

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

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WOW - DEMONSTRATION PROJECT  
***SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT***

**REPORT #: 5<sup>th</sup> (Final Report)**  
**REPORTING PERIOD: 01.12.2008 - 30.06.2009**  
**Report Prepared by: Marko Valker & Tiit Randla**

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Country                                    | Estonia   |
| Project Title                              | Haapsalu Noarootsi Bays   |
| Project ref. number                        | G2  |
| Name of Local Implementing Agency/NGO      | Environmental Board   |
| Total amount of funds under this agreement | 200 000 USD   |
| Expected project duration                  | 02.03.2007-30.06.2009   |
| Date of signature of the agreement         | 02.03.2007  |
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## 1. Executive Summary

During 5<sup>th</sup> semi-annual period planned project activities were finished in accordance with Memorandum of Agreement (signed 02.03.2007 between UNOPS and State Nature Conservation Centre). The project team with contracting partner (Läänemaa Bird Club) finished the compilation of the management plans for Silma Nature Reserve, Osmussaar Landscape Reserve and Nõva-Osmussaar SPA. Planned conservation actions in these protected areas will be implemented in 2009-2013. The area of planned conservation actions is covering more than 300 km<sup>2</sup> habitats of EU importance.

Due to nature conservation reform in Estonia, the implementing agency was reorganized on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2009. New institution (Environmental Board) has more staff and technical capacity to implement management plans during next 5 years.

Project team has been compiled necessary applications (Ramsar Information Sheet – RIS, site map), to achieve an internationally important wetland status for Haapsalu-Noarootsi site. These documents has been accepted in National Ramsar Committee meeting on May 2009 and decided to submit to the Ramsar Bureau for approval within this year.

The Visitor Centre has been moved from Saunja to Haapsalu, to make it more easily accessible for visitors. For educational activities has been bought hiking equipment (4 tents & 8 sleeping bags) and nature books.

In the middle of June was published project final publication. 19 nature tourism entrepreneurs were graduated in Haapsalu Vocational School on 19<sup>th</sup> June 2009, who are specialized to develop sustainable tourism in protected areas. 1 graduated nature tourism entrepreneur has been hired by State Forest Management Centre, to enhance availability of tourism information for the visitors in the northern part of project area.

### 1.1 Key project achievements during the reporting period

| # | Key Project Achievements   |
|---|--|
| 1 | <b>Compiling the integrated management plan for project area.</b> Project team identified main threats and the most important activities for the 3 protected areas in Haapsalu - Noarootsi site. In the largest protected area (Nõva-Osmussaar SPA) were oil pollution risk and potential offshore windmills identified as main threats for the site and migratory water birds. In Silma Nature Reserve and Osmussaar Landscape Reserve management plans are focusing for the conservation of the semi-natural communities (coastal meadows, alvars). In the Osmussaar island as potential UNESCO World Heritage area is also important to demonstrate the settlement history during 500 years, when main inhabitants on the islands were estonian swedes. |
| 2 | <b>Designation of wetland of international importance (Ramsar site).</b> Project team has been prepared necessary documentation (digital site map; Ramsar Information Sheet (RIS)) for Ramsar site designation. The National Ramsar Committee decided on the Meeting in May 2009 send these documents to the Ramsar Bureau for approval during this year. Designation of wetland of international importance is critically important step, which helps avoid potentially negative developments in the project area (offshore windmills etc.). Acception by the Ministry of Environment for establishment of Haapsalu-Noarootsi Ramsar site with clear deadline is significant achievement for better protection of the demosite.                           |
| 3 | <b>Training and exchange visit with Saloum-Niumi Demonstration site (Senegal &amp; The Gambia).</b> During 5-17 <sup>th</sup> January 2009 project team was on the mission to Senegal/The Gambia demonstration site. On the event participated 19 persons (mostly ecoguards) from Senegal and Gambia. First part of training consisted lessons about water bird monitoring and conservation. Second part of training consisted the practical bird counts. Implementation of the International Waterbird Census (IWC) in Niumi National park was part of the training.  |
| 4 | <b>Development of Nature Information Centre in Haapsalu.</b> For economical reasons Environmental Board decided to close small office in Saunja. Developed facilities for visitors   |

has been moved to Haapsalu office. Meeting room on the first floor has been designed as small nature information centre. New location is small town is more accessible for visitors and increase the number of visitors. For the visitors has been developed software about wetland birds.

Additionally has been bought tents and sleeping bags to organize camps. For the outdoor and indoor trainings has been bought nature books (bird and plant identification guides, books for the children). The project idea and main activities were documented in small publication released in June 2009.

**5 The number of some endangered bird species is increasing at Haapsalu-Noarootsi demosite.**

During spring 2009 project area was the main stop over site for globally threatened Lesser White-fronted Goose (*Anser erythropus*) (flock with 30 birds has been counted). This is the largest documented flock during last 10 years in West Estonia.

Ruff (*Philomachus pygnae*) was rediscovered as a breeding species on the coastal meadows in Silma Nature Reserve. The previous documented breeding was about 15 years ago.

Waterbird counts showing that at least 10 water bird species are using Haapsalu Bay on internationally important level. As a result of wetland restoration, the number of Barnacle Geese has been increased to 10 000 birds during migration.

## 1.2 Key issues & proposed solutions

| # | Issue   | Proposed Solution   | Deadline     | Party Responsible |
|---|---|---|--------------|-------------------|
| 1 | <b>Implementation of the management plan in Osmussaar Landscape Reserve</b> | The management of Osmussaar island is complicated because of separation from the mainland. To keep most valuable semi-natural habitats open is necessary to increase the number of sheeps from 400 to 2000. This needs additional costs for transportation and new buildings for keeping more animals on the island. The management plan has been worked out for 2009-2013, covering current EU Programme Period (2007-2013). During this period is necessary to implement EU projects to improve capacity for keeping animals on the Osmussaar island. | 31.XII. 2013 | Marko Valker      |
| 2 | <b>Removing of Visitor Centre</b>   | Due to economical reasons has been closed office in Saunja. Facilities for visitors has been moved to Haapsalu office. To increase the public interest about ecotourism and hiking possibilities will be implemented educational programs for schoolchildren in September-October 2009. In early September will be organized seminar for teachers, introducing educational programs   | 30.XII. 2010 | Marko Valker      |

and publications provided by  
Environmental Board and State  
Forest Management Centre.

## 2. Project Management

| CATEGORY  | ISSUES<br>Description of issues affecting project performance during the reporting period  | PROPOSED SOLUTIONS<br>Description of decisions / actions to be taken   | DEADLINE   | PARTY RESPONSIBLE   |
|---|--|--|------------|---|
| Recruitment & management of staff and consultants | During last months has been recruited temporary staff (4 contracts) for short-term jobs (preparing of Ramsar site maps, removing of the Visitor Centre equipment etc.).  | After 30.06.2009 project manager continues the work in Environmental Board as environmental education specialist. His work is to keep nature information centre operational, organize educational events and provide information about protected areas in West Estonia.                              | 30.06.2009 | Kaja Lotman & Maris Kivistik                                  |
| Finance & administration                          | For implementation of activities in 5 <sup>th</sup> Semi-Annual period, Ministry of Finance approved funds in amount of final payment (16 432 USD).<br><br>Second external audit has been implemented by <i>Probatas Ltd</i> in May 2009. Project team compiled final report, indicating the status of project activities. Project team used planned GEF Funds for project activities. | Some funds (personell costs) has been unused to help keep Visitor Centre active and operational during next two months. After the final payment (16 432 USD) from UNOPS, Environmental Board is paying back this amount of money to the Ministry of Finance (deadline 1 <sup>st</sup> October 2009). | 30.06.2009 | Kaja Lotman,<br>Marko Valker,<br>Merle Lepik & Aili Kaljusaar |
| Logistics & operations                            | Visitor Centre has been removed from Saunja to Haapsalu (distance 15 km). For development of Visitor Centre has been bought some additional equipment and ordered software about wetland birds.  |  | 30.06.2009 | Marko Valker & Tiit Randla                                    |

|                                    |   |  |            |                            |
|------------------------------------|---|--|------------|----------------------------|
|                                    | <p>Project team prepared documentation for establishment of Haapsalu-Noarootsi Ramsar site. The management plans for 3 protected areas has been finished. On June 2009 was implemented training for nature guides together with Haapsalu Vocational College.</p>  |  |            |                            |
| Reporting & communication          | <p>Project final report and second external audit has been implemented. The PAMMETT for Haapsalu-Noarootsi site has been compiled. Project activities were described in national media. To demonstrate the main activities of the demonstration project, has been published the final publication in June 2009.</p>   | <p>During next two-three months, projects results will be actively presented for the public. Additional information will be set up to the project homepage. On the nature information centre will be organized seminar for the teachers about educational possibilities.</p> | 30.06.2009 | Marko Valker & Tiit Randla |
| Coordination with project partners | <p>Project team implemented training and exchange visit to Saloum-Niumi demonstration site (Senegal / The Gambia) in January 2009.</p> <p>State Forest Management Centre is managing the hiking trails in demonstration site, to keep them in good order. Environmental Board and State Forest Management Centre are actively cooperating to enhance the possibilities for nature education and ecotourism.</p> | <p>After the end of project, the hiking trails will be managed by State Forest Management Forest Centre, who has financial capacity to keep them in good order.</p>  | 30.06.2009 | Marko Valker & Tiit Randla |

## 2.2 Project Steering Committee (SC)

|                                   |            |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| <b>Date of last SC Meeting</b>    | 17.06.2009 |
| Proposed Date for next SC Meeting | -          |

| QUESTION  | ANSWER  |
|---|---|
| This Report was reviewed and approved by the Project SC                             | yes   |
| The workplan & budget for next six months was reviewed & approved by the Project SC | No, because of the end of demonstration project |
| The SC is meeting periodically and providing effective direction/inputs?            | yes   |

### List of Steering Committee Members

(To contact with all steering committee members and project staff, please send an e-mail to [gef-aewa@lk.ee](mailto:gef-<u>aewa@lk.ee</u>). This is e-mail list to exchange information between Steering Committee and project staff for better management and conservation of Estonian Demonstration Site).

| Name   | Title       | Email  | Phone          |
|--|-------------|--|----------------|
| Jaanus Tanilsoo,<br><i>Ministry of Environment</i> | Chairperson | <a href="mailto:jaanus.tanilsoo@envir.ee">jaanus.tanilsoo@envir.ee</a>         | (+372) 6262881 |
| Kaja Lotman<br>Environmental Board                 | member      | <a href="mailto:kaja.lotman@keskkonnaamet.ee">kaja.lotman@keskkonnaamet.ee</a> | (+372) 4724223 |
| Kaia Treier<br>Environmental Board                 | member      | <a href="mailto:kaia.treier@keskkonnaamet.ee">kaia.treier@keskkonnaamet.ee</a> | (+372) 6272187 |
| Ivar Ojaste<br>Environmental Board                 | member      | <a href="mailto:ivar.ojaste@keskkonnaamet.ee">ivar.ojaste@keskkonnaamet.ee</a> | (+372) 6272199 |
| Liina Eek<br><i>Ministry of Environment</i>        | member      | <a href="mailto:liina.eek@envir.ee">liina.eek@envir.ee</a>                     | (+372) 6262877 |
| Olari Taal<br>entrepreneur                         | member      | <a href="mailto:olarit@silmalk.ee">olarit@silmalk.ee</a>                       | -              |
| Jaanus Elts<br>Estonian Ornithological Society     | member      | <a href="mailto:jaanus.elts@eoy.ee">jaanus.elts@eoy.ee</a>                     | (+372) 7422180 |
| Arno Kelnik<br>Oru Municipality                    | member      | <a href="mailto:arno.kelnik@oruvald.ee">arno.kelnik@oruvald.ee</a>             | (+372) 4724652 |
| Aivar Sein<br>Haapsalu City Government             | member      | <a href="mailto:aivar.sein@haapsalulv.ee">aivar.sein@haapsalulv.ee</a>         | (+372) 4725307 |
| Arne Tamm<br>Local farmer                          | member      | <a href="mailto:arne.tamm@mail.ee">arne.tamm@mail.ee</a>                       | (+372) 5029885 |
| Arne Tennisberg<br>entrepreneur                    | member      | <a href="mailto:arne.tennisberg@mail.ee">arne.tennisberg@mail.ee</a>           | (+372) 5023042 |



### 3. Progress / Issues / Proposed Solutions

| <b>ACTIVITIES</b><br>Output/Service (as listed in the approved project document)  | <b>EXPECTED COMPLETION DATE</b> | <b>STATUS</b><br>% completed to date (and in parenthesis: % in prior progress report) | <b>PROGRESS</b><br>Description of work undertaken during the reporting period  | <b>ISSUES &amp; PROPOSED SOLUTIONS</b><br>Description of problems encountered; Issues that need to be addressed; Decisions / Actions to be taken | <b>PARTY RESPONSIBLE</b>  |
|---|---------------------------------|---|--|--|---|
| Legend: (IP) In progress; (C) Completed; ↑ increased with respect to prior report; (-) unchanged; ↓ revised downwards; (NA) Not scheduled for current reporting period. |                                 |   |  |  |   |
| <b>Outcome 1</b>  |                                 |   |  |  |   |
| Activity 1.1. Engagement of local and national policy makers to ensure the legal adoption of the management plan  | 30.VI.2007                      | <b>C</b><br>(-)   | This activity has been completed during I Semi-Annual period.  |  | <b>Marko Valker</b>   |
| Activity 1.2. Collection of additional information needed for management plan.  | 30.VI.2008                      | <b>C</b><br>(-)   | This Activity has been completed during III Semi-Annual period.  |  | <b>Tiit Randla</b>  |
| Activity 1.3. Development and implementation of management plan collaboratively with local management organization and communities                                      | 31.12.2008                      | <b>C</b><br>↑ (90%)   | Läänemaa Bird Club has been finished the management plans for Osmussaar Landscape Reserve and Nõva-Osmussaar SPA and gave them over to the Environmental Board. Additionally Environmental Board staff has compiled the management plan for Silma Nature Reserve. These documents consist budget and |  | <b>Marko Valker</b><br><br><b>&amp;</b><br><br><b>Tiit Randla</b> |

| <b>ACTIVITIES</b><br>Output/Service (as listed in the approved project document)  | <b>EXPECTED COMPLETION DATE</b> | <b>STATUS</b><br>% completed to date (and in parenthesis: % in prior progress report) | <b>PROGRESS</b><br>Description of work undertaken during the reporting period  | <b>ISSUES &amp; PROPOSED SOLUTIONS</b><br>Description of problems encountered; Issues that need to be addressed; Decisions / Actions to be taken | <b>PARTY RESPONSIBLE</b>         |
|---|---------------------------------|---|--|--|----------------------------------|
| Legend: (IP) In progress; (C) Completed; ↑ increased with respect to prior report; (-) unchanged; ↓ revised downwards; (NA) Not scheduled for current reporting period. |                                 |   |  |  |                                  |
|   |                                 |   | timetable of activities for period 2009-2013, forming the good basis for management of these protected areas.  |  |                                  |
| <b>Outcome 2</b>  |                                 |   |  |  |                                  |
| Activity 2.1. Awareness raising amongst local stakeholders of the importance of coastal meadow and reed bed rehabilitation and restoration                              | 30.06.2009                      | C<br>(-)  | This activity is completed.  |  | Marko Valker<br>&<br>Tiit Randla |
| Activity 2.2. Local stakeholders trained in restoration and rehabilitation practice through demonstration   | 30.06.2009                      | C<br>↑(75%)   | Farmers in Haapsalu-Noarootsi area has been increased the number of livestock. In 2009 restored meadow area in Noarootsi peninsula will be first time grazed. Comparing with mowing, the grazing helps to keep low vegetation during all breeding period and creates better feeding conditions for migratory waterbirds. |  | Marko Valker<br>&<br>Tiit Randla |

| <b>ACTIVITIES</b><br>Output/Service (as listed in the approved project document)  | <b>EXPECTED COMPLETION DATE</b> | <b>STATUS</b><br>% completed to date (and in parenthesis: % in prior progress report) | <b>PROGRESS</b><br>Description of work undertaken during the reporting period   | <b>ISSUES &amp; PROPOSED SOLUTIONS</b><br>Description of problems encountered; Issues that need to be addressed; Decisions / Actions to be taken | <b>PARTY RESPONSIBLE</b>         |
|---|---------------------------------|---|---|--|----------------------------------|
| Legend: (IP) In progress; (C) Completed; ↑ increased with respect to prior report; (-) unchanged; ↓ revised downwards; (NA) Not scheduled for current reporting period. |                                 |   |   |  |                                  |
| Activity 2.3. Establishment of tourism infrastructure   | 30.06.2009                      | C<br>↑ (90%)  | Visitor Centre has been removed from Saunja to Haapsalu, which is more accessible for visitors and increase the number of tourists. Project team has ordered special software about wetland birds with self-testing possibility (designed by <i>Loodusemees Ltd</i> ). Hiking equipment (sleeping bags, tents) and nature books has been bought, to organize educational events.  |  | Marko Valker<br>&<br>Tiit Randla |
| Activity 2.4. Development of local capacity for ecotourism  | 30.06.2009                      | C<br>↑ (80%)  | 19 nature tourism entrepreneur has been graduated in Haapsalu Vocational School. One of them was hired by State Forest Management Centre, to give information about hiking possibilities in project area.<br><br>During winter project team provided two lectures in Haapsalu Vocational School about exchange visit to West-Africa. In March were implemented 3 lessons for nature guides about protected areas in Läänemaa. In 25.-26. June project |  | Marko Valker<br>&<br>Tiit Randla |

| <b>ACTIVITIES</b><br>Output/Service (as listed in the approved project document)  | <b>EXPECTED COMPLETION DATE</b> | <b>STATUS</b><br>% completed to date (and in parenthesis: % in prior progress report) | <b>PROGRESS</b><br>Description of work undertaken during the reporting period  | <b>ISSUES &amp; PROPOSED SOLUTIONS</b><br>Description of problems encountered; Issues that need to be addressed; Decisions / Actions to be taken | <b>PARTY RESPONSIBLE</b>                       |
|---|---------------------------------|---|--|--|--|
| Legend: (IP) In progress; (C) Completed; ↑ increased with respect to prior report; (-) unchanged; ↓ revised downwards; (NA) Not scheduled for current reporting period. |                                 |   |  |  |  |
|   |                                 |   | team helped to implement two-days training for nature interpreters.<br>Road to Saunja village and parking place got strong cover. Now the visitors have better access to hiking trail in Saunja.   |  |  |
| <b>Outcome 3</b>  |                                 |   |  |  |  |
| Activity 3.1. Development of monitoring strategy to underpin the implementation of the management plan.   |                                 | <b>C</b><br>(-)   | This activity has been finished during III Semi-Annual Period.   |  | <b>Marko Valker</b><br>&<br><b>Tiit Randla</b> |
| Activity 3.2. Implementation of the monitoring strategy.  |                                 | <b>C</b><br>↑ (50%)   | During species inventory has been rediscovered breeding ruff pair after 15 years. In May 2009 was found largest migratory flock of Lesser White-Fronted Goose since 1990s. The documented numbers of migratory waterbirds on the Haapsalu Bay were higher compared with 2007-2008. |  | <b>Marko Valker</b><br>&<br><b>Tiit Randla</b> |

| <b>ACTIVITIES</b><br>Output/Service (as listed in the approved project document)  | <b>EXPECTED COMPLETION DATE</b> | <b>STATUS</b><br>% completed to date (and in parenthesis: % in prior progress report) | <b>PROGRESS</b><br>Description of work undertaken during the reporting period  | <b>ISSUES &amp; PROPOSED SOLUTIONS</b><br>Description of problems encountered; Issues that need to be addressed; Decisions / Actions to be taken | <b>PARTY RESPONSIBLE</b>  |
|---|---------------------------------|---|--|--|---|
| Legend: (IP) In progress; (C) Completed; ↑ increased with respect to prior report; (-) unchanged; ↓ revised downwards; (NA) Not scheduled for current reporting period. |                                 |   |  |  |   |
| <b>Outcome 4</b>  |                                 |   |  |  |   |
| Activity 4.1. Project inception and establishment of local Steering Committee   | 30.06.2007                      | <b>C</b><br>(-)   | Project Steering Committee finished work due to end of the demonstration project. Most of the members of Committee stay involved with nature conservation activities in project area, helping to achieve management goals. |  | <b>Marko Valker</b><br><br><b>&amp;</b><br><br><b>Tiit Randla</b>                           |
| Activity 4.2. Implementation and administration of the project  | 30.06.2009                      | <b>C</b><br>↑ (80%)   | Project team finished planned activities. Main outputs of the project are three management plans and nature information centre.  |  | <b>Marko Valker,</b><br><b>Tiit Randla,</b><br><b>Aili Kaljusaar</b>                        |
| Activity 4.3. Monitoring and reporting of the project progress  | 30.06.2009                      | <b>C</b><br>↑(80%)  | Project final report and second external audit is implemented. Project team compiled PAMMETT for Haapsalu-Noarootsi site.  | Project final evaluation is planned to implement in September-October 2009.  | <b>Marko Valker,</b><br><b>Tiit Randla,</b><br><b>Merle Lepik,</b><br><b>Aili Kaljusaar</b> |

## 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: 200 000 USD

Funds advanced by UNOPS to date: 196562 USD

Opening balance this reporting period: 19333 USD

Total expenditure this reporting period: 48760 USD

Funds requested (as per disbursement schedule): 16432 USD

Balance (if applicable): -12994 USD

Certified by (Project Manager: Marko Valker

| General Category of Expenditure | Total budget  | Total expenditure to date | Total budget balance | A<br>Opening balance this reporting period<br><br>(should be equal to closing balance from previous report) | B<br>Last payment received | C<br>Expenditure in reporting period | D = (A + B) - C<br>Balance at end of reporting period |
|---------------------------------|---------------|---------------------------|----------------------|---|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| Personell                       | 75000         | 71053                     | 3947                 | 7534  | 9500                       | 22587                                | -5553   |
| Equipment                       | 31829         | 31836                     | -7                   | 879   | 0                          | 886                                  | -7  |
| Subcontracts                    | 39138         | 40198                     | -1060                | 9711  | 637                        | 12045                                | -1697   |
| Workshops/Training              | 6002          | 6003                      | -1                   | 228   | 0                          | 229                                  | -1  |
| Travel                          | 29250         | 29269                     | -19                  | -440  | 3575                       | 6729                                 | -3594   |
| Overhead/Operations             | 3050          | 3050                      | 0                    | -422  | 305                        | 188                                  | -305  |
| Monitoring/Evaluation/Auditing  | 15731         | 15153                     | 578                  | 1843  | 2416                       | 6096                                 | -1837   |
| Miscellaneous                   | 0             | 0                         | 0                    | 0   | 0                          | 0                                    | 0   |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                    | <b>200000</b> | <b>196562</b>             | <b>3438</b>          | <b>19333</b>  | <b>16433</b>               | <b>48760</b>                         | <b>-12994</b>   |

| Sources of co-financing  | Total funds committed (cash) | Total in-kind contribution | Total co-financing (cash + in-kind) | Total received to date | Balance |
|--|------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|---------|
| Ministry of Environment  | 100 000<br>USD               |                            | 100 000<br>USD                      | 125 055<br>USD         |         |
| <b>totals</b>  |                              |                            |                                     | 125055                 |         |
| <b>List any additional sources of co-financing mobilized during project implementation</b> |                              |                            |                                     |                        |         |
|  |                              |                            |                                     |                        |         |
|  |                              |                            |                                     |                        |         |
| <b>totals</b>  |                              |                            |                                     |                        |         |

## 5. Performance Evaluation

### 5.1 Logical framework

| Intervention Logic  | Indicators of performance  | Means of Verification  | Baseline Situation  | Status as of 30.06.2009   | Risks and assumptions   |
|---|--|--|---|---|---|
| <b>Development objective</b>  |  |  |   |   |   |
| Conservation and sustainable use<br>Haapsalu-Noarootsi critical site for migratory waterbirds |  |  |   |   |   |
| <b>Immediate Objective</b>  |  |  |   |   |   |
| Strengthened conservation management capacity   | An adopted management plan under implementation.<br>(note: plan will include monitoring framework and indicators)<br>Financial capacity to implement the plan. | Management plan<br>Relevant legislation and endorsement by national authorities<br>Implementation reports by Environmental Board<br>WOW demoproject progress reports | Haapsalu-Noarootsi area is in the national potential Ramsar list<br>Estonia has not joined with the AEWA Agreement<br>Some parts of project area have management plan<br>Limited management capacity at place in SNCC | All parts of project area have management plan.<br>After reorganization Environmental Board has more staff and technical capacity for management the site.<br>Estonia is full member of AEWA Agreement, | Current trends in sustainable use of coastal meadows are not negatively impacted shifts in Government/EU policy.<br>Commitment to cooperation among relevant government institutions continues. |



| Intervention Logic  | Indicators of performance   | Means of Verification  | Baseline Situation   | Status as of 30.06.2009  | Risks and assumptions  |
|---|---|--|--|--|--|
|   |   |  |  | establishment of Ramsar site is currently taking place.  |  |
| <b>Outcomes</b>   |   |  |  |  |  |
| Intergrated sustainable use and conservation management plan promulgated  | An adopted management plan based on Ramsar principles and supporting conservation of AEWA species | Management plan<br>Periodic implementation reports   | A management plan exist for Silma Nature Reserve and Osmussaar Landscape Reserve (2004-2008)   | All parts of project area have management plan.  | National legislation remain conducive for conservation.  |
| Improved infrastructure and an increased local capacity to develop ecotourism and sustain coastal grassland restoration | Average stay of ecotourists in the area;<br>Increased habitat for migratory waterbirds            | WOW demonstration project progress reports;<br>Bird counts;<br>Publications;<br>Website statistics<br>Visitor feedback /survey results | Changes in migrating water bird numbers are unkown<br>Regular coastal meadow monitoring exist<br>No active Visitor Centre<br>2 existing hiking trails, no camp site<br>Silma Nature Reserve homepage | 2 hiking trails has been renovated.<br>Nature information centre is ready for visitors.<br>Most coastal meadows around Haapsalu Bay are grazed, the conditions for migratory waterbirds has been improved. | National socio-economic and environmental conditions stay conducive for conservation/ ecotourism measures.<br>The number of birds will not increase.<br>Insufficient interest towards organized events.<br>Insufficient interest, too sparse populatsion |

| Intervention Logic  | Indicators of performance   | Means of Verification   | Baseline Situation  | Status as of 30.06.2009  | Risks and assumptions   |
|---|---|---|---|--|---|
| Improved availability of data for conservation management | Data is used to assess the impact of management actions<br>Water bird monitoring plan being implemented regularly | Regular waterbird monitoring reports<br>Management plan implementation reports<br>Waterbird monitoring database | The latest estimation about water bird numbers are 10 years old | There is regular monitoring of migratory and breeding water birds.<br>The most important conservation targets (Lesser White-fronted Goose, Southern Dunlin, Ruff) are monitored each year to assess the management of coastal meadows. | Insufficient logistic support<br>Lack/support of interest from participants and partner institutions. |

## 5.2 Protected Areas Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool

| QUESTION  | ANSWER                     |
|---|----------------------------|
| Was the PAMETT performed for the Haapsalu-Noarootsi protected area? | yes                        |
| Date of first PAMETT:   | 10.05.2007                 |
| PAMETT performed by:  | Tiit Randla & Marko Valker |

## 5.3 Project Impact

| QUESTION  | ANSWER |
|---|--------|
| <b>STAKEHOLDERS</b>   |        |
| # of NGO staff involved in this project                               | 11     |
| # of Government Staff involved in this project                        | 7      |
| # of Volunteers involved in this project                              | 23     |
| # of Government staff involved in Flyways issues (AEWA in particular) | 1      |
| <b>TARGET BENEFICIARIES</b>   |        |
| # of beneficiaries involved in this project                           | 67     |
| # of people involved in project workshops                             |        |
| # of people trained under this project                                |        |
| <b>COMMUNICATION ISSUES</b>   |        |
| # of press articles featuring the project and/or related issues       | 4      |
| # of TV/radio programmes featuring the project and/or related issues  | 0      |
| # of publications produced under this project                         | 1      |
| Estimated # of people reached by project communication efforts        | 10000  |

## 6. Key Lessons Learned

**Development of ecotourism in the Haapsalu-Noarootsi area.** Implementation of Estonian demoproject has given valuable experience about visitor management. In the project area hiking trails will be maintained by State Forest Management Centre, who has financial resources and good experience about management of tourism infrastructure. Long-term financial sustainability ensures that these hiking trails stay in good order during next years. Environmental Board as management authority takes responsibility about the information provided for the visitors. EB staff is participating in renewing information on information boards and leaf letters. Both organizations have centre for visitors – Environmental Board in southern and State Forest Management Centre in northern part of project area.

Local people are taking care about these trails (cutting the hay, collecting the garbage, setting up the signs etc.). This gives income for local community and possibility to be involved about developing the tourism infrastructure.

Nature entrepreneurs will be trained in cooperation between Environmental Board and Haapsalu Vocational School. Each year will be graduated nearly 20 persons, some of them be hired by local entrepreneurs or governmental institutions. Local tourism company is aware about hiking possibilities in Silma Nature Reserve and Osmussaar island and provide organize tours for the visitors.

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

### 7.1 Updated overall project workplan

| ACTIVITY  | YEAR 3                                  |
|---|---|
| 1.1. Engagement of local and national policy makers to ensure the implementation of the management plan                               | Completed during I Semi-Annual Period   |
| 1.2. Collection of additional information needed for management plan  | Completed during III Semi-Annual Period |
| 1.3. Development and implementation of the management plan collaboratively with local management organizations and institutions       | Completed during V Semi-Annual Period   |
| 2.1. Awareness raising amongst local stakeholders of the importance of the reed bed and coastal meadow restoration and rehabilitation | Completed during II Semi-Annual Period  |
| 2.2. Local stakeholders trained in restoration and rehabilitation practice through demonstration                                      | Completed during V Semi-Annual Period   |
| 2.3. Establishment of tourism infrastructure  | Completed during V Semi-Annual Period   |
| 2.4. Development of local capacity for ecotourism   | Completed during V Semi-Annual Period   |
| 3.1. Development of monitoring strategy to underpin the implementation of the management plan   | Completed during III Semi-Annual Period |
| 3.2. Implementation of the monitoring strategy  | Completed during V Semi-Annual Period   |
| 4.1. Project inception and establishment of the local Steering Committee  | Completed during V Semi-Annual Period   |
| 4.2. Implementation and administration of the project   | Completed during V Semi-                |

|   | Annual Period                         |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| 4.3. Monitoring and reporting of the project progress | Completed during V Semi-Annual Period |

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

Workplan for next six month has been not compiled because of the end of the demonstration project.

## ANNEXES



inventory

### Annex 1: Inventory of Outputs/Services

#### a) Meetings

| No | Meeting Type <sup>4</sup>   | Title   | Venue               | Dates           | Organized by  | # of Participants |
|----|-----------------------------|---|---------------------|-----------------|---|-------------------|
| 1. | Training Workshop /Seminar  | Exchange and Training Visit between Estonian and Senegal/The Gambia demonstration sites | Niumi National Park | 5.-17. I        | UNOPS, Wetland International, Department of Parks and Wildlife Management, State Nature Conservation Centre | 19                |
| 2. | Expert Group Meeting        | Meeting of environmental education  | Haapsalu            | 11. II          | Haapsalu College  | 12                |
| 3. | Training Workshop / Seminar | Lecture about West Africa   | Haapsalu            | 11.II           | Haapsalu Vocational School  | 19                |
| 4. | Training Workshop / Seminar | Lecture about West Africa   | Haapsalu            | 18.II           | Haapsalu Vocational School  | 21                |
| 5. | Training Workshop /         | Lectures about protected areas in West Estonia  | Uuemõisa            | 17, 24, 31. III | Haapsalu Vocational School  | 25                |

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



|     |                             |  |           |            |                                |    |
|-----|-----------------------------|--|-----------|------------|--------------------------------|----|
|     | Seminar                     |  |           |            |                                |    |
| 6.  | Training Workshop / Seminar | Water bird identification training for Hunters       | Rannaküla | 27.III     | Environmental Board            | 43 |
| 7.  | Training Workshop / Seminar | Nature tourism in different countries                | Nõva      | 18.IV      | State Forest Management Centre | 11 |
| 8.  | Training Workshop / Seminar | Presentation of AEWA multimedia program for teachers | Saare     | 24.IV      | Environmental Board            | 42 |
| 9.  | Expert Group Meeting        | National Ramsar Committee Meeting                    | Tallinn   | 24.V       | Ministry of Environment        | 8  |
| 10. | Training Workshop / Seminar | Training for nature tourism students                 | Puutu     | 25.-26. VI | Haapsalu Vocational School     | 17 |

**b) Printed Materials**

| No | Type <sup>5</sup> | Title                                   | Author(s)/Editor(s)        | Publisher           | Publication Date | Distribution List Attached Yes/No |
|----|-------------------|---|----------------------------|---------------------|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. | Other             | Tiivad vete kohal / Wings Over Wetlands | Tiit Randla & Marko Valker | Environmental Board | 15.06.2009       | No                                |
| 2. | Technical         | Osmussaare maastikukait-                | Annika Liivak              | Läänemaa Bird Club  | 15.03.2009       | No                                |

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

|    |                                    |   |               |                        |            |    |
|----|------------------------------------|---|---------------|------------------------|------------|----|
|    | Publica-<br>tion                   | seala<br>kaitsekorral-<br>duskava<br>2009-2013                          |               |                        |            |    |
| 3. | Techni-<br>cal<br>Publica-<br>tion | Nõva-<br>Osmussaare<br>hoiuala<br>kaitsekorral-<br>duskava<br>2009-2013 | Annika Liivak | Läänemaa Bird Club     | 15.03.2009 | No |
| 4. | Techni-<br>cal<br>Publicati<br>on  | Silma<br>looduskaitsea<br>la<br>kaitsekorral-<br>duskava                | Marju Erit    | Environmental<br>Board | 15.03.2009 | No |

**c) Media coverage**

| No | Description  | Date          |
|----|--|---------------|
| 1. | “Slaidikava räägib veelindude elust” – Lehte Ilves, “Lääne Elu”  | 20.12.2008    |
| 2. | “Kotkakaameraga metsa” – Helen Arusoo, Magazin “Loodusesõber”  | December 2008 |
| 3. | “Rongad juhatavad merikotkad kohale” – Tiit Randla interview to the magazine “Loodusesõber”  | December 2008 |
| 4. | “Training and exchange visit between Estonia and Senegal/The Gambia Demonstration Projects” – news on the WOW project homepage by Florian Keil | 28.01.2009    |