

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

WOW - DEMONSTRATION PROJECT
FINAL REPORT

REPORT #: 6
REPORTING PERIOD: 2007.06.01.-2010.02.28.
Report Prepared by: Simay Gábor

Country	Hungary
Project Title	Nature-friendly fishfarm management and associated eco-tourism development: Biharugra Fish-Ponds
Project ref. number	G3
Name of Local Implementing Agency/NGO	MME/BirdLife Hungary
Total amount of funds under this agreement	USD 201.370
Expected project duration	2 years and 8 months
Date of signature of the agreement	20.06.2007.
Contact in Local Implementing Agency/NGO	Name: Gergő Halmos , Title: igazgató / Director Organization: Magyar Madártani és Természetvédelmi Egyesület / BirdLife Hungary E-mail: halmos.gergo@mme.hu Web: www.mme.hu ; Tel: +36 1 275 62 47 ; Fax: +36 1 275 62 67 ; Mobile: + 36 20 3313545
	Name: Gábor Simay, Title: project manager Organization: Madártani és Természetvédelmi Egyesület / BirdLife Hungary E-mail: simay.gabor@mme.hu , limnodromus@freemail.hu Mobile: +36 70 408 38 06, +36 30 523 91 98

Table of Contents

1. Executive Summary	3
1.1 Key project achievements during the reporting period.....	4
1.2 Key issues & proposed solutions	5
2. Project Management	6
2.2 Project Steering Committee (SC).....	11
3. Progress / Issues / Proposed Solutions.....	12
4. Funds Disbursement.....	21
4.1 Disbursement of GEF Funds.....	21
4.2 Status of co-financing	22
5. Performance Evaluation.....	23
5.1 Logical framework.....	23
5.2 Protected Areas Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool.....	30
5.3 Project Impact	30
6. Key Lessons Learned.....	31
7. Workplan for the Next Semi-annual Period.....	32
7.1 Updated overall project workplan.....	32
7.2 Workplan for next six months.....	33
ANNEXES	34
Annex 1: Inventory of Outputs/Services.....	35
Annex 2: Photo documentation.....	40

1. Executive Summary

The project started in the summer of 2007 and though it was difficult to start, in the end we can consider it as a really successful project.

The precondition of the succession was the production of a feasibility study about the fishfarming in Biharugra, concentrating on the productivity, nature friendly techniques and methods and conflicts and their solution between farming and nature conservation.

The feasibility study was submitted by the PCU and the last four semesters of the project received green light.

In the end a range of the implemented activities shows a substantial difference compared to those written in the MOA, others remained unchanged. These activities were changed two times during the lifetime of the project:

- a) once in the middle, when it was decided that it will be a half year shorter than originally planned and therefore it became necessary to rearrange the activities and their budget in our new timetable.
- b) secondly in the end (last semester) when we have to decide how could we spend the remaining amount on the behalf of the project.

The main reasons for these changes were: the shortening of the project (see above); some activities were much cheaper than it was foreseen; we wanted to avoid duplication (accommodation refurbish, more publication on the same subject).

In this way some of the activities were modified while we also had some totally new ones. These proved to be also really useful, hopefully in the long term too, well over the project's lifetime:

- watch towers (4)
- information boards (4)
- nature film about Biharugra (Hungarian and English version)

1.1 Key project achievements during the reporting period

#	Key Project Achievements
1	As all the project activities were implemented during the lifetime of the project we have to choose from these activities and their affect. The most important one is the combination of all the activities and many other external factor, namely that the ponds hosts still huge number of water birds as the habitats well maintained. Fishfarming, despite the former and present difficulties exists also at least partly thanks to this project. These together can make one to think optimistic about the future of this site.
2	Four towers were built during the project around the ponds, all by interesting and bird rich surroundings. This means a big improvement as there had been only two towers inside and one outside the ponds area before these towers were built. Many birdwatchers and visiting school groups use these but the guards of the fishfarming companies use them as well while watching for poachers. Beside all 4 towers there is an information board with birds which are possible to find from the tower and a map of the area.
3	One of the main aims of the project was to introduce the ponds for the potential visitors and provide them with the adequate information. This was implemented with the publication of two (very popular) leaflets, a poster, an article in the widely distributed MME/BirdLife Hungary's magazine.
4	A nature friendly fishfarming technique was introduced successfully by the Agropoint Ltd, which was detailed in the Feasibility Study, written in the first semester of this project. This study deal with other fish farming issues of the region and gives advice how to make profitable nature friendly fishfarming in a protected area. Based on this document a short book was released about this topic and two workshops were held for fishfarmers and conservationists.
5	From the remaining amount (saved from other activities) a film was made about the fishfarming and wildlife of the ponds and its wider surroundings. This film shows well the nature beauties and the importance of the ponds. It is an extra activity (not included in the original MOA) but considered a very successful one, as hopefully this film will be shown for many people in two languages.
6	The project provided a very good chance to strengthen the connection and cooperation among the stakeholders of the area. This opportunity was grabbed by the stakeholders and hopefully this cooperation will continue after the project's lifetime as well.

1.2 Key issues & proposed solutions

#	Issue	Proposed Solution	Deadline	Party Responsible
1	To maintain the fishfarming in the ponds is the most important task for the future, which is largely dependent on external political and financial factors.	This project helped a lot for the fishfarming directly as well as indirectly through the different activities. These (e.g. new feeding techniques) will help in the future too, as these should be followed in the forthcoming years.		Agropoint Ltd.
2	The film will be ready at the end of the project. It will be our responsibility to make possible to show this film for a wide audience.	Through local connections we should be able to make this film shown in local TV channels, but the quality of the film will give the chance to show the film for an even wider audience. Also the film should be uploaded to the internet.	2010.	MME BirdLife Hungary/ Bihar PF
3	Some of the publications have to be distributed for the target persons and groups after the life-time of the project.	Leaflets, poster and the small book will be distributed the same way as during the project. The exhibition will be available in two places all time during the coming years.	2010-11.	
4	The condition of the bird watching towers have to be maintained.	The necessary renovations (painting, repair of the stairway) will be done in the future.		Bihar PF
5	The monitoring of the waterbirds has to be continued.	If any financial resource will be available it has to be spend on this monitoring job.	2010.-	Bihar PF

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	<p>The same person worked as the project manager through the whole project, employed by MME (Gábor Simay).</p> <p>The consultants, hired to write the Feasibility Study and their team helped in the organisation of the two workshops and also they helped to finalise the text of the short book.</p> <p>Horváth Gábor, the local-coordinator - was also partly employed in the project - did the bulk of the monitoring work in the field, while Tógye János (a local birdwatcher) helped a lot in the assessment of the breedings.</p>	<p>The Project Manager was employed till the end of the project, but will finish the necessary work after it as well (finalising the final report etc...).</p> <p>The bird monitoring coordinator and other field observers will provide us with data on bird numbers and trends.</p>		MME/BirdLife Hungary
Finance & administration	<p>The MME will receive the last disbursement (5.000\$) once the final report is accepted, as 15.000\$ of the last 20.000\$ has been received so far.</p>	<p>All the received money was spend successfully by the end of the project and the balance of the budget stand at -5.000, so the transfer of this amount will produce 0.</p>		MME/BirdLife Hungary,

	<p>The financial administration was done by the Project Manager together with the staff of the MME office, especially with the chief-accountant. Invoices, bills and other documents are kept in the MME, Bihar PF, and Agropoint offices.</p> <p>In the end the balance between the incomes and the spending were checked thoroughly together by the manager and the chef-accountant.</p> <p>In the February of 2010 an audit report was produced which is attached to this report.</p> <p>The remaining money (from some cheaper than expected activities) was spend as it was discussed with and approved by the PCU.</p>			
Logistics & operations	<p>Throughout the project, about each of the implemented activities, there were discussions between the partners and stakeholders. There was a continuous communication between the project manager and the MME/BirdLife Hungary office (Project Supervisor, Financial Office, and mainly the Conservation Director).</p>	<p>The communication among the project partners and other stakeholders was very important. As most of these organisations will play an important role in the future as well in the fishfarming and nature conservation of the ponds, this well developed communication should be maintained after the project.</p>	2010-	All stakeholders

	<p>In other activities other organisations were also involved: in the organisation of the two workshops we received a great help from the HAKI. In other activities the help of the Directorate of the Körös-Maros NP was of great importance.</p> <p>We also had an activity which was implemented by two organisations (MME, Bihar PF) together, namely the film about the Biharugra-fishponds.</p>			
Reporting & communication	<p>Reporting was done by the Project Manager. Communication with the PCU/WOW staff was also the task of this person. The Project Manager kept the contact with the Director, Conservation Director, Public Relations Director and Chef-accountant of the MME.</p>	<p>The finalisation of the final report, though it will be finished some months later than the end of the project had been originally planned, is the task of the Project Manager.</p> <p>As many of the activities have a long term effect the maintenance of this communication will be necessary.</p>	04.2010.	MME/BirdLife Hungary
Coordination with project partners	<p>The cooperation among the project partners was generally good through the project. There were several discussions with Local Co-ordinator, Agropoint staff in Biharugra, Bihar PF, National Park staff, and also the Consultants from the HAKI. The Project Manager was responsible for the coordination between MME and</p>	-	04.2010.	MME/BirdLife Hungary

	<p>other project partners. This coordination was essential in fulfilling successfully each of the activities. For example during the preparation of the short film, the PM has to keep the contact between the cameraman and other staff and the MME and Bihar PF, field rangers etc...</p>			
<p>External issues (e.g. difficult access to the project site for political/social/environmental reasons, etc.)</p>	<p>No external issues affected seriously the project though:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the photographing of the film was delayed several times because of the rainy and cloudy weather and also we had to wait for some of the targets (e.g. big numbers of geese) b) some of the publication was ready later than expected because of external factors (e.g. the press could do the job a month later than expected etc...) c) other external factors may modify the results of this project in the future (e.g. financial background, farming and conservation subsidies, other funding, global trends in relevant waterbird populations, regional and country scale and 	<p>Issue a) and b) was solved by the end of the project.</p> <p>Issue c): these are very complex factors, which might be stable on the coming years, though it is likely that some of them will change adversely or positively in the future. The task of the relevant stakeholders in the future will be trying their best to decrease the possible negative effects of these external factors.</p>	<p>2010-</p>	<p>All stakeholders</p>

	international trends in eco-tourism, market for fresh water fish.			
Other	-	-	-	-

2.2 Project Steering Committee (SC)

Date of last SC Meeting	with some of the SC members there was a discussion in January 2010
Proposed Date for next SC Meeting	-

QUESTION	ANSWER
This Report was reviewed and approved by the Project SC	No, though some part of the report was discussed with and reviewed by some of the SC members.
The workplan & budget for next six months was reviewed & approved by the Project SC	-
The SC is meeting periodically and providing effective direction/inputs?	The SC members provided a great help through the project. The PM was in contact with all the SC members, but the regular SC meetings were not feasible because of the big distances the members live/work from each other.

Name	Title	Email	Phone
Gergő Halmos	director/MME	halmos.gergo@mme.hu	+36/20-331-3545
Gábor Horváth	Bird monitoring coordinator/Bihar PF	haris@feestart.hu	+36 20 420 06 82
Róbert Ványi	director/Bihar Pub. Foundation	biharisik@freemail.hu	+36 30 218 41 25
Gyula Gáspár	director/Agropoint Ltd.		+36 20 941 63 01
András Kovács	conservation director/MME	kovacs.andras@mme.hu	+36 30 260 55 33
János Tőgye	director/Nagy Kócsag Ltd.	togye@globonet.hu	+ 36 30 638 50 63

3. Progress / Issues / Proposed Solutions

ACTIVITIES Output/Service (as listed in the approved project document)	EXPECTED COMPLETION DATE	STATUS % completed to date (and in parenthesis: % in prior progress report)	PROGRESS Description of work undertaken during the reporting period	ISSUES & PROPOSED SOLUTIONS Description of problems encountered; Issues that need to be addressed; Decisions / Actions to be taken	PARTY RESPONSIBLE
Legend: (IP) In progress; (C) Completed; ⬆ increased with respect to prior report; (-) unchanged; ⬇ revised downwards; (NA) Not scheduled for current reporting period.					
Outcome 1 Improved conditions for threatened waterfowl at the Biharugra fishponds					
Activity 1.1 Artificial islands for Common Terns and gulls	(C)	(100%)	The artificial islands (platforms) were placed out in the beginning of 2009, thus there was a good breeding in that year. The platforms are the enlargement of the former and still existing breeding islands.	The breeding islands should be maintained after the lifetime of the project as well. The new platforms are very strong and solid, so it is not necessary to renovate them for several years. The breeding numbers will be checked within the ongoing general monitoring.	Bihar PF
Activity 1.2 Restoration of small ponds for the globally threatened Ferruginous Duck and grebes	(C)	(100%)	In the first half of the project, small ponds, not used for fish production were flooded and cleaned from dense vegetation. This produced very good habitat	These ponds should be filled with water in the coming years as well. As the Bihar PF manages these ponds only for conservation purposes, it is	Bihar PF

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			for different waterbirds among them some target species, such as Ferruginous Duck and Red-necked Grebe	largely dependent on further subsidies. As these ponds are not used for fish production it can be attractive for birds when these ponds provide shallow water and mudflats in late spring-early summer, when other ponds are fully flooded.	
Outcome 2 Nature friendly fish-farming strategy applied and experiences disseminated amongst other fish-farmers in the region.					
Activity 2.1 Implementation of a feasibility study to identify a set of priority nature-friendly fish-farming activities to be implemented according to an agreed	(C)	100%	The feasibility study was written by three outside professional consultants in the first semester and it was accepted by the PCU, which was a precondition for the project succession. The feasibility study was used in other stages of the project as	The study has been already used for other purposes as well, such as for Natura2000 site management plans. Once the short book will be widely distributed the FS will have the potential to affect several other fish farms and help conservation	

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management strategy.			well, such as during the implementation of nature-friendly fish feeding technique or it was the base of the recently released short book about nature-friendly fishfarming.	authorities.	
Activity 2.2 Implementation of a set of priority nature-friendly fish-farming activities	(C - should be continuous, after the project too)	100%	After the first semester the PCU accepted the Feasibility Study about nature-friendly fish farming in Biharugra. In the subsequent semesters, Agropoint Ltd. carried out the nature-friendly feeding regime. This feeding technology well coincides with the short term measures given in the FS. They found this technology successful and they plan to continue in the future as well.	The introduced feeding method is a great step toward the materialization of a real nature-friendly fish farming system. This feeding regime (e.g. the usage of the cheap and natural manure possibly complemented irregularly with also cheap agricultural by-products) has to be maintained after the project's lifetime. There is a good chance for this, as it is good for all the stakeholders, as it is environment friendly, produce nutrient reach (which good for fish and attracts birds) ponds and financially beneficial.	Agropoint Ltd.

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Activity 2.3 Dissemination of nature-friendly fish-farming techniques	(C)	100% (75%)	<p>The dissemination was done through two seminars, and the distribution of the project related press and by personal communication. In the new MME website the project appears in a separate page were all the presentations of the second seminar can be downloaded and other information from the project can be found.</p> <p>In November an article was released in the magazine of the MME/BirdLife Hungary (Madártávlát – 5000 copies) where one can read about the project, the nature-friendly fishfarming and the birdlife of Biharugra.</p> <p>The short book – based on the FS – was released in the</p>	<p>The workshops were really useful and surely will have an impact on regional fishfarming as beside the lectures about new technologies and important issues there were some valuable discussions on the most actual issues.</p> <p>The project related printed materials have to be spread after the project as well which will be done by the KMNP, Bihar PF and MME.</p> <p>The spread of the newly released short book have to be continued among the professionals (fish farmers and conservationists).</p>	MME/Bird Life Hungary

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beginning of 2010.					
Activity 2.4 Monitor bird populations and their impact on the profitability of fish-farming at Biharugra	(C – but will be continued)	100%	Bird monitoring in the whole fishpond system (so in the whole project area as well) was continuous and effective during the project. Bird counts were implemented by Gábor Horváth (Local Coordinator/Bird Count Coordinator/Bihar PF) and János Tőgye (Nagykócsag Ltd./SC member). Bird counts are carried out on a weekly basis. Bird counts are well documented and summarised in yearly reports, written by the Local Coordinator.	Bird monitoring have to be continued in the same way after the end of the project to make data comparable for the long term. Nevertheless as it is quite costly in this way it is largely dependent on available subsidies, further funding and the current economic situation. The monitoring of birds is important not only within the boundaries of the fishponds but also in the surrounding habitats. The monitoring of these habitats are carried out by the rangers of the NP. Several species use as a resting and drinking place the fishponds but feed out in the grasslands or in the agricultural lands (e.g. geese, lapwings, curlews) or breed around the fishponds, but feed inside.	MME/Bird Life Hungary, Bihar PF
Activity 2.5 International seminar for fish-farmers and conservation authorities on nature-friendly fish-farming.	(C)	100%	The first seminar was held in Rétimajor, Transdanubia attached to a bigger fishing event. The second seminar was	The results of the discussions should appear in the further planning and activities of the region's fish farmers. Topics of	MME/Bird Life Hungary

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			held in Biharugra in the building of the KMNP. Both seminars was considered successful as there was some very positive discussion about the nature-friendly fishfarming related issues beside the very useful presentations.	the two seminars matched to the profile of this project (fish farming in protected areas; different profitable, but nature-friendly ways in fishfarming and the nature-friendly approach; the Cormorant issue; future of subsidies in fish farming – the latter one has changed a lot since then). These seminars brought closer the thinking of the fish farmers and conservationists, though they had already agreed in a lot of things and issues.	
Activity 2.6 Guidelines on nature-friendly fish-farm management.		100% (80%)	As the Feasibility Study gives not only Biharugra specialised text but also a general, nature-friendly fish-farm management guideline, it was decided together with the PCU to publish a shortened and simpler version of the FS as a short book in Hungarian language. The text was shortened by the PM	The distribution of this book will be solved mainly by the MME (to conservation agents but also to fish farmers) and by the Bihar PF and the HAKI and by the PM. Several personal requests have already arrived to the PM for this book.	MME/Bird Life Hungary

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			(mainly by deleting the too Biharugra specific parts) then it was translated into Hungarian and reviewed by the authors and other professional fish farmers and conservationists. It was printed in January, 2010. It is a useful guide on nature-friendly fishfarming for conservationists and fishfarmers as well.		
Outcome 3 Outcome 3. Basic conditions for eco-tourism and visitor management established to enable benefit sharing with the local community.					
Activity 3.1 Establishment of visitor facilities and resources.		100% (85%)	In the MOA there was an activity about the renovation of the MME's building in Biharugra, and create there basic facilities for visitors.	a) The towers, information tables and the gate will need some quality maintenance during the coming years, though, thanks to their good	

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			<p>Because a new NP building for tourists and visiting groups was built in 2007, this activity would have been a duplication. Therefore this activity was left and it's budget (and other remaining amounts) was used for new activities, which are the follows:</p> <p>a) As a new project activity (instead of visiting centre, accommodation refurbish) four bird watching towers were built in the project area, located beside very good birding spots. Also four information tables were printed and placed during the summer of 2009. In these tables one can read about the history and importance etc. of the fishponds with different waterbird pictures characteristic of the surrounding of the tower. Also a new, nice wooden gate was built as a new entrance of the site.</p> <p>b) Two leaflets and a poster which show the nature values and also the visitor facilities around the fishponds and its surroundings</p>	<p>quality it is not the task of the next 5 years.</p> <p>b) The two leaflets and the poster have to be distributed after the project as well:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. in Biharugra for visitors by the Local Coordinator and from the NP's accommodation 2. by the Bihar PF for the regional schools and other educational institutes <p>d) The exhibition in Biharugra is permanent in the NP building. The other exhibition when it is not in other places, will be in the building of the Bihar PF.</p> <p>e) The film has English and Hungarian version too. We plan that the previous will be available in the internet, while the Hungarian should be shown in local TV channels.</p>	

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			<p>were pressed. The two leaflets were pressed in 3.000 copies, while the big sized poster in 500 copies. These are very popular information and advertising materials, used mainly in the National Park.</p> <p>c) It is not a new activity but should be listed here: Eleven 2x1 meters plastic tables were printed as the exhibition. This can be divided into two groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The first one (4 tables) is more general, deals with the history, wildlife of the ponds and their surroundings. This was placed out in the NP's visitor centre in Biharugra. - The second one (7 tables) is about the birdlife of the ponds and will be moved to different places. <p>d) A film about the nature values of Biharugra and it's surroundings and about the fishfarming was also made, also as a new project activity. This will be played in local (or in bigger?) TV channels and uploaded</p>		

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Activity 3.3 Providing assistance to local entrepreneurs to secure investments for tourism.	-	-	to the internet. The above mentioned new visitor facilities, advertising and representing material should provide assistance directly or indirectly to the local communities. Beside these it is not feasible to establish more (private) tourist facilities, at least not accommodation, because <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the new NP's accommodation provide far enough places for the coming years - current economic situation does not encourages local enterprises 	All project partners and stakeholders have to have such a policy which helps the local community to benefit from their valuable surrounding and also from the outcomes of this project. Once the site will be visited by more visitors, the local community have to benefit from this process. The aims and the results of this project coincide well with this approach.	MME/Bird Life Hungary Bihar PF Agropoint Ltd.
Outcome 4 Smooth project execution and evaluation of success					
Activity 4.2 Supervision and financial administration		100% (50%)	Two evaluations were done during the project. See the	-	MME/Bird Life

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of implementation.			second one attached beside this report.		Hungary
Activity 4.3 Reporting.		100%	The reporting was done by the Project Manager of this project. There were five progress reports and one final report.	During the writing of the report a regular connection was kept between project partners, conservation director and chief accountant of the MME and once the first drafts were ready, with the PCU, which helped a lot in the reporting each of the semesters.	MME/Bird Life Hungary

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: 201.370USD

Funds advanced by UNOPS to date: 196.370 USD

Opening balance this reporting period: 17.917 USD

Total expenditure this reporting period: 22.416 USD

Funds requested (as per disbursement schedule): 5.000USD

Balance (if applicable): -4.499 USD

Certified by Project Manager: Simay Gábor

General Category of Expenditure	Total budget	Total expenditure to date	Total budget balance	A Opening balance this reporting period	B Last payment received	C Expenditure in reporting period	D = (A + B) - C Balance at end of reporting period
Bird monitoring (Travel)	7092	7684	-592	55	0	647	-592
Seminar	9000	3100	5900	5900	0	0	5900
Fishfram management, guidelines +Communication	1686	1686	0	1686	0	1686	0
Personnel (Project manager)	31822	33047	-1225	903	0	2128	-1225
Equipment	1215	1379	-164	-164	0	0	-164
Travel (Project manager)	4033	4241	-208	0	0	208	-208
Executing agency support overhead	10352	10352	0	0	0	0	0
Evaluation of project (auditing)	2000	2000	0	1000	0	1000	0
Subcontract	134170	137380	-8210	8537	0	16747	-8210
Total	201370	200869	-4499	17917	0	22416	-4499

4.2 Status of co-financing

Sources of co-financing	Total funds committed (cash)	Total in-kind contribution	Total co-financing (cash + in-kind)	Total received to date	Balance
MME	20.873	11.381	32.244	32.787	-543
Bihar P.F.	48.537	0	48.537	56.029	-7.492
Agropoint Ltd.	689.869	0	689.869	707.096	-17.227
totals				796.912	-25.262
List any additional sources of co-financing mobilized during project implementation					
Körös-Maros NP: Birdwatchers Retreat	-	-	-	1.800.000*	-
totals				1.800.000*	-

5. Performance Evaluation

5.1 Logical framework

Intervention Logic	Indicators of performance	Means of Verification	Baseline Situation	Status as of.... <2010.01.>	Risks and assumptions
Immediate Objective					
Development Objective: Conservation and sustainable use of the Biharugra Fishpond critical site for migratory waterbirds.	By the end of the project, the seriousness or intensity ¹ of threats caused by fish-farming has to be decreased in the project site; other IBA sites and protected areas have to benefit also from the findings of this project.	BirdLife's World Bird Database	There are some threats caused by fish-farming, though the relation between nature conservation and fish farmers (project partner) is generally good and improving.	Due to the good cooperation between Agropoint Ltd., KMNP and also the other project partners, and also the implementation of the suggested short term technologies (feasibility study) the threats caused by fishfarming is generally low.	The threats caused by fish-farming in other IBA sites and protected areas is strongly affected by national, European and global trends in economy, subsidy regime and bird populations (e.g. population increase of Cormorant and

¹ Level of threat is measured as defined in Appendix 3 in Heath, M. & Evans, M. 2000. *Important Bird Areas in Europe: priority sites for conservation*. BirdLife International, Cambridge UK. Currently this forms the basis of threat assessment for IBAs and reporting to the World Bird Database. A formula is used (and applied consistently across the IBA network in Europe) which derives an overall score based on a combined measure of the effect of the threat, the spatial scale of the threat and the realisation of the threat.

Intervention Logic	Indicators of performance	Means of Verification	Baseline Situation	Status as of.... <2010.01.>	Risks and assumptions
				The dissemination of project results (two seminars and one issue) help to decrease the threats in other sites of the region.	Pygmy Cormorant which obviously need a European cooperation to solve it). In general the Hungarian laws ensure a generally low level of threats. The biggest threat is still the abandonment of some of ponds (in the region).
<p>Immediate Objective:</p> <p>Demonstrating the harmonization of conservation and local economic interests.</p>	<p>Agropoint Ltd. continues to operate fishpond system.</p> <p>Tourism grows in the project area and its surroundings during the project’s lifetime.</p> <p>Status of IBA qualifying bird species is maintained or improves.</p> <p>The local community will benefit from the nature-</p>	<p>Visitor records.</p> <p>IBA Status Report for Biharugra.</p> <p>Annual Bird Monitoring Reports</p>	<p>Agropoint Ltd. produced deficit. Their perspectives in fish farming were rather poor.</p> <p>Literally there were no tourist facilities in and around the site,</p>	<p>Agropoint Ltd. plans to continue their activity all in the ponds managed by them (but see risks).</p> <p>Their financial result improved from the beginning of this project</p>	<p>The generally poor economic situation together with the difficulties in the system of subsidies can decrease the financial results of the fish farmers.</p>

Intervention Logic	Indicators of performance	Means of Verification	Baseline Situation	Status as of.... <2010.01.>	Risks and assumptions
	friendly fish farming, eco-tourism and nature conservation.		<p>though MEE building could host (very basic) some birdwatchers.</p> <p>Status of IBA qualifying bird species were estimated in the bird monitoring report. The abandonment of some of the fish-ponds means the biggest treat for these species.</p> <p>Employment rate in Biharugra and its region is low, their benefit from the modest tourism was low, the jobs provided by fish farming were not safe.</p>	<p>which made them optimistic about future.</p> <p>Tourism has grown continuously since project started. From a maximum of a few hundred visitors it has grown to several thousand, with a few thousands using the accommodation as well, so spend more than one day around the ponds.</p> <p>During the project there was no big drop in the numbers of any of the regular waterbird</p>	<p>Poaching also means a serious threat for the beneficial fishfarming.</p> <p>No serious threats for growing visitor numbers.</p> <p>Global trends in bird populations, actual local weather, available breeding facilities (e.g. floating vegetations for whiskered terns and grebes).</p> <p>Global and national economic and market (market for fish) trends</p>

Intervention Logic	Indicators of performance	Means of Verification	Baseline Situation	Status as of.... <2010.01.>	Risks and assumptions
				<p>species. The breeding number of Whiskered Tern was high again. (see. Annex). Breeding no. of Ferruginous Duck and Pygmy Cormorant is growing. The enlargement of breeding platforms increased gull and tern breeding numbers.</p> <p>The Birdwatchers Retreat created some new job. The presence of the fish farmer Ltd.s are essential.</p>	<p>can effect fishfarming in Biharugra which can affect the no. of local employees.</p>
Outcomes					

Intervention Logic	Indicators of performance	Means of Verification	Baseline Situation	Status as of.... <2010.01.>	Risks and assumptions
<p>1. Improved conditions for threatened waterbirds at selected ponds.</p>	<p>Number of breeding Common Terns increases from 50-80 pairs to 120-180 pairs by the 3rd year of the project on artificial nesting places.</p> <p>Number of breeding and gathering Ferruginous Ducks increases due to project activities.</p>	<p>Annual Bird Monitoring Reports</p>	<p>Number of breeding Common Terns was about 60-70 in most of the years (after the collapse of some the older platforms). The conditions on the occupied breeding platforms were poor and not safe.</p> <p>Breeding and gathering number of the Ferruginous Duck were estimated every year. Though the estimations for breeding pairs cannot be considered as exact.</p>	<p>Two breeding platform was enlarged for breeding terns and gulls. In 2009 cc. 140 Common Terns laid eggs on these platforms (last semester).</p> <p>During the autumn the gathering of the Ferruginous Duck reached a new record. More than 3300 individuals were counted in late September. This is a new regional record. Breeding numbers show a slight increase over the last years.</p>	<p>The population of the target species does not decline/crash due to external factors.</p> <p>Mainly in the case of Common Tern's breeding success, the current weather condition is a crucial factor, and the breeding number is affected also by unknown factors.</p> <p>It is very difficult to estimate the breeding number of the FD due to it's secretive habits during</p>

Intervention Logic	Indicators of performance	Means of Verification	Baseline Situation	Status as of.... <2010.01.>	Risks and assumptions
					breeding. The new watch towers will help definitely in future estimations and counts.
<p>2. Economically-viable nature friendly fish-farming strategy applied and experiences disseminated amongst other fish-farmers in the region.</p>	<p>Increased profitability of fish farming in line with conservation guidelines.</p> <p>At least a couple of professional fish farmer groups visit the site during the project’s lifetime, while some of the project’s achievements will be disseminated.</p>	<p>Demonstration project progress reports.</p> <p>Interviews with Agropoint.</p>	<p>The profitability of fish farming was quite low. They produced deficit.</p> <p>Usually (in the past) no professional fish farmer groups have visited the site.</p>	<p>The cheap nature-friendly feeding technique has helped the profitability of the Agropoint Ltd. The results of the implemented regime were found to be excellent. The profitability increased significantly.</p> <p>The nature-friendly fish farming</p>	<p>The profitability of fish-farming in Biharugra can be adversely affected by external cost and/or price changes (change of the subsidies). The international market for freshwater species is also an important factor.</p> <p>There can be a problem with water</p>

Intervention Logic	Indicators of performance	Means of Verification	Baseline Situation	Status as of.... <2010.01.>	Risks and assumptions
				<p>methods and the project in Biharugra was reported in front of a big professional audience in the first seminar. Another seminar was organized in Biharugra on nature friendly fishfarming and related issues. The published short book (based on the Feasibility Study) is a guideline on nature friendly fishfarming. Some professional fish farmers visited the site to examine the results of the</p>	<p>management due to adverse weather conditions – in the long term. (even more expensive water costs). Fish-farm managers in the region will be open to dialogue with conservationists – based on the experiences in our second workshop.</p>

Intervention Logic	Indicators of performance	Means of Verification	Baseline Situation	Status as of.... <2010.01.>	Risks and assumptions
				new feeding regime.	

5.2 Protected Areas Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool

QUESTION	ANSWER
Was the PAMETT performed for the Biharugra protected area?	yes, in 2007 and in early 2010.
Date of first PAMETT:	16.10.2007.
PAMETT performed by:	Balázs Szelényi, Gábor Simay, János Tógye

5.3 Project Impact

QUESTION	ANSWER
STAKEHOLDERS	
# of NGO staff involved in this project	10
# of Government Staff involved in this project	5 (not as an employee of a partner, but as the employee of an important stakeholder - NP)
# of Volunteers involved in this project	about 12 participate regularly in bird monitoring and other field activities – this number is slightly increasing
# of Government staff involved in Flyways issues (AEWA in particular)	0
TARGET BENEFICIARIES	
# of beneficiaries involved in this project	about 20, among them some local fishermen from the village
# of people involved in project workshops	160
# of people trained under this project	0
COMMUNICATION ISSUES	
# of press articles featuring the project and/or related issues	1
# of TV/radio programmes featuring the project and/or related issues	0
# of publications produced under this project	5
Estimated # of people reached by project communication efforts	about 10.000

6. Key Lessons Learned

During the two-and-a-half year of this project the management team managed to learn a lot which knowledge could be used in each of the subsequent semester. One part of this materialized in the achieved results of the project's activities other parts in the written material of the project, published in the project's issues or performed in seminars. Also these will be used in the future to support the conservation efforts done for the project area or other similar habitats. While, hopefully the knowledge gained during the seminars or read in the project's publications by fish farmers or conservationists, will be applied in the case of a range of other fishponds or wetland habitats in the region.

Some of the most important experiences should be sum up as the follows:

- flexible project execution – together and in conjunction with the PCU the project management team applied minor or sometimes larger changes in project activities in accordance with the new circumstances due mainly to external factors (e.g. new Birdwatchers Retreat as accommodation)
- the Feasibility Study and the short book based on this, gather – often new and progressive - practical information and knowledge about nature-friendly fishfarming, eco-tourism in fish farms and related conservation issues, which should be used widely in the future in the management of the regions fish farms
- during the implementation of some of the activities we could enhance or knowledge in some of the conservation practices mainly in fishpond management and artificial breeding islands
- personal contacts – during the project, the management team, but also other persons from different stakeholders could strengthen their old relations or meet with new persons. These contacts will prove very useful in the future in conservation work.

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.	Training Workshop/Seminar	International WOW meeting/workshop	Wageningen, The Netherlands	01.28. - 02.01.2008	WI/Bird Life International	WI	participants from all of the WOW projects, PCU	Team Meeting Resource CD-Rom	English	01.28.-02.01.2008
2.	Inside meeting of the MME	presentation of current projects	Budapest/Hungary	04.05.2008	MME	MME	all project managers of MME, director	-	-	-
3.	Seminar/workshop	Fish farming in nature conservation areas	Rétság, Rétság, Hungary	12.06.2008.	MME	MME, HAKI, Aranypony Ltd.	100	Conference issue + www.haki.hu - presentations	Hungarian	-
4.	Other (PCU visit)	PCU visit Hungarian demo site – project progress	Budapest and Biharugra	06.2009.	WI/Bird Life/MME	WI/BirdLife/MME	6	-	-	-
5.	Seminar/workshop	Fish farming in nature conservation	Biharugra, KMNP, Birdwatchers Retreat	24.09.2009.		MME	35	http://www.me.hu/termesztvedelem/te	Hungarian	-

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

		on areas						rulet- elohelyvedel mi- programok/bi harugra- gef/qextenziv- halastavi- gazdalkodas- es-a- karokaton- szerepeg- workshop.htm 1		
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b) Printed Materials

No	Type ⁵	Title	Author(s)/Editor(s)	Publisher	Symbol	Publication Date	Distribution List Attached Yes/No
1.	Technical Publication	Feasibility Study: Nature-Friendly Fish Farm Management and Associated Ecotourism Development: Biharugra Fish Ponds	Prof. János Oláh Dr. Ferenc Pekár Dr. László Váradi	Not published			No
2.	Other	Fish farming in protected area.	Gábor Simay	Conference publication		09.11.2007.	No

⁵ Material types (Report to Inter-governmental Meeting, Technical Publication, Technical Report, Other)

		Opportunities of the eco-tourism – experiences in Hungary (Biharura Fish Ponds)					
3.	Other	Fish farming in Nature Conservation Areas (extended abstracts of the seminar)	Project Manager + others	HAKI		12.06.2008.	No
4.	Other (leaflet)	The wildlife of Biharugra	Simay Gábor, MME	MME		12.2008.	No
5.	Other (poster)	Biharugra fishponds	Simay Gábor, MME	MME		12.2008.	No
6.	Other (leaflet)	Close to Nature – Biharugra Fishponds	Simay Gábor, MME	MME		11.2009	No
7.	Other (book)	Extensive Fishpond management and ecotourism development	Prof. János Oláh Dr. Ferenc Pekár Dr. László Váradi	MME		01.2010.	No
8.	Article – Madártávlat (MME magazine)	Nature conservation significance of the Biharugra-fishponds	Simay Gábor, MME	MME		11.2009.	No

c) Media coverage

No	Description	Date
1.	---	

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.	Advisory Services	Change knowledge of nature conservation and fish farming in fishponds*	MME, Budapest	stated in Nov.2007.	MME in Hungary	(Bulgaria), Hungary, (Romania)	0
2.	Advisory Services	Technical advises and cooperation in organizing a national fish farmer workshop	HAKI, Szarvas	started in 2008	MME in Hungary	Hungary	0
3	Others	Discussion about future possibilities of cooperation between MME, Bihar PF and other partners from the Netherlands in fishpond management and related eco-tourism and local welfare	Plant Research International (Dr. W. A. Brandenburg)	02.2008.- no any result, as the partner did not kept the contact.	-	-	-

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

4.	Advisor y Services	Visit Agropoint Ltd by other fishfarmers to learn about the implemented feeding regime in Biharugra.	Biharug ra	2009.first semester			
5.	Others	The feasibility Study was used by the MME for the preparation of the management plan for Transdanubian Natura 2000 fishponds	Budape st	2009.first semester			

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

No	Description	Date
1.	The project manager participated in a conference held in Székelyudvarhely, Romania, where he held a presentation. entitled: The current state of the Romanian fish farming and its development possibilities.	08.11.2007.

