

WOW – REGIONAL CENTRE  
**SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT**

**REPORT #:**3  
**REPORTING PERIOD:** 01 June 2008 - 30 November2008  
**Report Prepared by:** ME SRS

<b>Country</b>	Jordan
<b>Regional Centre</b>	<b>Middle East SRS</b>
<b>Countries Covered by this Regional Centre</b>	Jordan, 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>	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

The Middle East regional centre continues to operate and team in place. The center continues also to coordinate with PCU, BLI and WI to develop the various project components mainly the 'Critical Site Network' tool for the Middle East region and the training modules.

The center organized the WOW regional training & awareness modules review and adaptation workshop 8-16th June 2008. The draft Global Framework on Training and awareness is currently under review to update the regional input and adaptation. Finalization of the review and the production of the regional version of the programme have been postponed till next year where the 2nd regional board meeting will take place. The center has assisted AEWA Secretariat to identify invitees from countries in the region to establish links and the possibility to attend the MoP held in Madagascar, September 2008.

The WOW project has been presented in the region at several gatherings such as the Biodiversity Network in the Middle East Conference, October 2008, Jordan. Information and presentations were made during BirdLife World Conference, September 2008, Argentina. The project has also managed to secure funding to one of important wetlands in the region (Jaboul Ramsar Site) in Syria. Communication with Regional training centers has been enhanced and an MOU has been prepared to be signed between Center and RSCN in Jordan. A 2<sup>nd</sup> potential MOU is expected to be finalized with Ramsar Training Center in Iran and a third one that is gaining more momentum with the training Center in Saudi Arabia.

Lack of adequate funding threatens the sustainability of posts made available through the project. It is recommended that the center undertake budget revision to envisage potential translocation of funding to serve better the project components.

### 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	Organising the WOW regional training & awareness modules review and adaptation workshop 8-16 <sup>th</sup> June 2008
2	Securing funding under the WOW CSN – improving the conservation status of GTS at Jaboul Ramsar Site – Syria through GEF – SGP/Syria
3	Advancing MOUs with potential regional training centers in Jordan, Iran and Saudi Arabia
4	Assisting to build contacts between AEWA Secretariat and potential focal points in some countries in the region including: Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman.
5	

### 1.2 Key issues & proposed solutions

Please identify up to a maximum of 10 important project issues, i.e. those issues that you feel require the focused attention of the WOW Project Coordination Unit and/or UNOPS. These issues should be selected and extracted from sections 2 & 3 of this report. **Therefore you may want to first complete sections 2 & 3 of the report, and then cut-and paste up to 10 most important issues into this section of the Executive Summary.**

#	Issue	Proposed Solution	Deadline	Party Responsible
1	Failing to secure project co finance remains an issue that impose huge negative impact on the implementation of some project activities	Follow up on the WOW funding gap analysis and resource mobilization strategy developed under WOW	Not specified	WI-SRS
2	Level of board members commitment and contribution to the development, revision and adaptation of the modules	Maintain regular communication with board members	Ongoing	ME SRS
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				

## 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 ME SRS continue to operate with BL existing capacity, except for WBO who was appointed on a part time basis.	There must be a clear avoidance of overstretching the existing capacity.	Mid 09	ME SRS, WI
	The ME CDO resigned during this reporting period and a new CDO was appointed on a part time basis.	Secure sufficient funding for part time staff time to operate on a full time basis and support project outputs sustainability.	Mid 09	ME SRS, WI
	The above two key posts are operating on part time basis due to lack of enough budget.			
	IWC coordinator should be appointed to further insure the continuity of the monitoring scheme	WI to allocate some resources for this post	Mid09	ME SRS, WI
Finance & administration	Lack of co-finance limit project the extent of project activities. Same as previous report this includes:	Continue to follow up on the WOW funding gap analysis and resource mobilization strategy developed under WOW.	Mid09	WI
	Failing so far to secure the Co-financing by WI to support various project	Undertake budget revision to re-allocate more funding to Human resources whenever under expenditure is present to ensure that core project outcomes are	Dec 08	ME SRS and PCU

	components	delivered.		
	Limitation in the travel budget line which limits possible/needed meetings with partners in the region to minimum			
Logistics & operations	NONE			
Reporting & communication	NONE			
Coordination with project partners	Component 1. None Component 2. Level of board members commitment and contribution to the development, revision and adaptation of the modules	Maintain regular communication with Board members	Ongoing	MESRS
External issues (e.g. difficult access to the project site for political/social/environmental reasons, etc.)	NONE			
Other	NONE			

## 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>	
Proposed Date for next TB Meeting	23 <sup>rd</sup> January 2009

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

<b>Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Email</b>	<b>Phone</b>
Dr. Azzam Alwash (Nature Iraq) BL Network Org, Iraq	Chairperson	<a href="mailto:azzam@alwash.net">azzam@alwash.net</a> <a href="mailto:azzamalwash@gmail.com">azzamalwash@gmail.com</a>	+962 7 955 555 69
Mr. Mohammed Yousef (RSCN) BL Partner, Jordan	Deputy Chairperson	<a href="mailto:mohammedyousef@rscn.org.jo">mohammedyousef@rscn.org.jo</a>	+962 6 533 7931
Dr. Saeed Mohammad Al Khuzai BL Affiliate, Bahrain	Member	<a href="mailto:saeed@alreem.com">saeed@alreem.com</a>	+973 3 964 4771
Mrs. Yasaman Rajabkhah (Ramsar Regional Centre)	Member	<a href="mailto:yasaman_rajabkhah@yahoo.com">yasaman_rajabkhah@yahoo.com</a>	+982 1 882 416 59

Mr. Rami Jihad (RSCN)	Observer	<a href="mailto:rtraining@rscn.org.io">rtraining@rscn.org.io</a>	+962 6 533 7931
Mr. Mohammad Al Salamah (NCWCD) BL Affiliate, Saudi Arabia	Member	<a href="mailto:mssalamah@yahoo.com">mssalamah@yahoo.com</a>	+966 1 441 5590
Dr. Akram Darwish (Ministry of Environment, Syria)	Member	<a href="mailto:akramisa@scs-net.org">akramisa@scs-net.org</a>	+963 9 447 125 79
Dr. Omar Al-Saghier (YSPW) BL Afiliate, Yemen	Member	<a href="mailto:omar.alsaghier@undp.org">omar.alsaghier@undp.org</a>	+967 7 777 101 74
Mr. Adnan Budiri (MedWet)	Member	<a href="mailto:adnan@medwet.org">adnan@medwet.org</a>	+302 1 080 892 70
Dr. Salim Javed (UAE: Environment Agency –Abu Dhabi)	Member	<a href="mailto:sjaved@ead.ae">sjaved@ead.ae</a>	



### 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 1.1 5 Compile the network of critical sites using Ramsar and IBA criteria

Consult experts in region on results	WI, BLI, SRSs	↑ IP 50%	Gaps within the region identified CSN criteria reviewed and under testing	None
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<b>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</b>				
Launch portal	WII/(WCMC), BLI, SRSSs	↑ IP(70%)	Gap-filling report finalized Monitoring report finalized	NONE
<b>Activity 1.1 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)	WII/(WCMC), BLI, SRSSs	↑ IP(70%)	CSN Tool has been communicated to several partners and shown at different meetings	Once finalized, the tool will be disseminated regionally at all major environmental event
<b>Activity 1.1 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	WII/(WCMC), BLI, SRSSs	↑ IP(30%)	The ME SRS is communicating the tool to various partners in the region to use as an effective tool for prioritizing sites	This ongoing overlapping activity with BL program
Implement communication of network tool	WII/(WCMC), BLI, SRSSs	NA		
<b>Activity 1.1 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, 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 1.2 1 Identify gaps in spatial coverage and mobilise existing information**

Sub-regional check of coverage	WI, BLI, SRSSs	C	Gaps in the region identified following the gap-filling workshop and data published	Fundraising plan should be in place to cover gaps identified and provide needed equipments
Compile existing information through sub-regions	WI, BLI, SRSSs	C	Compiled report on gap-filling produced	As above
Organise regional workshops	WI, BLI, SRSSs	C		

**Activity 1.2 2 Fill the information gaps in the data sources**

Increase and focus sub-regional coordination of IWC and IBA to fill gaps	WI, BLI, SRSSs	↑ IP( 20%)	Monitoring report produced including harmonizing the 2 schemes.	As above
Perform additional targeted censuses to cover and fill gaps	WI, BLI, SRSSs	↑ IP(30%)	Gap-filling applications circulated to partners and none yet received	Also as mentioned earlier there is a need to appoint a IWC coordinator in the region So many gaps were identified with very little capacity, technical and financial to cover
Organise sub-regional workshops (same workshops as under act 1 of outcome1.2,	WI, BLI, SRSSs	C		

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above)				
<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 1.3 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	WI, BLI, SRSSs	↑ IP(10%)	Still under consideration and depends largely on IWC coordination in the region	As above
Sub-regional Workshops to implement integrated monitoring	WI, BLI, SRSSs	C		
<b>Activity 1.3 2 Strengthening capacity for data gathering and monitoring</b>				
Experts to lead surveys to train on (integration of) monitoring activities	WI / (consultants), BLI, SRSSs	↑ IP (5%)	This is dependent on financial allocations to cover gaps and harmonize both schemes which is being considered effectively	Lack of financial allocation to the sub region to cover gaps
Sub-regional training censuses	WI, BLI, SRSSs	0%	None	As above
<b>Activity 1.3 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			

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Provide optical and other equipment	WI, BLI, SRSSs	0%	None	As above

**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**

Compile overview existing ecological knowledge and identify gaps in knowledge	WI / (consultant), BLI, SRSSs	↑ 50%	All gaps / sites identified	As above
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**Activity 1.4 2 Facilitate research to cover the gaps in knowledge of the use of sites by migratory waterbirds and of population limitation**

Make available 'seed money' to help develop proposals to obtain funding for research to fill the gaps in knowledge	WI, BLI, SRSSs	IP (10%)	Funding applications produced and disseminated	No allocations for the ME sub region
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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**

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<b>waterbird conservation capacity</b>				
<b>Activity 2.11 Develop a working draft of the model Training and Awareness Raising Programme</b>				
Series of meetings with key training institutes	WI, SRSs	↑ IP(60%)	Continue to communicate with potential training institutes. Mainly Ramsar training center and RSCN both approved in principle the training. Potential training center in Saudi Arabia within NCWCD identified and showed interest.	Lack of travel budget to meet potential centers
Translate, print & distribute first draft model	WI, SRSs	↑ IP(60%)	Global modules reviewed by ME SRS Regional adaptation of the modules delayed due to postponing the RTB meeting	Yet to identify the regional cases for adaptation and secure sufficient funding to translate and publish the regional versions
<b>Activity 2.12 Training and Awareness Raising Programme Development Workshop</b>				
Hold Development Workshop	WI, PCU, SRSs	C	The regional training modules revision and adaptation workshop was held in Amman 8-16th June08	NONE
<b>Activity 2.14 Review of the programme model draft</b>				
Perform external review of training and awareness model	WI, PCU, SRSs	↑ IP(10%)	ME SRS finalized the review of the global framework. Still need review by the RTB	The RTB was postponed till next year
Conduct a full review of the model programme	PSC (sub-group), WI, PCU, SRSs	↑ IP(10%)	As above	

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<b>Activity 2.1 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	Global modules reviewed by ME SRS Regional adaptation of the modules delayed due to postponing the RTB meeting	Yet to identify the regional cases for adaptation and secure sufficient funding to translate and publish the regional versions
Outcome 2.2 Wetland and waterbird conservation Training and Awareness Raising Programmes produced ready for implementation in four sub-regions				
<b>Activity 2.2 1 Establish 4 Sub-regional Training Boards</b>				
Informal meetings in sub-region to establish board	SRSs, WI, BLI	C		
Organise & hold training boards meetings	SRSs, WI, BLI	C	RTB meeting will take place 23rd January09	NONE
Meeting reports	SRSs, WI, BLI	NA		
Activity 2.2 2 Design and establish 4 Sub-regional Training & Awareness Programmes				
Produce draft Training and Awareness Raising Programme models for consultation	WI, SRS, BLI	NA	The regional training modules revision and adaptation workshop was held in Amman 8-16th June08. Finalisation of the Regional review and adaptation will continue till next year.	Long term concern beyond reporting period is the lack of funding for external reviewers and for the translation and production of the modules
Training and Awareness Raising Programme Review Workshops	WI, SRS, BLI	NA		

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& prioritisation of courses				
<b>Activity 2.2 3 Finalise 4 Sub-regional Training &amp; Awareness Programmes</b>				
Prepare final draft for approval by Training Boards	WI, SRS, BLI	↑ IP(50%)	MESRS has undertaken preliminary review for the Global framework and currently exploring potential update of case studies RTB meeting will take place 23rd January09	
Hold awareness-raising meetings to publicise & introduce the Training and Awareness Raising Programme	SRS, WI, BLI	↑ IP (10%)	The framework has been presented at various meetings and gatherings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The regional training modules revision and adaptation workshop was held in Amman 8-16th June08.</li> <li>- Biodiversity network Conference, Jordan 22-25 October 2008 (abstract attached).</li> </ul>	
<b>Activity 2.2 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	↑ IP(20%)	Some local donors identified	
<b>Component 3: Improved conservation status at sites critical for waterbirds, and knowledge is generated on how to enhance conservation across the African-Eurasian flyways.</b>				
<b>Outcome 3.1 Demonstrations of best practice management of migratory waterbirds and wetlands available across the flyway</b>				



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<b>Activity 3.1 Execution of demonstration projects</b>				
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			

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	agency			
Aden Lagoons, Yemen	BLI (SRS Middle East) and the local executing agency	↑ IP (40%)	ME SRS continue to ensure good linkages, communication and guidance follow between the center and the Demo. Demo progress is prepared separately	
<b>Component 4: Catalyzing the exchange of information for wetlands and migratory waterbird conservation</b>				
<b>Outcome 4.1 Strengthened mechanisms for governments and NGOs to communicate and work together on wise use of wetlands and migratory waterbirds</b>				
<b>Activity 4.1.1 Increase capacity for electronic exchange of information</b>				
Promotion of the new electronic communication facility	PCU, AEWA CO, SRSSs, WI, BLI, Ramsar	↑ IP (30%)	This is an ongoing communication flow between BL/ME SRS and the regional network. The WOW has provided a strong tool and approach to maintain and increase this communication flow and updates in the region. there is a continues flow of information on the CSN tool, training modules in the sub region.	This communication flow is at advanced stages but rather very poor to zero at the network of demo projects.
<b>Activity 4.1.2 Augmentation of and increased access to flyway contact information</b>				
Plan and implement data collection activities	AEWA CO, PCU, SRSSs	IP (10%)	SRS on its existing capacity as BL secretariat is active in collecting data on flyway scale activities, including technical data, but this is restricted to GTs	Resources are scarce in terms of implementing activities, but the funding strategy is hoped to provide resources.

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<b>Activity 4.1 3 Provide project information (updates, progress reports, publicity materials) in four languages for stakeholders</b>				
Disseminate newsletters	AEWA CO, PCU, WI, BLI, SRSs	NA		
Disseminate other project information	AEWA CO, PCU, SRSs, Demonstration Projects			
<b>Outcome 4.2 Mechanisms of exchange between and within sub-regions for improved flyway-level migratory waterbird and wetland management established</b>				
<b>Activity 4.2 4 Implement Exchange Programme activities</b>				
Exchanges of key sites personnel within their sub-region	WI, SRSs, demo projects, BLI, AEWA, Ramsar	NA		
Exchanges of demonstration site personnel	WI, SRSs, demo projects, BLI, AEWA, Ramsar	NA		
Activity 4.2 5 Develop strategic partnerships and mobilise co-financing				

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Promote partnerships through communication & liaison	WI, SRSs	↑ IP(40%)	Networking with major conservation bodies relevant to wetland work (Medwet, and Ramsar Center) and existing BL network	
Develop strategic partnership proposals	PCU, WI, SRSs	0%	No progress	
<b>Outcome 4.3 The wise-use of migratory waterbirds and wetlands is better understood and implemented by governments in focal sub-regions</b>				
<b>Activity 4.3 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	↑ IP (20%)	Gaps in monitoring capacity identified in the region	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,			

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	PCU, SRSs			
<b>Activity 4.3 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, SRSs, WI, BLI	NA		
Printing and dissemination of translated documents	PCU, AEWA, Ramsar, SRSs, WI, BLI	NA		

## 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:	\$147,818
Total expenditure this reporting period:	\$23,866.50
Funds requested (as per disbursement schedule):	\$16,000
Balance (if applicable):	\$37,792
Date of the next request for funds:	1/1/2009

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	84,817	80,684.81	4,132.19	24,908.50	23,866.50	1,042.00
Travel on official business	5,000	3,810.01	1,189.99	1,750	0.00	1,750.00
Workshops & Training (Gap filling and monitoring workshop)	70,000	22,187.73	47,812.27	35,000	0.00	35,000.00
Equipment	4,000	1,694.91	2,305.09	0	0.00	0.00
Total	163,817	108,377.46	55,439.54	61,659	23,866.50	37,792.00

## 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>					
<b>WOW workshop Module adaptation</b>					
Personnel and management costs (Overheads) \$		5,092.00		5,092.00	
<b>BirdLife Middle East in-kind</b>					
Personnel \$	0	5,173.45	5,173.45	22,087.2	
<b>totals</b>				27,179.20	

## 5. Performance Evaluation

### 5.1 Project Impact

QUESTION	ANSWER
STAKEHOLDERS	BLME staff, BL HQ, RSCN, YSPW, NI, MedWet, Ramsar Center, NCWCD, EAD, CEF, KEPS, SSCW, PWLS
# of NGO staff involved in this project	30
# of Government Staff involved in this project	5
# of Volunteers involved in this project	4
# of Government staff involved in Flyways issues (AEWA in particular)	4
TARGET BENEFICIARIES	
# of beneficiaries involved in this project	45
# of people involved in project workshops	60
# of people trained under this project	2
COMMUNICATION ISSUES	
# of press articles featuring the project and/or related issues	1
# of TV/radio programmes featuring the project and/or related issues	1
# of publications produced under this project	Two posters: Marbeled Teal hunting and Sociable Lapwing
Estimated # of people reached by project communication efforts	250 excluding people who could be reached by media, and including Biodiversity Network meeting



## 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.

- Lack of an official designation on how to coordinate IWC scheme, influences the centre capacity to promote, coordinate and support this scheme with regional network. This actually expands to the vision WI has for the Middle East region.
- Lack of clear vision of how to fund and implement the training programme reduces organisations interest to participate effectively in its development as many would envisage funding the programme is an extra additional work on their core activities.
- Building on the above a raising concern regarding Branding of the training programme and the WOW outputs. This is also has a role to do with the sustainability of the centres and outputs.
- Reduced support and proper coverage of the region in the major components of the projects mainly: the exchange programme, fundraising for needed equipment and gap filling surveys.

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

### 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	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 outcome1.2, 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				x	x	x	
<b>O2.1 Activity 2 Training and Awareness Raising Programme Development Workshop</b> Hold Development Workshop					x	X	
<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	
<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	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	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 Dec08-May09					
	M1	M2	M3	M4	M5	M6
C1: Correct IBA data + boundaries	X					
C1: Correct IWC data	X					
C1: Continued input into design/ functionality of web-portal	X	X	X	X	X	X
C1: Discussion of CSN criteria	X					
C1: Finalize CSN criteria	X					
C1: Apply criteria against IBA data	X	X	X	X		
C1: Regional consultation			X	X		
C1: Assist in site descriptions				X		
Organizing and holding the Project Regional Modules Review and Adaptation Workshop	X					
Prepare and finalize MOUs with the RSCN and the Ramsar Center	X	X	X			
Prepare and finalize MOUs with the NI and NCWCD				X	X	X
Hold the sub-regional training modules development (review and adaptation) workshop			X			X
Prepare marketing materials for the implementation of the training modules				X	X	X
Prepare concept for a proposal for the regional implementation (TOT) of the training modules		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 then “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.	International Workshop	Regional review of training programme	Amman, Jordan	June 2008	SRS / WI	SRS	50	mtg report	English	
2.										
3.										

### b) Printed Materials

No	Type <sup>5</sup>	Title	Author(s)/Editor(s)	Publisher	Symbol	Publication Date	Distribution List Attached Yes/No
1.	Poster 1: hunting of GTS-Marbeled Teal		BLME/SRS	BLME/SRS		1 <sup>st</sup> Dec 2008	
2.	Poster 2: hunting of GTS-Sociable Lapwing		BLME/SRS	BLME/SRS		1 <sup>st</sup> Dec 2008	
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.	Modules review and adaptation workshop: Workshop opening ceremony.	June 2008
2.		
3.		

**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.	Proposal development and endorsement	Finalize the project document. Improve conservation status of GTs at Jaboul Ramsar Site/ promoting sustainable hunting practices	Syria – GEF/SGP	July08	Syrian Society for the Conservation of Wildlife	Syria	50,000\$
2.							

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

No	Description	Date
1.	Participation in, and presenting WOW at, the Birdlife World Conference	September 2008
2.	Participation in, and presenting WOW at, the Biodiversity Network in The Middle east Conference, Aqaba, Jordan	October 2008
3.		

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