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Message from the CAP chair



Chers lecteurs,

Le sommet de Nagoya s'est ouvert sur une crainte d'un nouvel échec comme celui de Copenhague. Ces craintes étaient nourries par le fait que l'objectif de 2010 de réduire la perte de la biodiversité à

l'échelle planétaire n'a pas été atteint. Bien au contraire, le déclin de la biodiversité s'est poursuivi à un rythme excessif et les habitats naturels sont soumis à une dégradation continue du fait des activités humaines et des pratiques d'exploitation non durables.

Mais, à l'issue du sommet de Nagoya, l'espoir renaît et tous s'accordent que l'engagement des gouvernements est devenu plus perceptible et que tous sont conscients que la biodiversité est indispensable à l'espèce humaine. BirdLife International a joué un rôle de premier plan, grâce à la mobilisation des Partenaires, à son expertise scientifique, son expérience de l'implication des groupements locaux dans la protection des aires importantes en biodiversité, ainsi que sa capacité à agir sur le plan national, régional et international. La crédibilité des partenaires de BirdLife auprès de leurs gouvernements a

énormément aidé le plaidoyer en faveur de cet accord historique. Les états ont fait la démonstration qu'ils étaient capables de redonner du souffle à l'environnement et à la préservation de la biodiversité. Espérons que l'adoption d'un plan stratégique 2011-2020 contribuera effectivement à stopper la perte de la biodiversité mondiale, et surtout en retenant la leçon de l'échec de l'objectif de 2010.

Pour être durable, la préservation de la biodiversité doit être liée au développement des populations locales vivant dans les zones riches en biodiversité. L'exemple des pays de l'Afrique du Nord est édifiant. En effet, si les révolutions ont changé sensiblement le mode de gouvernance en instaurant plus de démocratie, les effets n'ont pas été aussi bénéfiques pour les aires protégées. En Tunisie, la plupart des parcs nationaux ont subi des dégâts à cause de la politique de protection intégrale qui exclut totalement les populations locales de la gestion des aires protégées. Le jour où l'état s'est effondré, les efforts de 30 années de protection sont devenus vains en quelques jours. Ce qui s'est passé en Tunisie est une leçon qu'on ne peut pas assurer une protection durable en excluant la population locale.

Dear readers,

The Nagoya summit opened on fears that it could be another failure like the one in Copenhagen. These fears were founded on the fact that the 2010 target of reducing biodiversity loss at the global level was not met. On the contrary, the decline of biodiversity has continued at an accelerated rate and natural habitats are subjected to continued degradation due to human

CONTRIBUTION OF ARTICLES

We welcome contributions to the e-bulletin from the BirdLife Africa network about bird species, sites, habitats and people. We would also be happy to know about conservation-related events at global, regional, national levels being organized within BirdLife network. Please send your contributions for the next issue to: antoINETTE.otieno@birdlife.org by 10 June 2011

practices.

But at the end of the Nagoya summit, there was hope and all agreed that the commitment of governments has become more noticeable and that all are aware that biodiversity is essential for the survival of the human race. BirdLife International has played a leading role in the protection of important biodiversity through the mobilization of Partners, its scientific expertise, experience, involvement of local groups, and its ability to act at local, national, regional and international levels. The credibility of BirdLife Partners with their governments has over the years greatly helped BirdLife advocacy for this historic agreement.

At the Nagoya summit, states parties demonstrated their ability to strengthen the preservation of the environment and biodiversity. Let us hope that the adoption of a strategic plan 2011-2020 will effectively halt the loss of global biodiversity, and will take into account lessons learnt from the failure of the 2010 target.

To be sustainable, the preservation of biodiversity must be linked to the development of local populations living in important biodiversity areas. The example of countries in North Africa is enlightening.

Indeed, if the revolutions have substantially changed the mode of governance by introducing greater democracy, the effects were not as beneficial for Protected Areas. In Tunisia, most national parks have suffered damage because of the policy of full protection that totally excluded the local people from the management of Protected Areas. The day the state collapsed, the achievements of 30 years of protection efforts were wiped away by a disenfranchised population in a few days. What happened in Tunisia is a lesson that we cannot ensure a lasting protection by excluding the local population.

Mr. Mourad Amari, Chair BirdLife Council for the Africa Partnership (CAP) 2010-12

BirdLife celebrating the International Year of Biodiversity (2010 IYB)

Biodiversity, Development and Poverty Alleviation

Proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly in resolution 61/203, the International Year of Biodiversity (IYB) coincided with the 2010 biodiversity target adopted by the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and by Heads of States and Governments at the World Summit for Sustainable Development in Johannesburg in 2002.

IYB celebrations raised public awareness of the importance of biological diversity to human well-being. Within this context, a global discussion was launched to examine to what extent the goals of the CBD and relevant Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) have been met or not. The IYB was an important contribution to the implementation of a work plan on communication, education and public awareness (CEPA) of the CBD and its mandate under Article 13.

The activities and messages for the IYB emphasized the fact that biodiversity is the foundation for ecosystem services; has an important economic value and contributes greatly to human well-being. Raising such awareness of the role of biodiversity was the motto for BirdLife International and its Partners throughout the year.



This e-bulletin is a "special edition" showcasing BirdLife Activities in the 2010 IYB.

During the 2010 IYB, BirdLife International aimed at:

- Enlightening the public on the underlying threats to biodiversity and the importance of biodiversity conservation;
- Showcasing BirdLife Partners' success stories in promoting innovative solutions to reduce threats to bird species, their important sites and habitats;
- Calling on individuals, organizations and governments to take the immediate steps needed to halt the loss of biodiversity;
- Promoting the link between biodiversity conservation and poverty reduction;
- Initiating dialogue among stakeholders on the post-2010 conservation priorities.

To contribute to these five objectives, BirdLife International Africa Partnership Secretariat participated actively in following three key international events (among others):

The International Day for Biological Diversity and the SBSTTA 14 organized in Nairobi from 11th to 21st May 2011. BirdLife Global and Africa Secretariats and Africa Partners participated and were actively involved in:

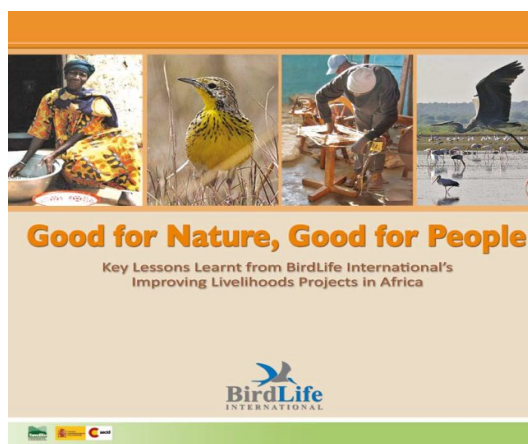
- Showcasing BirdLife's work on conservation of biodiversity through a side event
- Lobbying for an effective Intergovernmental Panel on Biodiversity and ecosystem Services (IPBES)
- Lobbying to have BirdLife work incorporated into the third Africa Environment Outlook report.
- Showcasing BirdLife contribution towards 2010 targets and push for post 2010 commitments

The Fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Bio safety (COP-MOP 5) and Conference of the Parties (COP-10) at Nagoya, Japan

Between the 11th and 29th October 2011.

At Nagoya, BirdLife Staff and Partners

- Organised exhibition to showcase BirdLife's contribution to IYB objectives
- Pushed for post-2010 commitments to biodiversity conservation
- Launched communications materials on BirdLife success stories including Good for Nature Good for People – a publication showcasing how BirdLife's work links biodiversity and livelihoods



The World Bird Festival occupied the whole month of October 2011 with several activities including:

- Training in bird identification
- Bird walks
- Art and craft sessions
- Dance, songs, speech, drama, poems, puzzles and competition in photography, etc.

THE SBSTTA 14 - NAIROBI 10-21 MAY

The fourteenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) to the CBD was convened at the headquarters of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in Gigiri, Nairobi, Kenya, from 10 to 21 May 2010. More than 700 participants attended the meeting, representing governments, UN agencies, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, indigenous and local community groups, public sector, research, academic and business institutions.

The BirdLife delegation was led by Dr. Muhtari Aminu Kano, BirdLife Global Policy and Advocacy Advisor. Other members of the team were the Global Director for Science, Policy and Information, Dr. Leon Bennun, and the Chairman of BirdLife Global Council Dr. Peter Schei. BirdLife Partners, Nature Kenya, Nature Uganda and Nature Seychelles also participated as members of their national delegations.

BirdLife Africa Partnership convened three very strategic side events on IBA monitoring, adaptation of biodiversity to climate change and KBAs.



Muhtari Aminu-Kano - Reading NGO Statement at SBSTTA14 © BirdLife

Next steps for BirdLife International and Partners would be to consider the following actions:

- Discuss how best to contribute to the 2020 targets of significantly reducing biodiversity loss
- Use the 20 indicators agreed by SBSTTA and CBD COP 10 as the basis for our reporting including to donors
- Influence governments to consider and use these indicators in national reporting
- Develop, agree and share methodologies, lessons and experiences on indicator testing, data collection process and reporting.
- Develop joint funding initiatives for national, sub-regional, regional and global reporting on indicators.

For more information, please contact Jane Gaithuma at jane.gaithuma@birdlife.org

THE CBD COP 10, NAGOYA, JAPAN
18 – 29 OCTOBER

The Conference of Parties (COP 10) was recognised as a landmark of the International Year of Biodiversity (IYB) due to the importance of the items on the agenda. More than 7,000 delegates participated in the meeting, including huge media presence, representatives of indigenous and local communities as well as business and industry. Both national and international NGOs were also well represented. BirdLife was represented by 90 delegates including 31 Partners from all the 6 regions and members of staff of the Secretariat. Africa Partnership was represented by Botswana, Kenya, Liberia, Rwanda, South Africa, Uganda and Zimbabwe.

BirdLife delegation was very visible and active in terms of raising the profile of the Partnership and effectively influencing negotiations. BirdLife formed strong thematic teams that tracked various COP issues and undertook vigorous lobbying of Government delegates as well as promotion of BirdLife. One of the most important outcomes of the COP 10 was a strong support of "People" issues including decisions that promote participation, equity and poverty reduction agendas. The newly adopted Aichi Biodiversity Target has the link between biodiversity and human well-being and poverty eradication at its centre.

Mainstreaming biodiversity into development (and poverty reduction) strategies is one of the strategic goals of the new 2011-2020 strategic plan. At an operational level, the COP also decided to establish an expert group that will map out the various linkages between biodiversity and poverty reduction as well as identify the most effective approach towards a framework on capacity development for mainstreaming biodiversity and ecosystem services for sustainable development and poverty eradication.

On 20 December 2010, two months after the COP 10, BirdLife and the CBD Secretariat signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to enhance cooperation on issues of common interest.

For the full story, please visit www.birdlife.org/community/2010/12/birdlife-and-the-convention-on-biological-diversity-sign-partnership-agreement/.



Dr Ahmed Djoghlaif, Executive Secretary of the CBD, signs the agreement in the presence of BirdLife's Honorary President, HIH Princess Takamado

CBD COP 11 will take place in India in 2012 and the BirdLife Partner in India (Bombay Natural History Society - BNHS) has been appointed as the official host for the NGO community.

For more information, contact Jane Gaithuma at jane.gaithuma@birdlife.org

THE WORLD BIRD FESTIVAL IN AFRICA - OCTOBER 2010



The 2010 World Bird Festival (WBF) celebrated the incredible variety and beauty of the birds of our planet, highlighting their importance to people and cultures. In line with the IYB, the festival's theme was 'Biodiversity is life. Biodiversity is our life.' The IYB reiterated the idea that the conservation of biodiversity is very important

for humanity and as part of the IYB celebrations, the WBF reinforced this message, both in urban and rural settings.



Birds are so important in people's culture © NCE

WBF aimed at highlighting the vital role that birds play in the sustenance of ecosystems, as well as their importance and relationships with people. From Nairobi, Kenya, the BirdLife Africa Partnership Secretariat coordinated the event across the continent by providing information, supporting Partners and raising some funds to supplement efforts of a small number of Partners. Through the innumerable events held globally during the month-long festivities, BirdLife International delivered the following messages:

- Birds are beautiful, inspirational and international
- Universally, birds have economic and cultural value to people
- Because of their popularity, birds are useful for promoting conservation awareness
- Birds provide a useful means to improve our scientific knowledge and understanding of the environment
- Birds are sensitive indicators of biological richness and environmental conditions
- Birds are vital components within ecological functioning in the natural environment

BirdLife African Partners used the World Bird Festival to reach out to communities in different regions of the continent. The celebration of the WBF was a way of raising awareness of the importance of protecting

birds and their habitats for the sake of the environment and people alike.



WBF was celebrated by 11 of the 23 BirdLife Partners in Africa,

Various activities were conducted including training in raptor identification, school visits, nature walks,

bird walks, bird camping, art and craft sessions, dances, songs, speeches, dramas, poems, puzzles and nature photography. Partner staff, teachers, students and local authorities participated in the events. Winners of contests went home with awards. Brief reports of the celebration of the wonder of birds and nature by different Partners are as follows:

Association Burundaise pour la Protection des Oiseaux (ABO)

The WBF was organised in Burundi from October 1st to 25th October 2010. The event was supported by the Centre Culturel Français of Bujumbura. The event was characterized by three main activities:

- ❖ An exhibition of bird paintings by the artist Dany Germain at the Centre Culturel Français (CCF). The event was attended by a number of dignitaries including the French and Belgian Ambassadors to Burundi, the CCF Director and members of the ABO.
- ❖ Birdwatching at Rusizi nature reserve on 3rd October 2010
- ❖ A debate on the state of bird conservation in Burundi was followed by a show "le peuple migrateur" (nomadic population).



Birdwatching with the French and Belgian Ambassadors to Burundi © ABO

The closing ceremony was marked by the handing over of the first prize for the drawing contest organised for primary schools of Bujumbura.

The Nature Conservation Egypt (NCE)

NCE organised a three-day Zaranik Bird watching between Sept 30 and Oct 2, 2010 to promote public awareness on important wetlands and Important Bird Areas (IBA) conservation among Egyptians of all ages. The camp helped inform participants about Zaranik's ecosystems and biodiversity and the culture of North Sinai. In addition, participants were able to observe birds in autumn migration. Zaranik is recognised as a wetland of international importance (Ramsar Site) and has received worldwide interest from researchers and conservationists due to its large numbers of migratory waterbirds.

Forty individuals aged between 4 and 72 years old participated in the camp. They included scientists, naturalist, amateur ornithologists, desert explorers and wildlife photographers from Cairo, Port Said, Giza, Arish, Alexandria, Desoq, Monof, Ain, Sokhna and UK. Fifty one bird species including breeding residents, and passage and wintering migrants, and many other species of flora and other fauna were identified. NCE also established a Facebook account to share the news and information about the camp with a wide audience.



Nigeria Conservation Foundation (NCF)

NCF celebrated the WBF on 27 Wednesday, October 2010 from 11am. Sixty pupils and more than 50 adults including teachers attended the festival. After the national anthem, activities were marked by lectures and presentations about birds with an emphasis on Nigeria birds followed by questions and answers session and comments from participants. The children made beautiful masks of birds during the art and craft session guided by a local artist. An information sheet on the history of bird festival, birds in general and a short puzzle were distributed to the children. The event was closed with a light refreshment and a group photographs. It was a colourful session.

BirdLife Botswana (BLB)

Over the whole month of October 2010, BLB organised many school visits. Over 70 students and 5 teachers attended the World Bird Festival event at primary schools in Mogobane and Otse villages. BLB taught ornithology to pupils focusing mainly on the shapes of different species, drawing competition, making bird feeders from plastic bottles and carton boxes, a bird walk to Mogobane Dam was also organised on October 23rd.

It was a great opportunity for pupils who attended the walk, to know and appreciate their rich and diverse environment which needs to be conserved by them. BLB hopes that those children will become future leaders in conservation.



WBF activities in Nigeria © NCF



Ornithological skills and birdwatching at Mogobane © BLB

BirdLife Zimbabwe (BLZ)

The BLZ bird awareness programme for schools held the WBF at Belvedere Junior School on 8 October 2010. The event aimed at creating a platform for environmental clubs to exchange information on the conservation of birds and the environment. The theme was "Best practices by clubs in the delivery of the Bird Awareness programme in Schools". The event was attended by 7 schools: Belvedere, Southernton, Kumboyedza, Marlborough, Kuwadzana 8, Twinlakes and Hallingbury Primary Schools. The Education Officer at BLZ, the school headmaster, and 2 officials from the environmental management agency (EMA) talked about the problems faced by

birds and the environment due to human activities and urged young people to participate in the conservation of the environment.



Future conservation leaders in Zimbabwe © BLZ

Children sang, danced, made speeches and played drums portraying many aspects of birds and bird conservation including the phenomenon of bird migration. Schools were given bird books and other education materials as a token of appreciation for the attendance. This event was filmed throughout and a DVD of it will come out soon.

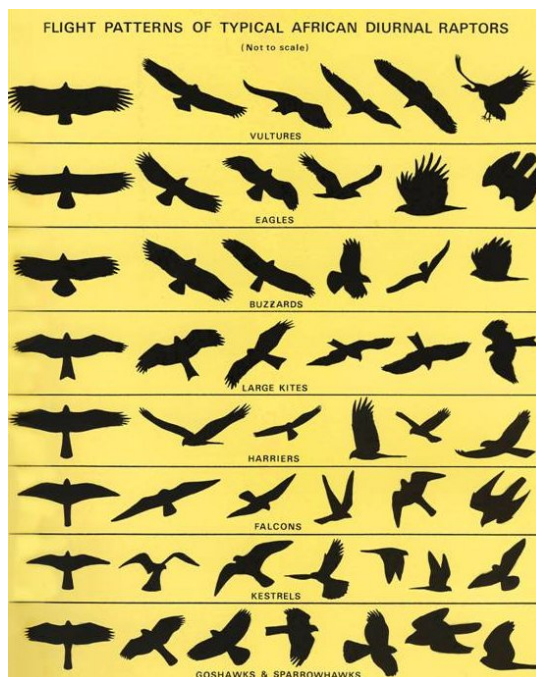


Drawing competition © BLZ

BirdLife South Africa (BLSA)

BLSA organised a training course on raptor identification on 28 October 2010. Forty one people attended the weekend event. Majority of them were beginners. They have emerged as new birders out of the course. The course included birdwalks to identify species in the wild.

Unfortunately, no raptor was spotted, but 20 other bird species were observed and identified. For raptors, identification posters with individual bird characteristics of buzzards, harriers, falcons, kestrels, sparrowhawks/goshawks, true and snake eagles were designed and distributed to participants.



Raptor identification training poster © BLSA

Cameroon Biodiversity and Conservation Society (CBCS)

The WBF was co-celebrated with two events related to the IYB; the International Day for Natural Disaster reduction (8/10) and World Habitat Day (6/10) in Cameroon. On 30 October 2010 CBCS organised a birdwatch outing at the manmade Lake Nkolbisson to commemorate the WBF in Cameroon. Four schools, including Mevick Grammar School, Kadndap School Complex, Rosiere College and Holy Infant secondary Schools took part in the events. A number of bird species were observed, discussed, described and identified. Over 114 people were present at the outing, including 100 Environment Education club members, 8 lead teachers, 2 STV journalists, 1 private photographer and 3 drivers.

After the morning bird walk, EE clubs gathered at Mecick Grammar School Etoug-

Ebe for dance, songs, poems, sketches and debates. The coordinator also explained why we need birds and thanked the Jensen Foundation for providing funds for the event. Birds are important in pest control, seed dispersion, ecotourism, and serve as honey guides, pollinators, messengers and as a source of fertilizers, for arts and culture and as warning lights. The lead teachers were encouraged to carry on with EE in their respective clubs so as to extend the impact of EE to higher heights. It was reemphasized that bird watching requires patience, sharp eyes, and a strong desire to discover the world of birds in our surroundings.



Activities of CBCS © CBCS

Nature Uganda (NU)

In Uganda, the WBF was celebrated from the 14th to 16th October, 2010 as the Big Birding Day in which over 404 participants in 39 groups / teams recorded over 600 bird species. Nature Uganda (BirdLife in Uganda) organized this event in collaboration with its partners in Uganda, including USAID-STAR, Uganda Wildlife Authority, Uganda Tourism Board, Honorary Wardens, Uganda Community Tourism Association, Makerere University Tourism Department, National Forestry Authority, Uganda Hotel Owners Association and the Uganda Bird Guides Club.

The event aimed at linking up all bird watchers, tourism promoters and conservationists in the country with each other and the rest of the world, as well as generating an update of species list in Uganda and contributing to the ongoing initiatives of "bird populations" and "worldbirds" monitoring. The event was also an avenue for promoting conservation of

birds as important tourism product for the country, created awareness of the importance of birds, especially among decision makers. A public talk on birds launched the event at the Uganda Museum where the schedule for the next following 24-hour birding activity was also announced. The climax for the Big Birding Festival took place at Katomi Kingdom Resort in Garuga where birdwalk started early morning and birding team dispatched in different sites only to return in the evening with the results of the day and award presentation to the best team.

Asity Madagascar

Asity celebrated the WBF for the first time in 2010. The event took place in the rural district of Fenoarivo in the locality of Ambatomilona of Fokontany about 15km from the capital Antananarivo. Many activities were on the agenda including the discovery circuit challenge, which was won by the primary school of Hasinintsoa. Other activities included an exhibition and cultural performances. A photo contest exclusively for members of ASITY Madagascar was organized and the first prize went to Mr. Bruno Raveloson.



Activities of Asity at the 2010 WBF © Asity

This event was not only to bring awareness but also to inform local communities about the importance of birds in our daily lives. The collaboration between Fenoarivo communities under the supervision of the mayor, the executive staff of Asity Madagascar and especially its members, partners such as Conservation International and the media, made this event a very successful one.

Nature Kenya (NK)

Over the weekend of October 2-3, 2010, Nature Kenya – The East Africa Natural History Society – and the Bird Committee had a blast of activities to mark the global celebration of birds and all biodiversity. Bird walks and side shows were organized at the National Museums of Kenya, starting at 9 am on both days. Site Support Groups near Important Bird Areas, from Dunga Swamp, Kakamega, Yala Swamp to Mount Kenya and Kinangop Plateau to the Sabaki Estuary and Tana Delta, also organized activities to mark the day. For the first time, photo journalists drawn from across Kenyan Media Houses participated in the unique event, and turned the national spotlight on the conservation of birds and their natural habitats.

Members of Nature Kenya across the country were invited to celebrate birds and gather data important for the conservation of birds by going birding at a site of their choice for about three hours. Members were requested to record the birds they see or hear, and send the records to Nature Kenya. This information was valuable and the activity was fun. Below are guidelines:

1. Write the name and locality of the site
2. List the habitats you visit in the 3 hours
3. List the names and phones or e-mails of your team
4. Keep separate lists of birds for each locality you visit
5. Indicate which records are heard only
6. Take notes on weather conditions, and the time you start and end your birding
7. Take detailed notes if you see an unusual species
8. List the birds in the order used in the Checklist of the Birds of Kenya (or as listed in the Contents section of your field guide)
9. Send your list to The World Bird Festival, office@naturekenya.org

Contact Tharcisse.Ukizintambara@birdlife.org for details on the celebration of the WBF in Africa.

Lessons learnt

Partners showed a high level of creativity when it came to organizing these events. During SBSTTA 14 and COP 10 Partners showed outstanding leadership when negotiating with different parties of the CBD and convincing their respective governments to support decisions that are crucial for the sustainable use of natural resources and improving people's livelihood.

During the World Bird Festival, Partners invited donors to participate and therefore offered them a unique opportunity to interact with members and the local communities, targeting especially the young generation and professionals. Other organizations took this chance to collect widespread data that will be used for many purposes. Setting a Facebook account for information exchange was one of the highlights of the 2010 event.

Such recent innovation allows many participants to share and learn. Although funding has always been an issue, many Partners were able to use their core funding to organize or participate in the IYB events and important activities. Some Partners were not able to participate in certain events as they were overwhelmed by activities that were planned during the IYB in addition to their already charged daily routine. Therefore, it does not mean that Partners who are not mentioned here did nothing, but it means that they participated in other IYB events that are not highlighted in this document.

Acknowledgement

BirdLife Africa Partnership is grateful to UNEP for hosting us at the SBSTTA and facilitating our involvement in different meetings. BirdLife Africa Partnership Secretariat is also thankful to the BirdLife Asia division who made our participation at the CBD COP 10 in Nagoya comfortable with superb logistical support and to the host BirdLife Partner (Wild Bird Society of Japan - WBSJ) that organised a much enjoyed birding trip.

We are very grateful to the Aage V Jensen Charity Foundation, funding the Wildlife Clubs of Africa project that supported four

participating countries in celebrating the World Bird Festival. Our thanks go also to all participants, especially school children, students, teachers and members of our Partner NGOs, the media and the public, without whom this event could not have achieved so.

We are grateful to all sponsors of individual Partners during the SBSTTA 14, COP 10 and the WBF, including the Centre Culturel Français that supported ABO and sent delegates to participate in most of their WBF activities.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

30th June 2011: International Foundation for Science.

Send applications to applications@ifs.se or visit www.ifs.se for details

1 July 2011: The Club 300 Foundation for Bird Protection. Application for 5,000US\$ grant not exceeding 3 double pages all inclusive. Do not send application by e-mail.

For details visit www.club300.se or contact Dr. Henrik Lind at birdprotection@club300.se

Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI) Conservation Program grants (no specific deadline). Grants to build GIS capacity of social justice, environment, indigenous rights or public benefit NGOs.

Contact: ecp@esri.com or visit: www.conservationgis.org/grant/index.html

No deadline: African Development Foundation. US\$ 50-250,000 funds the development of small enterprises and participatory community development projects.

Contact: jdesimone@usadf.gov or visit: www.adf.gov/funding.html

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 14 - 18, 2011, Victoria, Canada
The Society for Conservation Biology 2nd International Marine Conservation

Congress (IMCC2): Making Marine Science Matter

Contact: imcc2011@conbio.org or visit: www.conbio.org/imcc2011/

16-20 May 2011, Gland Switzerland
42nd meeting of the Ramsar Convention Standing Committee

Contact: ramsar@ramsar.org or visit: www.ramsar.org

May 22, 2011: International Day for Biodiversity: Biodiversity and Forests

Contact: secretariat@cbd.int or visit: www.cbd.int/idb/2011/

June 5, 2011: India: World Environment Day 2011 focusing on Forests: Nature at Your Service.

Contact: Lucita.Jasmin@unep.org or visit: www.unep.org/wed/

ANNOUNCING BIRD SPECIES DATABASES

The World Bird Database:
The www.worldbirds.org is now active for use across all African countries, with each country being able to enter and manage their own records. This world bird database has been particularly successful for Kenya (KenyaBirdFinder), Botswana (Tickbird) and Uganda where many records including bird population monitoring data are being entered.

The Niger Bird Database The NiBDaB is a not-for-profit effort to further the knowledge about the conservation of birds Observed in the Republic of Niger. The site (www.bromus.net/nibdab/) is in English and French.

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