

# First announcement: Council for the Africa Partnership meeting March 2012

The BirdLife Africa Partnership is a network of 23 indigenous conservation NGOs working together for biodiversity conservation and sustainable development across the African continent. During the past twenty years, the BirdLife Africa Partnership has carried out scientific research, developed strategic conservation plans, advocated for their effective implementation, strengthened national civil society organisations and, last but not least, worked on the ground to protect Africa's unique bird species and their habitats. The BirdLife Africa Partner NGOs are organised in a Council for the Africa Partnership (CAP), an active and vibrant group of people who come together at regular intervals to discuss Africa's conservation status, challenges - and responses. The next Council for the Africa Partnership meeting will take place between 26 and 30 March 2012 in Nairobi, Kenya. The theme of the meeting is "A dynamic African NGO network for birds and people". Starting with various 'pre-meeting meetings' on the 24th and 25th of March, the CAP meeting proper will kick off on Monday the 26th with a launch of various new projects and products, a review of BirdLife's work in 2010/2011, and the famous African 'panel discussion' between some of the most expert CAP participants. During the week, the Partnership will discuss issues of network development, capacity needs, fundraising opportunities, and conservation in Africa through the Preventing Extinctions Programme, the Local Empowerment Programme, the Flyways Programme, and Forests of Hope. However the main component of the meeting will be the preparation of the new BirdLife Africa Regional Conservation Strategy 2013-2016, which will be taken to the BirdLife World Congress in 2013 for adoption. More details about the meeting will be announced closer to the date.