UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME

GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY (GEF)

PROJECT DOCUMENT

SECTION 1 – PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

1.1 Title of Sub-Programme:	Biodiversity: 2: Coastal, Marine and Freshwater Ecosystems
1.2 Title of Project:	Enhancing conservation of the critical network of sites required by Migratory Waterbirds on the African/Eurasian Flyways
1.3 Project Number:	IMIS: GFL-2328-2712- PMS: GF/6010-05-
1.4 Geographical Scope**:**	Estonia, Gambia, Hungary, Lithuania, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania, Turkey, Yemen
1.5 Implementing Agency:	United Nations Environment Programme
1.6 Executing Agency:	United Nations Office for Project Services
1.7 Duration of the Project:	5 years Commencing: November 2005 Completion: October 2010

1.8 Total Cost of Full Size Project:	US$	%
Cost to the GEF Trust Fund[1]	6,000,000	49
Co-financing	6,195,229	51
TOTAL COST OF THE PROJECT[2]	12,195,229	100

1.9 Project Summary

The overall outcome will be the enhanced conservation of migratory waterbirds and their critical sites in the African/Eurasian flyways. Activities will be strategic and catalytic addressing the flyway-scale causes of site degradation and related species decline. The network of sites of critical importance to migratory waterbirds will be identified and existing data / information resources improved and linked to create a tool for flyway planning and management. Sub-regional Training and Awareness Raising Programmes will be developed in four sub-regions to provide the basis for individual and institutional capacity development. Best practice management will be catalysed through a number of demonstration projects showcasing approaches and techniques of how to implement an array of wetland management activities in different environmental and social contexts. Communications will be improved to enhance coordination and cooperation in the flyways between and within governments and NGOs.

SIGNATURES:

[1] Total cost to the GEF Trust Fund including PDF-B cost of $350,000 is $6,350,000.
[2] Total project cost including PDF-B cost is $12,982,229.

For: UNOPS	***For: UNEP, Nairobi***
……	…….
	Mr. David. G. Hastie Chief, Budget and Financial Management Service, UNON
Date: ……	Date: …….

SECTION 2 - BACKGROUND AND PROJECT CONTRIBUTION TO OVERALL SUB-PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

1. IDENTIFIERS

Project number:	IMIS: GFL-2328-2712- PMS: GF/6010-05-
Project name:	Enhancing conservation of the critical network of sites required by Migratory Waterbirds on the African/Eurasian Flyways.
Duration:	5 years
Implementing Agency:	United Nations Environment Programme
Executing Agency:	United Nations Office for Project Services
Requesting Countries:	Estonia, Gambia, Hungary, Lithuania, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania, Turkey, Yemen.
Eligibility:	Countries participating in this project have all ratified the Convention on Biological Diversity: Estonia: 27/07/94, Gambia: 10/06/94, Hungary: 24/02/94, Lithuania: 01/02/96, Mauritania: 16/08/96, Niger: 25/07/95, Nigeria: 29/08/94, Senegal 17/10/94, South Africa: 02/11/95, Tanzania: 08/03/96, Turkey: 14/02/97, Yemen: 21/02/96.
GEF Focal Area:	Biodiversity
GEF Programming Framework:	Coastal, Marine and Freshwater Ecosystems. Operational Programme Number 2.

2. SUMMARY

The overall outcome will be the enhanced conservation of migratory waterbirds and their critical sites in the African/Eurasian flyways. Activities will be strategic and catalytic addressing the flyway-scale causes of site degradation and related species decline. The network of sites of critical importance to migratory waterbirds will be identified and existing data / information resources improved and linked to create a tool for flyway planning and management. Sub-regional Training and Awareness Raising Programmes will be developed in four sub-regions to provide the basis for individual and institutional capacity development. Best practice management will be catalysed through a number of demonstration projects showcasing approaches and techniques of how to implement an array of wetland management activities in different environmental and social contexts. Communications will be improved to enhance coordination and cooperation in the flyways between and within governments and NGOs.

3. COSTS AND FINANCING (MILLION $US).

GEF:	Project	US$ 6.000.000
	PDF	US$ 350.000
Sub-total GEF		**US$ 6.350.000**
Co-financing		
FSP Project		
	Local Government	US$ 695.080
	MEA Organisations	US$ 1.514.079
	Bilateral	US$ 1.622.664
	NGOs	US$ 1.265.406
	Others	US$ 1.098.000
	Sub-total for FSP	US$ 6.195.229
PDF		
	Wetlands International	US$ 150.000[3]
	BirdLife International	US$ 55.000[4]
	Demonstration project NGOs	US$ 21.000
	AEWA	US$ 21.000
	Ramsar Convention	US$ 21.000
	UNEP-CMS	US$ 25.000
	Netherlands Government	US$ 65.000
	European Community	US$ 40.000
	Swiss government	US$ 18.000
	Demonstration project governments	US$ 21.000
	Sub-total for PDF	US$ 437.000
Sub-total co-financing		**US$ 6.632.229**
Total Project Cost		**US$ 12.982.229**

4. ASSOCIATED FINANCING.

5. OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT ENDORSEMENT.

Allan Gromov, GEF Focal Point, Ministry of Environment, Estonia, February, 7th, 2003;

Momdodou A. Cham, GEF Operational Focal Point, National Environment Agency, Gambia, February 20th, 2003;

Dr Tibor Farago Political Focal Point for GEF and Dr Laszlo Becker Operational Focal Point for GEF, Ministry of Environment and Water, Hungary, February, 28th, 2003;

Mr Indre Venckunaite, Political Focal Point for GEF, Ministry of Environment, Lithuania, September 12th, 2003;

Mr El Hadrami Ould Baheine, GEF Focal Point, Ministered u Developpement Rural et de l'Environment, Mauritania, February, 28th, 2003;

[3] Additional support for the completion of the PDF-B phase was US$ 109,775. Letter attached showing additional cofinancing.

[4] Additional support for the conclusion of activities under the PDF-B was US$ 50,000. Letter attached showing additional cofinancing.

Adamou Salao, GEF Focal Point, Ministere des Finances et de l'Economie, Niger, March 8th, 2003;
Ayodele A. Olojede, GEF Operational Focal Point for Honourable Minister of the Environment, Nigeria, February 26, 2003;

Fatima Dia Toure, GEF Focal Point, Ministere de l'Environnement et de la Protection de la Nature, Senegal, February, 24th, 2003;

Dr Crispian Olver, GEF Focal Point, Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism, South Africa. March, 18th, 2003.

E.H.M Ekingo, Ag. Permanent Secretary, Vice President's Office, Tanzania, February, 27th, 2003.

Izamettin Eker, Operational Focal Point of GEF, Ministry of Environment and Forestry of the Republic of Turkey, Turkey, September 12th, 2003;

Dr. Mohammed S. El-Mashjary, GEF Operational Focal Point, Ministry of Tourism and Environment, Yemen, February, 25th, 2003.

6. IMPLEMENTING AGENCY CONTACT.

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LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AEWA	Agreement on the Conservation of African – Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds
AP MWCS	Asia Pacific Migratory Waterbirds Conservation Strategy
BLI	BirdLife International
CAF	Central Asian Flyway project (Wetlands International)
CAFF	Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CEP	Caspian Environment Programme
CMS	Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals
CoP	Conference of Parties
DGIS	Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs
GEF	Global Environment Facility
IA	Implementing Agency
IBA	Important Bird Area
ICF	International Crane Foundation
ICWM	International Course on Wetland Management (held in Lelystad, Netherlands)
IUCN	World Conservation Union
IWC	International Waterbird Census
MEA	Multilateral Environmental Agreement
MoP	Meeting of Parties
NBAP	National Biodiversity Action Plan
NGO	Non Governmental Organisation
PCU	Project Coordination Unit
PDF-B	Project Development Facility, Block B (GEF project development grant)
PSC	Project Steering Committee
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNOPS	United Nations Office for Project Services
UNEP-WCMC	UNEP - World Conservation Monitoring Centre
WB	World Bank
WI	Wetlands International
WWF	World Wide Fund for Nature

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PROJECT DESCRIPTION.

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT.

Scope and boundaries

1. Migratory waterbirds and the network of critical sites that they depend on during their life cycles constitute a globally significant biodiversity resource. Within the project area, which comprises the entire African/West Eurasian[5] region, there are over 900 designated Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Sites), covering more than 64 million hectares; this is more than half the area currently covered by designated sites globally. Of these sites more than 753 have been identified as being of significance for waterbirds, with potentially many more also fulfilling these criteria but not being designated on this basis. In addition, 2,083 sites in Europe and 586 sites in Africa have been identified as 'shadow' Ramsar Sites under the BirdLife International Important Bird Area (IBA) Programme. There are also thousands more that play important roles in waterbird migrations but do not meet the criteria for designation under the Ramsar Convention. These sites and others across the African-Eurasian region support many important migratory species including 507 populations of 235 species recognised under the African Eurasian Waterbird Agreement (AEWA).

2. Understanding the migratory phenomenon is central to the conservation of these species. Annually, migratory waterbird species travel enormous distances to complete their life cycles. In some cases, such as several of the wader and tern species, migration takes place over more than 10,000 km twice each year. Many species have established routes, which encompass sites that provide resources for key elements of their life cycles. For each species, when combined with their normal routes of travel, these groups of sites describe their 'flyway' which will generally encompass the entire range of a migratory species (or groups of species or distinct populations of a single species). This includes the breeding ground, the wintering area, the intermediate resting and feeding places and the relatively small area of land along which the birds migrate. Thus each flyway encompasses a network of critically important sites (predominantly wetland areas although some species also use other habitat types for part of their life cycle) linked by the migrations of the waterbirds. The importance of non-wetland sites to migratory waterbirds such as agricultural land is undoubted, buts its conservation and management in this respect is considered less pressing. Various geographical constraints and barriers such as oceans, mountain ranges and deserts, 'funnel' the birds in certain directions with the result that many species' flyways are similar. The project will address specifically the African/Eurasian flyways, which comprise a number of such routes that have been grouped together.

3. Whilst migratory waterbird species depend on these sites for the completion of their annual cycle the sites are also essential resources for other animal and plant species. They provide refuge and resources for many species that are both uniquely adapted to living within them or which depend on them for parts of their life cycle. They are also very valuable systems to people. Typically they are highly productive, generating a wealth of products; millions of people are dependent on them for food, building materials and other products. In addition the environmental characteristics of these ecosystems will often deliver services such as flood protection and fresh water.

4. The project area covers the entire African/Eurasian area as defined in the AEWA. This includes all of Africa, all of Europe, South-West Asia (including the Middle East and the Central Asian States), Greenland and the Canadian Archipelago. In total there are 117 Range States; 12 of these are Requesting Countries for the GEF project within which 11 site based demonstration projects will be executed. Map 1 in Annex 8L shows the project area and demonstration project locations.

[5] The project area is more commonly referred to as the African/Eurasian region when discussing migratory waterbirds; from hereon this will be the case. African/West Eurasian is used here to highlight the eastern boundary of the area which is in Central Asia.

Flyway Conservation and the African/Eurasian Region

5. The importance of migratory waterbirds and their sites is reflected in the relatively long history of related conservation activity. This began in the project area with counts of waterbird numbers in the Western Palearctic coordinated by the International Waterfowl Research Bureau (IWRB), the forerunner to Wetlands International, during the 1950s. As knowledge has increased, the focus of conservation activities has developed to address issues of species and site conservation. The need to appropriately manage all the critically important sites along a route to meet species' requirements is now well recognised and is often referred to as the 'flyway' approach. The concept embraces the idea that the flyway for a species is in fact the entire ecosystem needed for a migratory waterbird to ensure its survival and should therefore be managed as such.

6. The flyway approach to migratory waterbird conservation is inherently transboundary and relies on international cooperation. All sites in countries along flyways should be managed in such a way as to ensure that they continue to provide the necessary resources at the appropriate times to support migrating birds. Migratory waterbird and wetland conservation activities are chiefly the responsibility of nationally based government agencies. Normally these agencies provide resources for on-the-ground activities and for making strategic and site based decisions on planning and management at national and international levels. The high level of commitment to these activities by governments is evidenced by the ratification of AEWA (40 countries in less than 8 years) and the Ramsar Convention (90 countries in the AEWA area in less than 22 years). In addition, there is a strong history of involvement of national and international NGOs both at the site and flyway scales. International NGOs have been particularly important because they are more easily able to work with governments to raise awareness of site and species issues at the flyway scale and to work with national agencies to address international flyway related issues.

7. As an international NGO with strong links to national government agencies, Wetlands International plays a key role in conserving migratory waterbirds and their critical sites. The organisation played an important role in the development of the AEWA, a regional agreement under the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS), which was concluded in 1995 in The Hague, The Netherlands. It continues to play a significant role as a permanent member of the AEWA Technical Committee. Wetlands International coordinates the "Western Palearctic and South-West Asian" and "African Waterbird" Censuses (part of the International Waterbird Census (IWC), a global waterbird census programme) and compiles the "Waterbird Population Estimates" publication. Both play an important role in the designation of internationally important wetlands under the Ramsar Convention, in the identification of IBAs and in the evaluation of the conservation status of all migratory waterbirds. In addition, the organisation has played a key role in the development and implementation of Action plans for migratory waterbird species. In terms of wetland site conservation, Wetlands International is a key organisation in the implementation of the Ramsar Convention. IWRB (its principal forerunner organisation), was instrumental in establishing the Convention and Wetlands International continues to play a significant role, hosting and managing the Ramsar Database of Internationally Important Wetlands and having a permanent role in the Scientific and Technical Review Panel and Standing Committee of the Convention.

8. BirdLife International is also a key international NGO in the conservation of migratory waterbird species. It is responsible for the IBA Programme which is being implemented in all sub-regions of the project area and which is responsible for the identification of areas which are important to birds generally, a high proportion of which are wetlands. The organisation is also responsible for the development and implementation of many site-based programmes in IBAs that act to sustainably manage sites through the actions of locally based stakeholder groups. This includes site based bird monitoring and survey groups. The organisation is also a key technical organisation in AEWA and the Ramsar Convention.

9. Despite this high degree of commitment by governments and NGOs, the appropriate management of the African/Eurasian waterbird flyways poses a great challenge to the international

community. This is to a large extent related to the transboundary nature of migration routes, which normally include the territories of many culturally, politically and environmentally diverse countries. Coordinating and executing conservation activities on such a scale and with such a diverse range of potential partners is highly complex and only as strong as the weakest link; should management of sites for a species is inappropriate in one country it can seriously undermine the success of related activities elsewhere in other countries.

10. Therefore flyway scale conservation requires coordinated and cooperative activities by agencies with access to a baseline of capacity and resources at a suitable level. Decision makers need to understand the need for the flyway approach and appreciate the implications of this for management and capacity development activities. Conservation actions need to be underpinned by good quality data arising from internationally coordinated site and species research and monitoring. Site based practitioners need access to the best techniques and to be technically capable of executing them. The network of sites of critical importance to migratory waterbirds requires effective protection and sites should be managed in a way that is responsive to the needs of the species. Stakeholders in a flyway need to be able to communicate freely with one another, both within and between different groups and to be able to easily access information of value to them in their activities.

Threats to migratory waterbirds and wetlands and their causes

11. Despite the involvement of international NGOs and the commitment of governments and other partner organisations to migratory waterbird conservation, these species and their habitats remain under threat. It is estimated that of those covered by the AEWA, 378 populations (75%) of 195 species (83%) of waterbirds in the project area have an unfavourable conservation status, with many in a state of ongoing decline. This is a trend that is further underlined by a statement from the Wader Study Group following their 2003 International Conference in Cadiz, Spain. Referring to wader populations globally they indicate a significant reduction in wader numbers; of those with known trends 48% are in decline with only 16% increasing.

12. Threats to the sites comprising the critical network principally relate to the vulnerability of wetlands to change in the face of various forms of unsustainable development. This leads to habitat loss and degradation and corresponding damage to waterbird populations. Common threats include: over-exploitation through hunting, fishing and harvest of wetland products; pollution from catchment industrial sources, agriculture and waste disposal; degradation and destruction (including physical reclamation) for alternative development strategies including tourism, water resource management, industry and agricultural intensification; alteration of natural ecosystems through the introduction of alien plant and animal species; alteration of the natural hydrological functioning through drainage, damming of headwaters and groundwater exploitation. In addition to site-based threats, harvesting of migratory waterbird species for subsistence or sport continues and although well regulated in some sub-regions, unsustainable practices continue in many others.

13. Predominantly human activity is the cause of these threats; increasing human population together with unsustainable land management practices and development options are placing greater pressure on natural resources and leading to alteration and destruction of sites. Also, in some sub-regions of the project area the effects of climate change are considered to be contributing to wetland degradation and destruction (for instance drought in Central Asia).

14. Corresponding to the causes, the threats are not uniformly distributed or concentrated across the project area and to a large degree this also distinguishes between the types of critical sites which are most in danger. Lower and mid-latitudes are most severely at risk whilst those in the higher latitudes (the circumpolar regions) are less so, being better protected and managed through initiatives such as CAFF. The vast numbers of waterbirds breeding in the Arctic and Siberia are also less at risk because of their usually highly dispersed distribution, so that threats to relatively small geographical areas have small impacts on populations. These birds concentrate enormously on migration and wintering grounds (considered to be in the order of 200 times that circumpolar regions) , and threats to

small geographical areas can be catastrophic to populations using these sites. This means that in the project area overall, breeding grounds are currently under less threat than those sites that lie elsewhere along migratory routes and act as wintering, feeding and resting areas (this is predominantly the case although there are notable exceptions to this, for instance some intra-African migratory species have breeding grounds which are threatened). Review activities in the PDF-B highlighted this pattern and the need for greater capacity in the Middle East, parts of Africa, Central Asia and the Caucasus States. Evidence can be seen from destruction of habitat in these sub-regions. For instance the enormous Lower Mesopotamian Wetland system in Iraq (originally estimated to be between 1.5–2 million ha) has practically disappeared due to upstream damming of the Euphrates and Tigris Rivers and *in situ* drainage. Outreach work in the PDF-B showed that many wetlands in Central Asia have been drained for irrigation, a problem which has been magnified by drought.

15. There are already a number of initiatives across the project area that provide examples of how threats can be countered at the site scale. The PDF-B reviewed a number of these. They adopt a relatively common generic approach to problem formulation, project design and execution, and generation of results on the ground, which are useful within the projects' aims. However, there is limited consideration of the flyway perspective for migratory waterbird species. As a result species / population specific benefits are limited to the lifecycle stage that a particular site is critical for and there is no mechanism whereby the techniques, capacity and lessons learned can be better distributed across the flyway. Furthermore, consideration of the site's role within the larger network of sites is rarely considered. Although ultimately the solution to better conserving these species will clearly be achieved through site based conservation and management activities, the sheer number of sites, coupled with the current low capacity means that this process will be extremely slow. Therefore a key element of the strategy to conserve these species must be to catalyse activity across the flyway.

16. This project is the next logical step for government agencies to take, in collaboration with international NGOs and other nationally based partners, to enhance the conservation of migratory waterbirds. Catalytic and strategic interventions will be implemented that strengthen linkage of policy and technical resources to on-site stakeholders and practitioners, fill gaps in access to technical and decision making capacity development opportunities, and build on existing initiatives. Furthermore, it will enhance the capacity of the networks supporting these activities so that they are able to sustain the expansion of conservation activities.

GEF Programming Context

17. All twelve requesting countries have ratified the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). The project is designed to support the objectives of the CBD: the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components and the equitable sharing of the benefits of resource utilisation. The Programme is eligible for GEF assistance under Operational Programme (OP) 2 "Coastal, Marine and Freshwater Systems". The Programme directly addresses the OP 2 Objective of the "*…conservation and sustainable use of the biological resources in freshwater ecosystems*" and will generate substantial global benefits.

18. The project also adheres to the principles of the Joint Work Plan between the CBD and the Ramsar Convention and addresses a number of the Actions in the Strategic Action plan adopted by Contracting Parties at COP8 in Valencia, Spain. Furthermore the project adheres to the principles and activities as agreed in the CBD/CMS Joint Workplan and the CMS/AEWA/Ramsar Joint Workplan as adopted at CBD/CoP6 (April 2002) and CMS/CoP7 (September 2002) respectively. The project concept and approach was presented to the AEWA MoP2 held in September 2002 in Bonn and to the Ramsar CoP8 held in November 2002 in Valencia and was favourably received. Both meetings passed resolutions that endorsed this GEF intervention (AEWA MoP2 Resolution 2.4, operational paragraph 2 and Ramsar CoP8 Resolution VIII.38).

19. The project coincides with the GEF Biodiversity Strategic Priorities in two main areas; "I. Catalysing Sustainability of Protected Areas" and "IV. Generation and Dissemination of Best

Practices for Addressing Current and Emerging Biodiversity Issues". In the former, capacity development for long-term sustainability in institutional, individual and systemic target areas is supported by the project. This is particularly the case in Component 2 where training and awareness Programmes are developed. In the latter, compilation and dissemination of best practice and the development of scientific and technical cooperation will be supported by the project. The execution of demonstration projects and the various communications and exchange mechanisms that will be implemented to disseminate this information are particularly important activities in this regard.

UNEP Programming Context

20. UNEP's role in the GEF is detailed in the *"Action Plan on Complementarity Between the Activities Undertaken by UNEP under the GEF and its Programme of Work (1999)"*. This project addresses the Action Plan strategic objective: *"…promoting multi-country cooperation directed to achieving global environmental benefits "* by establishing international cooperation mechanisms and building capacity for the conservation of a network of globally important wetlands in Africa and Eurasia that are required for the survival of migratory waterbirds including a number of globally endangered species. The project also links to the strategic objective "*…relating national and regional priorities to global environmental objectives*" by building capacity for flyway conservation at national and sub-regional levels and by directing resources towards project activities that will achieve global benefits (such as conservation of internationally important wetlands and threatened waterbird species).

International Strategic and Policy Context

21. All twelve requesting countries have ratified the CBD. Eleven of the twelve requesting countries are signatories to the Ramsar Convention and have designated a total of 78 sites, with the twelfth country having signalled its intention to sign in the near future. Six have ratified the AEWA and nine have signed the CMS.

22. The selection of the demonstration projects reflects this commitment. All are critically important sites for species of migratory waterbirds that are included in the Annexes of AEWA (see Table 1 in each of the demonstration site proposals in Annex G for details). All of the requesting countries are either Ramsar or AEWA Contracting Parties with the exception of Yemen which has provided a written indication of its intention to join the Ramsar Convention and AEWA in the near future. In all, seven of the sites are already designated Ramsar sites with clear indications that at least 2 two more will be designated soon.

Existing Capacity for Flyway Site Network Conservation

23. At the national level there is a significant lack of capacity in most countries for conservation of the network of sites of critical importance to migratory waterbird species. There is inadequate awareness amongst decision makers, a dearth of the necessary technical capacity and inadequate exchange and communication of information between relevant government sectors and between governments.

24. Internationally, capacity is mostly held within the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat, Ramsar Convention Bureau, international NGOs and related schemes and initiatives. The UNEP/AEWA Secretariat and the Ramsar Convention Bureau are not technical organisations. They provide legal frameworks for conservation and through the use of Action Plans agreed by Contracting Parties they seek to implement these. To support this they provide access to networks of expertise and supporting technical information. Outreach work during the PDF-B showed that in some sub-regions the inaccessibility of this information limited its use by stakeholders. Also the work of the AEWA and Ramsar Convention is carried out by small Secretariats that have to service the needs of large and expanding numbers of Parties; often this limits the role that these organisations can play in different regions.

25. MEAs access most of their technical expertise via international NGOs such as Wetlands International, BirdLife International, IUCN and WWF, where much of the capacity for international activities exists. In addition to their in-house expertise these organisations service and maintain networks of expert environmentalists and ornithologists. These include scientists, volunteers and enthusiasts who are largely responsible for providing the data to support the site and species data needs of AEWA and Ramsar. They play a key role in the IWC and IBA Programmes coordinated by Wetlands International and BirdLife International. In both schemes coverage of sites is relatively non-uniform with the majority of counters based in Europe and serious gaps in coverage within Africa, the Middle East and Central Asia. Also, the two schemes overlap in terms of personnel but do not currently have the capacity to cooperate and maximise effectiveness. These international NGOs are also largely responsible for coordinating and catalysing related capacity development initiatives. However, because of funding and institutional capacity limitations these initiatives are often *ad hoc*, short-term and not linked to any wider Programme of training that would provide a common philosophy or continuity to enable longer-term benefits.

Synergy with other Wetlands and Migratory Waterbird Initiatives

26. The project area is vast and as a consequence overlaps with a number of wetland and migratory waterbird related initiatives. During the PDF-B a number of these were reviewed to establish the existing baseline of activity and the needs to be addressed by this project.

27. There are a number of GEF related initiatives; these include: UNDP/GEF project addressing Conservation of Wetlands In Madagascar through Community Management; WB/GEF Aral Sea basin Water and Environmental Management project; UNDP/GEF Jozani-Chwaka Bay National Park Development project in Tanzania; WB/GEF project addressing Coastal Zone Management in the Gulf of Aden; UNDP/GEF PDF-A project on the Protection of Key Bottleneck Areas for Soaring Migratory Birds; UNDP/GEF PDF-B Project on the Conservation of Iranian Wetlands; UNDP/GEF Project on Kazakhstan Wetlands Conservation; UNDP/GEF PDF-B project on the Conservation of Wetland Biodiversity in the Lower Volga Region; UNEP/GEF project on the Development of a Wetland Site and Flyway Network for Conservation of the Siberian Crane. These offer a site based approach to migratory waterbird and wetland conservation; only the last one addresses this in an explicitly flyway context.

28. There are also a number of non-GEF related initiatives that take more strategic and catalytic approaches; these include: the MEDWET Initiative; the annual RIZA organised, Netherlands based International Course on Wetland Restoration; the long-term studies of Colonial Waterbirds by La Station Biologique de la Tour du Valat; the Ramsar "Evian Initiative" that is addressing the need to transfer know-how between wetland managers; the Wetlands International training programme for wetlands and waterbirds; the BirdLife International Important Bird Area Programme; the Wetlands International Specialist Group Networks; the Wetlands International IWC, the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust "Monitoring biodiversity for site management planning in Eastern African wetlands" project, the EU Natura 2000 site network that is being expanded to include the newly acceding states; the EU EUROSITE initiative addressing exchange of information between protected areas in Europe.

29. Overall there are a number of site based initiatives and some more strategic and catalytic initiatives taking place in the project area that focus variously on sites and species but only in one or two cases flyway issues. All of these can bring value to flyway conservation in the African/Eurasian flyways through provision of best practices and lessons learned for flyway decision makers and site-based practitioners. In some cases they also provide a good basis for combining their activities with those of this project. With this in mind the project has been designed to capitalise on these opportunities. Existing site-based projects will be used as locations for project activities. The training and awareness raising component of the project will draw on the experiences of existing initiatives such as the RIZA Wetland Management Course. Strengthening the linkage between the Wetlands International and BirdLife International IWC and IBA Programmes to create the network of critical sites will form a fundamental element of one of the project outcomes and establish a sustainable link

post-project. The Exchange Programme will seek to develop partnerships with donors and other similar schemes such as EUROSITE. The Steering Committee and sub-regional Training Boards will engage government and NGO representatives and practitioners that are involved in many of these initiatives so that the capacity developed in this project is in synergy and capitalises on their findings.

Consequences of Continuing the Baseline Conditions

30. Without the proposed GEF intervention the ongoing degradation of sites and associated migratory waterbird biodiversity will continue. The lack of international and national capacity to manage, coordinate and cooperate in flyway planning and management will continue, in particular in specific sub-regions. This will lead to a gradual reduction in the viability of certain flyway routes and the loss of certain globally significant species that are dependent on them. The necessary funds to execute such a strategic-level initiative to address these causes are only available from a few other donors in the region and are not sufficient to comprehensively address the problems that exist in the flyway. The combination of these interventions alongside those from GEF both increases the levels of funding to achieve a strategic flyway scale solution and provides the international basis on which it can be built.

RATIONALE AND OBJECTIVES

Project rationale and objective

31. Migratory waterbirds are an important component of biodiversity. Wetlands, the habitats that these species are particularly dependent on, are important both in terms of their values as resources for migratory waterbirds and as resources for other species and human beings. Despite this, migratory waterbirds are still threatened by activities that degrade and remove wetland sites along their flyways and therefore threaten their survival. The specific root causes are generally due to unsustainable development pressures on natural resources, weak coordination and cooperation between government agencies and NGOs, insufficient technical capacity to manage sites locally and within the flyway context, low awareness amongst a wide variety of stakeholder groups (from decision-makers to site-based practitioners to community leaders) and poor access to resources to inform and assist conservation activity. This problem can be identified across the African/Eurasian region but its intensity is not uniformly distributed, being particularly intense in specific sub-regions.

32. These limitations and weaknesses generally stem from gaps in provision of certain types of resources (generally and within specific sub-regions) and a lack of strategic coordination of and access to those that exist across the flyway. As a result uneven capacity to plan and manage flyways exists; this is a major barrier to effective flyway conservation. This project will undertake flyway-scale strategic and catalytic activities to overcome these barriers. The challenges of enhancing capacity and catalysing new initiatives by raising awareness and enhancing access to information and techniques will be the overall focus. Site-based demonstration projects are also embedded in this approach, but their rationale is as showcases for best practice across the project area to catalyse other activity. Three main areas have been identified as foci for the project where this approach is most urgently needed; the improved identification and protective designation of wetlands, the development of technical and decision making capacity in specific sub-regions and the enhancement of communications capacity for stakeholders at the site and decision-making level. Together these components of the project form the foundations of a strong flyway conservation approach.

33. The Development Objective is to conserve globally significant migratory waterbirds and wetlands in the African/Eurasian landmass. This will be achieved through the Project's Immediate Objective; *"Strengthened strategic capacity to plan and manage the conservation of migratory waterbirds and the critical sites along their flyways"*. This will ensure that as well as developing time-bounded project specific outcomes, the GEF-supported intervention will also generate long-term sustainable capacity that will continue to support conservation beyond the end of the project.

PROJECT COMPONENTS AND EXPECTED RESULTS

34. The project is divided into three components that together form the foundations of a strategic and catalytic approach to flyway conservation. They are presented separately here, but will in reality be executed in an integrated manner with strong linkages between each that will be facilitated by the structures outlined in the Project Implementation Arrangements (see Annex I). Each component is based on a strategy that has been developed based on extensive stakeholder consultation throughout the region during the PDF-B phase. These strategies are summarised in Annexes 8E (Component 1), 8F (Component 2) and 8H (Component 3).

Component 1: Rational basis for conservation activities strengthened through development of a comprehensive, flyway scale, critical site network planning and management tool.

35. The conservation of migratory waterbirds requires effective management of their critical sites individually and coordinated planning and management throughout the flyway as a whole. Site protective designation and conservation management of a site needs to be conducted in the context of the network of critical sites. To do this requires data and information on sites and their role in a flyway in a format is available to planners, managers and decision makers throughout the flyway. Currently there are a number of different international information resources that have been developed for different waterbird, bird or wetland related purposes. They are separately managed, use overlapping but separately coordinated person networks to collect and maintain data, have gaps geographically and are managed using different databases and systems. As a consequence they all contain information of great value to flyway conservation but its availability and ease of access for this purpose is low and the sum of the resources is not comprehensive across the flyways. In addition there are some static site based resources but their coverage is not comprehensive and in some cases they are out of date. Activities in this component will fill gaps in geographical coverage, improve the underlying databases in order to create a link between them that enables use for flyway conservation, increase the capacity to collect data and information through improving the effectiveness and geographical coverage of site and species person networks and stimulate the acquisition of ecological knowledge of value to flyway management.

36. Collectively this component is vital to ensure that local scale management decisions and conservation action are informed by flyway-scale species requirements and contribute to enhanced conservation status at the flyway level. By its very nature these steps require provision and maintenance of an international, transboundary resource that is accessible to practitioners across the flyway.

Outcome 1.1. The network of critical sites is available as a tool for use by practitioners to underpin planning and management of and catalyse site level activity in, flyway conservation.

37. **Rationale:** A tool is needed that provides information on all the sites of critical importance to migratory waterbirds across the African/Eurasian area. Currently there are a number of initiatives that make data on sites and species available across the flyway. The IWC, IBA and Ramsar databases contain millions of records relating to migratory waterbirds and the sites they use. Combined, these initiatives have enormous potential for flyway management through provision of an increased information base for site identification and protective designation, expanded coverage across the AEWA region and a considerably larger network of practitioners across the flyway to gather data and monitor sites and species. Development of the network of critical sites for migratory waterbirds based on these databases will enable this potential to be unlocked.

38. **Description and activities:** The IWC, IBA and Ramsar data sources will be made available in an integrated fashion, as a flyway scale network of critical sites, in conjunction with information on species' site usage, ecological requirements and site management advice. The resource will exist via a portal that links the three main databases and provides additional links to other knowledge bases and will be available on the World Wide Web to practitioners and the general public. It will be interactive

in order to service queries from practitioners in relation to flyway planning. 'Snap shot' versions will be published (and updated editions produced) on CD ROM for distribution to those practitioners with no or insufficient Internet access. It will not be a database itself but a live link to existing data-sources, which facilitates flyway related user queries of the main databases it accesses. It will also be linked to additional information resources which provide basic ecological information on migratory waterbirds and their site requirements (e.g. GROMS). The resource will be constructed so that it is dynamic, i.e. it will be updated at the same time as the parent databases. The portal will be developed and maintained by UNEP-WCMC (the latter under the existing agreement between them and the UNEP-AEWA Secretariat).

39. The resource will contain information on the migratory waterbird species that are listed in the AEWA annexes and on the critical sites they require to complete their annual cycle. It will be structured in such a way that queries can be made about the network of sites essential to a particular species or a group of species, the role of a particular site in the life cycle of species visiting the site, as well as providing site inventory information and species ecological information.

40. A strategy for publicity, awareness raising and training for the site network tool will be launched targeting key stakeholders; this will include activities specifically raising awareness of the CD-ROM 'snap-shot'. It will ensure a constant information flow to stakeholders during the development phase, culminating in an official launch at a relevant international meeting once it is complete. Various materials will be produced in four languages both to raise awareness and act as a basis for training practitioners in its use. Additional resources will be produced to highlight key sites in need of protection.

Outcome 1.2. Primary data resources that underpin flyway conservation, planning and management activities enhanced to include all critically important sites in the AEWA region.

41. **Rationale:** To be able to conserve, plan and manage a flyway for a particular species, knowledge of the route taken and the role of sites along it is essential. Currently, not all the critical sites in the network within the AEWA region are known. There are problems of coverage by the main species databases (IWC and IBA) with gaps in geographic coverage including Central Asia, the Middle East and parts of Africa. In some cases a site's importance is suspected but there are no scientific data to confirm this and in some rare cases there may be sites that are as yet unknown to the conservation community. Filling these gaps in knowledge across the AEWA region will ensure that the critical site network developed under Outcome 1.1 has a comprehensive geographical coverage.

42. **Description and activities:** Geographical gaps in coverage will be identified and surveys will be carried out in four sub-regions at potentially important sites. Preliminary macro-scale analyses of where gaps exist will be used as a basis for consultation with experts. Sites that satisfy the criteria for international importance under the Ramsar Convention will be identified. These will be added to the main databases and this will ensure that the network of critical sites is comprehensive.

Outcome 1.3. Flyway data gathering and monitoring capacity strengthened to support the updating and maintenance of primary data resources that underpin conservation of the network of critical sites.

43. **Rationale:** Monitoring waterbirds and the sites they use is essential to assess the status of populations and sites and enable calculation of population trends. Furthermore it can indicate the performance of policy and conservation action and be used to set priorities for (further) action. Wetlands International and BirdLife International have developed extensive networks of (predominantly voluntary) skilled observers to gather such data. These networks are not equally well developed over the whole of the AEWA region. In Central Asia / Caucasus and the Middle East for example, the network of observers is comparatively thin and relatively less active. As a result, the capacity to perform survey and monitoring work is underdeveloped and needs to be strengthened, through training, both of existing under-skilled practitioners and non-skilled committed novices. In addition there is often a lack of synergy between the two data-gathering networks, doubling efforts in some sites and spreading resources too thinly elsewhere.

44. **Description and activities:** There are three separate elements to capacity development that will be addressed; training of people, harmonisation of personnel networks and provision of resources. Training will be targeted both at existing practitioners whose skills need to be improved and at those who currently have very limited or no skills. Trainees will be taught basic bird identification and general counting skills in short course modules. They will then be taught to apply this knowledge under variable circumstances in the field (distances, light conditions, weather, accessibility, very large numbers of birds in compact groups etc.), which is essential for the gathering of quality information. In addition, trainees will receive basic guidance in site inventory and characterisation that will enable them to collect site information in line with Ramsar database requirements.

45. Data gathering networks and protocols will be harmonised. Materials will be developed that provide guidelines for data collection that fit with both the IWC and IBA schemes. Counters will then be encouraged to submit data that can be used for both schemes, from one field visit. These materials will also be used as a basis for training activities. This will better match existing networks of counters to data collection requirements. In the course of these activities counters' field equipment needs will be evaluated and those in particular need will be prioritised and equipment provided.

Outcome 1.4. Species and critical site knowledge base supports management and planning decision-making in flyway conservation.

46. **Rationale:** Flyway conservation requires a good understanding of migratory waterbird ecology; however it varies considerably between species. For some, population models have been developed, for others there is not a good idea of population sizes, distribution or threats. A key weakness is the understanding of the way migratory waterbirds use (and depend on) sites during their annual cycle. This is very important if planning and management of a particular species' flyway is to be successful; without this knowledge it is hard to ensure appropriate site management. Therefore it is important that the site network tool is accompanied by state-of-the-art ecological information.

47. **Description and activities**: Currently available information resources describing the ecological requirements of migratory waterbirds listed in the AEWA annexes will be compiled in a format that is compatible with the network of critical sites. It will be designed so that when the site network tool is interrogated, additional information drawn from this resource can be displayed. The information will focus on that which is necessary for flyway management and conservation; it will include site functions in terms of what resources are provided to a species and how sites might assist a species in surmounting threats and disturbances. Key information gaps will be identified and using seed funding for proposal development, additional research will be stimulated to fill these gaps.

Component 2 Establishing a basis for strengthening decision-making and technical capacity for wetland and migratory waterbird conservation.

48. Sustainable management and conservation of migratory waterbirds and wetland ecosystems requires that from decision makers to staff in the field, agencies are staffed by informed and technically proficient employees. Access to regular, up-to-date training and awareness raising, designed to meet the needs of employees is therefore an essential prerequisite to achieve this. Furthermore, stakeholders must have a common level of understanding of key issues and practices in order to be able to communicate effectively with one another across the flyway. Across the AEWA region a number of training courses and awareness raising activities exist or have taken place. However their structure and delivery suffers from a number of limitations that reduces the long-term benefit that can be delivered to flyway stakeholders. Also, their availability across the project area is variable and this is reflected by the uneven development of capacity between sub-regions and within sub-regions. Often courses and events are supported by short-term project funding that does not enable a long-term commitment to training and awareness raising to be made; which provides no continuity and makes long-term planning for capacity development difficult. There is no overall unifying structure to training / awareness raising courses and modules to ensure standardisation of content of courses. Availability and accessibility (both financially and due to practical barriers such as language) across the flyway is spatially variable.

49. This component will develop a generic structured model Training and Awareness Raising Programme (Outcome 1), that is adaptable to different sub-regions. This will be developed into four Programmes specific to four sub-regions of the project area that have been identified as having particularly severe needs (Outcomes 2). The process of specification will be carried out in four sub-regions. It will fully engage government and NGO stakeholders in each region in the design and specification of the sub-regional Programmes, being mediated by Project Staff and overseen by a Sub-Regional Training Board that will be established for this purpose. The Project will then assist sub-regional stakeholders to raise funds for the implementation Programmes during the project and establish a sustainable strategy to ensure their longevity post-project.

Outcome 2.1. Transferable model Training and Awareness Raising Programme framework produced for developing wetland and waterbird conservation capacity.

50. **Rationale:** Training and awareness raising has been and continues to be delivered in many parts of the project area. However, it is rather *ad hoc* and relatively inaccessible to many stakeholders (both in terms of developing and taking part in activities). There is no mechanism to standardise delivery and content across sub-regions or the project area as a whole. In the context of flyway conservation and management this can lead to variable levels of understanding and technical proficiency and corresponding quality of conservation activities and results. Delivery of training and awareness raising through a sub-regionally focused and coordinated programme has a number of advantages. It enables greater control over content and delivery modes, increases the networking opportunities for trainees (and hence the added value for flyway management and conservation), can be more responsive to environmental, social and cultural contexts, assist delivery in common languages(s) and increase the involvement of sub-regional stakeholders in the development and implementation of the programme (thereby increasing ownership).

51. **Description and activities:** A transferable Programme for training and awareness-raising across the AEWA region will be developed for sub-regionally focused training programmes. It will provide a generic structure and content designed to strengthen capacity for the conservation of migratory waterbirds and wetlands. The model will be designed to ensure that sub-regional stakeholder agencies are integrally involved in the development of corresponding Programmes. It will incorporate existing training modules and courses in sub-regions, but will also include the development of new modules where there are important gaps in their availability sub-regionally. The model will provide guidelines on delivery through different mechanisms (long courses, modules, university courses etc), coordination and administration of the Programme and training of trainers.

52. Wetlands International will develop the first draft of the Programme. This will be based on preliminary concepts and structures that have been developed through PDF-B activities; these are outlined in Annex 8F. An international stakeholder workshop (both key partners and trainee target groups taken from across the AEWA region) will be used to refine the draft. Based on the findings of this meeting, the Programme will be revised in full and then submitted to a contracted external reviewer for a full review. It will then be finalised and made available for adaptation across the AEWA region.

Outcome 2.2. Wetland and waterbird conservation Training and Awareness Raising Programmes produced ready for implementation in four sub-regions.

53. **Rationale:** Capacity to provide training and awareness across the AEWA region is uneven and in certain sub-regions there is a particular need for capacity to be developed. Key sub-regions that have been identified as having particular needs are Western (Central) Africa, Eastern (Southern) Africa, the Middle East States and the Central Asian and Caucasus States (see Annex I for more details).

54. **Description and Activities:** The model programme will be used as the basis for developing training and awareness raising Programmes in each of four selected sub-regions. Generically, the process of sub-regional adaptation of the model Programme will be similar between sub-regions,

although the specific content and language will be different. This will be mediated by sub-regionally based subcontractor organisations. Activities in the PDF-B have developed some preliminary ideas of how the Programmes could be structured and organised in each sub-region and these are outlined in Annex 8F. These will be used to provide initial ideas and concepts for each sub-region to stimulate the development of the sub-regional programmes.

55. Sub-Regional Training Boards will be established to oversee development of each programme. It will be developed under the Boards' supervision jointly by sub-regionally based subcontractors that will develop a draft 'regionalised' programme using the guidelines provided in the model programme. This will be distributed to sub-regional stakeholders who will review the draft Programme at a sub-regional workshop. At this meeting the Programme will be further developed and the types of training and awareness raising will be prioritised and budgeted. The Programme will be finalised by the subcontractors in the locally predominant language (Western (Central) Africa in French, Eastern (Southern) Africa in English, the Middle East in Arabic and the Central Asian and Caucasus States in Russian.

56. Funds for implementation are not made available through the project. These will be raised during the project in a joint activity between sub-regional stakeholder organisations and the Project lead contractors and subcontractors.

Component 3: Enhanced availability and exchange of information through improved communications capacity and resource provision.

57. Communication between stakeholders to enable international exchange of information, experiences and resources is essential in flyway conservation. For example, practitioners need to be informed of new techniques, best practices, training opportunities and strategic and planning information relating to the status of sites and species. However, access to information is not uniform across the project area; existing communications mechanisms are issue-specific or cover flyway issues alongside others and access to best practices and lessons learned is weak. Therefore greater accessibility to information and resources needs to be developed and flyway-specific resources created that will benefit decision-makers, technical practitioners and community leaders. Activities in this component will achieve this through demonstrations of site and species management, enhanced electronic communications and corresponding access to resources and development of an exchange programme. The project strategy will be to maximise the use of the various communications mechanisms available without over-investing in the development of new ones that would overlap with these. For instance the existing internet sites of Wetlands International, BirdLife International, the Ramsar Convention and the UNEP-AEWA Secretariat will be used, but a new discussion forum focused on migratory waterbird issues will developed through the latter.

Outcome 3.1. Demonstrations of best practice management of migratory waterbirds and wetlands available across the flyway.

58. **Rationale:** Practitioners engaging in training, awareness raising and exchange programmes benefit enormously from practical demonstrations of best practice management. Examples exist in the flyway but often information is difficult to obtain and access to sites and staff can be difficult to secure, being reliant on their goodwill and time. Furthermore there is often a need for demonstration in particular sub-regions or environmental contexts where there are few examples. Such demonstration will be used to catalyse new initiatives and provide guidance and much needed support for those that are already underway. There is a need for demonstrations of aspects of best practice management across the flyway that can both provide generic lessons learned from execution of site and species management initiatives and specific examples of approaches within environmental and cultural contexts that might be specific to different areas or sub-regions of the flyway.

59. **Description and activities:** Eleven demonstration projects located in twelve different countries in the AEWA region will be implemented (see Annex 8G for details). The scope of demonstration was defined during the development of the PDF-B project proposal and has been

followed throughout the development of the proposals during the PDF-B. Each focuses on a specific element of best practice management that has demonstration value at the site scale to site managers in a flyway context. In some cases the design of the project around the priority action has necessitated that additional aspects of best practice are also addressed because these are integral to, or supportive of it. However, it must be emphasised that the demonstration projects are not designed to address all of the threats at a particular site. Furthermore the projects are designed to address site scale and not wider scale threats and issues such as catchment water resource management. However, the design phase has ensured that each demonstration project has been developed with full knowledge of the causes, threats and ongoing initiatives at a particular site. As such they have been designed to fit with these and where relevant help these initiatives address underlying threats to wetland biodiversity. All demonstration projects have been designed to complement other ongoing and planned activities. In this way, the demonstration projects will contribute to addressing the causes of biodiversity loss at these sites, providing long-term sustainable gains.

60. Each project will be executed over periods varying from three to five years and activities have been designed to ensure that lessons learned can be disseminated within the AEWA area as appropriate to the demonstration activities. The sites will also be used as foci for other project activities; where their activities coincide with the focus of project activities they will be integrated in sub-regional training and awareness raising programmes as venues for training locations (Outcome 2.2), as foci for exchange programmes (Outcome 3.3). Strategies for disseminating lessons learned will be developed in conjunction with activities under Outcome 3.2 so that information is accessible and practitioners are aware of it. A publication summarising the key lessons learned from the implementation of these best practices will be published.

Outcome 3.2 Mechanisms for governments and NGOs to communicate between themselves and with each other strengthened.

61. **Rationale**: Flyway conservation by its very nature entails international cooperation and coordination, which enables planning and management activities in one part of a flyway to be aware and responsive to those taking place in another part of the flyway. Furthermore, practitioners need access to resources, awareness of events and opportunities to exchange opinion. Currently there are communications mechanisms providing limited capacity but predominantly they are not designed with flyway conservation in mind, but for those involved in the site or species elements.

62. **Description and activities:** Activities will meet practitioners' needs for better communications mechanisms and will provide communications support to project activities (during and beyond the project). They will address government, NGO and site-based decision-makers and practitioners responsible for the conservation of migratory waterbirds and their critical sites. Where possible, tools will build on existing communications capacity and link with existing initiatives such as the AEWA, Ramsar Convention, Wetlands International and BirdLife International web sites and communications mechanisms. A project newsletter will be developed that will be distributed electronically and in hard copy format. This will report on progress in key project areas some as updates on the demonstration projects and opportunities for training and awareness raising.

Outcome 3.3. Mechanisms of exchange between and within sub-regions for improved flyway-level migratory waterbird and wetland management established.

63. **Rationale:** The planning and management of sites of critical importance to migratory waterbirds is carried out by practitioners who often have similar issues to resolve but have relatively little direct contact to discuss these and learn from one another. An exchange programme can facilitate this. Individuals and groups from one part of the flyway can visit others in different parts of the flyway, where their migratory species will travel. This can result in exchange of experiences, information, resources and the development of informal networks that will continue beyond the end of the visit.

64. **Description and activities:** A Programme will be established to enable practitioners along flyways to exchange experiences in wetland and waterbird wise use and management. Exchange

between and within sub-regions will complement the sub-regional training and awareness activities under Component 2 and will also foster the development and growth of flyway-level networks, building on the site network developed in Component 1 of the project. Structural arrangements will encourage people in different sub-regions to participate in sub-regional and flyway level networks and to learn from the practical exchange of experiences and the transfer of know-how. Key locations around the AEWA region will be used as foci for exchange including the demonstration sites.

65. The programme will offer funding to initiate exchange, and establish the structure within which it will work. Part of the programme will focus on the generation of financing to enable the Programme to develop. Other agencies, particularly in Europe, are anticipated to offer co-support to the evolving networks.

Outcome 3.4: Wise-use of migratory waterbirds and wetlands is better understood and implemented by governments in focal sub-regions.

66. **Rationale:** The UNEP/AEWA Secretariat and Ramsar Convention Bureau support international frameworks for the protection of migratory waterbirds and wetlands with practical guidance and information on how best to use these resources wisely. Despite this there are still considerable steps that need to be taken to ensure that organisations in the project area adopt principles of wise use. This is particularly concentrated in the focal sub-regions of the project where communications are poor and resources are often less accessible due to language barriers. In particular there is relatively low accession to the two MEAs, poor provision of resources in regionally appropriate languages and insufficient local capacity to fully service these particularly needy sub-regions.

67. **Description and Activities**: Sustainable capacity will be developed in the focal sub-regions to provide resources to assist access to wise use guidance and information in order to supplement the role of the MEAs. Staff in sub-regional stakeholder organisations will be provided with the opportunity to shadow key staff in the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat and Ramsar Convention Bureau to learn about how these MEAs work and to better familiarise themselves with the stakeholders and issues in their sub-region. This will increase their capacity to advocate and explain MEAs through their various project activities and enable them to mentor government organisations in MEA implementation. To support these activities and provide resources for training and awareness raising under Component 2, key MEA documents, including the Ramsar Convention Handbooks for Wise Use of Wetlands, will be translated into the predominant sub-regional languages.

RISKS AND SUSTAINABILITY

Risks

68. The logical framework matrix in Annex B summarises the principal risks and assumptions associated with the project. Every effort has been made to minimise these in the design of the project strategy and its activity and outcomes. This has included review of past and ongoing GEF projects, flyway initiatives and other related initiatives taking place within and outside the project area. In addition there has been wide consultation within the project partnership through review and discussion within the PDF-B Steering Committee.

69. There remain potential external risks though that cannot be mitigated against in the project design. One of these is political instability in the project area, through war, revolution or regime change in one of the focal sub-regions of the project. All the sub-regions have experienced this in one or more of their countries during the recent past and this remains a distinct possibility during the project. It seems unlikely however, that such instability would stretch across a whole sub-region or that a total breakdown in the political system (as happened following the break up of the Soviet Union in Central Asia) would happen again. More likely is that one State and maybe some neighbouring countries would experience such an event and that whilst making project activities more difficult this would not prevent significant progress being made in the unaffected States. Indeed, experience within

Wetlands International operating within Central Africa indicates that considerable progress can be made despite these problems.

70. The project's financial administration is complex, depending as it does on a wide range of different co-finance sources from a variety of different types of donors. A significant risk is that one of more donors is not able or fails to provide co-financing in a timely manner. There could be a number of reasons for this ranging from political disruption (policy changes in governments, instability in a donor country) to lack of resources (over five years a donor organisation can experience many changes). It will be the job of the PCU to manage these potential problems. To help anticipate potential problems, the PCU will financially plan each project year well in advance and maintain close contact with donors to remind them of their responsibilities with regard to project needs. If problems can be seen then this will give a stronger chance for shortfalls to be met before they disrupt the project.

71. The implementation of certain elements of the project depends on the commitment of stakeholders to provide resources to implement and sustain them and to help to seek additional funding. This in particular applies to the sub-regional training and awareness raising programmes and the exchange programme. This risk will be minimised through preparatory activities made during the PDF-B and the strategy proposed for fund-raising in the project. There are already initiatives submitted for funding or under development that may provide funds to support implementation. Wetlands International has already submitted a major proposal for financing and is preparing others. Training and awareness activities are being developed in West Africa with support from the French Government and these will continue during the GEF project; contacts have been made with the French Ministry and it has been agreed that the two initiatives will work together. Indeed co-finance has been provided to the GEF project to develop the sub-regional Programme in West Africa. In addition it is anticipated that through engaging stakeholders from the start of the development of these programmes and enabling them to collaboratively design and prioritise them, their interest and commitment will be ensured.

72. Political instability also has the potential to affect the site-based demonstration projects and was considered as part of the process of their selection. This to varying degrees depends on the location of the project and could manifest itself in a number of ways such as disruption to government based co-financing, loss of staff or damage to equipment and activities. Demonstration projects have been developed as far as possible to accommodate disruptions in the flow of co-finance. However it is ultimately difficult to mitigate against this except by developing contingency plans as part of the workplans. The management of such problems will be the task of Wetlands International, BirdLife International and the Local Executing Agencies and coordination budgets. One advantage arising from the implementation of the projects by local executing agencies is that there is minimal dependence on ex-patriate staff who would often be the first to consider leaving during such events.

73. The risks to the project of a disaster or off-site external resource use affecting a site are significant but the effects would be limited to only specific project activities. The project is predominantly non-site based and strategically focused and the site-based activities address demonstration. Such events could damage the integrity of these to the extent that the project would have to reconsider how best to continue in these locations. For instance an oil spill near any of the coastal sites or the diversion of water resources in the upstream area of a number of sites could have catastrophic consequences. In the former case little can be done to plan for such an eventuality; in some locations the passage of oil cargoes in close proximity is unavoidable. In the latter case, the selection of the site has been based on a review of likely activities and the relevant stakeholder organisations have been involved in consultations over the project.

Sustainability

74. The overall project approach embraces strategic and catalytic measures that will build a basis for shared management and planning across the flyway and consequent sharing of the costs.

This approach has been developed in close consultation and collaboration with government, international NGO and MEA stakeholders and should therefore ensure a high degree of commitment to the success and longevity of the project's achievements and outputs. In addition, many of the project activities and outputs are closely referenced to the AEWA Implementation Priorities and the Ramsar Convention Strategic Action Plan. These documents lay out the priority activities for the Contracting Parties to these MEAs to implement. Considering the high accession of States to the Ramsar Convention and rapidly increasing accession to AEWA it can be expected that this will help ensure a high degree of involvement in project activity implementation and their continued sustainability post-project.

75. Overall, the project adopts an approach whereby capacity is built on existing entities and initiatives. Where gaps exist these are filled but the project is so designed that responsibility for and resourcing of the continued implementation of new initiatives will be passed to relevant and committed agencies in the sub-regions. This will be achieved by engaging the stakeholders in the planning and development and by enhancing their capacity to carry out these roles post-project.

76. The development of the site network tool is based on existing databases and resources that are currently maintained by Wetlands International, BirdLife International and the Ramsar Convention Bureau. It will be delivered via a web-portal on the AEWA website that is currently maintained by UNEP-WCMC under contract to UNEP/AEWA Secretariat. The web-portal will interrogate these existing databases and will therefore not require any significant additional maintenance and upkeep.

77. The strategy to develop the sub-regional Training and Awareness Raising Programmes has been designed to ensure long-term sustainability, in terms of financial support, institutional support and ownership and achievement. The PDF-B carried out a review of needs across the project area and identified that sub-regionally focused programmes would be the best solution. A concept of how such programmes should look was developed (and is presented in Annex 8F) which includes a number of sustainability principles. The programme development process will start from this point but will diverge in each sub-region according to the specific needs defined by the stakeholder driven process. Key sustainability principles built into the concept are:

- Institutional support and ownership. The full GEF project will engage sub-regional stakeholders in the process of developing their own programmes. Ultimately, they will also become responsible for the implementation of the Programmes and their long-term sustainability. This will ensure their commitment to the process and their active involvement (during the GEF project through the sub-regional Training Boards). The development process will be mediated by the project and driven by stakeholders in terms of scope, ambition and content of the Programme, basing it on their current needs, absorption capacity and the likely funding environment for implementation. This will ensure that the resulting Programmes can be implemented practically, both in terms of the likelihood of funding availability and practical / logistical considerations.
- Financial sustainability: Investment of a large sum of money for implementation at this stage is not the most effective way of ensuring a tightly focused, needs driven Programme. Also, each sub-regional Programme requires more detail to be developed before it is reasonable to expect major donors to invest in it. Furthermore at this stage it is difficult to judge absorption capacity. Therefore during Programme development a resource mobilization strategy will be designed and initiated to ensure implementation. This will also include a 5 year financial planning horizon. The project will provide a significant input to the resource mobilization strategy by funding staff in sub-regional subcontractors and in the project lead contractors to help sub-regional stakeholders in mobilize resources. This will be coordinated by the sub-regional Training Boards with help from the PCU. This process is expected to both ensure the programmes' implementation and long-term financial sustainability. Steps have already been and continue to be taken by the lead contractor to prepare the way for this. For instance, in West Africa the French government has already invested in supporting the development of

the Programme during the GEF project and seems likely to contribute further specific funding for implementation.

- Long term achievement. The nature of engagement of sub-regional stakeholders in the development process will ensure that Programmes and courses therein are designed to meet the needs of their staff. The framework that will be the basis for each Programme will include monitoring and evaluation processes that will provide information on the success and career progress of the trainees. This will feed back into the Programmes that will continue to be overseen by sub-Regional Training Boards.

78. The exchange programme will be developed as a framework with minimal funding to implement it. The extent to which this will be implemented in each sub-region will then be dependent on the engagement of other donors in response to requests by local stakeholders who will also be expected to assist in pursuing this financing. This will ensure that the Programme is driven by the enthusiasm and commitment of the relevant agencies and not purely by project funding.

79. The demonstration project activities have been developed through a process of stakeholder consultation that has included relevant government agencies. The aspects of site management being demonstrated are part of established management plans or are elements of a process of management plan development that has been supported by the government. This will ensure that the activities are not being conducted in isolation from other work and will form part of more fully integrated site based plans and management activities. Furthermore, the sustainability of the site interventions will be enhanced through their involvement in the Training and Awareness Raising and Exchange Programmes. The stakeholders in the demonstration projects will be encouraged to participate in relevant workshops / events increasing their capacity to address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss at their sites. This will apply both to the activities they are undertaking in the demonstration projects specifically but also to the other threats to their sites that are being addressed by other initiatives or that will need to be addressed in the future.

IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS AND STAKEHOLDER PARTICIPATION

Implementation Arrangements

80. The project's goal is at the flyway level, however, the project activities that will be executed to achieve this will take place at three scales; flyway, sub-regional and site (demonstration activities). The flyway scale refers to the African-Eurasian Flyway area defined in the AEWA. The sub-regional scale refers to activities being implemented in defined areas within the flyway area which have lower capacity to conserve migratory waterbirds and wetlands; these are Western (and Central) Africa, Eastern (and Southern) Africa, the Middle East States and Central Asia / the Caucasus States. (Central and Southern Africa are bracketed to indicate that they will be able to benefit from activities but their physical implementation will take place or be planned to take place in Western and Eastern Africa). Arrangements to coordinate, execute and guide activities will be organised accordingly but overall management and coordination will take place at the flyway scale. The organisational structure of the project at the flyway and sub-regional scales is provided in Annex 8I. Similar diagrams for each of the demonstration projects are provided in Annex 8G.

81. The GEF project will be implemented by UNEP (referred to as the project "Implementing Agency"), it will be managed and administered by United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS - referred to as the project "Executing Agency"). Contracted organisations and consultants will carry out technical activities. Of these, Wetlands International will be the "Senior Lead Contractor" sharing the majority of these tasks with BirdLife International the "Lead Contractor".

82. **Project Steering Committee:** The Project Steering Committee (PSC) will comprise representatives of the main project organisations involved in technical and administrative delivery of the project (Wetlands International, BirdLife International, AEWA, the Ramsar Convention, UNOPS and UNEP). Representatives of selected government agencies will also participate. They will serve

under the Terms of Reference (TOR) summarised in Annex 8I. The PSC's role will be twofold: firstly to guide and oversee the project's technical progress and performance; secondly to coordinate the roles of the organisations they represent and ensure that strategic decision-making therein is made with due consideration of the project's activities and objectives.

83. **Project Coordination Unit:** The overall project will be technically coordinated by a small Project Coordination Unit (PCU) located in the offices of Wetlands International in Wageningen, The Netherlands. This is important for the operation and effectiveness of the PCU. Day to day coordination of the activities of contractors and subcontractors based in a number of developing country locations in Africa and Asia, including travel and communications requires good access to air travel and well maintained electronic communication. Furthermore, location in Wageningen affords direct communications with the project's lead contractors (Wetlands international HQ and the BirdLife through their European Office). A Chief Technical Advisor and a Junior Operations Manager will be employed by UNOPS to run the Unit. The PCU will report to the PSC, the UNEP Project Task manager in UNEP and Portfolio Manager in UNOPS. See Annex 8I for more details.

84. Further staff employed at the flyway scale will not be employed by UNOPS but through contracts with the Lead Contractors. These will specifically include a Capacity Development Officer and two Waterbird Officers (one in each lead Contractor). For full details see Annex I.

85. **Sub-Regional Training Boards:** Sub-Regional Training Boards will guide and oversee the activities in each of the focal sub-regions relating to the development of sub-regional training and awareness programmes. Funding is provided for two years after which it is expected that resource mobilisation for implementation of the programmes will cover future costs. TheBoard will be no more than 12 members and its composition will be established through a process of consultation by the sub-regional capacity development officer, but will include representatives from sub-regional governments. These agencies will be requested to commit themselves to development of the programmes and helping to establish and sustain its implementation. The Chair of each Board will be drawn from a sub-regional government agency active in the delivery of wetland and waterbird related training activities. The Chair will also take part in the overall Project Steering Committee, acting as a link between the two Committees. In this way strong participation of government stakeholders in the project will be further reinforced. The role of the Sub-Regional Steering Committees will be to provide advice and guidance on technical activities in the region and to provide linkage with the activities of their respective organisations in the sub-region.

Stakeholder Participation

86. Throughout the PDF-B stage, project development has been carried out with reference to results from extensive stakeholder consultation; this has been critical to the design of the underlying strategies. The stakeholders' roles will continue throughout the full project's execution.

87. The PSC and sub-regional Training Boards will provide the main route for relevant MEAs and international NGOs to provide input and advice on the project. During the PDF-B the Steering Committee comprised these organisations and had a strong role in guiding the development of the project brief. The inclusion of government organisations in these bodies during the full project will further strengthen the role of stakeholders in the project's guidance. It will be important that the PSC ensures that the project continues to be complementary to existing initiatives in the organisations that they represent and does not overlap. There are other international NGOs also involved in aspects of flyway conservation, although more often this is through addressing elements of conservation that will indirectly contribute to it through site conservation or protection of a specific species. Their awareness of the project will be maintained through the communications mechanisms outlined in Component 3.

88. Linkage of the project with other flyway related initiatives will be overseen by the Chief Technical Advisor and undertaken by the most relevant worker on the project. Key initiatives will

include the Siberian Crane GEF project and Dutch PIN/Matra funded Central Asian Flyway project (linkage through the PCU), the planned UNDP GEF project addressing Soaring Birds that is currently under development at the PDF-B stage (linkage through the PCU).

89. At the sub-regional level, stakeholders will be heavily involved in the design and execution of activities. During the PDF-B stakeholders were involved as much as possible in the design of the strategies on which the full project workplan would be based. Questionnaire, Outreach Workshops and issue-specific workshops were held to ensure their needs were fully addressed. This approach will continue. As part of the activities to establish the network of critical sites, sub-regional stakeholders will be invited to review lists of critical sites in their sub-regions and identify those which are excluded or which are wrongly included. The revised list they provide will then be used to structure field visits to collect data at these sites which will double as training opportunities for practitioners in their sub-region. The development of the Training and Awareness Raising Programmes in each sub-region will also involve local organisations who will jointly develop and review the sub-regional Training and Awareness Raising Programmes with sub-regional project staff. They will also be responsible for resource mobilisation to implement the programmes (in collaboration with the project).

90. Capacity in the sub-regional NGO and government stakeholders will also be developed through the project activities. The development of a site network will be used as a catalyst to develop greater technical capacity in waterbird monitoring and census techniques. The Training and Awareness Raising Programme and Exchange Programmes will provide the opportunity to develop technical capacity in a range of different stakeholder target groups.

91. Communications will involve stakeholders in specific groups of practitioners and experts that need additional support to carry out their activities. Intranet resources will be made available to waterbird counters and administrators to help in standardising approaches between IBA and IWC networks and simplifying the collection and submission of data through these schemes. The materials and resources will as far as practically possible be offered in a number of languages predominant across the project area. Four main languages will be focused on; English, French, Russian and Arabic.

92. At the site scale there has been heavy involvement of stakeholders in the development of the demonstration project proposals. Each of these is based on stakeholder consultation of a variety of government, NGO and local community groups whose opinions and needs have been integrated into the proposal. This approach will continue in the execution of these proposals either because the projects themselves inherently require this to happen (for instance participatory approaches to management planning) or as part of the project organisation and implementation arrangements (these groups are represented on project Steering Committees and advisory groups).

INCREMENTAL COSTS AND PROJECT FINANCING

Table 1 Baseline and Incremental Costs (in US$).

Components and Outcomes	**Baseline, B**	**Alternative, A**	**Increment, A-B**
Component 1: Site network tool.			
Outcome 1.1. Network of critical sites	5.095.485	6.694.188	1.598.703
Outcome 1.2. Enhancement of primary data sources.	14.571.000	15.164.066	593.066
Outcome 1.3. Strengthening of monitoring capacity	290.000	951.445	661.445

Components and Outcomes	Baseline, B	Alternative, A	Increment, A-B
Outcome 1.4. Species and critical site knowledge base	3.516.000	3.659.114	143.114
Sub-total	23.472.485	26.468.813	2.996.328
Component 2 Establish basis for strengthening capacity.			
Outcome 2.1. Training and Awareness Programme framework	600.000	769.265	169.265
Outcome 2.2. Sub-regional programme development	2.200.000	3.104.096	904.096
Sub-total	2.800.000	3.873.361	1.073.361
Component 3: Enhanced communications capacity.			
Outcome 3.1. Demonstrations of best practice management	1.226.875	6.765.915	5.539.040
Outcome 3.2 Strengthened communications mechanisms	3.402.417	3.561.347	158.930
Outcome 3.3. Exchange Programme	3.277.723	3.521.163	243.440
Outcome 3.4: Improved wise use implementation	9.143.403	9.472.903	329.500
Sub-total	~~16.820.417~~17 .050.418	~~23.224.143~~2 3.321.328	6.270.910
Total of Component 1+2+3	~~43.092.902~~4 .322.903	~~53.566.321~~5 3.663.502	**10.340.599**
Project Coordination Unit Costs	-	1.321.927	1.321.927
Project Steering Committee Costs	-	88.259	88.259
UNOPS overhead costs 8% GEF funds		444.444	444.444
Project Overall Costs	~~43.092.902~~4 .322.903	~~55.420.947~~5 5.518.132	**12.195.229**

93. Table 1 presents an incremental cost table based on the component and outcome costs presented in Table 2 and the more detailed analysis in Annex 8A. Benefits arising from the project are primarily global in nature. Some limited domestic benefits will accrue from site-based demonstration projects, equipment provision and through the enhanced capacity of staff who may also be involved in non-flyway domestic issues. However, the predominant benefit will be to global biodiversity and most specifically, migratory waterbirds. The capacity development element of the project will provide additional global benefit by catalysing future conservation initiatives and activities and stimulating the release of further funds to support and implement these activities. The sustainability strategies for the various activities will reinforce this role.

Table 2. Summary of the project budget and component/outcome financing (in US$)

Project Activities	GEF Total	Co-financing	Total
Component 1: Site network tool			
Outcome 1.1. Network of critical sites.	223.601	1.375.102	1.598.703
Outcome 1.2. Enhancement of primary data sources.	33.000	560.066	593.066
Outcome 1.3. Strengthening of monitoring capacity.	168.093	493.352	661.445
Outcome 1.4. Species and critical site knowledge base.	30.670	112.444	143.114

Project Activities	GEF Total	Co-financing	Total
Component 1	455.364	2.540.964	2.996.328
Component 2 Establish basis for strengthening capacity			
Outcome 2.1. Training and Awareness Programme framework.	87.826	81.439	169.265
Outcome 2.2. Sub-regional programme development.	432.580	471.516	904.096
Component 2	520.406	552.955	1.073.361
Component 3: Enhanced communications capacity.			
Outcome 3.1. Demonstrations of best practice management.	3.032.534	2.506.506	5.539.040
Outcome 3.2. Strengthened communications mechanisms.	21.393	137.537	158.930
Outcome 3.3. Exchange Programme.	27.309	216.131	243.440
Outcome 3.4: Improved wise use implementation.	88.364	241.136	329.500
Component 3	3.169.600	3.101.310	6.270.910
Project Coordination Unit	1.321.927	0	1.321.927
Project Steering Committee	88.259	0	88.259
UNOPS 8% Overhead on GEF funds	444.444	0	444.444
Project Total	6.000.000	6.195.229	12.195.229
PDF-B Phase	350.000	437.000	787.000
Grand Total	6.350.000	6.632.229	12.982.229

94. The baseline costs have been estimated for demonstration projects only for the priority activities being implemented. Evaluation of the baseline for the entire site and related conservation / management activities would have been inappropriate because the GEF alternative is investing in those parts of the site which contribute to the best practice management practices being demonstrated. It is not an overall investment in all aspects of the site.

95. Tables 1 and 2 present budget lines separately describing the PCU and the UNOPS overhead costs for the project. The PCU costs cover the staff, office and travel / subsistence costs that will be incurred to coordinate the project A strategic flyway approach to enhancing the conservation status of migratory waterbirds will bring considerable global benefits. The coordination and implementation of activities under such an initiative bring few direct benefits at national level. One of the roles of the PCU will be to help coordinate and leverage significant amounts of co-financing to implement exchange activities and training and awareness raising programmes. This role will be carried out in tandem with lead contactors who also have locations in the same office. Therefore the PCU will have excellent access and communications with the major expected Western European governmental donors (including those with which discussions are already underway). Annex 1A and B present a more detailed budget in both UNEP and Summary by Project Component format. Detailed budgets are available on request providing costings per sub-activities, items and agencies involved.

96. The estimated costs of the demonstration projects were presented in the Project Document of the PDF-B phase. In developing these proposals for submission in the full proposal for this phase, the amounts and proportions originally outlined have been adhered to as far as possible. This includes both the total budget and the estimated proportion of GEF and co-finance.

97. Co-financing presented in this document represents that which has been raised during the PDF-B phase and has been promised by specific donors to support project objectives. In addition to this, some project activities will raise financing during the lifetime of the project. This is not co-financing because the activities that will be funded are not the responsibility of the Project. These activities will assist sub-regional stakeholders to raise funds for implementation of the training and awareness raising programmes and additional financing of the Exchange Programme. These

implementation costs are not been included in calculations here, but the costs to assist organisations in resource mobilisation are.

MONITORING, EVALUATION AND DISSEMINATION

98. Monitoring of progress in executing the components and activities will be undertaken in accordance with UNEP's internal guidelines for project monitoring and evaluation. This process will include a mid-term assessment and end of project assessment undertaken by an external review team, arranged by UNEP.

99. Project progress overall will be monitored by the PSC on an annual basis. They will provide task managers at UNOPS and UNEP with independent assessments of the progress of the project based on annual reports provided by the PCU, which will themselves be based on those received from contractors and consultants. They will make recommendations for adjustments to the workplans that may be necessary as a result of this review process.

100. Annual progress will be evaluated by the PSC against workplans that the PCU and Sub-Regional Project Centres develop at the start of the project and revise annually. These will be based on the logframe matrix (see Annex 8B) and Monitoring and Evaluation Plan included in Annex 8I. At the inception of each Sub-Regional Project Centre, a workplan will be established, whereby the activities for each output are further subdivided into time-bounded milestones or indicators. Progress against these milestones will be reported on during the project by the Sub-Regional Project Centres via the PCU. Comments on progress and recommendations from them will then be passed on from the PCU to the PSC, UNEP and UNOPS.

101. Each demonstration project will also be annually reviewed against workplans established by the local executing agencies in a similar manner to that described above. These will be developed initially in collaboration with the lead contractors to whom the demonstration projects are subcontracted, based on guidelines provided by the PCU. The PCU will then review each annual report and workplan and pass it on to the PSC with comments as necessary.

102. Other means of monitoring progress by stakeholders will be independent of the system of project monitoring and review processes. A number of the Project activities cross-reference strongly with the AEWA Implementation Priorities (2003-2007), which are reviewed annually at Technical Committee meetings. Similarly, there is strong coincidence with elements of the draft Ramsar Strategic Action Plan (2003-08). The Project will be cross-referenced against these during the inception phase and they will be used for the respective organisations and related committees to monitor the extent to which support for these MEAs is being provided. Cross referencing will also be carried out against the CMS Strategic Plan, as many elements of the Project are possibly applicable in other flyways. Progress of the project generally and specifically against the AEWA Implementation Priorities and Ramsar Strategic Action Plan documents will be reported at meetings of the AEWA Technical Committee and the Ramsar Convention Scientific and Technical Review Panel. Reports will be provided to the AEWA Technical Committee on an annual basis to coincide with their meetings. Reports will also be provided to the Ramsar Scientific and Technical Review Panel and Standing Committee. The respective PSC members from Secretariats will act as the link for this process.

103. The lessons to be learned from the project will be disseminated through a wide range of media to a number of targets to ensure that maximum benefit can be gained from the project. This dissemination will be both through mechanisms designed to achieve this and through elements that are integral to the project. Demonstration projects by their very nature are designed to disseminate the lessons learned as far as possible. Where relevant they will be used as focal points for various project activities such as the exchange programme and will be proposed as locations for training and awareness workshops and meetings in the Programmes to be developed under Outcome 2.2. The progress and results of these activities will be regularly available through hard copy and electronic

newsletters made available across the flyway. A publication addressing the best practices used and lessons to be learned will also be produced. More generally, newsletters will provide regular updates on activities at the sub-regional and flyway scale and these will be produced in the main languages of focal sub-regions to ensure that information can be easily accessed. A wide range of other media will be accessed to ensure effective information dissemination: reports to MEA technical committee meetings; CoPs and MoPs (both Ramsar and AEWA will hold such meetings during the lifetime of the project); the publicity media of Wetlands International, BirdLife International, AEWA and the Ramsar Convention including their regular journals, websites and electronic discussion fora.

104. As well as dissemination outside the project, there will also be mechanisms within the project to ensure that lessons learned can be shared across the AEWA region. This is especially important in terms of making sure that valuable principles established in one sub-region can be applied in another. The involvement of sub-regional Training Board members in the PSC is one mechanism that can help to achieve this. It is suggested to add a section to the semi-annual progress reports capturing this information.

SECTION 3 - WORKPLAN AND TIMETABLE, BUDGET AND FOLLOW-UP

3.1 Workplan and Timetable

A detailed operational Workplan and Timetable can be found in **ANNEX 2**, including milestones and outputs.

3.2 Budget

The grant will be used to finance the activities mentioned in Section 2. A detailed budget following UNEP format can be found in **ANNEX 1A** of this document. This budget is based upon the GEF approved budget provided in GEF format in **ANNEX 1B**.

3.3 Follow-up

Subsequent to the execution of the Full-Sized UNEP/GEF "AEWA Flyway Project in the 12 demo site countries i.e. Estonia, Gambia, Hungary, Lithuania, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania, Turkey, Yemen, as well as working through regional training centers and the flyway network approach with other partner countries in the project regions, there will be good opportunities for replication of the lessons learned to other countries.

The project will be implemented over a 5 -year period with over US$ 6 million in co-finance contributions showing the high level of country and institutional commitment to sustain the project beyond the GEF supported project. Its strong integration with the AEWA program, as well as the ongoing programs of WI and BLI gives it a further boost for continuation beyond the GEF supported Project follow-up and post-project sustainability are extensively covered in paragraphs 74 – 79.

SECTION 4 - INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK AND EVALUATION

4.1 Institutional Framework

UNOPS will be responsible for the implementation of the project in accordance with the objectives and activities outlined in Section 2 of this document. UNEP, as the GEF Implementing Agency, will be responsible for overall project supervision to ensure consistency with GEF and UNEP policies and procedures, and will provide guidance on linkages with related UNEP and GEF-funded activities. The working relationship between UNEP and UNOPS will be defined based upon an MOU between the two organizations. The UNEP/DGEF Co-ordination will monitor implementation of the activities undertaken during the execution of the project. The UNEP/DGEF Co-ordination will be responsible for clearance and transmission of financial and progress reports to the Global Environment Facility. UNEP retains responsibility for review and approval of the substantive and technical reports produced in accordance with the schedule of work.

Project operational arrangements are detailed in full in paragraphs 80-85 in Section 2 and in **ANNEX 8I**. Specific responsibilities for each of the main partners in the project are summarised for each project activity in the tables in Section 6 of Annex 8I. The following provides a short overview of these.

UNOPS: Project Executing Agency. UNOPS will be responsible for providing all financial and administrative support. Specific responsibilities are as follows:

- Administer all GEF funds;
- Employ all PCU staff (Chief Technical Advisor and Junior Operations Manager);
- Contract WI and BLI with assistance from the Chief Technical Advisor (development of Terms of Reference);
- Contract Sub-Regional Project Centres to carry out GEF-funded activities;
- Undertake contract management for all GEF funded project activities;
- Provide the PCU and UNEP with reports on the project financial status based on regular reports;
- Participate in the Project Steering Committee providing financial and administrative reports as part of the overall reporting and evaluation process;
- Directly contract all demonstration project local executing agencies to carry out GEF funded activities.

Wetlands International: WI will be the senior lead contractor in the project. In terms of contracting it will share a similar status to BLI, which will also be a lead contractor. However, it will enjoy the position of being the senior contractor of the two organisations giving it a higher profile as the overall technical leader of the project. WI will be contracted through UNOPS to carry out a range of activities in the project (see Sections 6.1-6.3 of Annex 8I for specific details). WI will be responsible within the framework of the project to decide how best to service the project's requirements under the contract with UNOPS (i.e. whether to meet them from existing organisational capacity or to further subcontract work).

BirdLife International: BLI will be the other lead contractor in the project undertaking responsibility for many of the technical tasks under the project. However its status in terms of project technical leadership will be lower when compared to WI. BLI will be directly contracted through UNOPS to carry out a range of activities in the project (see Sections 6.1-6.3 of Annex 8I for specific details). BLI will be responsible within the framework of the project to decide how best to service the project's requirements under the contract with UNOPS.

Prior to contracts, sub-contracts, or letters of agreement being entered into by UNOPS, UNOPS will submit to UNEP/DGEF Coordination copies of all these documents. Within ten working days, UNEP/DGEF Coordination will review, provide guidance and give UNOPS substantive clearance on the technical content of these contracts, sub-contracts and letters of agreement.

All correspondence regarding substantive and technical matters should be addressed to:

At UNOPS

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All correspondence regarding administrative and financial matters should be addressed to:

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4.2 Evaluation

Project evaluations are detailed as follows:

- Section 2, paragraphs 98-104
- Annex 8-I

Every year UNEP/DGEF will undertake a desk evaluation to measure the degree to which the objectives and deliverables of the project have been achieved. This will be in addition to the standard mid-term and final evaluations of the project in accordance with UNEP procedures as well as supervision missions conducted by the UNEP task manager and/or fund management officer.

SECTION 5 - MONITORING AND REPORTING

5.1 Management Reports

5.1.1 Progress Reports

Within 30 days of the end of the reporting period, UNOPS will submit to UNEP, with a copy to Division of GEF Coordination, using the format given in **ANNEX 6A**, half-yearly progress reports as at 30 June and 31 December.

The Inventory of Outputs/Services should be submitted with all Progress Reports and the Terminal Report, as an annex. The report is due within 30 days of the end of each half-yearly period when submitted with a Progress Report or within 60 days of the completion of a project when submitted with a Terminal Report. The format of the report is given in **ANNEX 6B**.

The Semi-Annual progress reports will also include an updated logframe (Logframe Tracking Tool), which will identify the established baselines at project start-up and achievements in reaching target indicators as of that reporting period. The LTF is included as **ANNEX 6D**.

5.1.2 Terminal Reports

Within 60 days of the completion of the project, UNOPS will submit to UNEP, with a copy to UNEP/DGEF Coordination, a Terminal Report detailing the activities taken under the project, lessons learned and any recommendations to improve the efficiency of similar activities in the future, using the format provided in **ANNEX 7.**

5.1.3 Substantive or Technical Reports

(i) At the appropriate time, UNOPS will submit to UNEP one (1) copy in draft of any substantive/technical project report(s) and, at the same time, inform UNEP of its plans for publication of that report(s). UNEP will give UNOPS substantive clearance of the manuscript, indicating any suggestions for change and such wording (recognition, disclaimer, etc.) as it would wish to see figure in the preliminary pages or in the introductory texts.

(ii) It will equally consider the publishing proposal of UNOPS and will make comments thereon as advisable. It may request UNOPS to consider publication on a joint imprint basis. Should UNOPS be solely responsible for publishing arrangements, UNEP will, nevertheless, receive 10 (ten) free copies of the published work in each of the agreed languages, for its own purposes.

5.2 Financial Reports

UNOPS shall submit to UNEP quarterly project expenditure accounts and final accounts for each project, showing amount budgeted for the year, and amount expended since the beginning of the year, and in a separate column the project balance over the year and/or total project budget:

(i) Details of project expenditures on an activity-by-activity basis, reported in line with project budget codes as set out in the project document, as at 31 March, 30 June, 30 September and 31 December each year (see formats in **ANNEX 4**). The expenditure accounts will be dispatched to UNEP within 30 days after the end of the quarter to which they refer.

(ii) The expenditure account as at 31 December is to be received by UNEP by 31 March each year.

(iii) A final statement of account, in line with UNEP project budget codes, reflecting actual final expenditures under the project, when all obligations have been liquidated.

(iv) The expenditure reports provide a true and fair view of the financial condition and performance of the project.

(v) A Summary Cofinancing Status table is attached as **ANNEX 5A**, indicating any conditionalities, timing of donor inputs, etc. Within 30 days of the reporting period, UNOPS shall submit to UNEP GEF Coordination Office, a cofinancing report for the project as at 31 December, using the format provided in **ANNEX 5B** showing:

(a) Amount of cofinancing realized compared to the amount of cofinancing committed to at the time of project approval, and
(b) Cofinancing reporting by source and by type.
    - Sources include the agency's own cofinancing, government cofinance (counterpart commitments), and contributions mobilized for the project from other multilateral agencies, bilateral development cooperation agencies, NGOs, the private sector, and beneficiaries.
    - Types of cofinance. Cash includes grants, loans, credits and equity investments. In-kind resources are required to be:
        - dedicated uniquely to the GEF project,
        - valued as the lesser of the cost and the market value of the required inputs they provide for the project, and
        - monitored with documentation available for any evaluation or project audit.

5.3 Terms and Conditions

5.3.1 Non expendable equipment

UNOPS and the PCU will maintain records of non-expendable equipment (items costing US$1,500 or more as well as items of attraction such as pocket calculators, cameras, computers, printers, etc.) purchased with UNEP funds (or with trust funds or counterpart funds administered by UNEP). UNOPS will submit an inventory of such equipment to UNEP, indicating description, serial no., date of purchase, original cost, present condition, location of each item attached to the half yearly progress reports, using the format in **ANNEX 6C**.

Within 60 days of completion of the project, UNOPS will submit to UNEP a final inventory of all non-expendable equipment purchased under the project indicating description, serial number, original cost, present condition, location and a proposal for the disposal of the said equipment. Non-expendable equipment purchased with funds administered by UNEP remains the property of UNEP until its disposal is authorized by UNEP, in consultation with UNOPS. UNOPS shall be responsible for any loss or damage to equipment purchased with UNEP administered funds. The proceeds from the sale of equipment (duly authorized by UNEP) shall be credited to the accounts of UNEP, or to the appropriate trust fund or counterpart fund.

5.3.2 Responsibility for Cost Overruns

UNOPS is authorized into commitments or incur expenditures up to a maximum of 20 percent over and above the annual amount forseen in the project budget under any budget sub-line, provided the total cost of the UNEP annual contribution is not exceeded. This may be done without prior authorization, but once the need for these additional funds becomes apparent, a revised budget request should be submitted to UNEP immediately. Cost overruns are the responsibility of UNOPS unless a revised budget has been agreed with UNEP.

Any cost overrun (expenditure in excess of the budgeted amount) on a specific budget sub-line over and above the 20 per cent flexibility mentioned above should be met by UNOPS, which originally assumed responsibility for authorizing the expenditure, unless a **revision** has been agreed to by UNEP prior to the authorization to cover it. Savings in one budget sub-line may not be applied to overruns of 20 percent in other sub-lines, even if the total cost to UNEP remains unchanged, unless this is specifically authorized by UNEP upon presentation of the request. In such a case, a revision to the project document amending the budget will be issued by UNEP.

5.3.3 Claims by Third Parties against UNEP

UNOPS shall be responsible for dealing with any claims which may be brought by third parties against UNEP and its staff, and shall indemnify UNEP and its staff against any claims or liabilities resulting from operations carried out by UNOPS under this project document, except where such claims and liabilities arise from negligence or misconduct of the staff of UNEP.

5.3.4 Cash Advance Requirements

An initial cash advance of US$ 350,000 will be made upon signature of the project document by both parties and will cover expenditures expected to be incurred by UNOPS during the first three months of the project implementation. Subsequent advances are to be made quarterly, subject to:

(i) Confirmation by UNOPS at least two weeks before the payment is due, that the expected rate of expenditure and actual cash position necessitate the payment, including a reasonable amount to cover "lead time" for the next remittance; (see format of request in **ANNEX 3**) and

(ii) The presentation of:

- a satisfactory financial report showing expenditures incurred for the past quarter, (see format in **ANNEX 4**) under each project activity and
- timely and satisfactory progress reports on project implementation.

5.3.5 Publications

For publications issued with UNOPS, both the cover and the title page of the publication will carry the logo of both UNEP and GEF. UNOPS will submit one copy of any manuscript prepared under the project for clearance prior to their publication in final form. UNEP's views on the publication and any suggestions for amendments of wording will be conveyed expeditiously to the agency, with an indication of any disclaimer or recognition which UNEP might wish to see appear in the publication.

5.3.6 Terrorism Finance Provisions

The United Nations Security Council Resolution 1373 of 28 September 2001 on the fight against terrorism shall be adhered to by the Executing Agency, failure to which shall without prejudice to other legal actions, lead to the immediate cancellation of the project.

5.3.7 Amendments

The Parties to this project document shall approve any modification or change to this project document in writing.

LIST OF ANNEXES

	1100	Project Personnel						
	1101	Chief Technical Advisor	119,000	109,720	115,			
	1102	Junior Operations Manager	78,000	66,465	70,			
	1199	**Sub-total**	**197,000**	**176,185**	**185,**			
	1600	Travel on official business						
	1601	Chief Technical Advisor	18,231	19,435	22,			
	1602	Junior Operations Manager	14,466	15,819	19,			
	1699	**Sub-total**	**32,697**	**35,254**	**41,**			
1999	**Component total**		**229,697**	**211,439**	**227,**			
20	**SUB-CONTRACT COMPONENT**							
	2100	Sub-contracts (MOUs/Las for cooperating agencies)						
	2101	Wetlands International	330,241	309,626	206,			
	2102	BirdLife International	74,522	54,869	41,			
	2103	West Africa Subcontractor	8,402	5,321	3,			
	2104	East Africa Subcontractor	8,402	5,321	3,			
	2105	Central Asia Subcontractor	18,356	79,923	62,			
	2106	Middle East Subcontractor	18,356	69,791	62,			
	2107	Estonia Demonstration Project Local Executing Agency	88,960	39,872	26,			
	2108	Hungary Demonstration ProjectLocal Executing Agency	71,767	56,087	31,			
	2109	Lithuania Demonstration ProjectLocal Executing Agency	94,000	95,200	66,			
	2110	Mauritania Demonstration ProjectLocal Executing Agency	40,940	57,199	37,			
	2111	Niger Local Executing Agency	42,530	46,765	35,			
	2112	Nigeria Local Demonstration ProjectExecuting Agency	64,950	56,950	50,			
	2113	Senegal / Gambia Demonstration Project Local Executing Agency	95,153	69,544	85,			
	2114	South Africa Demonstration Project Local Executing Agency	94,929	87,539	48,			
	2115	Tanzania Demonstration Project Local Executing Agency	60,000	21,500	14,			
	2116	Turkey Demonstration Project Local Executing Agency	74,100	51,600	43,			
	2117	Yemen Demonstration Project Local Executing Agency	129,402	65,559	58,			
	2199	**Sub-total**	**1,315,010**	**1,172,666**	**879,**			
2999	**Component total**		**1,315,010**	**1,172,666**	**879,**			
30	**TRAINING COMPONENT**							
	3300	Meetings/Conferences						
	3301	Steering Committee Meetings	10,746	16,880	16,			
	3302	Project Partner Meetings	31,470		31,			
	3303	Teleconferences	3,000	3,150	3,			
	3399	**Sub-total**	**45,216**	**20,030**	**51,**			
3999	**Component total**		**45,216**	**20,030**	**51,**			
40	**EQUIPMENT AND PREMISES COMPONENT**							
	4100	Expendable Equipment (items under $1,500 each)						
	4101	Project Coordination Unit Office supplies	600	630				

	5100	Operation and maintenance of equipment						
	5101	Project Coordination Unit Computer equipment / Network / Internet	2,900	3,045	3,			
	5102	Project Coordination Unit Photocopying	300	315				
	5104	Other office equipment	500	525				
	5199	**Sub-total**	**3,700**	**3,885**	**4,**			
	5300	Sundry						
	5301	Project Coordination Unit Communications (telephone, telex and fax)	2,000	2,100	2,			
	5302	Project Coordination Unit Postage charges	2,000	2,100	2,			
	5304	UNOPS	88,892	88,888	88,			
	5399	**Sub-total**	**92,892**	**93,088**	**93,**			
5999	**Component total**		**96,592**	**96,973**	**97,**			
99	**GRAND TOTAL**		**1,708,958**	**1,508,511**	**1,264,**			

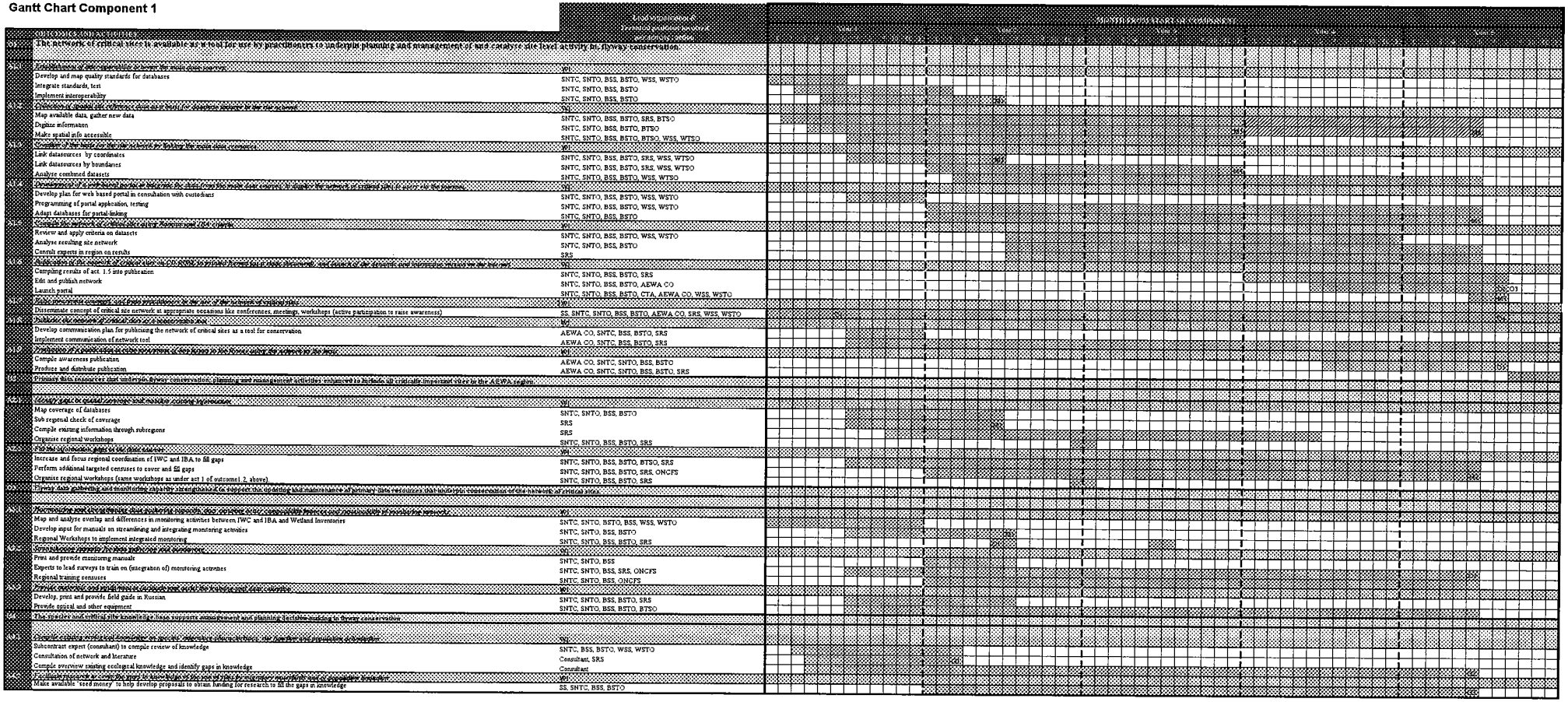
Project Activities	GEF Total	Co-financing	Total
Component 1: Site network tool			
Outcome 1.1. Network of critical sites.	223.601	1.375.102	1.598.703
Outcome 1.2. Enhancement of primary data sources.	33.000	560.066	593.066
Outcome 1.3. Strengthening of monitoring capacity.	168.093	493.352	661.445
Outcome 1.4. Species and critical site knowledge base.	30.670	112.444	143.114
Component 1	455.364	2.540.964	2.996.328
Component 2 Establish basis for strengthening capacity			
Outcome 2.1. Training and Awareness Programme framework.	87.826	81.439	169.265
Outcome 2.2. Sub-regional programme development.	432.580	471.516	904.096
Component 2	520.406	552.955	1.073.361
Component 3: Enhanced communications capacity.			
Outcome 3.1. Demonstrations of best practice management.	3.032.534	2.550,506	5.5,583,040
Outcome 3.2. Strengthened communications mechanisms.	21.393	137.537	158.930
Outcome 3.3. Exchange Programme.	27.309	216.131	243.440
Outcome 3.4: Improved wise use implementation.	88.364	241.136	329.500
Component 3	3.169.600	3.145,310	6.314,910
Project Coordination Unit	1.321.927	0	1.321.927
Project Steering Committee	88.259	0	88.259
UNOPS 8% Overhead on GEF funds	444.444	0	444.444
Project Total	6.000.000	6.239,229	12.239,229
PDF-B Phase	350.000	437.000	787.000
Grand Total	6.350.000	6.676,229	13.026,229

ANNEX 2 TIMETABLE AND WORKPLAN

The project will run for 5 years. Gantt Charts are provided below for each of the Components, showing the activities (and steps within them) for each outcome against estimated duration and timing.

Timetable and Workplan

Gantt Chart Component 1



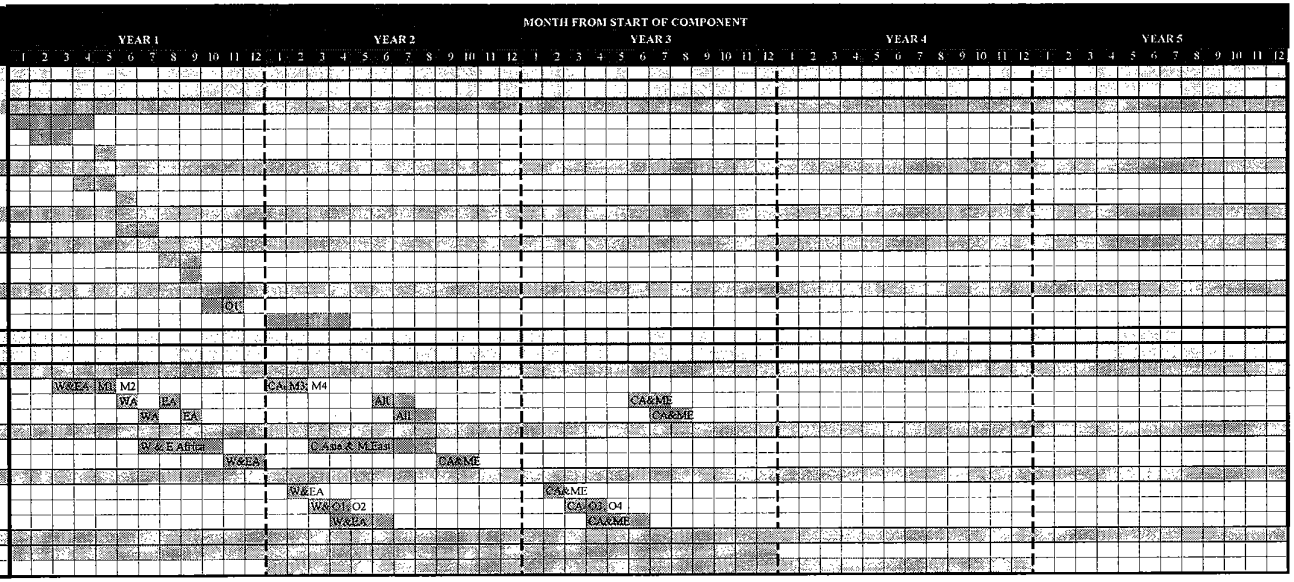
month with activity

possible extension of activity

Timetable and Workplan

Gantt Chart Component 2

No.	OUTCOMES & ACTIVITIES	Lead organisation & Technical positions involved per activity / action
O1	**Transferable model framework for regional strengthening of wetland and water management conservation capacity.**	
A1.1	***Develop a working draft of the model***	**WI**
	Develop the draft Programme	CDTC, CDTO, Consultant, ONCFS
	Series of meetings with key training institutes	CDTC, CDTO, Consultant
	Translate, print & distribute first draft model	CDTC, CDTO, Consultant
A1.2	***Programme Development Workshop***	**WI**
	Plan workshop	CDTC, CDTO
	Hold Development Workshop	CDTC, CDTO, ONCFS
A1.3	***Draft the first full version of the model programme***	**WI**
	Draft first full version of model	CDTC, CDTO, Consultants
A1.4	***Review of the programme model draft***	**WI**
	Perform external review	CDTC, CDTO, CTA, Consultant
	Conduct a full review of the model programme	CDTC, CDTO
A1.5	***Finalize the Programme model***	**WI**
	Prepare the final version of programme model	CDTC, CDTO
	Translate,print & distribute final model	CDTC, AEWA CO, SRS
O2	**Wetland and water management Capacity Development Programmes developed for four distinct regions.**	
A2.1	***Establish four regional Training Boards***	**SRS**
	Informal meetings to establish boards	SRS, CDTC, CDTO
	Organise & hold meetings	SRS, CDTC, CDTO
	Meeting reports	SRS, CDTC, CDTO
A2.2	***Design & Establish four working regional Capacity Development Programmes***	**WI**
	Produce draft Training Programme models	SRS, CDTO, ONCFS
	Training Programme Review Workshops	SRS
A2.3	***Finalise four regional Capacity Development Programmes***	**WI**
	Prepare final drafts for approval by Boards	SRS, CDTO
	Publish & print Training Programmes	SRS
	Meetings to introduce Training Programme	SRS
	Resource mobilisation for implementation	**WI**
	Resource mobilisationoutside the focal sub-regions	CDTC, CDTO, RMTC, AEWA CO
A2.4	Resource mobilisation inside the sub-regions	SRS



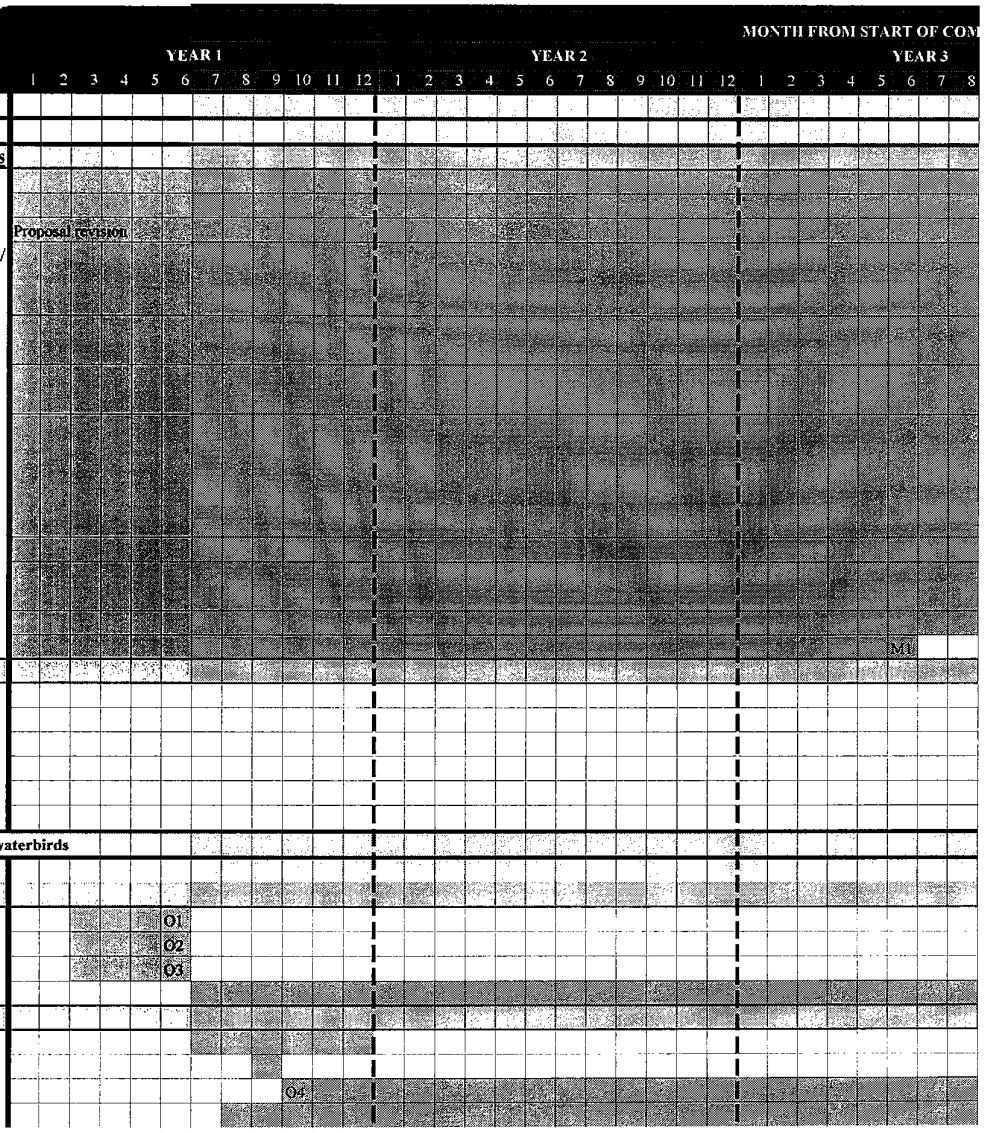
Key

W & E A West & East Africa	West & Central Africa and East & Southern Africa
WA / W. Africa	West & Central Africa
EA / E. Africa	East & Southern Africa
CA & ME / C. Asia & M. East	Central Asia & Caucasus States and The Middle East
Central Asia & Middle East	Central Asia & Caucasus States and The Middle East
All	All 4 sub-regions

Timetable and Workplan

Gantt Chart Component 3

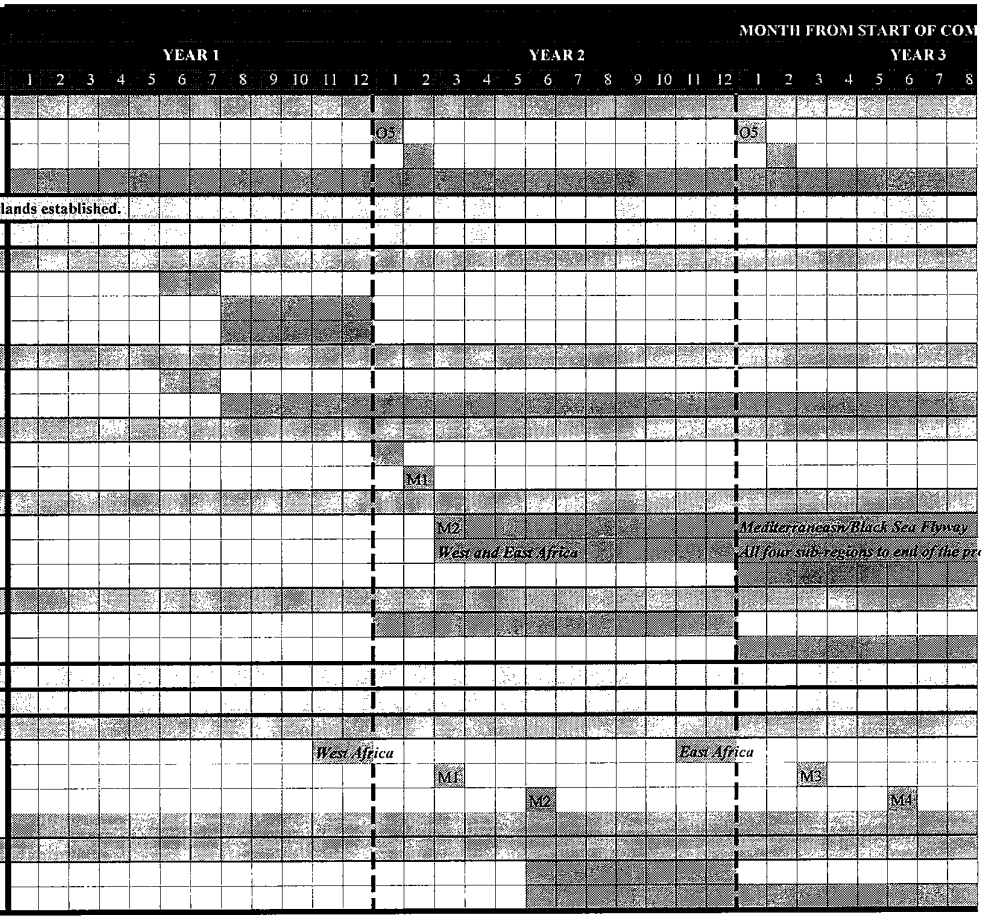
No.	OUTCOMES & ACTIVITIES	Lead organisation & Technical positions involved per activity / action
O1	**Demonstrations of best practice management of migratory waterbirds and wetlands available across the flyway.**	
A1.1	***Execution of demonstration projects.***	**Individual demo project executing agencies**
	Haapsalu-Nooarotsi Bay, Estonia	Silma Nature Reserve, Estonia. CDTC
	Biharugra's Ponds, Hungary	MME/BirdLife Hungary, Hungary. BSTO
	Nemunas Delta, Lithuania	Institute of Ecology, Lithuania. CDTC
	Banc D'Arguin, Mauritania	Park National du Banc d'Arguin, Mauritania / Wetlands International West Africa Office, Senegal. CDTC
	Kokorou and Namga, Niger	Direction de la Faune, de la Pêche et de la Pisciculture, Niger. CDTC
	Hadejia Nguru Wetlands, Nigeria	Nigerian Conservation Foundation, Nigeria. BSTO
	Saloum/Niumi, Senegal/Gambia	Wetlands International West Africa Programme, Senegal / b. Direction des Parcs Nationaux, Senegal / a. Department of Parks and Wildlife Management, Gambia. CDTC
	Wakkerstroom, South Africa	BirdLife South Africa, South Africa. BSTO
	Dar es Salaam Wetlands, Tanzania	Wildlife Conservation Society of Tanzania, Tanzania. BSTO
	Lake Burdur, Turkey	Burdur Municipality, Turkey. BSTO
	Aden Lagoons, Yemen	BirdLife Middle East Office, Jordan. BSTO
A1.2	***Publication of a book summarising the lessons learned from the demonstrati***	**WI**
	Consultant contracted, structure for book worked out	CDTC consultant
	Demonstration projects contribute information for book	CDTC consultant
	Consultant compiles and edits the book	Consultant
	Book reviewed	CDTC
	Book finalised	Consultant
	Book printed, publicised and disseminated	CDTC, AEWA CO
O2	**Strengthened mechanisms for governments and NGOs to communicate and work together on wise use of wetlands and migratory waterbirds**	
A2.1	Increase capacity for electronic exchange of information	**PCU**
	Creation of project web area in the AEWA web-site	SNTC, AEWA CO, CTA, JOM
	Creation of an intranet facility in the project web-site	AEWA CO, CTA, JOM
	Creation of an email discussion group	SNTC, AEWA CO, CTA, JOM
	Promotion of the new electronic communication facility	AEWA CO, CTA, JOM
A2.2	***Augmentation of and increased access to flyway contact information***	**AEWA**
	Compile existing info for contacts database	SNTC, AEWA CO, CTA, JOM
	Develop data agreement	SNTC, AEWA CO, CTA, JOM
	Create, populate, maintain database	AEWA CO, CTA, JOM
	Plan and implement data collection activities	AEWA CO, CTA, JOM



Timetable and Workplan

Gantt Chart Component 3

No.	OUTCOMES & ACTIVITIES	Lead organisation & Technical positions involved per activity / action
A2.3	*Provide project information (updates, progress reports, publicity materials) i*	PCU
	Compile annual newsletters	SNTC, AEWA CO, CTA, JOM
	Disseminate newsletters	AEWA CO, CTA, JOM
	Disseminate other project information	AEWA CO, CTA, JOM
O3	**Mechanisms of exchange between and within sub-regions for improved flyway-level management of migratory waterbirds and wetlands established.**	
A3.1	*Establish informal networks along the main migratory flyways within the AE*	WI
	Agree on key sites / flyway networks	SNTC, SRS
	Develop preliminary people networks for flyways	SNTC
	Detail and publicise networks on project website	SNTC
A3.2	*Designate focal points, responsible for servicing networks*	WI
	Identify & designate focal points for each flyway	SNTC, SRS
	Focal points develop, maintain and service networks	SNTC, Flyway Focal Points
A3.3	*Exchange Programme Planning Workshop*	WI
	Organise and hold Planning Workshop	SNTC
	Distil flyway-level schedules and recommendations	SNTC, Flyway Focal Points
A3.4	*Implement Exchange Programme activities*	WI
	Exchanges between sites in parts of the flyways	SNTC
	Exchanges of key sites personnel in their sub-region	SNTC, SRS
	Exchanges of demonstration site personnel	SNTC, SRS, Flyway Focal Points
A3.5	*Develop strategic partnerships and mobilise co-financing*	WI
	Promote partnerships through communication & liaison	SNTC, SRS, Flyway Focal Points
	Develop strategic partnership proposals	SNTC, SRS, Flyway Focal Points
O4	**The wise use of migratory waterbirds and wetlands is better understood and implemented by focal sub-regions.**	
A4.1	*Development of sub-regional mentoring capacity.*	WI
	Development of shadowing timetable	CDTC, SRS, RAMSAR, AEWA
	Shadow activities in MEA offices (schedule indicative)	CDTC, SRS, RAMSAR, AEWA
	Shadow activities in the field (schedule indicative)	CDTC, SRS, AEWA, RAMSAR
	AEWA Awareness Raising film development	CDTC, AEWA CO
A4.2	Production of key MEA texts and information in the predominant languages of	WI
	Translation of key MEA texts	Translator consultants
	Printing and dissemination of translated documents	CDTC, AEWA CO



Acronyms

WI	Wetlands International
AEWA	UNEP/AEWA Secretariat
BLI	BirdLife International
WCMC	UNEP-World Conservation Monitoring Centre
ONCFS	Office National de la Chasse et de la Faune Sauvage
RAMSAR	Ramsar Convention Secretariat
PCU	Project Coordination Unit
SRTB	Sub-Regional Training Board
PSC	Project Steering Committee
SRS	Sub-Regional Subcontractor
CTA	Chief Technical Advisor
JOM	Junior Operations Manager
AEWA CO	AEWA Communications Officer

WI Positions

SNTC	Site Network Technical Coordinator
SNTO	Site Network Technical Officer
CDTC	Capacity Development Technical Coordinator
CDTO	Capacity Development Technical Officer
RMTC	Resource Mobilisation Technical Coordinator

BLI Positions

BSS	Senior Staff
BSTO	Senior Technical Officer
BTSO	Technical Support Officer

WCMC Positions

WSS	Senior Staff
WSTO	Senior Technical Officer
WTSO	Technical Support Officer

ANNEX 3
FORMAT FOR CASH ADVANCE STATEMENT

Statement of cash advance as at .....
And cash requirements for the quarter of .....

Name of Cooperating agency/
Supporting organization _____
Project No. _____
Project title _____

I. **Cash statement**

1. Opening cash balance as at ..... US$ _____
2. Add: cash advances received:

Date	**Amount**
.....	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....

3. Total cash advanced to date US$ _____
4. Less: total cumulative expenditures incurred US$ (_____)
5. Closing cash balance as at ..... US$ _____

II. **Cash requirements forecast**

6. Estimated disbursements for quarter ending ..... US$ _____
7. Less: closing cash balance (see item 5, above) US$ (_____)
8. Total cash requirements for the quarter US$ _____

Prepared by_____ Request approved by_____

Duly authorized official of Cooperating agency/
Supporting organization

Quarterly project statement of allocation (budget), expenditure and balance (Expressed in US$) covering the period.....to. .....

Project No. ..... Agency Name .....

Project title:

.....

.....

Project commencing: .....(date) **Project ending:**

.....(date**)**

Object of expenditure by UNEP budget Code		**Project budget allocation for year.....**	**Total expenditure for quarter .....**	**Total unliquidated obligations* .....**	**Cummulativ expenditure for year .....**	
		Amount (1)	**(2)**	**(3)**	**(4)**	
1100	Project Personnel					
1101	Chief Technical Advisor					
1102	Junior Operations Manager					
1199	**Sub-total**					
1600	Travel on official business					
1601	Chief Technical Advisor					
1602	Junior Operations Manager					
1699	**Sub-total**					
Component total						
2100	Sub-contracts (MOUs/Las for cooperating agencies)					
2101	Wetlands International					
2102	BirdLife International					
2103	West Africa Subcontractor					
2104	East Africa Subcontractor					
2105	Central Asia Subcontractor					
2106	Middle East Subcontractor					
2107	Estonia Demonstration Project Local Executing Agency					
2108	Hungary Demonstration Project Local Executing Agency					
2109	Lithuania Demonstration Project Local Executing Agency					
2110	Mauritania Demonstration Project Local Executing Agency					
2111	Niger Local Executing Agency					

2117	Yemen Demonstration Project Local Executing Agency					
2199	**Sub-total**					
3300	Meetings/Conferences					
3301	Steering Committee Meetings					
3302	Project Partner Meetings					
3303	Teleconferences					
3399	**Sub-total**					
4100	Expendable Equipment (items under $1,500 each)					
4101	PCU Office supplies					
4199	**Sub-total**					
4200	Non-expendable Equipment (see items listed on budget worksheet)					
4202	PCU Computer hardware					
4203	PCU Office equipment					
4299	**Sub-total**					
4300	Rental of premises					
4301	Project Coordination Unit office rent					
4399	**Sub-total**					
5100	Operation and maintenance of equipment					
5101	Project Coordination Unit Computer equipment / Network / Internet					
5102	Project Coordination Unit Photocopying					
5104	Other office equipment					
5199	**Sub-total**					
5300	Sundry					
5301	Project Coordination Unit Communications (telephone, telex and fax)					
5302	Project Coordination Unit Postage charges					
5304	UNOPS					
5399	**Sub-total**					
	GRAND TOTAL					

							Office, etc	non-demonstration project activities is Comp.Outc.Act)			
	Overall Project										
1	Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nuclear Safety and Nature Conservation, Germany	Germany	Euro 1,000,000	1,114,405	0	1,114,405	Overall project	1.1.1; 1.1.2; 1.1.3; 1.1.4; 1.1.5; 1.1.6; 1.1.7; 1.1.8; 1.1.9; 1.2.1; 1.3.1; 1.3.3; 2.2.1; 2.2.2; 2.2.3; 2.2.4; 3.3.3; 3.3.4; 3.3.5			
2 + 3	UNEP/AEWA Secretariat	International Secretariat of a Multi Lateral Environment Agreement	$1,365,460	1,365,460	282,000	1,083,460	Overall project	1.1.2; 1.1.3; 1.1.4; 1.1.5; 1.1.6; 1.1.7; 1.1.8; 1.1.9; 1.2.1; 1.2.2; 1.3.1; 1.3.2; 1.3.3; 1.4.1; 1.4.2; 2.1.2; 2.1.3; 2.1.4; 2.1.5; 2.2.1; 2.2.2; 2.2.4; 3.1.1; 3.1.2; 3.2.1; 3.2.2; 3.2.3; 3.3.2; 3.3.4; 3.3.5; 3.4.1			
4	Office National de la Chasse et de la Faune Sauvage, France	France	Euro 271,350	302,394	302,394	0	Overall project	1.2.2; 1.3.2; 2.1.1; 2.1.2; 2.2.2			
5	Environmental	Sweden	SEK 250,000	30,090	0	30,090	Overall project	2.1.2			

7+8	Danish Ministry of Environment and Energy	Denmark	DKR 80,000	12,000	0	12,000	Overall project	1.2.2; 2.1.3; 2.1.5; 3.2.1; 3.2.2			
9	Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, France	France	Euro 80,000	89,152	0	89,152	Overall project	2.2.1; 2.2.2; 2.2.3; 2.2.4			
10	BirdLife International, United Kingdom	International NGO	$70,000	70,000	70,000	0	Overall project	1.1.2			
11	Wetlands International	International NGO	$660,306	660,306	280,480	379,826	Overall project	1.1.2; 1.1.3; 1.1.4; 1.1.5; 1.1.6; 1.1.7; 1.1.8; 1.1.9; 1.2.1; 1.2.2; 1.3.1; 1.3.2; 1.3.3; 1.4.1; 1.4.2; 2.2.1; 2.2.2; 2.2.3; 2.2.4; 3.1.2; 3.3.3; 3.3.5; 3.4.1; 3.4.2			
12	UNEP-World Conservation Monitoring Centre	United Kingdom	$27,619	27,619	27,619	0	Overall project	1.1.1; 1.1.2; 1.1.3; 1.1.4; 1.1.5; 1.1.6; 1.1.7;1.3.1; 1.4.1			
13	Swiss government Agency - BUWAL	Switzerland	CHF 62,000	44,623	0	44,623	Overall project	2.2.2			
	DEMO PROJECTS										
	Estonia										

	Foundation										
17	BirdLife Hungary	Hungary	$32,100	32,100	32,100	0	Demonstration project	All Outcomes			
	Mauritania										
18	Parc Nationale Banc d'Arguin (PNBA)	Mauritania	$60,000	60,000	60,000	0	Demonstration project	All Outcomes			
11	Wetlands International - BBI project	International NGO	$60,000	60,000	60,000	0	Demonstration project	Contributions to workshops and training; Outcomes 1 and 2			
19	Gesellschaft fur Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ)	Germany	$30,000	30,000	30,000	0	Demonstration project	Outcomes 1 and 2.			
20	Fondation Internationale du Banc d'Arguin (FIBA)	Mauritania	$110,000	110,000	0	110,000	Demonstration project	All Outcomes			
	Niger										
21	Ministere de l'Hydraulique de l'Environnement et de la Lutte Contre la Desertification	Niger	$150,000	150,000	150,000	0	Demonstration project	All Outcomes			
	Nigeria										
22	Nigerian Conservation Foundation	Nigeria NGO	$40,000	40,000	40,000	0	Demonstration project	All Outcomes			
23	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds	NGO United Kingdom	$10,000	10,000	10,000	0	Demonstration project	All Outcomes			

26	DfID JEWEL project	United Kingdom	$53,000	53,000	53,000	0	Demonstration project	All Outcomes			
	Senegal / Gambia										
27	Department of Parks and Wildlife Management, Gambia	Gambia	$40,000	40,000	40,000	0	Demonstration project	All Outcomes			
28	West African Association for the Marine Environment	Senegalese NGO	$50,000	50,000	50,000	0	Demonstration project	Outcome 3			
29	Ministere de l'Environnement et de l'Assainissement, Senegal	Senegal	$201,500	201,500	201,500	0	Demonstration project	All Outcomes			
11	Wetlands International (BBI project)	International NGO	$108,500	108,500	108,500	0	Demonstration project	All Outcomes			
	South Africa										
30	BirdLife South Africa	South Africa	$95,000	95,000	95,000		Demonstration project	All outcomes			
31	South African Crane Working Group	South Africa	$15,950	15,950	15,950	0	Demonstration project	All outcomes			
32	Engala Grassland Project	South Africa	$200,000	200,000	200,000		Demonstration project	All Outcomes			
	Tanzania										

	Turkey										
34	Burdur Municipality	Turkey	Euro 75,000	83,580	83,580	0	Demonstration project	All Outcomes			
	Yemen										
35	Environmental Protection Agency, Yemen	Yemen	$60,000	60,000	60,000	0	Demonstration project	All Outcomes			
36	Yemen Society for the Protection of Wildlife	Yemeni NGO	$25,000	25,000	25,000	0	Demonstration project	All Outcomes			
37	UNDP, Yemen	Yemen	$100,000	100,000	100,000	0	Demonstration project	All Outcomes			
	TOTAL			**6,195,229**	**3,222,973**	**2,972,256**					

* Note: Conversion rates of non-US$ co-finance have been used based on the rate when the project budget was finalised and subr

38	Wetlands International -	International NGO	109,775	109,775	109,775						
39	Birdlife International	International NGO	50,000	50,000	50,000						

Title of Project:							
Project Number:	PMS:GF/			IMIS:GFL-2328-			
Name of Executing Agency:							
Project Duration:	**From:**			**To:**			
Reporting Period:							
Source of Cofinance	**Cash Contributions**			**In-kind Contributions**			
	Budget original	Budget latest revision	Received to date	Budget original	Budget latest revision	Received to date	
Additional Cofinance:-							
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Name:							
Position:							
Date:							

ANNEX 6A
Format for Half Yearly Progress Report
As at 30 June and 31 December
(Please attach a current Inventory of Outputs/Services and
Inventory of Non-Expendable Equipment when submitting this report)

1. Background Information

1.1 Project Number:

1.2 Project Title:

1.3 Division/Unit:

1.4 Coordinating Agency or Supporting Organization (if relevant):

1.5 Reporting Period (the six months covered by this report):

1.6 Relevant UNEP Programme of Work (2002-2003) Subprogramme No:

1.7 Staffing Details of Cooperating Agency/ Supporting Organization (Applies to personnel / experts/ consultants paid by the project budget):

Functional Title	**Nationality**	**Object of Expenditure** (1101, 1102, 1201, 1301 etc..)

1.8 Sub-Contracts (if relevant):

Name and Address of the Sub-Contractee	**Object of Expenditure** (2101, 2201, 2301 etc..)

2. Project Status

2.1 Information on the delivery of outputs/services

	Output/Service (as listed in the approved project document)	**Status (Complete/ Ongoing)**	**Description of work undertaken during the reporting period**	**Description of problems encountered; Issues that need to be addressed; Decisions/Actions to be taken**
1.				
2.				
3.				

2.2 If the project is not on track, provide reasons and details of remedial action to be taken:

3. Discussion acknowledgment

Project Coordinator's General Comments/Observations	**First Supervising Officer's General Comments**
Name: _____ **Date:** _____ **Signature:** _____	**Name:** _____ **Date:** _____ **Signature:** _____

	Type				by		Participants	Yes/No	as doc no		
1.											
2.											
3.											

List of Meeting Participants

No.	Name of the Participants	Nationality
1.		
2.		

b) Printed Materials

No	Type[5]	Title	Author(s)/Editor(s)	Publisher	Symbol	Publication Date	D L Y
1.							
2.							
3.							

3.		

d) Technical Cooperation

No	Type[6]	Purpose	Venue	Duration	For Grants and Fellowships		
					Beneficiaries	Countries/Nationalities	Cost (in
1.							
2.							

e) Other Outputs/Services (e.g. Networking, Query-response, Participation in meetings etc.)

No	Description	D
1.		
2.		
3.		

Project title:…….....…….....
Implementing Agency ……...……..…….
Internal/SO/CA (UNEP use only).....
FPMO (UNEP use only)....…...…….....….....

Description	Serial No.	Date of Purchase	Original Price US$	Present Condition	Location	

The physical verification of the items(s) above was done by: Name .…….. Sig

(Duly authorized official)

Title: …… D

Annex 6 D Logframe Tracking Form

UNEP has requested that the UNEP and GEF semi-annual progress reports be supported by a form documenting progress against the logical framework matrices in Annex 8B of the Project Document. This section provides guidance on the use of this form known as the Logframe Tracking Form.

I. Purpose of Logframe Tracking Form

The purpose of the Logframe Tracking Form is to assess progress in project implementation on outcomes and outputs against st the indicators described in the Project Document logframe matrices.

II. Design and Use of the Logframe Tracking Form

A staff member should be assigned responsibility for preparing the semi-annual LTF. The report must be reviewed and approved by the Project CTA and UNOPS. His/her approval must be stated in the text of the transmitting email message in the form of:

"Mr/Ms Name, CTA and UNOPS responsible staff, has reviewed and approved the January-June 2006 Semi-Annual Logframe Tracking Form"

The form consists of five columns, which are described below together with guidance for completion of entries. In general, the contents of all columns except for D (Baseline Date & Values) and E (Achievement to Date) are specified in the Project Document – Annex 8B. The entries for column D and C (Means of Verification) must be reviewed and elaborated during the project inception phase. Once this has been done, the main work will be completion of Column E on a semi-annual basis.

Given the large scope of the project, each country should keep a separate LTF for own internal use of monitoring and evaluating their implementation progress. However, one consolidated LTF should be prepared during inception including all 12 countries and outcomes/outputs. This consolidated overall project LTF should not become too long to be of use to project managers and reviewers based at UNEP and UNOPS.

III. Explanation of Columns

Narrative Summary – As stated in the logframe matrices in Annex 8B of the UNEP/GEF Project Document (and reflecting any approved revisions to this annex).

Objectively Verifiable Indicators – As stated in the logframe matrices in Annex 8B of the UNEP/GEF Project Document (and reflecting any approved revisions to this annex).

Baseline Date and Value – To be developed during the inception phase of the project. In most cases, the baseline date should be set for the date of start of the Full Project, unless additional time is needed to conduct survey work in order to obtain the baseline values. In some cases, the baseline is linked to site management plans, in which case it can only be determined after the management plan has been completed (indicate when this will be).

Means of Verification – As stated in the logframe matrices in Annex 8B of the UNEP/GEF Project Document (and reflecting any approved revisions to this annex). Please modify the Means of Verification entries as necessary to show the ACTUAL sources of information to be used to verify any changes in indicator values for each report.

Achievement Status as of Report Date – Project CTA and NEA Project Managers to complete this column to reflect the changes in indicator values in relation to project implementation progress on a semi-annual basis to coincide with the preparation of the UNEP and GEF progress reports.

IV. File Retention

Semi-annually the PCU should print out hard-copy versions of its LFT and file it and make back-up digital copies on a disk. The working file will remain on an office computer, but in the event of file corruption, fire, etc., the back-up copies will be available. The back-up disk should be kept in a separate location from the computer copy.

ative Summary rvention Logic)	Objectively Verifiable Indicators	Means of Verification	Baseline Date & Value		Achievement Status as of Repo Date
opment Objective					
t Objective(s)					
t Outcomes &					

ed by: **Date:** **Reviewed by:** **Date:**

Certified: Mr/Ms Name, Project CTA and/or responsible staff UNOPS has reviewed and approved the "January-June 2004" NEA-(name of country) Logframe Tracking Form

ANNEX 7
FORMAT FOR TERMINAL REPORT(For External Projects only)

	1. Background Information
1.1	**Project Number**
1.2	**Project Title**
1.3	**UNEP Division/Unit**
1.4	**Implementing Organization**
	2. Project Implementation Details
2.1	**Project Needs and Results (Re-State the needs and results of the project)**
2.2	**Project Activities (Describe the activities actually undertaken under the project, giving reasons why some activities were not undertaken, if any)**
2.3	**Project Outputs (Compare the outputs generated with the ones listed in the project document)**
2.4	**Use of Outputs (State the use made of the outputs)**
2.5	**Degree of achievement of the objectives/results (*On the basis of facts obtained during the follow-up phase, describe how the project document outputs and their use were or were not instrumental in realizing the objectives / results of the project)***
2.6	**Determine the degree to which project contributes to the advancement of women in Environmental Management and describe gender sensitive activi ties carried out by the project.**
2.7	**Describe how the project has assisted the partner in sustained activities after project completion.**
	3. Conclusions
3.1	**Lessons Learned (Enumerate the lessons learned during the project's execution. Concentrate on the management of the project, including the principal factors which determined success or failure in meeting the objectives set down in the project document)**
3.2	**Recommendations (Make recommendations to (a) Improve the effect and impact of similar projects in the future and (b) Indicate what further action might be needed to meet the project objectives / results)**

	4. Attachments
4.1	**Attach an inventory of all non-expendable equipment (value over US$ 1,500) purchased under this project indicating Date of Purchase, Description, Serial Number, Quantity, Cost, Location and Present Condition, together with your proposal for the disposal of the said equipment**
4.2	**Attach a final Inventory of all Outputs/Services produced through this project**