



**Action Plans for the Conservation of  
Globally Threatened Birds in Africa**

**Second Annual Report**

Submitted by



**The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds  
The Lodge, Sandy, Bedfordshire, SG19 2DL, UK**

in partnership with

**NATUREUGANDA**



**AFRICA PARTNERSHIP**

*April 2002 – March 2003*

# **Darwin Initiative for the Survival of Species**

## **Annual Report**

### **1. Darwin Project Information**

Project title	<i>Action Plans for the Conservation of Globally Threatened Birds in Africa</i>
Country(ies)	<i>Africa, particularly: Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Tanzania, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe</i>
Contractor	<i>The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB)</i>
Project Reference No.	<i>162/10/019</i>
Grant Value	<i>£157,590</i>
Start/Finishing dates	<i>April 2001 to March 2004</i>
Reporting period	<i>April 2002 to March 2003</i>

### **2. Project Background**

Africa has 349 globally threatened bird species, 90 of which occur in cross-border populations. Experience in Europe and elsewhere show that a traditional site based conservation approach is often not sufficient to ensure the survival of threatened species. Species-based conservation, particularly where it applies to species that occur in more than one country, requires careful strategic planning involving all relevant stakeholders. This project addresses the lack of experience and capacity in Africa for single species conservation work and species action planning. It will build up the capacity of African conservationists, both governmental and non-governmental, in 17 African countries, namely Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Tanzania, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe. To maximise the training, the project plan included participative preparation of international plans for 8 threatened species: Spotted Ground Thrush *Zoothera guttata*, Grauer's Rush Warbler *Bradypterus graueri*, Rufous-fishing Owl *Scotopelia ussheri*, Blue Swallow *Hirundo atrocaerulea*, Grey-necked Picathartes *Picathartes oreas*, White-necked Picathartes *Picathartes gymnocephalus*, Lappet-faced Vulture *Torgos tracheliotus* and Houbara Bustard *Chlamydotis undulata*. By identifying and setting up the necessary mechanisms for effective conservation, the project will help countries to meet their obligations under the Biodiversity Convention.

The project is implemented by BirdLife International Partners in 17 African countries and co-ordinated, on behalf of the BirdLife Africa Partnership, by the RSPB and Nature Uganda, the BirdLife Partners in the UK and Uganda respectively. In order to address some management weaknesses, BirdLife South Africa, the BirdLife Partner in South Africa, has recently been contracted to assist with project co-ordination.

### 3. Project Objectives

**Project Purpose:** Capacity established for participative action planning for globally threatened bird species in Africa

#### **Project Outputs**

0. Project management structure in place
1. A priority list of species for which species action plan approaches would enhance their conservation
2. Priority countries that CAP (BirdLife Council of the African Partnership) should endeavour to recruit into the partnership based on their importance to the conservation of birds identified
3. Training programme for BirdLife Africa partnership implemented
4. Network of species interest groups functioning
5. International (cross-border) and national species action plans for priority species produced
6. Process for securing funding for action plan implementation initiated

The project logical framework is shown in Annex 1.

During the course of the year the project objectives have not changed, however, there has been some slippage in the workplan. It was found that project co-ordination needed strengthening and individuals needed more training in facilitation of species action planning workshops. With approval from the Darwin Secretariat, we have decided to employ an additional project advisor (100% funded by RSPB), based at BirdLife South Africa to run 2 additional training workshops. In order to fund the additional workshops, it was agreed to cancel the international workshop for Rufous-fishing Owl *Scotopelia ussheri*.

### 4. Progress

The project recruited an Africa Species working group co-ordinator and a project administrator based at Nature Uganda and one national co-ordinator in each of 17 African countries (the latter is funded through an in-kind contribution from the African BirdLife Partnership). Each national co-ordinator recruited a government counterpart. With support from RSPB, the group developed a new and innovative format and process for participative species action planning in Africa and national co-ordinators and their government counterparts have received training in the application of the method. A project steering committee was created, involving representatives from RSPB, Nature Uganda, the BirdLife Africa Species Working Group and the BirdLife Secretariat. This steering group agrees and approves annual workplans, reviews progress and advises on technical issues.

This is the second annual report of the project. Progress during the reporting period against the project outputs is shown in table 1.

Table 1: Progress 2002 –2003 against the project logframe

<i>Project summary</i>	<i>Measurable indicators</i>	<i>Achievements in reporting period</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
<p><b><u>Overall Goal</u></b></p> <p>To assist countries rich in biodiversity but poor in resources with the conservation of biological diversity and implementation of the Biodiversity Convention</p>	<p>I OG1 Populations of 10 globally threatened species increased</p> <p>I OG2 17 African countries benefit from project</p> <p>I OG3 Additional financial resources mobilised</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Several African Governments have agreed to include the project's target species in their workplans. Additionally, the US based Wildlife Conservation Society has agreed to collaborate with Nature Uganda over the conservation of Grauer's Rush Warbler.</li> <li>Participants from 20 African countries have so far participated in International Species Action Planning workshops</li> <li>Additional Finances were secured to support the Project Advisor (PA), for the South African national Blue Swallow planning workshop and for survey work in Zambia.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All international workshops were attended by all relevant range states.</li> <li>Workshops have received wide national and international publicity and have contributed significantly to increasing the awareness on the conservation needs of target species</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>Purpose</u></b></p> <p>Capacity established for participative action planning for globally threatened bird species in Africa</p>	<p>I PP1 BirdLife Strategy for species based conservation programme in Africa in place</p> <p>I PP2 Out of a total of 8 high quality cross-border species action plans, 5 are collaboratively produced without outside support</p> <p>I PP3 Co-operative implementation of at least 2 high quality cross-border species action plans initiated by 2003</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The BirdLife Strategy is being drafted</li> <li>Four international species action planning workshops were held (Grauer's rush Warbler <i>Bradypterus graueri</i>, Blue Swallow <i>Hirundo atrocaerulea</i>, Grey-necked Picathartes <i>Picathartes oreas</i>, and White-necked Picathartes <i>Picathartes gymnocephalus</i>). Action plans were drafted for each of the species and are presently being finalised</li> <li>One funding proposal is being drafted and will be submitted by June 2003</li> <li>There is close collaboration between range states for the implementation of the Blue Swallow Plan and Grauer's rush Warbler.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Three out of the four international action planning workshops were co-facilitated by RSPB staff. The fourth workshop was facilitated by the Africa Species Working Group co-ordinator with minimum support from RSPB.</li> </ul>

<b><i>Outputs</i></b>	<b><i>Measurable indicators</i></b>	<b><i>Achievements in reporting period</i></b>	<b><i>Remarks</i></b>
0 Project management structure in place	I 0.1 Annual workplans agreed I 0.2 Tasks implemented on time I 0.3 6 monthly steering committee meetings attended by 2/3 membership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Steering Committee is functioning well and has met as planned in April and October 2002 to review progress and plan ahead.</li> <li>There is some delay in the implementation of planned activities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An additional Project Advisor was recruited to assist the African Species Working Group Coordinator in the day-to-day running of the Project so that all the project outputs are delivered on schedule</li> <li>The SC has also approved the organisation of two sub-regional training workshops in order to agree and enhance the national planning process.</li> <li>In order to compensate for the budget deficit, it was agreed to cancel the production of the international action plan for Rufus Fishing Owl. RSPB has provided 100% funding for the employment of the project advisor.</li> <li>The changes have been approved by the Darwin Secretariat.</li> </ul>
1 A priority list of species for which species action plan approaches would enhance their conservation	I 1.1 Final list of species agreed July 2001 I.1.1 Final list of species to be included in project agreed by July 2001	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An analysis of species for which the production of species action plans is applicable has been produced and is presently being circulated for comment.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The analysis, which will be a basis for the BirdLife Africa species strategy, has been delayed because of wide consultations between the BirdLife International Secretariat and the African Species Working Group. A preliminary analysis during the previous reporting period has allowed the selection of the final list to be included under this project.</li> </ul>
2 Priority countries that CAP should endeavour to recruit into the partnership based on their importance to the conservation of birds identified	I 2.1 Prioritised list of African countries to be recruited into partnership presented to BirdLife Council of the Africa Partnership (CAP) by August 2001	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A final report, prioritising all countries in Africa according to their importance for threatened bird species has been finalised.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The analysis had been delayed because of wide consultations between the BirdLife International Secretariat and the African Species Working Group. The result is already being applied to select priority countries for action</li> </ul>
3 Training programme for BirdLife Africa partnership implemented	I 3.1 Training programme developed by 2001 I 3.2 17 national species action plan co-ordinators (NSAPCs) receive 1 week participative training on species action plan I 3.3 45-50 people from 17 African countries trained in species action planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>73 participants from 20 African countries have received on-the-job training in species action planning</li> <li>58 participants from two African countries have received on-the-job training in national species action planning</li> <li>Four National Species Action Plan Co-ordinators from Eastern and Southern Africa have received 1 week training in facilitating national workshops</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Several trainees from within and outside the African BirdLife Partnership are already applying the methods developed. However, it was found that some additional training was needed to improve the running of national workshops. It was therefore agreed to add two more training workshops for National Species Action Plan Co-ordinators (see output 0)</li> <li>The training workshop for West African NSAPCs will be held in May 2003.</li> </ul>

4 Network of species interest groups functioning	I 4.1 Five additional species interest groups created I 4.2 Workplans for two species interest groups agreed I 4.3 45-50 people from 17 African countries trained in single species conservation (cf. I 3.3) I 4.3 Experts from each respective country contribute to SIG annual report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Four Species Interest Groups have been inaugurated and are functioning.</li> <li>• International coordinators have been appointed to oversee the production and implementation of action plans for all project target species</li> <li>• Two email groups were created.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Communication within Africa remains a problem.</li> </ul>
5 International (cross-border) and national species action plans for priority species produced	I 5.1 Eight international (cross-border) species action plans published by June 2003 I 5.2 15 national action plans produced and endorsed/adopted by national governments by 2003	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Four international workshops have been held, action plans have been drafted and are being finalised</li> <li>• Three national workshops have been held, action plan are being drafted.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• With agreement from the Darwin Secretariat, the production of both international and national action plans have been delayed. Additionally, it was agreed to cancel the production of the Rufus Fishing Owl international species action plan (see output 0).</li> <li>• Delays in the production of international plans are due to a late start of the project and the need to seek input from a wide range of stakeholders across Africa. The latter has proven difficult due to communication problems with some countries.</li> <li>• The production of national workshops was delayed because of the need to agree and strengthen the national action planning process.</li> <li>• It is anticipated that all remaining plans will be produced by December 2003.</li> </ul>
6 Process for securing funding for action plan implementation is initiated	I 6.1 5 Funding proposals submitted to donors by March 2004	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One proposal for survey work of Blue Swallow in Zambia submitted and approved</li> <li>• One funding proposal for Blue Swallow conservation drafted.</li> </ul>	

***The project provided the following training:***

- On the-job training in project management, workshop organisation and facilitation, database development for the African Species Working Group Coordinator (ASWGC) has continued over the year
- The ASWGC has received a 1 day formal facilitation workshop in the UK
- On-the-job training of 73 African stakeholders from 20 countries (at least one NGO representative and 1 government representative per range state) through participative production of four international species action plans. Different groups of people were trained:
  - 22 Government officials
  - 32 NGO representatives
  - 8 representatives from research institutions
  - 5 species specialists
  - 6 Local stakeholders
- On-the-job training of 58 stakeholders from Uganda and South Africa through participative production of three national species action plans. Different groups of people were trained.
  - 23 government officials
  - 15 NGO representatives
  - 2 Species specialists
  - 3 representatives from a research institution
  - 15 Local stakeholders (local community, industry)
- The project provided one week training in facilitation of national workshops for national species action plan coordinators from 4 African countries (Kenya, South Africa, Uganda, Tanzania).

All workshops are highly participative and encouraged exchange of experience between workshop participants. Methods included short presentations, group discussions and plenary sessions to generate consensus.

***The following scientific analysis were undertaken:***

- An analysis of all threatened bird species in Africa to identify which species urgently require a species action plan. It was found that it is critical to produce species action plans for 11 out of the 349 threatened species.
- A scoring system was developed and applied to allow the prioritisation of African countries for their importance for the conservation of threatened birds in Africa.

***The following databases were developed and populated***

- Database for species experts of target species
- Potential funding sources for implementation of African action plans for birds.

***Problems encountered***

- The preparation of background material for species action planning workshops and the production of the final species action plans requires extensive consultations with a large number of stakeholders across Africa. Apart from technical difficulties in communication (such as bad telephone lines, etc.), most National Species Action Plan Co-ordinators are staff members of small NGOs and therefore have limited time available. This has led to some slippage in the organisation of workshops and in the production of final action plans.

- Language remains a challenge in Anglo/francophone workshop situations. To overcome the problem, the project has recruited bi-lingual workshop facilitators and translators where required. The production of bi-lingual workshop reports has led to some delay.
- Expenditure for individual workshops was often higher than expected. This is mainly due to high costs of inter-African flights and for hiring appropriate conference venues. As a result, RSPB had to cover some additional costs.
- The difficulty in communication contributed to an increase in workload for the African species Working Group Coordinator. The Steering Committee approved the recruitment of a Project Advisor to assist the ASWGC in the day-to-day running of the project. The Project Advisor was recruited in January 2003 and has already contributed significantly to a much smoother progress. The funding for the Project Advisor was provided by the RSPB thus the project budget was not affected.

### ***Change in workplan***

With agreement of the Darwin Secretariat, two additional workshops have been scheduled, one of which has already taken place. The second workshop will take place in May 2003. The aim of these workshops is to finalise the format and process for national species action plans and to provide additional training to National Species Action Plan Co-ordinators. The work plan for the year April 2003 to March 2004 is shown in Annex 2.

## **5. Partnerships**

Good cooperation between the UK and Africa has continued throughout the year. The project leader visited Africa five times over this year and four British experts have helped to co-facilitate the four international action plan workshops and one out of the three national action plan workshops so far held. The African counterparts have now gained experience and will facilitate the remaining international and national workshops with minimum support from their UK partners.

The recruitment of government counterparts in each of the 17 participating countries has significantly strengthened the collaboration between BirdLife Partners and government agencies. This is illustrated by the governments' enthusiasm to attend the stakeholder workshops (30% of the stakeholders that participated in the development of the four international plans were government officials) and contribute significant staff time to the project. Some of the government departments are already using the project's approach to develop priority species action plans. A case in point is the Chimpanzee species action plan for Uganda developed by Uganda Wildlife Authority and Wildlife Conservation Society in January 2003.

Links with the IUCN's Conservation Breeding Specialist Group (CBSG), and other NGO have been strengthened. BirdLife South Africa for example is working very closely with the CBSG in the production and implementation of the Blue Swallow international and national action plans. CBCS has contributed in kind to the production of the plans. The US-based Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) has started to collaborate closely with Nature Uganda over the development and implementation of the Grauer's rush Warbler action plans. WCS has sponsored a number of workshop participants, has provided large amount of data and is already implementing various projects of the action plan. WCS is also applying the method to other species and taxa.

## **6. Impact and Sustainability**

Wide media coverage over many countries in Africa has continued. This includes print, radio and television media. The national television in Sierra Leone invited some project staff and



stakeholders for a discussion on the conservation strategies of the White-necked Picathartes. This has led to a much better awareness on conservation in general and to the conservation needs of the target species in particular.

Most of the relevant African governments have shown significant commitment to the species action planning process and have indicated commitment to implement the action plans. This is certainly a result of involving governments as key stakeholders in the planning processes (30% of the workshop participants were government representatives, most of which were fully sponsored by their respective governments).

The Council of the BirdLife Africa Partnership (CAP) has approved the species action plan (SAP) format and process developed by this project as the model for species action planning in Africa. In addition, the SAP format and process for Africa is already being used as a guide to produce action plans elsewhere. The new SAP format for the Africa-Eurasia Waterfowl Agreement under the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) is largely based on the format developed under this project. Other institutions, both governmental and non-governmental, have shown considerable interest in the method. Outside the project, the method has already been applied by the Uganda Wildlife Authority/ Wildlife Conservation Society to produce the Uganda Chimpanzee Action Plan and by RSPB to produce an action plan for Gurney's Pitta in Thailand. Other applications are planned.

## 7. Outputs, Outcomes and Dissemination

**Table 1. Project Outputs (According to Standard Output Measures)**

Code No.	Quantity	Description
5	1	Continued on the job training of the Africa Species Working Group Co-ordinator (ASWGC) in project management, workshop organisation and facilitation, and database development
6A/B	73/ 1 week	73 people from 20 African countries have received on-the-job training in the production of cross-border species action plans. This is more than the 60 that were targeted
	4/ 1 week	4 NSAPCs received one week training on producing and facilitating national workshops. This had not been originally planned for
	58/ 2 days	58 people received on-the-job training in the production of national species action plans
	1/ 8 weeks	ASWGC continues French evening classes
7	0	Training manual drafted but not yet finalised
8	6 weeks	The project manager spent 6 weeks in Africa to attend 4 international species action planning workshops and to attend 1 steering committee meeting. This is significantly more than expected and the result of the fact that the project manager rather than the RSPB researcher co-facilitated planning workshops.
	2 weeks	The senior species action planning specialist spent 2 weeks in Africa to attend one international species action plan workshop and one training workshop
	1 week	The researcher spent 1 week in Africa to attend one international species action plan workshop. This is less than expected (see explanation under project manager above).
	1 week	The country programme officer spent 1 week in Africa to review project administration at Nature Uganda and to attend the steering committee meeting.
	1.5 weeks	The Head of the BirdLife Africa Division spent 1.5 weeks in Africa to attend an international species action planning meeting and to attend the steering committee meeting

9	4 (draft) international action plans	4 international species action planning workshops were held, workshop reports are available and plans are being finalised. This is against 6 planned. This is due to delays in the beginning of the project and due to the need for extensive consultations across several countries in Africa.
	3 (draft) national action plans	3 national species action planning workshops were held, workshop reports and plans are being finalised. This is against 5 originally planned for the reporting period
11A/B	0	It was anticipated to submit 3 papers during this reporting period. However, the delay in producing the action plans has led to delay in this output, as the papers will be extracts from these plans.
12A	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Database on specialists for globally threatened birds in Africa produced and being populated</li> <li>• Database on potential Funding Sources produced and being populated</li> </ul>
12B	1	BirdLife International World Bird Database is continuously updated with information from the project
14B	1	BirdLife Partnership meeting attended by 6 Steering Committee members
	3	3 national workshops held: in 1 in Uganda and 2 in South Africa.
15A	10	10 press releases produced and submitted to the press in host countries
	7	Newspaper articles in host countries: Kenya, South Africa, Cameroon, Nigeria, Sierra Leone
15C	0	No UK press release. We found that there was little interest in this phase of the project. Once action plans are produced, we will try to reinforce the press work on the project.
16A/B	1/ 750	One article about the species was published and circulated in the BirdLife International Africa Newsletter (January 2003 issue) with a circulation of 750 in Africa
16C	150	Circulation of the Newsletter in the UK: 150
17A	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grey-necked Picathartes Species Interest Group</li> <li>• White-necked Picathartes Species Interest Group</li> <li>• Blue Swallow Species Interest Group</li> <li>• Grauer's rush Warbler Species Interest Group</li> </ul>
17B	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BirdLife Africa Partnership</li> <li>• Africa Species Working Group</li> </ul>
18A	2	Two television programmes on national TV: Cameroon and Sierra Leone
19A	4	Radio interviews/ programmes on national radio in Sierra Leone, Cameroon, South Africa, Uganda
23	£77,718.9	<p>RSPB: £58,153.60  Nature Uganda: £5,540.23  Other BirdLife Organisations: £14,025.07</p> <p>The total contribution is significantly higher than anticipated. Due to budget constraints, RSPB has increased its financial contribution to workshops. RSPB has also funded the employment of an additional project advisor. BirdLife Partners sent more staff to attend planning workshops and one additional workshop was held.</p>

**Table 2: Publications**

<b>Type *</b> (e.g. journals, manual, CDs)	<b>Detail</b> (title, author, year)	<b>Publishers</b> (name, city)	<b>Available from</b> (e.g. contact address, website)	<b>Cost £</b>
Workshop Report	Species Action Plan Stakeholder Workshop Grauer's Rush Warbler <i>Bradypterus graueri</i> . Sande, E, Byaruhanga, A, Hoffmann, D. (2002)		RSPB, The Lodge, Sandy, Bedfordshire SG19 2DL Tel: 01767 680551 <a href="mailto:dieter.hoffmann@rspb.org.uk">dieter.hoffmann@rspb.org.uk</a>	
Workshop Report	International Blue Swallow <i>Hirundo</i> <i>atrocaerulea</i> Action Plan. Evans, S.W., Cohen, L., Sande, E., Monadjem, A., Hoffmann, D., Mattion, H., Newbery, P., Ndanganga, K., and Friedmann, Y (2002).		BirdLife South Africa P.O Box 515, Randburg 2125, South Africa (T) +27 (0) 11 789 1122, <a href="mailto:iba@birdlife.org.za">iba@birdlife.org.za</a>	
Workshop Report	Species Action Plan Stakeholder Workshop White-necked Picathartes <i>Picathartes</i> <i>gymnocephalus</i> . Siaka, A., Lebbie, A., Evans, S., Hoffmann, D. and Sande, E. (2002)		RSPB	
Workshop Report	Species Action Plan Stakeholder Workshop Grey-necked Picathartes <i>Picathartes oreas</i> . Ngoufo, R., Mbah Bian, R., Hoffmann, D, and Sande, E, (2002)		RSPB	
Workshop Report	Stakeholder Workshop to agree on the Format and Process for translating an International Species Action Plan to a National Species Action Plan. Sande, E. and Evans, S. (2003)		RSPB	
Project leaflet	Planning for the future: Species Action Plans for threatened birds in Africa (2002)		RSPB	

The workshop reports (approx. 50 copies each) were distributed to all workshop participants and key stakeholders in each host country. Additional copies are being distributed on request. Between 50 and 100 project leaflets (total print run 2,000) were distributed to each of the 17 participating partners for distribution in country.

## 8. Project Expenditure

**Table 3: Project expenditure during the reporting period**

Item	Budget	Expenditure
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We have significantly underspent on Travel and subsistence, and Conferences & seminars expenditure categories. This is due to some delay in the start of the project and communication problems resulting in fewer workshops than originally planned during the reporting period. With agreement of the Darwin Secretariat, this underspend has been carried forward to the next financial year, during which time we expect to hold these delayed workshops.

## 9. Monitoring, Evaluation and Lessons

The project is overseen by a Steering Committee with representation from RSPB, Nature Uganda, BirdLife South Africa, the African Species Working Group and the BirdLife International Secretariat.

The Steering Committee meets 6-monthly and has now met 5 times to review the workplan and project progress against the project logframe. Between meetings, Steering Committee members communicate over email to review project documents. During the recent review in October 2002, the committee recommended to recruit an additional project advisor. This advisor, based at BirdLife South Africa, was recruited in January 2003 and works hand in hand with the African Species Working Group Coordinator.

The species action plan format and process for international species action planning was approved by Council of the BirdLife Africa Partnership which comprises of technical specialists from BirdLife Partners in Africa and Europe, the BirdLife Secretariat, Wetlands International and other international organisations.

The participative approach to species action planning has proved to be highly effective. Apart from the obvious advantage of involving a wide range of specialists and stakeholders, the process contributes significantly to raising awareness and has already led to commitments by governments and other organisations to work with our project partners in the conservation of the respective species.

Communications across Africa remains difficult. We have therefore allowed more time for the preparation of workshops and the final action plans. This has led to some slippage, but should not prevent the achievement of all project objectives as originally planned.

**10. Author(s) / Date**

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Mr. Steven Evans, Project advisor and Chair of BirdLife African Species Working Group,  
BirdLife South Africa.

30 April 2003

**Annex 1: Project Logframe**

**Annex 2: Workplan 2003 - 2004**