

Darwin Initiative for the Survival of Species

Half Year Report

Project Ref. No.	162/11/002
Project Title	Monitoring biodiversity for site management planning in eastern Africa.
Countries	Burundi, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda.
UK Organisation	Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust
Collaborators	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Association Burundaise pour la Protection des Oiseaux2. Association pour la Conservation de la Nature au Rwanda3. Ethiopian Wildlife & Natural History Society4. Ministere de l'Habitat, de l'Urbanisme, de l'Environnement et de l'Aménagement du Territoire Djibouti5. National Museums of Kenya6. Nature Uganda7. University of Asmara8. Wetlands International9. Wildlife Conservation Administration of Sudan10. Wildlife Conservation Society of Tanzania
Report date	October 2004
Project website	http://www.wbms-ea.org/

1. Outline progress over the last 6 months (April – September 2004) against the agreed baseline timetable for the project.

TIMETABLED YEAR 3 OUTPUTS (first six months)

1. Delivery of modular training course in host countries: training by trainers (Apr 04-Mar 05).

Progress:- planning for a training 'field' event linked to the January site counts is currently taking place and will be agreed/finalised at the next project Steering Group meeting prior to the Pan African Ornithological Congress in Tunisia in November 2004.

2. First year of operation of WBMS (Apr 04-Mar 05).

Progress:- the first WBMS monitoring events took place in all partner countries in January 2004 (and July in Kenya). Data were entered into national databases and are currently being collated at a regional level by the Darwin Project Officer in Nairobi.

3. Development of draft site management plans in each participating country (Jul 04-Mar 05).

Progress:- two plans already drafted (Sudan and Ethiopia). Three more (Djibouti, Rwanda and Tanzania) will be produced by partner staff attending the Kenyan Wildlife Service's *International Course on African Wildlife Management* in October 2004. Another (Kenya) is currently being drafted by staff on secondment from the National Museums of Kenya. The completion of the outstanding plans (Burundi, Eritrea and Burundi) will be discussed at the next project Steering Group meeting prior to the Pan African Ornithological Congress in Tunisia in November 2004.

ADDITIONAL PROGRESS AND OUTPUTS:

● **WBMS marketing brochure**

The scheme marketing brochure has been translated into French and the printed version will be sent to partners in October 2004.

● **WBMS website**

A French version of the text is now available on the website.

● **WBMS database and hardware**

The partner's computers and new database were successfully delivered.

● **WBMS scheme manual**

The final draft of the manual has been completed, received comments from partners and professionally proof read. It is currently being designed and printed and will be 'launched' at the Pan African Ornithological Congress in Tunisia in November.

● **WBMS steering group meeting**

An agenda for the next meeting is currently being discussed. The group will get together two days prior to the Pan African Ornithological Congress in Tunisia in November.

● **WBMS publicity**

A paper and a poster were presented at the international *Waterbirds Around the World* conference in Edinburgh in April. Both will be published in the forthcoming conference proceedings.

● **WBMS strategy**

A first draft of the WBMS Strategic Work Plan 2005 to 2010 has been circulated to partners for comment. It will also be discussed at the forthcoming Steering Group meeting in November.

2. Give details of any notable problems or unexpected developments that the project has encountered over the last 6 months. Explain what impact these could have on the project and whether the changes will affect the budget and timetable of project activities.

None.

Have any of these issues been discussed with the Darwin Secretariat and if so, have changes been made to the original agreement?

None.

3. Are there any other issues you wish to raise relating to the project or to Darwin's management, monitoring, or financial procedures?

None.