <i>Mainstreaming conservation of migratory soaring birds into key productive sectors along the Rift Valley/Red Sea flyway</i> ".	UK & Jordan	Ongoing			
3.	Staff mission	Participating in BirdLife Middle East Partnership meeting on flyways conservation	Amman (Jordan)	3 days (Nov 2007)			

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

No	Description	Date
1.	Mission to Turkey demonstration project to review project and establish communications with partner and key	11/06/07 –

	stakeholders.	15/06/07
2.	Mission to Hungary demonstration project to review project and establish communications with partner and key stakeholders.	10/10/07 – 12/10/07
3.	Participation in overall Training Component development workshop in Almen, Netherlands	24/09/07 – 27/09/07
4.	Participation in PCU revision of Monitoring and Evaluation plan in Wageningen, Netherlands	17/10/07 – 19/10/07
5.	Participation in Middle East Regional Training Board meeting, and BirdLife Middle East Partnership meeting	09/11/07 – 16/11/07