

Description of Demonstration Project

Adapted from Annex G of the *UNEP/GEF "Wings Over Wetlands"*
Project "Enhancing Conservation of the Critical Network of Sites required by
Migratory Waterbirds on the African/Eurasian Flyways (AEWA)" – project no. 51210

SITE MANAGEMENT PLANNING IN THE ADEN WETLANDS, YEMEN

1. BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

1a. Summary of background information on demonstration site

Name	Aden Wetlands
Size (ha)	2000 – 2500 ha app.
Location (grid reference)	N 12 45 E 45 04
Principal Wetlands features	The Aden wetlands are amongst the most important wetlands in Yemen and Arabia; they support high numbers of bird species with significant counts. It is located in the town of Aden, and thus provides recreation, tourism, and educational facilities. It is also an ideal set up for a demonstration site for awareness and training; environmental monitoring site for sea water quality. A large area of the site is used for salt production (a traditional and historic industry).
Bird species of principle importance under the AEWA agreement on the site	<p>1. 1% or more of population (species in bold are AEWA species) <i>Platalea leucorodia</i> <i>Himantopus himantopus</i>; <i>Charadrius mongolus/leschenaultii</i>; <i>Limicola falcinellus</i>; <i>Tringa totanus</i>; <i>Sterna nilotica</i>, <i>Sterna caspia</i>; <i>Sterna bergii</i>, <i>Egretta gularis</i>, <i>Aquila heliaca</i>, <i>Aquila clanga</i>.</p> <p>2. Species of global conservation concern <i>Phoenicopterus minor</i> (NT); <i>Larus leucophthalmus</i> (NT)</p> <p>3. Regionally threatened or declining species <i>Dromas ardeola</i>; <i>Larus hemprichii</i>;</p> <p>4. Other notable wintering and/or migrating water bird species <i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>; <i>Phoenicopterus ruber</i>; <i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>, <i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>; <i>Calidris ferruginea</i>; <i>Limosa limosa</i></p>
Protective status of the site:	The Yemeni Cabinet meeting of August 1 st , 2006 issued an establishment decree, announcing Aden wetland as a protected area. The decree identifies the boundaries and coordinates of various zones of the protected area including its management plan. Yet, consultation to appoint a management body of the protected area is on going, and the effectiveness of the protection designation has yet to be demonstrated in practice. The management plan for its biological and environmental values is in place; however, it requires improvement and MP implementation capacity is largely suboptimal.
Summary of Wetlands uses	Fishing, shell collection, salt production (major use), grazing, free zone and storage, airport, port.
Summary of Wetlands threats	Land encroachment, marine resource usage, commercial sea shell collection; road construction; tourism and recreation; solid and liquid waste; airport disturbances; hunting; fragmentation; free zone development and port expansion; eutrophication; grazing; introduction of exotic plants; feral animals (dogs, cats); illegal trade (sharks); rod fishing; oil pollution from nearby refinery and crude oil terminal.
Agencies responsible for site management and their roles	<p>No agency is currently managing the site for its biodiversity value. However, agencies involved under their respective mandate, that will be involved in the future management of this site are:</p> <p>1. Main stake holders: Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation (MAI); Ministry of Water and Environment (MOWE); Free Zone Authority (FZA); Civil Aviation Authority (CAA); Yemen Corporation for Salt Production (YCSP); Aden Municipality (AM); Fishery Co-operatives (FCo); Ministry of Fisheries (MoF); Port Authority (PA); Ministry of Housing and Urban planning (MHUP);</p> <p>2. Types of organizations interested in site conservation: Tourism (To); Tourism Industry (hotels) (TI); Environment Protection Authority (EPA); Maritime Affairs (MA); Local Government (LG); Environmental NGOs (e.g. Yemen Wildlife Society (YSPW) etc.); Local Authority and Community (LC).</p>

NOTE: The activities described in the present project description are indicative only and may be subject to revision as a result of a project launching workshop to be held on site at the outset of the project. The workshop will ensure participation of all project stakeholders in the review and update of the project objectives, workplan and budget. Subject to prior approval by UNOPS, the results of the workshop and associated revised workplan will be incorporate in the project Inception Report.

1b. Relevance and importance of the site and proposed activities in the national biodiversity strategy;

Yemen has prepared its national biodiversity strategy. The site and other nearby sites on the Red Sea coast are mentioned by name in the draft national biodiversity strategy for need of urgent protection and management for their biodiversity value (Avifauna).

1c. Role and status of the site in other relevant national policies/initiatives:

Aden Wetlands and lagoons is one of 57 Important Bird Areas (IBAs) in Yemen indicated in the directory of IBAs in the Middle East, and one of 13 important Wetlands in Yemen, indicated in the “Directory of Wetlands in the Middle East” (Scott, 1995).

Yemen is in its final stage of their accession to Ramsar Convention. Currently, Yemen has selected two sites for Ramsar designation: the Aden Lagoons and the Kamaran Island Mangrove forests. As part of the accession process, the Ramsar unit will support the organization of stakeholders workshop for both sites, which will involve local communities, NGOs, local and central government, parliament members. The present project may facilitate this process by contributing with some costs towards a shared WOW-Ramsar workshop in for the Aden lagoons in coordination with the Ramsar Secretariat.

1d. Current conservation status and threats to the site:

Currently the conservation status of the site is under threat from unmanaged multiple uses of the site. After the re-unification of Yemen (North and South), in May 1990 and subsequent Free Zone developments, the Aden wetlands came under tremendous pressure due to their location in the middle of Aden town, and the historical record of Aden as a major port for Yemen and an important historical city for Yemenis. There is no organization assuming management responsibilities for the site. However, the site is subject to uncoordinated use by different organizations, under their respective mandates. As a result, the following threats are evident:

- Expansion of the urban area and port facilities is threatening the major lagoons and their wetland species.
- Lack of clear management responsibility and a sustainable land use policy is changing the integrity and serenity of the wetlands and the landscape of the area, causing the degradation of its biological resources.
- Lack of adequate environmental management capacity is hindering the management of the site.
- Unmanaged tourism activities are causing disturbance to migratory waterfowl and other biodiversity.
- Coastal area exploitation and fishing is affecting the naturalness and diversity of resources in the area.
- Humans, cats and dogs are disturbing the natural biodiversity.
- Unmanaged sewage discharge into the wetlands is causing severe pollution; although the water also ‘irrigates’ a marsh which is one of the most important locations for some wetland bird species, lack of control is leading to eutrophication.

1e. Details of current/past management activities, the organizations involved and current management in the site:

The Aden wetlands was declared a protected area by Cabinet decree in August 2006, and a first Management Plan for Aden wetlands was also recently developed (2006). However the management plan has a limited scope, is not comprehensive and it is not yet being implemented by one overall responsible authority. The broader area of Aden town (which includes the wetlands) has formerly been the subject of three master plans for Aden city. The first was prepared pre-unification (early eighties) with Russian assistance; the second was a part of the Aden port planning process carried out with Japanese assistance and the more recent plan was in the context of the Free Zone development conducted by an American company. Only the third plan slightly considered the Wetlands biological value in its work plan. Each of these previous plans had an economic/urban development focus and environmental conservation was not part of the terms of reference. Increased international awareness of the environment and the impacts of development provide the context for incorporation of the wetlands and environmental issues into planning processes (supported by a thorough awareness programme) under this proposal. The World Bank is supporting the design and implementation of an overall management plan for Aden. It is expected that a comprehensive wetland management plan will amalgamate the first wetland MP developed recently (2006) and previous plans.

However, agencies involved under their respective mandates, which must be involved in the future management of this site are:

- Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation (MAI): managing the Aden Marshes and green belt of Aden located in the Aden Wetlands.
- Free Zone Authority (FZA): This is the organisation managing and developing the Free Zone. It owned most of the land and wetlands from the causeway west of the Aden Lagoons to Hiswah (extreme west and out side the map). This includes intertidal flats, Wetlands adjacent to Aden Harbour and Aden Marches. The FZA has handed over the management of the Aden marshes and scrub vegetated area to the Ministry of Agriculture.
- Civil Aviation Authority (CAA): has fenced the two Lagoons at either side of the airport strip.
- Yemen Corporation for Salt Production (YCSP): Owns most of the site and salt pans. These salt pans start at the fourth lagoon to the north and continue eastward to meet the Arabian Sea at Abyan Beach.
- Aden Municipality (AM): Responsible for cleaning and other municipal work.
- Fishery Co-operatives: Several local organizations for Aden city and suburb fishermen, responsible for the exploitation of fish resources and fish marketing in the coastal and offshore areas in Aden.
- Ministry of Fisheries: Responsible for regulating national fisheries habitats and exploitation in Yemen. It has a branch in Aden.
- Ministry of Water and Environment (MOWE), through the Environment Protection Authority (EPA): Responsible for the Environment in Yemen.
- Local council: The local government responsible for resources, planning and overall plan in the Aden town.

1f. Synthesis of the current management needs in the site:

The tremendous pressure resulting from the location, economic development and increased demand for land for housing, dictate the need for a management plan for the site to ensure conservation of the biological value and sustainable use of natural resources. Collaboration between the BirdLife Yemen Conservation Program and the Environmental Protection Authority together with the various stakeholders

will form the institutional basis for improvement, finalization and initial implementation of the integrated management plan for the site. The management plan will recognize different stakeholders' rights and responsibilities. Several steps need to be taken in order to assist stakeholders in promoting sustainable uses of land and natural resources at the site. The implementation of the Zoning Plan will be a key component of this effort.

2. DEMONSTRATION PROJECT RATIONALE, IMMEDIATE OBJECTIVES AND SUB-OBJECTIVES

2a. Demonstration project rationale

Since reunification in May 1990, significant changes have taken place (social, political and economic) in Yemen in general and Aden in particular. These changes have induced serious threats to the serenity and integrity of the Aden Wetlands as a critical wetland and Important Bird Area in Yemen and the Middle Eastern Region. These include land encroachment, sewage, over-fishing, pollution, development, and salt production. These have resulted in reduction of the site's size and increased disturbance. The site comes under use by different government and public sub-sector (stakeholders) that have no coordination or an agreed management plan to ensure the sustainability of the site and its resources for people and birds. In spite of the area's recent gazetting, most stakeholders are not aware of their authority and responsibilities regarding the management of the site. All these factors are associated with low levels of awareness among stakeholders, public and decision makers on the importance of the site for the conservation of biodiversity and for the long-term sustainable use of resources, tourism and heritage.

Past planning of the city of Aden has failed to include sustainable environmental management and conservation. Currently an opportunity exists to rectify this in the envisaged Master Plan being supported by the World Bank. Upon approval and endorsement of the existing Aden wetlands management plan (prepared in 2006 with assistance of UNDP, and to be improved and finalised under this project) by the Government, this plan will be integrated into the overall Master Plan. The Yemeni Government will ensure that this arrangement is integrated into the Master Plan project brief from the beginning. Consultation is under way with the Ministry of Planning and Development and the World Bank to ensure harmonious synchronization of the wetlands Management Plan into the Master Plan. Clearly, the wetlands management plan needs to be enhanced and implemented soon, in order to be fully effective in the conservation of the wetland and its biodiversity in the context of the Aden Master Plan. The project will be executed in collaboration with the Yemeni Ministry of water and Environment (MOWE), through the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Because the EPA is the government agency responsible for the environment, this provides very high probability that the plan will be adopted.

2b. immediate objective

To upgrade and implement key priority actions of the integrated management plan for the Aden wetlands ensuring the involvement of all major stakeholders and inclusion into relevant national management planning processes.

2c. Sub-objectives

Sub-objective 1. To upgrade and integrate the existing management plan for the Aden wetlands (2006) facilitating its implementation.

The Aden Wetlands are an important stopover site for migratory water birds from Europe and Asia to Africa. While on migration, more than 100 species of birds use the site for feeding and roosting. The site is also important for summer visiting bird species from Africa for feeding and breeding. The site is

subject to a wide range of uses by different commercial, governmental and local users. Therefore the finalization and implementation of the plan will be supported by a participatory approach including all stakeholders currently using the site for their different purposes. All stakeholders will be involved through consultation and awareness raising to ensure wide ownership and to minimize conflict.

To ensure adoption of the plan by all sectors involved in site management and development of the Aden wetlands in the short and long term, the plan must have legal status. This was achieved only in August 2006 when the site conservation status and its management plan was endorsed by the Yemeni government. The endorsement provides a zonation and other management approaches that represent the necessary legal framework and status and allow for the implementation of the management plan and its integration with other planning processes. However the actual implementation capacity within relevant organizations is yet largely suboptimal (i.e. training is required for staff responsible to manage the site), and sections of the management plan still require upgrading and finalization (i.e. the by-laws, regulatory framework, workplans etc.)

Sub-objective 2. To raise awareness of the importance of wetland and waterbird value, especially in the Aden wetlands, in Yemen.

Especially in view of the recent recognition of the site as a protected area, there is a need to raise awareness of the management plan for the Aden wetlands, and to call for stakeholders participation in its finalization and implementation. There is also low awareness among the public and decision makers in Yemen about the importance of conserving birds, habitats and biodiversity and the capacity for a sustainable use of natural resources is very low. Therefore, lack of awareness is recognized as a significant hindrance to conservation. Therefore, a key element of this objective will be to raise awareness.

Sub-objective 3. To integrate the Aden Wetlands into the national biodiversity action plan and land use planning.

Yemen has prepared its biodiversity strategy and action plan, which includes the Aden wetlands among sites identified in urgent need of protection and management. However there is also an urgent need to incorporate the site and its management plan into relevant local and national land use planning (including the World Bank Master Planning project) in coordination with local authorities.

Sub-objective 4. To raise funds for the implementation of the management plan.

The development of an integrated management plan was the first step towards the sustainable management of the Aden site. However, the finalization and initial implementation of the plan will require additional funds. A fund-raising strategy will be developed by the executing agency and key stakeholders. It will focus on raising the funds identified as necessary for implementation of the management plan. The strategy will include production of publicity and information brochures, approaching potential donors and negotiating the financial aspects of integration into the World Bank master plan for Aden City which is presently at an advanced development stages and implementation has partly started.

Sub-objective 5. To establish a management and execution structure that co-ordinates the implementation of the project by different stakeholders.

The execution of the project and the development of the management plan require close collaboration, amongst the project executors (Yemen Ministry of Water and Environment - Environmental Protection

Authority, Yemen Conservation Programme, Yemen Society for the Protection of Wildlife and BirdLife International) and between them and the local stakeholders and respective government agencies. Staff will be responsible for all aspects of local project management including coordination of activities, financial administration and reporting on progress using data collected from monitoring.

2d. Demonstration project value

The Aden wetlands is of great demonstration value for Yemen and the Middle Eastern region where sustainable management of migratory waterbirds and their habitats is rarely practiced. The following specific demonstration values will arise:

- The project addresses grass root causes of threats to wetlands by involving all stakeholders in the process from the very beginning. It will include the setting up of a coordination committee of stakeholders that will meet regularly to assess the value of their wetlands and threats to it. Such a participatory process is not common in the Middle East region.
- The project proposes sequential steps to raise awareness and understanding of stakeholders, local community and policy makers of the benefits that might accrue from conserving the Aden wetlands. Conservation awareness in an Arabic/Islamic cultural context is uncommon and therefore of demonstration value.
- The project area's location in the middle of Aden town is of demonstration value for scientists from the university, marine research and educational communities. The public, through exposure to the process through TV and radio features, will pick up information about the importance of the wetlands in the national and regional context. This location provides opportunities for demonstration of AEW/Ramsar at a very 'local' level.
- The process of design and participation in the implementation of the management plan by a wide range of stakeholders will have a demonstration value at a national level, by establishing a process and a precedent for government endorsement of site management plans (which are strongly needed at other wetland sites).

At the flyway scale there will also be considerable demonstration value:

- The project focuses on urban contexts where there is little or no current protection, throughout the AEW region.
- The project focuses on a coastal lagoon wetland in an arid region. Only a few of such sites have been subjected to this state of the art type of management planning. The particular issues in these regions related to development, water management and sustainable use of natural resources will provide high demonstration value to similar regions in the flyway.

3. DEMONSTRATION PROJECT ACTIVITIES

3a. Outcomes and activities

As noted above, on-going projects at the Aden lagoons have begun to address some of the project's objectives. However, as already noted the management plan needs some upgrading in order to serve as a best-practice demonstration of recommended Ramsar planning methods, and its implementation has barely begun. The process through which this management plan was prepared, and the impact of this process on the ownership, understanding, and commitment to conservation and wise use of the Aden Wetlands by different stakeholders, also needs to be assessed. Therefore the first, overarching activity of this project will be a review of progress to date (outputs and impacts), identification of gaps, and formulation of a process and set of activities to address them. This review will be carried out in

partnership with the EPA, through field observation and analysis, and consultation of key stakeholders. Results of this review will guide a revision of the indicative outcomes and activities described below.

Outcome 1. An integrated management plan for the Aden wetlands fully prepared and implementation started

Activity 1.1 Raise awareness of the importance of the site, management plan and planning process amongst local and national stakeholders.

It is important at the onset of the project, to continue raising awareness of the various stakeholders involved in the management planning process. An introductory workshop will be held to inaugurate the project and highlight links with prior and ongoing efforts to conserve the Aden wetlands. All stakeholders, government organizations, NGOs and public personalities (50 people) will be invited, with sufficient media coverage to promote wide public awareness. This activity will create sufficient understanding among participants for the project purpose and benefits.

A second (1 day) workshop will be held to raise awareness on the values/importance of the Aden Wetlands within Government and non-governmental organizations and institutions and to convey the message on the importance of establishing and implementing an integrated environmental management plan. This activity will enable participants to understand in more detail the threats to the site and aspects of sustainable use.

Activity 1.2 Establishment and running of a stakeholder coordination committee.

The Aden wetlands' ownership is by various stakeholders. Their right of use and responsibilities are not yet well defined. There is lack of coordination between stakeholders regarding managing and conserving the site. Hence, there is a need to review existing coordination mechanisms, and establish such a committee that would meet on a regular basis and be involved in the process of finalising, updating and implementing the management plan for the site. This also will ensure that all stakeholder interests are continuously accommodated in the plan. The formulation of the committee will ease cross-sectoral coordination and cooperation as well as improve understanding of the need for and benefits of involvement of the various stakeholders. Terms of reference for the committee will be drawn up by the executing agency, in consultation with the stakeholders. It is expected that the committee will comprise about 20-30 people and meetings will be held at least every 6 months. The purpose of meetings will be to update the stakeholders on the progress of the management plan development and implementation, consult and gain feedback on further development and raising the profile of the various stakeholder groups' roles (thus engendering better understanding of each other's roles in the management of the site).

Activity 1.3 Establish and populate a database for the development of the management plan and providing a baseline of information for monitoring and evaluation.

The purpose of this activity is to fill information gaps required for the finalization and implementation of the management plan, and to establish a base-line for future monitoring. Following a review of existing mechanisms for scientific coordination, a scientific committee will be established consisting of 6 scientists representing disciplines related to the wetlands (e.g. ornithologist, agriculturist (grazing and fodder), fisheries, marine biologist, ecologist, socio-economist). These experts will be tasked with overseeing the review of existing data required to support the finalization and implementation of the management plan, and identification of the need for new data. A series of expert studies will be conducted under their guidance and supervision which will collect baseline information from the site to enable detailed characterization of the site and the threats to it. The data collected will be stored in an electronic database and linked to a GIS system to enable environmental information to be linked to socio-economic, stakeholder and boundary information. These results will then be used to finalise and

implement the management plan and associated monitoring and evaluation plan. In addition, the expert committee will identify key variables for monitoring and evaluation of the management plan progress. Experts will meet regularly, to discuss progress and review results.

Activity 1.4 Compile a report on wetland management planning with particular focus on the Middle Eastern Region.

Examples of wetland management planning in the Middle East and similar environmental contexts will be compiled and analyzed to establish the lessons learnt and current state of the process. The conclusions of the report will be used to inform the development of the Aden Lagoons wetland management plan.

Activity 1.5 Prepare the management plan including detailed plans for the restoration of the Aden Marshes.

The management plan of 2006 will be upgraded using the approach and structure advocated in the Ramsar Handbooks addressing relevant areas (most importantly, “Establishing and strengthening local communities’ and indigenous people’s participation in the management of wetlands” and “Frameworks for managing wetlands of International Importance and other wetlands”). This will provide an internationally approved approach and structure. The finalization and implementation of the plan will be informed by the data collection activities in Activity 1.2, 1.3 and 1.4.

Activity 1.6 Secure adequate support for the Management Plan by the government.

Government endorsement of the management plan provides the necessary legal status to be followed by all development agencies, land use planning agencies and Aden local authority. The endorsement should enable site management authorities to prosecute violators of the plan and thus significant encroachment and infringement is likely to cease. However detailed by-laws and regulatory framework, and associated enforcement capacity must be developed to achieve effective conservation. The government will be lobbied to allocate sufficient resources for the implementation of the management plan and the continued protection of parts of the Aden Wetlands. Lobbying will be conducted throughout the finalization and initial implementation of the management plan, with Government contacts being kept informed and consulted throughout project implementation.

Activity 1.7 Publish and disseminate the management plan.

The management plan document, will be published on CDs and in hard copy (250 copies in Arabic and 50 in English), for distribution to stakeholders and concerned government authorities, institutions and NGOs. A workshop will be held inviting all government sub-sectors involved, decision makers, public figures, NGOs, international donors and other organizations to launch the management plan printed documents (50 people).

Outcome 2. Increased awareness of the importance of wetland and waterbird value especially in the Aden wetlands, in Yemen.

Activity 2.1 Prepare and execute an outreach educational programme for local communities.

For the wetland management plan to be successfully implemented once developed, it is essential that the local communities understand its rationale and aims, and are consulted during its development. To achieve this, an outreach programme will be conducted during the project period. Following an evaluation of the impact of previous outreach activities, a combination of local community meetings and production of awareness resources is likely to be adopted. The meetings will both present the importance of the site to all stakeholders and its biodiversity value. The principles of an integrated management plan and the benefits it will bring to the site will be explained. Local people will be invited to discuss the proposals and give their opinions. In combination with these meetings resources publicizing the importance of the site and the development of the management plan will be developed and made

available. Leaflets and posters will be prepared and distributed to local communities, illustrating the zoning plan and key management issues of the wetland.

Activity 2.2 Raise awareness of wetland and waterbird conservation nationally using the Aden Lagoons site and management plan as a context.

There is generally a low awareness within Yemen of the importance of the conservation of wetlands and waterbirds. The activities in the Aden lagoons site will be used to increase awareness through the use of the national media. Following a review of existing/past programme materials and their impact, this activity is likely to use national television and radio to: raise awareness of the conservation of Aden Lagoons and the wider issues involved in wetland and waterbird conservation; present the issues and different perspectives to the Yemeni people; and address issues of unsustainable use of wetlands (such as oil pollution, garbage dumping, disturbance of wildlife).

Outcome 3. The Aden Lagoons are integrated into national and local land use planning.

Activity 3.1 Lobbying of government and non-governmental organizations to include the Aden Lagoons site in local and national land use plans.

The Aden Lagoons site is included in the Yemen national biodiversity strategy, however this is not automatically resulting in its inclusion and adoption of the measures included in the management plan at the national level. Lobbying of the relevant government agencies will be carried out to ensure that the conservation of the Aden Lagoons is taken into account in relevant regional and national plans. In addition to bilateral meetings with members of the government a workshop will be held at the outset of the project, targeting representatives of relevant government sub-sectors and non-governmental organizations. The management plan will be presented to them and their involvement in its implementation will be engaged.

Activity 3.2 Consultations with the World Bank Project and the Aden City authorities to integrate the Aden Wetlands management plan into the Aden City Master Plan.

The World Bank project for the preparation of Master plans for three coastal cities (Aden, Mukalla and Hodiedah) is at an advanced stage. The project has taken its first steps in the port cities of Aden, Mukalla and Hodiedah. This project will focus on economic development and poverty alleviation as priorities. It will not carry out any work regarding conservation of biological resources at Aden Wetlands. However, ongoing consultation with the management of the Port City project provides an adequate framework to incorporate the management plan for Aden Wetlands into the master plan of Aden City. Regular consultations with involved Government and World Bank consultants will be maintained throughout the project to ensure incorporation of the management plan into the implementation of the Master Plan for Aden City.

Outcome 4. Funds for the implementation of the management plan raised by the end of the demonstration project.

Activity 4.1 Fund raising strategy development for the implementation of the management plan.

To implement the management plan for Aden Lagoons after the demonstration project may have ended requires additional funds. As part of the management implementation, a long-term fund raising strategy will be developed and implemented. A key element of this plan is likely to be the integration of the plan into the wider Aden City Master Plan being funded by the World Bank. At this stage it is uncertain what the financial implications of this will be, therefore it is essential that other potential sources of funding are assessed. The strategy developed will identify potential donors for elements of the management plan. A concept note to support the implementation of the management plan will be developed and distributed to the potential donors and bilateral meetings held with them as a follow up approach.

Activity 4.2 Elaboration of the financial implications of the management plan's integration into the World Bank Funded Master plan for Aden City .

It is expected that the Government of Yemen will allocate a budget for the implementation of the master plan for Aden city. Upon the integration of the wetlands management plan into the master plan, implementation of the management plan of the wetlands will be taken care of by the concerned Aden authorities. On the other hand a parallel co-funding would be sought as indicated above Para. 4.1.

It is anticipated that the implementation of the master plan for Aden would be funded by the government from local or WB sources. Hence, the integrated management plan of Aden wetlands will be dealt with in the framework of the master plan. At this stage it is difficult to get a proper statement of assurance regarding this. However, ongoing contacts indicate a generally positive attitude towards the integration and possible funding of the wetland management plan as part of the implementation of the overall Aden city master plan.

Outcome 5. Smooth project execution and evaluation of success:

The project will be implemented by the national partner of BirdLife International in Yemen (the YSPW), with direct support from the BLI regional Office in Amman, Jordan. Close coordination will be maintained with the MOWE-EPA throughout project implementation, and this will be achieved through regular monthly meetings between the YSPW project manager and MOWE-EPA focal points in Aden and in the capital Sana'a.

Activity 5.1 Creation of project team and steering committee.

Coordination and supervision of the project activities will be carried out by the project executing agency YSPW with direct support from the BirdLife regional office in Amman (see section 7 for diagram explaining roles and responsibilities). Detailed terms of reference for project staff will be developed in collaboration with the overall GEF project coordinator that include lines of management and responsibilities for project activities and output. The timetable for engaging and putting in place staff will be decided following the review of current management activities and their impact – this review will take place in the first quarter after the project starts. The Project Steering Committee (SC) including representatives of MOWE-EPA, UNDP, Aden Port City Project, MOAI and other relevant stakeholders will be set-up by YSPW at the outset of the project. The SC will have terms of reference designed by the project supervisor and members of the steering committee will be invited to participate.

The aim of this set-up is to ensure independence in activity execution and a complimentary role from other established committees. On the other hand all executing agencies have a sense of ownership of the project. Moreover, transparent decision-making mechanisms will be adopted by project management.

Activity 5.2 Supervision and financial administration of implementation.

The project team leader will be responsible for day to day technical, financial and administrative supervision of the project. The team leader (project supervisor) will be responsible for his team and will report to and brief the project steering committee on progress made in the plan and related expenditure. The briefing would be done on a quarterly basis. Formal quarterly reports will be submitted by the project Team leader.

Activity 5.3 Reporting.

The Project Supervisor (Team leader) will be responsible for maintaining an overview of the project progress and success. Regular periodic reports need to be submitted on a bi-annual basis to the GEF Project Coordinator based at the project PCU (WOW Project Coordination Unit) in Wageningen, The Netherlands. The reports will be prepared by the project team leader, and submitted to the Project Steering Committee for their comments. The PCU may at any time request external account auditing to

review the financial operation of the project. All project financial operation will be conducted according to standard financial systems.

Evaluation of technical progress and implementation of project activities will be made against the indicators provided in the project logframe. The relevant data collected will be used for monitoring activities carried out in Activity 1.3.

3b. Project Sustainability

For the project to be sustainable beyond the end of the project, the management plan must be implemented and effective. Moreover, the project steering committee will have prominent stakeholder representation as a means of following up on the project achievements after its completion. Activities being carried out during the demonstration project aim to ensure long term sustainability. The following achievements will act as indicators of the project's sustainability:

Management plan implementation indicators:

1. The management plan is built into the government development plan for Aden City. This will ensure that the management plan is implemented alongside the Aden city master plan.
2. The implementation of the Aden wetlands management plan is financially supported by the government and integrated into local and national land use plans and in the national biodiversity strategy and action plan. This will ensure that the site will be marked as a site requiring planning and protection.
3. Sufficient funds have been raised for the implementation of the management plan. This will ensure that at the end of the project, and assuming all legal and planning integration has been successful, that the plan could be fully implemented.

Management plan implementation effectiveness indicators:

1. Stakeholders are successfully engaged during the finalization and implementation of the management plan. If stakeholders understand and agree with the process and actively engage in the plan's development, then they are much more likely to fulfil their role in its implementation. In addition, once stakeholders see the benefits of the plan's implementation unfolding, this will lead to their ongoing support for protection and sustainable use at local level
2. The staff of the Aden branch of the Government agency MOWE-EPA fully participate in the development and implementation of the management plan and are trained through participation in awareness raising workshops. EPA staff will understand the rationale behind the plan and the details of its execution and their capacity to implement it will be increased.
3. Related NGOs are taking an active role in the follow up activities in the management plan especially for capacity building and monitoring.

4. BUDGET

Table 2. Project financing expenditure categories (US\$)

Category	GEF	Co-financing	Total
Personnel	100.100	95.400	195.500
Equipment	26.520	22.680	49.200
Subcontracts	30.818	10.932	41.750
Workshops and training	27.000	12.732	39.732
Travel	18.977	3.600	22.577
Executing agency support overheads	34.052	28.668	62.720
Monitoring, evaluation, auditing	6.000	4.000	10.000
Miscellaneous	2.400	1.600	4.000
<i>Education programme/community meetings (2500)</i>			0
<i>Co-ordination committee meetings (1500)</i>			0
			0
Contingency (3%)	7.376	5.388	12.764
Total	253.243	185.000	438.243

NB: The travel budget has been calculated to allow the demonstration project to participate in two international WOW workshops

Co-funding

- EPA (personnel and office costs, in-kind) US\$60,000
- YSPW (equipment, in-kind, facilities and part time staff) US\$25,000
- UNDP US\$100,000

Table 3. Disbursement projection

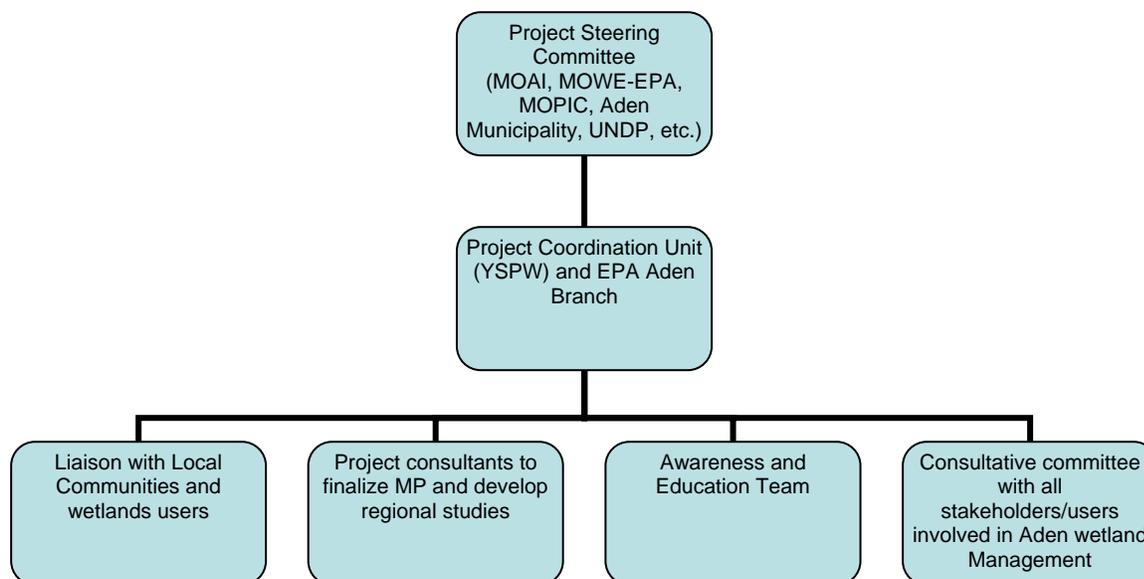
Budget Category	Link to Project Outcomes & Activities	TOTAL GEF	Year 1 - breakdown		Year 2 - breakdown		Year 3 - breakdown	
			semester 1	semester 2	semester 3	semester 4	semester 5	semester 6
			GEF	GEF	GEF	GEF	GEF	GEF
Personnel	all	\$100,100	\$16,683	\$16,683	\$16,683	\$16,683	\$16,683	\$16,685
Equipment	1.2; 1.3; 2.1; 2.2; 5.1; 5.2; 5.3	\$26,520	\$15,000	\$11,520				
Subcontracts	1.3; 1.4; 1.5; 3.2; 4.1	\$30,818	\$5,000	\$5,818	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$5,000
Workshops and training	1.1; 1.2; 1.5; 1.6; 1.7; 2.1; 2.2; 3.1; 3.2;	\$27,000	\$4,000	\$7,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000
Travel	all	\$18,977	\$3,000	\$3,977	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000
Executing agency support overhead	all	\$34,052	\$5,675	\$5,677	\$5,675	\$5,675	\$5,675	\$5,675
Monitoring, evaluation, auditing	all	\$6,000			\$3,000			\$3,000
Miscellanea	5.1; 5.2; 5.3;	\$9,776	\$1,629	\$1,631	\$1,629	\$1,629	\$1,629	\$1,629
Total		\$253,243	\$50,987	\$52,306	\$38,987	\$35,987	\$35,987	\$38,989

5. TIMETABLE

Table 4. Timetable chart

Activities	6	12	18	24	32	36
1.1 Raise awareness of management plan						
1.2 Establish and run coordination committee						
1.3 Establish and populate database						
1.4 Compile report on wetland management planning						
1.5 Finalize and start implementation of management plan						
1.6 Secure support for the management plan by gov't						
1.7 Publish and disseminate the management plan						
2.1 Prepare and execute an outreach programme						
2.2 Raise awareness nationally						
3.1 Lobbying of government						
3.2 Consultations to integrate in Master Plan						
4.1 Fund raising strategy development						
4.2 Elaboration financial implications of WB plan						
5.1 Creation of project team and steering committee						
5.2 Supervision and financial administration of implementation						
5.3 Reporting						

6. ORGANIZATIONAL DIAGRAM



This diagram shows the national organisational arrangements. As noted above, the project will be implemented by the national Affiliate of Birdlife International in Yemen (the YSPW), with direct support from the BLI regional Office in Amman, Jordan (which will be contracted for project implementation).

7. LOCAL EXECUTING AGENCY CONTACT DETAILS

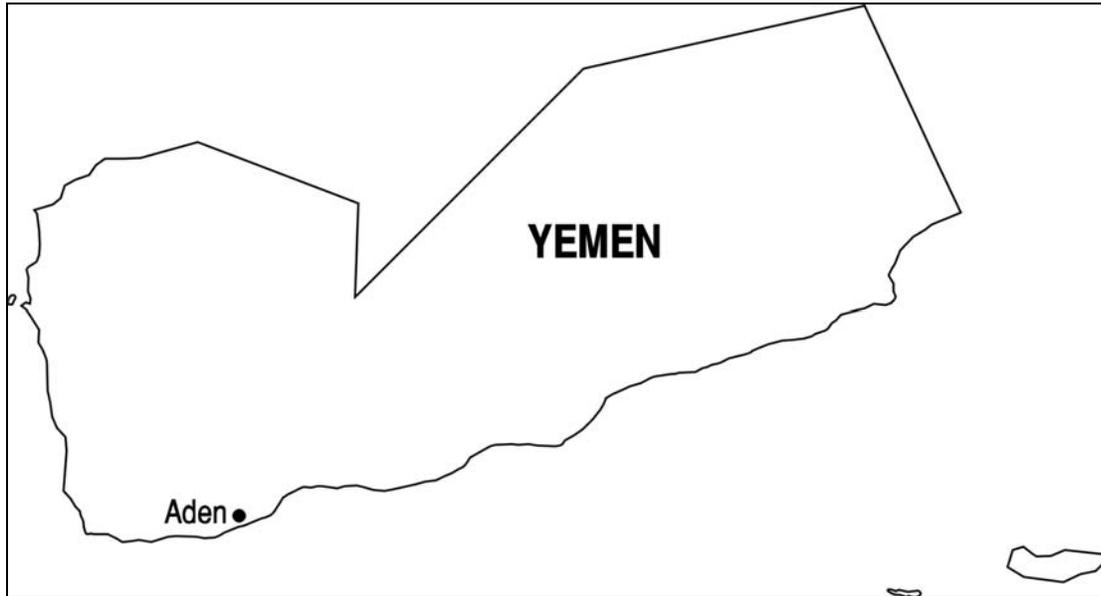
Birdlife Middle East Division, PO Box 2295, Amman 11953, Jordan, Mr. Ibrahim Khader, Tel. 00 962 6 566 2945; Fax: 6 569 1838; e-mail ibrahim.khader@birdlifemed.org

Environmental Protection Authority, Aden branch, (Eng. Abdelhakim) Tel: 00 967 2 240607 Fax: 00 967 2 240615 email: epa-aden@y.net.ye

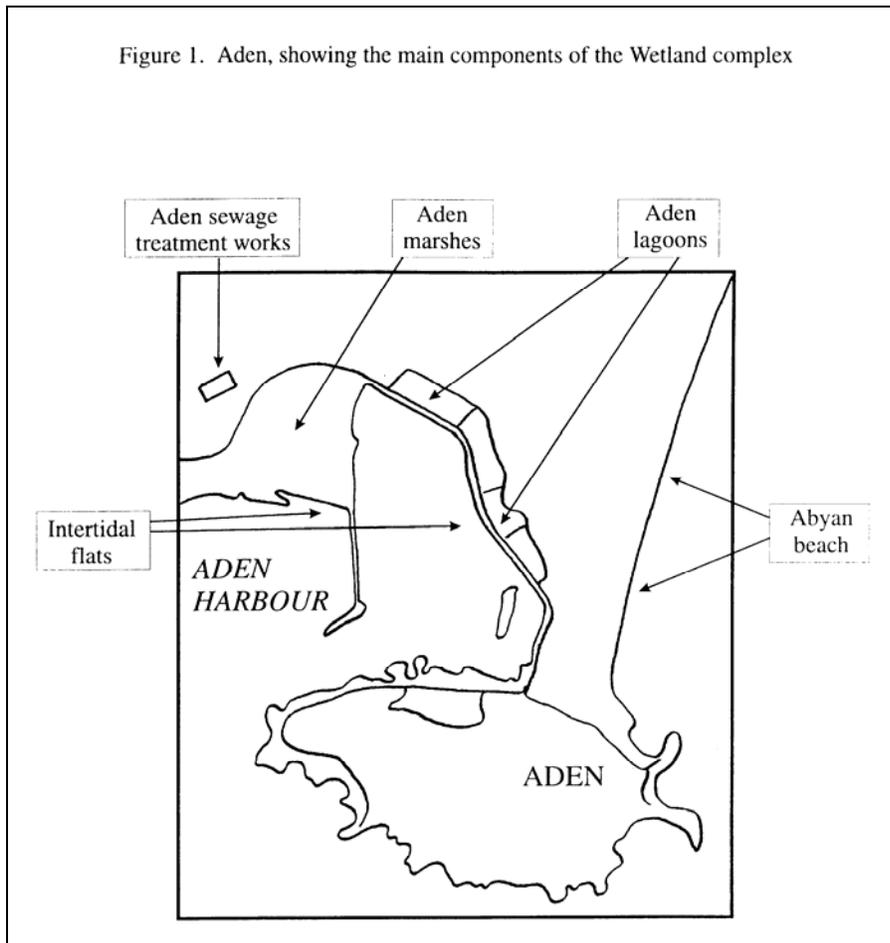
EPA, Headquarter, P. O. box 19719, Sana'a, Republic of Yemen, Mr. Mahmoud Shidewa, Tel: 00 967 1 257 548, 257 572/3 Fax: 00 967 1 257 549 email: EPA@y.net.ye

Yemen Society for the Protection of Wildlife (YSPW), P. O. Box 19759, Sana'a, Republic of Yemen. Tel: 00 967 1 44 74 23 Fax: 00 967 1 44 74 24 E-mail: wildlife.yemen@y.net.ye

Annex 1: Location map of demonstration site



Annex 2: site map of demonstration site



Annex 3. Logical framework diagram for demonstration project

Intervention	Indicator of performance	Means of verification	Risks & assumptions
Development Objective:			
To finalise the integrated management plan for the Aden wetlands and support its inclusion in the wider are land use planning processes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies and practices of sectoral agencies and stakeholders reflect recognition of the need to conserve the biodiversity values of the Aden wetlands 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of key priorities set out in management plan • Work-plans and policies of ministries and government departments in Aden • Working practices and guidelines of stakeholder organisations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conflicts between different ministries, and between conservation and development, can be resolved • Stakeholders are in agreement with the aims and objectives of the management plan and are sufficiently responsive to amend their working practices.
Outcomes			
1. An integrated management plan for the Aden wetlands finalised (including by-laws and regulations) and implementation by the Yemeni government started by the end of year 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The management plan is finalised, printed and distributed in 250 copies • Stipulations in the management plan are being reflected in the practices of relevant stakeholders • A Government decree is issued and implementation started for protecting Aden Wetlands. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formal adoption and initial steps for implementation of the management plan • Work-plans and policies of ministries and government departments in Aden municipality • The official Gazetteer of the Government of Yemen (or equivalent for local government bye-laws) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management plan is adopted by all (or vast majority of) stakeholders • The MP wins the necessary support from within government for this lengthy process to be completed during the lifetime of the project
2. Increased awareness of the importance of wetland and waterbird value and especially the Aden wetlands, in Yemen.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By the end of the project at least 50% of government employees at Aden are able to give at least three reasons why the Aden wetlands are important • By the end of the project at least 30% of general public are able to give at least 2 reasons why it is important to conserve the Aden wetlands and their biodiversity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surveys of random samples 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suitable materials (photographs) and skills (specialist wildlife TV photographer) are available
3. The Aden Lagoons are integrated into the national biodiversity action plan and land use planning.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Aden Wetlands are mentioned specifically in the NBAP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NBAP (document) • Management Plan for Aden 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World Bank funding of MP for Aden goes ahead

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The wetland management plan is integrated into other land use/development plans for Aden 	(document)	
4. Funds for the implementation of the management plan raised by the end of the demonstration project.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Letters of commitment from donors, or signed contracts/funding agreements. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Copies of contracts/letters 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Donors are supportive of measures to conserve wetlands and biodiversity at Aden, and the political climate in Yemen continues to be favourable for international donor funding
5. Smooth project execution and evaluation of success.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Terms of reference for all staff and the Project Advisory Committee completed within 3 months of the project starting Project staff in position by 3 months into the project. Regular periodic reports submitted to the Overall project coordinator 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Terms of reference document Staff contracts Progress and financial reports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suitable staff is recruited
<p>Activities:</p> <p>1.1 Raise awareness on the importance of the site, management plan and planning process amongst local and national stakeholders.</p> <p>1.2 Establish and run a stakeholder coordination committee.</p> <p>1.3 Establish and populate a database for the implementation of the management plan and provide a baseline of information for monitoring and evaluation.</p> <p>1.4 Compile a report on wetland management planning with particular focus on the Middle Eastern Region</p> <p>1.5 Finalize the management plan including detailed plans for the restoration of the Aden Marshes</p> <p>1.6 Secure the support for the management Plan by the government.</p> <p>1.7 Publish and disseminate the management plan.</p> <p>2.1 Prepare and execute an outreach educational programme for local communities.</p> <p>2.2 Raise awareness on wetland and waterbird conservation nationally using the Aden Lagoons site and management plan as a context.</p> <p>3.1 Lobbying of government and non-governmental organizations to include the Aden Lagoons site in local and national land use plans.</p> <p>3.2 Consultations with the World Bank and Aden City authorities to integrate the Aden Lagoons management plan in the Aden City Master Plan.</p> <p>4.1 Fund raising strategy development for the long-term implementation of the management plan.</p> <p>4.2 Elaboration of the financial implications of the management plan's integration into the World Bank Aden City plan.</p> <p>5.1 Creation of project team and steering committee.</p> <p>5.2 Supervision and financial administration of implementation.</p> <p>5.3 Reporting.</p>			

