

Important Bird Area Conservation and Capacity Building in Central Asia



Final report for the period 1st November 2005 to 30th April 2009 for the project funded by:



UK contract party is



The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
in partnership with:



Ministry for Nature Protection of Turkmenistan / Turkmenistan Society for Nature Conservation



The Association for the Conservation of Biodiversity in Kazakhstan



Uzbekistan Zoological Society (UzSPB)/ The Uzbekistan Society for the Protection of Birds (UzSPB)

July 2009

Darwin Initiative – Final Report

Darwin project information

Project Reference	14-061
Project Title	Important Bird Area Conservation and Capacity Building in Central Asia
Host country(ies)	Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan
UK Contract Holder Institution	The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB), UK
UK Partner Institution(s)	The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB), UK
Host Country Partner Institution(s)	Kazakhstan: The Association for the Conservation of Biodiversity Kazakhstan (ACBK) Uzbekistan: The Uzbekistan Zoological Society (UZS) which assisted 2007 to establish the Uzbekistan Society for the Protection of Birds (UzSPB) to ensure sustainability of the project's outcomes (please see previous reports). Turkmenistan: Ministry of Nature Protection of Turkmenistan / Turkmenistan Society for Nature Conservation
Darwin Grant Value	£193,593
Start/End dates of Project	1 st November 2005 until 30 th April 2009
Project Leader Name	Michael Brombacher
Project Website	www.acbk.kz and www.iba.uz (currently changed into www.uzspb.uz)
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1 Project Background

The original purpose of this project was 'to strengthen conservation capacity in Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan through the development of Important Bird Area (IBA) inventories, providing the basis for consistent and coordinated conservation action'. The main outcomes have been:

0. Project management and coordination structure is established and sustained
1. Existing available data on the status of the region's species and habitats is collected, processed and analysed
2. Existing and potential fieldworkers are introduced to IBA work, trained and equipped
3. New data on the status of the region's species and habitats is gathered through field work
4. An IBA Inventory for each country is compiled, published and disseminated
5. Conservation strategies for IBAs in the region are developed and their implementation started
6. Public awareness of national nature value, its conservation and IBA protection is increased

In 2005 when the project started conservation planning didn't follow a consistent approach based on new data on sites and biodiversity status in neither of the three project countries. In addition to that capacity in the governmental as well as in the non-governmental conservation sector was relatively low in both terms – technically as well as staff wise (mostly because these institutions have been young - in young countries).

The outstanding conservation value of the Central Asian region, in particular the three project countries Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan required systematic and well planned action to (i) better inform conservation planning but also (ii) improve conservation capacity nationwide. This is what the project has achieved to a large extent. The project delivered:

- the inventory and high-quality documentation of 219 Important Bird Areas in two language volumes each
- two well running, growing non-governmental and highly professional conservation organisations (KAZ and UZB)
- a new, motivated and well trained generation of conservationists involving more than 200 volunteer students and post-graduates
- a large number of additional conservation success such as steppe and saiga conservation work, introduction of modern management plans, two countries joining the Ramsar Convention etc.

Please find details in 4.3 below and Annex 1.

(Apologies for exceeding the 100 words rule but only the purpose and the outcomes are 137 words. The limit of 100 words is probably a bit low, if all this has to be provided plus a summary and the main achievements)

2 Project support to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

Support to the CBD

All three project countries are a signatory state to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the project has largely contributed to the implementation of the Convention. It has led to the development of additional (funded) initiatives e.g. which promote the implementation of the CBDs Programme of Work on Protected Areas (see paragraphs below).

From the very beginning of the project a close contact has been kept to the national CBD Focal points – until today. In all three countries they formally have endorsed the project and supported it throughout its implementation. We have forewords of two Focal Points in the IBA books which underlines their commitment to the project.

The national partners have contributed to the development of the 3rd National Reports to the CBD and through the implementation of this project increased their understanding of the mechanisms of the Convention. A senior project staff member (Shirin Karyeva, Lobby and Advocay Manager) of the Turkmenistan IBA Project (not funded through this project) is member of the CBD's SBSTTA Committee.

Support to the achievement of the CBD Objectives

In detail the following CBD objectives have been supported in their implementation:

This project included a substantial research and training component and largely supported the implementation of **Article 12**.

As one of the project outputs was the development of a consistent inventory of priority sites for conservation, the project also supported the implementation of both **Article 6** that asks contracting parties “to develop national strategies, plans or programmes for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity...”, and **Article 10** relating to the sustainable use of biodiversity.

The project prepared the basis for **Article 8** relating to measures for in-situ conservation, as it prescribed recommendations for the conservation of IBAs identified as part of this project. In addition to this, practical conservation projects at key sites were developed towards the end of, and following on from, this project.

Through various planned public awareness activities, the project contributed to the implementation of **Article 13** relating to public education and awareness”

Support to the CBD's Programme of Work on Protected Areas (PoWPA)

The project significantly contributed to the implementation of the the CBD's Programme of Work on Protected Areas (PoWPA) with supporting the implementation of

- Programme Element 1 "Direct Actions for Planning, Selecting, Establishing, Strengthening, and Managing, Protected Area Systems and Sites",
- Programme Element 2 „Governance, Participation, Equity and Benefit Sharing“, Programme Element 3 „Enabling Activities“ and
- Programme Element 4 „Standards, Assessment, and Monitoring“

As an outcome of this Darwin project RSPB and the Turkmenistan Project Partner Ministry of Nature Protection of Turkmenistan have developed, submitted and got approved an application under the "Supporting Country Action to the CBD Programme of Work on Protected Areas" by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Global Environmental Facility (GEF). The RSPB is a partner and this project and implements it jointly with the team of the Turkmenistan IBA project. The main objective of the project is to develop income generating opportunities for local communities around Protected Areas and also administrations of Protected Areas in Turkmenistan. The project has a budget of 146,000 USD, details can be found under <http://www.protectedareas.org/all-applications-received/3rd-round/>

Support to the achievement of the 2010 biodiversity targets

The project contributed to the following 2010 biodiversity targets:

Focal Area: Protect the components of biodiversity

Goal 1. Promote the conservation of the biological diversity of ecosystems, habitats and biomes

Goal 2. Promote the conservation of species diversity

Focal Area: Promote sustainable use

Goal 4. Promote sustainable use and consumption.

Focal Area: Address threats to biodiversity

Goal 5. Pressures from habitat loss, land use change and degradation, and unsustainable water use, reduced.

Goal 7. Address challenges to biodiversity from climate change, and pollution.

Focal Area: Maintain goods and services from biodiversity to support human well-being

Goal 8. Maintain capacity of ecosystems to deliver goods and services and support livelihoods

Focal Area: Protect traditional knowledge, innovations and practices

Goal 9 Maintain socio-cultural diversity of indigenous and local communities

Focal Area: Ensure provision of adequate resources

Goal 11: Parties have improved financial, human, scientific, technical and technological capacity to implement the Convention

Support to the Ramsar Convention

In addition to this, the project and the RSPB have largely helped the governments of Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan to join the Ramsar Convention which they eventually did (Kazakhstan in 2006 and Turkmenistan in 2009). IBA site descriptions (BirdLife and the Convention share criteria see generic “Methods” chapter in IBA books) have been used to nominate and designate Ramsar sites. The same project partnership (jointly with the Ramsar Secretariat is currently butting together (i) a candidate list for Ramsar Sites based on the IBA inventory for Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan and (ii) a Russian language handbook for key stakeholders in the whole region who deal with the convention.

Support to the CMS

The project assisted the governments in all three countries with the implementation of the CBD. Activities in detail have been:

- Through the IBA inventory better data on migratory species is available and has already informed CMS species conservation work such as Aquatic Warbler, Slender-billed Curlew and others
- ACBK hosts the coordination post for the Sociable Lapwing Working Group under the African-Eurasian Waterbird Agreement (AEWA) under the CBD
- ACBK hosts the sub-regional centre for Central Asia, Caucasus and parts of Russia under the Wings over Wetlands Project (www.wingsoverwetlands.org) which is funded by the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) and other donors
- ACBK of Kazakhstan helped drafting and also lead on drafting Species Action Plans for migratory species under the CMS
- Students and graduates from the birdwatching club network established as part of the Darwin project take part in Red-breasted Goose conservation activities under the CMS, some act as Focal Point for the CMS in Kazakhstan

Support to CITES

In all three countries the partners raised general awareness and knowledge of rare species and mechanisms to protect them. Identification guides have been produced, the concept of IUCN globally and near threatened species has been promoted in posters (third party funding), information leaflets and within identification guides. This increased the capacity of state authorities to implement CITES since the CITES authority has been provided with sufficient copies of all outlets to disseminate them among their staff and to customs.

Additionally with its high-quality research work, the project increased understanding of the status of threatened species in Kazakhstan which will influence CITES policy of the government of Kazakhstan.

Support to the UNESCO World Heritage Convention

Throughout the project period but as a by-product the RSPB and ACBK have substantially assisted the government of Kazakhstan to finalize the nomination dossier for two of the most important Protected Areas (and IBAs) of global importance of the country. The RSPB co-funded this process and in June 2008 the cluster has been approved as Central Asia’s first UNESCO natural World Heritage Nomination. This success will help for the long-term protection of these sites. For details see http://www.birdlife.org/news/news/2008/07/kazakh_whs.html.

The RSPB and the Turkmenistan IBA Project team started to prepare the nomination dossier for the Badkhyz State Nature Reserve in March 2009 and aims to submit in 2010. Badkhyz is also one of the most important IBAs of the country.

3 Project Partnerships

From the beginning the partnership between the RSPB and the national project partners has been very close and even developed further and broadened throughout the project implementation. All partners have been taking part in the initial project planning workshop in 2004 which allowed a maximum of contribution to the project development and also ownership with the project. This partnership is about to be formalized with ACBK and UzSPB recently having applied to become members within the BirdLife Partnership – as the RSPB is a member of. The applications have been accepted and evaluation of the organisation is scheduled for November 2009.

The link to the BirdLife partnership allowed the project partners to have access to lessons learnt from other growing conservation organisations. For instance the model of student birdwatching clubs (see section 1 and 4.3), to overcome the dramatic shortfall of young conservationists was taken from the Turkish BirdLife Partner Doga Denergi and improved and applied in Central Asia. There it has led to a huge success there. This knowledge transfer was facilitated by the RSPB.

Also the project partners have worked closely with organisations (BirdLife Russia) in Russia who conduct IBA work in Western Siberia (see “Acknowledgment” chapter in IBA books, generic part).

In all three countries efficient and well working partnerships with the governments have been established through individual MoUs. These partnerships have been very fruitful, government agencies supported the fieldwork period logistically, helped with permissions and helped to promote the IBA concept.

In addition to this the national partners, especially ACBK of Kazakhstan have developed close links to GEF/UNDP Conservation projects, shared data, agreed on site monitoring protocols and developed conservation management plans with them. See section 4.3 below.

In all three countries the cooperation with the UK Embassies was close and excellent. Projects have been launched together with Ambassadors in Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan, exhibition panels shown in their premises, articles placed in magazines, IBA book launches conducted together etc.

A close cooperation emerged with E.J. Millner-Gulland, Professor in Conservation Science from Imperial College and the Darwin project on saiga antelope research led by her. Also activities have been discussed and information exchanged with project staff of Fauna Flora International in 2005 and 2006 during meetings in Cambridge but also during visits of their staff to Kazakhstan.

Finally the project worked very closely with the Darwin Initiative project “Conserving a flagship species: the critically endangered Sociable Lapwing”. Data from the project has been used to identify IBAs in Kazakhstan (around the Tengiz-Korgalzhyn area, KZ051 and neighbouring sites) but also training workshops have been run jointly.

4 Project Achievements

4.1 Impact: achievement of positive impact on biodiversity, sustainable use or equitable sharing of biodiversity benefits

Given the rather dramatic outline situation in terms of conservation capacity, quality data availability and also consistency of conservation planning in careful words it can be said that the project positively had an impact on all three of the Darwin Initiative's goals.

In terms of *impacts on biodiversity*, the project successfully completed an inventory of finally 219 Important Bird Areas for the Central Asian countries of Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. These sites are of global biodiversity importance, because they are to large extent (up to 80% of the sites) important to IUCN Redlist globally threatened and near threatened species. The inventory has been documented in high quality populations in English and Russian as well as Turkmen language. The site descriptions can also be accessed at <http://www.birdlife.org/datazone/sites/index.html>

For the first time since independence of these countries new data has been collected on the status of these sites. This was a huge financial and logistical undertaking. The inventories have been undertaken with constant support by the national governments and through this they will have an impact on conservation knowledge and planning in these countries. The government of Kazakhstan has already nominated a first IBA to be formally designated as Protected Area by 2010. A number of IBAs which are Protected Areas have been enlarged significantly, see page 44 of the IBA book for Kazakhstan)

On the other hand biodiversity conservation will not work without qualified and motivated conservationists. In this respect the project had a significant and probably outstanding impact in developing the next generation of conservationists in all three project countries given an over-aged science and conservation community which was there at the start of the project. See details in section 4.3.

A third long-term –indirect- impact is the development and growth of two highly professional conservation organisations in Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan, ACBK and UzSPB. Both are key players in conservation already and to a very high extend ensure sustainability of the project's outcomes.

To provide the conditions of *sustainable use* concepts sufficient data on importance and status of biodiversity needs to be available at first place. Based on this, sustainable use concepts can be developed and currently are developed in Turkmenistan in the above (see section 2) mentioned PoWPA project. Other donors or organisations already actively use the IBA books and data for the implementation of sustainable use concepts such as German Development Service GTZ in Turkmenistan (they run a rangeland management project) and others.

The mentioned PoWPA, project which was developed as an outcome of this project undertakes and economic valuation of two Protected Areas (both are IBAs) in Turkmenistan. The main aim of the project is to ensure *equitable sharing* of biodiversity benefits. The work will be completed in autumn 2009 and is expected to be replicated in Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan.

4.2 Outcomes: achievement of the project purpose and outcomes

The project has successfully achieved its purpose, which was to 'to strengthen conservation capacity in Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan through the development of Important Bird Area (IBA) inventories, providing the basis for consistent and coordinated conservation action'. The inventory of 219 IBAs has been completed, published and launched in national and international languages. IBAs are already an integral part of conservation planning in Kazakhstan and soon will be in Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan.

With ACBK in Kazakhstan and UzSPB in Uzbekistan two highly professional and rapidly growing conservation organisations emerged from the project, which will have a long-term impact on conservation in these countries.

The dramatic shortfall of well-qualified conservation scientists in these countries (which is a post-soviet heritage) has been overcome with the development of a network of students clubs at universities. Currently more than 200 students are reached and already actively involved in practical conservation, education and monitoring work and some of them are already playing important roles in international conservation instruments such as the CMS working group on Red-breasted Goose.

The project and in particular the national project partners are increasingly requested for partnership in other conservation or research projects. All have been extremely successful in leveraging additional funds from other donors such as GEF, government of Germany, especially in Kazakhstan. New partners have been brought in, such as Frankfurt Zoological Society and Imperial College of London for steppe and saiga conservation work in Kazakhstan.

4.3 Outputs (and activities)

The project has successfully achieved all its outputs:

0. Project management and coordination structure is established and sustained

The project was successfully and efficiently managed throughout the project period. All outcomes and all key project activities have been delivered. Staff retention was very high, all project staff stayed within the project throughout the whole period and now play crucial and more senior roles in their organisations. Financial and technical reporting has been conducted in time. Comments by the report evaluators have been shared with the team and responded to. The project steering group has met regularly (total of 5 times) to discuss and evaluate project progress and adapt timeplans or activities if it has been necessary. MoUs with all national conservation agencies have been signed which have proven to be very effective and the baseline for further and broader cooperation.

Problems have been encountered on the financial side: The project years fell in a period of rapid inflation in Kazakhstan with annual rates of 20 to 30 percent in 2006, 2007 and 2008 before the economy collapsed. In 2007 the Turkmenistan national currency was devaluated by 37 % in order to bring official and non-official exchange rates together. In addition to this throughout the last project year the UK Pound lost about 30 % of its value against the US Dollar, which is the reference currency in Europe. All this was beyond control of the project and luckily the project was very successful in gaining leverage funds to balance out this effects as well as increased RSPB co-funding helped to overcome these difficulties which could not have been foreseen when the project was planned and submitted in 2004. The outcomes have all been achieved as well as all elementary activities.

1. Existing available data on the status of the region's species and habitats is collected, processed and analysed

When the project was designed in a joint workshop in 2004 it was obvious that only for a few potential IBAs surveys have been conducted recently/existing data was available. For the large proportion of the candidate sites the last surveys have been undertaken decades ago or information has been anecdotal. So parallel to planning large fieldwork operations (which involved many dozens of national and international fieldworkers) existing data on as many sites as possible was analyzed. This was done in a systematic way:

- all available field reports from national and international research works of the past 5 – 10 years have been collected,
- travel reports from group and individual birdwatchers have been collected and assessed as well as all published data as well as
- unpublished data have been collected and assessed.

About 40 % of all candidate sites have been described or partly described by the end of 2006 using already existing data. The site descriptions have been entered as the first data sets into BirdLife International's World Biodiversity Database (WBDB).

As parts of this Outcome the IBA criteria had to be adopted to Central Asia by setting the thresholds needed for the triggering species. This has been done in close cooperation with the BirdLife partner in Russia RBCU who undertook the same task for the IBA inventory in Western Siberia (with which Central Asia shared biogeographical populations). The Central Asia IBA criteria had been compiled in a Russian and English version and disseminated among all project participants. They have been attached to the second annual report submitted to the Darwin Initiative. In parallel to this a handbook was compiled for authors on how to fill in IBA data sheets – again in Russian and English and the handbook was attached to the second annual report to the Darwin Initiative.

2. Existing and potential fieldworkers are introduced to IBA work, trained and equipped

In a region with not more than three-handful field ornithologists the planned field surveys to cover all remaining candidate IBAs have proven to be a challenge. It was clear from the beginning that capacity building and training efforts can not only involve the existing network of field ornithologists it also needs to involve new target groups such as younger students and post-graduates. Purchase of essential equipment (mostly optics and GPS as well as basic outdoor gear), first training workshops and the start of the field surveys have been undertaken already in spring 2006 with a peak in the field season 2006/2007 and the last surveys undertaken in February 2008. Many ornithologists from Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan have first time hold a scope in their hands and used it in the field. All IBAs that have not been identified through existing data (see outcome 1) have been visited at least once during this period, covering different seasons if possible.

A team of more than 100 fieldworkers from Kazakhstan, Russia and Europe, amongst them many volunteers helped with the fieldwork. Please see also the acknowledgment chapter in the IBA books.

As mentioned above it became clear from the beginning that training must involve also the younger generation of potential ornithologists given the severe lack of qualified experts but also given that the existing science community was broadly near to retirement. A model from the Turkish BirdLife Partner Doga Denergi has been copied since Turkey escaped successfully from a similar situation. A representative of the organisation was invited to a project steering committee meeting in September 2006 to present their concept of developing student birdwatching clubs at universities. Leverage funding of the German secondment programme CIM (see www.cimonline.de) worth £34,000 of salary costs for an “Education Coordinator for Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan” as well as £32,000 of equipment costs for the student clubs was received to support this work. By the end of the project, 11 student clubs have been established in all three countries, formally linked as local groups, to the national organisations and reaching about 200 students. Many of these volunteers in 2008 already started to undertake independent survey, conservation, education and monitoring work on IBAs in their countries.

In addition to this it has proven that the partner’s skills in the application of Geographical Information Systems (GIS) was either non-existent (Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan) or down to the IBA coordinators (in Kazakhstan) which had little time capacity for the application. All IBAs should come with GIS maps so ideally in-house staff needed to be trained in GIS application. Again leverage funding made it possible to create capacity within partners rather than sub-contracting the work to an outside organisation. CIM provided co-funding of £54,000 to have a GIS and Geo Data Management Adviser and Trainer being based at UZS/UzSPB in Uzbekistan for two years. He worked with IBA project assistants in Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan on a day-to-day basis and trained them in the application of GIS. A key outcome of this is that all 219 IBAs come with digitized maps. Trainings have also been provided to field workers and the student clubs in simple map design, GPS application etc.

3. New data on the status of the region’s species and habitats is gathered through field work

With the completion of fieldwork by February 2008 and assessment of 219 IBAs has been completed – the first assessment of priority sites for conservation in Central Asia in recent history which was based on a consistent set of criteria and also on new data. Given the pure size of the area and the logistical challenges this is an outstanding success of the project.

Data has constantly been evaluated by RSPB research staff (Geoff Welch, who is also co-author of the inventory publications), IBA data sets were compiled and data inserted into the WBD. Annual inventory reports have been produced to demonstrate project progress to the national stakeholders.

In formal workshops but also through the participation in the fieldwork local rangers, hunting area managers, state rangers, fishermen have been involved and informed about the work. In many cases the local branches of the governmental conservation agencies, hunting and fishing areas supported the fieldwork logistically which made it very cost efficient.

The data revealed with the publication will have an influence in conservation policy not only in the region but also in Europe and globally. New data is now available and accessible (because published in English) for many IUCN Redlist globally threatened and near threatened species. This data is demonstrated in the Annexes 5 of the IBA books in maps, which show the sites which are crucial for these categories and hold significant shares of their global populations.

The data and the books have been requested already by many national and international research and conservation projects to inform their work.

4. An IBA Inventory for each country is compiled, published and disseminated

The inventory of 219 IBAs has been completed in February 2008. All data sets have been inserted into BirdLife International's World Biodiversity Database and approved by the technical staff at the BirdLife Secretariat in Cambridge/UK. The high quality of the data has been acknowledged in written form to the project team and the data approved with very little comments. GIS maps of all sites have been produced and can be found with the site descriptions in the inventory publication. All sites have been chosen for the global biodiversity value (global BirdLife criteria have been applied) so are all of global importance.

We have 121 IBAs identified for Kazakhstan, 48 for Uzbekistan and 50 for Turkmenistan. The total coverage of all 219 sites is almost 21 Million hectares, 14,9 Million in Kazakhstan, 2 Million Hectares in Uzbekistan and 3,4 Million in Turkmenistan. 39 % of all sites are protected –fully or partly- under the current Protected Areas system. Only 4 IBAs (!), which are Protected Areas have a modern management plan. The most important threats are hunting and fishing disturbance and water management issues which lead to a loss of suitable habitat. More than 80 % of the sites hold IUCN Redlist globally threatened and near threatened species, more than 50 % of the sites are wetlands with 27 sites regularly holding more than 100,000 waterbirds. Details can be found in the data analysis chapter of the book publications.

The books can be found as Annex 7 to this report.

The books for Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan have been produced in high-quality Russian and also English language versions, the Turkmenistan book in Russian and Turkmen language. The publications have been launched at the global conference of all BirdLife partners in Buenos Aires/Argentina in September 2008 and subsequently in high-profile national launch events. The value and importance is underlined by a foreword of Achim Steiner who is the Chief Executive of the United Nations Development Programme (UNEP). He was informed at a Central Asian Ministerial Meeting hold in Ashgabat in December 2006 about the project and highly appreciated it.

The books have been launched in the countries (see below, point 6.) with high profile events and disseminated to all key partners within the conservation community in Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan. Key international institutions have been receiving books and are using the data and information such as the AEWA Secretariat, the Secretariat of the Ramsar Convention, UNDP, German Development Service GTZ, the International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) in Central Asia and others. Copies have been send to DEFRA in January 2009 by the RSPB.

Problems faced: A change in national language policy required a change of strategy with the print of the Turkmenistan IBA book. The project partner there, the Ministry of Nature Protection, formally requested a Turkmen language version which was a technically and financially difficult undertaking given that only few qualified translators (from Russian into Turkmen) are available in the country. In addition many (or most) of the technical terms are not commonly used in Turkmen language (which wasn't an actively used language or developed during the soviet

period of the country). The budget only allowed the print of two books for Turkmenistan (with increased RSPB co-funding), so the Russian and Turkmen version was given priority. Also an English version has been compiled but is not printed yet because the financial crisis has hit potential donors as well as the RSPB. Money was finally made available end of July 2009 and the print is being expected for September 2009.

5. Conservation strategies for IBAs in the region are developed and their implementation started

After the completion of the data collection process and the first assessment of the data, a workshop was held with the core project team and partners to the project in the Turkmenistan capital of Ashgabat in December 2007. A precise workplan has been developed, featuring objectives and activities needed to effectively protect IBAs. The national project partners have started with the implementation with some of the activities. For others (e.g. the development of volunteer site care taker networks to conduct conservation, education and monitoring on the ground) they are seeking external funding with the help of the RSPB/ already have received external funding. The outcomes of the workshop can be found in Annex 8.

The recommendations chapter of the IBA books reflects this conservation strategy and provides case studies to be replicated in the other countries or throughout one of the case study countries. Details can be found on page 59 of the Kazakhstani IBA book. The chapter is generic for all three countries.

As it can be seen in the mentioned chapter (the case studies demonstrate it) significant conservation success has been achieved already throughout the implementation of this project.

6. Public awareness of national nature value, its conservation and IBA protection is increased

The IBA concept is a high-quality and highly efficient concept in nature conservation and has been formally approved by national governments worldwide. In the strongest way within the European Union, where IBAs are candidate sites for Protected Areas under the Natura 2000 network. For Central Asia this approach was new and in addition to this – it was a non-governmental one. Therefore, from the beginning a major emphasis of the project was laid on informing a broader public in the project countries but also to form close cooperation with other partners, especially the key governmental conservation agencies.

In all countries high-level project launches have been conducted, in Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan jointly with the UK Embassies. State officials have been invited and the launches in Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan have been attended by the Deputy Ministers for Environment (Kazakhstan), and for Nature Protection (Turkmenistan). The first designated IBAs for Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan have been inaugurated publicly with large events attended by officials, press and in the case of Turkmenistan by the UK Ambassador and the Deputy Minister for Nature Protection.

In Uzbekistan a communication's officer has been employed by RSPB and third party funds who regularly and successfully promoted the project in TV, radio and print media. Films and copies of printed material have been attached to previous annual reports.

The project was presented regularly at conservation related meetings within the countries and closely cooperated with them (such as UNDP/GEF or UNEP/GEF projects).

IBAs and their relevance to nature conservation as well as the partner organisations are an established authority in conservation in the three project countries.

4.4 Project standard measures and publications

See Annex 4 and 5. The project has far exceeded the anticipated standard measures in many areas.

4.5 Technical and Scientific achievements and co-operation

The most relevant biological research outputs undertaken are the completed and published IBA inventories for the Central Asian countries of Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan. The sites have been identified following the Global A criteria which were developed for global application (there are also regional criteria and European Union country criteria) by BirdLife International.

Data has been entered into BirdLife's World Biodiversity Database and assessed and approved by the World Biodiversity Database team at the global Secretariat of BirdLife International. Technical supervision and coordination on behalf of the RSPB has been provided by Geoff Welch who worked for 12 months for the project as technical adviser and trainer. All national project coordinators had a scientific background and already before the start of the project were among the leading conservationists on their countries. The all work in close teamwork with Geoff Welch and the members of BirdLife's World Biodiversity Database team, which is led by Dr. Lincoln Fishpool.

The rationale and methodological approach of the project can be found in the chapters "Introduction" and "Methods" of the IBA books. These chapters are generic and the same in all three books.

4.6 Capacity building

All of the host country partners have increased their capacity for biodiversity conservation. The direct project partners have been developing in conservation market-leaders in their respective countries within a few years only. ACBK of Kazakhstan has just been registered officially in 2004, had four staff when this Darwin project was approved and by now is a project partner to UNDP and other international organisations such as Frankfurt Zoological Society (FZS), German Development Service GTZ, the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation FAO, Wetlands International. This cooperation and new highly efficient conservation projects emerged as a by-product of the Darwin project because ACBK has proven its capacity and availability to plan and implement high quality conservation work.

This is the case also in Uzbekistan where UzSPB cooperates closely with UNDP and FAO in the development of new conservation initiatives to effectively protect IBAs. The Turkmenistan IBA project is a partner in a UNDP/GEF application on the development of the national Protected Areas system. All these are indicators of increased capacity gained through this project enabling the partners to professionally implement conservation activities.

ACBK and UzSPB have applied to become BirdLife Partners. ACBK has been approached by IUCN to become a member.

An outstanding capacity building success of the project is the student club work which has changed the conservation scene in the three countries. See the section 4.3 above.

The RSPB has increased its own capacity to be an effective project partner by constantly adopting the approach and the relationship to/with the project partners throughout their stages of development. While at the beginning the role of the RSPB was a quite dominant one in planning and the facilitation of decision making within the project partners. This approach had to change and changed throughout the project implementation period and affected the way the RSPB cooperated with the partners and also beyond the Central Asian region.

4.7 Sustainability and Legacy

Apart from the research and conservation outputs the project had a second important pillar which is specific to projects which are implemented under the BirdLife International partnership: increasing the technical and managerial capacity of non-governmental, national conservation organisations. This highly ensures sustainability to any project outcome because somebody will care about the outcomes beyond a certain project period.

ACBK of Kazakhstan has grown from 4 staff end of 2004 to 27 by mid 2009. The contribution to core-funding they get by RSPB was 100 % in 2004 and is down to 30 % by 2009. ACBK is partner in many large-scale international conservation projects (see www.acbk.kz). The Darwin project coordinator Sergey Sklyarenko is now Conservation Director of the organisation. ACBK

has made the conservation of IBAs as part of their 5 years strategy and will strive to get IBAs legally protected in Kazakhstan. The first IBAs (Sary-Kopa KZ041) will be designated with a higher protection status by the government of Kazakhstan after ACBK has prepared all the required technical background documents in 2008 and 2009. ACBK currently lobbies to include further IBAs in the next Protected Areas development plan of the government of Kazakhstan for the years 2009 to 2013.

In addition to this ACBK already successfully tested and applies the concept of multi-stakeholders Site Action Plans to improve the protection status of currently unprotected IBAs (such sites which are e.g. used as fishing farms and also hunting areas). This is currently planned to be replicated in Uzbekistan, based on ACBK's experience.

The introduction of an online system to store and share field records called avica.kz and avica.uz promotes volunteer monitoring activities by local IBA caretakers. The system has been introduced in spring 2009 and is increasingly used by volunteers – mostly from the student club networks.

All project staff took over important functions in their organisations or have been employed in long-term or even more senior positions by the national project partners. For example the (then) student Albert Salemgareev who produced all IBA maps for Kazakhstan under a short-term contract (at that time he was already head of ACBK's Kustanai Student Birdwatching Club) is now the project assistant for ACBK's Altyn Dala Conservation Initiative (see project booklet in Annexes).

5 Lessons learned, dissemination and communication

The main reason for the success of the project was been the emphasis of partner involvement from the very beginning of the planning process until the submission of the application. This made the project workplan a realistic and well thought through one. The project became a priority for all three project partners and in all three countries it was leading to other conservation and research activities and projects – to the largest extend in Kazakhstan.

The close and constructive cooperation with the key governmental conservation agencies, which was formalized in MoUs ensured (i) a very smooth project implementation, since the work was supported with logistics and also necessary permissions but also (ii) significant ownership within the governmental agencies of the IBA concept which has led to immediate conservation successes such as in Kazakhstan with the expected designation of the first IBA as Protected Area in 2010.

To increase visibility in the country but also in order to contribute to conservation activities already throughout the implementation of this Darwin Initiative, project partners cooperated with UNDP/GEF projects, mainly in Kazakhstan. This provided the project with additional authority during the time until the final output, the IBA books, is actually ready and in hands. The provided data and technical advice and cooperated e.g. with the development of management plans.

It is visible in this report and also the IBA books, the biodiversity value of the three countries Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan is equal as well as the threats to IBAs are comparable. Even if we geographically or politically speak of the 5 Central Asian countries as a region, the situation in the countries differ largely. This still means that activities (e.g. in the IBA strategy document) can be the same or similar to protect IBAs. The approaches how they are implemented have to differ in each country though. The government in Kazakhstan is more open to work with national/international non-governmental organisations than the neighbouring countries. Also governmental agencies in the three countries work with different speeds but also with different hurdles in their conservation work, this is reflected in the success stories told in the sections above, which have an overweight in Kazakhstan. Also the weight of outputs reflect the different political situation in the project countries: while the existence and operation of ACBK as an NGO is not a big deal in Kazakhstan, it was a huge success of the project to support the registration of a non-governmental conservation NGO in Uzbekistan which will ensure sustainability to the project in that country.

An outstanding success that can be replicated in many countries with a similar outset (e.g. other former Soviet Union countries) is the student training work as it is outlined under section 4.3. RSPB and the national partners already get requests from other BirdLife Partners or from other regions in the world on the details of that work.

Dissemination of the IBA books and achievements of the project continues after the end of the project. A number of articles have been written or published in conservation related journals to inform about the achievements. They have been presented at the BirdLife Global Partnership Conference in Buenos Aires in September 2009, in the latest Darwin newsletter and will constantly be done to other audiences.

5.1 Darwin identity

The Darwin logo has been added to all project documentations and other outlets. Throughout all press conferences and press releases the Darwin Initiative was mentioned as the main project donor.

The close cooperation with UK Embassies especially in Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan ensured high profile project launches with a lot of PR for the Darwin Initiative but also the UK Embassies. In both countries the Ambassadors (Paul Brummell in Kazakhstan and Peter Butcher in Turkmenistan) had a high personal interest in the project and both visited project sites. The project launch in Kazakhstan in early 2006 was linked to a joint press conference of Embassy, RSPB and ACBK where the role of the Darwin Initiative was highlighted several times (given that also a project on Sociable Lapwing was funded almost the same time). This led to a clear distinction of the “Darwin Initiative” support.

By many project staff and also partners the project was called “the Darwin project” rather than the “IBA project”. It was distinct since it comprised such a central and important and also distinct work.

Within the country all key staff of the national partner organisations are familiar with the Darwin Initiative as well as the main contact points in the national governmental agencies. However this is probably not replicated amongst other stakeholders and local partners. The high profile the Darwin Initiative had in the beginning has changed inevitably throughout the project period as local ownership within the project partners but even more important the national governments grew. On the other hand this contributed largely to the success of the project.

6 Monitoring and evaluation

There were no major changes to the project design during the implementation. Some activities have been combined to ensure cost-efficiency (e.g. the conservation strategy recommendations are now part of the IBA books rather than a separate publication).

Monitoring and evaluation activities (e.g. data collection) were included in the annual project workplans and a result table constructed to collect information on project outputs/standard measures as they were achieved (e.g. publications, press releases, posters, training etc.)

Some of the indicators should have been chosen slightly differently to fully reflect the project's outcomes. Please see assessment and comments at Annex 1.

There were a number of factors beyond the project's control such as inflation, sudden currency denomination and sudden exchange rate drops of the UK Pound, which potentially could have affected the project but have been balanced out. See details above under section 4.3

The logframe and the indicators set there have been an essential tool to review project progress. This was systematically done at the annual steering committee meetings. There was no external evaluation of the project and this was not foreseen at the beginning. But an internal assessment and evaluation has been conducted after the finalisation of the main outcomes: the IBA inventory and their launch in Buenos Aires in September 2008. All partners and key project staff have been pleased with the project implementation. Slight concerns have been expressed related to the extension of this Darwin Initiative project, which was requested to finalize the Turkmen language version of the Turkmenistan IBA book and if this would harm the project's overall success.

6.1 Actions taken in response to annual report reviews

All reviews to the annual reports have been discussed with the partners. The most important comment of the evaluation of the first annual report was the issue of an exit strategy and sustainability. In section 4.7 it is described how the project has addressed this issue – successfully.

7 Finance and administration

7.1 Project expenditure

Expenditure	Budget (£)		Expenditure (£)					Variance
	Original	Final	Y1 (05/06)	Y2 (06/07)	Y3 (07/08)	Y4 (08/09)	Total	(%)
Rent, rates								
Office costs								
Travel and subsistence								
Printing								
Conferences								
Capital items								
Others								
<i>staff costs</i>								
Total								

The following amendments from the original budget were implemented during the course of the project:

- Office costs budget was increased by £3,000 to cover excess spend in this category during FY 06/07. Approved by Darwin.
- Rent and rates costs budget was increased by £3,000 to cover excess spend in this category during FY 06/07. Approved by Darwin.
- Printing costs budget was increased by £3,000 to cover excess spend in this category during FY 06/07. Approved by Darwin.

- Travel and subsistence budget costs budget was decreased by £9,000 to cover excess spend in the three above mentioned categories during FY 06/07. Approved by Darwin.
- Printing costs budget was increased by £3,003 to cover excess spend in this category during FY 08/09. Approved by Darwin.
- Travel and subsistence budget costs budget was decreased by £3,003 to cover excess spend in the above mentioned categories during FY 08/09. Approved by Darwin.

Variations in expenditure of +/- 10% of budget were observed on the following categories:

Conferences (under budget). This was due to a reporting mistake by the project manager in budget year 07/08 where expenses on training by mistake have been claimed under other budget lines (travel and subsistence as well as salaries). In order to not exceed these budget lines higher than 10% the amount of £1,784.15 has not been claimed.

Others (100% under budget). This budget line was very small (£1,500) and has been used to cover excess spending on other budget lines.

The Annexes will contain a list of all capital items purchased and information of the current status. All capital items stay with the national partners and are actively used by them.

7.2 Additional funds or in-kind contributions secured

The project was very successful in leveraging a total of **£417,437** additional cash funding to support activities:

- £XXXX was raised by the German governmental secondment programme CIM (www.cimonline.de) to co-fund the project managers secondment to ACBK in Kazakhstan for all four project years.
- £XXXX were again raised from CIM for the salary costs for an “Education Coordinator for Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan” as well as £32,000 of equipment costs for the student clubs was received to support this work.
- CIM provided co-funding of £XXXX to have a GIS and Geo Data Management Adviser and Trainer being based at UZS/UzSPB in Uzbekistan for two years. He worked with IBA project assistants in Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan on a day-to-day basis and trained them in the application of GIS.
- RSPB has contributed £XXX to oversee project management, assist with the development of further applications, support the project manager.
- BirdLife International has contributed £XXXX for IBA work advise, provided by Lincoln Fishpool plus £2,430 travel costs for visits to the region.
- The GEF/UNDP Small Grants Programme of Kazakhstan has provided ACBK with a grant of £25,000 to support the student training and IBA site conservation and monitoring work.
- The Rufford Small Grants Programme has provided ACBK and UzSPB with a grant of £5,000 to support the student training and IBA site conservation and monitoring work.
- Wetlands International provided of £22,000 to ACBK for capacity building and training activities in Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan (as well as the Caucasus and Russia). See www.wingsoverwetlands.org for details.
- RSPB provided an additional amount of £55,000 to cover the printing costs of the English language version of the IBA books for all three countries and also the Turkmen language version of Turkmenistan IBA book. With this money also travel costs to the international book launch in Buenos Aires were covered as well as additional fieldwork costs.
- The UK Embassy in Kazakhstan provided £1,000 for co-funding the IBA book launch in Astana.

7.3 Value of DI funding

The following outcomes of the project would have not been achieved without the support from the Darwin Initiative:

- Production of three high-quality and comprehensive IBA inventories for the Central Asian countries of Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan in two language volumes. 219 IBAs have been identified as priority sites for conservation, covering an area of more than 20 Million hectares (which is almost the size of Britain).
- GIS maps of all 219 IBAs which will enhance the value of the data for national conservation planning
- The development of conservation strategies for the protection of these IBAs in the three project countries
- Development of two highly professional and growing, membership based and democratic non-governmental conservation organisations in Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan
- Development of a new generation of well-qualified, young, volunteer and motivated conservationists organised in 11 student birdwatching/conservation clubs at universities involving more than 200 people.
- Increased staff capacity at all project partners but also stakeholders to the project
- Equip a large amount of fieldworkers in the region with up-to-date equipment (such as scopes, binoculars, GPS devices, fieldguides). For many of these researchers it was the first time that they used high quality optics or even a scope.

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements November 2005 - April 2009	Actions required/planned for next period
<p>Goal: To draw on expertise relevant to biodiversity from within the United Kingdom to work with local partners in countries rich in biodiversity but constrained in resources to achieve</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The conservation of biological diversity, • The sustainable use of its components, and • The fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilisation of genetic resources 		<p>Please see the assessment under section 4.2. The project directly contributed to “the conservation of biological diversity” and laid the grounds for the promotion of “sustainable use” and “benefit sharing” concepts. Both of the latter are an integral part of a GEF funded application for Turkmenistan of which outcomes will be replicated in Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan.</p>	
<p>Purpose To strengthen conservation capacity in Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan through the development of Important Bird Area (IBA) inventories, providing the basis for consistent and coordinated conservation action</p>	<p>IBAs acknowledged in each of the three countries National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan</p>	<p>All outputs have been achieved and the purpose has fully been achieved. A detailed description can be found in section 4.3.</p> <p>The choice of the indicator has not been the most appropriate. It is actually more important (i) to have IBAs legally protected and formally acknowledged through national protected areas development plans. This is the case in Kazakhstan and about to be the case in Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan. Regarding (ii) “strengthened capacity” the fulfilment of the project partners for international partnership criteria (such as BirdLife and IUCN) would have been a better indicator. For details, see 4.6.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partners have started to implement the low-cost activities of the IBA conservation strategy (see Annex) and continue to do fundraising. • Lobby activities continue in all three countries to legally protect many IBAs. • Partners (in Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan) also started to develop multi-stakeholder site action plans for currently unprotected IBAs and are supported by the RSPB. • Partner development continues with ACBK and UzSPB now having designated staff to do membership and network development work.

Output 1. Project management and coordination structure is established and sustained	Expected outputs are delivered according to project plan	All outcomes and all key activities have been implemented.
1.1	Implement project coordination structure in all three countries and the UK, establish project steering group (comprising project partner's project coordinators and their line managers). Identify and induct national project coordinators (1 per country).	National project coordinators have been employed at national project partners. Steering Group was established.
1.2	Activity 1.2, etc Recruit and induct further staff (project accountants), allocate additional office space, purchase technical equipment and necessary project literature and scientific books.	Accountants and IBA project assistants have been employed. Equipment (mostly basic hardware such as office furniture, computers, printers), Literature (IBA books from other countries, field training manuals etc.).
1.3	Hold regular co-ordination meetings of the project steering groups (one per year). Last meeting will be a project evaluation meeting.	The steering group formally meet 5 times throughout the project period with a final evaluation meeting of RSPB and national project partner's coordinators in September 2008.
1.4	Prepare and sign MoU's with the relevant Ministries in all three project countries (already existing with Turkmenistan)	MoUs have been signed in all three countries. The MoU with the Turkmenistan Ministry of Nature Protection has been renewed in 2007 to in cooperate IBA conservation commitments.
1.5	Keep regular contact with international technical IBA advisers (BirdLife Secretariat).	Has been kept regularly. Lincoln Fishpool (Global IBA Coordinator at BirdLife) has been invited to project meetings in Central Asia. During an induction visit of all staff to BirdLife in 2006 first personal contacts have been established. See also acknowledgment chapter in IBA books.
1.6	Edit a newsletter (twice a year) with relevant project and technical information,	Due to much higher than anticipated print costs this was cut down to 1 newsletter per country (with print runs between 500 for Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan) and 1000 for Kazakhstan. Copies have been attached to previous annual reports. Newsletters have been produced in Russian and bilingual in Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan (Uzbek/Turkmen and Russian).
1.7	Keep regular contact (2 meetings a year including national and international project coordination) with relevant governmental and non-governmental bodies in each project country. Also, keep regular contact with related projects.	Contacts with governments, national offices and project of the United Nations Development Programme have been regular. Representatives have been invited to all key project events and attended.

1.8	Conduct training on project development methods and fundraising for key project participants to prepare the basis of additional and further (practical) project implementation for the conservation phase.	2 days formal training workshop for key project staff of all three countries held in Ashgabat in December 2007. Individual trainings by RSPB's project coordinator followed and have led to successful (and unsuccessful) applications.
1.9	Develop and submit joint projects (small and medium-scale) to potential fundraisers. Undertake Lobbying activities to increase fundraising success.	A large amount of successful applications submitted related to co-funding leverage and increase project potential. See details under 7.2.
1.10	Compile interim and final technical and financial project reports.	All reports compiled and submitted in time.
Output 2.	Existing available data on the status of the region's species and habitats is collected, processed and analysed	$\geq 50\%$ of IBA shadow list dataset compiled from existing data
2.1	Run database coordination by national project coordinators, inducted and trained by UK Project Manager.	The percentage has been slightly approximately 40 percent. Sharp determination not possible because some of the site descriptions have been compiled by using existing data and data from fieldwork.
2.2	Adapt IBA criteria and thresholds to each project country.	5-days workshop run by technical adviser Geoff Welch at RSPB in end of January/beginning of February 2007.
2.3	Collate IBA data application guidance in a handbook in national languages and disseminate among all relevant field staff and conservationists.	Completed by May 2006 and attached to first annual report.
2.4	Compile a list of potential fieldworkers (researchers, conservationists and students) for each project country.	Guidebooks produced in English and Russian
2.5	Induct field staff to IBA programme details and train in standardized data sampling. At this 2-days workshop, an IBA shadow list will be compiled of sites to be checked to qualify as IBAs.	Lists compiled by April 2006.
		Workshops held (Kazakhstan September 2006, Uzbekistan March 2006 and Turkmenistan March 2006). Candidate site lists developed and included in annual IBA progress reports (in Russian)

<p>2.6 Collect all existing data in country and abroad and assess quality. Process and analyse data and insert into database.</p>	<p>Conducted. Details see 4.3.</p>
<p>Output 3. Existing and potential fieldworkers are introduced to IBA work, trained and equipped</p>	<p>Number of trained IBA fieldworkers in region increased ≥ 70 by t⁴</p> <p>In each country fieldworkers (15 in Kazakhstan, 10 in Uzbekistan and 8 in Turkmenistan) have been formally trained in methods and also equipment application. More than 150 students have been involved in training activities part of this project and funded, but also co-funded by other donors.</p>
<p>3.1 Train field staff in ornithological field methods required for IBA fieldwork (by UK research staff). Two 10-days workshop, one during wintering/migration season and one during breeding season.</p>	<p>The training approach had to be slightly adapted. We had 2-days of formal introduction meetings to the IBA approach and the methods required for the fieldwork in each country for the more experienced fieldworkers. In addition to this, national IBA coordinators and also experienced international staff accompanied fieldwork and applied training in the field. This has proven to be most efficient. In addition to this, students and postgraduates have undergone a series of trainings in Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan (each of them a 4-days theory training and then several weeks in total in fieldwork training by RSPB staff), in Turkmenistan these trainings have been conducted by Wetlands International staff and the national IBA Project Coordinator.</p>
<p>3.2 Purchase necessary technical and methodological literature for fieldworkers (field guides, handbooks, methodological books).</p>	<p>Fieldguides and fieldwork handbooks purchased and distributed to fieldworkers</p>
<p>3.3 Provide fieldworkers with adequate optics (binoculars and scopes).</p>	<p>Binoculars, scopes and GPS devices purchased for fieldworkers.</p>
<p>3.4 Compile and disseminate methodological guidance in Russian and national language (IBA criteria, data-sampling, field identification and census methods) for fieldworkers and other participants (interested students, volunteers etc.).</p>	<p>Compiled in Russian and English and disseminated to all partners.</p>
<p>3.5 Compile a basic field guide in Russian and national languages for Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan (already existing for Kazakhstan).</p>	<p>Fieldguide only compiled in Kazakhstan but used and applicable also in Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan. When this application was written the book for Kazakhstan was to be expected sponsored by third party money which then has proven not to be sufficient for the copyright purchase of all bird plates. This has been then funded by the Darwin project and the book for Kazakhstan completed and disseminated throughout the project countries.</p>

		See Annex.
Output 4. New data on the status of the region's species and habitats is gathered through field work	Comprehensive IBA dataset, augmented with new field data finalised by t ³	IBA inventory completed and published in September 2008.
4.1 Nominate regional and local IBA coordinators (from trained staff, see 3.2 and 3.3) and induct to fieldwork implementation.		More than 10 fieldworkers/field assistants have been employed throughout the project period and many of them still act as local and regional IBA coordinators and many of them are tutors to the established Student Birdwatching Clubs.
4.2 Prepare a fieldwork plan by national project coordinator and regional coordinators for potential IBAs following the shadow list (developed in previous workshop, see 2.5) for the full inventory.		Fieldwork plan was developed in all three countries by May 2006.
4.3 Carry out fieldwork in potential IBAs (approximate gaps identified in 2004 Almaty workshop: KZ 52 sites, UZ 30 sites, TM 25 sites). Most of the sites will be surveyed more than once during project period.		Gaps have been larger, see final inventory book. Fieldwork carried out from spring 2005 to February 2008.
4.4 Fieldworkers to introduce hunters, rangers, and herdsmen to IBA programme by providing basic information, advice and necessary technical and methodological guidance and include into fieldwork where appropriate.		Was integral part of the fieldwork programme. In many cases local hunting/fishing site managers and protected areas staff have been actively involved in fieldwork or have been supporting it logistically. See also acknowledgments chapter in IBA books.
4.5 Send field data to national project coordinator (and copied to the regional coordinators) to be assessed, processed and analysed.		Completed.
4.6 Constantly actualise IBA list and publish interim update reports.		Completed and two interim reports compiled.
4.7 Keep regular contact to international technical advisers at BirdLife Secretariat		Has been kept regularly. Lincoln Fishpool (Global IBA Coordinator at BirdLife) has been invited to project meetings in Central Asia. During an induction visit of all staff to BirdLife in 2006 first personal contacts have been established. See also acknowledgment chapter in IBA books.
Output 5. An IBA Inventory for each country is compiled, published	Inventory sent to key decision makers by mid t ³	Completed with the official launch of the book jointly with state conservation agencies and other key stakeholders. See photos in Annex.

and disseminated		
5.1 Build up Geographical Information System (GIS) and purchase national GIS data, conduct GIS application training at UK facility		Training provided by CIM seconded staff in the region to in-house staff of partners. See details under chapter 4.3.
5.2 Digitise IBA boundaries and link database and GIS to visualize inventory results		IBA boundaries and background maps digitized and completed by May 2008. See IBA books in Annex.
5.3 Process IBA data, analyse and compile inventory. Publish and disseminate IBA inventory for each country in year 3.		IBA book produced in two volumes for each country. See Annex.
5.4 Conduct a book launch in all three project countries inviting relevant stakeholders and press.		IBA book launches conducted in all three countries.
Output 6. Conservation strategies for IBAs in the region are developed and their implementation started	IBA Action Plans adopted by all governments by t ⁴	The strategies are an integral part of the IBA books (see chapter recommendations) and the IBA books and the concept of IBA conservation are an integral part of MoUs between RSPB or national project partners and the state conservation authorities.
6.1 At final stage of IBA inventory compilation, start to prepare and consult with key project stakeholders (Ministries, local governmental bodies, scientific institutions and NGOs) at a workshop a national conservation strategy for the key IBAs identified.		IBA conservation strategy workshop held in December 07 in Ashgabat/Turkmenistan and it was agreed by participants (after consultations with other national stakeholders) to keep it as a regional strategy since the problems which need to be tackled are most similar in all three countries.
6.2 Compile conservation strategy and publish it as part of the IBA inventory,		Completed and part of the IBA books, chapter recommendations.
6.3 Discuss and develop an action plan for the implementation of the conservation strategy with key conservation stakeholders to protect key IBAs as Protected Areas, by developing a lobby plan seek adoption to the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP).		IBAs have been mentioned first time in the national reports to the CBD in Turkmenistan and Kazakhstan. Governments are still reluctant to change NBSAPs so it was been chosen to make the issue of IBA conservation an integral part of the MoUs between the project and the key state conservation agencies, which has proven to be more efficient. See first PA designation of IBAs in Kazakhstan expected by 2010.
6.4 Present this National IBA Conservation Action Plan to key stakeholders and plan implementation at national workshop.		Presentation of the strategy was part of the IBA book launches.

<p>Output 7. Public awareness of national nature value, its conservation and IBA protection is increased</p>	<p>Number of local partner groups increased to 30 by t⁴</p>	<p>Currently there is a network of 7 local groups in Kazakhstan (0 in y1), 5 in Uzbekistan (0 in y1) and 2 in Turkmenistan (0 in y1). This makes a total of 14 local groups with an average size of 5 to 15 volunteers. In addition to this there is a network of about 20 site care-takers which currently are individuals but can be the nucleus for local group development.</p>
<p>7.1 Conduct a national 1-day project launch in all three project countries inviting key project stakeholders and press</p>		<p>Project launch conducted in all three countries.</p>
<p>7.2 Inform local population close to IBAs already identified about key conservation issues in their regions (through press releases, public talks by regional coordinators).</p>		<p>Regular press work conducted in all three countries and press conferences after events (project launch, designation of first IBA, IBA book launch) and also public talks and presentations conducted when fieldworkers were in the regions.</p>
<p>7.3 Inform on nationwide scale on IBA conservation issues (interim project press conferences, information posters etc.).</p>		<p>Regular press work conducted in all three countries and press conferences after events (project launch, designation of first IBA, IBA book launch).</p>
<p>7.4 Develop and discuss during a workshop a concept with relevant stakeholders (cultural and religious groups) how national traditions can promote nature conservation for IBAs.</p>		<p>This workshop couldn't be conducted because of budget/time constraints but in all three countries the national coordinators spoke formally with representatives of cultural and religious groups to assess the value of some of the sites and approaches for the protection. Some of the outcomes of these meetings are reflected in the "conservation issues" sections in the IBA site description sections of the IBA books.</p>

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
<p>Goal: To draw on expertise relevant to biodiversity from within the United Kingdom to work with local partners in countries rich in biodiversity but poor in resources to achieve</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the conservation of biological diversity, • the sustainable use of its components, and • the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the utilisation of genetic resources 			
<p>Purpose To strengthen conservation capacity in Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan through the development of Important Bird Area (IBA) inventories, providing the basis for consistent and coordinated conservation action</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IBAs acknowledged in each of the three countries • National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The region's political and social environment remain stable to ensure continued IBA conservation efforts
<p>Outputs</p>			
<p>Project management and coordination structure is established and sustained</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expected outputs are delivered according to project plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project reports 	
<p>Existing available data on the status of the region's species and habitats is collected, processed and analysed</p> <p>Existing and potential fieldworkers are introduced to IBA work, trained and equipped</p> <p>New data on the status of the region's species and habitats is gathered through field work</p> <p>An IBA Inventory for each country is compiled, published and disseminated</p> <p>Conservation strategies for IBAs in the region are developed and their implementation started</p> <p>Public awareness of national nature value, its conservation and IBA protection is increased</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • $\geq 50\%$ of IBA shadow list dataset compiled from existing data • Number of trained IBA fieldworkers in region increased ≥ 70 by t^4 • Comprehensive IBA dataset, augmented with new field data finalised by t^3 • Inventory sent to key decision makers by mid t^3 • IBA Action Plans adopted by all governments by t^4 • Number of local partner groups increased to 30 by t^4 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IBA database records • Training reports • IBA database records • Acknowledgement letters • Governmental announcements • Project partners membership records 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Turnover of trained project staff is minimal • Governments remain open to collaboration

Activities	Activity Milestones (Summary of Project Implementation Timetable)
Project management and coordination structure is established and sustained	Yr 1: Project steering group established; Key staff employed and inducted; project equipment, and other resources purchased; Project development and fundraising training provided. Yr 1-3: Steering group meetings held; Regular newsletter produced.
Existing available data on the status of the region's species and habitats is collected, processed and analysed	Yr 1: Bespoke IBA database created; IBA criteria and thresholds adapted for region; IBA data application guidance disseminated; Project staff trained in standardised data sampling; IBA shadow list compiled; Yr 1-3 Existing regional conservation status data collated, processed, analysed and stored in IBA database.
Existing and potential fieldworkers are introduced to IBA work, trained and equipped	Yr 1: 75 fieldworkers trained in ornithological methods; Fieldwork equipment and resources purchased; Fieldwork methodology guide and basic field guide compiled and translated with 4400 copies disseminated to project staff and other participants.
New data on the status of the region's species and habitats is gathered through field work	Yr 1: 75 fieldworkers, including local & regional IBA Coordinators inducted in fieldwork implementation; Fieldwork plan prepared. Yr 1-2: >100 Potential IBA sites surveyed and data processed.
An IBA Inventory for each country is compiled, published and disseminated	Yr 2: GIS training provided for 3 staff. Yr 2-3 IBA boundaries digitised and linked to IBA database through GIS; Inventory compiled. Yr 3: IBA inventory published, publicised and 4000 copies disseminated
Conservation strategies for IBAs in the region are developed and their implementation started	Yr 3: 9 National workshops held to identify and document conservation strategy within identified IBAs; National IBA Action Plan developed and its adoption to National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan and subsequent implementation sought.
Public awareness of national nature value, its conservation and IBA protection is increased	Yr 1: project launch held in all 3 countries. Yr 1-3: local and regional population kept informed through c.36 meetings, c.54 press releases, etc. Yr 3: Workshop held to discuss how local traditions can help promote nature conservation in IBAs

Annex 3 Project Contribution to articles under the CBD

Project Contribution to Articles under the Convention on Biological Diversity

Article No./Title	Project %	Article Description
6. General Measures for Conservation & Sustainable Use	20 %	Develop national strategies that integrate conservation and sustainable use.
7. Identification and Monitoring	20 %	Identify and monitor components of biological diversity, particularly those requiring urgent conservation; identify processes and activities that have adverse effects; maintain and organise relevant data.
8. In-situ Conservation	30 %	Establish systems of protected areas with guidelines for selection and management; regulate biological resources, promote protection of habitats; manage areas adjacent to protected areas; restore degraded ecosystems and recovery of threatened species; control risks associated with organisms modified by biotechnology; control spread of alien species; ensure compatibility between sustainable use of resources and their conservation; protect traditional lifestyles and knowledge on biological resources.
9. Ex-situ Conservation		Adopt ex-situ measures to conserve and research components of biological diversity, preferably in country of origin; facilitate recovery of threatened species; regulate and manage collection of biological resources.
10. Sustainable Use of Components of Biological Diversity	5 %	Integrate conservation and sustainable use in national decisions; protect sustainable customary uses; support local populations to implement remedial actions; encourage co-operation between governments and the private sector.
11. Incentive Measures		Establish economically and socially sound incentives to conserve and promote sustainable use of biological diversity.
12. Research and Training	20 %	Establish programmes for scientific and technical education in identification, conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity components; promote research contributing to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, particularly in developing countries (in accordance with SBSTTA recommendations).
13. Public Education and Awareness	5 %	Promote understanding of the importance of measures to conserve biological diversity and propagate these measures through the media; cooperate with other states and organisations in developing awareness programmes.
14. Impact Assessment and Minimizing Adverse Impacts		Introduce EIAs of appropriate projects and allow public participation; take into account environmental consequences of policies; exchange information on impacts beyond State boundaries and work to reduce hazards; promote emergency responses to hazards; examine mechanisms for re-dress of international damage.
15. Access to Genetic Resources		Whilst governments control access to their genetic resources they should also facilitate access of environmentally sound uses on mutually agreed terms; scientific research based on

Article No./Title	Project %	Article Description
		a country's genetic resources should ensure sharing in a fair and equitable way of results and benefits.
16. Access to and Transfer of Technology		Countries shall ensure access to technologies relevant to conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity under fair and most favourable terms to the source countries (subject to patents and intellectual property rights) and ensure the private sector facilitates such assess and joint development of technologies.
17. Exchange of Information		Countries shall facilitate information exchange and repatriation including technical scientific and socio-economic research, information on training and surveying programmes and local knowledge
19. Bio-safety Protocol		Countries shall take legislative, administrative or policy measures to provide for the effective participation in biotechnological research activities and to ensure all practicable measures to promote and advance priority access on a fair and equitable basis, especially where they provide the genetic resources for such research.
Other Contribution		Smaller contributions (eg of 5%) or less should be summed and included here.
Total %	100%	Check % = total 100

Annex 4 Standard Measures

Code	Description	Totals (plus additional detail as required)
Training Measures		
3	Number of other qualifications obtained	1 diploma thesis out of 0 completed by students in Kazakhstan as part of IBA project. at Petropavlosk university,
4a	Number of undergraduate students receiving training	Total of 102 out of 30 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kaz: 55 undergraduate students participants • Uzbekistan: 35 undergraduate students participants Turkmenistan: 12
4b	Number of training weeks provided to undergraduate students	6,4 out of 9 training weeks provided to students Kaz: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4-days training in March 2006, Almaty, Paul Donald RSPB, Cenus Methods • 5 days, September 2006, Kustanai region, field training, Geoff Welch, RSPB, • 5 days summer camp training, in July 2007, Korgalzyhn, • 4 days census methods training, March 2008, Korgalzhyn, Paul Donald, RSPB • 5 days summer camp training in Korgalzyhn, in July 2008, Johannes Kamp/Maxim Koshkin/Stuart Butchard from BirdLife International Uzb: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4-days training in March 2006, Almaty, Paul Donald RSPB, Cenus Methods • 5-days field training, Chimgan, July 2007, Geoff Welch, RSPB • 5-days field training, Chimgan, July 2008, Geoff

Code	Description	Totals (plus additional detail as required)
		<p>Welch, RSPB</p> <p>Tur:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4-days training in Turkmenbashi bay in September 2007, Eldar Rustamov • 4-days training in Turkmenbashi bay in September 2008, Eldar Rustamov
4c	Number of postgraduate students receiving training (not 1-3 above)	<p>Total of 26 out of 0</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kaz: 15 undergraduate students participants • Uzbekistan: 10 undergraduate students participants • Turkmenistan: 1
4d	Number of training weeks for postgraduate students	<p>5,2 out of 0 training weeks provided to students</p> <p>Kaz:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4-days training in March 2006, Almaty, Paul Donald RSPB, Cenus Methods • 5 days, September 2006, Kustanai region, field training, Geoff Welch, RSPB, • 5 days summer camp training, in July 2007, Korgalzyhn, • 4 days census methods training, March 2008, Korgalzhyn, Paul Donald, RSPB • 5 days summer camp training in Korgalzyhn, in July 2008, Johannes Kamp/Maxim Koshkin/Stuart Butchard from BirdLife International <p>Uzb:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4-days training in March 2006, Almaty, Paul Donald RSPB, Cenus Methods • 5-days field training, Chimgan, July 2007, Geoff Welch, RSPB • 5-days field training,

Code	Description	Totals (plus additional detail as required)
		Chimgan, July 2008, Geoff Welch, RSPB
6b	Number of training weeks not leading to formal qualification	<p>8,3 weeks out of 0 weeks completed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Turkmenistan IBA assistant and Uzbekistan IBA coordinator received 1 week database training in the UK, January/February 2007 • IBA assistants received 6 weeks each of GIS application data, Tashkent Mai 2007 and Kustanai September 2008, Tashkent March 2009 (advanced applications) • Project coordinators and assistants received 2 days of fundraising training, December 07, Ashgabat • 3-days formal IBA data collection and field methodology training in each country, spring 2006, all countries
7	Number of types of training materials produced for use by host country(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 IBA criteria handbook in Russian and English • 1 Manual for fieldworkers in Russian and English • 1 Monitoring protocol for student birdwatching clubs (in Russian) • 3 out of 3 IBA project posters to promote the IBA concepts in the countries (by July 2006)
Research Measures		
8	Number of weeks spent by UK project staff on project work in host country(s)	<p>435 out of 23 in total:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Michael Brombacher, Project Manager, seconded to ACBK for 4 years = 208 out of 8 weeks • Geoff Welch, Technical Adviser, 10 weeks out of 6 weeks • Alexander Salokha, International Field Researcher, contracted, 6 weeks out of 6 • Norbert Schäffer, Head of Department, 3 out of 0

Code	Description	Totals (plus additional detail as required)
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Edith Mayer, RSPB/CIM/ACBK Regional Education Coordinator 104 weeks out of 0 • Jens Wunderlich, RSPB/CIM/UzSPB GIS and Geo Data Management Adviser and Trainer, 104 weeks out of 3
9	Number of species/habitat management plans (or action plans) produced for Governments, public authorities or other implementing agencies in the host country (s)	<p>6 out of 3 IBA inventory publications published:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IBA books for Kazakhstan in English and Russian • IBA books for Uzbekistan in English and Russian • IBA books for Turkmenistan in Turkmen and Russian (with English version expected to be printed with third party money in September 2009)
10	Number of formal documents produced to assist work related to species identification, classification and recording.	<p>1 out of 3 baseline bird identification guide produced and published in Russian and Kazakh language</p>
12a	Number of computer-based databases established (containing species/generic information) and handed over to host country	<p>3 out of 3 computer databases established and handed over to the host countries:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 World Biodiversity Databases for Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan established and data soon be accessible through national partners website • 3 online birdwatching sites established (“Avica.kz, Avica.uz and Avi-ca.org”) and handed over and managed by national partners
Dissemination Measures		
14a	Number of conferences/seminars/workshops organised to present/disseminate findings from Darwin project work	<p>10 out of 0 meetings organised</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 project launches, each per country. Tashkent/Uzbekistan • 2 IBA inauguration celebrations in Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan • 1 IBA interim presentation

Code	Description	Totals (plus additional detail as required)
		meeting in Uzbekistan March 2007 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 IBA interim presentation meeting in Ashgabat/December 2007 • 3 national project launches in each country, March 2009 in all three countries
14b	Number of conferences/seminars/ workshops attended at which findings from Darwin project work will be presented/ disseminated.	23 out of 24 completed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 ministerial conference of all 5 Central Asia nature conservation ministers attended and IBA project presented to the. Was formally endorsed in the protocol. Ashgabat, December 2006, Michael Brombacher • 1 IBA book launch conducted at BirdLife International global partnership meeting in Buenos Aires, Argentina, September 2008, national and international project coordinators • 21 smaller meeting were IBA project was presented (e.g. BirdLife International in February 2006, Wetlands International Gap Filling Workshop in February 2008, BirdLife European Partnership Meeting in Riga, November 2007, Annual Meeting of OSME (www.osme.org) and many others)
15a	Number of national press releases or publicity articles in host country(s)	51 of 24 completed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kazakhstan: 21 all in national newspapers, most attached in annual report #2 and #3 • Uzbekistan: 28 in national newspapers, most attached in annual report #2 and #3 • Turkmenistan: 2 in national newspaper (there is only one in the country)
15b	Number of local press releases or publicity articles in host country(s)	24 out of 30 completed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uzbekistan: 24 in local newspapers, most attached in annual report #2 and #3
15c	Number of national press releases or publicity	4 out of 2 completed

Code	Description	Totals (plus additional detail as required)
	articles in UK	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Article in World Birdwatch (March 2009) • Article in Sandgrouse Volume 31 (2009) • BirdLife Press release (“Putting Central Asia on to a map”) from 09.03.2009, http://www.birdlife.org/news/features/2009/03/central_asian_ibas.html • Darwin newsletter #14
16a	Number of issues of newsletters produced in the host country(s)	<p>7 out of 9 newsletters produced:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In KAZ: in Russian language, July 2006 and January 2007, print run 1,000 copies each • In UZB: in Russian and Uzbekistan language in 2006, 2007 and 2008, print run 250 copies • In Turkmenistan: in 2006 and 2008 in Russian and Turkmen, print run 500 copies <p>The ensure costs the newsletter concept was replaced set-by-step with improved news sections at www.acbk.kz and www.uzspb.uz as well as e-digests which UzSPB has issued in June 2009 first time.</p>
16b	Estimated circulation of each newsletter in the host country(s)	See print run figures above. In all countries they whole print run was disseminated within the country but also with the Russian speaking Partners of BirdLife International
18a	Number of national TV programmes/features in host country(s)	<p>8 out of 10 national TV programme features:</p> <p>Kazakhstan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Era TV, 16 July 2007 (IBA designation in Korgalzhyn) • Astana news channel June 2006 (project launch) <p>Turkmenistan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Turkmenistan 1, news programme, July 2007 (IBA designation in Khazar) <p>Uzbekistan</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Channel “Tashkent”, Programme “Salam”,

Code	Description	Totals (plus additional detail as required)
		12.08.2006 2. Channel "Tashkent", Programme "Salam", 22.12.2006 3. Channel "Tashkent", Programme "Salam", 12.08.2007 4. Channel "Tashkent", Programme "Salam", 23.12.2007 5. Channel "Tashkent", Programme "Salam", 27.12.2008
19a	Number of national radio interviews/features in host country(s)	12 out of 24 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kazakhstan: 2 features after project launch, 2 after IBA designation in Korgalzhyn and 1 after book launch • Uzbekistan: 7 features throughout the project period
Physical Measures		
20	Estimated value (£s) of physical assets handed over to host country(s)	£18,612,27 worth of computers, equipment, optics and GPS devices handed over to national project partners
23	Value of additional resources raised for project	A total of £417,437 additional cash funding to support activities raised, see detailed overview in section 7.2
Other Measures used by the project and not currently including in DI standard measures		
	Local volunteer site care-taker groups established	11 student birdwatching groups established which fulfil the function of site caretakers established (5 in Kazakhstan, 4 in Uzbekistan and 2 in Turkmenistan)

Annex 5 Publications

Type (eg journals, manual, CDs)	Detail (title, author, year)	Publishers (name, city)	Available from (eg contact address, website)	- Cost £
Uzbekistan IBA Newsletter	Newsletter No 1/2006, Print run 500 copies	IBA Project of the Uzbekistan Zoological Society	Dr. Roman D. Kashkarov Important Bird Areas (IBA) of Uzbekistan Project Coordinator Off. 89, 1 Niyasov St., 700095 Tashkent, Republic of Uzbekistan	-
ACBK Newsletter	Newsletter No 1/2006, Print run 200 copies plus pdf version	Association for the Conservation of Biodiversity in Kazakhstan	Association for the Conservation of Biodiversity in Kazakhstan (ACBK), Office 210, 40 Orbita-1 Almaty 050043, Republic of Kazakhstan	-
Uzbekistan IBA Poster	-	IBA Project of the Uzbekistan Zoological Society	Uzbekistan Zoological Society (UZS), please see above	-
Kazakhstan IBA Poster	-	Association for the Conservation of Biodiversity in Kazakhstan	Association for the Conservation of Biodiversity in Kazakhstan (ACBK), Please see above	-
Fieldtraining Manual	Workshop material for student training workshop (Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan) in Russian and English	Association for the Conservation of Biodiversity in Kazakhstan	See above	
IBA criteria handbook	Final IBA criteria and guidance in Russian and English	Association for the Conservation of Biodiversity in Kazakhstan	See above	
Guidbook for authors	IBA fieldwork and dataprocessing manual	All partners	Via ACBK	
Uzbekistan IBA Newsletter	Newsletter No 1/2007, Print run 500 copies	IBA Project of the Uzbekistan Zoological Society	Dr. Roman D. Kashkarov Important Bird Areas (IBA) of Uzbekistan Project Coordinator Off. 89, 1 Niyasov St., 700095 Tashkent, Republic of Uzbekistan	-
Low budget documentary on student training	10 copies to be shown during student training courses or prior to establishment of local student wildlife clubs	IBA Project of the Uzbekistan Zoological Society	Dr. Roman D. Kashkarov Important Bird Areas (IBA) of Uzbekistan Project Coordinator Off. 89, 1 Niyasov St.,	-

			700095 Tashkent, Republic of Uzbekistan	
Turkmenistan IBA newsletter	Newsletter No 1/2006, Print run 500 copies plus pdf version	IBA Project Turkmenistan / Ministry of Nature Protection	Eldar Rustamov, Turkmenistan IBA project, 2001 Street, House 59, Office 38, Ashgabat	-
Newsletter of the local Turkmenbashy initiative group of the Turkmenistan IBA project	Newsletter 1/2006	Turkmenbashy (Caspian Coast) initiative group of Turkmenistan IBA project	Dr. Mirra Gauser via Eldar Rustamov, Turkmenistan IBA project, 2001 Street, House 59, Office 38, Ashgabat	-
Turkmenistan IBA Poster	Print run 500	IBA Project Turkmenistan / Ministry of Nature Protection	See above	-
First IBA material from Kazakhstan and Central Asia	Print run 1,000, hardcover publication	Association for the Conservation of Biodiversity in Kazakhstan	Association for the Conservation of Biodiversity in Kazakhstan (ACBK), Office 210, 40 Orbita-1 Almaty 050043, Republic of Kazakhstan	-
Uzbekistan IBA Newsletter	Newsletter No 1/2007, Print run 500 copies	IBA Project of the Uzbekistan Zoological Society	Dr. Roman D. Kashkarov Important Bird Areas (IBA) of Uzbekistan Project Coordinator Off. 89, 1 Niyasov St., 700095 Tashkent, Republic of Uzbekistan	-
Turkmenistan IBA newsletter	Newsletter No 1/2007, Print run 500 copies plus pdf version	IBA Project Turkmenistan / Ministry of Nature Protection	Eldar Rustamov, Turkmenistan IBA project, 2001 Street, House 59, Office 38, Ashgabat	-
First IBA material from Turkmenistan and Central Asia	Print run 1,000, hardcover publication	IBA Project Turkmenistan / Ministry of Nature Protection	Eldar Rustamov, Turkmenistan IBA project, 2001 Street, House 59, Office 38, Ashgabat	-
ACBK newsletter, in Russian	Newsletter 1/2007	ACBK	Association for the Conservation of Biodiversity in Kazakhstan (ACBK), Office 210, 40 Orbita-1 Almaty 050043, Republic of Kazakhstan	-
UzSPB newsletter, in Russian and Uzbek	Newsletter 1/2008	UzSPB	See above	

Turkmenistan IBA project newsletter, in Russian and Turkmen	Newsletter 1/2008	IBA Project Turkmenistan / Ministry of Nature Protection	See above
All above mentioned publications have been included into previous annual reports			
IBA inventory publication for Kazakhstan (English version)*	Sklyarenko S.L., Welch G.R., and Brombacher M. eds. (2008): <i>Important Bird Areas in Kazakhstan – priority sites for conservation. Almaty, Kazakhstan: Association for the Conservation of Biodiversity of Kazakhstan (ACBK) (English version)</i>	ACBK	See above
IBA inventory publication for Kazakhstan (Russian version)*	Sklyarenko S.L., Welch G.R., and Brombacher M. eds. (2008): <i>Important Bird Areas in Uzbekistan – priority sites for conservation. Almaty, Kazakhstan: Association for the Conservation of Biodiversity of Kazakhstan (ACBK). (Russian version)</i>	ACBK	See above
IBA inventory publication for Uzbekistan (English version)*	Kashkarov R.D., Welch G.R., and Brombacher M. eds. (2009): <i>Important Bird Areas in Uzbekistan – priority sites for conservation. Tashkent, Uzbekistan: Uzbekistan Society for the Protection of Birds (UzSPB). (English version)</i>	UzSPB	See above
IBA inventory publication for Uzbekistan (Russian version)*	Kashkarov R.D., Welch G.R., and Brombacher M. eds. (2009): <i>Important Bird Areas in Uzbekistan – priority sites for conservation. Tashkent, Uzbekistan: Uzbekistan Society for the Protection of Birds (UzSPB). (Russian version)</i>	UzSPB	See above
IBA inventory publication for Turkmenistan (Russian version)*	RUSTAMOV E.A., WELCH G.R., AND BROMBACHER M. eds. (2009): <i>Important Bird Areas in Turkmenistan – priority sites for conservation. Ashgabat, Turkmenistan: Ministry of Nature Protection. (Russian version)</i>	IBA Project Turkmenistan / Ministry of Nature Protection	See above
IBA inventory publication for Turkmenistan (Turkmen version)*	RUSTAMOV E.A., WELCH G.R., AND BROMBACHER M. eds. (2009): <i>Important Bird Areas in Turkmenistan – priority sites for conservation. Ashgabat, Turkmenistan: Ministry of Nature Protection. (Turkmen version)</i>	IBA Project Turkmenistan / Ministry of Nature Protection	See above

Annex 6 Darwin Contacts

Ref No	14-061
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