



Submit by 13 January 2006

DARWIN INITIATIVE APPLICATION FOR GRANT ROUND 14 COMPETITION:STAGE 2

Please read the Guidance Notes before completing this form. Applications will be considered on the basis of information submitted on this form and you should give a full answer to each question. Please do not cross-refer to information in separate documents except where invited on this form. The space provided indicates the level of detail required. Please do not reduce the font size below 11pt or alter the paragraph spacing. Keep within word limits.

1. Name and address of organisation

Name: The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB)	Address: The Lodge, Sandy, Bedfordshire, SG19 2DL, UK
---	--

2. Project title (not exceeding 10 words)

Conserving a flagship steppe species: the critically endangered Sociable Lapwing

3. Project dates, duration and total Darwin Initiative Grant requested

Proposed start date: 30 April 2006	Duration of project: 3 years	End date: 31 March 2009			
Darwin funding requested	Total	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/2010
	£185,863	£70,113	£60,677	£55,073	£0

4. Define the purpose of the project in line with the logical framework

This project aims to develop effective mechanisms and capacity to improve the conservation status of the critically endangered Sociable Lapwing *Vanellus gregarius*, one of a suite of rapidly declining steppe bird species in Eurasia. The population of this species has fallen by as much as 90% during the past two decades, and may now number fewer than 1000 pairs (see Annexes 3,4 and 7). The project combines innovative research on ecology, land management and grazing patterns with capacity building in conservation management and advocacy in Central Asia, and will result in the revision of an international species action plan and funding proposals to support its implementation. The international collaboration generated through the project will facilitate the delivery of the species action plan. The efficacy of targeted conservation measures, such as nest protection and the alteration of grazing regimes, will be assessed, and predictive models will be developed to locate areas where currently unknown nesting colonies might occur. The project has the further benefits of contributing to our currently poor understanding of threatened steppe ecosystems generally, and strengthening the currently low research and conservation capacity in a region rich in endemic species that are facing increasing environmental threats.

5. Principals in project. Please provide a one page CV for each of these named individuals

Details	Project Leader	Other UK personnel (working more than 50% of their time on project)	Main project partner or co-ordinator in host country
Surname	Donald	Sheldon	Koshkin
Forename (s)	Paul F	Rob	Maxim
Post held	Senior Research Biologist	Research Biologist	Research Projects Co-ordinator

Institution	RSPB	RSPB	ACBK
Department	Conservation Science	Conservation Science	Conservation

6. Has your organisation received funding under the Darwin Initiative before? If so, give details

We have been awarded the following funding under the Initiative.

Full project grants

- £84,000 in Round 3 for a project to compile a directory of important ornithological sites in Tanzania
- £136,000 in Round 7 for *Management planning for conservation of mesotrophic fen mire biodiversity in Belarus*
- £158,000 in Round 9 for *Action plans for conservation of globally threatened birds in Africa*
- £98,000 in Round 10 for *Kenyan Important Biodiversity Areas: improving monitoring, management and conservation action*
- £231,975 in Round 11 for *Prediction and management of declines in Gyps species vultures*
- £154,117 in Round 11 for *Empowering the people of Tristan to implement the CBD*
- £109,889 in Round 11 for a project entitled *Implementing urgent conservation actions in mesotrophic fen mires in Belarus*
- £109,992 in Round 12 for a project entitled *Gurney's pitta research and conservation in Thailand and Myanmar*
- £133,556 in Round 12 for *Pioneering an innovative conservation approach in Sierra Leone's Gola Forest*
- £98,634 in Round 13 for *Participatory management of priority biodiversity sites in Taraba State, Nigeria.*
- £95,085 in Round 13 for a project entitled *Strengthening the Indian Bird Conservation Network to safeguard key sites*
- £160,900 in Round 13 for *Enabling the people of Montserrat to conserve the Centre Hills*
- £193,593 in Round 13 for *Important Bird Area conservation and capacity building in Central Asia*

Post-project grants

- £78,770 in 2004 for *Enabling implementation of threatened bird Species Action Plans in Africa* – a follow-up to the Round 9 project listed above
- £49,144 in 2005 for *Kenyan Important Biodiversity Areas: improving monitoring, management and conservation action* – a follow-up to the Round 10 project listed above

Scholarships

- £14,400 in 2005 for Mike Anthony Kiragu Mwangi, Conservation Officer, Nature Kenya

7. IF YOU ANSWERED NO TO QUESTION 6 describe briefly the aims, activities and achievements of your organisation. (Large institutions please note that this should describe your unit or department)

Aims (50 words) N/A
Activities (50 words) N/A
Achievements (50 words) N/A

8. Please list the UK (where there are partners in addition to the applicant organisation) and host country partners that will be involved in their project and explain their roles and responsibilities in the project. Describe the extent of their involvement at all stages, including project development. What steps have been taken to ensure the benefits of the project will continue despite any staff changes in these organisations? Please provide written evidence of partnerships.

--

Association for the Conservation of Biodiversity in Kazakhstan (ACBK) The main partner organisation in this project (Kazakhstan holds over 95% of the world's known Sociable Lapwing breeding sites), and the BirdLife representative in Kazakhstan. Around 95% of the research and advocacy effort in this project, and most of the financial expenditure, will take place in Kazakhstan. ACBK staff worked closely with RSPB staff in research on this species in 2005, and have been involved in the development of this proposal throughout (as detailed in their Letter of Support; Annex 2). ACBK will undertake most of the project activities in collaboration with RSPB staff and volunteers and students in Kazakhstan, and will lead on the fieldwork in years 2 and 3 of the project. ACBK will also lead on the advocacy work, managing an advocacy officer whose role will be to liaise with and brief key decision makers, and will organise training workshops and will oversee preparation of the revised species management plan. Steps are already underway to reduce the impacts should there be any future staff changes by increasing the pool of trained personnel in Kazakhstan through a training workshop scheduled for March 2005 (partly funded by the Darwin-funded project "*Important Bird Area conservation and capacity building in Central Asia*") and by involving promising young students and other researchers in fieldwork in each year of the project. ACBK is an accredited NGO in Kazakhstan (see Annex 9).

The Secretariat of the Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds (UNEP/AEWA): An intergovernmental treaty with 53 Contracting Parties to date (including the UK) covering 117 Range States in Europe, Africa, the Middle East and Central Asia. The Agreement provides for coordinated and concerted action to be taken by the Range States throughout the migration system of waterbirds to which it applies. Sociable Lapwing is a high priority species for AEWA, which oversaw the production of an international Species Action Plan (SAP) for the species in 2002 (see Annex 8), and in 2006 will be funding a post and a mechanism in Kazakhstan to coordinate international implementation of the plan. This Darwin project aims to address the main recommendations in the SAP (which relate to research and the development of conservation actions), and to work closely with AEWA in developing and implementing a revised SAP in the light of this new research.

Russian Bird Conservation Union (RBCU) The BirdLife Partner in Russia, the only country outside Kazakhstan that the species is known to breed in. RSPB funded RBCU to undertake a survey of the species in parts of its Russian range in 2005, and very few birds were found. However, it is certain that more colonies remain to be found, as observations of large passage flocks in September 2005 indicate, and further surveys are needed. These will be undertaken by RBCU through this project. Furthermore, the observation of large numbers of passage birds in autumn 2005 requires further investigation, and sites need to be revisited to search for colour-ringed birds and so establish their origin.

Doğa Derneği (DD) The BirdLife Partner in Turkey. Recent surveys in the east of the country have identified a number of apparently regular migration stop-over points for Sociable Lapwing. DD will undertake surveys at these sites to assess populations and habitat use and to look for colour-ringed birds.

Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS) The BirdLife Partner in India. BNHS have been running winter surveys of Sociable Lapwing. However, funding for these has now ended. This project will allow BNHS to undertake further winter survey for this species in key wintering areas, to assess populations and habitat use and to look for colour-ringed birds.

Other partners As the project develops, and further winter or passage locations become known, BirdLife Partners in other range states may become involved in survey work.

CVs of all key staff are included in Annex 1, and institutional Letters of Support in Annex 2.

9. What other consultation or co-operation will take place or has taken place already with other stakeholders such as local communities? Please include details of any contact with the government not already provided.

Local community representatives around the core study area at Korgalzhin, central Kazakhstan, are already familiar with the species and its conservation importance, as local ACBK researchers have been working with them in the region for several years. Educational and promotional information will be prepared during the project to widen this understanding and appreciation, and public lectures given in Korgalzhin. Local people will be paid to provide accommodation and food for research teams. Large numbers of professional and amateur ornithologists around the world are being contacted to provide information on sightings of this species in Kazakhstan and elsewhere. International ecotourism companies visiting the region are aware of the project (project members take visiting groups out to see the birds), and one has already donated some field equipment to the project. Articles about the species' plight have been published in a number of journals and other media. The Secretariat of the intergovernmental African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbird Agreement (UNEP/AEWA), who prepared the first international Sociable Lapwing Species Action Plan in 2004 (Annex 8), is a partner in this project. This plan highlighted the need for research to allow the production of a revised plan after five years (Annex 8), and the planned revision of the 2004 plan is enthusiastically supported by AEWA (see their letter of support in Annex 2). In Kazakhstan, responsibility for nature conservation falls largely to the Committee of Forestry and Hunting, which sits within the Ministry of Agriculture, and to a lesser extent the Ministry of Environmental Protection. The Institute of Zoology in Almaty acts as the scientific advisor to the Committee of Forestry and Hunting. All have been contacted about this project and lend it their support (Annex 2). This project has been discussed with the Deputy Head of Mission of the UK Embassy in Almaty and received their full support and approval. ACBK maintain regular contact with the UK Embassy, and brief Embassy staff on progress of the ongoing Darwin project "*Important Bird Area conservation and capacity building in Central Asia*".

PROJECT DETAILS

10. Is this a new initiative or a development of existing work (funded through any source)? Are you aware of any other individuals/organisations carrying out similar work, or of any completed or existing Darwin Initiative projects relevant to your work? If so, please give details explaining similarities and differences and showing how results of your work will be additional to any similar work and what attempts have/will be made to co-operate with and learn lessons from such work for mutual benefits.

This project aims to build on and expand preliminary research on Sociable Lapwings that started in Kazakhstan in 2003 (see Annexes 4 and 5) and to use the results of this research to update the AEWA International Species Action Plan (SAP). Despite this earlier research, the reasons for the decline of the Sociable Lapwing are still unknown. One of the reasons for this is that vital population metrics such as productivity and survival require several years of research to estimate. Without such estimates, it is not possible to identify causes of decline. This project aims to assess those causes and to develop conservation solutions. The current SAP has as its primary actions the research and monitoring of populations and the development of conservation solutions. This project is working to meet these objectives while building scientific and conservation capacity in, particularly, Kazakhstan. No other project is currently working to meet these needs. Indeed, no other project is currently underway on steppe birds outside Europe, or on Sociable Lapwing anywhere. Small-scale surveys in other range states of breeding, passage and wintering birds, hitherto uncoordinated, have faltered through lack of funding. This project intends to complement the current Darwin project "*Important Bird Area conservation and capacity building in Central Asia*", though the two projects have very different aims. Training in detailed ecological research and conservation methods delivered by this project will complement training in broad-scale survey methods being delivered by the IBA project. The project will also complement plans by the Zoological Society of Frankfurt to restore Saiga antelope *Saiga tatarica* populations across vast areas of Kazakhstan. RSPB and ACBK are also collaborating with Imperial College and Flora and Fauna International, who are in receipt of a Darwin award "*Conserving the Saiga antelope to help local communities*". Steppe remains one of the most poorly researched and under-protected

habitats in Eurasia, and this project will add greatly to our knowledge of steppe ecosystems and provide a blueprint for the conservation of other steppe species.

11. How will the project assist the host country in its implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity? Please make reference to the relevant article(s) of the CBD thematic programmes and/or cross-cutting themes (see Annex C for list and worked example) and rank the relevance of the project to these by indicating percentages. Is any liaison proposed with the CBD national focal point in the host country? Further information about the CBD can be found on the Darwin website or CBD website.

Kazakhstan ratified the CBD in 1994. This project will assist Kazakhstan to implement the CBD by contributing towards the **thematic programme Agricultural Biodiversity**. Within this, the project addresses all four of the programme elements by (1) identifying patterns of distribution of a critically endangered steppe species in relation to agricultural practice, (2) identifying agricultural practices that can damage or help Sociable Lapwings, (3) building capacity of conservationists to influence farming practice and (4) developing national and international strategies for conserving the species. The project also contributes to the **thematic programme Dry and Sub-humid Lands Biodiversity** as according to the NBSAP for Kazakhstan, much of the country's steppe falls into this category. The project addresses a number of CBD Articles, particularly **Article 5** (by building strong links between conservation organisations in range and non-range states; 5%), **Article 6** (by producing a new international Species Action Plan under the auspices of AEWA; 5%), **Article 7** (by identifying the causes of decline of Sociable Lapwing; 35%), **Article 8** (by developing conservation solutions; 20%), **Article 10** (by determining and promoting sustainable use of steppe habitats; 10%), **Article 11** (by lobbying for incentives to protect steppe biodiversity; 5%), **Article 12** (through formal and experiential training; 10%), **Article 13** (through raising public awareness in core Sociable Lapwing areas; 5%), and **Articles 16, 17 and 18** (through close collaboration between partners; 5%). The CBD focal points in Kazakhstan have been appraised of the project and will be kept updated throughout. CBD focal points in other range states will be kept informed as new information relevant to those countries is gathered.

12. How does this project meet a clearly identifiable biodiversity need or priority defined by the host country? Please indicate how this work will fit in with National Biodiversity Strategies or Environmental Action Plans, if applicable.

Sociable Lapwing is listed by IUCN as Critically Endangered (Annex 3), placing it among the 200 bird species worldwide most likely to become extinct in the near future. The species is therefore a global conservation priority. Steppe is also a priority habitat, and is identified as such in the NBSAP of Kazakhstan. Kazakhstan now holds a high proportion of Eurasia's remaining steppe, after years of loss of this fragile habitat elsewhere. Sociable Lapwing is listed in the NBSAP as a characteristic species of Kazakhstan's steppe. Sociable Lapwing is one of 55 bird species listed in the Red Data Book of Kazakhstan, and one of just 15 listed as "Vanishing", the highest threat category. It has the highest global threat status of any species in Kazakhstan, equalled only by the Slender-billed Curlew, itself close to extinction. The NBSAP was compiled before the recent catastrophic collapse of Sociable Lapwing populations in the country was detected, so it is not addressed specifically. The project will raise the profile of the species to ensure it is specifically addressed in future versions of the NBSAP. Sociable Lapwing is the subject of an international Species Action Plan compiled by AEWA, and this project aims to undertake the priority actions recommended by the existing plan (see Annex 8) and then to revise the existing plan in the light of the new information the project generates.

13. If relevant, please explain how the work will contribute to sustainable livelihoods in the host country.

Although it is too early to know what the final conservation recommendations will be, as the causes of decline are not yet known, it is likely that changes in agricultural practices are at least partly responsible, and therefore that subsidising farmers to farm more sustainably would be a possible solution. All researchers are housed with and fed by local people, who thereby receive additional income. The presence of the project has attracted ecotourism groups to the core area, who also stay with local people and contribute to the local economy.

14. What will be the impact of the work, and how will this be achieved? Please include details of how the results of the project will be disseminated and put into effect to achieve this impact.

The project aims to generate the information necessary to prevent the global extinction of the Sociable Lapwing, a critically endangered flagship steppe species, by undertaking priority actions prescribed in the internationally agreed AEWA Species Action Plan (see AEWA's letter of support; Annex 2). These actions include determining the reasons for its decline, and using this knowledge to develop and test conservation solutions. These results will be incorporated into a revised multi-stakeholder international SAP that will be endorsed and monitored by the Secretariat of AEWA, an inter-governmental treaty. The scientific output of the project will be disseminated through refereed international scientific journals with accompanying media releases and the production of non-technical summaries. A dedicated website will be established to both collect and disseminate information on the species and on steppe conservation issues generally. Key decision makers will be approached and briefed on an individual basis by the project's advocacy officer. The project will have the added benefits of strengthening conservation and research capacity in key NGOs in Kazakhstan and other range states and contributing to our currently poor understanding of steppe ecosystems.

15. How will the work leave a lasting legacy in the host country or region?

The project will leave a lasting legacy in generating the knowledge necessary to protect the Sociable Lapwing and building the NGO capacity within key range states (particularly Kazakhstan) to undertake research and advocate conservation measures. This will result in the production of a research-based, multi-stakeholder strategic plan to save the Sociable Lapwing from extinction. The project will build lasting links between conservation NGOs and statutory bodies in key range states. The project will therefore leave a lasting legacy in the areas of science, advocacy, cooperation and conservation in Central Asia, and generate in that region a nucleus of conservation expertise. The expertise in conservation science and advocacy that is generated within ACBK will allow them to become a full BirdLife Partner and so benefit in perpetuity from the support that BirdLife International gives to its Partners. The project will form the definitive study of a threatened species in Central Asian steppe, and contribute greatly to our knowledge of how such ecosystems function, to the benefit of conservation of other threatened steppe species.

16. Please give details of a clear exit strategy and state what steps have been taken to identify and address potential problems in achieving impact and legacy.

The Darwin project will culminate in the production of a revised multi-stakeholder international species action plan, overseen and endorsed by AEWA and backed by the results of research, and the production of fully costed funding proposals to ensure that resources exist to implement the plan in key range states and, if necessary, undertake further research. ACBK will receive help and training in the development of funding proposals. The SAP workshop will lead to the creation of a Sociable Lapwing working group, whose members will work together to support the species' conservation beyond the life of the project. A key research aim in the last year of the project is to develop a long-term monitoring protocol at key sites so the population of the species can be monitored in perpetuity. The creation of capacity in both research and advocacy ensures that

capacity will exist to implement the actions outlined in the new international action plan. ACBK and the other BirdLife Partners in the project will continue to receive institutional support from BirdLife after the end of the project.

17. How will the project be advertised as a Darwin project and in what ways will the Darwin name and logo be used?

Sociable Lapwing is a charismatic species and a fitting flagship species for the problems faced by steppic species. Because of its high rate of vagrancy, it is familiar to ornithologists throughout Europe, including Britain (a much publicised individual was present in December 2005 in Greater London). Darwin will be acknowledged as the funders of this work in all project outputs, and the Darwin logo displayed wherever appropriate. Such outputs include scientific papers, popular and media articles, training manuals, television and radio interviews, presentations at meeting and conferences and the International Species Action Plan. The project website will also carry the Darwin logo.

18. Will the project include training and development? Please indicate who the trainees will be and criteria for selection and that the level and content of training will be. How many will be involved, and from which countries? How will you measure the effectiveness of the training and will those trained then be able to train others? Where appropriate give the length and dates (if known) of any training course. How will trainee outcomes be monitored after the end of the training?

Training and development form an integral part of this project. Capacity for research and conservation in ACBK, the key partner, will be increased through both formal and experiential training. Staff involved in the project will be working alongside trained and experienced RSPB researchers, receiving training in a very wide range of research methods. Two formal training workshops are planned to spread this experiential training to a wider pool of at least 30 researchers in Kazakhstan, developing greater capacity in the country and making available to ACBK a larger number of trained collaborators or staff in the future. The Species Action Plan workshop will provide valuable training in single species conservation to a range of conservationists in all range states. Key staff in Kazakhstan will spend time at the RSPB's headquarters in the UK, receiving training and guidance in a range of conservation issues. Such visits began in 2005 as part of the preparation for this Darwin project and proved very successful. Each year, at least two carefully selected students will be involved in the project, receiving training in bird conservation and field methods. Finally, a key project product will be the publication in Russian and Kazakh of training manual covering bird survey design and field methods, the first such manual produced in either language.

LOGICAL FRAMEWORK

19. Please enter the details of your project onto the matrix using the note at Annex B of the Guidance Note. This should not have substantially changed from the Logical Framework submitted with your Stage 1 application. Please highlight any changes.

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
<p>Goal: To draw on expertise relevant to biodiversity from within the United Kingdom to work with local partners in countries rich in biodiversity but poor in resources to achieve</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the conservation of biological diversity, • the sustainable use of its components, and • the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the utilisation of genetic resources 			
<p>Purpose To develop effective mechanisms and capacity to improve the conservation status of the critically endangered Sociable Lapwing</p>	<p>Species' conservation status clarified by end of year 3 Targets to reverse decline agreed by key decision makers through adoption of a revised Species Action Plan by end of year 3</p>	<p>BirdLife/IUCN reports Species Action Plan agreed by key range states and approved by the AEWA Meeting of the Parties</p>	<p>Species does not become extinct before conservation measures can be implemented</p>
<p>Outputs 0. Project management and steering structures developed 1. Causes of decline of Sociable Lapwing identified 2. Breeding and wintering populations and distribution estimated and migratory routes clarified 3. Conservation solutions identified and tested 4. Capacity of key partners for research and conservation management increased</p>	<p>0. Project steering group established and monitored 1. Demographic mechanisms and causal processes demonstrated 2. Population estimates and range maps based on accepted scientific methods available by end of project 3. Conditions for SL improve demonstrably where recommended measures are implemented 4. Proportion of research undertaken by partners increases through life of project; strategies for future research developed by partners</p>	<p>0. Steering group minutes, web site 1. Three scientific papers, articles, reports 2. Three scientific papers, reports, web site 3. One scientific paper, reports, national and international species action plans 4. Progress reports, work plans, research strategy documents, two workshop reports</p>	<p>Political stability and security in range states does not preclude research there Cause of decline is reversible</p>

<p>5.Capacity of key partners for conservation advocacy established</p> <p>6.System for monitoring impact of conservation actions developed</p> <p>7.International Species Action Plan (SAP) revised and national plans published in key states</p> <p><u>8. Resources for key partners to continue activities listed in the revised SAP are being sought before end of project</u></p>	<p>5.Partners working with key decision makers to implement species action plans; advocacy strategy prepared</p> <p>6.Appropriate monitoring protocol developed and tested</p> <p>7. SAP meetings held and plans published and adopted</p> <p>8. Project proposals submitted to potential funding bodies</p>	<p>5.Minutes of meetings, Government documents; advocacy strategy documents, one workshop report</p> <p>6.One scientific paper, progress reports</p> <p>7.Workshop reports, SAP documents</p> <p>8. Project proposal documents</p>	<p>N.B this is a new output</p>
---	--	--	---------------------------------

Activities	Activity Milestones	Assumptions
Project management	Establish project steering group, project management protocol (see Annex 6) and information sharing system; employ and train staff; develop monitoring protocol; establish and maintain contact with key stakeholders; ensure close integration with existing Darwin on Central Asian IBAs and related projects	
Research	Undertake field-based research in Kazakhstan to estimate productivity and survival and their correlates; test intensive species management options; socio-economic research on grazing systems; support surveys to estimate breeding and wintering populations in other range states and determine migration routes and stopovers; establish web site to capture ad hoc sightings; analyse historical data; develop and use new technologies as appropriate	-Spread of avian influenza does not preclude field research in key areas -Changes in political and security situation do not prevent work from continuing once started
Training	Run two training workshops for at least 15 ornithologists in key partners; provide expert advice and both formal and experiential training in research and advocacy throughout	
Advocacy and PR	Appoint and train staff; develop species and steppe advocacy strategy; provide advocacy input to international and national action plans; develop media strategy and web site to obtain maximum publicity; link project to wider issues	
Conservation action	Identify, test and advocate research-based solutions at key locations; update international species action plan to take account of new findings; develop and implement national plans in key range states; promote best management at key sites	
Sustainability	Establish Sociable Lapwing working group; seek funds to implement SAP in key range states; seek funds to undertake any necessary research or monitoring	

20. Provide a project implementation timetable that shows the key milestones in project activities.

Project implementation timetable		
Date	Financial year	Key milestones
	Apr-Mar 2006/7 Apr-Mar 2007/8 Apr-Mar 2008/9 Apr-Mar 2009/2010	
April 2006	2006/7	Project management system and steering group established Field staff recruited and trained
June 2006	2006/7	Start of fieldwork in core area Start of student training
August 2006	2006/7	Start of colony searches in Russia Start of colony searches in eastern Kazakhstan End of first season of fieldwork End of student training
September 2006	2006/7	Start of data entry and analysis Two ACBK staff attend international conference Survey of passage sites in Turkey Survey of passage sites in Russia Opening of project website
December 2006	2006/7	Review of historical records submitted to scientific journal
March 2007	2006/7	Report on 2005 fieldwork in Kazakhstan produced Survey of wintering areas in India Training workshop in Kazakhstan
April 2007	2007/8	Preparations for second season of fieldwork in Kazakhstan
May 2007	2007/8	Recruitment of Advocacy Officer, Kazakhstan Development and start of advocacy strategy Survey of passage sites in Turkey Start of second season of fieldwork in Kazakhstan Start of colony searches in Kazakhstan
August 2007	2007/8	Start of student training End of second season of fieldwork in Kazakhstan End of student training Start of data entry and analysis
December 2007	2007/8	Survey of passage sites in Russia and Turkey Report on 2006 fieldwork in Kazakhstan produced Training visit by ACBK staff to UK
April 2008	2007/8	Training workshop, Kazakhstan Preparations for third season of fieldwork, Kazakhstan International species action plan workshop
June 2008	2008/9	Start of third fieldwork season in Kazakhstan Start of student training Production of draft revised international species action plan and start of AEWA official consultation with Range States
August 2008	2008/9	End of third season of fieldwork in Kazakhstan Start of data entry and start of final data analysis Start to prepare results for scientific publication End of student training
September 2008	2008/9	Preparations for species action plan workshop Training manual in Russian published Production of first draft of revised Action Plan

December	2008/9	Draft Action Plan presented to 4 th Meeting of Parties (MOP4) of AEWA
January 2009	2008/9	Project proposals prepared and submitted to funding bodies to support implementation of SAP and support further project work
March 2009	2008/9	Publication of revised international species action plan and launch of drafting of national species action plans Submission of scientific papers Final project report

21. Set out the project's measurable outputs using the separate list of output measures.

PROJECT OUTPUTS		
Year/Month	Standard output number (see standard output list)	Description (include numbers of people involved, publications produced, days/weeks etc.)
Jun-Aug 2006	4A/4B	2 undergraduates for 2 months
Jun-Aug 2007	4A/4B	2 undergraduates for 2 months
Jun-Aug 2008	4A/4B	2 undergraduates for 2 months
Jun-Aug 2006	4C/4D	1 postgraduate for 3 months
Jun-Aug 2007	4C/4D	1 postgraduate for 3 months
Apr 06 – Mar 09	5	2 ACBK staff members for 2 and 3 years
March 2007	6A/6B	20 people attend training workshop in Kaz.
March 2008	6A/6B	20 people attend training workshop in Kaz.
2006	6A/6B	2 researchers get experiential training in Kaz.
2007	6A/6B	2 researchers get experiential training in Kaz.
2008	6A/6B	2 researchers get experiential training in Kaz.
Sept 2008	7	Training manual on bird survey and census methods translated into Russian and distributed
2006/7	8	14 weeks UK staff time in Kazakhstan
2007/8	8	10 weeks UK staff time in Kazakhstan
2008/9	8	10 weeks UK staff time in Kazakhstan
Jan 2009	9	National and international species action plans produced and distributed
Jan 2007	11A	1 paper on historical distribution
Mar 2009	11B	3 papers on ecology and conservation
Mar 2009	11B	3 papers on status and distribution
Aug 2008	12A	Database on historical distribution
Aug 2008	12A	Database on biometrics
Sept 2008	14A	1 Species Action Plan workshop
Aug 2006	14B	2 ACBK staff attend either International Ornithological Congress or European Conference on Conservation Biology
2006-2009	15A	1 national press release per year in Kazakhstan
2006-2009	15B	1 local press release per year in Kazakhstan
2006, 2009	15C	1 national press release in each year in UK
2006-2009	16A	1 summary report per year
	16B	30 stakeholders
	16C	20 stakeholders
Sept 2008	17A	Sociable Lapwing Specialist Group to be established at species action plan workshop
July 2007	18A	1 feature planned
July 2007	18C	1 feature planned
July 2007	19A	1 feature planned
July 2007	19B	1 feature planned
Apr 2006-Mar	20	At least £20,000 of assets will remain with ACBK

2009		at end of project including vehicles, optics, laptops etc.
Apr 2006-Mar 2009	23	At least £70,000 will be contributed by the project partners as co-funding and in-kind contributions

PROJECT BASED MONITORING AND EVALUATION

22. Describe, referring to the Indicators in the Logical Framework, how the progress of the project will be monitored and evaluated, including towards delivery of its outputs and in terms of achieving its overall purpose. This should be during the lifetime of the project and at its conclusion. Please include information on how host country partners will be included in the monitoring and evaluation.

Monitoring and evaluation of the project will be an important component of the work of the project steering group, which will be established at the start of the project. Regular meetings involving key partners will ensure that the project delivers its objectives in terms of the indicators in the Logical Framework, the milestones and the project outputs listed above. We will also ask AEWA to evaluate the progress of the project in relation to the objectives laid out in their existing Species Action Plan. This assessment will take place during the project, at its conclusion and in a post-project evaluation that monitors progress with the action plan implementation. Detailed reports will be produced at the end of each season's fieldwork and widely circulated to scientific colleagues for peer review. The number of meetings between the Advocacy Officer and decision makers will be recorded. The progress of trainees will be carefully monitored as an increasing proportion of the work is transferred to them during the life of the project.