

Darwin Initiative – Final Report

Darwin project information

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| Project Reference | 15030 |
| Project Title | Strengthening scientific capacity of conservation NGOs working with the CBD |
| Host country(ies) | Bolivia, Botswana, Lebanon, Nepal, Palau, Russia |
| UK Contract Holder Institution | BirdLife International |
| UK Partner Institution(s) | n/a |
| 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) |
| Darwin Grant Value | £136,950 |
| Start/End dates of Project | August 2006 – July 2009 (extended to 30 September 2009) |
| Project Leader Name | Leon Bennun |
| Project Website | Project-generated information available at http://www.birdlife.org/sowb/index.html , www.birdlifenepal.org , http://www.worldbirds.org/v3/russia.php , http://www.spnl.org/spnl.php , www.palau-pcs.org |
| Report Author(s) and date | Alison Stattersfield, Leon Bennun, 31 October 2009, with input from all host country coordinators (see Annex 6 Contacts) and members of the UK Team |

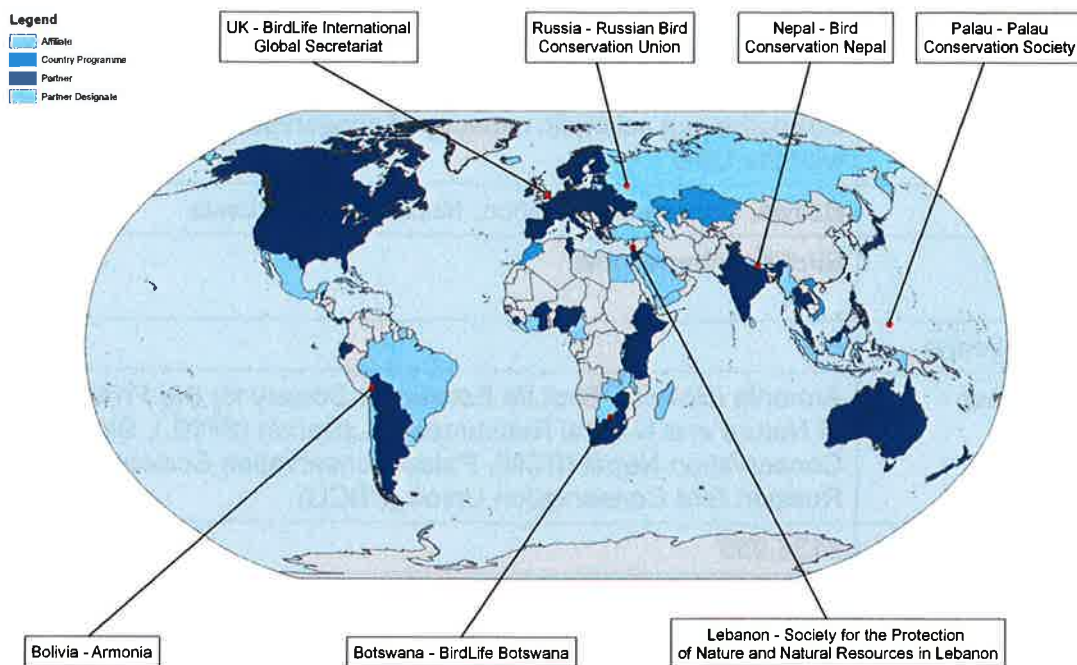
1 Project Background (see map on p.2 for project partner locations)

BirdLife International is renowned for its scientific data on globally threatened bird species and Important Bird Areas (IBAs). However, BirdLife Partners' capacity to collate and use this information at the national level is often patchy and inadequate. This Darwin Project has sought to address this shortfall by strengthening scientific capacity, with four main outputs: 1) staff of national NGOs have improved their skills in data-gathering and analysis; 2) scientific information (from 'Demonstration Projects') has been produced and advocated through relevant policy opportunities; 3) lessons learned have been shared nationally, regionally and globally; and 4) scientific materials have been widely disseminated.

2 Project support to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)¹

This project has supported CBD implementation by: 1) improving the ability of BirdLife Partner NGOs to support their Governments in relevant data-gathering, analysis, reporting and action; and 2) facilitating improved contacts and linkages between BirdLife Partners and their CBD focal points and national CBD processes. Specifically, the project has identified threatened bird species requiring urgent attention (in Bolivia), developed monitoring schemes for common bird species which are indicative of changes in the wider landscape (Botswana and Russia), and identified and monitored Important Bird Areas (Lebanon, Nepal and Palau).

¹ Key staff involved in the project are as follows: **Armonia**: Bennett Hennesey, Melvin Gastanaga; **BirdLife Botswana**: Kabelo Senyatso, Motshereganyi Virat Kootsositse, Molebi Ryu Mosokotso; **BCN**: Hem Sagar Baral, Dev Ghimire, Ishana Thapa, Shree Ram, Deependra Joshi; **SPNL**: Soumar Dakdouk, Nada Farah, Bassima Khatib; **PCS**: Tiare Holme, Lukes Isechal, Liz Mathews; **RBCU**: Tatiana Sviridova, Natalia Nikolaeva, Elena Zubakina; **UK Team**: Leon Bennun (Leader), Ali Stattersfield (Coordinator), Stu Butchart (Species), Lincoln Fishpool (Sites / IBAs), Mike Evans (Databases / Monitoring), Ian May (Web), Mark Balman (GIS) Muhtari Amino-Kano (Policy / CBD).



Organising relevant information into databases has been a strong component of the work, as has information exchange within and between countries, and promotion of the importance to conserve birds and biological diversity (see Annex 3 for estimated contribution to specific CBD Articles, which are also relevant to the CBD cross-cutting issues of 'Identification, Monitoring, Indicators and Assessments' and 'Protected Areas').

Liaison with CBD National Focal Points has been an integral activity throughout. Some host country partners already had effective relationships with their focal points and continued to build on these; others developed relationships for the first time using the project as a catalyst. For example, after the Inaugural Darwin Workshop (see below), BirdLife Botswana met with their focal point to discuss their plans for implementing the Darwin Project and how they might contribute to the implementation of the CBD more broadly. Subsequently, they were approached to provide technical input to Botswana's 4th National Report (4NR). SPNL built on their regular contact with their focal point and, in May 2009, participated in a workshop organised by the Lebanese Ministry of the Environment to review the draft 4NR and provide comments and updates. BCN also supported the Nepalese Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation (the CBD Focal Point for Nepal) in the preparation of the 4NR.

As a result of interactions with the CBD Secretariat, Lijie Cai, the CBD Programme Officer for National Reports, personally requested all CBD National Focal Points to seek input to 4NRs from their relevant BirdLife Partners, and the BirdLife Secretariat also separately alerted all 112 BirdLife Partners to this opportunity. In addition, Alison Stattersfield / UK Team, 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, 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 / UK Team 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, 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 all relevant focal points. This illustrates how this Darwin Project has encouraged BirdLife to be more proactive in developing relationships with CBD National Focal Points and providing input to the 4NRs, not just by the Darwin Project Partners, but by many of the BirdLife Partners worldwide.

3 Project Partnerships

BirdLife already functions as a Partnership between national NGOs across the world, supported by a decentralised Secretariat. Building on this formal structure and many existing shared activities, the project has worked to strengthen the practical implementation of partnership for scientific data-gathering, analysis and application.

Throughout the project, the staff based at the BirdLife Global Secretariat worked closely with the staff based in the six focal BirdLife Partners. At the start, each Partner developed an individual 'Action Plan' which was updated each year, and an 'Agreement' was signed by BirdLife and each Partner each year, demonstrating commitment to the project.

The breadth of the work has been a challenge and it has been important to keep the momentum going in order to remain on track. So, we have kept in regular contact on latest developments largely by email, but there have been many other opportunities for personal interactions including through the internships (hosted at the BirdLife Global Secretariat in Cambridge) and at regional meetings which have been jointly attended by Partners and members of the UK Team.

Of particular value was the Inaugural Darwin Workshop, hosted by the UK Team in September 2006 and attended by all host country coordinators. This provided an opportunity to meet face-to-face, scope out the activities, select Demonstration Projects and build individual relationships. The BirdLife World Conference in Buenos Aires in September 2008, attended by all the project partners, was another important focus for discussing progress and sharing information with other BirdLife Partners.

During the internships, the project worked closely with colleagues at the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB, BirdLife in the UK), sharing expertise and demonstrating UK conservation practice.

Project activities have also catalysed or reinforced partnerships with national CBD focal points and with the CBD Secretariat, as outlined above, as well as a range of other partnerships with national and local institutions, outlined in the detailed reports from each project partner.

4 Project Achievements

See Annex 1 for an overview of the achievements against the project log frame and Annex 2 for the project's log frame with indicators, means of verification and assumptions.

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

This project is contributing to the conservation of biological diversity and improved sustainable use / local livelihoods. In the six project countries, inventory and monitoring data have been collected for species and sites, and this is stimulating a range of promising conservation actions. The institutional capacity of leading NGOs in the six project countries has also been enhanced and awareness has been raised in support of conservation of biological diversity.

For RBCU and BirdLife Botswana, the emphasis has been on collecting baseline monitoring data on bird species that will help to track changes in biodiversity in the future (reflecting the urgent need for establishing ecological baselines, highlighted e.g. in Botswana's 4NR).

For PCS, the completion of the IBA inventory has helped to define the next steps needed to conserve these sites, including prioritising IBAs for action, developing collaborative management plans and seeking higher level protection. For example, at Fanna Island, Palau's first officially recognized IBA, PCS is undertaking a project to protect the nesting seabirds that includes rodent eradication, community education and biodiversity monitoring. PCS is also working with the Fanna community and leadership to develop a management plan for the island.

For SPNL and BCN, documentation and monitoring at IBAs are already resulting in action at sites. Two examples are:

- at Hima Kfar Zabad/Anjar, one of the newly declared IBAs in the Lebanon, SPNL is working with the municipality and the local community to restore the site to support waders and other species (e.g. the River Otter *Lutra lutra*) even in the driest season. Eco-friendly practices have been promoted to farmers to improve the water quality and increase incomes by marketing local environmentally-friendly products.
- at 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 (also supported by Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust Darwin Project Ref 15014 'Managing wetlands for sustainable livelihoods').

For Armonia, collection of data has also led to implementation of actions for the most threatened bird species. An example is:

- actions are underway for the Critically Endangered Blue-throated Macaw *Ara glaucogularis*, including population surveys, provision of artificial nest boxes, monitoring the cage-bird trade, researching possible land acquisitions, raising awareness through an education campaign, and developing guidelines for sustainable tourism (see [http://www.birdlife.org/extinction/pdfs/Blue-throated Macaw Guardian Action Update Nov08.pdf](http://www.birdlife.org/extinction/pdfs/Blue-throated%20Macaw%20Guardian%20Action%20Update%20Nov08.pdf)).

Project impacts across the wider BirdLife Partnership are likely to be significant but are harder to assess. Experience and materials from this project have been shared with other BirdLife Partners through a series of regional meetings, among other means. Other BirdLife Partners will have made variable use of these, depending on their own national priorities and capacities. Many conservation actions being implemented by other Partners could be linked to, and enabled by, the outputs of the project, but it is difficult to track these actions systematically and to demonstrate the linkages clearly.

4.2 Outcomes: achievement of the project purpose and outcomes

As a result of the project activities and outputs, scientific capacity and confidence have been enhanced, and partners are contributing their scientific information on threatened bird species and IBAs more effectively in support of CBD implementation, through improved and increased contact with CBD National Focal Points and other Government Ministries.

Some examples demonstrating this include:

- The high priority of threatened bird species and IBAs for biodiversity conservation was clearly recognised by the Governments of Botswana, Nepal and Lebanon in their 4NRs. For instance, in Nepal's 4NR, under Goal 1 "Promote the conservation of the biodiversity of ecosystems, habitats and biomes, it states "the Government of Nepal has made its commitment to declare one additional Important Bird Area (IBA) within the protected areas as a Ramsar Site, and three additional IBAs outside PA system have been committed to be put under management" (see <http://www.cbd.int/doc/world/np/np-nr-04-en.pdf>).
- The need for information on threatened birds was affirmed when the Peruvian Environment Ministry requested the threatened bird texts (developed by Armonia through the Darwin Project) to be placed on the Ministry's webpage as part of their National Red Book program.
- The value of IBAs for future decision-making in conserving Lebanon's biodiversity was recognised by the Lebanese Ministry of Environment, which hosted a special ceremony marking the completion of SPNL's work on IBAs through the Darwin Project.
- The relevance of IBAs to the Micronesia Challenge (a regional inter-governmental Pacific initiative launched at CBD COP8 that aims to facilitate more effective conservation, with a specific goal of effectively managing at least 20% of forested land by 2020) was explicitly acknowledged by the Palauan Minister of Resources and Development. In the foreword to the directory of 'Important Bird Areas in Palau' published by PCS as a result of their Demonstration Project, he 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."

- Collaboration between BirdLife Botswana and the Government was strengthened when, in July 2009, BirdLife Botswana signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Wildlife and National Parks, providing a transparent, legitimate and accountable framework through which the parties will collaborate on research and other matters related to the protection and conservation of birds in Botswana.
- Appreciation of the role that Armonia is playing in protecting the nation's birds was officially recognised by the Bolivian National Congress through an award.

4.3 Outputs (and activities)

This project has been executed around six Demonstration Projects, as follows:

- Initiating conservation action for the most threatened bird species (Armonia / Bolivia)
- Strengthening links between bird projects and national initiatives (BirdLife Botswana)
- Updating an IBA inventory and the action needed (SPNL / Lebanon)
- Monitoring IBAs to stimulate action at sites (BCN / Nepal)
- Developing an IBA inventory and follow-on advocacy strategy (PCS / Palau)
- Using citizen science for capacity-building and advocacy (RBCU / Russia)

These projects were selected at the Inaugural Darwin Workshop and made an excellent complementary set, three focusing around species (common, threatened and highly threatened) and three around sites (identification, updating and monitoring), demonstrating a breadth of scientific work. All the activities included in the original log frame were undertaken and all the outputs were achieved to a high standard, as originally envisaged. In brief, considerable training was organised including through the tailored internships leading to improved scientific skills (OUTPUT 1). Datasets were developed and analysed leading to the publication of a number of excellent reports (OUTPUT 2). Regional and national workshops and meetings were attended enabling the experiences gained through the project to be shared extensively within and between countries (OUTPUT 3). The scientific materials generated were communicated and disseminated widely in a variety of different ways (OUTPUT 4).

The project was designed to capitalise on, and add value to, BirdLife International's already extensive datasets, long experience in providing information to decision-makers at the global level, and unique Partnership structure and outreach. There were many notable achievements during the three years. Some highlights include:

- Armonia produced two very valuable publications: the first, a 'Species Action Plan' manual which was widely dispersed in several countries in the Americas and which will facilitate clearer documentation of the conservation measures needed to save species from extinction; and the second, a 'Threatened birds of Bolivia' booklet which describes Bolivia's Critically Endangered, Endangered and Vulnerable species with artist's illustrations.
- BCN became one of the first countries in Asia to initiate IBA monitoring, at six IBAs across Nepal, updated data for all their IBAs (27 in total), and produced a detailed report for one of these.
- BirdLife Botswana produced guidelines for establishing bird population monitoring in Africa, based on work already underway in the UK and Europe, trained government staff and local communities in bird census methodologies, and launched a country-wide 'Common Bird Monitoring' scheme.
- SPNL finalized the most extensive bird research project ever undertaken in Lebanon resulting in the declaration of nine new IBAs of global significance and two of regional significance.
- PCS published the first directory of 'Important Bird Areas in Palau' with descriptions of eight sites covering nearly half of Palau's total land area.

- RBCU launched an ambitious country-wide web-based citizen science scheme, and promoted it actively to scientists and the public.
- BirdLife released a major new report and website on the 'State of the world's birds' drawing on data provided by its worldwide Partnership, including from its six Darwin project partners. This report demonstrates how monitoring bird species and IBAs contribute substantially to the indicators that are being used to measure progress in reducing the rate of loss of biodiversity (the CBD 2010 target).

4.4 Project standard measures and publications

See Annex 4 for the complete list of standard measures and Annex 5 for the full list of publications. Nearly all the standard measures were met or exceeded, as outlined in the original project concept. Additional details on the measures, grouped by output, are given below.

Output 1. Staff of national NGOs improve their skills in data-gathering and analysis: 6 individuals undertook internships and 8 attended an additional 4 training events (12 different individuals trained in total at 10 different training events), covering 27 person-weeks, with 13 different sets of training materials produced. In support of host country participants, 6 UK staff spent 16-person weeks at 10 different overseas locations (involved in training events and regional meetings).

The Inaugural Darwin Workshop

The Inaugural Darwin Workshop was held at the BirdLife International Global Secretariat in Cambridge, 7th–14th September 2006, attended by all team members. The workshop included sessions on:

- a discussion of current BirdLife Global, Regional and National Science Programmes and how these link with policy and advocacy work;
- a detailed review of the requirements of the Darwin Project and how to input results to governmental policy processes relevant to the implementation of the CBD;
- a SWOT analysis of BirdLife's capacity to execute the Darwin Project and discussion on how to deal with possible Weaknesses and Threats;
- a demonstration on how to develop criteria to identify and prioritise possible science work relevant to the needs of each organisation; and
- a collaborative exercise working together to develop a draft Action Plan with key milestones and outputs based on the original project proposal.

Internships

The internships varied according to the participant and their experience, and the needs of the Demonstration Project. Activities included some specific training and practice (for example on GIS techniques, use of databases), discussion of scientific methodology (IBA criteria, census techniques), opportunities to learn more about conservation practice generally (including from a range of staff individually, and through attending meetings and visits to other organisations), plus time to undertake work relevant to the demonstration projects with guidance as needed. Further details are as follows:

- The first intern—Melvin Gastanaga / Armonia—was hosted at the BirdLife International Global Secretariat in Cambridge, 15th January–9th February 2007. We worked closely together on a variety of technical issues involving database and spreadsheet work, and used materials produced by the RSPB Darwin Project Ref 10019 'Action plans for the conservation of globally threatened birds in Africa'.
- The second intern—Lukes Isechal / PCS—was hosted 18th August–8th September 2007. For this, we arranged training on the use of GIS to map IBA boundaries, how to identify marine IBAs, and protocols for setting up a monitoring framework for IBAs. Materials produced by two BirdLife Darwin projects were of great value, namely, 15022 'Government-civil society partnerships for protected areas in Timor-Leste' and 15019 'Community-based conservation groups at Fiji's key conservation sites'.

- The third intern—Kabelo Senyatso / BirdLife Botswana—was hosted 10th–28th September 2007. The focus of this internship was on developing skills in technical report writing and data analysis and, after reviewing bird census techniques and on-going monitoring schemes in Europe and Africa, developing guidelines for robust bird population monitoring in Africa.
- The fourth intern—Nada Farah / SPNL—was hosted 25th October–7th November 2007. The emphasis this time was on how to enter inventory and monitoring data on IBAs into BirdLife's new web-based database. An introduction was also given to Google Earth and digitization techniques.
- The fifth intern—Dev Ghimire / BCN—was hosted 2nd–29th March 2008. For this, we organised a comprehensive training programme covering all aspects of IBA conservation from scientific data collection and analysis including monitoring, through to national policy and advocacy work.
- The sixth internship—Natalia Nikolaeva / RBCU—was hosted 9th–22nd June 2008. During this, we tested the Russian implementation of 'Worldbirds' (a worldwide citizen-science database, developed by the RSPB), developed and refined species lists for the three Russian regions (a huge task), prepared IBA location data, and investigated the potential for data entry by UK-based volunteers (i.e. at a distance from RBCU). Natalia was also able to explore how data might be developed and analysed in the future to inform conservation practice and policy.

After the internships, trainees returned to their institutions and took action to pass on new skills and knowledge to other staff members. For example, after his internship, Kabelo Senyatso led a project to develop a census methodology for large grassland birds (which appeared inadequately covered by conventional census techniques reviewed during his internship). Between January and March 2008 several BirdLife Botswana staff members joined him for two weeks at a time and experienced firsthand a range of different census methodologies.

Other training events

Staff from the project attended three additional training events, as follows:

- Ishana Thapa / BCN was funded to attend an IBA monitoring training workshop in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 4th–8th December 2006, supported by Lincoln Fishpool / UK Team.
- Shree Ram / BCN was funded to attend an IBA Workshop in Mumbai, 29th February–5th March 2007 organised by the RSPB Darwin Project 14041 'Strengthening the Indian Bird Conservation Network to Safeguard Key Sites'.
- Nada Farah / SPNL was funded to attend an IBA monitoring workshop in Jordan, 7th–11th November 2007, supported by Mike Evans / UK Team.

Training materials

The UK Team developed materials specifically for the Inaugural Darwin Workshop and made these (plus the workshop outputs) available to all participants. They also developed a further six individually tailored training programmes specifically for the internships and, with host country participants, developed two presentations for the regional meetings in Africa and the Americas (see below). Four further sets of training materials were developed through the project, as follows:

- a generic species action plan suitable for the Americas regions (produced by Melvin Gastanaga as a result of her internship);
- bird population monitoring guidelines for Africa (produced by Kabelo Senyatso as a result of his internship);
- IBA monitoring guidelines in Arabic (produced by SPNL following IBA training); and
- an on-line IBA toolkit (for all regions; see www.birdlife.org/ibas/, produced by the UK Team and others including input from Lukes Isechal, Nada Farah and Dev Ghimire during their internships).

Output 2. Scientific information from the Demonstration Projects linked to policy mechanisms is produced: *5 datasets were developed / enhanced, 4 national / global and 1 local reports produced, 2 scientific papers published (and further 3 submitted / in preparation) and 3 'Analysis Guides' developed.*

Data sets

- RBCU established a new dataset on species and sites which now forms the backbone for recording birds through their citizen-science project.
- PCS established a new dataset covering eight IBAs which is now incorporated into BirdLife's web-based IBA database.
- SPNL invested considerable effort in revising data and establishing monitoring baselines for 11 new IBAs in BirdLife's web-based IBA database.
- BCN updated data on 27 IBAs already held in BirdLife's web-based IBA database.
- The UK Team coordinated a major review of the status of the world's birds, and updated BirdLife's species database (and associated factsheets on the BirdLife website) for all 10,000 species.

Scientific reports and publications (for citations and more detail, see Annex 5)

- Armonia published a 'Threatened birds of Bolivia' booklet.
- SPNL produced an 'Important Bird Areas of Lebanon' report and a scientific paper.
- PCS published an 'Important Bird Areas in Palau' directory.
- BCN produced a research report on one IBA (Suklaphanta Wildlife Reserve).
- BirdLife Botswana produced two scientific papers on threatened birds.
- RBCU produced two scientific papers on the use of citizen science.
- BirdLife / UK Team published a global 'State of the world's birds' report.

Analysis Guides

The UK Team developed three different 'Analysis Guides', as follows:

- an advanced search facility which allows interactive use of 'State of the world's birds' case studies (see <http://www.biodiversityinfo.org/sowb/advsearch.php>), including extraction of material by country.
- country profiles presenting species / site data held in BirdLife's databases at the national level.
- national protected area 'gap analysis' maps showing the spatial relationship between the current protected area network and IBAs relevant to the CBD Programme of Work on Protected Areas (POWPA).

Output 3. Lessons learned in developing and analysing conservation datasets and information are shared nationally, regionally and globally: *7 regional conferences were attended jointly by the UK and host country teams. At these, presentations were given on the Demonstration Projects reaching some 1,000 people and 100 BirdLife Partner Organisations. A further 12+ national meetings were attended by host country coordinators where the project was discussed, and 5 workshops were organised to present and disseminate the findings.*

Regional conferences (in date order)

The BirdLife Middle East Partnership Meeting in Sana'a, Yemen, 23rd–29th November 2006, was attended by Soumar Dakdouk / SPNL and Mike Evans / UK Team. This provided an excellent opportunity for SPNL to make a presentation about the Darwin Project to seven other national conservation NGOs and to share their ideas for developing the IBA programme in the Lebanon.

The BirdLife Pacific Partnership Meeting in Koror, Palau, 14th–18th May 2007 was hosted by Tiare Holm / PCS. Some 30 people participated, including representatives from eight national conservation NGOs. A presentation was given on the work of PCS including on developing the IBA inventory and follow-on advocacy strategy.

The BirdLife Americas Partnership Meeting in Monterrey, Mexico, 25th–29th June 2007, was attended by host country coordinator, Bennett Hennessey / Armonia and Stuart Butchart and Leon Bennun/ UK Team. Some 50 people participated, including representatives from 16 national conservation NGOs. A joint presentation on initiating conservation action for the most threatened bird species (relating to Armonia's Demonstration Project) was given.

The BirdLife Africa Partnership meeting in Nairobi, Kenya, 10th–28th September 2007, was attended by Kabelo Senyatso / BirdLife Botswana and Leon Bennun and Stuart Butchart / UK Team. Some 80 people participated, including representatives from 23 national conservation NGOs. A joint presentation on Common Bird Monitoring was given and a session facilitated to assess capacity to undertake such monitoring (as a precursor to establishing a couple of national pilot projects).

The 8th Pacific Islands Conference on Nature Conservation and Protected Areas in Alotau, Papua New Guinea, 22nd–26th October 2007, was attended by Liz Matthews / PCS. At this meeting, BirdLife and the inter-governmental organisation, the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), hosted a joint workshop to review the status of bird species, IBAs/Protected Areas, and the current resourcing and investment in terrestrial conservation. The meeting was attended by six national conservation NGOs and Governmental and civil society representatives from 12 Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICT). The results of this work were integrated into the conference's 'Action Strategy for Nature Conservation 2007–2012'.

The 12th Pan-African Ornithological Congress in Rawsonville, South Africa, 7th–12th September 2008, was attended by Kabelo Senyatso / BirdLife Botswana and Leon Bennun / UK Team. Both made presentations on species conservation, IBAs and monitoring, drawing on work developed through the Demonstration Projects.

Global conference

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 all UK team members. This meeting was attended by 525 people overall from 98 national conservation organisations and a range of BirdLife's international collaborators, 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**
- Bird Population Monitoring in Africa: building off the European experience and learning from African pilot projects **Kabelo Senyatso / BirdLife Botswana**
- IBA monitoring at six sites in Nepal **Shree Ram / BCN**
- IBA monitoring experiences 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 work.

National meetings and workshops (by organisation / date)

Armonia

- 14th September 2009: the project was presented at a symposium 'Tools for conservation' in Lima, Peru, organised by Armonia and attended by over 100 students and two other national conservation NGOs. The event was held at and officially supported by the Ministry of the Environment.
- 28th September 2009: the project was presented at a similar symposium in Bolivia organised by Armonia and attended by 54 students.

BirdLife Botswana

- 7th October 2006: the project was discussed at an internal strategic planning meeting, focusing on how to mainstream activities into on-going initiatives.
- 8th–10th November 2007: the project was presented at a policy workshop organised by BirdLife Botswana involving community-based groups (Site Support Groups). The aim of this workshop was to share experiences in the management of natural resources and to review a new environmental policy (Community Based Natural Resources Management Policy).

SPNL

- 16th January 2007: the project was discussed at a meeting to launch an Arabic language bird field guide at the American University of Beirut campus, involving over 150 people including from Government ministries.
- 9th–10th May, 5th–6th June, 27th–28th October 2007: the project was discussed at three IBA workshops organised by SPNL, involving about 60 people and representatives from three government departments (Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Environment).
- 7th–8th February 2009: the project was discussed at a training workshop organised by SPNL—in collaboration with Arocha Lebanon—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.
- 2nd April 2009: the project was presented at a 'final ceremony' hosted at the Ministry of Environment. At this meeting, information on the individual IBAs was given to those responsible for the management of these sites and a full report on all the new IBAs was presented to the Ministry of Environment.

BCN

- 15th–17th December 2006: the project was discussed at BCN's annual 'Strategic Planning Workshop', attended by 31 staff, volunteers and people from other conservation organisations.
- 6th–8th December 2007: the project was presented at a national seminar and training workshop (in Lumbini) organised by BCN, jointly funded by the Ramsar Bureau and the Darwin Project, and attended by 26 participants.

PCS

- September 2008: the project was discussed at a national meeting of 'National Conservation Practitioners'. Birds were identified as targeted species of concern and IBAs were identified as sites for special consideration for protected areas and management consideration.

RBCU

- 2nd October 2006: the project was discussed at an internal meeting and materials were sent to board members and regional offices.
- 24th–26th March 2007: a presentation on the Demonstration Project was given at a regional conference entitled 'Researching birds of the Volga-Kama region'. This was attended by about 100 participants from the Central and Southern part of Russia who enthusiastically supported the development of a Russian 'Worldbirds' tool to collect data from future Russian birdwatchers and ecological tourists.
- 3rd February 2008: a presentation was given at a national meeting involving 73 participants from 33 regional branches.
- 9th–10th August 2008: a paper on the Demonstration Project was presented at the 70th anniversary of the White Sea Biological Station of the Moscow State University, to an audience of students, scientists, and staff from other Russian NGOs and Institutes.

Output 4. Scientific materials are widely disseminated: *6+ national publicity articles / press releases produced, 2 international press releases produced, 4 advocacy pamphlets published and 5 websites developed with information generated by the project.*

Publicity

- In Bolivia, two Santa Cruz city newspapers are interested in publishing information on threatened species after the elections.
- In Botswana, the project was covered by two national newspapers (headlines: 'Birds join pollution battle' in *The Voice*, 19th January 2007 and 'UK govt sponsors BirdLife's conservation drive' in *Mmegi*, 19th January 2007).
- In Lebanon, efforts were made to ensure wide media coverage and press releases about the project and its recommendations in parallel with the final ceremony. A BirdLife 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).
- In Nepal, information on the project was broadcast over local radio channels and covered in the *Tilottama National Daily* newspaper.
- In Palau, press releases about seabird restoration at the Fanna Island IBA were published in local newspapers, PCS's newsletter, and the regional newsletter of the Pacific Invasives Learning Network (PILN). A BirdLife media alert was produced to mark the launch of the directory of 'Important Bird Areas in Palau' (see http://www.birdlife.org/news/news/2008/10/palau_iba_book.html).
- In Russia, press releases were produced to coincide with 'Autumn Birdwatching Days'.
- Internationally, the project was announced by BirdLife over its website (see http://www.birdlife.org/news/pr/2006/12/darwin_initiative.html). In addition, a press release was produced for the launch of 'State of the world's birds' (http://www.birdlife.org/news/pr/2008/09/SOWB_global.html). The results had exceptional media profile, being covered on >200 websites, >100 newspapers, > 8 radio shows, plus TV and internet video coverage, and formed one of the top stories on Google News UK, BBC Science News and many more (they were also featured on the Home Page of the Darwin Initiative website).
- An article on the project is currently in preparation for publication in BirdLife's magazine *World Birdwatch*.

Pamphlets

- Armonia produced a document entitled 'National campaign against illegal wild bird trade in Bolivia: extinction is forever'.
- BirdLife Botswana produced a pocket field guide and checklist to the common birds of Botswana.
- SPNL released a pamphlet with information on the 14 newly-documented IBAs in Lebanon (in Arabic and English).
- RBCU produced a pamphlet which provides popular information about the Russian Worldbirds database and how it can be used.

Websites

- SPNL renovated their website with special emphasis on the IBA programme (including criteria, national surveys and results), 'Hima' revival for conservation with specific case studies, and other relevant subjects such as the 'Sustainable Hunting Project' (see <http://www.spnl.org/spnl.php>).
- BCN revised their website which now includes information on IBAs and an interactive forum for members and non members (see www.birdlifenepal.org).
- PCS added information pages on their IBAs to their website (see www.palau-pcs.org).
- RBCU developed a new website to host the Russian version of Worldbirds (see www.worldbirds.org/v3/russia.php).
- BirdLife launched a new website for 'State of the world's birds' (see <http://www.birdlife.org/sowb/index.html>) and linked this to the CBD website as a resource for 4NRs (see <https://www.cbd.int/nr4/resources/links/>).

Other dissemination

- Armonia have dispersed copies of the 'Species Action Plan' manual in Brazil, Peru, Bolivia, Ecuador and Paraguay.
- PCS distributed copies of the 'Important Bird Areas in Palau' inventory to state and national leaders and resource-management agencies during July – September 2008.
- BirdLife distributed the report 'State of the world's birds' (in three languages: English, French and Spanish) at the IUCN World Conservation Congress, 5th–14th October 2008, and sent a further 400 copies to key advocacy contacts around the world.

4.5 Technical and Scientific achievements and co-operation

BirdLife is an international thematic focal point for the CBD's Clearing House Mechanism and thus we are already involved in facilitating technical and scientific cooperation. However, through this project we have considerably strengthened our contribution by improving links with the CBD website, and developing resources for CBD implementation. These include:

- individual species and site (IBA) factsheets;
- 'State of the world's birds' case studies (illustrating what we know about the changing state of the world's birds, why birds are declining, and what can be done to improve their status);
- country profiles providing national overviews to bird species and IBAs; and
- protected area gap analyses for selected countries (comparing the location of IBAs with those of existing protected areas).

4.6 Capacity building

This whole project was focused on building the scientific capacity of six developing country NGOs (see details in previous sections).

The UK Team also sought to build its own capacity to be an effective project partner through, e.g., sharing experiences with other BirdLife staff also coordinating Darwin projects. The project had a particularly strong programmatic link to the BirdLife Darwin Project 14042 'Supporting southern conservation NGOs to work with the CBD' and consequently the two project coordinators (Alison Stattersfield and Muhtari Aminu-Kano) worked closely together (e.g. attending CBD meetings, planning internship programmes, exchanging information). In July 2007, they attended the second (CBD) meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on the Review of Implementation of the Convention (WGRI-2) in Paris and, in May 2008, they attended the 9th Conference of the Parties (COP9) in Bonn. These meetings were helpful in improving understanding of how the project might support the needs of host-country Governments, specifically in contributing to 4NRs.

In addition, in August 2006, the UK Team attended a 3-day training course designed specifically to prepare for the project. In June 2007, Alison Stattersfield attended a Darwin Workshop in London which provided a timely opportunity to meet key Darwin Secretariat staff and fellow Darwin Project Leaders/Coordinators, and learn more about the Darwin Initiative firsthand, most usefully on aspects relating to project management, reporting and evaluation.

4.7 Sustainability and Legacy

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>). The databases, materials, tools and techniques developed during the project will find wide application across the Partnership as a whole. More specifically:

- Armonia will continue their work on threatened species as part of the new BirdLife Initiative 'Preventing Extinctions Programme' (see http://www.birdlife.org/action/campaigns/species_champions/index.html).
- BirdLife Botswana will continue to pioneer common bird monitoring as part of an African-wide programme. The MoU signed with the Department of Wildlife and National Parks provides an excellent avenue to ensure the legacy of this Darwin Project as BirdLife Botswana now has formal recognition and access to high-level policy makers.
- SPNL will use the results of their IBA Project as a basis for a national advocacy plan for their conservation.
- BCN and PCS will continue to develop their conservation work around IBAs through projects and as part of BirdLife Regional Programmes.
- RBCU is committed to continue with Worldbirds as part of a suite of citizen-science initiatives. Data from their project and other participating WorldBirds installations will be made available for wider use and dissemination via the EuroGEOSS project (<http://www.eurogeoss.eu/default.aspx>), which aims to deliver information to policy-makers and scientists working in the areas of drought, biodiversity and forestry.

5 Lessons learned, dissemination and communication

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

Although the project has successfully achieved both its planned outcomes and outputs, and in some case gone beyond what was expected, some issues have arisen and some lessons have been learned that will influence BirdLife's approach to scientific capacity-building in future.

Internships were highly effective in terms of developing individual skills and producing specific products. However, the intensive individual focus means that this is a relatively expensive approach, unless interns can effectively pass on their skills and knowledge to others in their organisations and elsewhere in BirdLife. Most interns have managed to achieve this. Of the 12 individuals trained, seven remain within BirdLife, while four are employed in other national or regional conservation organisations – contributing still to biodiversity conservation but not within the specific context of this project. More direct approaches may be appropriate alongside internships in future (e.g. training courses at regional BirdLife meetings for a larger set of people followed by 'remote' mentoring and support from Cambridge).

The project deliberately focused on a diverse set of technical activities, corresponding to the national needs and priorities identified by the partners. This had the major advantage of ensuring that the outputs would be directly useful to (and used by) Partners, and of covering a broad set of complementary approaches. However, to some extent it also militated against thematic coherence and made it harder to share and synthesise national experiences gained in different contexts. BirdLife's regionalised structure also made it more difficult (though not impossible) to share approaches across regions effectively. In future science capacity-building projects that involve a diversity of partners in different regions, we may choose to focus on a specific issue of importance to all (e.g. national reporting on CBD implementation), and to synthesise the experience gained for the benefit of BirdLife as a whole.

For Armonia, a key lesson learnt was the need to improve estimations on how long it takes to do things. For example, producing publications and developing websites took much longer than they had thought. Each action involved people outside of the project, who were sometimes less motivated than those within the organisation and took longer than expected to deliver.

For BirdLife Botswana, a key lesson learnt was the importance of being transparent and keeping people abreast of new developments. For example, visits and update emails to the CBD Focal Point and government officials were much appreciated. Without BirdLife Botswana asking for anything specific in return, this communication prompted many people voluntarily to provide advice on the way forward, key resources to refer to, people to talk to etc.

For BCN, with hindsight, they would have liked to have held a separate training workshop on IBA monitoring for protected area managers as, with nearly half of the IBAs in Nepal already designated as protected areas, this would have been more effective in generating valuable data.

For RBCU, a key lesson learnt was the value of sharing national experiences with other Partners in other countries, particularly examples of how to advocate project results in policy-relevant ways at the national level.

5.1 Darwin identity

The Darwin Initiative logo features prominently in publications and on websites, and was shown on all relevant powerpoint presentations. Funding from the Darwin Initiative was acknowledged in all publications and on press releases.

6 Monitoring and evaluation

We monitored the project through the relevant indicators identified in the logical framework. These were verified by examining various reports/outputs that provide evidence both of activity and of the quality of this effort. For the Inaugural Darwin Workshop we produced a tailored questionnaire in order to seek firsthand feedback on the training provided.

6.1 Actions taken in response to annual report reviews

We responded to all the issues raised in the reviews of the annual reports, and discussed these with the project team members, and with the Darwin Secretariat where requested.

- In relation to concerns regarding poor internet access to our growing web-based databases, we kept the databases 'simple' to reduce this problem.
- For concerns relating to the e-group connectivity, we demonstrated access and the use of the Extranet at all the training events that we undertook. We also asked users to promote the system within their organisations and identified a person in each region to champion the use of this resource.
- For internship training programmes, we outlined the content more specifically, as requested. We also reviewed our generic idea of producing regional toolkits through the internships to feed into the regional meetings, and recognised that it was not always appropriate (although the concept worked well for the Americas and African meetings). For this reason, we decided to focus our efforts on developing one IBA toolkit relevant to all BirdLife Partners' needs.
- Regarding "disentangling the project outputs from ongoing activities at BirdLife International", we clarified that we only reported on activities that were specifically related to the project outputs and 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 were met by the project. In others, for example, salaries, most national / regional meetings and the 'State of the world's birds' report, the costs were greater than could be met by this project alone and thus were supported by more than one funder.
- In order to clarify the reporting, it was recommended to structure the report by geographical region, and we have attempted this in Annex 7 of this report.

7 Finance and administration

7.1 Project expenditure

| | Original budget | Revised budget | Total spend | Variance |
|------------------|-----------------|----------------|-------------|----------|
| Salaries | | | | |
| Rents, rates etc | | | | |
| Office costs | | | | |
| Travel | | | | |
| Printing | | | | |
| Conferences | | | | |
| Audit | | | | |
| Web development | | | | |
| Total | | | | |

7.2 Additional funds or in-kind contributions secured

The host country partners were able to link the Darwin Project to a number of other on-going initiatives in their countries including:

- in Botswana, the Global Environment Facility Small Grants Programme-funded project 'Birds of Concern';
- in Lebanon, the MAVA Trust-funded project 'Identification and conservation of new Important Bird Areas in Lebanon';
- in Nepal, the CEPF-funded project on the Kanchenjunga Conservation Area and Mai Valley Forest, the Ramsar Bureau funded project on the Jagdishpur reservoir, and the Rufford Small Grants Programme on the Farmlands of Lumbini (all these places are IBAs that were monitored as part of BCN's Demonstration Project);
- in Palau, the European Commission-funded project entitled 'Sustainable management of sites globally important for biodiversity in the Pacific';
- the BirdLife Secretariat also secured funding from the A. V. Jensen Charity Foundation towards the 'State of the world's birds' report and website.

This meant that the Darwin Project benefitted from access to additional funds, while adding value to existing efforts.

As a result of their work on developing bird population monitoring guidelines, BirdLife Botswana have secured some small funding from RSPB to develop a pilot scheme to demonstrate the use of these guidelines. They have also recently submitted a funding application to the GEF Small Grants Programme to up-scale this initiative.

PCS received some funding from Seacology to help the local community improve and develop a bird watching trail at the Ngarmeskang Bird Sanctuary.

7.3 Value of DI funding

The Darwin Project very significantly enhanced BirdLife's work in scientific capacity-building and the use of science to support CBD implementation. It provided the opportunity to institute and test a co-ordinated internship programme (a novel approach for us) and to promote and highlight the importance of building our scientific base and using it to impact real-world conservation. Small funding across six diverse and geographically distributed partners provided a range of opportunities (from attending meetings to producing materials) that would not have been available place otherwise and catalysed many new activities as well as contributing to ongoing ones.

In his own words, this is how Bennett Hennesey /Armonia sums it up:

"The Darwin Initiative support allowed us to develop a conservation program that is very important for poor countries with less conservation knowledge. We were able to translate the threatened bird accounts into Spanish for Peru and Bolivia, making this valuable information accessible to national conservationists. We were able to build on this development with Darwin Initiative support to produce a Species Action Plan manual and conduct national species conservation workshops in Peru and Bolivia, inviting keen young conservationists to help guide them with presentations on Species Action Plans, proposal development, representative photos of conservation projects and the threatened species within their country. Students are very eager ... and many people are keen to learn, but without any access to a method to conduct conservation."

Annex 1 Report of progress and achievements against final project logframe for the life of the project

| Project summary | | Measurable Indicators | | Progress and Achievements April 2006 - September 2009 |
|---|--|---|--|---|
| <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>All (6) national NGOs contribute and advocate their scientific information to CBD implementation (by end of Y3)</p> | | <p>This project is contributing to the conservation of biological diversity and improved sustainable use / local livelihoods in the six participating countries, and across the wider BirdLife Partnership. Inventory and monitoring data have been collected for species and sites, institutional capacity has been enhanced, and awareness has been raised, leading to a range of promising conservation actions.</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>Minimum of 6 staff from 6 national NGOs trained, and have each trained 3 others (by Y3); 'e' group active (by end of Y1)</p> | | <p>As a result of the project activities and outputs, scientific capacity and confidence of the six national NGOs have been enhanced, and partners are contributing their scientific information more effectively to CBD implementation, through contact with CBD National Focal Points and other Government Ministries. All the NGOs involved in the project remain viable as independent entities and will continue to work together to deliver the new BirdLife Programme 2009–2012, just adopted. (Note: RBCU has now formally left the BirdLife Partnership but continues to work closely with BirdLife to implement bird conservation in Russia). The investment of this project will therefore continue into the future leading to improved conservation over the longer term.</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 Y3); 'e' group active (by end of Y1)</p> | | <p>Considerable training has been undertaken. In total, 12 individuals received specific training at 10 different events, covering 27 person-weeks, with 13 different sets of training materials produced. In support, 6 UK staff spent 16-person weeks at 10 different overseas locations. The training programmes developed for the internships, the workshops and regional meetings were of a high quality, and trainee reports were positive. There was good follow up to the training provided and information was shared at national seminars and regional meetings, ensuring that trained staff passed on their experiences as effectively as possible.</p> |

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>Activity 1 Science internships set up in UK, collaborations built & 'e' group established</p> | <p>In Y1, an Inaugural Darwin Workshop in the UK was attended by all host country coordinators and an Asian (IBA) training workshop was attended by BCN supported by the UK team. The 1st internship (Armonia) was hosted at the BirdLife Global Secretariat in Cambridge. In Y2, 4 further internships (PCS, BirdLife Botswana, SPNL and BCN) were hosted. In addition, a Middle Eastern (IBA) training workshop was attended by SPNL supported by the UK team, and another Asian (IBA) training workshop was attended by BCN. In Y3, the final (6th) internship (RBCU) was hosted. A range of training materials were produced for and during the internships (for wider use by the BirdLife Partnership). In Y1, the 'e' group was established through a newly developed BirdLife 'Extranet' and participation remained active throughout the project.</p> |
| <p>Output 2. Scientific information from demo projects linked to policy mechanisms is produced</p> | <p>As a result of the training, datasets were developed and a range of reports were produced. In total, 3 national and 1 global scientific reports were produced, 2 scientific papers published, and country profiles, gap analyses and case studies developed. Not all the Demonstration Projects led to national reports but other scientific / advocacy materials were produced as appropriate to the stage of development of the work. All outputs were very timely and well linked to communication and advocacy opportunities.</p> |
| <p>Activity 2. Priority data-gathering undertaken & analyses conducted [and scientific materials produced]</p> | <p>Throughout the project, data sets on species and IBAs relating to the Demonstration Projects were developed and improved. In Y2-3, these datasets were analysed leading to the production and publication of a directory of 'Important Bird Areas in Palau', a 'final report' on the Important Bird Areas of Lebanon, a booklet on threatened birds in Bolivia, and a global report entitled 'State of the world's birds'. In Y3, specific 'Analysis Guides' were developed in order to extract and present species / site data and information at the national level.</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 Y2) & 1 global workshop (Y3)</p> | <p>The experiences gained through the project were shared extensively. In total, 7 regional conferences were attended jointly by the UK and host country teams and presentations were given on the Demonstration Projects reaching some 1,000 people and 100 BirdLife Partner Organisations. A further 12+ national seminars were attended by host country coordinators, and four workshops were organised to present the project. The lessons learned have translated well between partners with, for example, several presentations by host country partners were included in the programme at the BirdLife World Conference.</p> |
| <p>Activity 3. Workshops held</p> | | <p>In Y1, the 1st regional workshop was attended (in the Middle East). In Y2, 4 regional workshops were attended (2 in the Pacific, 1 in the Americas, 1 in Africa). In Y3, the final regional workshop was attended (also in Africa) and the whole team attended the BirdLife World Conference. Opportunities were also taken by the coordinators to discuss / present the Darwin Project at a variety of national meetings and workshops each year.</p> |
| <p>Output 4. Scientific materials are widely disseminated</p> | <p>Minimum of 6 national websites with scientific information linked to CHM appropriately by Y3 & various other outputs</p> | <p>The scientific materials generated were disseminated and promoted widely in a variety of different ways. In total, there have been 6 national publicity articles / press releases, 4 international press releases, 4 advocacy pamphlets and 5 websites with information generated by the project. Every effort was made to ensure that information was taken up by relevant individuals and organisations, through targeted advocacy and personal interactions.</p> |
| <p>4. Scientific materials produced / communicated</p> | | <p>Various press releases have been produced during the project, some in the host countries and some through BirdLife International. Two advocacy pamphlets (one on Important Bird Areas in Lebanon and one on a national campaign against illegal wild bird trade in Bolivia), and two public awareness pamphlets (one on the common birds of Botswana and one on citizen science in Russia). Websites were developed by 4 partners (RBCU, BCN, SPNL and PCS) and by BirdLife International ('State of the world's birds').</p> |

Annex 2 Project's final logframe, including criteria and indicators

| Project summary | Measurable Indicators | Means of verification | Important Assumptions |
|--|--|---|---|
| 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 <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 | | | |
| Purpose Developing country (national) NGOs contributions to the implementation and impact of the CBD are enhanced through strengthening their scientific capacity | All (6) national NGOs contribute and advocate their scientific information to CBD implementation (by end of Y3) | NGO reports; government reports including CBD National Reports | BirdLife Partner Organisations involved in the project remain viable |
| Outputs 1. Staff of national NGOs improve their skills in data-gathering & analysis | Minimum of 6 staff from 6 national NGOs trained, and have each trained 3 others (by Y3); 'e' group active (by end of Y1) | Training programmes; trainees' reports; postings on web-based discussion forum; seminar presentations; workplans | Trained staff effectively pass on their experience |
| 2. Scientific information from demo projects linked to policy mechanisms is produced | Minimum of 6 national & 1 global scientific reports produced, plus one "Analysis Guide"(Y2 –3) | New/enhanced datasets, analyses & case studies; scientific reports (copies sent to the Darwin Initiative); peer reviewed papers | Scientific reports can be used to take advantage of timely policy opportunities |
| 3. Lessons learned in developing & analysing conservation datasets & information are shared nationally, regionally & globally | Minimum of 1 workshop held in each of the 6 regions involving at least 10 additional staff from other NGOs (by Y2) & 1 global workshop (Y3) | Workshop presentations & reports; BirdLife Regional Partnership Meeting reports | Lessons learned translate well between organisations, & other BirdLife Partners are willing & able to participate |
| 4. Scientific materials are widely disseminated | Minimum of 6 national websites with scientific information linked to CHM appropriately by Y3 & various other outputs | Websites; various other publications; reviews of these materials, hits on websites; press releases | Scientific information is taken up and acted upon within & outside the participating organisations |
| Activities 1. Science internships set up in UK, collaborations built & 'e' group established | Activity Milestones Y1– 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); Y1: 'e' group established | | Assumptions |
| 2. Priority data-gathering undertaken & analyses conducted | Y1–3: 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 | Y1: project inception workshop held in the UK (3 days, Sept 06); Y1–2: 6 regional workshops held in each of the six regions (3 days, various dates); Y3: global review workshop hosted by one of the regions (3 days, Sept 08) | | Participating staff are able to attend workshops |
| 4. Scientific materials produced | Y1–3: 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 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 | | Develop national strategies that integrate conservation and sustainable use. |
| 7. Identification and Monitoring | 50% | 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 | 20% | 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 | | 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 | | 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 | 10% | 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 a country's genetic resources should ensure sharing in a fair and equitable way of results and benefits. |

| Article No./Title | Project % | Article Description |
|--|------------------|--|
| 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 | 10% | 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 | 10% | 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 | | |
| 1a | Number of people to submit PhD thesis | |
| 1b | Number of PhD qualifications obtained | |
| 2 | Number of Masters qualifications obtained | |
| 3 | Number of other qualifications obtained | |
| 4a | Number of undergraduate students receiving training | |
| 4b | Number of training weeks provided to undergraduate students | |
| 4c | Number of postgraduate students receiving training (not 1-3 above) | 12 different individuals attended 10 different training events (with 2 attending 2 different training events), plus a further 7 named individuals involved in the project and many more also benefitting from the training |
| 4d | Number of training weeks for postgraduate students | 27 training weeks |
| 5 | Number of people receiving other forms of long-term (>1yr) training not leading to formal qualification(ie not categories 1-4 above) | |
| 6a | Number of people receiving other forms of short-term education/training (ie not categories 1-5 above) | |
| 6b | Number of training weeks not leading to formal qualification | |
| 7 | Number of types of training materials produced for use by host country(s) | 13 sets of different training materials |
| Research Measures | | |
| 8 | Number of weeks spent by UK project staff on project work in host country(s) | 16 weeks involving 6 UK staff at 10 different overseas locations |
| 9 | Number of species/habitat management plans (or action plans) produced for Governments, public authorities or other implementing agencies in the host country (s) | 3 national species/site plans (threatened birds in Bolivia, IBAs in Palau, IBAs in Lebanon), plus 1 local (Suklaphanta Wildlife Reserve in Nepal) |
| 10 | Number of formal documents produced to assist work related to species identification, classification and recording. | |

| | | |
|-------------------------------|--|--|
| 11a | Number of papers published or accepted for publication in peer reviewed journals | 2 scientific papers (RBCU) plus 3 further submitted / in preparation (BirdLife Botswana & SPNL) |
| 11b | Number of papers published or accepted for publication elsewhere | |
| 12a | Number of computer-based databases established (containing species/generic information) and handed over to host country | 1 dataset established (Russian Wordbirds) |
| 12b | Number of computer-based databases enhanced (containing species/genetic information) and handed over to host country | 3 national datasets enhanced (IBA datasets for Palau, Nepal and Lebanon) 1 global dataset enhanced (all bird species) |
| 13a | Number of species reference collections established and handed over to host country(s) | |
| 13b | Number of species reference collections enhanced and handed over to host country(s) | 1 reference collection (copies of Nepali literature in BirdLife Library handed over to BCN) |
| Dissemination Measures | | |
| 14a | Number of conferences/seminars/workshops organised to present/disseminate findings from Darwin project work | 5 workshops (Boliva, Botswana, Lebanon, Nepal, Peru) |
| 14b | Number of conferences/seminars/ workshops attended at which findings from Darwin project work will be presented/ disseminated. | 7 regional conferences 12+ national seminars |
| 15a | Number of national press releases or publicity articles in host country(s) | 6+ national publicity articles / press releases |
| 15b | Number of local press releases or publicity articles in host country(s) | |
| 15c | Number of national press releases or publicity articles in UK | 2 international press releases / media alerts by BirdLife International |
| 15d | Number of local press releases or publicity articles in UK | |
| 16a | Number of issues of newsletters produced in the host country(s) | |
| 16b | Estimated circulation of each newsletter in the host country(s) | |
| 16c | Estimated circulation of each newsletter in the UK | |
| 17a | Number of dissemination networks established | 1 'e' group established |
| 17b | Number of dissemination networks enhanced or extended | |
| 18a | Number of national TV programmes/features in host country(s) | |
| 18b | Number of national TV programme/features in the UK | |

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| 18c | Number of local TV programme/features in host country | |
| 18d | Number of local TV programme features in the UK | |
| 19a | Number of national radio interviews/features in host country(s) | |
| 19b | Number of national radio interviews/features in the UK | |
| 19c | Number of local radio interviews/features in host country (s) | |
| 19d | Number of local radio interviews/features in the UK | |
| Physical Measures | | |
| 20 | Estimated value (£s) of physical assets handed over to host country(s) | |
| 21 | Number of permanent educational/training/research facilities or organisation established | |
| 22 | Number of permanent field plots established | |
| 23 | Value of additional resources raised for project | |
| Other Measures used by the project and not currently including in DI standard measures | | |
| | Number of regional / global reports produced | 1 major global report (State of the world's birds) |
| | Number of publicity / advocacy materials produced | 4 pamphlets (Important Bird Areas in Lebanon, national campaign against illegal wild bird trade in Bolivia, citizen-science in Russia, common birds in Botswana) |
| | Number of websites developed / enhanced with information about / from the Darwin Project | 5 websites (Worldbirds / Russia, BCN, SPNL, PCS, 'State of the world's birds') |
| | Number of analysis guides produced | 3 analysis guides ('State of the world's birds' search facility, country profiles, protected area gap analyses) |

Annex 5 Publications

| 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 |
| 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) | free |
| Journal article | Senyatso, K. (submitted) Bustard conservation in Botswana | 12 th PAOC proceedings | Kabelo Senyatso/ BirdLife Botswana blb@birdlifebotswana.org.bw (abstract) | free |
| Journal article | Senyatso, K. <i>et al.</i> (in prep.) Census techniques for grassland birds in Botswana | Journal of Field Ornithology | Kabelo Senyatso/ BirdLife Botswana blb@birdlifebotswana.org.bw (draft manuscript available) | free |
| Journal article | (in prep.) New Important Bird Areas in Lebanon: a Research & Community Conservation Project March 2005–February 2008 | Sandgrouse | SPNL and Arocha Lebanon | free |
| Book | Holm, T. <i>et al.</i> eds (2008) Important Bird Areas in Palau: protecting Palau's natural heritage | PCS | PCS | free |
| Booklet | Threatened birds of Bolivia (2009) (in Spanish) | Armonia | Armonia | free |
| Booklet | State of the world's birds (2008) (in English, French, Spanish) | BirdLife International | BirdLife International; see also http://www.birdlife.org/sowb/index.html | free |
| Report | Bird diversity in Suklaphanta Wildlife Reserve (2009) | BCN | BCN | free |
| Manual | Species Action Plan (2008) (in Spanish) | Armonia | Armonia | free |
| Manual | Common bird monitoring guidelines for Africa (2008) | BirdLife | BirdLife | free |

| | | | | |
|----------|---|-------------------------|-------------------|------|
| Pamphlet | Important Bird Areas in Lebanon (in Arabic & English) | SPNL and Arocha Lebanon | SPNL | free |
| Pamphlet | National campaign against illegal wild bird trade in Bolivia: extinction is forever | Armonia | Armonia | free |
| Pamphlet | Mir ptits Rossii (in Russian) | RBCU | RBCU | free |
| Pamphlet | Common birds in Botswana | BirdLife Botswana | BirdLife Botswana | free |

Annex 6 Darwin Contacts

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Ref No | 15-030 |
| Project Title | Strengthening scientific capacity of conservation NGOs working with the CBD |
| | |
| UK Leader Details | |
| Name | Leon Bennun |
| Role within Darwin Project | Project Leader |
| Address | BirdLife International, Wellbrook Court, Girton Road, Cambridge, CB3 0QH, UK |
| Phone | |
| Fax | |
| Email | |
| Other UK Contact | |
| Name | Alison Stattersfield |
| Role within Darwin Project | Project Coordinator |
| Address | BirdLife International, Wellbrook Court, Girton Road, Cambridge, CB3 0QH, UK |
| Phone | |
| Fax | |
| Email | |
| Partner 1 | |
| Name | Bennett Hennesey |
| Organisation | Armonia |
| Role within Darwin Project | Host Country Coordinator |
| Address | Avenida Lomas de Arena 400, Casilla 3566, Santa Cruz, Bolivia |
| Fax | |
| Email | |
| Partner 2 | |
| Name | Kabelo Senyatso |
| Organisation | BirdLife Botswana |
| Role within Darwin Project | Host Country Coordinator / intern |
| Address | BirdLife Botswana, Private Bag 003, Suite 348, Mogoditshane, Botswana |
| Fax | |
| Email | |

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Partner 3 | |
| Name | Nada Farah (replaces Mehdi Sawsan / Soumar Dakdouk) |
| Organisation | Society for the Protection of Nature and Natural Resources in Lebanon (SPNL) |
| Role within Darwin Project | Host Country Coordinator / intern |
| Address | Awad Bldg, 6th Floor, Abdel Aziz Street, P.O.Box: 11-5665, Beirut, Lebanon |
| Fax | |
| Email | |
| Partner 4 | |
| Name | Deependra Joshi (replaces Hem Sagar Baral) |
| Organisation | Bird Conservation Nepal (BCN) |
| Role within Darwin Project | Host Country Coordinator |
| Address | P.O.Box 12465, Kathmandu, Nepal |
| Fax | |
| Email | |
| Partner 5 | |
| Name | Elizabeth Matthews (replaces Tiare Holm) |
| Organisation | Palau Conservation Society |
| Role within Darwin Project | Participant |
| Address | P O Box 1811, Koror, PW96940, Republic of Palau |
| Fax | |
| Email | |
| Partner 6 | |
| Name | Natalia Nikolaeva (replaces Tatiana Sviridova) |
| Organisation | Russian Bird Conservation Union (RBCU) |
| Role within Darwin Project | Host Country Coordinator / intern |
| Address | Shosse Enthuziastov, 60, bld. 1, Moscow, 111123, Russia |
| Fax | |
| Email | |

Annex 7 Key events and outputs (organised by partner and supported by funding from the Darwin Project)

Armonia

| | |
|--------------|--|
| DEMO PROJECT | Initiating conservation action for the most threatened bird species |
| Sep 06 | Attended Inaugural Darwin Workshop in UK |
| Jan 07 | Undertook internship in UK |
| Jun 07 | Presented project at BirdLife Americas Partnership Meeting in Mexico |
| Sep 08 | Presented project at BirdLife Global Partnership Meeting in Argentina |
| Sep 09 | Organised national symposiums in Peru and Bolivia to disseminate results of project |
| KEY OUTPUTS | 'Species Action Plan' manual, 'Threatened birds of Bolivia' booklet |
| GOV / CBD | 'Threatened birds of Peru' Spanish translation available for Peruvian National Red List Committee, award from the Bolivian National Congress |

BirdLife Botswana

| | |
|--------------|--|
| DEMO PROJECT | Strengthening links between bird projects and national initiatives |
| Sep 06 | Attended inaugural Darwin Workshop in UK |
| Sep 07 | Undertook internship in UK |
| Sep 07 | Presented project at BirdLife Africa Partnership Meeting in Nairobi |
| Nov 07 | Organised national workshop in Botswana to present project and discuss new environmental law on natural resource management |
| Sep 08 | Presented project at Pan-African Ornithological Congress in South Africa |
| Sep 08 | Presented project at BirdLife Global Partnership Meeting in Argentina |
| KEY OUTPUTS | Bird population monitoring guidelines for Africa, pocket field guide & checklist on common birds of Botswana, country-wide bird monitoring scheme launched, two scientific papers submitted & in preparation |
| GOV / CBD | MOU with Department of Wildlife and National Parks, input to 4NR |

SPNL

| | |
|--------------|--|
| DEMO PROJECT | Updating an Important Bird Area inventory and the action needed |
| Sep 06 | Attended Inaugural Darwin Workshop in UK |
| Nov 06 | Presented project at BirdLife Middle East Partnership Meeting in Yemen |
| Oct 07 | Undertook internship in UK |
| Nov 07 | Attended IBA Monitoring Workshop in Jordan |
| Sep 08 | Presented project at BirdLife Global Partnership Meeting in Argentina attended |
| Apr 09 | Organised high-profile Final IBA Ceremony in Lebanon |
| KEY OUTPUTS | IBA dataset, IBA pamphlet, IBA report (covering 11 new IBAs), website, scientific paper in preparation |
| GOV / CBD | Many interactions with government officials, input to 4NR |

BCN

| | |
|--------------|---|
| DEMO PROJECT | Monitoring Important Bird Areas to stimulate action at sites |
| Sep 06 | Attended Inaugural Darwin Workshop in UK |
| Dec 06 | Attended IBA Monitoring Workshop in Malaysia |
| Dec 07 | Organised National Seminar and Training Workshop in Nepal |
| Mar 08 | Undertook internship in UK |
| Sep 08 | Presented project at BirdLife Global Partnership Meeting in Argentina |
| KEY OUTPUTS | 'Bird diversity in Suklaphanta Wildlife Reserve' report, IBA dataset, website |
| GOV / CBD | Many interactions with government officials, input to 4NR |

PCS

| | |
|--------------|--|
| DEMO PROJECT | Developing an Important Bird Area inventory and follow-on advocacy strategy |
| Sep 06 | Attended Inaugural Darwin Workshop in UK |
| May 07 | Organised BirdLife Pacific Partnership Meeting in Palau |
| Sep 07 | Undertook internship in UK |
| Oct 07 | Presented project at Pacific Islands Conference in Papua New Guinea |
| Sep 08 | Presented project at BirdLife Global Partnership Meeting in Argentina |
| KEY OUTPUTS | 'Important Bird Areas in Palau' inventory, IBA dataset, website |
| GOV / CBD | Many interactions with government officials, foreword to IBA book by Minister of Resources and Development |

RBCU

| | |
|--------------|--|
| DEMO PROJECT | Using 'Worldbirds' for capacity-building and advocacy |
| Sep 06 | Attended Inaugural Darwin Workshop in UK |
| Mar 07 | Presented project at Research Conference in Russia |
| Jun 08 | Undertook internship in UK |
| Sep 08 | Presented project at BirdLife Global Partnership Meeting in Argentina |
| Aug 08 | Presented project at Research Conference in Russia |
| KEY OUTPUTS | 'Worldbirds' in Russia website, promotion leaflet, two scientific papers published |

UK Team

| | |
|-------------|--|
| Sep 06 | Organised Inaugural Darwin Workshop in UK |
| Nov 06 | Facilitated at BirdLife Middle East Partnership Meeting in Yemen |
| Dec 06 | Facilitated at IBA Monitoring Workshop in Malaysia |
| Jan 07 | Organised internship in UK (Armonia) |
| Jun 07 | Facilitated at BirdLife Americas Partnership Meeting in Mexico |
| Jul 07 | Attended CBD WGRI-2 meeting in Paris |
| Sep 07 | Organised internship in UK (BirdLife Botswana) |
| Sep 07 | Organised internship in UK (PCS) |
| Sep 07 | Facilitated at BirdLife Africa Partnership Meeting in Nairobi |
| Oct 07 | Organised internship in UK (SPNL) |
| Nov 07 | Facilitated IBA Monitoring Workshop in Jordan |
| Mar 08 | Organised internship in UK (BCN) |
| May 08 | Attended CBD COP9 in Bonn |
| Jun 08 | Organised internship in UK (RBCU) |
| Sep 08 | Presented project at Pan-African Ornithological Congress in South Africa |
| Sep 08 | Facilitated BirdLife Global Partnership Meeting in Argentina |
| KEY OUTPUTS | 'State of the world's birds' report and website, Analysis Guides |
| CBD | Close cooperation with CBD Secretariat |

LIST of materials available on request

The Inaugural Darwin Workshop

Training materials CD (September 2006)

Internships

Example of an internship training programme & diary (Dev Ghimire / BCN)

Training materials

'Species Action Plan' manual for the Americas

'Bird population monitoring' guidelines for Africa

Datasets

Example outputs from IBA datasets (SPNL / Lebanon)

National / global Reports

Threatened birds in Bolivia

Important Bird Areas in Palau

State of the world's birds

Local report

Bird diversity in Suklaphanta Wildlife Reserve

Analysis Guides

Examples of protected area gap analyses (Botswana & Nepal)

Examples of country profiles (Bolivia, Botswana, Lebanon, Nepal, Palau)

Regional & global Conferences

Presentation on threatened birds for BirdLife Americas Partnership Meeting by Bennett Hennesey / Armonia (June 2007)

Presentation on bird population monitoring for BirdLife African Partnership Meeting by Kabelo Senyatso (October 2007)

Presentation on IBAs for BirdLife World Conference by Shree Ram / BCN

National Workshops

Workshop report / BirdLife Botswana (November 2007)

Publicity

Report on press coverage of 'State of the world's birds'

Pamphlets

Pamphlet on national campaign against illegal wild bird trade in Bolivia

Poster on common birds in Botswana

Pamphlet on the new IBAs in Lebanon

Popular pamphlet on citizen science in Russia