

WOW – REGIONAL CENTRE Central Asia and Caucasus Countries
SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT

REPORT #:2

REPORTING PERIOD: 1st June 2008 – 30th November 2008

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Country	Netherlands, Russia and Kazakhstan
Regional Centre	Central Asia and Caucasus States
Countries Covered by this Regional Centre	Russia, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Georgia, Azerbaijan, Armenia
Name of Local Implementing Agency/NGO	Wetlands International
Total amount of funds under this Agreement	173,689 US\$.
Expected project duration	2007-2010
Date of signature of the agreement	November 2007
Contact in Local Implementing Agency/NGO	Nicky Petkov CACS SRS Coordinator Wetlands International

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1. Executive Summary

Within the reported period the CACS SRS continued with the implementation of the Project activities in the region. The Gap-filling workshop held in the previous semester provided guideline for targeting gap-filling surveys and two such surveys have been conducted in the reporting period covering gaps in knowledge in Uzbekistan and Armenia. Though some important gaps are being filled through these surveys other significant ones like Arctic Russia and other Central Asia areas can not be properly surveyed due to limited funding. The monitoring in the region relies on high qualified experts resulting in high costs; more funding should be put into training of local volunteers in order to make sustainable and cost efficient the future monitoring work. Some initial steps are being taken in this direction and first activities are planned for early 2009. Quite substantial logistic problem is posed by the complicated and contradicting financial and NGO rules in the countries in the region which pose serious problems for bank transfers for project and survey funds. Work on Component 2 continued through liaising with key stakeholders in the region and establishing some partnerships. The CDO of the SRS and several TB members have taken part in the Training Modules (TM) Review Workshop in Amman, Jordan so they had first hand input and impression about the TMs. The first Training of Trainers (ToT) workshop for CACS Region has been costed and planned and funding options are being investigated. The contracts of the CDO and the RWO will end in October 2009. Lack of any substantial funding for translation for project documents and materials poses some problems and puts pressure on the core staff diverting them from their main tasks in order to assist translation and dissemination of the WOW project materials and documents. The WOW Project Capacity Development Officer for CACS and ACBK assisted in organizing and conducting a 5 day workshop on "Avian Influenza and the Role of Wild Birds in Central Asia" which took place 13 - 17 October 2008 in Almaty Kazakhstan. The regional workshop was hosted by the Ministry of Agriculture of Kazakhstan. The workshop which focused on Avian Influenza and the role of Wild Birds in Central Asia, had a theoretical and practical field training part in which participants were given a demonstration in captive techniques, bird identification and bird sampling methods. ACBK, which acts as the WOW Project Subregional Center for countries of Central Asia, Southern Caucasus and Russia, provided the logistics for the meeting as well as materials from the newly developed WOW training modules for some of the presentations on bird migration and identification.

1.1 Key project achievements during the reporting period

#	Key Project Achievements
1	Successful implementation of gap-filling surveys within the reporting period. Priority gaps identified through the regional workshop have been filled within the limited available budget..
2	Strategic partnerships have been negotiated and established within the region with training and conservation bodies. The SRS implementing partner organization in Kazakhstan - ACBK have established themselves as key partner on biodiversity and bird conservation related issues in the region
3	WOW Project Brief was published in Russian with special focus on the CACS region. This provides good information in local language for publicising the Project activities and goals.
4	Important data was compiled with the available information on the Arctic study areas in Russia for the needs of the Gap-filling process.
5	The CACS SRS staff and TB representatives contributed actively in the Training Modules adaption through their participation in Amman Workshop, Jordan, June 2008. This allowed full first hand involvement of the CACS SRS representatives in the process.

1.2 Key issues & proposed solutions

#	Issue	Proposed Solution	Deadline	Party Responsible
1	The contract of the CDO and RWO is expiring in the end of October 2009	Additional fund-raising efforts are being made.	October 2009	AEWA/PCU/WI/BLI
2	Shortage of co-funding and generally restricted funding availability for project activities – equipment for fieldworkers, limited gap-filling funding, lack of money for translation of documents and materials	Additional funding is required to fill in the gap of funding	ASAP	AEWA/PCU/WI/BLI
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				

2. Project Management

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	None	None		
Finance & administration	<p>Shortage of co-funding is preventing the implementation of some project activities such as the providing of field equipment for the field workers in the region.</p> <p>Additional challenge is the difficulties in the transfer of cash from outside the region in some Central Asia countries; this poses problems to the realisation of the planned and contracted activities.</p>	<p>The co-funding gaps should be prioritised and targeted fundraising for them should be implemented.</p> <p>The problems with money transfers to Central Asia could not be resolved as they are result of the national policy and political system and temporary solutions have so far being taken. It should be envisaged when contractual and other arrangements are made.</p>	End of 2009	AEWA/PCU/WI/BLI
Logistics & operations	None	None		
Reporting & communication	Due to the complex arrangements in this SRC, the format for semi-annual reports should have been received earlier to avoid delays.	Semi-annual report format provided well in advance if changed, to allow the necessary internal reporting process which has to go through the SRS Coordinator	Next report period	PCU
Coordination with project partners	None	None		
External issues (e.g. difficult access to the project site for	The translation of the project documents and materials in Russian which is the	Additional fund-raising effort for translation is needed.	ASAP	AEWA/PCU/WI/BLI

political/social/environmental reasons, etc.)	widest commonly spoken language in the region being done in house and therefore is taking a significant part of the staff time			
Other				

2.2 Regional Training Board (TB)

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

Date of last TB Meeting	8 th -10 th April 2008
Proposed Date for next TB Meeting	March 2009

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

Name	Title	Email	Phone
	Chairperson		
Rustamov Eldar A.	Chairperson (IBA Project Coordinator for Turkmenistan, Ministry of Nature Protection of Turkmenistan)	elldaru@mail.ru	00993-12-398388
Solokha Alexander	Deputy-Chairperson (Wetlands International, Moscow office)	ASolokha@wwf.ru	+7 495 7270939
Edith Mayer	Deputy Chairperson (Central Asia)	edith.mayer@gmx.at	+7 727 22038 77
Balyan Luba	Deputy Chairperson (Armenia)	arbirds@yahoo.com	+10 374(10)22 65 41
Sergey Dereliev	Technical Officer UNEP/AEWA Secretariat	sdereliev@unep.de	+49 228 815 2415
Sergey Erokhov	National Consultant, Head of Laboratory of Ornithology (Uzbekistan)	syerokhov@nursat.kz	+7 727 2694860
Anton Mezhnev	Deputy Head of the Department of Hunting Animal Resources (Russia)	amezhnev@mail.ru	+74956078171
Evgenia Lanovenko	Head of Laboratory of Ornithology, IBA project consultant	filatov@com.uz	+998712 396 07 18
Oleg Guchgeldiev	Chief Technical Advisor, GEF/UNDP Khazar project	PIPP@ONLINE.TM	+99312 391633/398357
Tobias Garstecki	Programme Coordinator IUCN Programme Office for the Southern Caucasus	tobias.garstecki@iucn.org	+995(8)32 47 30 70
Elchin Sultanov	Chairman	elchin_sultanov@aos.az	+994503161651

	Azerbaijan Ornithological Society (AOS)		
Elshan Majidov	Lead Advisor Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of Azerbaijan	ali-elshan@rambler.ru	+99 412 492 73 69

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

ACTIVITIES Output/Service (as listed in the approved project document)	PARTY RESPONSIBLE	STATUS NA Not scheduled for current reporting period IP In progress (% completed) C Completed	PROGRESS Description of work undertaken during the reporting period	ISSUES Description of problems encountered; Issues that need to be addressed; Decisions / Actions to be taken
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	NA		

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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				
Launch portal	WII/(WCMC), BLI, SRSSs	NA		
Activity 1.1 7 Raise awareness amongst practitioners, and train them in the use of the network of critical sites				
Disseminate concept of critical site network at appropriate occasions like conferences, meetings, workshops (active participation to raise awareness)	WII/(WCMC), BLI, SRSSs	IP	This is ongoing work and the CSN Tool is promoted on appropriate occasions within the region. The CSN tool was showcased at the 5 day workshop on "Avian Influenza and the Role of Wild Birds in Central Asia" which took place 13 - 17 October 2008 in Almaty Kazakhstan and at the Kazakhstan Birdwatching Clubs conference.	This is also funding dependent activity for participating in the meetings
Activity 1.1 8 Promote the network of critical sites as a conservation tool				
Develop communication plan for publicising the network of critical sites as a tool for conservation	WII/(WCMC), BLI, SRSSs	NA		
Implement communication of network tool	WII/(WCMC), BLI, SRSSs			

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Activity 1.1 9 Production of a publication to raise awareness of key issues in the flyway using the network as the basis				
Produce and distribute publication	WI, BLI, SRSSs	NA		
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	NA		
Compile existing information through sub-regions	WI, BLI, SRSSs	IP (50%)	The list of waterbird research sites in Russian Arctic was partially compiled by reviewing of information from different sources, including the Soloviev and Tomkovich's Arctic Birds database.	
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	NA		

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Perform additional targeted censuses to cover and fill gaps	WI, BLI, SRSSs	IP (30%)	Gap-filling surveys were organized in Uzbekistan and Armenia in autumn 2008, Report expected by end 2008 Proposal is approved for Turkmenistan work to be performed 2009.	
Organise sub-regional workshops (same workshops as under act 1 of outcome1.2, above)	WI, BLI, SRSSs			
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				
Activity 1.3 1 Harmonizing and strengthening data gathering capacity, thus ensuring better compatibility between and sustainability of monitoring networks				
Develop input for manuals on streamlining and integrating monitoring activities	WI, BLI, SRSSs		National action plans on IWC/IBA coordination are completed as outputs of Tbilisi monitoring workshop.	
Sub-regional Workshops to implement integrated monitoring	WI, BLI, SRSSs			
Activity 1.3 2 Strengthening capacity for data gathering and monitoring				

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Experts to lead surveys to train on (integration of) monitoring activities	WI / (consultants), BLI, SRSs	NA	<p>SRS Team and WI has been liaising with potential partners with interest in the Region to contribute in kind cooperation on these issues. There is limited funding available for field training and monitoring. In general the region has good knowledge capacity, but funding is needed for training and involving volunteers.</p> <p>the WOW Project Capacity Development Officer for CACS and ACBK assisted in organizing and conducting a 5 day workshop on "Avian Influenza and the Role of Wild Birds in Central Asia" which took place 13 - 17 October 2008 in Almaty Kazakhstan. The regional workshop was hosted by the Ministry of Agriculture of Kazakhstan. The workshop which focused on Avian Influenza and the role of Wild Birds in Central Asia, had a theoretical and practical field training part in which participants were given a demonstration in captive techniques, bird identification and bird sampling methods. ACBK, which acts as the WOW Project Subregional Center for countries of Central Asia, Southern Caucasus and Russia, provided the</p>	

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			logistics for the meeting as well as materials from the newly developed WOW training modules for some of the presentations on bird migration and identification.	
Sub-regional training censuses	WI, BLI, SRSS	IP (10%)	A preliminary agreement has been reached the ACBK to organise training IWC census for bird clubs in Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan within the remaining budget	There is very limited funding available for such activities and additional funding should be fundraised for
Activity 1.3 Provide materials and equipment to facilitate and assist the training and data collection				
Develop, print and provide field guide in Russian	WI/(consultants), BLI, SRS Central Asia	NA	No funding available due to shortcoming of co-funding for the subregion. Could be implemented only if the funding is provided. However in regard to other priority gaps in funding this is lower priority for fundraising.	
Provide optical and other equipment	WI, BLI, SRSS	NA	No funding available due to shortcoming of AEWA funding for the subregion. Could be implemented only if the funding is provided. Option is providing second-hand binoculars through the RSPB scheme.	AEWA

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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, SRSS			
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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, SRSS			
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Component 2: Establishing a basis for strengthening decision-making and technical capacity for wetland and migratory waterbird conservation

Outcome 2.1 Transferable model Training and Awareness Raising Programme framework produced for developing wetland and waterbird conservation capacity

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Activity 2.11 Develop a working draft of the model Training and Awareness Raising Programme				
Series of meetings with key training institutes	WI, SRSs	IP	Meetings with key stakeholders in the region have been held. Some of the interested in the modules parties who have knowledge of English have already received copied of the drafts of the modules and presentations. Among them is the UNDP Wetlands project Training Center.	
Translate, print & distribute first draft model	WI, SRSs	IP (10%)	The development of all modules was finished in October. The CDO has started to translate the modules into Russian language, with the assistance of a volunteer. Russian has been chosen as an official language for the region. All modules are planned to be translated in the end of spring 2009. UNDP Wetlands project Training Center has asked already for some of the presentations. (migration, birds identification etc.). They were specially translated for their needs.	Lack of funds for translation and lack of enough qualified translators in the specific field results in a lot of time spend for editing and translation by core staff.

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Activity 2.1 2 Training and Awareness Raising Programme Development Workshop				
Hold Development Workshop	WI, PCU, SRSs	NA		
Activity 2.1 4 Review of the programme model draft				
Perform external review of training and awareness model	WI, PCU, SRSs			
Conduct a full review of the model programme	PSC (sub-group), WI, PCU, SRSs		The first drafts of the modules have been presented to the CDO's and Training Board members during the " Training Modules Adaptation Workshop" in Amman, Jordan, June 2008. The meeting was attended by 4 participants (CDO and Training Board members) from the Central Asia and Caucasus States Subregional Training Board. During the workshop the modules were presented, discussed and fine-tuned and the main target groups as well as the priorities relevant for the Subregion were identified. The final versions will be approved in 2009 after their translation in Russian.	Lack of funds for translation and lack of enough qualified translators in the specific field results in a lot of time spend for editing and translation by staff.

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Activity 2.1 5 Finalise the programme model				
Translate & print final model, and distribute to contributing partners / networks and to project sub-regional centres for wide dissemination	WI, PCU, SRSs			
Outcome 2.2 Wetland and waterbird conservation Training and Awareness Raising Programmes produced ready for implementation in four sub-regions				
Activity 2.2 1 Establish 4 Sub-regional Training Boards				
Informal meetings in sub-region to establish board	SRSs, WI, BLI	NA	The TB has been established in the previous report period (April 2008).	
Organise & hold training boards meetings	SRSs, WI, BLI		A meeting is planned for early 2009 when a smaller working meeting („Regional Adaptation Workshop”) with selected Training Board members will meet to adopt and approve the Modules to the region. The modules will be send out for final endorsement to the Training Board members and their approval will be	

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			requested. No other full TB meeting planned so far.	
Meeting reports	SRSS, WI, BLI			
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		
Training and Awareness Raising Programme Review Workshops & prioritisation of courses	WI, SRS, BLI	NA		Lack of funding for the translation and implementation of the Training Programme in the Sub-region.
Activity 2.2 3 Finalise 4 Sub-regional Training & Awareness Programmes				
Prepare final draft for approval by Training Boards	WI, SRS, BLI	NA	See activity 2.2.1	
Hold awareness-raising meetings to publicise & introduce the Training and Awareness Raising Programme	SRS, WI, BLI			

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Activity 2.2 4 Mobilise resources for the implementation of the sub-regional training and awareness raising programmes				
Mobilise resources from within the sub-regions	SRSs, WI, BLI		Together with Rubicon Foundation and Tunde Ojei, Global Capacity Building Coordinator a budget for the First Training of Trainers in Central Asia. Workshop was developed and assistance to the fundraising process provided. Currently a fundraising strategy is developed to support the implementation of the Training and Awareness Programme.	
Component 3: Improved conservation status at sites critical for waterbirds, and knowledge is generated on how to enhance conservation across the African-Eurasian flyways.				
Outcome 3.1 Demonstrations of best practice management of migratory waterbirds and wetlands available across the flyway				
Activity 3.1 1 Execution of demonstration projects				
Banc D'Arguin, Mauritania	WI (SRS West Africa) and the local executing agency			

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Kokorou and Nanga, Niger	WI (SRS West Africa) and the local executing agency			
Hadejia Nguru Wetlands, Nigeria	BLI (SRS East Africa) and the local executing agency			
Saloum/Niumi, Senegal/Gambia	WI (SRS West Africa) and the local executing agency			
Wakkerstroom, South Africa	BLI (SRS East Africa) and the local executing agency			
Dar es Salaam Wetlands, Tanzania	BLI (SRS East Africa) and the local executing agency			
Aden Lagoons, Yemen	BLI (SRS Middle East) and the local executing agency			

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Component 4: Catalyzing the exchange of information for wetlands and migratory waterbird conservation				
Outcome 4.1 Strengthened mechanisms for governments and NGOs to communicate and work together on wise use of wetlands and migratory waterbirds				
Activity 4.1.1 Increase capacity for electronic exchange of information				
Promotion of the new electronic communication facility	PCU, AEWA CO, SRSSs, WI, BLI, Ramsar			
Activity 4.1.2 Augmentation of and increased access to flyway contact information				
Plan and implement data collection activities	AEWA CO, PCU, SRSSs			
Activity 4.1.3 Provide project information (updates, progress reports, publicity materials) in four languages for stakeholders				
Disseminate newsletters	AEWA CO, PCU, WI, BLI, SRSSs			
Disseminate other project information	AEWA CO, PCU, SRSSs, Demonstration Projects		The project in Brief 2007' brochure was produced in Russian with extra section about CASCR subregion. Distribution is on the way	

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Outcome 4.2 Mechanisms of exchange between and within sub-regions for improved flyway-level migratory waterbird and wetland management established

Activity 4.2 4 Implement Exchange Programme activities

Exchanges of key sites personnel within their sub-region	WI, SRSSs, demo projects, BLI, AEWA, Ramsar			
Exchanges of demonstration site personnel	WI, SRSSs, demo projects, BLI, AEWA, Ramsar			

Activity 4.2 5 Develop strategic partnerships and mobilise co-financing

Promote partnerships through communication & liaison	WI, SRSSs			
Develop strategic partnership proposals	PCU, WI, SRSSs		To prepare the implementation of the Training and Awareness Raising Programme a number of strategic contacts to potential training partners and also co-funders have already been established, this will be further developed in 2009	

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Outcome 4.3 The wise-use of migratory waterbirds and wetlands is better understood and implemented by governments in focal sub-regions

Activity 4.3 1 Development of sub-regional mentoring capacity

Development of shadowing timetable for each staff member to coincide with appropriate MEA (Multilateral Environmental Agreements: i.e. AEWA, RAMSAR) activities	WI, BLI, AEWA, Ramsar, PCU, SRSSs			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, SRSSs			
Shadow activities in the field	WI, BLI, AEWA, Ramsar, PCU, SRSSs			

Activity 4.3 2 Production of key MEA texts and information in the predominant languages of the focal sub-regions

Translation of key MEA texts	PCU, AEWA, Ramsar,			
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	SRSs, WI. BLI			
Printing and dissemination of translated documents	PCU, AEWA, Ramsar, SRSs, WI. BLI			

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:	173,689
Funds advanced by UNOPS to date:	91,844
Opening balance this reporting period:	- 43,994
Total expenditure this reporting period:	36,696
Funds requested (as per disbursement schedule):	67,845
Balance (if applicable):	

Certified by (Project Manager: _____)

General Category of Expenditure	total budget	total expenditure to date	previous expenditure to date	total budget balance	opening balance this reporting period	last payment received	expenditure in reporting period	balance at end of reporting period
WI CSN Officer (day-to-day coordination at WI HQ)	14,000	14,000	14,000	0	-11,000	11,000	0	0
Subtotal	14,000	14,000	14,000	0	-11,000	11,000	0	0
Travel for WI HQ's staff	6,000	2,758	2,758	3,242	-1,758	1,758	0	0
Component Subtotal	20,000	16,758	16,758	3,242	-12,758	12,758	0	0
<i>Sub-contracts (MOUs/LOAs for cooperating agencies)</i>								
WI Moscow (Critical Sites Network)	41,000	25,000	16,000	16,000	-10,000	19,000	9,000	0
ACBK (Capacity Development)	31,000	31,000	17,261	0	-13,261	27,000	13,739	0
Gap filling surveys	11,689	3,804	1,327	7,885	-1,327	3,804	2,477	0
Subtotal	83,689	59,804	34,587	23,885	-24,587	49,804	25,216	0

Meetings/Conferences								
Sub-regional Site Network Workshop	20,000	11,331	11,331	8,669	-11,331	5,282	0	-6,049
Sub-regional Monitoring Workshop	20,000	0	0	20,000	0		0	0
1st Subregional Training Board Meeting	10,000	16,798	5,318	-6,798	4,682		11,480	16,162
Sub-regional Training Programme Review Meeting	20,000	0	0	20,000	0		0	0
Sub-total	70,000	28,128	16,649	41,872	-6,649	5,282	11,480	10,113
GRAND TOTAL	173,689	104,691	67,994	68,998	-43,994	67,844	36,696	10,113

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
BUWAL	44,623	0	44,623	44,623	0
AEWA	80,749	0	80,749	4,226	76,523
French ME	6,743	0	6,743	0	6,743
WI	11,065	0	11,065	11,065	0

totals				59,914	83,266
List any additional sources of co-financing mobilized during project implementation					
WI*	6,935	0	6,935	6,935	
totals				6,935	

5. Performance Evaluation

5.1 Project Impact

QUESTION	ANSWER
STAKEHOLDERS	
# of NGO staff involved in this project	Training Board: (6), Azerbaijan Ornithological Society (AOS), Armenian Society for the Protection of Birds(ASPB), Association for the Conservation of Biodiversity of Kazakhstan (ACBK), Uzbekistan Society for the Protection of Birds; IUCN – Caucasus Programme Office; WI-Russia Office
# of Government Staff involved in this project	SRTB: (3) Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of Azerbaijan, Ministry of Agriculture of Russia, Ministry of Nature Protection of Turkmenistan, Institute of Zoology in Kazakhstan
# of Volunteers involved in this project	Over 100 students from Students birdwatching clubs in Kazakhstan are involved into distribution of materials and IBA monitoring
# of Government staff involved in Flyways issues (AEWA in particular)	State institutions and governmental structures are involved in the experts and conservation network for conservation of the flyways of two globally threatened species – the Red-breasted Goose and the Lesser White-fronted Goose. Some of these activities are based on bilateral governmental agreements and programmes
TARGET BENEFICIARIES	
# of beneficiaries involved in this project	Identification of beneficiaries that will be trained still ongoing
# of people involved in project workshops	30 participants to the Kazakhstan Bird Watching conference 20 participants in the FAO's "Avian Influenza and the Role of Wild Birds in Central Asia" conference where the WOW project and the CSN where presented.
# of people trained under this project	ToT not yet implemented.
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	WOW Project brief in Russian printed in 1000 copies and available as PDF in the WOW website.
Estimated # of people reached by project communication efforts	

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

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
Set up a regional Training Board;			x				
Produce draft Sub-regional Training and Awareness Raising Programme models for consultation;					x		
Organise Training and Awareness Raising Programme Review Workshops & prioritisation of courses;					x	X	
Prepare final draft for approval by Training Boards					x	x	
Publish & print the Sub-regional Training and Awareness Raising Programme;						x	
Hold awareness-raising meetings to publicise & introduce the Training and Awareness Raising Programme;					x	x	x
Provide input into mobilising resources outside the sub-regions for the implementation of the Sub-regional Training and Awareness Raising Programme;				X	x	x	x
Mobilise resources from within the sub-regions for the implementation of the Sub-regional Training and Awareness Raising Programme;				X	x	X	X
Promote the Intranet communication facility in the Sub-region;					x	x	X
Plan and implement data collection activities for contact database within the Sub-region;					x	x	X
Disseminate project information in the Sub-region;				X	x	x	X
Assist exchanges of key sites personnel within the sub-region in collaboration with WI and its Russia Office;						x	X
Promote strategic partnership with other organisations within the sub-region;					x	X	
Develop strategic partnership proposals					x	X	
Continued input into design/ functionality of web-portal				X	x	x	x
Consult experts in region on results					X	X	X
Disseminate concept of critical site network at appropriate occasions like conferences, meetings, workshops (active participation to raise awareness)			X	X	X	X	X
Implement communication of network tool					X	X	X
Sub-regional check of coverage					X	X	X
Compile existing information through sub-regions		X	X	X	x	x	
Increase and focus sub-regional coordination of IWC and IBA to fill gaps				X	X	X	X

Perform additional targeted censuses to cover and fill gaps				X	X	X	
Develop input for manuals on streamlining and integrating monitoring activities				X	X	X	
Experts to lead surveys to train on (integration of) monitoring activities				X	X	X	X
Sub-regional training censuses					X	X	X

7.2 Workplan for next six months

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

PLANNED ACTIVITY	Period <Dec 2008 - May 2009>					
	M1	M2	M3	M4	M5	M6
Prepare final draft for approval of the Training Modules by Training Boards;						
Publish & print the Sub-regional Training and Awareness Raising Programme;						
Hold awareness-raising meetings to publicise & introduce the Training and Awareness Raising Programme;						
Provide input into mobilising resources outside the sub-regions for the implementation of the Sub-regional Training and Awareness Raising Programme;						
Mobilise resources from within the sub-regions for the implementation of the Sub-regional Training and Awareness Raising Programme;						
Promote the Intranet communication facility in the Sub-region;						
Plan and implement data collection activities for contact database within the Sub-region;						

Disseminate project information in the Sub-region;						
Assist exchanges of key sites personnel within the sub-region in collaboration with WI and its Russia Office;						
Promote strategic partnership with other organisations within the sub-region;						
Develop strategic partnership proposals;						
Consultations with regional experts on the coverage of the network						
Disseminate concept of critical site network at appropriate occasions like conferences, meetings, workshops (active participation to raise awareness)						
Develop communication plan for publicising the network of critical sites as a tool for conservation						
Implement communication of network tool						
Compile existing information through sub-regions						
Coordinate and implement activities for improving harmonization between monitoring schemes and increasing human capacity to implement it in the Sub-region						
Draft text and consult text for the CSN Tool on sites outside the IBA network						

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 ⁴	Title	Venue	Dates	Convened by	Organized by	# of Participants	Report issued as doc no	Language	Dated
1.										
2.										
3.										

b) Printed Materials

No	Type ⁵	Title	Author(s)/Editor(s)	Publisher	Symbol	Publication Date	Distribution List Attached Yes/No
1.	Brochure	Project Brief 2007 with focus on CACS Region	Russian Translation	WI-Russia Office		November 2008	No
2.							
3.							

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.	Training meeting on Avian Influenza and the Role of Wild Birds in Central Asia, held in Almaty Kazakhstan, hosted by Ministry of Agriculture of Kazakhstan and organised by FAO with the help of the Association for the Conservation of Biodiversity of Kazakhstanm (ACBK)	13 - 17 October 2008
2.	Kazakhstan Bird Watching conference. First gathering of birdwatchers in Kazakhstan who will be directly involved in bird monitoring. Organised by ACBK.	
3.		

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