



5th SESSION OF THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES
14 – 18 May 2012, La Rochelle, France

“Migratory waterbirds and people - sharing wetlands”

**REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AEWA INTERNATIONAL
IMPLEMENTATION TASKS 2009-2016**

Introduction

The AEWA International Implementation Tasks (IITs) for 2009-2016 were approved at the 4th Session of the Meeting of The Parties (MOP4) with Resolution 4.10 as the medium-term priorities for international cooperation activities for implementation of the Agreement. Special emphasis was put on the support required for the implementation of the WOW/African-Eurasian Flyway GEF project and a quarter of the tasks were identified as matching funding for the WOW project. The implementation of IITs 2009-2016, similarly to the IITs from previous periods, has been fully dependent on voluntary contributions from Contracting Parties. Since 2009, approximately €1.440.000 has been accrued in the form of voluntary contributions by the Secretariat (for further details please see document AEWA/MOP 5.40) and was partly allocated to the implementation of the IITs. Of the 31 tasks listed, 13 have been partly or fully implemented, some of them linked to the operations of the Wings Over Wetlands (WOW) UNEP/GEF African-Eurasian Flyways Project. For the full implementation of the IIT 2009-2012, a total amount of approximately €11.670.000 would have been required.

This overview covers activities where the Secretariat has been involved, WOW project implementation-related activities, projects reported by Contracting Parties in their national reports to MOP5 and activities by partner organisations whenever communicated to the Secretariat.

Action requested from the Meeting of the Parties

The Meeting of the Parties is requested to review the progress made in the implementation of the AEWA International Implementation Tasks 2009-2016 as a background to the considerations of the newly proposed IITs 2012-2015/2016 (draft Resolution AEWA/MOP DR3 Corr. 1).

No.	Name of project	Funded by:	Executed by:
1.	<p>IMPLEMENTATION OF EXISTING INTERNATIONAL SINGLE SPECIES ACTION PLANS¹</p> <p>The task is maintained in the list of proposed IITs for 2012-2015/2016 (document AEWA/MOP DR3 Corr. 1).</p> <p><u>Lesser White-fronted Goose</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A coordinator post funded by Norway/Finland is based in the Secretariat. • The AEWA Lesser White-fronted Goose International Working Group was convened in 2009 and had its first meeting on the 30.11.-1.12.2010 in Helsinki, Finland. • Several small-scale conservation projects have been implemented in Russia, Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan and Ukraine. • Starting in 2011 the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat is taking part in a six year EU LIFE+ project “Safeguarding the Lesser White-fronted Goose along its European Flyways”. • The Committee for Captive Breeding, Reintroduction and Supplementation of the Lesser White-fronted Goose (RECAP) had three meetings during the triennium. <p><u>Madagascar Pond Heron</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordination was outsourced to the African Regional Office of BirdLife International until the end of 2011. Currently no funding is available to continue the coordination. • The AEWA Madagascar Pond Heron International Working Group was convened by the AEWA Secretariat in 2010. <p><u>White-winged Flufftail</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordination was outsourced to the African Regional Office of BirdLife International until the end of 2011. Currently no funding is available to continue the coordination. • The AEWA White-winged Flufftail International Working Group was convened by the AEWA Secretariat in 2010. <p><u>Lesser Flamingo</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordination was outsourced to the African Regional Office of BirdLife International until the end of 2011. Currently no funding is available to continue the coordination. • The AEWA Lesser Flamingo International Working Group was convened by the AEWA Secretariat in 2010. 	<p>Norway, Finland, Germany, Sweden, EU LIFE+</p> <p>Italy (through CMS)</p> <p>Italy (through CMS)</p> <p>Italy (through CMS)</p>	<p>UNEP/AEWA Secretariat</p> <p>BirdLife International, UNEP/AEWA Secretariat</p> <p>BirdLife International, UNEP/AEWA Secretariat</p> <p>BirdLife International,</p>

¹ Reported only activities where the AEWA Secretariat has been grant beneficiary. For all other activities related to the implementation of Single Species Action Plans please refer to documents AEWA/MOP 5.9 and AEWA/MOP 5.24.

No.	Name of project	Funded by:	Executed by:
			UNEP/AEWA Secretariat
2.	<p>DEVELOP NEW INTERNATIONAL SINGLE SPECIES ACTION PLANS</p> <p>The task is maintained in the list of proposed IITs for 2012-2015/2016 (document AEWA/MOP DR3 Corr. 1).</p> <p><u>Slaty Egret</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action Plan has been finalized and has been submitted for final endorsement by MOP5. <p><u>Bewick's Swan</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action Plan for the North West European population has been finalized and has been submitted for final endorsement by MOP5. <p><u>Greenland White-fronted Goose</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action Plan has been finalized and has been submitted for final endorsement by MOP5. <p><u>Pink-footed Goose Management Plan</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Management Plan for the Svalbard population has been finalized and has been submitted for final endorsement by MOP5. <p><u>Dark-bellied Brent Goose</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workshop held in Bonn, Germany on the 15-16 December 2009. Due to current favorable conservation status of the sub-species, a conservation report is being prepared in lieu of a full-fledged Single Species Action Plan. 	<p>Switzerland, Germany and France</p> <p>Netherlands</p> <p>UK</p> <p>Norway</p> <p>n/a</p>	<p>UNEP/AEWA Secretariat, BirdLife Botswana, Government of Botswana</p> <p>Wetlands International</p> <p>Greenland White-fronted Goose Study Group</p> <p>Aarhus University, AEWA Secretariat</p> <p>UNEP/AEWA Secretariat</p>

No.	Name of project	Funded by:	Executed by:
	<p><u>Shoebill</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding has been secured for the development of the Action Plan and a stakeholder workshop is scheduled for the 9-12 October 2012 in Entebbe, Uganda. <p><u>Grey Crowned Crane</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding has been secured for the development of the Action Plan. 	<p>Switzerland</p> <p>Switzerland</p>	<p>UNEP/AEWA Secretariat, BirdLife Uganda, Government of Uganda</p> <p>UNEP/AEWA Secretariat, African Crane Conservation Programme</p>
3.	<p>IDENTIFY ALL SITES OF INTERNATIONAL IMPORTANCE FOR AEWA SPECIES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Was implemented as part of the WOW Project. Please visit the Critical Site Network Tool, which presents the output of this project. The task has been revised (changing the status to the maintenance of the list of sites) and included into the list of proposed IITs for 2012-2015/2016 (document AEWA/MOP DR3 Corr. 1). 	WOW project	WOW team (Wetlands International, BirdLife International, WCMC)
4.	<p>CREATING AN INTERACTIVE TOOL THAT PRESENTS INFORMATION ON IMPORTANT SITES FOR MIGRATORY WATERBIRDS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Was implemented as part of the WOW/African-Eurasian Flyway GEF project. Please visit the Critical Site Network Tool, which presents the output of this project. 	WOW project EU ENRTP 2009-2012	WOW team (Wetlands International, BirdLife International, WCMC)
5.	<p>PUBLISH PRIORITY AREAS FOR BETTER PROTECTION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Was implemented as part of the WOW/African-Eurasian Flyway GEF project as well as part of the 1st edition of the AEWA Site Network Report. See document AEWA/MOP 5.15, which is presenting the preliminary output of this project. 	WOW project, Switzerland	Wetlands International, BirdLife International

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6.	<p>HABITAT PRIORITIES FOR WATERBIRDS, PARTICULARLY IN AFRICA AND SOUTH-WEST ASIA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No funds available/could be secured during 2009-2012. The project has been split up into two for the two sub-regions and included into the list of proposed IITs for 2012-2015/2016 (document AEWA/MOP DR3 Corr. 1). 		
7.	<p>RESTORATION AND REHABILITATION TECHNIQUES FOR WATERBIRDS HABITAT, PARTICULARLY IN AFRICA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No funds available/could be secured during 2009-2012. The inclusion of this project into the list of proposed IITs for 2012-2015/2016 (document AEWA/MOP DR3 Corr. 1) is pending the finalisation of the AEWA Plan of Action for Africa. 		
8.	<p>CONSERVATION PROGRAMME OF MIGRATORY BIRD ROOSTING SITES LOCATED IN THE ALBERTINE RIFT REGION (EASTERN AFRICA)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No funds available/could be secured during 2009-2012. The inclusion of this project into the list of proposed IITs for 2012-2015/2016 (document AEWA/MOP DR3 Corr. 1) is pending the finalisation of the AEWA Plan of Action for Africa. 		
9.	<p>EVALUATION OF WATERBIRD HARVESTS IN THE AGREEMENT AREA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No funds available/could be secured during 2009-2012. The project has been revised and included into the list of proposed IITs for 2012-2015/2016 (document AEWA/MOP DR3 Corr. 1). 		
10.	<p>EVALUATION OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF WATERBIRD HUNTING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No funds available/could be secured during 2009-2012. The project has been revised and included into the list of proposed IITs for 2012-2015/2016 (document AEWA/MOP DR3 Corr. 1). 		
11.	<p>EVALUATION OF WATERBIRDS AS AGRICULTURAL PESTS IN AFRICA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No funds available/could be secured during 2009-2012. The inclusion of this project into the list of proposed IITs for 2012-2015/2016 (document AEWA/MOP DR3 Corr. 1) is pending the finalisation of the AEWA Plan of Action for Africa. 		

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12.	<p>DEVELOPING GUIDANCE TO AVOID OR MITIGATE THE IMPACTS OF EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRIES ON HABITATS OF IMPORTANCE FOR WATERBIRDS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing: Two out of the three phases of this project were undertaken by the Ramsar Scientific and Technical Review Panel in collaboration with the AEWA Technical Committee. These concerned the production of a desk study to identify sites/areas, especially wetlands, likely to be vulnerable to the impacts of mining and extractive industries as well as a guide to guidance for the exploration, production, closure and post-closure management of mines while evaluating their suitability for managing impacts on wetlands and waterbirds. The project could not be finalised in this inter-sessional period and the work will continue in the next one. • Draft resolution on waterbirds, wetlands and the impact of extractive industries (document AEWA/MOP DR14 Rev. 1) was submitted to MOP5. • The project has been revised and its third phase included into the list of proposed IITs for 2012-2015/2016 (document AEWA/MOP DR3 Corr. 1). 	UK	Ramsar STRP and AEWA TC
13.	<p>DEVELOPING GUIDANCE TO AVOID OR MITIGATE THE IMPACTS OF WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENTS ON WATERBIRDS AND THEIR HABITATS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No funds available/could be secured during 2009-2012. The project has been included into the list of proposed IITs for 2012-2015/2016 (document AEWA/MOP DR3 Corr. 1). • Draft resolution on renewable energy and migratory waterbirds (document AEWA/MOP DR16) was submitted to MOP5. 		
14.	<p>EVALUATION OF THREATS TO WATERBIRDS AND THEIR HABITATS EMERGING FROM THE DEVELOPMENT OF RENEWABLE ENERGIES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No funds available/could be secured during 2009-2012. The project has been revised and included into the list of proposed IITs for 2012-2015/2016 (document AEWA/MOP DR3 Corr. 1). Draft resolution on renewable energy and migratory waterbirds (document AEWA/MOP DR16) was submitted to MOP5. 		

No.	Name of project	Funded by:	Executed by:
15.	<p>SURVEY WORK IN POORLY KNOWN AREAS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A survey in Africa was funded in the framework of the International Waterbird Census (January 2009). • Three-year project SPOVAN has been implemented by France in support of waterbird census and training in Sudan and Egypt • The project has been revised and maintained in the list of proposed IITs for 2012-2015/2016 (document AEWA/MOP DR3 Corr. 1) 	<p>Germany</p> <p>France</p>	<p>Wetlands International French organisations</p>
16.	<p>INTERNATIONAL WATERBIRDS CENSUS – SPECIAL GAP-FILLING SURVEY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some gap-filling surveys were implemented as part of the WOW/African-Eurasian Flyway GEF project. • Three-year project SPOVAN has been implemented by France in support of waterbird census and training in Sudan and Egypt • The project has been revised and maintained in the list of proposed IITs for 2012-2015/2016 (document AEWA/MOP DR3 Corr. 1) 	<p>WOW project</p> <p>France</p>	<p>WOW partners</p> <p>French organisations</p>
17.	<p>PUBLICATION OF FLYWAY ATLASES FOR DIFFERENT GROUPS OF SPECIES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No funds available/could be secured during 2009-2012. The project has been revised and included into the list of proposed IITs for 2012-2015/2016 (document AEWA/MOP DR3 Corr. 1). 		
18.	<p>RINGING RECOVERIES IN ATLASES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No funds available/could be secured during 2009-2012. The project has been merged with the previous one and included into the list of proposed IITs for 2012-2015/2016 (document AEWA/MOP DR3 Corr. 1). 		
19.	<p>COORDINATION OF WATERBIRD RINGING SCHEMES; PARTICULARLY IN AFRICA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No funds available/could be secured during 2009-2012. The project has been included into the list of proposed IITs for 2012-2015/2016 (document AEWA/MOP DR3 Corr. 1). 		

No.	Name of project	Funded by:	Executed by:
20.	<p>ACTIONS FOR THE CONSERVATION OF COLONIAL WATERBIRDS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No funds available/could be secured during 2009-2012. The project has been revised and included into the list of proposed IITs for 2012-2015/2016 (document AEWA/MOP DR3 Corr. 1). 		
21.	<p>CAUSES OF POPULATION CHANGES IN MIGRATORY WATERBIRDS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No funds available/could be secured during 2009-2012. The project has not been included into the list of proposed IITs for 2012-2015/2016. 		
22.	<p>MIGRATORY WATERBIRDS AS INDICATORS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No funds available/could be secured during 2009-2012. The project has not been included into the list of proposed IITs for 2012-2015/2016. 		
23.	<p>BIOCLIMATIC MODELLING OF CHANGES IN DISTRIBUTION OF SPECIES AND POPULATIONS CRITICALLY AND HIGHLY THREATENED BY CLIMATE CHANGE UNDER THE DIFFERENT CLIMATIC SCENARIOS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No funds available/could be secured during 2009-2012. The project has not been included into the list of proposed IITs for 2012-2015/2016. 		
24.	<p>IMPROVING SURVEY AND MONITORING CAPACITY FOR MIGRATORY WATERBIRDS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Under the AEWA 2011 SGF cycle, funding was provided to Gambia for a project which aims at sustainable management of the Islands and their related avifauna through increasing knowledge on the species and their populations, increasing awareness on migratory waterbird species and provision of basic monitoring/ survey equipment (boat, telescope, binoculars, GPS, life jackets, etc.). Training courses on monitoring techniques and use of the necessary equipment will be delivered to different target groups, outreach programmes will be conducted for schools and public and information material will be prepared and disseminated. Three-year project SPOVAN has been implemented by France in support of waterbird census and training in Sudan and Egypt The project has been revised and maintained on the list of proposed IITs for 2012-2015/2016 (document AEWA/MOP DR3 Corr. 1). 	<p>Switzerland</p> <p>France</p>	<p>Government of Gambia</p> <p>French organisations</p>
25.	<p>REGIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMMES IN AFRICA FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREEMENT</p> <p><u>Some training has been conducted and materials provided. For example:</u></p>		

No.	Name of project	Funded by:	Executed by:
26.	<p>TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION AGENCIES FOR AEWA IN THE CONTRACTING PARTIES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Under the CMS and AEWA ENRTP project on capacity building, the following activities are relevant: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The development of a CMS family module on the roles and responsibilities of NFPs as well as the development of the outline of corresponding online training module, in 2012; ○ Using this module to for three workshops for NFPs of CMS, AEWA and other CMS instruments in 2013; • CMS and AEWA African regional meeting and MEA negotiation training, in preparation for the CMS COP10 and AEWA MOP5 was organised in November 2011 in Entebbe, Uganda. Some AEWA National Focal Points from Africa were trained on negotiation skills for MEAs. • The project has been maintained on the list of proposed IITs for 2012-2015/2016 (document AEWA/MOP DR3 Corr. 1). 	<p>EU ENRTP 2012-2014</p> <p>Sweden, Switzerland, Germany and Tanzania</p>	<p>AEWA and CMS Secretariats, UNEP/DELCC</p>
27.	<p>FIELD GUIDE FOR CENTRAL ASIA AND ADJACENT COUNTRIES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No funds available/could be secured during 2009-2012. The project has not been included into the list of proposed IITs for 2012-2015/2016. 		
28.	<p>TRAINING COURSE ON MIGRATORY WATERFOWL CONSERVATION AND WATERFOWL HABITAT MANAGEMENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No funds available/could be secured during 2009-2012. The project has been revised and included into the list of proposed IITs for 2012-2015/2016 (document AEWA/MOP DR3 Corr. 1). 		
29.	<p>ESTABLISHING A CLEARING HOUSE FOR TRAINING MATERIALS FOR THE AGREEMENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No funds available/could be secured during 2009-2012. The project has not been included into the list of proposed IITs for 2012-2015/2016. 		

No.	Name of project	Funded by:	Executed by:
30.	<p>REGIONAL WORKSHOPS FOR THE PROMOTION OF THE AGREEMENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A national workshop to promote the accession of the Russian Federation to the Agreement was organized in March 2010. • National workshops to promote the accession of Kazakhstan and Azerbaijan to the Agreement were organized in October 2010 and May 2011 respectively. • A national workshop to promote the accession of Burkina Faso to AEWA was organized in September 2010. • Two workshops (in English and French) were organized in the margins of the AEWA 15th Anniversary Symposium (The Hague, the Netherlands, in June 2010), to promote the accession of some African countries to AEWA (for Botswana, Swaziland, Comoros, Morocco and Seychelles) • Promotion workshops and presentations were organized for the Swaziland Parliament, to encourage the accession of the country to Ramsar, CMS and AEWA. This took place in December 2010 (for the Senate), July 2011 (for the King’s Advisory Council) and September 2011 (for the House of Assembly). • A sub-regional promotion workshop to encourage the accession of some Southern African countries to AEWA (Angola, Botswana, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe), was organized in the framework of the Slaty Egret SSAP development workshop in Maun, Botswana, in March 2011. • The project has been maintained on the list of proposed IITs for 2012-2015/2016 (document AEWA/MOP DR3 Corr. 1). 	<p>Netherlands, Switzerland</p> <p>Germany, Norway</p> <p>Switzerland</p> <p>France</p> <p>Ramsar, CMS and AEWA Secretariats</p> <p>Switzerland, Germany</p>	<p>UNEP/AEWA Secretariat, All-Russian Institute for Nature Conservation</p> <p>UNEP/AEWA Secretariat</p> <p>UNEP/AEWA Secretariat, Government of Burkina Faso</p> <p>UNEP/AEWA Secretariat</p> <p>Swaziland National Trust Commission</p> <p>UNEP/AEWA Secretariat</p>

No.	Name of project	Funded by:	Executed by:
31.	<p>COMMUNICATING THE IMPORTANCE OF A NETWORK OF CRITICAL SITES FOR MIGRATORY WATERBIRDS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has been fully implemented as part of the WOW Project. The publication “The Critical Site Network: Conservation of Internationally Important Sites for Waterbirds in the African-Eurasian Waterbird Agreement Area” will be launched at MOP5. It is now available as a PDF file on the Wings over Wetlands (WOW) project website. 	WOW project	WOW partners