



Darwin Initiative Annual Report



Darwin Project Information

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|---------------------------------------|--|
| Project Ref Number | 15030 |
| Project Title | Strengthening scientific capacity of conservation NGOs working with the CBD |
| Country(ies) | Bolivia, Botswana, Lebanon, Nepal, Palau, Russia and various partners in the Americas, Europe, the Middle East, Africa, Asia and the Pacific |
| UK Contract Holder Institution | BirdLife International |
| Host country Partner Institution(s) | Armonia (Bolivia), BirdLife Botswana, Society for the Protection of Nature and Natural Resources in Lebanon (SPNL), Bird Conservation Nepal (BCN), Palau Conservation Society (PCS), Russian Bird Conservation Union (RBCU) |
| Other Partner Institution(s) | n/a |
| Darwin Grant Value | £136,950 |
| Start/End dates of Project | August 2006 – July 2009 |
| Reporting period | 1 April 2008 – 31 March 2009, Annual Report 3 |
| Project Leader Name | Leon Bennun |
| Project website | see www.birdlife.org , http://www.birdlife.org/sowb/index.html , www.birdlifenepal.org , http://www.worldbirds.org/v3/russia.php |
| Author(s) and main contributors, date | Alison Stattersfield, Leon Bennun, 30 April 2009, with input from all host country coordinators and members of the UK team |

1. Project Background

This project is assisting national conservation NGOs in developing countries to contribute to the implementation and impact of the CBD by **strengthening their scientific capacity**. It is designed to capitalise on BirdLife International's unique Partnership structure, extensive datasets, and long experience in providing relevant information to decision-makers. Initial training centres on staff from six BirdLife Partner Organisations. These individuals in turn train staff within their organisations and from other national NGOs within their region, facilitating collective lesson-learning across the BirdLife Partnership in the Americas, Europe, the Middle East, Africa, Asia and the Pacific. The project has four main components: 1) **Training** via science internships to enhance knowledge and skills in priority data-gathering and analyses; 2) **Demonstration Projects** linking scientific results to policy mechanisms to improve the implementation of the CBD; 3) **Sharing experience** in developing national, regional and global conservation datasets and information; and 4) **Communicating** through a variety of different outputs to reach key target audiences.

2. Project Partnerships

During this third year of the project, the UK and host country teams have continued to work closely together, keeping in regular contact as before through emails and meetings, as well as through work planning (see sample 'Action plan' sent separately on CD, Doc 1; also Annex 3). Notably, all the partners and the UK team attended a global meeting in Buenos Aires (the BirdLife World Conference), 21st – 27th September 2008, which provided an important focus for discussing the project and sharing information with other BirdLife Partners (see more details in 'Global meeting' below).

One host country coordinator changed during this period (for BCN / Nepal; approved through official Darwin processes) and we don't envisage any need to change the project as the new coordinator has particular expertise in 'communications, advocacy, media, outreach and publication' which is very well suited to the latter stages of this project.

The UK team continued to engage with the CBD Secretariat and CBD processes to help enable effective national inputs from the host country partners. Muhtari Amino-Kanu and Alison Stattersfield attended the 9th Conference of the Parties (COP9) in Bonn, 19th – 23rd May 2008, as part of a BirdLife delegation (which included 52 people from 14 BirdLife Partners and the Secretariat, one of which was a representative from the project partner BirdLife Botswana). In the context of this project, the discussions on 'Monitoring, Assessment and Indicators' were of particular interest, specifically those relating to 4th National Reports (4NRs).

As a result of what we learnt at COP9 and the contacts we made, the CBD Secretariat subsequently personally requested all CBD National Focal Points to seek input to 4NRs from their relevant BirdLife Partners, and we also separately alerted all 112 BirdLife Partners to this opportunity. In addition, Alison Stattersfield provided technical input to a CBD capacity building workshop for South, South-east and East Asia on the preparation of 4NRs held in Tsukuba, Japan, 2nd – 4th December 2008 (see <https://www.cbd.int/nr4/support/workshop.shtml> including the powerpoint presentation given by Cristi Nozawa, Director of BirdLife Asia Secretariat). Stuart Butchart also provided similar technical input to a capacity building workshop for the Caribbean on biodiversity indicators, facilitated by UNEP and the GEF-funded 2010 Biodiversity Indicators Partnership, held in Trinidad, 9th – 11th December 2008. The BirdLife African Secretariat then circulated these presentations to 22 African BirdLife Partners with a template and a request to do a summary report which could be sent to the relevant CBD National Focal Points (see CD, Doc 2), with a further follow-up from the BirdLife African CBD Focal Point.

We hope that, as a result of these efforts, we have encouraged / facilitated contact with CBD National Focal Points and input to the 4NRs, not just by the Darwin Project partners, but by many of the BirdLife Partners worldwide.

3. Project progress

3.1 Progress in carrying out project activities

Output 1. Staff of national NGOs improve their skills in data-gathering & analysis

Internships: The sixth (and final) internship was undertaken by Natalia Nikolaeva (RBCU) at the BirdLife International Global Office in Cambridge, 9th – 22nd June 2008. For this we organised a training programme relevant to RBCU's 'World of Birds of Russia' Demonstration Project. The aims of this project are to develop a (Worldbirds) website to: (1) build support for and interest in popular birdwatching activities in Russia; (2) improve information on birds in Russia (sites, numbers, ranges, species); (3) develop people from being casual birdwatchers to working as official surveyors; and (4) employ more scientific methods to interpret trends that will inform policy work. As a result of the training provided, during her time with us, Natalia was able to translate the WorldBirds web pages into Russian, test the Russian implementation, develop and refine species lists for the three Russian regions (a huge task), prepare Important Bird Area (IBA) location data, work with a UK-based volunteer to investigate potential for data entry at a distance from RBCU, and investigate ways to promote the system in Russia.

E group: All the host country coordinators continue to have access to the BirdLife 'Extranet' which includes a growing repository of 'Files', a variety of 'Groups' (e.g. 'Citizen Science Projects', 'Information Management', 'IBA Coordinators Group', 'Preventing Extinctions Programme', 'African Wild Bird Indicators'), a 'Who's Who' of c.800 contacts from across the BirdLife Partnership, a 'News' section (including the latest news and an archive), and a calendar of 'Events' with important regional and international meetings.

Output 2. Scientific information from demonstration projects linked to policy mechanisms is produced

Datasets: Datasets continue to be developed building on the work of previous years. For example, SPNL have updated the monitoring information on their IBAs covering three components: threats, condition, and actions, and added information on newly declared IBAs. BCN and PCS have started digitising the boundaries of their IBAs (training received during the internships) which is important for presentation and planning purposes.

Scientific reports: The directory on 'Important Bird Areas in Palau' (which was worked on by Lukes Isechal during her internship) was launched at the BirdLife World Conference in September 2008 (see CD, Doc 3). A global report entitled 'State of the world's birds' (which draws on national species and IBA datasets) was also launched at the same conference (See CD, Doc 4 and copies sent separately).

In addition, a scientific paper on RBCU's Demonstration Project (specifically on the use of the internet for citizen science) was published in the proceedings of the conference at which it was presented (see below). The generic Species Action Plan for the Americas region (which was worked on by Melvin Gastanaga during her internship) was also finalised (see CD, Doc 5).

Output 3. Lessons learned in developing & analysing conservation datasets & information are shared nationally, regionally & globally

Regional meetings: A regional meeting (the 12th Pan-African Ornithological Congress) was attended in Rawsonville, South Africa, 7th – 12th September 2008, by Project Leader, Leon Bennun, and host country coordinator, Kabelo Senyatso (BirdLife Botswana); both made presentations on species conservation, IBAs and monitoring, drawing on work developed through the Demonstration Projects.

Global meeting: A global meeting (the BirdLife World Conference; see <http://www.birdlife.org/news/news/2004/03/wc.html>) was attended in Buenos Aires, Argentina, 21st – 27th September 2008, by representatives from all six Darwin partners (see names below) and UK team members, Leon Bennun, Alison Stattersfield, Stu Butchart, Lincoln Fishpool, Muhtari Amino-Kanu and Mike Evans. This meeting was attended by 525 people overall from 98 national conservation organisations and was thus an excellent opportunity to share experiences from the Darwin Project across the BirdLife Partnership (for a flavour of this, see photos at http://www.pbase.com/james_lowen/birdlife_world_conference).

Each of the Darwin representatives made presentations drawing on their Demonstration Projects at a range of workshops as follows:

- Monitoring illegal trade in Bolivia **Bennett Hennessey / Armonia**
- Sharing experiences on conflict resolution between biodiversity and development needs (Red-fronted macaws and farmer conflict) and hunting of wattled curassow (Rio Beni) **Bennett Hennessey / Armonia**
- Bird Population Monitoring in Africa: building off the European experience and learning from African pilot projects **Kabelo Senyatso / BirdLife Botswana** (see CD, Doc 6)
- IBA monitoring at six sites in Nepal **Shree Ram / BCN** (see CD, Doc 7)
- IBA monitoring experiences in Lebanon **Nada Farah / SPNL**
- Hima revival in Lebanon **Nada Farah / SPNL**
- Ensuring that forest is adequately represented in Palau's protected areas network **Tiare Holm / PCS**

- Implementing Worldbirds nationally **Natalia Nikolaeva / RBCU**

At the conference, timely discussions were held to agree final outputs of the Darwin Project and a 'side event' was facilitated with team members from the Darwin Project Ref 14-042 'Supporting southern conservation NGOs to work with the CBD' to scope possible follow up science-policy work with a focus on input to 2010 CBD processes (see photo in Annex 3).

Of particular note, was the launch of the new BirdLife Initiative 'Preventing Extinctions Programme' (see http://www.birdlife.org/action/campaigns/species_champions/index.html) which has been championed by Armonia involving their Demonstration Project.

National meetings: Following her internship, Natalia Nikolaeva / RBCU attended the 70th anniversary of the White Sea Biological Station of the Moscow State University, 9th – 10th August 2008, and presented a paper on the 'World of birds of Russia' Demonstration Project to students, scientists, and staff from other Russian NGOs and Institutes.

Following the launch of the directory on 'Important Bird Areas in Palau' at the BirdLife World Conference, PCS attended a national meeting of 'National Conservation Practitioners', September 2008, during which 'Targets, Threats and Strategies' were identified and prioritized. Birds were identified as targeted species of concern and IBAs were identified as sites for special consideration for protected areas and management consideration.

SPNL—in collaboration with A Rocha Lebanon—organised a national training workshop, 7th – 8th February 2009, covering bird identification and IBA monitoring. It was attended by 27 people, including representatives from the newly declared IBAs and interested people from government ministries, conservation NGOs and the universities. They also organised another national meeting, 2nd April 2009, hosted at the Ministry of Environment in order to address the scientific community and conservation NGOs and relevant ministries. The aim of this 'final ceremony' was to disseminate the scientific results from their Demonstration Project on IBAs to a wide audience (note we have reported on this activity here, because the planning for this meeting happened largely during this phase of the project and some funding to support the meeting was also allocated).

Output 4. Scientific materials are widely disseminated

Websites: The website 'State of the world's birds' was launched (see <http://www.birdlife.org/sowb/index.html> - see acknowledgement to funding from Darwin at the bottom of the Home page) and linked to the CBD website as a resource for 4NRs (see <https://www.cbd.int/nr4/resources/links/>). The partners have also been working on improving their websites, notably RBCU through the development of the Russian version of 'Worldbirds' which is now on-line (see <http://www.worldbirds.org/v3/russia.php>). SPNL is currently renovating their website with special emphasis on the IBA programme, criteria, national surveys and results, and will release a new version during the final phase of the project.

Press releases: A number of BirdLife press releases / media alerts were produced to coincide with the BirdLife World Conference covering, e.g. the directory on 'Important Bird Areas in Palau' (see http://www.birdlife.org/news/news/2008/10/palau_iba_book.html) and 'State of the world's birds' (http://www.birdlife.org/news/pr/2008/09/SOWB_global.html) which was also featured on the Darwin Initiative's home page. A media alert was also produced to highlight the results of SPNL's work on IBA surveys (see http://www.birdlife.org/news/news/2009/04/lebanon_ibas.html).

Other: PCS distributed the inventory on 'Important Bird Areas in Palau' to state and national leaders and resource-management agencies during July – September 2008. The report 'State of the world's birds' (in three languages: English, French and Spanish) was presented and distributed at the IUCN World Conservation Congress, 5th – 14th October 2008. Overall, some 3,000 copies have already been dispersed and an advocacy plan for further dissemination is currently being developed. Armonia produced a document entitled 'National campaign against illegal wild bird trade in Bolivia: extinction is forever' in January 2009 (see CD, Doc 8). This highlights the illegal trade of wild birds in Bolivia which continues to be one of the most serious threats to many species that are particularly vulnerable to overexploitation. SPNL released a

pamphlet with information on the 14 newly-documented IBAs in Lebanon at a 'final ceremony' in March 2009 (copy sent separately).

3.2 Progress towards Project Outputs

Output 1. Staff of national NGOs improve their skills in data-gathering & analysis

We have made **further progress** with improving skills in data-gathering and analysis through the final internship and **have achieved Output 1 satisfactorily** (total: 14 staff trained, 27 person weeks, 12 sets of training materials, 16 UK-person weeks overseas *versus* 18 staff trained, 24 person weeks, 14 sets of training materials, 18 UK-person weeks overseas, as in original proposal). Fewer staff have been trained overall than planned, but we have invested more time in the training and are very satisfied with quality, breadth and impact, and that trained staff are effectively benefitting from and passing on their experience.

Output 2. Scientific information from demonstration projects linked to policy mechanisms is produced

We have made **good progress** with developing datasets and producing scientific information and **remain on track to achieve Output 2 satisfactorily**. Two of the six national reports ('Important Bird Areas of Palau', 'Species Action Plan for the Americas') and the global report ('State of the world's birds') have already been produced and we anticipate further reports, scientific papers, enhanced datasets and reference collections, and an 'Analysis Guide' by the end of the project. The materials produced thus far have been very timely and continue to be well linked to strategic opportunities.

Output 3. Lessons learned in developing & analysing conservation datasets & information are shared nationally, regionally & globally

We have made **very good progress** with sharing lessons and **are on track to exceed Output 3**. The global meeting (BirdLife World Conference) was the focal activity for the year, with one further regional and three national workshops attended (total: 1 global, 6 regional and 18 national *versus* 1 global, 6 regional and 18 national). Two further national workshops are planned for the final phase of the project (not in the original proposal but agreed by the Darwin Secretariat). We believe that the lessons learned are translating well between organisations, and this was particularly well demonstrated at the highly successful BirdLife World Conference.

Output 4. Scientific materials are widely disseminated

We have made **good progress** with disseminating information on the project and, although the bulk of the work on improving national websites has yet to take place, other materials have been produced (press releases, leaflets) and we **anticipate that we will achieve Output 4 satisfactorily**. It is still too early to assess whether the scientific information produced is being acted on outside the participating organisations, but we are confident that this will be the case.

3.3 Standard Measures

Table 1 Project Standard Output Measures (further details given in Annex 3)

| Code No. | Description | Year 1 Total | Year 2 Total | Year 3 Total | Year 4 Total | Total to date | Total planned |
|----------|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| 4C | No. host country project staff trained | 8 (3)* | 5 (12) | 1 (3) | (0) | 14 | 18 |
| 4D | Person training weeks | 11 (4) | 14 (16) | 2 (4) | (0) | 27 | 24 |
| 7 | No. training materials produced | 3 (3) | 8 (8) | 1 (3) | (0) | 12 | 14 |
| 8 | No. weeks spent by UK project staff on project work overseas | 2 (1) | 5 (4) | 9 (13) | (0) | 16 | 18 |
| 9 | No. species/habitat management/action plans produced for Governments, public authorities, or other implementing agencies in the host country | 0 (0) | 0 (0) | 2 (0) | (6) | 2 | 6 |
| 11B | No. papers produced in peer-reviewed journals | 1 (0) | 0 (0) | 1 (0) | (6) | 2 | 6 |
| 12B | No. computer based databases enhanced & handed over to the host country | 0 (0) | 3 (0) | 1 (0) | (12) | 4 | 12 |
| 13B | No. species reference collections enhanced & handed over to the host country | 0 (0) | 1 (0) | 0 (0) | (6) | 1 | 6 |
| 14B | No. regional meetings/workshops attended at which Darwin Project presented | 1 (1) | 4 (4) | 2 (2) | (0) | 7 | 7 |
| 15A | No. national press releases in host countries | 3 (6) | 1 (0) | 0 (6) | (6) | 4 | 18 |
| 15C | No. national press releases in UK | 1 (1) | 0 (0) | 3 (1) | (0) | 4 | 2 |
| 17A | No. dissemination networks established | 0 (1) | 1 (0) | 0 (0) | (0) | 1 | 1 |
| | No. national meetings/workshops organised/attended at which Darwin Project presented | 8 (6) | 6 (6) | 4 (6) | (0) | 18 | 18 |
| | No. websites developed/enhanced & disseminating project findings | 0 (0) | 1 (0) | 2 (0) | (7) | 3 | 7 |
| | No. global reports produced presenting results from Darwin Project | 0 (0) | 0 (0) | 1 (1) | (0) | 1 | 1 |
| | No. publicity materials produced | 0 (0) | 0 (0) | 2 (0) | (0) | 2 | 0 |

* numbers in brackets = number planned for year

Table 2 Publications (year 3 only; full list in Annex 3)

| Type | Detail | Publishers | Available from | Cost £ |
|-----------------|--|--|---|--------|
| Manual | Species Action Plans in the Americas (in Spanish) | Armonia | Armonia | free |
| Book | Holm, T. <i>et al.</i> eds (2008) Important Bird Areas in Palau: protecting Palau's natural heritage | Palau Conservation Society | PCS | free |
| Booklet | State of the world's birds (2008) | BirdLife International | BirdLife International; and also can be downloaded from website http://www.birdlife.org/sowb/index.html | free |
| Pamphlet | Important Bird Areas in Lebanon | SPNL and A Rocha Lebanon | SPNL | free |
| Pamphlet | National campaign against illegal wild bird trade in Bolivia: extinction is forever | Armonia | Armonia | free |
| Journal article | Nikolaeva, N. (2008) The use of the internet for citizen science | White Sea Biological Station of the Moscow State University M.: 355-360. | Natalia Nikolaeva (full paper) or Alison Stattersfield (front cover only) | |

3.4 Progress towards the project purpose and outcomes

We continue to make **good progress** towards our project purpose of “enhancing national NGO contributions to the implementation and impact of the CBD”, specifically through producing essential scientific information / evidence relevant to the implementation of the CBD, increasing our understanding of how we can make best use of this information through CBD processes, and continuing to develop relationships with CBD focal points. The indicator is still a challenge (all 6 NGOs contribute and advocate their scientific information to CBD implementation) and we plan to review this through BirdLife's impact on 4NRs and the CBD summary report, 'Global Biodiversity Outlook 3', as far as we are able by the end of the project (but note that we may not have access to all the necessary information as GBO3 won't be released until SBSTTA in May 2010).

3.5 Progress towards impact on biodiversity, sustainable use or equitable sharing of biodiversity benefits

All the partners continue to be involved in local level species / site actions as well as seeking to influence national policy mechanisms.

For RBCU and BirdLife Botswana, the emphasis is on collecting baseline monitoring data on bird species that will inform on impacts on biodiversity in the future. For PCS, their IBA

inventory has helped to define next steps including prioritising IBAs for action, developing collaborative management planning and seeking higher level protection.

For SPNL and BCN, the collection of data is already linked to stimulating action at sites. For example, at Hima Kfar Zabad/Anjar, one of the newly declared IBAs in the Lebanon, conservation efforts at the site, in collaboration with the municipality and the local community, have led to the return of the river otter. Further restoration plans aim to sustain the water level even in the driest season to support wader species and other biodiversity. At the same time, eco-friendly practices are being promoted to farmers to both improve the quality of the water and increase incomes by marketing local products. At the Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve, an IBA in Nepal, BCN is assisting local communities in managing buffer zone wetlands for sustainable livelihoods, whilst enhancing wetland biodiversity.

For Armonia, their efforts to initiate conservation action for the most threatened bird species have been boosted through the launch of BirdLife's Preventing Extinctions Programme. For example, actions being implemented for the Critically Endangered Blue-throated Macaw include population surveys, artificial nest boxes, monitoring the cage-bird trade, research to acquire land, an education campaign, and guidelines for sustainable tourism (see http://www.birdlife.org/extinction/pdfs/Blue-throated_Macaw_Guardian_Action_Update_Nov08.pdf).

All these examples serve to illustrate that we believe that this project is having a positive impact on biodiversity through improving the status of biodiversity, sustainable use, and local livelihoods.

4. Monitoring, evaluation and lessons

We have continued to monitor the project through the action plans and relevant indicators identified in the logical framework. We were able to discuss the project together at the BirdLife World Conference.

5. Actions taken in response to previous reviews (if applicable)

In our previous review, our reviewer noted that "it is not possible to distinguish outputs listed against this project from products that BirdLife International would have produced without this specific project funding" and, as requested, we have discussed this issue with the ECTF. We clarified that we have only reported on activities that are specifically related to the project outputs and have received some / all funding from the project budget. In some instances, specifically the six internships (the 'backbone' of the project), some Demonstration Project outputs, attendance at training workshops and website development, all costs have been met by the project. In others, for example, salaries, most national / regional meetings and the 'State of the world's birds' report, the costs have been greater than could be met by this project alone and have thus been supported by more than one funder. This project is therefore both initiating some distinct new work and contributing to on-going activities of immediate relevance to the aims of the project.

An additional concern related to the e-group connectivity. In response to this, we are demonstrating access and the use of the Extranet at all the training events that we undertake. We also ask users to promote the system within their organisations and have identified a person in each region to champion the use of this resource. In order to overcome technical obstacles, we continually review and develop our information management systems, plus we are seeking funds through other project work to improve hardware where possible.

Our reviewer also noted that when asked about progress toward impact on biodiversity, we had stated an "increasing focus on working with local communities", but asked which activity this came under and whether it was outside the project purpose. We included this comment because we had made explicit reference to work contributing to sustainable livelihoods in Section 13 of our original proposal as follows: "BirdLife also aims to integrate the principles of sustainable development into all its conservation programmes. This is seen, for example, in

work with local IBA conservation groups, where developing capacity for conservation action and monitoring is combined with community empowerment to organise and obtain a voice in decisions on natural resource use.” During Year 2, a number of Darwin-funded activities reflected such work, for example, SPNL and BCN collected data on their local IBA conservation groups, BCN attended a training workshop to share experiences of local conservation groups, while BirdLife Botswana organised a workshop to expose their partner community-based groups to new environmental legislation. We therefore felt that it was useful to highlight these activities.

6. Other comments on progress not covered elsewhere

No other comments.

7. Sustainability

This project is well embedded in the new BirdLife programme (2009–2012) which was formally adopted by the BirdLife Partnership at the BirdLife World Conference, and all the activities started will continue as part of on-going and evolving work over the next four years (see, for example, the overview to the Pacific Regional Programme 2009–2012 at <http://www.birdlife.org/regional/pacific/work.html>).

8. Dissemination

Dissemination activities have been through a number of national, regional and global meetings as detailed above under Outputs 3 and 4 (reaching conservation practitioners, NGOs, academics and governmental officials).

9. Project Expenditure

Table 3 Project expenditure during the reporting period (Defra Financial Year 1 April 2008 to 31 March 2009) *

| Item | Budget | Expenditure | Variance |
|----------------------------------|--------|-------------|----------|
| Overheads | | | |
| Office costs | | | |
| Travel and subsistence | | | |
| Printing | | | |
| Conferences, seminars | | | |
| Capital items/equipment | | | |
| Others (specify) | | | |
| Salaries (specify by individual) | | | |
| TOTAL | | | |

* salary costs only shown – full details of expenditure submitted separately

10. OPTIONAL: Outstanding achievements of your project during the reporting period (300-400 words maximum). This section may be used for publicity purposes

[I agree for LTS and the Darwin Secretariat to publish the content of this section](#)

SPNL in partnership with A Rocha Lebanon has finalized the most extensive bird research project ever undertaken in Lebanon. Over 30 sites were surveyed resulting in the declaration of nine new Important Bird Areas of global significance and two of regional significance. The full report and data were presented at a special ceremony organised at the Ministry of Environment and will be used for future decision-making for the conservation of Lebanon's biodiversity. Funding from the Darwin Project provided training in the documentation and monitoring of these IBAs.

In 2003, PCS with financial support from the European Commission initiated an Important Bird Area Programme and, in 2008, published the first directory of Palau's IBAs. The eight IBAs cover about 47% of Palau's total land area and will contribute to the ongoing identification and management of protected areas. Indeed, in the foreword to the book, the Hon. Fritz Koshiba, Minister of Resources and Development, writes "Implementing strategies such as the Palau Protected Areas Network (PAN) while integrating the information gained from the identification of Palau's IBAs will assist our communities and decision-makers in meeting the goals of the Micronesia Challenge." The Micronesia Challenge is a regional inter-governmental initiative (launched at the CBD COP8), that aims to facilitate more effective conservation of marine and forest resources in the western Pacific, with a specific goal of effectively managing "at least 20% of forested land by 2020". Funding from the Darwin Project provided training in identifying IBAs and contributed to the publication of the book.

In 2008, BirdLife released a major new report, funded by the Darwin Initiative and Jensen Foundation, on the 'State of the world's birds' drawing on data provided by its worldwide Partnership, including from its six Darwin project partners. The results had exceptional media profile, being covered on >200 websites, >100 newspapers, > 8 radio shows, plus TV and internet video coverage, and was one of the top stories on Google News UK, BBC Science News and many more (see CD, Doc 9).

Annex 1 Report of progress and achievements against Logical Framework for Financial Year: 2008/09

| Project summary | Measurable Indicators | Progress and Achievements April 2008 - March 2009 | Actions required/planned for next period |
|---|---|--|--|
| <p>Goal: <i>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</i></p> <p><i>The conservation of biological diversity,</i></p> <p><i>The sustainable use of its components, and</i></p> <p><i>The fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilisation of genetic resources</i></p> | | <p>It is still too early to tell what impact the project is having on biodiversity at the national level. However, inventory and monitoring data continue to be collected for species and sites, and this is stimulating a range of promising conservation actions, often involving local communities.</p> | <p><i>(do not fill not applicable)</i></p> |
| <p>Purpose Developing country (national) NGOs contributions to the implementation and impact of the CBD are enhanced through strengthening their scientific capacity</p> | <p>All (6) national NGOs contribute and advocate their scientific information to CBD implementation (by end of Yr 3)</p> | <p>We are making good progress towards enhancing national NGO contributions to the implementation and impact of the CBD through producing scientific information, increasing our understanding of CBD processes, and developing relationships with CBD focal points.</p> | <p>Key actions planned for the final period of the project include: further production and dissemination of scientific materials, website development, two additional national meetings, continuing advocacy of key results, and development of follow-on activities</p> |
| <p>Output 1. Staff of national NGOs improve their skills in data-gathering & analysis</p> | <p>Minimum of 6 staff from 6 national NGOs trained, and have each trained 3 others (by Yr 3); 'e' group active (by end of Yr 1)</p> | <p>We have made further progress with improving skills in data-gathering and have achieved Output 1 satisfactorily. Fewer staff have been trained than planned overall, but we have invested more time in the training and are satisfied with quality, breadth and impact, and that trained staff are effectively passing on their experience.</p> | |
| <p>Activity 1 Science internships set up in UK, collaborations built & 'e' group established</p> | | <p>The final (sixth) internship was hosted at the BirdLife Global Office in Cambridge. We continue to support and develop the 'e' group.</p> | |

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|--|--|---|
| <p>Output 2. Scientific information from demo projects linked to policy mechanisms is produced</p> | <p>Minimum of 6 national & 1 global scientific reports produced, plus one "Analysis Guide"(Yrs 2 -3)</p> | <p>We have made good progress with developing datasets and producing scientific information and remain on track to achieve Output 2 satisfactorily. The six Demonstration Projects continue to serve as models for other BirdLife Partners and were all show-cased at the BirdLife World Conference. The materials produced thus far have been very timely and continue to be well linked to strategic opportunities.</p> |
| <p>Activity 2. Priority data-gathering undertaken & analyses conducted</p> | | <p>Two of the six national reports and the global report have already been produced and we anticipate further reports, scientific papers, enhanced datasets and reference collections, and an 'Analysis Guide' by the end of the project.</p> |
| <p>Output 3. Lessons learned in developing & analysing conservation datasets & information are shared nationally, regionally & globally</p> | <p>Minimum of 1 workshop held in each of the 6 regions involving at least 10 additional staff from other NGOs (by Yr 2) & 1 global workshop (Yr 3)</p> | <p>We have made very good progress with sharing lessons and are on track to exceed Output 3. Lessons learned are translating well between partners, and was particularly well demonstrated at the highly successful BirdLife World Conference.</p> |
| <p>Activity 3. Workshops held</p> | | <p>The global workshop (= BirdLife World Conference) was the focal activity for the year, with one further regional and three national workshops attended. Two further national workshops are planned for the final phase of the project.</p> |
| <p>Output 4. Scientific materials are widely disseminated</p> | <p>Minimum of 6 national websites with scientific information linked to CHM appropriately by Yr 3 & various other outputs</p> | <p>We have made good progress with disseminating information on the project and we anticipate that we will achieve Output 4 satisfactorily.</p> |
| <p>Activity 4. Scientific materials produced</p> | | <p>Although the bulk of the work on improving national websites has yet to take place, other materials have been produced, and we anticipate an increased focus on advocacy work as the project concludes.</p> |

Annex 2 Project's full current logframe

| Project summary | Measurable Indicators | Means of verification | Important Assumptions |
|--|--|--|--|
| <p>Goal:</p> <p>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> <p>the conservation of biological diversity,</p> <p>the sustainable use of its components, and</p> <p>the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the utilisation of genetic resources</p> | | | |
| <p>Purpose</p> <p>Developing country (national) NGOs contributions to the implementation and impact of the CBD are enhanced through strengthening their scientific capacity</p> | <p>All (6) national NGOs contribute and advocate their scientific information to CBD implementation (by end of Yr 3)</p> | <p>NGO reports; government reports including CBD National Reports</p> | <p>BirdLife Partner Organisations involved in the project remain viable</p> |
| <p>Outputs</p> <p>1. Staff of national NGOs improve their skills in data-gathering & analysis</p> | <p>Minimum of 6 staff from 6 national NGOs trained, and have each trained 3 others (by Yr 3); 'e' group active (by end of Yr 1)</p> | <p>Training programmes; trainees' reports; postings on web-based discussion forum; seminar presentations; workplans</p> | <p>Trained staff effectively pass on their experience</p> |
| <p>2. Scientific information from demo projects linked to policy mechanisms is produced</p> | <p>Minimum of 6 national & 1 global scientific reports produced, plus one "Analysis Guide"(Yrs 2 -3)</p> | <p>New/enhanced datasets, analyses & case studies; scientific reports (copies sent to the Darwin Initiative); peer reviewed papers</p> | <p>Scientific reports can be used to take advantage of timely policy opportunities</p> |
| <p>3. Lessons learned in developing & analysing conservation datasets & information are shared nationally, regionally & globally</p> | <p>Minimum of 1 workshop held in each of the 6 regions involving at least 10 additional staff from other NGOs (by Yr 2) & 1 global workshop (Yr 3)</p> | <p>Workshop presentations & reports; BirdLife Regional Partnership Meeting reports</p> | <p>Lessons learned translate well between organisations, & other BirdLife Partners are willing & able to participate</p> |
| <p>4. Scientific materials are widely disseminated</p> | <p>Minimum of 6 national websites with scientific information linked to CHM appropriately by Yr 3 & various other outputs</p> | <p>Websites; various other publications; reviews of these materials, hits on websites; press releases</p> | <p>Scientific information is taken up and acted upon within & outside the participating organisations</p> |

| Activities | Activity Milestones | Assumptions |
|---|---|--|
| 1. Science internships set up in UK, collaborations built & 'e' group established | Yrs 1 – 3: one staff member from each of the six collaborating institutions visits the UK and works with conservation science experts for up to 4 weeks (various dates); Yr 1: 'e' group established | |
| 2. Priority data-gathering undertaken & analyses conducted | Yrs 1 – 3: at national, regional and global levels, drawing on data-sets and expertise developed above (throughout) | Relevant data are accessible in the time |
| 3. Workshops held | Yr 1: project inception workshop held in the UK (3 days, Sept 06); Yrs 1 – 2: 6 regional workshops held in each of the six regions (3 days, various dates); Yr 3: global review workshop hosted by one of the regions (3 days, Sept 08) | Participating staff are able to attend workshops |
| 4. Scientific materials produced | Yr 1 – 3: targeted analyses appropriate for national CBD reporting produced; datasets, analyses and reports made available on the web and linked to the CHM/CBD (various dates) | Materials are effectively used |

Annex 3 Supplementary material

BirdLife World Conference: Muhtari Aminu-Kano facilitates a discussion on possible follow up work with representatives from the six host countries

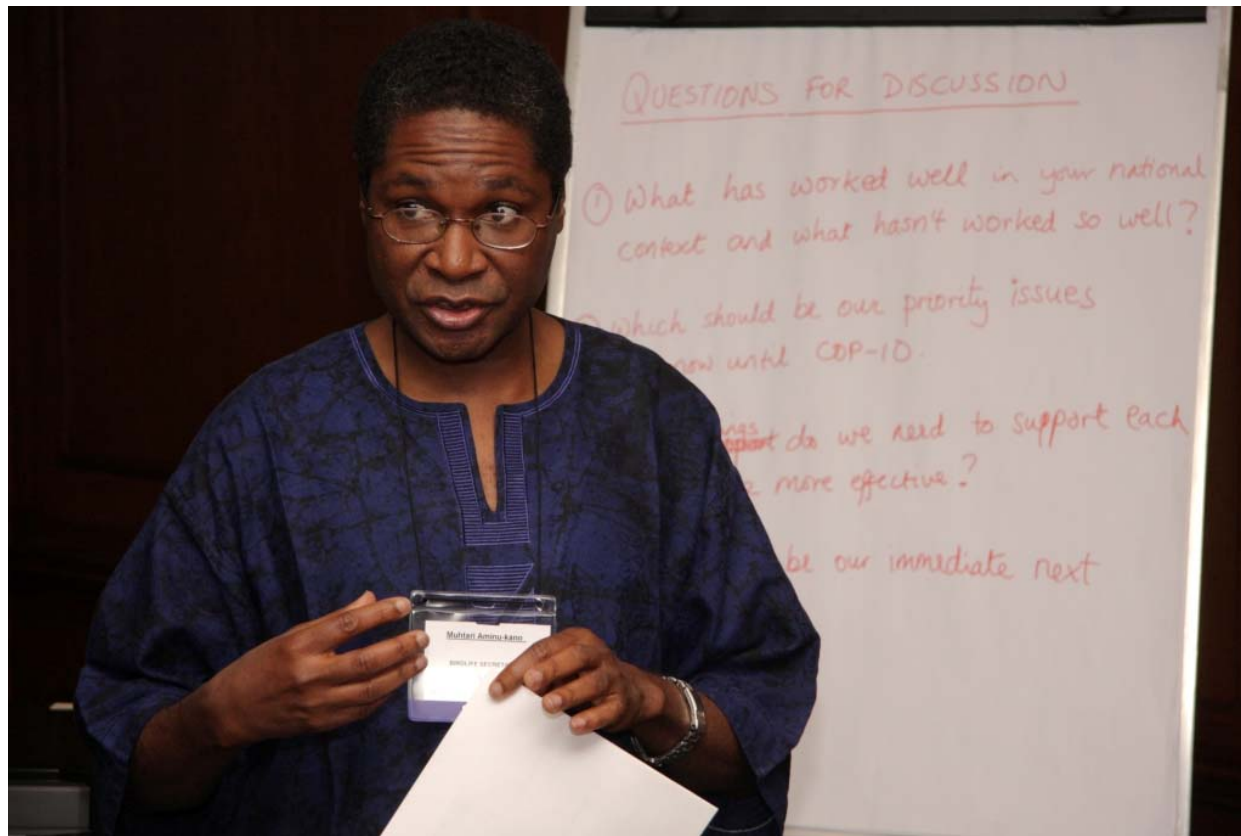


Table 1 Standard measures (further details relating to coding; Year 3 highlighted)

4C/4D **Year 1:** Bennett Hennesey/Armonia (Canadian/resident in Bolivia, Inaugural Workshop UK 06 x 1 week); Kabelo Senyatso/BirdLife Botswana (Botswanan, Inaugural Workshop UK 06 x 1 week); Soumar Dakdouk/SPNL (Lebanese; Inaugural Workshop UK 06 x 1 week); Hem Sagar Baral/BCN (Nepali, Inaugural Workshop UK 06 x 1 week); Tiare Holm/PCS (Palaun, Inaugural Workshop UK 06 x 1 week); Natalia Nikolaeva/RBCU (Russian, Inaugural Workshop UK 06 x 1 week); Ishana Thapa/BCN (Nepali, IBA Monitoring Workshop Malaysia 06 x 1 week); Melvin Gastanaga/Armonia (Peruvian, Internship UK 07 x 4 weeks). **Year 2:** Lukes Isechal/PCS (Palaun, internship UK 07 x 3 weeks); Kabelo Senyatso/BirdLife Botswana (Botswanan, internship UK 07 x 3 weeks); Nada Farah/SPNL (Lebanese, internship UK 07 x 2 weeks, IBA Monitoring Workshop x 1 week); Dev Ghimire/BCN (Nepali, internship UK 08 x 4 weeks); Shree Ram/BCN (Nepali, LCG Workshop India 08 x 1 week). **Year 3:** Natalia Nikolaeva/RBCU (Russian, internship UK 08 x 2 weeks)

7 **Year 1:** Global 'training the trainers' tool kit (for Inaugural Workshop); individual training programme for Melvin Gastanaga; Arabic translation of IBA monitoring guidelines. **Year 2:** individual training programmes for Lukes Isechal, Kabelo Senyatso, Nada Farah, Dev Ghimire; regional 'training the trainers' tool kit (for Americas and African regional meetings); IBA toolkit; Guidelines for the development of Common Bird Monitoring in Africa. **Year 3:** individual training programme for Natalia Nikolaeva

8 **Year 1:** Lincoln Fishpool (IBA Monitoring Workshop, Malaysia 06 x 1 week), Mike Evans (Middle East regional meeting, Yemen 06 x 1 week). **Year 2:** Alison Stattersfield (CBD meeting, France 07 x 1 week); Stuart Butchart (Americas regional meeting, Mexico 07 x 1 week, African regional meeting Kenya 07 x 1 week); Leon Bennun (African regional meeting Kenya 07 x 1 week); Mike Evans (IBA monitoring workshop Jordan 07 x 1 week). **Year 3:** Muhtari Amino-Kanu and Alison Stattersfield (CBD COP9, Germany 08 x 1 week), Leon Bennun (PAOC, South Africa 08 x 1 week), Leon Bennun, Alison Stattersfield, Stu Butchart, Lincoln Fishpool, Muhtari Amino-Kanu and Mike Evans (BirdLife World Conference, Argentina 08 x 1 week)

9 **Year 3:** 'Important Bird Areas in Palau', 'Species Action Plan for the Americas'

11B **Year 1:** RBCU paper (conference proceedings). **Year 3:** RBCU paper

12B **Year 2:** PCS, BCN and SPNL IBA datasets. **Year 3:** RBCU Worldbirds

13B **Year 2:** Copies of Nepali literature held in BirdLife Library / Cambridge given to BCN

14B **Year 1:** BirdLife Middle East Regional Partnership Meeting, Yemen. **Year 2:** BirdLife Pacific Regional Partnership Meeting, Palau; 8th Pacific Islands Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas; BirdLife Americas Regional Partnership Meeting, Mexico; BirdLife African Regional Partnership Meeting. **Year 3:** PAOC, South Africa; BirdLife World Conference, Argentina

15A **Year 1:** BB x 2, SPNL x 1. **Year 2:** BCN x 1

15C **Year 1:** BirdLife press release announcing project. **Year 3:** BirdLife press release on Palau IBAs, Lebanon IBAs, 'State of the world's birds'

17A **Year 2:** BirdLife Extranet active

Nat. meets **Year 1:** BB x 1, RBCU x 3, SPNL x 3, BCN x 1. **Year 2:** BB x 1, SPNL x 3, RBCU x 1, BCN x 1. **Year 3:** SPNL x 2, PCS x 1, RBCU x 1

Web **Year 2:** BCN website. **Year 3:** BirdLife Secretariat website, RBCU Worldbirds

Global report **Year 3:** State of the World's birds

Publicity materials **Year 3:** SPNL leaflet, Armonia leaflet

Table 2 Publications (full list)

| Type | Detail | Publishers | Available from | Cost £ |
|------------------|---|--|--|--------|
| Journal article | Nikolaeva, N. (2007) 'World of Birds of Russia' Project | Ecological Bulletin of Republic Chuvashiya 57: 53-56 (in Russian) | Natalia Nikolaeva (full paper) or Alison Stattersfield (front cover only) | free |
| Report | Senyatso, K. (2007) Guidelines for the development of common bird monitoring in Africa | BirdLife International | BirdLife International | free |
| Book | Holm, T. <i>et al.</i> eds (2008) Important in Palau: protecting Palau's natural heritage | Palau Conservation Society | PCS | free |
| Manual | Species Action Plans in the Americas (in Spanish) | Armonia | Armonia | free |
| Journal article | Nikolaeva, N. (2008) The use of the internet for citizen science | White Sea Biological Station of the Moscow State University M.: 355-360. | Natalia Nikolaeva (full paper) or Alison Stattersfield (front cover only) | |
| Booklet | State of the world's birds (2008) | BirdLife International | BirdLife International; see also http://www.birdlife.org/sowb/index.html | free |
| Pamphlet | Important Bird Areas in Lebanon | SPNL and Arocha Lebanon | SPNL | free |
| Pamphlet | National campaign against illegal wild bird trade in Bolivia: extinction is forever | Armonia | Armonia | free |
| Booklet | Threatened birds of Bolivia (in prep.) | | | |
| Booklet | Threatened birds of Peru (in prep.) | | | |
| Journal article | Results of IBA research (in prep.) | Sandgrouse | SPNL | |
| Journal article? | Possible papers from PAOC (in prep.) | ? | BirdLife Botswana | |

Hard copied sent separately (referred to in report above)

State of the world's birds (English, French, Spanish)

Leaflet 'Important Bird Areas in Lebanon'

Electronic documents sent separately on CD

Doc 1 Example Action Plan (SPNL)

Doc 2 Template for BirdLife African Partners to submit information to 4NRs

Doc 3 Important Bird Areas in Palau

Doc 4 State of the world's birds

Doc 5 Cover of Species Action Plan for the Americas

Doc 6 Presentation given at BirdLife World Conference (Kabelo Senyatso / BirdLife Botswana)

Doc 7 Presentation given at BirdLife World Conference (Shree Ram / BCN)

Doc 8 Leaflet 'National campaign against illegal wild bird trade in Bolivia: extinction is forever'

Doc 9 Press coverage of 'State of the world's birds'