

# Darwin Initiative – Final Report

(To be completed with reference to the Reporting Guidance Notes for Project Leaders  
(<http://darwin.defra.gov.uk/resources/reporting/>) -

it is expected that this report will be a **maximum** of 20 pages in length, excluding annexes)

## Darwin project information

Project Reference	162/14/044
Project Title	Building a bird conservation and environmental network in China
Host country(ies)	China
UK Contract Holder Institution	BirdLife International
UK Partner Institution(s)	-
Host Country Partner Institution(s)	Hong Kong Bird Watching Society
Darwin Grant Value	£190,410
Start/End dates of Project	April 2005 to March 2008
Project Leader Name	Mike Crosby
Project Website	<a href="http://www.chinabirdnet.org">www.chinabirdnet.org</a>
Report Author(s) and date	Mike Crosby & Fion Cheung, 30 June 2008

## 1 Project Background

This project covers the whole of China, from a project office in Hong Kong. China is immensely rich in birds and other biodiversity, but rapid economic expansion is placing increasing pressure on the country's environment. The Chinese government has made major advances in conservation, including through the establishment of many hundreds of new protected areas in recent decades. However, public awareness of wildlife and environmental issues remains low, and civil society involvement in conservation barely exists, which greatly limits efforts to protect and manage the country's biodiversity.

The purpose of this project is to develop and support a network of civil society organisations with an interest in, and concern for, China's birds and the environment. This network will help to raise awareness amongst civil society of the importance of China's birds, habitats and key sites, and the need for conservation action to address the threats that they face. The project will build the capacity of civil society groups and individuals to participate in conservation activities focussed on priority species and sites, and prepare and disseminate to government and civil society within China national-language publications relating to globally important biodiversity.

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

The project has catalysed the development of a network of civil society organisations in about 20 cities throughout China and has investigated how these organisations can support the work of Chinese government agencies to monitor and protect the country's biological diversity. Drawing on expertise from within the UK, it has provided training to the civil society organisations in biodiversity survey and monitoring techniques, organisational and network development, and public awareness and environmental education. New civil society organisations have been established during the course of the project and the existing organisations have grown in size and capacity. They are participating in programmes to monitor biodiversity, including a national coastal waterbird census, research and conservation projects focussed on priority species and sites, and public awareness and education activities. Although it is not possible at present for civil society organisations to work directly with the CBD focal

point in China, the bird conservation and environmental network is making a significant contribution to the implementation of the convention in the country.

Several project outputs are relevant to the implementation of the CBD, as they have provided information about, or raised awareness of, globally threatened species and internationally important sites for biodiversity conservation. The directory of *Important Bird Areas in China* includes information relevant to the management and sustainable use of priority sites throughout the country. The Chinese edition of *Saving Asia's threatened birds* provides detailed information on globally threatened birds, IBAs and major conservation issues in China. The Chinese civil society organisations made an important contribution to international species action plans for three highly threatened Asian waterbirds that BirdLife International has prepared for the CMS Secretariat. The annual China Bird Festival has helped to raise public awareness of biodiversity and environmental issues, environmental education materials have been produced for schoolchildren, and information about biodiversity conservation disseminated using the Darwin project website and newsletter.

### **3 Project Partnerships**

Collaboration with the host country partner, the Hong Kong Bird Watching Society was very positive, and constant communications were maintained during the three years of the project. A Memorandum of Understanding was agreed between BirdLife International and HKBWS concerning the implementation of the Darwin project, and a project steering committee was established comprising two representatives of each organisation. The six steering committee meetings that were held over the course of the project were very effective in project planning and management. The steering committee delegated responsibility for day-to-day management of the China Programme Officer to Ho-Fai Cheung (Chairman, HKBWS), and of the Darwin project budget to Mike Crosby (Darwin Project Leader). The financial reporting procedures agreed between HKBWS and the Finance and Administration Department at the BirdLife International Secretariat office in Cambridge worked well throughout the project.

Excellent relationships were developed with the Chinese birdwatching societies and maintained throughout the project. The Darwin project training workshops and meetings were all hosted by particular birdwatching societies, meaning that responsibility for making the arrangements was shared and maximum use was made of the financial support from the Darwin project. The network newsletter, *China Bird Watch*, is edited by a team from several of the birdwatching societies. The Darwin project website includes a bulletin board, which has been an effective mechanism for discussions about network matters and birds and conservation issues in China. The China Ornithological Society, a national network of the leading academic ornithologists, co-hosted one of the network planning meetings, indicating their willingness to embrace the development of civil society birdwatching societies. The two China Bird Festivals that were held during the project were very successful and this appears to have potential to develop into a sustainable annual event that will provide a strong focus for the future development of the national birdwatching and conservation network.

The project established links with several other organisations concerned with environmental issues in China. One of the project publications, a Chinese-language version of the RSPB's *Discover birds at school*, was supported by the Wildlife Conservation Society China Program (who did the translation work), and is being used in their schools education projects. Two interns recruited by the Conservation International China Programme in Beijing, with funding from the BP-Conservation Programme, worked jointly for BirdLife's Important Bird Areas Programme and the Key Biodiversity Areas Project being coordinated by CI-China. UK-based experts from the RSPB helped to run four highly successful project workshops, including two in public awareness and environmental education in 2006 and two in organisational development in early 2008. Darwin project staff have also held discussions about our work with WWF-China, the BP-China Conservation Programme, The Nature Conservancy China Programme and Nigel Birch (Consul, Science & Innovation, British Consulate - General, Guangzhou, China).

## **4 Project Achievements**

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

The project has supported the development of a network of civil society organisations with an interest in birds and the environment in mainland China. A wide range of training and outputs relating to biodiversity conservation has been provided to these organisations, which has greatly increased their environmental awareness and enhanced their capacity to contribute to biodiversity conservation. Some of these organisations are already playing a significant role in conservation, through surveys and monitoring, environmental awareness and education projects and interventions regarding threats to important species and sites. It is anticipated that in the future this role will increase, as the involvement of civil society organisations in environmental issues becomes more widely accepted within China. BirdLife International and Hong Kong Bird Watching Society will continue their support to the environmental organisations and network that has been developed through this Darwin project.

### **4.2 Outcomes: achievement of the project purpose and outcomes**

The project has achieved its purpose, to develop a network of civil society organisations with an interest in, and concern for, China's birds and environment. An evaluation at the end of the Darwin project found that a total of 27 established and emerging Chinese birdwatching societies have participated in project activities, including nine that have been newly established since the project began in April 2005. Civil society organisations in mainland China often find it difficult to become officially recognised, but three of the larger birdwatching societies have succeeded in officially registering since April 2005. Comparative figures available for eight of the larger birdwatching societies show that their combined memberships grew from 1,058 at the start of the Darwin project in 2005 to about 2,050 at the end of the project in March 2008, an increase of 94%. The combined membership of 19 birdwatching societies for which information is available was approximately 3,000 at March 2008.

Following a network planning meeting in May 2006, the birdwatching societies established an Executive Committee, which has subsequently maintained regular communication and helped to coordinate the activities of the network. A Darwin project website ([www.chinabirdnet.org](http://www.chinabirdnet.org)) has been established and is regularly used by many birdwatching society members, and the project has supported the production of a network newsletter named *China Bird Watch*. The project has held eight training workshops to raise the capacity of members of the birdwatching societies to participate in conservation activities, and has produced a range of training and awareness materials.

A national China Bird Festival was held in 2006 and 2007 to raise public awareness of birds and the environment, which attracted a high level of public participation and local press coverage in the cities where events were organised. Many of the Chinese birdwatching societies are already involved in conservation projects, including species and site surveys, site protection, public awareness and schools education. The priority for the future is to continue to build the capacity of the Chinese birdwatching societies to participate in conservation activities, and to explore how these organisations can support the work of Chinese government agencies to monitor and protect the country's biodiversity.

### **4.3 Outputs (and activities)**

The project achieved all of its outputs and activities as laid out in the logical framework, although there are opportunities in the future to greatly increase the involvement of the Chinese birdwatching societies in gathering information on key bird species and sites, and in conducting conservation projects.

A civil society network of birdwatching and conservation groups was established in mainland China (Output 1), which the project helped to support through a network planning meeting held in May 2006. A joint meeting of the Chinese birdwatching societies and the BirdLife Asia

Partnership in May 2007 allowed the Chinese organisations to learn about conservation activities in other parts of Asia and the operation of BirdLife's regional network.

The project raised the awareness of the Chinese birdwatching societies of the importance of China's birds and key areas for conservation (Output 2) by disseminating several project outputs (books, leaflets, posters, etc.) and using the project website and newsletter. The China Bird Festival proved to be an excellent mechanism to increase the capacity of the birdwatching societies and to raise awareness of birds and environmental issues.

The capacity of the Chinese birdwatching societies and their members was strengthened to participate in species and site conservation activities (Output 3) through a series of eight training workshops in waterbird and forest bird survey techniques, environmental education and public awareness, Important Bird Areas and organisational development. Two Darwin project training manuals were published and distributed, entitled *Methods for bird surveys* and *Bird conservation project management*. Two representatives of the Chinese birdwatching societies visited the UK in August 2007 to attend the British Birdwatching Fair and to visit several conservation organisations and nature reserves, during which they gathered a large amount of information about conservation and awareness work in the UK; they have subsequently published magazine and web articles about their visit for the benefit of other members of the network.

Information on key bird species and key areas for conservation (Output 4) in China has been enhanced through the preparation of the national directory of *Important Bird Areas in China* and three international species action plans, and the distribution of the Chinese edition of *Saving Asia's threatened birds*. The Chinese birdwatching societies were involved in the preparation of the IBA directory and species action plans, which has increased their awareness of international conservation priorities within China and of how their projects can contribute to biodiversity conservation. The network of Chinese birdwatching societies is engaged in a national coastal waterbird census which is enhancing the data available on wetlands and waterbird populations along the coast of eastern China.

The conservation prospects for threatened bird species has been improved through the engagement of the Chinese birdwatching societies in the preparation and implementation of species action plans (Output 5) for the Endangered Black-faced Spoonbill and the Critically Endangered Spoon-billed Sandpiper and Chinese Crested Tern. Members of these organisations participated in all of the workshops that were held to develop these species action plans, which has raised their awareness of the conservation actions that are needed to prevent their extinction. Two of the Chinese birdwatching societies are involved in projects for the conservation of Chinese Crested Tern.

The prospects for priority sites have been improved through the Chinese birdwatching societies undertaking site-conservation activities (Output 6). The involvement of these organisations in the compilation of the directory of *Important Bird Areas in China* has increased their awareness of the internationally important sites in their provinces. Several of them have projects and activities based at IBAs, some of which have received small-scale support from the China Conservation Fund. During two of the project workshops there were opportunities for the birdwatching society member to interact with government protected areas staff, which helped to improve their understanding of their work and how the birdwatching societies might support monitoring, awareness and management activities in nature reserves.

#### **4.4 Project standard measures and publications**

The project standard measures were achieved almost exactly as given in our Darwin project application form. Regarding the Training Measures, a total of 191 participants attended the eight training workshops, which lasted for a total of four weeks, and three different types of training materials were produced. Regarding the Research Measures, the UK-based Project Manager spent a total of seven weeks in the host country, and five species/habitat management plans and two training manuals were produced. Regarding the Dissemination Measures, 10 conferences/ seminars/ workshops were organised and reports on the Darwin project were presented at six other conferences/ seminars/ workshops, and the project website and newsletter were successfully established. Less press releases were issued than was originally planned, because it was judged that it was unwise for the project to seek wide

publicity at this time because of sensitivities relating to the role of civil society organisations in mainland China and about BirdLife's links to Taiwan. A total of about £70,218 of additional resources was raised for activities related to the Darwin project.

Four Chinese-language publications have been produced over the course of the project, including training manuals entitled *Methods for bird surveys* and *Bird conservation project management*. Two booklets on environmental education were modified for use in China by adding Chinese case studies to the translations of English-language books published by BirdLife International and the RSPB.

#### **4.5 Technical and Scientific achievements and co-operation**

The project outputs included two technical training manuals, which included translations of materials from several English-language publications. Prof Bill Sutherland of the University of Cambridge kindly gave our project permission to use material from his 1996 book *Ecological census techniques: a handbook* (published by Cambridge University Press). The project made inputs to the national directory of *Important Bird Areas in China* and three international species action plans, which were compiled and reviewed by many experts in birds and conservation in China including members of the China Ornithological Society.

#### **4.6 Capacity building**

One of the primary aims of the project was to strengthen the capacity of civil society organisations and individuals to participate in biodiversity conservation activities. This has been achieved through a series of eight training workshops covering biodiversity survey and monitoring techniques, organisational and network development, and public awareness and environmental education. Evaluation sessions were held at the end of each workshop, which resulted in very positive feedback from the participants and indicated that the training was appropriate for their needs. Two representatives of the Chinese birdwatching societies made a fact-finding visit the UK in 2007 during which they gathered a large amount of information about conservation and awareness work in the UK. Two training manuals have been published (and can be downloaded from the Darwin project website) in bird survey and monitoring techniques and the planning and management of conservation projects, and two booklets on environmental education have also been produced.

The training workshops were linked to other project activities, meaning that the members of the Chinese birdwatching societies were given practical opportunities to put their training into practice and to act as trainers for other members of their organisations. Two training workshops were held in waterbird survey during 2006, the first in southern China and the second in northern China, which acted as preparation for the annual China Coastal Waterbird Census and other species and site conservation projects. Two training workshops were held in public awareness and environmental education in August 2006, with input from a UK-based expert from the RSPB, which prepared the Chinese birdwatching societies to participate in the China Bird Festival events in 2006 and 2007, which were both very successful. Two training workshops were held in organisational development in February 2008, also with input from an expert from the RSPB, which have helped to strengthen the Chinese birdwatching societies and to help ensure the sustainability of the China bird conservation and environmental network after the end of the Darwin project.

The project has been the first opportunity for BirdLife International to work with civil society organisations in mainland China, and it has greatly improved our understanding of the opportunities available and the constraints when working with these organisations for biodiversity conservation in the country. The partnership with Hong Kong Bird Watching Society has been immensely valuable in this regard, because of their links to organisations in mainland China and their understanding of the political sensitivities.

#### **4.7 Sustainability and Legacy**

The project has supported the development of a network of civil society organisations, and it has built the capacity and conservation awareness of these organisations through training workshops, the project outputs and the organisation of project events and activities. Many of

the Chinese birdwatching societies are now officially registered, have growing memberships and (following the Darwin training workshops in organisational development in early 2008) are developing plans for their future operation. An Executive Committee has been established by the network to maintain regular communication between the birdwatching societies and to coordinate their shared activities. The project has therefore ensured a lasting legacy by helping to build a sustainable national network of civil society organisations in mainland China with a concern for birds and the environment, and the capacity to make a significant contribution to biodiversity conservation in the country.

Hong Kong Bird Watching Society has decided to continue to employ the China Programme Officer beyond the end of the Darwin Project. She will work mainly on HKBWS business but about 20-30% of her time will be devoted to the continuation of project activities in mainland China. This arrangement is likely to change when funding is secured for new projects in mainland China. The Darwin project website is going to be maintained by the China Programme Officer, meaning that information will remain available about the network of birdwatching societies and the Darwin project activities, and it will be possible to download project outputs such as the two training manuals, the educational booklets and the IBA leaflet, as well as environmental games for children.

HKBWS is the BirdLife Affiliate for Hong Kong, and therefore has a long-term relationship with BirdLife International. The China Programme Officer and the BirdLife Asia Division are maintaining regular contact with the Chinese birdwatching societies and are seeking to engage them in fund-raising applications and conservation activities. Since the end of the Darwin project, we have been awarded two small grants by the Ocean Park Conservation Foundation in Hong Kong, for the China Coastal Waterbird Census and for a project on Chinese Crested Tern (to conduct some of the priority actions identified in the CMS Species Action Plan). A larger funding application has been submitted to the Toyota Environmental Activities Grant Program, for both environmental education work at schools near to IBAs in China and the China Bird Festival. Fund-raising was covered in several of the Darwin project training workshops, and it is envisaged that this will help the Chinese birdwatching societies to raise funds for their activities, including species and site conservation projects.

## **5 Lessons learned, dissemination and communication**

Civil society organisations have only recently begun to emerge in mainland China, and a major challenge for this project was to determine how we could support the development of the birdwatching societies and how they could best contribute to biodiversity conservation in the country. The network assessment conducted by the China Programme Officer in the first year of the project was particularly successful, and greatly improved our understanding of the interests and capabilities of the established birdwatching societies, which helped to guide the programme of project activities for the next two years. A key lesson was that we had to proceed cautiously within the system and not create political difficulties for any of the birdwatching societies or their members, and the guidance of Hong Kong Bird Watching Society was essential in this regard because of their understanding of the political climate in mainland China.

The project steering committee decided not to attempt to gain a high profile for the project within China or internationally at present, because of potential sensitivities regarding the emergence of civil society organisations and BirdLife's links with Taiwan. However, information about the project is freely available in China through the Darwin project website and newsletter, the project publications and awareness materials, and the publicity generated by the China Bird Festival and other project events. The China Bird Festival was featured on the BirdLife International website ([www.birdlife.org/news/news/2006/10/china\\_wbf.html](http://www.birdlife.org/news/news/2006/10/china_wbf.html)). The main targets for these outputs were birdwatching society members and potential members in mainland China. Dissemination of the project results will continue through the Darwin project website and newsletter, and we hope that it will be possible for the bird conservation and environmental network to gain a higher profile as the role of civil society organisations in biodiversity conservation become more widely recognised in China.

## **5.1 Darwin identity**

The Darwin Initiative logo is included on the project website (with a link to a page that explains the DI mission and links to the Darwin website), newsletter, publications and all other project outputs. The support of the Darwin Initiative is acknowledged in all of the project publications and in workshop reports and banners, and the aims of the Darwin Initiative were explained to the participants at project workshops and other meetings. Small grants were awarded to the birdwatching societies to hold China Bird Festival events, and they were asked to sign an agreement that they should include the Darwin logo on all of their Festival posters, leaflets and other materials.

The project was recognised within BirdLife International as a distinct activity, and the support of the Darwin Initiative was acknowledged in the presentations that were made about the project both within and outside BirdLife. BirdLife International plans to continue developing a country programme within China, and the Darwin Initiative project is recognised as having provided the foundation for this programme.

## **6 Monitoring and evaluation**

There were no major changes to the project design and logframe. However, the timings of some key milestones were changed in the project implementation timetable, following consultations with the Chinese birdwatching societies and Hong Kong Bird Watching Society. These changes were discussed with and approved by the Darwin Initiative Secretariat.

The project was managed in the UK by Mike Crosby, with support from Richard Grimmett, who worked to ensure that all project activities were undertaken according to the agreed project schedule. The project budget was monitored by Finance and Administration Department at the BirdLife Secretariat. The China Programme Officer provided regular progress and financial reports throughout the project, with direction from Ho-Fai Cheung and C. Y. Lam at HKBWS. Six project steering committee meetings were held in Hong Kong, at which progress was monitored against the project implementation timetable. The effectiveness of the project training courses was monitored through evaluation sessions and questionnaire surveys. The progress of the Darwin project was reported at BirdLife Asia Partnership meetings in 2005 and 2007, and monitored by BirdLife Asia Council.

A mid-term project evaluation was conducted from August-December 2006, by circulating a questionnaire with four questions regarding the Darwin project to the Chinese birdwatching societies. This generated some important feedback that helped to guide the development of activities in the second half of the project.

### **6.1 Actions taken in response to annual report reviews**

The reviews of the annual reports for the first and second years of our project were very positive, and the reviewer did not include any specific action points for us to address.

## 7 Finance and administration

### 7.1 Project expenditure

	Original Budget	Expenditure				Revised Budget	£ Under /	% Under /
<b>Staff Costs</b>								
<b>Rent, Rates etc</b>								
<b>Postage, Telephone &amp; Stationery</b>								
<b>Travel &amp; Subsistence</b>								
<b>Printing</b>								
<b>Conferences, Seminars</b>								
<b>Capital Items *</b>								
Website								
Audit								
<b>Other</b>								
<b>TOTAL</b>								

	Original Budget	Expenditure			
<b>Project Team</b>					
Michael Crosby - Project Manager					
Richard Grimmett - Head of Asia Division					
Richard Thomas - Communications Manager					
Simba Chan - Important Bird Areas and Threatened Species Advisor					
Carrie Ma (replaced by Fion Cheung) - China Programme Officer					
Local Consultants - Conference Trainers					
<b>Staff Costs</b>					

The only variation in expenditure of more than 10% from an approved budget line was an overspend (11.4%) on Printing. This occurred because the production of a poster in the final quarter of the project cost more than had been originally estimated.

## 7.2 Additional funds or in-kind contributions secured

<i>Funds over and above original project document</i>					
Grants from Italian Birdfair - € 10,000					
Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Trust					
Tolkien Trust					
<i>Income from other sources declared to Darwin</i>					
World Bank					
Birdlife and Hong Kong Bird Watching Society - staff and admin costs					
CMS					

## 7.3 Value of DI funding

The Chinese civil society organisations that we are working with are at an early stage of their development, and (especially in the early stages of the project) they had limited capacity to conduct biodiversity conservation activities, meaning that many donors would not have been willing to provide support. The Darwin Initiative funding therefore enabled us to conduct a project that would have been difficult to fund from other sources. We are now able to start to approach other donors, because the capacity of these organisations and their members has been increased through the training and experience that they have received during the Darwin project.

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

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Progress and Achievements April 2005 - March 2008
<p><b>Goal:</b> To draw on expertise relevant to biodiversity from within the United Kingdom to work with local partners in countries rich in biodiversity but constrained in resources to achieve</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The conservation of biological diversity,</li> <li>• The sustainable use of its components, and</li> <li>• The fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilisation of genetic resources</li> </ul>		<p>Over the course of the Darwin project, a wide range of training and information has been provided to civil society organisations in China mainland, drawing on UK expertise in biodiversity conservation. The capacity of these organisations has been greatly enhanced through the project activities. They are playing an increasing role in biodiversity conservation, through surveys and monitoring, environmental awareness and education projects and direct conservation interventions.</p>
<p><b>Purpose</b></p> <p>To develop a network of civil society organisations with an interest in, and concern for, China's birds and environment.</p>	<p>Membership based organisations in major Chinese cities.</p> <p>Societies linked together and taking action as a network.</p> <p>Growing public awareness and concern for birds and the environment.</p> <p>Increased conservation effort for threatened species and priority conservation sites.</p>	<p>Twenty-seven established and emerging Chinese birdwatching societies participated in Darwin project activities</p> <p>Two network planning meetings held</p> <p>Executive Committee established to help coordinate the activities of the network of Chinese birdwatching societies</p> <p>Network newsletter and website established</p> <p>Education and awareness materials produced</p> <p>National China Bird Festival event held in 2006 and 2007 to raise public awareness of birds and the environment</p> <p>Eight training workshops held to raise the capacity of members of the birdwatching societies to participate in conservation activities</p> <p>Many of the Chinese birdwatching societies conducting conservation activities, including species and site surveys, site protection, public awareness, schools education, etc.</p>
<p><b>Output 1.</b></p> <p>Civil society network of birdwatching and conservation groups established in China mainland.</p>	<p>Announcements about establishment of network.</p> <p>Registration of member organisations, and evidence of organisational growth.</p>	<p>Network planning meeting held Chengdu in May 2006, and joint meeting of Chinese birdwatching societies and BirdLife Asia Partnership held in Shenzhen in May 2007</p> <p>Network assessments demonstrate the growth of existing birdwatching societies and the establishment of new organisations</p>

	<p>Network publications, sharing of information.</p> <p>Meetings between network members</p>	<p>Network website (including bulletin boards) and newsletter functioning effectively</p> <p>Regular communication between members of the Executive Committee that was appointed by the network</p>
Activity 1.1: Production and distribution of quarterly China Birdwatching and Conservation Network newsletter		Network newsletter established, named <i>China Bird Watch</i> , and six issues published and distributed each year
Activity 1.2: Assessment of China Birdwatching organisations, and plan prepared for the structure and operation of the China Birdwatching and Conservation Network		Assessments completed of 10 birdwatching societies, and the information collected on their structure and aims used to guide plans for project activities and the continuation of the programme
Activity 1.3: Launch event for China Birdwatching and Conservation Network		China Birdwatching and Conservation Network launched at network planning meeting in Chengdu in March 2006
Activity 1.4: Launch of Darwin project website		Darwin project website launched in December 2005
Activity 1.5: Workshop on network and organisational development, including training in fund-raising		Two workshops in organisational management held in Wuhan and Fuzhou in February-March 2008
<p><b>Output 2.</b></p> <p>Awareness raised amongst civil society organisations of the importance of China's birds and key areas for conservation.</p>	<p>Coverage of priority species and sites in newsletters and press articles.</p> <p>Sharing of information on priority species and sites over Internet.</p> <p>Information on key areas for conservation (Important Bird Areas) published in Chinese and distributed</p>	<p>Information about globally threatened species and Important Bird Areas on the Darwin project website and in the network newsletter</p> <p>Chinese-language leaflets and posters on birds and conservation produced and distributed</p> <p>Chinese-language edition of <i>Saving Asia's threatened birds</i> distributed</p> <p>National China Bird Festival event held successfully in 2006 and 2007</p> <p>Chinese-language booklets produced in public awareness and environmental education</p>
Activity 2.1: Promotional materials prepared for use by member organisations of China Birdwatching and Conservation Network		Chinese-language leaflet about BirdLife's Important Bird Area Programme and posters of threatened and endemic birds prepared
Activity 2.2: China Bird Festival to be established to raise public awareness of birds and environmental issues		China Bird Festival held in October 2006 and October 2007, with a total over the two years of 65 events organised in 14 Chinese cities attracting over 90,000 participants and 81 local press articles
<p><b>Output 3.</b></p> <p>Capacity of civil society groups and individuals strengthened to</p>	Individuals trained, and also taking	Eight training workshops held plus fact-finding visit to the UK, feedback indicated that workshop participants acted as trainers for other

participate in species and site conservation activities.	on role as trainers. Organisations actively involved in species and site surveys and monitoring	birdwatching society members Two Chinese-language training manuals published Birdwatching society projects underway on threatened species and Important Bird Areas
Activity 3.1: Visit to UK by Chinese birdwatching society representatives and HKBWS to learn about environmental role of civil society organisations		Visit to UK by two representatives of the Chinese birdwatching society and the China Programme Officer in August 2007, to attend British Birdwatching Fair and visit several conservation organisations
Activity 3.2: Chinese-language training manuals in (1) bird survey and monitoring and (2) site conservation completed and distributed		Two Darwin project training manuals published and distributed, entitled <i>Methods for bird surveys</i> and <i>Bird conservation project management</i>
Activity 3.3: Training for trainers courses for network members in bird survey and monitoring techniques, species and site conservation, and fund-raising		Total of eight training workshops held over the course of the project, in waterbird and forest bird survey techniques, environmental education and public awareness, Important Bird Areas and organisational development
<b>Output 4.</b> Information on key bird species and key areas for conservation enhanced.	Improved data available on globally threatened birds. Improved data available on Important Bird Areas, including the likely identification of new sites.	Up-to-date information on globally threatened birds, IBAs and major conservation issues in China made available in the Chinese edition of <i>Saving Asia's threatened birds</i> Workshop held to review the draft directory of IBAs in China, at which birdwatching society members provided new data and proposed more than 50 additional sites to be added to the directory Final draft prepared of directory of <i>Important Bird Areas in China</i> National coastal waterbird census established to monitor wetlands and waterbird populations
Activity 4.1: Distribution of Chinese edition of <i>Saving Asia's threatened birds</i>		More than 200 copies of <i>Saving Asia's threatened birds</i> distributed over the course of the Darwin project
Activity 4.2: Workshop on how civil society organisation can contribute to species and site conservation		Workshop to review the Chinese IBA directory held in Fuzhou in March-April 2007, including training in site conservation and monitoring
Activity 4.3: Publication and distribution of national-language inventory of IBAs in China		Bilingual report on IBAs in China submitted to the World Bank, arrangements currently being made for publication of the national-language directory in China
<b>Output 5.</b> Conservation prospects for threatened bird species improved	Action plan for three threatened bird species (Black-faced Spoonbill,	Chinese birdwatching societies participated in workshops to review draft species action plans for Black-faced Spoonbill, Chinese Crested-tern and

through civil society engagement in the preparation and implementation of species action plans.	Spoon-billed Sandpiper, Chinese Crested Tern) prepared with civil society organisations  Civil society organisations implementing actions proposed in the plans	Spoon-billed Sandpiper, and to discuss the implementation of these plans  Final drafts of the action plans for Black-faced Spoonbill, Chinese Crested Tern and Spoon-billed Sandpiper prepared and submitted to the CMS Secretariat  Birdwatching society projects underway on threatened species, including Chinese Crested Tern
Activity 5.1: Workshop to review Chinese sections of three draft species action plans (prepared with support from CMS Secretariat), and discuss their implementation in China		Members of Chinese birdwatching societies participated in workshops to review draft species action plans for Black-faced Spoonbill (Hong Kong, January 2006 and Macau, May 2007), Chinese Crested Tern (Hangzhou, September 2006) and Spoon-billed Sandpiper (Thailand, December 2006)
<b>Output 6.</b>  Prospects for priority sites improved through civil society organisations undertaking site-conservation activities.	Civil society organisations collaborating with protected area staff and other stakeholders at priority sites.  Civil society organisations undertaking conservation activities at priority sites.	Chinese birdwatching societies participated in a workshop to review draft Important Bird Areas directory for mainland China  Final draft of the directory of Important Bird Areas prepared and submitted to the World Bank and to be published during 2008  Birdwatching society projects underway for the survey and conservation of Important Bird Areas
Activity 6.1: Projects for conservation of species and sites undertaken by network members, many with small-scale funding from the China Conservation Fund		Over the course of the Darwin project, the China Conservation Fund has supported 19 projects in eight provinces, with a focus on key species, Important Bird Areas and other key sites, environmental awareness and data management websites

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

Project summary	Measurable Indicators	Means of verification	Important Assumptions
<p><b>Goal:</b> To draw on expertise relevant to biodiversity from within the United Kingdom to work with local partners in countries rich in biodiversity but constrained in resources to achieve</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The conservation of biological diversity,</li> <li>• The sustainable use of its components, and</li> <li>• The fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilisation of genetic resources</li> </ul>			
<p><b>Purpose</b></p> <p>To develop a network of civil society organisations with an interest in, and concern for, China's birds and environment.</p>	<p>Membership based organisations in major Chinese cities.</p> <p>Societies linked together and taking action as a network.</p> <p>Growing public awareness and concern for birds and the environment.</p> <p>Increased conservation effort for threatened species and priority conservation sites.</p>	<p>Websites, newsletters, press articles; membership figures; public participation in events.</p> <p>Network materials including newsletters; joint projects and reports.</p> <p>Public participation in events such as bird festivals and fairs.</p> <p>Published and unpublished reports on conservation activities.</p>	<p>Increasing affluence will lead to the growth of birdwatching and conservation organisations in China.</p> <p>HKBWS can maintain and develop its own capacity to support emergence of civil society organisations in China mainland.</p> <p>Chinese government will continue to allow the development of civil society organisations.</p> <p>An interest in birdwatching will lead to bird conservation and environmental concern.</p> <p>The Taiwan issue will not interfere in a significant way with HKBWS and BirdLife's work in China.</p>
<p><b>Outputs</b></p> <p>1. Civil society network of birdwatching and conservation groups established in China mainland.</p> <p>2. Awareness raised amongst civil</p>	<p>1.1. Announcements about establishment of network.</p> <p>1.2. Registration of member organisations, and evidence of</p>	<p>1.1. Reports in newsletters, websites, email list servers, newspapers and magazines.</p> <p>1.2. Registration announcements; memberships established and</p>	<p>Leaders emerge and are supported within their organisations and by the wider network.</p> <p>Consensus can be reached between organisations to establish</p>

<p>society organisations of the importance of China's birds and key areas for conservation.</p> <p>3. Capacity of civil society groups and individuals strengthened to participate in species and site conservation activities.</p> <p>4. Information on key bird species and key areas for conservation enhanced.</p> <p>5. Conservation prospects for threatened bird species improved through civil society engagement in the preparation and implementation of species action plans.</p> <p>6. Prospects for priority sites improved through civil society organisations undertaking site-conservation activities.</p>	<p>organisational growth.</p> <p>1.3. Network publications, sharing of information.</p> <p>1.4. Meetings between network members.</p> <p>2.1. Coverage of priority species and sites in newsletters and press articles.</p> <p>2.2. Sharing of information on priority species and sites over Internet.</p> <p>2.3. Information on key areas for conservation (Important Bird Areas) published in Chinese and distributed.</p> <p>3.1. Individuals trained, and also taking on role as trainers.</p> <p>3.2. Organisations actively involved in species and site surveys and monitoring.</p> <p>4.1. Improved data available on globally threatened birds.</p> <p>4.2. Improved data available on Important Bird Areas, including the likely identification of new sites.</p> <p>5.1. Action plan for three threatened bird species (Black-faced Spoonbill, Spoon-billed Sandpiper, and Chinese Crested Tern) prepared with civil society organisations.</p> <p>5.2. Civil society organisations implementing actions proposed in the plans.</p> <p>6.1. Civil society organisations</p>	<p>increased; detectable increase in activities.</p> <p>1.3. Network newsletters and Darwin project website</p> <p>1.4. Reports of meetings</p> <p>2.1. Newsletters and press articles</p> <p>2.2. Darwin project and other websites</p> <p>2.3. Chinese-language national inventory of Important Bird Areas.</p> <p>3.1. Training reports</p> <p>3.2. Survey reports</p> <p>4.1. Publications on threatened species, contributions to BirdLife's Red Data Book website</p> <p>4.2. Chinese-language national inventory of Important Bird Areas.</p> <p>5.1. Action plans for three threatened species</p> <p>5.2. Monitoring and evaluation reports on implementation of action plans.</p> <p>6.1. Reports in newsletters, websites, etc.</p> <p>6.2. Reports on site conservation activities</p>	<p>network, share information and undertake joint activities.</p> <p>Development experience of HKBWS relevant to mainland societies.</p> <p>China mainland organisations continue to be willing for HKBWS to play leading role.</p> <p>Sufficient number of civil society organisation members committed to the conservation activities of the network.</p>
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	<p>collaborating with protected area staff and other stakeholders at priority sites.</p> <p>6.2. Civil society organisations undertaking conservation activities at priority sites.</p>		
<b>Activities</b>	<b>Activity Milestones (Summary of Project Implementation Timetable)</b>		
Development of China Birdwatching and Conservation Network	<p>Assessment of civil society conservation organisations and planning of China Birdwatching and Conservation Network (April–October 2005). Launch of network and Darwin Initiative website (December 2005). Workshop on network and organisational development, including training in fund-raising (May/June 2007). Production of newsletters and other materials (throughout project).</p>		
Increase civil society awareness of wildlife and environmental issues in China through events and the media	<p>China Bird Festival events and associated media coverage (June 2006 and June 2007). Distribution of popular materials on the conservation of species and sites, also via newsletter and website (throughout project).</p>		
Training courses for China Birdwatching and Conservation Network members in bird survey and monitoring techniques, and species and site conservation	<p>Chinese-language training manuals and other materials produced (April 2006). Four one-week training courses held (May/June 2006, December 2006, May/June 2007, December 2007).</p>		
Dissemination of species, habitat and site conservation plans	<p>Distribution of Chinese-language edition of <i>Saving Asia's threatened birds</i> (December 2005), publication and distribution of national-language inventory of IBAs in China (December 2006) and action plans for three threatened waterbird species (March 2007).</p>		
Workshops on species and site conservation in China	<p>Workshops on how civil society organisations can contribute to species and site conservation (May/June 2006), and on species action plans (prepared with support from CMS Secretariat) and their implementation in China (June 2006).</p>		
China Birdwatching and Conservation Network members conducting species and site conservation activities.	<p>Projects for conservation of species and sites undertaken by network members, many with small-scale funding from the China Conservation Fund (throughout project).</p>		

## Annex 3 Project contribution to Articles under the CBD

### Project Contribution to Articles under the Convention on Biological Diversity

Article No./Title	Project %	Article Description
7. Identification and Monitoring	15%	The project has provided training for members of civil society organisations in biodiversity survey and monitoring techniques, and provided these organisations with information on globally threatened species and internationally important sites for biodiversity conservation. Training has also been provided in organisational and network development, which has enhanced the capacity of these organisations and the network to collect, manage and disseminate biodiversity data.
8. In-situ Conservation	10%	The directory of <i>Important Bird Areas in China</i> and the three international species action plans that were compiled with input from this project identify many internationally important sites that warrant formal protection or improved management. The civil society organisations are now conducting projects, often with support from the China Conservation Fund, that contribute directly to in-situ conservation. Two of the workshops conducted during the project allowed members of the civil society organisations to interact with protected areas staff and consider how these organisations can support the monitoring and management of protected areas.
10. Sustainable Use of Components of Biological Diversity	5%	The directory of <i>Important Bird Areas in China</i> includes information relevant to the management and sustainable use of sites throughout the country, which can be used in national and local land-use planning.
12. Research and Training	25%	The project has provided training to civil society organisations in waterbird and forest bird survey and monitoring techniques, and has involved these organisations in priority setting exercises to identify and document globally important sites for conservation and the conservation actions required for three highly threatened migratory waterbirds. The network is now engaged in an annual China Coastal Waterbird Census, which is monitoring wetlands in about 10 provinces and municipalities all along the eastern coast of China.
13. Public Education and Awareness	30%	The project has catalysed the development of civil society environmental organisations in about 20 Chinese cities, and raised the conservation awareness of the members of these organisations. Two training workshops were held for these organisations in public awareness and environmental education. These workshops were used to help prepare for the 'China Bird Festival' (part of BirdLife's 'World Bird Festival'), during which events to raise public awareness of biodiversity and environmental issues were held in Chinese cities, which attracted large numbers of participants and many local press articles. The project produced two Chinese-language training manuals and two environmental education booklets for schoolchildren, and disseminated information about biodiversity conservation in the Darwin project website and newsletter.
17. Exchange of	15%	The project provided information about globally significant

Article No./Title	Project %	Article Description
Information		biodiversity in China to civil society organisations, though the production and distribution of project outputs relating to threatened species and Important Bird Areas. The Darwin project website and newsletter facilitated the exchange of information on biodiversity and conservation in China and internationally.
Other Contribution		Civil society organisations have only recently begun to emerge in mainland China, and an important element of the project has been to investigate how these organisations can support the work of Chinese government agencies to protect the country's biological diversity.
Total %	100%	Check % = total 100

## Annex 4 Standard Measures

Code	Description	Totals (plus additional detail as required)
<b>Training Measures</b>		
6a	Number of people receiving other forms of short-term education/training (ie not categories 1-5 above)	191 people (total for 8 training workshops)
6b	Number of training weeks not leading to formal qualification	4 weeks (total for 8 training workshops)
7	Number of types of training materials produced for use by host country(s)	3 types (leaflet, poster, educational booklet)
<b>Research Measures</b>		
8	Number of weeks spent by UK project staff on project work in host country(s)	7 weeks (six visits to mainland China and/or Hong Kong by Project Manager)
9	Number of species/habitat management plans (or action plans) produced for Governments, public authorities or other implementing agencies in the host country (s)	5 (3 international species action plans, China IBA directory, Chinese-language edition of <i>Saving Asia's threatened birds</i> )
10	Number of formal documents produced to assist work related to species identification, classification and recording.	2 (training manuals)
<b>Dissemination Measures</b>		
14a	Number of conferences/seminars/workshops organised to present/disseminate findings from Darwin project work	10 (8 workshops and 2 China Bird Festivals)
14b	Number of conferences/seminars/ workshops attended at which findings from Darwin project work will be presented/ disseminated.	6
15a	Number of national press releases or publicity articles in host country(s)	2 (publicity associated with the 2 China Bird Festivals, which led to

Code	Description	Totals (plus additional detail as required)
		81 local press articles)
15c	Number of national press releases or publicity articles in UK	1 (web news story about China Bird Festival on BirdLife International website)
16a	Number of issues of newsletters produced in the host country(s)	13 (editions of <i>China Bird Watch</i> supported by Darwin project)
16b	Estimated circulation of each newsletter in the host country(s)	600
17a	Number of dissemination networks established	1 (Darwin project website)
<b>Physical Measures</b>		
23	Value of additional resources raised for project	£leveraged from the World Bank, CMS Secretariat, Italian Birdfair, Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Trust and Tolkein Trust, and from other BirdLife International and HKBWS sources
<b>Other Measures used by the project and not currently including in DI standard measures</b>		

## Annex 5 Publications

Type * (eg journals, manual, CDs)	Detail (title, author, year)	Publishers (name, city)	Available from (eg contact address, website)	Cost £
Manual	BirdLife/HKBWS China Programme (2006) <i>Methods for bird surveys: a practical handbook</i> (in Chinese).	BirdLife/HKBWS China Programme, Hong Kong (ISBN 962-7508-09-8)	BirdLife/HKBWS China Programme	-
Manual	BirdLife/HKBWS China Programme (2007) <i>Bird conservation project management – a practical handbook</i> (in Chinese).	BirdLife/HKBWS China Programme, Hong Kong (ISBN 962-7508-12-8)	BirdLife/HKBWS China Programme	-
Manual	BirdLife/HKBWS China Programme (2007) <i>Educating for BirdLife</i> (in Chinese).	BirdLife/HKBWS China Programme, Hong Kong (ISBN 962-7508-10-1)	BirdLife/HKBWS China Programme	-
Manual	BirdLife/HKBWS China Programme (2007) <i>Discover birds at school</i> (in Chinese).	BirdLife/HKBWS China Programme, Hong Kong (ISBN 962-7508-11-x)	BirdLife/HKBWS China Programme	-

## Annex 6 Darwin Contacts

<b>Ref No</b>	162/14/044
<b>Project Title</b>	Building a bird conservation and environmental network in China
<b>UK Leader Details</b>	
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<b>Partner 2 (if relevant)</b>	
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