



## Flyway Training Programme

The WOW project is building capacity for flyway conservation within the African-Eurasian region through the work of four Regional Centres and associated Regional Training Boards. WOW's **FLYWAY TRAINING PROGRAMME** is supported by a comprehensive **FLYWAY TRAINING KIT**, including tailor-made training materials on topics related to flyway conservation, wetland management and migratory waterbird conservation, targeted to a range of stakeholders in the African-Eurasian region. In addition, the project has helped to strengthen several flyway monitoring and data collection schemes in different regions to address current gaps in geographical coverage and knowledge.





Photo: Wetlands International Africa

### The Flyway Training Programme Building capacity for flyway conservation across Africa and Eurasia

Each year, millions of waterbirds migrate along the African-Eurasian flyways, moving between thousands of sites that span a hundred different countries. Conserving these species requires a truly international effort. It calls for concerted actions across the entire range of habitats where these species stop to feed, mate, rest and raise their offspring. Conservation success also depends on the continued exchange of relevant information, technical expertise and resources among a wide range of stakeholders and between countries. Flyway-scale conservation is vital, but implementing it successfully is a challenge. Many countries on the flyway have already committed to wetland and waterbird conservation by joining AEWA and the Ramsar

Convention on Wetlands. However, many countries still have very limited capacity to plan, implement, monitor and engage in action for effective flyway-scale conservation. WOW's Flyway Training Kit is helping to build this capacity for flyway conservation across the African-Eurasian region. The programme includes a set of practical and adaptable training materials to assist in targeted trainings, and these can be customized by topic as they relate to flyway conservation, wetland management and migratory waterbird conservation. The programme comes in a generic English version, and regionalized versions are available in Russian, French and Arabic. The Flyway

Training Kit will be the basis of training coordinated and promoted by each Regional Centre through their network of academic and training institutions.

#### A collective effort

The training modules are the result of a broad collaborative effort, and have been designed and reviewed through a series of meetings and major workshops involving Regional Training Boards and the main project partners. A formal review and test run of the modules was held in Amman, Jordan in 2008, with many project partners and potential users of the modules taking part.

The final version has been formally endorsed by Regional Training Boards and the review



Photos: BirdLife Middle East Division



process helped to ensure that the modules are of the highest quality, practical, transferable and address the main knowledge gaps in the region. Most importantly, though, a team of dedicated individuals has been established through the Regional Centres to help drive this process locally.



Photo: Florian Keil

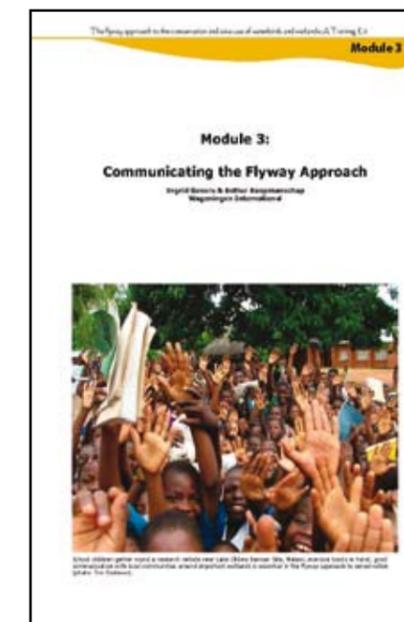
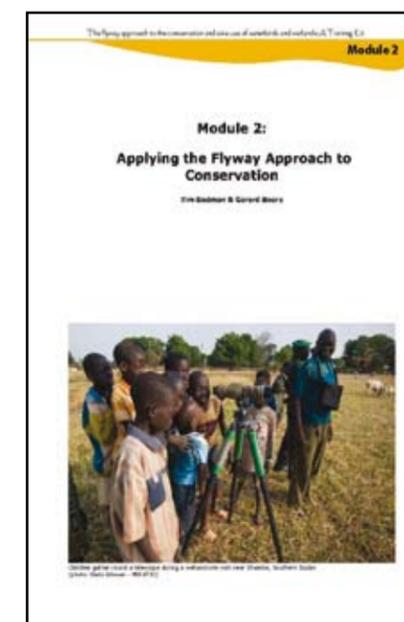
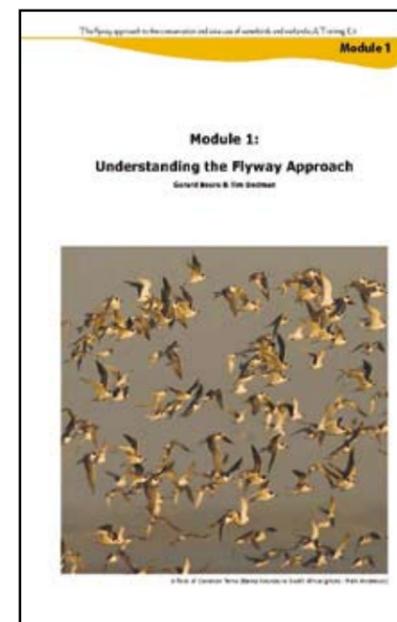


training kit

### Flyway Level Training

While there are a number of site-specific training programmes on wetland and waterbird conservation in the African-Eurasian region, they are not yet equipped to tackle the long-term management of wetland and migratory waterbird resources from a flyway perspective.

From the outset, the Wings Over Wetlands project has worked with the principal training institutions and stakeholders in Africa and Eurasia to assess training needs in each region. Project members have worked on building consensus throughout the process and have made it a point to nurture and support local ownership.



### The Flyway Training Kit

The Flyway Training Kit is the product of this effort. It consists of a set of widely reviewed, locally owned, flexible and practical training modules on wetland and migratory waterbird conservation. These modules provide a broad generic outline that can easily be adapted to the actual training needs of any target group in a given country or region.

Each training kit includes three modules with example-rich text, case studies and exercises, presented in a flexible ring-bound format and supported by a comprehensive set of powerpoint presentations. The format allows each user to extract exactly what they

need and tailor training to a specific target group. As well as powerpoint presentations, the accompanying CD includes a range of supporting material such as AEWa and Ramsar documents and guidelines.



Photo: Omar Al-Saghiar



Photo: Wetlands International Africa



Photo: Florian Keil



Photo: BirdLife Africa Partnership Secretariat



Photo: Tim Dodman



Photo: Szabolcs Nagy



Photo: BirdLife Middle East Division



Photo: Alexander Solokha



Photo: Camillo Ponziani

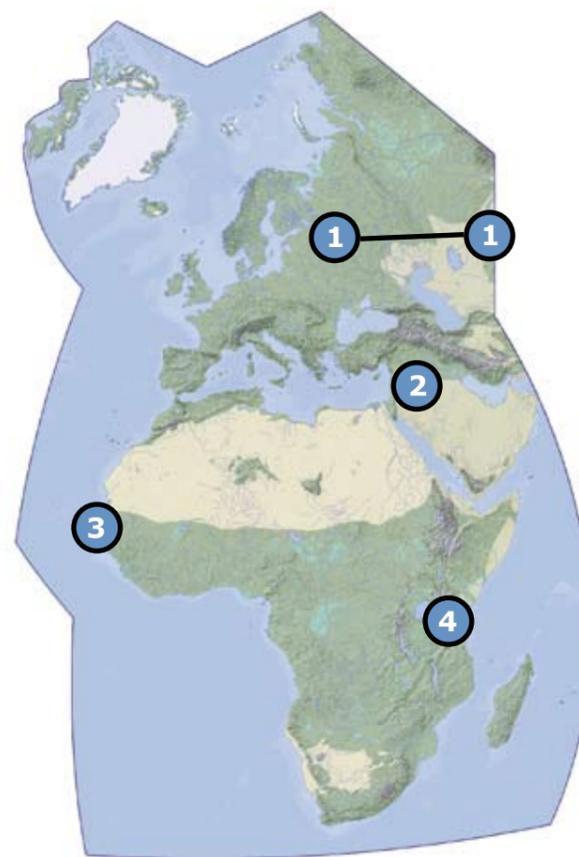


Photo: Wetlands International Africa



Photo: BirdLife Middle East Division

## WOW Regional Centres



- 1 Central Asia and Caucasus States** (Moscow, Russia and Almaty, Kazakhstan)
- 2 Middle East** (Amman, Jordan)
- 3 Western and Central Africa** (Dakar, Senegal)
- 4 Eastern and Southern Africa** (Nairobi, Kenya)

The WOW Regional Centre for Western and Central Africa is located at the Wetlands International Africa Office in Dakar, Senegal, while the Eastern and Southern African region is covered by the BirdLife Africa Partnership Secretariat Office in Nairobi, Kenya. The Middle East WOW Regional Centre is hosted by BirdLife Middle East in Amman, Jordan and the Central Asia and Caucasus States are serviced jointly through the Wetlands International Russia Programme in Moscow and the Association for the Conservation of Biodiversity in Almaty, Kazakhstan.

Key to implementation of the WOW project are four WOW Regional Centres located across the African-Eurasian region, which co-ordinate regional activities and link to field-based work. Each WOW Regional Centre has an established network to encourage multi-country activities within a flyway context. Regional Centres are helping to coordinate and build capacity in data gathering and monitoring across their networks. Improved data from ongoing monitoring not only bolster efforts to protect the network of critical sites used by waterbirds, but further strengthen the effectiveness of the CSN Tool for planning and decision-making.

Each Regional Centre has assembled a Regional Training Board represented by the leading regional training institutions and conservation organisations, and is supported by a dedicated Capacity Building Officer. The Training Boards

have worked together to define the requisite training needs and to enrich the modules within the Flyway Training Kit with regionally-relevant examples and case-studies. Using their networks, efforts are underway to further promote the Flyway Training Kit within each region and to encourage its use by relevant academic and training institutions. Training of Trainers courses using material from the WOW Flyway Training Kit have already been conducted for the Middle East (in Amman, Jordan, August 2008) and the Western and Central African region (in Limbe, Cameroon, November 2009) and additional workshops are planned for the future. Finally, the Regional Centres are also supporting the implementation of WOW Demonstration Projects in their region, and offer a platform for the dissemination of lessons learned and the experiences generated by these exciting field projects.