

**Summary of project proposals assessed as eligible for support under the 2013 cycle of the AEWA Small Grants Fund**

**Table 1: A1 Projects - approved for immediate funding under the 2013 cycle of the AEWA Small Grants Fund**

Country & SGF Code	Project Proponent	Project Title	Request from AEWA SGF (€)	Duration (months)	Avg. Score	Rank	Project Summary
<b>Guinea</b> SGF/13/GN/1	BirdLife International Africa Partnership Secretariat	Strengthening National Capacity for Sustainable Conservation of Migratory Waterbird in Guinea	19,795	12	<b>36.5</b>	<b>1</b>	The effectiveness of national implementation of AEWA and the Ramsar Convention in Guinea has been limited by the lack of national tools to domesticate the obligations set out in these international treaties. This project aims to improve the capacity of key stakeholders involved in the implementation of AEWA, for example the Guinea Office of Biological Diversity (OGUIDAP), which is the national AEWA implementing agency, the national BirdLife partner Guinea Ecology – GE, site managers of critical waterbird sites and other national partners. Activities include: developing a national work plan to guide the implementation of the AEWA Plan of Action for Africa; developing National Single Species Action Plans (SSAPs) to guide the implementation of International SSAPs including for the Black-tailed Godwit, Lesser Flamingo and Eurasian Spoonbill; improving the national capacity for waterbird monitoring through training on waterbird survey and monitoring; and increasing public awareness for migratory waterbird conservation through the World Migratory Bird Day campaign, and press and outreach activities involving schools. Some of the activities under this project will be building on the outcomes of an on-going BirdLife/MAVA Foundation project on the Conservation of Migratory Birds (CMB) along the coast of West Africa.
<b>Gabon</b> SGF/13/GA/1	Department for the Management and Restoration of Aquatic Ecosystems	Capacity Building for Habitat Inventory and Migratory Waterbird Counts in Gabon	18,958	16	<b>31.5</b>	<b>2</b>	Gabon became a Contracting Party to AEWA in December 2012, and the national capacity for migratory waterbird survey and monitoring is still at an embryonic stage. This project aims to improve the capacity of key stakeholders involved in the conservation of migratory waterbirds, such as the Directorate General for Wildlife and Protected Areas – DGFAP (which is the National AEWA implementing agency), the Directorate General for Aquatic Ecosystems (DGEA), the National Agency for National Parks (ANPN), the National Coordinator for the International Waterbird Census (IWC) and four local NGOs. Key activities include the organization of a training course on waterbird counting and habitat survey, with a focus on four National Parks which are key sites for migratory waterbirds (Akanda, Pongara and Loango, Mayumba), as well as the flood plains of Wanga. Other project activities include the provision of optical materials and establishment of a national waterbirds data base. This will contribute towards strengthening the IWC network in the country.

**Table 2: A2 Projects - Recommended for funding should additional funds become available for the 2013 cycle of the AEWA SGF**

Country & SGF Code	Project Proponent	Project Title	Request from AEWA SGF (€)	Duration (months)	Avg. Score	Rank	Project Summary
<b>Morocco</b> SGF/13/MA/1	GREPOM/ BirdLife affiliate in Morocco	Support for the conservation of the White-headed Duck ( <i>Oxyura leucocephala</i> ) in Morocco: identification of key sites, increasing knowledge on the species and capacity building for managers	19,373	18	<b>29.5</b>	<b>3</b>	A recent law established in Morocco (which joined AEWA in December 2012) promotes the implication of the civil society in the conservation of biodiversity, thereby increasing the possibility of their implication towards the conservation of migratory waterbirds and their habitats. The newly established BirdLife Partner in Morocco (GREPOM Association), aims to determine the national status of the White-headed Duck, classified as Endangered on the IUCN Red List, as well as on Column A of the AEWA list of species. This will be achieved through regular surveys in all suitable wetlands; the establishment of a report on the specie based on the outcome of these surveys; the creation of a national working group for the specie; training of site managers and volunteers on the identification of the specie in the framework of the IWC; and the production of awareness-raising documents on the specie. The project activities will be conducted with the involvement of local groups, which will work closely with the regional units of the GREPOM Association.
<b>Madagascar</b> SGF/13/MG/1	Asity Madagascar	Continuing the implementation of the National Action Plan for the Madagascar Pond Heron ( <i>Ardeola idae</i> )	24,852	24	<b>23.5</b>	<b>4</b>	The Madagascar Pond Heron is classified as Endangered on the IUCN Red list. The current project aims at promoting the national implementation of the International SSAP for the Madagascar Pond Heron through: strengthening the national network for the International Waterbird Census; surveying breeding sites, ringing species at these sites and establishing local conservation groups at these sites; conducting coordinated surveys at potential sites; improving the management plans for some sites of importance for the species and conducting awareness-raising workshops targeting the general public. The project is to be implemented in collaboration with key national partners including the national AEWA implementing agency (Ministry of Environment and Forestry). The project builds upon a previous one in the country, funded under the 2010 AEWA SGF cycle.
<b>Kenya</b> SGF/13/KE/4	The Gallmann Memorial Foundation	Conservation of Waterbirds in OL ARI NYIRO, Laikipia Nature Conservancy, Northern Kenya	19,800	20	<b>23</b>	<b>5</b>	This project aims to conserve waterbirds at the Ol ari Nyiro Conservancy, a private protected area located on the Eastern wall of the Rift Valley and dedicated to nature conservation. It hosts a wide variety of species, including about 100 waterbird species, 45 of which are covered under AEWA. Activities include assessing the distribution of the waterbird populations; enhancing bird-related ecotourism; consulting with relevant stakeholders towards developing a management plan and wetland policy for the site; raising awareness of the local populations through the World Wetlands Day campaign, publicity materials, public talks and creation of birding clubs. It is hoped that the data generated from this project will be compiled for promoting the designation of the site as a World Heritage Site. Key partners who will be involved in the project include the National Museums of Kenya, Kenya Wildlife Service, Laikipia Wildlife Forum and Laikipia University.