

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

WOW - DEMONSTRATION PROJECT
SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT

REPORT #: 01
REPORTING PERIOD: April – November 2007
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Country	Senegal and The Gambia
Project Title	Trans-boundary cooperation and community participation in the Saloum-Niumi Complex, Senegal / The Gambia
Project ref. number	G 8
Name of Local Implementing Agency/NGO	Wetlands International, Africa Programme
Total amount of funds under this agreement	USD 400,000
Expected project duration	36 months
Date of signature of the agreement	27 th March 2007
Contact in Local Implementing Agency/NGO	Name: Abdoulaye Ndiaye Title: e-mail: ablaywet@orange.sn / site web: www.wetlands.org Tel: +221 33 820 64 78 Fax: +221 33 820 64 79

Table of Contents

1. Executive Summary.....	3
1.1 Key project achievements during the reporting period	3
1.2 Key issues & proposed solutions	4
2. Project Management	5
2.2 Project Steering Committee (SC).....	6
3. Progress / Issues / Proposed Solutions	7
4. Funds Disbursement	10
4.1 Disbursement of GEF Funds.....	10
4.2 Status of co-financing.....	11
5. Performance Evaluation	12
5.1 Logical framework.....	12
5.2 Protected Areas Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool.....	14
5.3 Project Impact	14
6. Key Lessons Learned.....	14
7. Workplan for the Next Semi-annual Period.....	15
7.1 Updated overall project workplan	15
7.2 Workplan for next six months	16
ANNEXES	17
Annex 1: Inventory of Outputs/Services	18
Annex 2: Inventory of non-expendable equipments	20

1. Executive Summary

Some preliminary meetings enabled to deal with and agree the basic project team composition. Then, the relevant focal points at both sites and Parks' Directions levels were already identified and officially appointed for the project purpose. Only the recruitment of the project manager in the field is still underway but in a final stage of discussions after the interview process.

Purchasing process of equipments was initiated after a joint review of the indicative list of items.

The transboundary initiative and existing touristic values in the complex sites were promoted and presented to a large public through an international fair in Senegal.

To promote and take opportunities from some synergy existing between WoW and other projects activities underway in the complex, capacity of some Gambian volunteers from Niimi Park were strengthened in colonial seabirds monitoring techniques. This was done in an activities sharing context through a training session executed for park staff in Saloum under GIRMaC project activities.

However, the project in general is still in a start-up step with its own activities.

1.1 Key project achievements during the reporting period

This section highlights important project achievements in the reporting period.

#	Key Project Achievements
1	Project team composition agreed and all the relevant focal points at sites and Parks' Directions levels formally appointed for the project purposes
2	Capacity building in the techniques of colonial seabirds monitoring for volunteers from Niimi Park (Gambia) through an another existing project in the site
3	Communication and awareness actions to promote the complex and the trans-boundary management initiative through a joint Senegal/The Gambia international fair held in Senegal.
4	Common clarifications on the project activities purposes with the sites focal points and some rough actions outlined for the overall workplan.
5	Procurement of essential monitoring equipments has started with purchasing of a boat. Contacts with suppliers are underway for the acquisition of other basic materials like generators, cameras, a second hand vehicle, etc., following the revised and agreed list.

1.2 Key issues & proposed solutions

Issues those require the focused attention of the WOW Project Coordination Unit and/or UNOPS.

#	Issue	Proposed Solution	Deadline	Party Responsible
1	Long delay in the effective start of the project activities waiting the recruitment of the project site coordinator.	Amendment on the project's official end date	As soon as possible	PCU
2	International payments on the project avoiding high operational & changes costs	Set-up foreign currency bank account	As soon as possible.	WIAP
3				

2. Project Management

The following table highlights issues that affect project performance and achievement of expected outcomes, and describe proposed next steps.

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	Delay in the recruitment of the project field activities coordinator. The process is nevertheless in the final step	Discussions between focal points from two sides (directions) and then at SC level for a final choice between the two best candidates interviewed.	End December	All (mainly DPN & DPWM)
Finance & administration	International payments on the project avoiding high operational & changes costs	Set-up foreign currency bank account		WIAP
Logistics & operations				
Reporting & communication				
Coordination with project partners				
External issues (e.g. difficult access to the project site for political/social/environmental reasons, etc.)				
Other	Delay in the effective start of the activities due to the long time taken by implementing partners to discuss and have agreement on the terms of collaboration convention.	Secure an amendment to postpone the official end date of the project	As soon as possible	PCU

2.2 Project Steering Committee (SC)

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

Date of last SC Meeting	
Proposed Date for next SC Meeting	

QUESTION	ANSWER
This Report was reviewed and approved by the Project SC	The report was circulated for amendments within the majors persons who are acting as SC members for the moment
The workplan & budget for next six months was reviewed & approved by the Project SC	Idem as above
The SC is meeting periodically and providing effective direction/inputs?	Communications and meetings when necessary.

The persons below are following the administrative and project start up issues for the moment. It is planned that the SC will include these persons and other organizations and community representatives upon the effective start of activities on the ground:

Name	Title	Email	Phone
Abdoulaye Ndiaye	Chairperson	ablaywet@orange.sn	+221 338206478
Almamy Camara ⁽¹⁾	Member	almamoc@hotmail.com	+220 9921976
Alagie Manjang	Member	alagie33@hotmail.com	+220 9845201
Ousmane Kane	Member	oussou77@hotmail.com	+221 775550578

⁽¹⁾ Since September 2007 no more stay in the committee as DPWM representative but now as resource person.

3. Progress / Issues / Proposed Solutions

As the project still is in a start-up phase, the progress elements provided in this table below are based on a general outline of planned activities from the project proposal (revised project document).

ACTIVITIES Output/Service (as listed in the approved project document)	EXPECTED COMPLETION DATE <i>(NB: after beginning of the project)</i>	STATUS % completed to date (and in parenthesis: % in prior progress report)	PROGRESS Description of work undertaken during the reporting period	ISSUES & PROPOSED SOLUTIONS Description of problems encountered; Issues that need to be addressed; Decisions / Actions to be taken	PARTY RESPONSIBLE
Legend: (IP) In progress; (C) Completed; ↑ increased with respect to prior report; (–) unchanged; ↓ revised downwards; (NA) Not scheduled for current reporting period.					
Outcome 1 Park staff cooperating on management and monitoring in the Saloum-Niumi Complex.					
Activity 1.1 <i>Designate transboundary Ramsar Site</i>	Before end of the project	1%	Collected information about the actual stage in the process to designate Niumi Park as Ramsar site.	Follow-up and undertake next steps. / Appoint the project field activities coordinator.	DPN, DPWM & WIAP
Activity 1.2 <i>Develop an integrated transboundary management plan</i>	Within the first two years	1%	Discussed and outlined a rough strategy to deal with this activity; Gathered information on the status of actual existing sites' management plans.	Follow-up and undertake next steps. / Appoint the project field activities coordinator.	DPN, DPWM & WIAP
Activity 1.3 <i>Strengthen surveillance of waterbird breeding colonies</i>	Over all project duration (In breeding seasons)	0%		Delay in project's start-up phase. / Re-scheduling of the activity	Project team

ACTIVITIES Output/Service (as listed in the approved project document)	EXPECTED COMPLETION DATE <i>(NB: after beginning of the project)</i>	STATUS % completed to date (and in parenthesis: % in prior progress report)	PROGRESS Description of work undertaken during the reporting period	ISSUES & PROPOSED SOLUTIONS Description of problems encountered; Issues that need to be addressed; Decisions / Actions to be taken	PARTY RESPONSIBLE
Legend: (IP) In progress; (C) Completed; ↑ increased with respect to prior report; (–) unchanged; ↓ revised downwards; (NA) Not scheduled for current reporting period.					
Activity 1.4 Support Parks' Infrastructure	Within the first 12 months	20%	Indicative list of items revised; prospecting and quotation obtained for some of materials. Purchase of some of them.	Make international payments with low operational and change costs. / Explore possibilities to open a bank account denominated in currencies.	WIAP
Outcome 2 Improved participatory approach to conservation and sustainable use.					
Activity 2.1 <i>Asses training needs and set-up training programme</i>	Within the first 6 months	0%		Delay in project's start-up phase. / Re-scheduling of the activity	Project team
Activity 2.2 <i>Staff Capacity-building</i>	Over all project duration	2%	Common clarifications with the site's focal points on the activity's purposes. Some detailed plans of meetings & workshops are proposed under the activity. / Facilitation for Gambians' participation in a training session under GIRMaC initiative underway in Saloum.	Delay in project's start-up phase. / Re-scheduling of the activity	Project team
Activity 2.3 <i>Community Capacity-building</i>	Over all project duration	2%	Common clarifications with the site's focal points on the activity's purposes. Some detailed plans of meetings & workshops are proposed under the activity.	Delay in project's start-up phase. / Re-scheduling of the activity	Project team

ACTIVITIES Output/Service (as listed in the approved project document)	EXPECTED COMPLETION DATE <i>(NB: after beginning of the project)</i>	STATUS % completed to date (and in parenthesis: % in prior progress report)	PROGRESS Description of work undertaken during the reporting period	ISSUES & PROPOSED SOLUTIONS Description of problems encountered; Issues that need to be addressed; Decisions / Actions to be taken	PARTY RESPONSIBLE
Legend: (IP) In progress; (C) Completed; ↑ increased with respect to prior report; (–) unchanged; ↓ revised downwards; (NA) Not scheduled for current reporting period.					
Outcome 3 Awareness among key groups raised on the importance of transboundary cooperation for improved wetland management					
Activity 3.1 <i>Awareness campaign (policy-makers)</i>	Over the five last semesters	0%	Common clarifications with sites focal points on the purposes and outlined some meetings to be organised under the activity.	Not planned for this period	
Activity 3.2 <i>Promote sustainable use of natural resources</i>	Over the five last semesters	0%	Idem as above	Not planned for this period	
Activity 3.3 <i>Public awareness (of wetland values)</i>	Over the five last semesters	0%	Idem as above	Not planned for this period	
Activity 3.4 <i>Sub-regional workshop & exchange programme</i>	Within the two last years	0%	Idem as above	Not planned for this period	

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:	\$US 400,000
Funds advanced by UNOPS to date:	\$US 83,000 (CFA 40,197,500)
Total expenditure this reporting period:	\$US 14,160 (CFA 6,334,200)
Funds requested (as per disbursement schedule):	\$US 78,000
Balance (if applicable):	\$US 68,840

Date of the next request for funds: 01/01/2008

Certified by SRS WoW Project Manager: Gabin Agblonon

General Category of Expenditure	Total budget (a)	Total expenditure to date (b)	Total budget balance (a-b)	Last payment received (c)	Expenditure in reporting period (d) <i>(NB: 1\$=447.33999 CFA)</i>	Balance at end of reporting period (c-d)
Personnel	84 000		84 000	14 000	0	14 000
Equipments	49 000	10 272	38 728	30 000	10 272	19 728
Subcontracts	24 000		24 000	0	0	0
Workshops and training	84 000		84 000	14 000	0	14 000
Travel and operations	54 000	1 153	52 847	9 000	1 153	7 847
Executing agency support overheads	32 000	1 997	30 003	6 000	1 997	4 003
Monitoring, evaluation and auditing	13 000		13 000	0	0	0
Field surveys, bird counting surveillance	48 000	0	48 000	8 000	0	8 000
Miscellaneous and contingency	12 000	738	11 262	2 000	738	1 262
Total	400 000	14 160	385 840	83 000	14 160	68 840

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
WIAP			\$ 108 500	\$ 0	\$ 108 500
WAAME			\$ 50 000	\$ 0	\$ 50 000
DPWM			\$ 201 500	\$ 0	\$ 201 500
DPN			\$ 40 000	\$ 0	\$ 40 000
totals			\$ 400,000	\$ 0	\$ 400,000
List any additional sources of co-financing mobilized during project implementation					
GIRMaC programme in Saloum: kind contribution evaluated @:				\$US 2 513 (CFA 1 124 300)	
			totals	\$US 2 513	

5. Performance Evaluation

5.1 Logical framework

Intervention Logic	Indicators of performance	Means of Verification	Baseline Situation	Status as of	Risks and assumptions
Development Objective					
Conservation and sustainable use of the Saloum-Niumi complex critical site for migratory waterbirds					
Immediate Objective					
Effective trans-boundary cooperation on key management issues, including increased community participation.	<p>Saloum-Niumi Complex legally established as a trans-boundary reserve & Ramsar / AEWA site.</p> <p>A 10% increase of PAMETT scores by the end of the demonstration project.</p>	<p>Trans-boundary agreement, National legislation & international (Ramsar) convention ledgers.</p> <p>PAMETT prepared by park staff.</p>	<p>Agreement signed in June 2001 between the two countries for a trans-boundary management of protected areas.</p> <p>Saloum park already designated as Ramsar site</p> <p>--</p>		Strong commitment by both countries and all involved partners.
Outcomes					
Outcome 1. Park staff cooperating on management and monitoring in the	Joint trans-boundary management plan endorsed and being implemented.	Annual protected area progress reports	Existing separate plans for each of two sites; both under revision		Political stability & bilateral goodwill. The Gambia government agrees to Ramsar ratification.

Intervention Logic	Indicators of performance	Means of Verification	Baseline Situation	Status as of	Risks and assumptions
Saloum-Niumi Complex.	Programme of joint surveillance and bird monitoring work ongoing.	Surveillance reports & bird breeding records.	Daily activities to be reinforced at internal communications level – No joint control process		
Outcome 2. Improved participatory approach to conservation and sustainable use.	Relevant section of PAMETT increases by 5% Trained staffs remain at the site. Community <i>ecogardes</i> remain available & willing to participate in joint trans-boundary activities.	Course & post-training evaluations and tests. Judgement of on-site situation through monitoring missions. Annual protected area reports	-- -- They are some local <i>ecogardes</i> & ecotourism guides trained in the past but not recognised by government structures		
Outcome 3. Awareness among key groups raised on the importance of trans-boundary cooperation for improved wetland management	TV programmes, number of articles in newspapers, mention of site among high level officials	WIAP to monitor. WOW project progress reports.	Any specific TV programme or articles		Policy-makers remain in power / delegate work.

5.2 Protected Areas Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool

QUESTION	ANSWER
Was the PAMETT performed for the Lake Burdur protected area?	YES
Date of first PAMETT:	October 2007
PAMETT performed by:	Moustapha Mbaye (Saloum) / Alagie Manjang and Lamine Drammeh (Niumi)

5.3 Project Impact

QUESTION	ANSWER
STAKEHOLDERS	
# of NGO staff involved in this project	02
# of Government Staff involved in this project	05
# of Volunteers involved in this project	05
# of Government staff involved in Flyways issues (AEWA in particular)	
TARGET BENEFICIARIES	
# of beneficiaries involved in this project	-
# of people involved in project workshops	-
# of people trained under this project	05 (through joint activities with another project)
COMMUNICATION ISSUES	
# of press articles featuring the project and/or related issues	-
# of TV/radio programmes featuring the project and/or related issues	-
# of publications produced under this project	
Estimated # of people reached by project communication efforts	About two hundred

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.

7. Workplan for the Next Semi-annual Period

7.1 Updated overall project workplan

This project workplan below is based on the general outline of planned activities, revised to take into account the actual delay in the project start-up phase.

ACTIVITY	YEAR 2007	YEAR 2008		YEAR 2009		YEAR 2010	
	S2	S1	S2	S1	S2	S1	S2
1.1- Designate trans-boundary Ramsar Site		X	X	X	X	X	X
1.2- Develop an integrated trans-boundary management plan		X	X	X	X		
1.3- Strengthen surveillance of waterbirds breeding colonies			X		X		X
1.4- Support Parks Infrastructure		X	X				
2.1- Training needs assessment and training programme		X					
2.2- Staff Capacity-building			X	X	X	X	X
2.3- Community Capacity-building			X	X	X	X	X
3.1- Awareness campaign (policy-makers)			X	X	X	X	X
3.2- Promote sustainable use of natural resources			X	X	X	X	X
3.3- Public awareness (of wetland values)			X	X	X	X	X
3.4- Sub-regional workshop & exchange programme				X	X	X	

ANNEXES

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

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

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 ⁴	Title	Venue	Dates	Convened by	Organized by	# of Participants	Report issued as doc no	Language	Dated
1.	Other	Project kick-off meeting	Saloum Park	30 th June and 1 st July 07	WIAP	Saloum Park staff	07	Meeting key points	English	06 th July 2007
2.	Other	Interview for the project manager recruitment	Saloum	29 th – 30 th Oct. 2007	WIAP	Saloum Park wadden	05	Report	French & English	30 th October 2007
3.	Inter Senegal/ The Gambia Tourism fair	Mbooka 2007	Senegal	31 st Oct. – 04 th Nov. 07	ASSET & ONITS	ASSET & ONITS	25 various organizations and about 800-1000 visitors	Participation report	French	

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)

c) Media coverage

No	Description	Date
1.		
2.		
3.		

d) Technical Cooperation with relevant parallel initiatives

No	Type ⁶	Purpose	Venue	Duration	Additional information for Grants and Fellowships ONLY		
					Beneficiaries	Countries/Nationalities	Cost (in US\$)
1.							
2.							

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

No	Description	Date
1.		
2.		
3.		

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

Annex 2: Inventory of non-expendable equipments

Internal ID	Item	Purchase Date	Original price	Price in US\$	Present Condition	Description of Use
WoW/SG/Mat/001	Boat	Sept. 2007	CFA 2400000	\$10 059,46	Good	For field surveys, birds counting and breeding sites surveillance at the both site's sides.

Prospecting and contacts with suppliers underway for the purchasing of the other items following the revised list below

N°	Description	Number of Items
01	Generator 5 KW	2
02	Talkie-walkie or VHF Radio	4
03	Boat Motor 25 HP	1
04	Tents 1 person	15
05	GPS unit	4
06	Electronic Scale	3
07	Caliber for measuring beaks /diameter	4
08	Spring Scale for small birds	6
09	Handheld Counters	20
10	Digital Camera 5.0 Megapixel	4
11	LCD video projector	2
12	Boats	1
13	Second hand vehicle	1

As per revised list, parties agreed that to purchase a second hand vehicle (instead of boat) that will be based at Niumi side as will be the case for the project site coordinator. It was decided and accepted by all parties that this vehicle will be used mainly by the Niumi Park's warden and the project coordinator for their travels to the Saloum side and to the villages surrounding the complex in the framework of the project activities. The vehicle could exceptionally serve to join the DPWM's headquarters for some technical or administrative issues related to the activities if this needed.