



1st Joint Meeting of the Breeding Range States under the AEWA Eurasian Curlew and Black-tailed Godwit International Working Groups

Wednesday 17 – Friday 19 August 2022

Meeting Report



General overview

The meeting was held at the Historisch-Ökologische Bildungsstätte (HÖB) in Papenburg, Germany, and took place over 3 days, had 8 Sessions and included 16 presentations and 3 workshops. There were 40 delegates attending in person and each day 8-9 delegates joined online (see below for participants list).

Previous workplans were reviewed for both species and new workplans were adopted. Reviews of previous workplans are included in this meeting report. The new workplans are separate documents and should also be consulted by interested parties.

The meeting was funded by the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Protection, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection, the Dutch Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality, and the Lower Saxonian Ministry for Environment, Building, Energy and Climate Protection.

Opening address

The meeting was opened with a welcoming address by chair of the first day, Oliver Schall (Germany). This was followed by words of welcome from Heinz Düttmann (Lower Saxony), Nick Warmelink (the Netherlands, chair of the second day) and Thomas Südbeck, Director of the Historisch-Ökologische Bildungsstätte in Papenburg.

Sessions

Powerpoint presentations from the sessions and workshops are available on the [meeting page at the AEWA website](#). Please consult the presentations for details and further information.

The afternoon programme of day 1 was chaired by Oliver Schall. Session A focussed on conserving populations at different geographical scales and started with a presentation from Nina Mikander on conservation at the national level in **Finland**, a country where the Black-tailed Godwit (from hereafter "BTG") breeding population is increasing and the Eurasian Curlew (from hereafter "EC") breeding population appears to be faring better than other parts of the range. Heinrich Belting then presented a case study on successful conservation delivery at the regional/ federal level in **Lower Saxony, Germany**. The focus then switched to **England, UK** and how to conserve small and range-restricted populations, with presentations from Sam Franks on headstarting for EC and Eric Heath providing an overview of Godwit LIFE. The session concluded with Adriaan de Jong presenting on his research in **Sweden**, discussing the importance of medium-scale land use conservation.

Session B focussed on approaches to agri-environment delivery for BTG, EC and other waders. Barry O'Donoghue and Sean Kelly provided an update on the results-based scheme in **Ireland** as well as the wider Curlew Conservation Programme in the country. Dan Brown then presented his team's work on monitoring the impact of a prescription-based scheme on hatching success in **Scotland, UK**. Alex Datema and Maja Roodbergen next presented on the co-operative model in the **Netherlands**, with Alex explaining how it is set-up and offering a farmer's perspective before Maja presenting on how it is being monitored. Przemek Obloza then presented on the conservation of Eurasian Curlew across **Poland** before Michal Korniluk presented a case study of his team's work in **East Poland** which aims to enhance wader productivity.

At the end of day 1 there was a special screening of ***Grutto! De reis van onze nationale vogel.*** (Godwit! The journey of our national bird. A Black-tailed Godwit film from the Netherlands), a film by Ruben Smit Productions.

Day 2, chaired by Nick Warmelink, started with another landscape-scale case study, with Reink Fokkema presenting on the Godwit Landscape Project in the **Netherlands**, a project that is studying the entire wet grassland ecosystem with BTG the umbrella species. Next was the first workshop in which Mary Colwell presented on the importance of connecting the plight of the EC and wider conservation matters with people.

Session D on future opportunities started earlier in the morning with Krzysztof Stasiak presenting on modelling work he has undertaken in **Poland** as part of the East Atlantic Flyway wet grassland audit, looking at where to target wet grassland restoration in the country to recover wader populations. Renée Kerkvliet-Hermans from the IUCN then explained to delegates how **the IUCN Peatland Programme** operates and considered whether it could be expanded to include other habitats such as wet grassland.

BirdLife's Nicola Crockford then presented work on the development of an ecological network for the **East Atlantic flyway** as well as the development of a **Global Coastal Forum**. The session ended with Frank Vassen from the **European Commission** discussing future funding opportunities across the EU.

Session D concluded with a workshop led by Alain Maasri discussing the LIFE-IP Multi-Species Strategic Conservation Plan for Wet Grassland Breeding Birds with delegates providing input as to what they see as the main threats and opportunities for the target species.

In the afternoon the group visited several sites in the Dollart region to birdwatch and to hear first-hand about management on the ground. The day ended with an optional workshop on headstarting delivered by Samantha Franks.

Day 3, chaired by Nina Mikander, started with 2 final country updates with Gergő Nagy providing an update on the status of both species in **Hungary** followed by Charlotte Francesiaz providing the same for **France**. There was then a verbal update from Hannes Pehlak on the status of both species in **Estonia**.

Workplan updates

Thereafter followed Session G which included an overview of the previous workplans for both species, the identification of a draft work plan for the period 2022 to 2025, and proposed structures for the next 3 years. Please see the separate documents “AEWA Eurasian Curlew IWG – Activity Plan for 2023-2025” and “AEWA Black-tailed Godwit Workplan”.

At the beginning of the workplan session Dan Brown stressed the importance of delegates volunteering to take on roles and actions, and the need for governments to supply funding for priorities.

Eurasian Curlew

The workplan sessions for the AEWA EC IWG took the form of a presentation from Daniel Brown on progress under each activity listed in the 2019-2022 work plan, and a request from the audience for any additional knowledge/ information on progress. A discussion was also had on whether each activity needed to “roll over” into the 2023-2025 workplan. Note that the *AEWA International Single Species Action Plan for the Conservation of the Eurasian Curlew* is due for revision in 2025 so the new workplan will occur before a new planning cycle commences.

- **“Explore opportunities to seek new resource at important breeding sites. Will include seeking funding opportunities that could support new Project Officers to coordinate conservation and monitoring work”.** **Belgium** has a species protection plan covering both species which will commence next year. Contact Griet Nijs for a copy. The plan includes habitat restoration and research and a national population target of 200-310 breeding pairs. Research focusses on habitat use, breeding success and prey availability. In **Germany** there are operational LIFE meadow bird projects in every state except Bavaria. In the **Netherlands** there are less “curlew-focussed” projects. However, **Battleplan Godwit** is expected to provide for EC through BTG acting as an umbrella species. The other activities focus on collecting knowledge and Montagu’s Harrier Foundation will work with VBN to produce a plan for the species. In **the UK**, Curlew LIFE is delivering across 6 landscapes whilst there are multiple local landscape partnerships across all 4 countries with a focus on EC. Country-level groups have also been set up to facilitate knowledge transfer and collaboration between these groups. It was noted that there are currently no **transnational projects** under this activity but the LIFE-IP Multi-Species Strategic Conservation Plan for Wet Grassland Breeding Birds will seek to develop these. In **Finland** there are no new species-specific projects but large-scale investment in nature restoration through the current HELMI Habitats Programme included wetlands and semi-natural grasslands. In **Ireland** the ongoing Curlew Conservation Programme has deployed a package of conservation, research and community engagement at 9 important breeding sites across the country, including new project officers. In **Poland** the new LIFE4WadersPL will focus on the recovery of wet grassland wader populations through creation of large-scale conservation areas, this will build on the successes of previous LIFE projects. In **France**, projects are occurring at important breeding sites in Brittany, Normandy, Deux-Sevres and Val de Saône. **DECISION:** progress has been made at important breeding sites in many countries, but this is an ongoing activity and still needs to be scaled up in many countries, so will be rolled over into the 2023-2025 workplan.
- **“Maintain action and where, considered beneficial, extend appropriate protection measures, including monitoring”** on non-breeding grounds. There is the ongoing situation regarding the **Tagus Estuary, Portugal**. The planned development of the airport is the subject

of an AEWIA Implementation Review Process. In recent years satellite-tagged birds from Germany and Poland have been tracked to the site. Recent studies have concluded that the **Wadden Sea** appears to be provided good feeding conditions for wintering EC, and that numbers are increasing. **Avian flu** is a big threat has been reported in the Wadden Sea and has recently impacted on hundreds (?) of EC. A discussion followed on the synthesis/ collation of data arising from all the tracking data and there was **agreement the IWG should support the Ecological Flyway Network (EFN)** through requesting data be passed on for EC since it is a target species of the EFN. There was a linked discussion on whether the IWG could use existing data and knowledge and determine what the range-wide tracking priorities are for the future. Finally, there was a suggestion that more tags should be placed on birds in NW Germany in order to better understand the level of illegal killing. **DECISION:** considerable progress being made through recent satellite-tracking projects. Continuation is required, but some strategic discussions on priorities could be useful. These actions to be included in the 2023-2025 workplan.

- **“Develop and distribute Rural Development Programme guidance for the breeding range states. The target audience will be stakeholders involved in rural policy formation and the guidance will be focussed within the context of upcoming agricultural policy reform”.** Attempts were made to but the work stalled. There are considerable challenges in providing guidance that is suitable for the different national contexts. In Sweden, a deliverable of the LIFE Farmland Birds is to produce similar guidance. **DECISION:** minimal progress made but consensus is it remains a priority so roll over into new workplan. Patrick Lindley agreed to take a lead on developing this work, firstly by coordinating a sub-group. Also note suggestions that agricultural policy colleagues need to be involved. Nina Mikander will act as a bridge between the IWG and the LIFE Farmland Birds work. Lastly, the Curlew Recovery Partnership (England) has a full-time member of staff leading on advocating for Curlew conservation to be integrated into the land management schemes being developed so should be involved.
- **“Continue to increase our understanding of fine-scale habitat usage by EC on their breeding grounds, to help inform future conservation management options”.** Several research projects exploring fine-scale habitat use in different countries, landscapes and agricultural systems are occurring. In the UK the publication of a BTO report for the Welsh Government is imminent and will be disseminated to the IWG when available (action: Patrick Lindley). Also in the UK, Harry Ewing at the University of East Anglia is nearing the end of his PhD which includes a chapter on brood rearing, productivity and habitat quality. Henk Jan Otten’s work in the Netherlands is exploring food availability and habitat use in agricultural systems. In Sweden this topic has been the focus of Adriaan de Jong’s previous research and he plans to re-analyse some of the data. In France numerous projects have commenced and a proposal was to compare habitat use and breeding successes across four sites with differing habitat configurations (e.g. moorland, marshes, agricultural, floodplain). From October, Marie Donnez will start a PhD thesis on EC ecology at the University of La Rochelle and will be dedicated to this analysis in collaboration with existing partners. **DECISION:** good progress has been made in this area. It needs to roll over into the new workplan as improving our understanding of habitat use and adapting management accordingly remains a priority.
- **“Collate and exchange available information on the effect predation is having on productivity”.** FACE organised a conference on predation management for waders at the European Parliament in 2018. RSPB will produce a paper on their Curlew Trial Management project in early 2023. However, not much progress otherwise was reported. Iben Hove Sørensen is keen to participate in future predation work so please get in touch if interested in collaborating. This area of the workplan also links to the future structures proposal (see later) in relation to forming thematic groups focusing on different topics. A concept briefly discussed was to undertake 3-year collation of breeding data from all key EC and BTG projects (action: Erik Kleyheeg and Dan Brown to consider in more detail). **DECISION:** Limited progress made overall. Rollover into 2023-2025 workplan and discuss the formation of a thematic group.
- **“Increase knowledge of food quality on chicks (decline of insects, etc)”.** In the **Netherlands** Henk Jan Otten’s study has been looking at faeces of chicks and is undertaking some DNA analysis to see what they are eating. In the **UK** Harry Ewing’s PhD on brood-rearing habitat (see point 4 above) will consider optimum brood-rearing habitat in relation to habitat structure, which is important as well as prey. The **LIFE-IP Multi-Species Strategic Conservation**

Plan for Wet Grassland Breeding Birds has a project in collaboration with the University of Groningen focussed on invertebrates - invertebrate sampling will be undertaken over 10 years in both extensive and intensive grasslands. In **France** at the Val de Saône study population the University of La Rochelle is in charge of the invertebrate surveys as prey availability for EC in floodplain meadows. A report from an MSc student is due. **DECISION:** Reasonable progress being made. Rollover into 2023-2025 workplan. The results of this work will help inform wider conservation management and the revision of the international plan in 2025.

The following workplan 2019-2022 activities were all part of the proposal for an Adaptive Harvest Management (AHM) process so are grouped together.

<p>“Analysis/assessment of potential Curlew “management units” based on available data (ring recoveries”).</p>	<p>A 1-day intergovernmental meeting took place in Paris at the invitation of the French government September 2019. Range states could not reach consensus on whether to proceed with an AHM process. All the documents are on AEWA website https://www.unep-aewa.org/en/meeting/aewa-urasian-curlew-meeting .</p>
<p>“Convene a flyway level process for AHM with all relevant range states”</p>	<p>At the 2020 IWG meeting the French Focal Point reiterated that France was willing to financially support the AHM process.</p>
<p>“Establish timeframe/roadmap for the process (what should happen when, what is needed – potential meeting in France to present process with AHM experts etc.)”</p>	<p>A full moratorium on hunting EC in France has been in place for the last 3 seasons, including this one.</p>
<p>“Curlew side-meeting with relevant range states at the AEWA MOP”</p>	<p>However, it was confirmed at the meeting that illegal killing is occurring: 3 satellite-tagged adults from Lower Saxony were lost at coastal hunting areas in France as well as 1 satellite-tagged bird from Belgium. A satellite-tagged bird from Belgium was also known to be shot in 2021. A delegate from Germany praised the response of the French authorities, who were quick to investigate and retrieved 2 tags. Heinz Düttmann suggested that more satellite tags are required to quantify the scale of the impact. Illegal killing is an issue for which there is a process under the Bern Convention. It was recommended that any expanded communications on this topic should not be too country-specific since illegal killing does occur in other range states. It was also suggested that illegal killing could be occurring unintentionally, since lots of other wader species at the coast can be hunted legally. Charlotte Francesiaz stated that the French authorities want the issue to be transparent and communicated.</p>
<p>“Convene first meeting with relevant range states and experts/stakeholders”</p>	<p>EC is one of 33 species covered by a new AHM contract tendered by the European Commission. The first objective will be to develop a population model and adopt/review the population objective of the Curlew Action Plan.</p>
	<p>DECISION: Due to the high profile of this topic and importance of impact, this area should be rolled over into the 2023-2025 workplan. Daniel Brown to speak to AEWA and EC to see what the implications are for the IWG of the new EC tender and report back at next IWG meeting.</p>

- **“Increase monitoring efforts in Russia on the basis of agreed monitoring”.** Initial plans were developed for a gathering in Belarus between fieldworkers/researchers of eastern and western populations. However, this were first delayed by covid and then by the war in Ukraine. **DECISION:** it does not appear pragmatic to rollover this activity into the 2023-2025 workplan. It

was be reassessed if/ when appropriate.

- **“Agree standard guidance for productivity“**. This was completed by Adriaan de Jong et al. in 2020/21 and can be viewed/ downloaded from www.unep-aewa.org/en/document/international-guidelines-monitoring-breeding-populations-and-levels-reproduction-eurasian **DECISION:** activity complete. Interested parties are urged to be aware of the guidelines and disseminate around their networks.
- **“Commit to undertake productivity monitoring at a sample of sites across most breeding range states in order to increase our collective understanding of population and demographic trends across the breeding range”**. Monitoring has expanded considerably in recent years and looks set to continue. The meeting did not allow sufficient time to discuss how to progress this from an international perspective but some sort of synthesis of productivity data across the range would be worthwhile activity, noting previous discussions around sensitivities of collated productivity monitoring for the purposes of aiding AHM processes **DECISION:** this activity remains critical and should be rolled over. Further discussion at the next IWG meeting should consider how to synthesis data from across the breeding range and its potential uses.
- **“Share and collate information on ongoing, planned and completed satellite-tracking and colour-ringing of Eurasian Curlew amongst the IWG range states”**. An online migration workshop took place at the 2020 IWSG Conference. An international, collaborative project with partners from **Germany, Poland, France and Estonia** has so far tagged 85 adults with GPS-data loggers to verify the migration strategy of the EC. The study has been published in the Journal of Avian Biology and is available from <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/pdf/10.1111/jav.02924>. This collaborative project is due to continue. Also in **Germany, the Lower Saxony** satellite-tracking project is currently being written up and further tagging also occurring in **Ireland, England, Bavaria and Russia**. **DECISION:** considerable progress has occurred in recent years and more tracking work is planned so activity to be rolled over. As above, there was **agreement that the IWG should support the Ecological Flyway Network** and the IWG should be the group that collates/ synthesises existing data, knowledge and expertise to identify future priorities (action: no delegates volunteered to lead this action, so we would welcome funding offers from Governments to support this activity).
- **“Undertake collation of poorly understood threats – define priority research areas. (senescence, human disturbance)”**. In **Germany**, Philipp Schwemmer and his team continue to study migration patterns in relation to offshore windfarms and a paper is due soon. In 2021 *“Persistent pollutants in Eurasian Curlew Numenius arquata eggs in Ireland”* was published in Wader Study. The summary was levels of persistent pollutants in EC eggs fell below all existing thresholds for adverse effects in other species and it is unlikely pollutants have an immediate impact on the breeding success of EC in **Ireland**. In the **UK and Ireland** the University of Sheffield is investigating egg fertility from 62 unhatched eggs and 89 eggshell samples, spanning 38 locations. Preliminary data suggests fertility rates on unhatched eggs is high. Embryo mortality (particularly at very early and very late stages) is therefore main cause of failure. Variation in egg quality and stage embryos have died, which will be investigated. Similar work on BTG is currently in publication. **DECISION:** this activity encompasses a range of research topics and is not well defined. However, it can be rolled over and a future IWG meeting should consider what other poorly-understood threats need researched before the revision of ISSAP in 2025
- **“Discuss framework for future delivery of the EC ISSAP by identifying areas of overlap and the roles of the IWSG, the BTG ISSAP & IWG, the EU MSAP for waders and a possible Friends of the Curlew. Liaise with Commission, BirdLife International, AEWB BTG IWG, IWSG etc. on how to align various processes”**. Progress has included hosting an activity from the workplan as a workshop at the 2020 IWSG Conference and adoption of a joint meeting of the EC and BTG IWGs. The forging of closer links with the LIFE-IP and several other initiatives are proposed in the below *“Discussion on structures for wader conservation in future”*. **DECISION:** this will be rolled over and be a joint activity to progress with the BTG workplan 2023-2025.
- **“Implement additional awareness-raising activities - Launch AEWB Eurasian Curlew IWG website (Dan, Nina)”**. This an activity where progress is limited. There is little resource at the Secretariat to maintain the website and other smaller, national and regional organisations are better placed at communicating science and conservation to a variety of target audiences. For this reason, and recognising it is not often given the same priority as science/ conservation

activities, it is listed as a thematic group in the below “*Discussion on structures for wader conservation in future*”

A discussion that did not take place for the EC IWG was the continuation of RSPB proving the coordination role. This is a voluntary, non-funded role and with the current Coordinator setting side around 5-10% of their time. It was noted by a delegate that full-time coordination is required and would lead to much greater progress and action. **Action: Governments are requested to discuss and respond regarding what resources they have to support increased EC IWG coordination effort.**

Black-tailed Godwit

The workplan session for the AEWA Black-tailed Godwit IWG was kicked off with a number of working group updates and proposals for how to proceed:

- 1) The funding period for the position of the coordinator ends Oct 2022. The Dutch Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality has offered funding for the next three years. It was proposed that current coordinator Erik Kleyheeg will continue in this role until 2025.
- 2) The IWG works with two breeding ranges, organises separate meetings and drafts separate workplans for these regions. Considering the importance of information exchange between NW-European and E-European Range States and the observation that problems become increasingly similar, it was proposed that the two regions will be considered as one in the future, as such that there will only be a distinction between Breeding and Non-breeding Range States. Specifically, this means that the workplans will be merged and all Breeding Range States will be invited to meetings concerning the BtG breeding range, while ideally still alternating the location of future meetings between NW- and E-Europe.
- 3) The recent collaboration between the AEWA Eurasian Curlew IWG and the AEWA Black-tailed Godwit IWG has been pleasant and productive. Considering that Black-tailed Godwit and Eurasian Curlew face a number of similar problems and many working group members deal with both species, stronger collaboration was proposed. The aspects identified for closed collaboration include developing a shared part of the species’ workplans, organise ‘topical’ meetings for members of both IWGs (see below) and organise a regular Europe-wide assessment of breeding success.

Discussion about these updates lead to the following decisions:

Decision: With funding of the Dutch government, Erik Kleyheeg will remain coordinator of the Black-tailed Godwit IWG until 2025.

Decision: The sub-divisions of the IWG dealing with the NW-European and E-European breeding range of the Black-tailed Godwit will be merged, enabling closer collaboration between the Breeding Range States.

Decision: The coordinators of the AEWA Eurasian Curlew IWG and the AEWA Black-tailed Godwit IWG will take steps to materialize closer collaboration between the IWGs.

The next agenda item was an overview of the workplan delivery, which was prepared in advance of the meeting by inviting Range States to fill out a questionnaire listing any updates on progress. The following countries responded to this request: Belgium, Estonia, France, Germany, Hungary, the Netherlands, Russia, Sweden and the United Kingdom. The discussion focused on the following topics:

- Possibilities for developing a LIFE project for implementation of conservation measures: the LIFE IP GrassBirdHabitat covers implementation in part of the breeding range and development of Strategic Conservation Plans in Breeding and Non-breeding Range States along the East Atlantic Flyway. Involvement of the E-European Breeding Range States is still a challenge.
- The proposal to agree regional population targets for the Black-tailed Godwit was supported by most of the delegates, but should arise from country-level targets. Not all countries have or support a target for population size, but rather focus on population trend.
- There was broad support for exchanging methodology for monitoring of Black-tailed Godwit populations, including the monitoring of reproductive success.

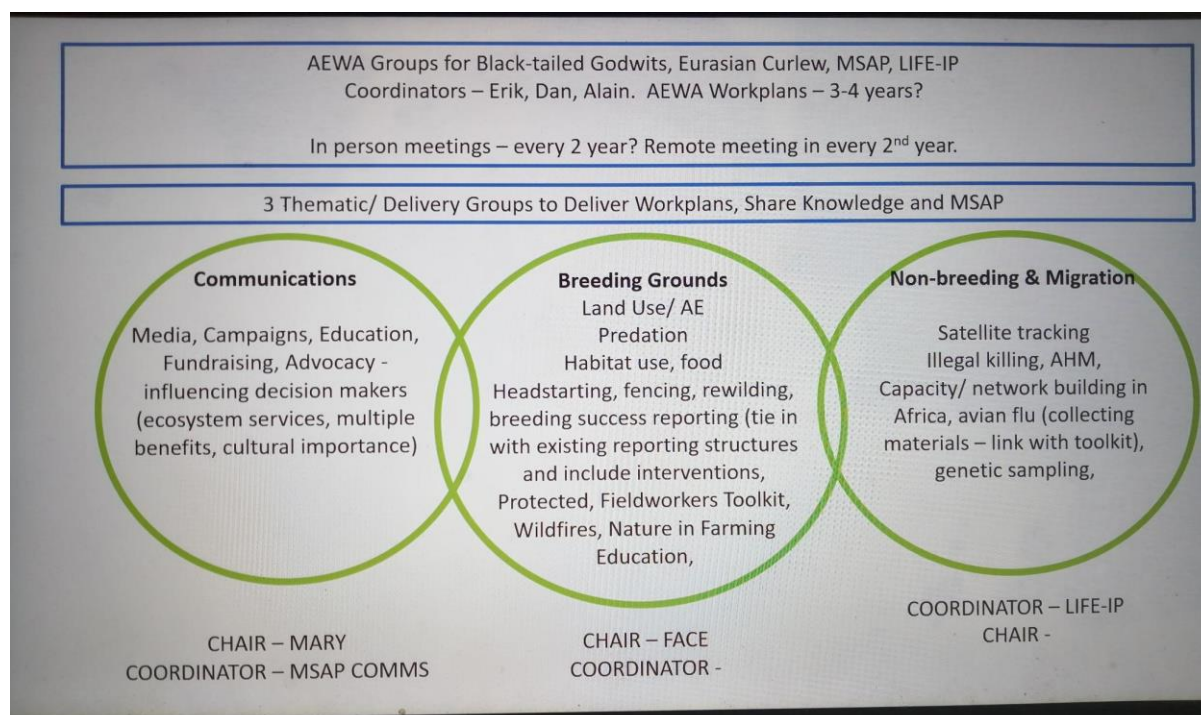
- Similarly, there was broad support for developing a mechanism to facilitate the exchange of knowledge and experience between countries with respect to the monitoring of breeding success, predator control and management, headstarting and other relevant topics. These topics are of interest to both IWGs. See below for the proposed set-up of 'topical meetings'.
- Curlew Action has an online Curlew Fieldworkers' Toolkit with loads of tips, techniques, and instructions for working with curlews. There was consensus that it might be useful to copy this concept for the Black-tailed Godwit.
- It was acknowledged that godwit conservation benefits from people actively studying the species. In the E-European Breeding Range States the number of people dedicated to Black-tailed Godwit research and conservation is limited. The NW-European countries are stimulated to find ways to fund research (e.g. PhD students) in E-Europe.
- The AEWA Eurasian Curlew IWG is setting up an international collaboration to collect and secure genetic material from Eurasian Curlews for (future) studies on population structure and other applications. The AEWA Black-tailed Godwit IWG will consider whether it is useful to set up a similar collaboration for the Black-tailed Godwit.

Discussion on structures for wader conservation in future

Following discussion with the LIFE-IP team, AEWA Coordinators discussed opportunities for closer collaboration and organisation in the future. This recognises that there is considerable overlap between the remit and objectives of the two AEWA IWGs and the LIFE-IP. In addition, there has been a need for greater resources to coordinated wader conservation across the flyway for some time; this is best indicated in the fact that there is no coordinator of the EU Multi-Species Action Plan for Breeding Waders – despite it being the first action on the MSAP itself.

The proposal centred on creating thematic groups that would facilitate knowledge sharing, networking and support the implementation of the EU MSAP, the two AEWA iSSAPs and the IWG activity plans and the LIFE-IP. A draft structure is set out below and some delegates are requested to

- provide comment on the 3 thematic groups
- volunteer for roles as Chairs or Coordinators
- express interest in any groups they would wish to sit on
- provide feedback on how often these groups should meet



Next meeting(s)

With the intention to strengthen the collaboration between the two International Working Groups, it was proposed to organise regular Joint Meetings within the species' breeding range. Coordinators will aim at organising a live meeting every two years, which means that the following live meeting is due in 2024.

In the years in-between there will be online meetings, which will act as an opportunity to annually review progress of workplans and discuss any emerging issues. **The next joint meeting will be on Wednesday 13th September 2023.**

Coordinators encourage AEWA Focal Points to discuss opportunities for hosting and (co)funding the next live meeting in 2024. As meetings should ideally alternate between regions, a live meeting in an Eastern European or Scandinavian Breeding Range State is encouraged.

In the meantime, a Regional Meeting of the AEWA Black-tailed Godwit IWG is being planned for the Non-breeding Range States. This meeting is due winter 2023/2024. More information will follow as the plans develop.

List of participants

Meeting Delegates

Adriaan de Jong	Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Sweden
Alain Maasri	NLWKN, Germany
Alex Datema	BoerenNatuur, The Netherlands
Charlotte Francesiaz	OFB, France
Daniel Brown	The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, UK
Heike Weber	Tierpark Nordhorn, Germany
Edyta Kapowicz	Polish Society for Bird Protection, Poland
Eric Heath	Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust, UK
Erik Kleyheeg	Sovon Dutch Center for Field Ornithology, The Netherlands
Gergő Nagy	Ministry of Agriculture, Department for Nature Conservation, Hungary
Griet Nijs	Natuurpunt, Belgium
Gundolf Reichert	National Park Wadden Sea Lower Saxony, Germany
Hannes Pehlak	Estonian University of Life Sciences, Estonia
Hans Christian Stotzem	Bundesamt für Naturschutz Deutschland, Germany
Heinrich Belting	NLWKN, Germany
Heinz Düttmann	Niedersächsisches Umweltministerium, Germany
Helgard Lemke	Michael-Otto-Institut, Germany
Helmut Kruckenberg	Institute for Wetlands and Waterbird Research, Germany
Henk Jan Ottens	Montagu's Harrier Foundation, The Netherlands
Iben Hove Sørensen	CIC/Danish Hunters' Association, Denmark
Jessica Schmidt	Institute for Wetlands Waterbirds, Germany
Jos Hooijmeijer	Rijksuniversiteit Groningen, The Netherlands
Jutta Leyrer	Michael-Otto-Institut in NABU, Germany
Maja Roodbergen	Sovon Dutch Center for Field Ornithology, The Netherlands
Mary Colwell	Curlew Action, UK
Michał Korniluk	Natura International Polska, Poland
Nick Warmelink	Dutch Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality, The Netherlands
Nicola Crockford	BirdLife International & Eco-Foundation Global, UK
Nina Mikander	Ministry of the Environment, Finland
Oliver Schall	BMUV, Germany
Patrick Lindley	Natural Resources Wales, UK
Przemysław Obłozą	Wildlife Society „STORK”, Poland
Rebecca Stewart	The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, UK
Renée Kerkvliet	IUCN, UK

Hermans	
Rienk Fokkema	University of Groningen, The Netherlands
Ronan Owens	Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs Northern Ireland, UK
Samantha Franks	International Wader Study Group (based with BTO, UK)
Steffen Kämpfer	University of Osnabrück, Germany
Stanislas Sibille	European Federation for Hunting and Conservation, Belgium

Additional registered remote participants

Sean Kelly	National Parks and Wildlife Service, Ireland
Matej Repel	BirdLife Slovakia
Hannah Wheatley	Joint Nature Conservation Council, UK
Philipp Schwemmer	Kiel University, Germany
Rebecca Lee	RSPB, UK
Barry O'Donoghue	National Parks & Wildlife Service, Ireland
Kate Brickett	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, UK
Krzysztof Stasiak	OTOP, Poland
Bart Donato	Natural England, UK
Frank Vassen	European Commission

