

CEPF SMALL GRANT FINAL PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

I. BASIC DATA

Organization Legal Name: BirdLife International

Project Title (as stated in the grant agreement): *Capacity Development for Conservation in Africa*

Implementation Partners for This Project:

Project Dates (as stated in the grant agreement): May 1, 2008 - December 31, 2008

Date of Report (month/year): February 2009

II. OPENING REMARKS

Provide any opening remarks that may assist in the review of this report.

Conservation International supports conferences and congresses, specifically those playing a major role in the development of initiatives associated with biodiversity conservation and capacity building. In this regard, CEPF provided funding to BirdLife International to support the participation of young African ornithologists in the twelfth Pan-Africa Ornithological Congress (PAOC XII) in Cape Town, South Africa.

The PAOC brings together naturalists and scientists from the African Continent and other regions of the world involved in bird research and habitat conservation, and it forms a major stepping stone in career development of many young African ornithologists. The people targeted by this project were young ornithologists from regions that were receiving CEPF support that is Upper Guinea Forests, Madagascar and the Eastern Arc and Coastal Forests.

III. NARRATIVE QUESTIONS

1. What was the initial objective of this project?

The objective of the project was to facilitate nine African ornithologists to attend the PAOC XII.

2. Did the objectives of your project change during implementation? If so, please explain why and how.

The objective of the project did not change and a total of nine African ornithologists were supported to attend the PAOC XII.

3. How was your project successful in achieving the expected objectives?

The project met the target of facilitating nine delegates to attend the PAOC XII. The participants who benefited from these grants were drawn from across Africa and particularly where CEPF has funded projects as follows: West Africa (2), East Africa (4), Madagascar (2) and Southern Africa (2). The participants funded through this project made a total of 10 oral presentations and two posters, and participated in round-table discussions (see Appendix 1).

4. Did your team experience any disappointments or failures during implementation? If so, please explain and comment on how the team addressed these disappointments and/or failures.

A total of 20 applications from African ornithologists with approved abstracts were received, from which nine were selected. It was a painful exercise to turn down some applications but clearly the funding was limited and a balance had to be struck in terms of coverage of different regions. Ironically, not enough applications, particularly from the Upper Guinea Forest region were received.

5. Describe any positive or negative lessons learned from this project that would be useful to share with other organizations interested in implementing a similar project.

Supporting delegates to conferences has far reaching consequences in terms of capacity building, well beyond the presentation of research results. For example, the grantee from Nigeria was instrumental in developing and presenting a bid to host the next PAOC, which was successful. He is currently involved with the organization of the next congress.

6. Describe any follow-up activities related to this project.

The POAC is held every four years, and the next one will be held in Nigeria in 2012. Prior to the POAC XII, the congresses would be organized by volunteers from several institutions that comprise the PAOC Committee and the PAOC Local Organising Committee. The PAOC XII committee decided to establish an interim secretariat to provide some continuity between congresses. BirdLife offered to host this interim secretariat and will soon embark on fund-raising and publicity for the next congress. The lessons learnt in implementing this project will be applied in seeking funding and managing further grants for supporting attendance of PAOCs.

7. Please provide any additional information to assist CEPF in understanding any other aspects of your completed project.

IV. ADDITIONAL FUNDING

Provide details of any additional donors who supported this project and any funding secured for the project as a result of the CEPF grant or success of the project.

Donor	Type of Funding*	Amount	Notes
National Museums of Kenya	C	\$450	Registration fees
Nigeria Conservation Foundation	C	\$450	Registration fees
		\$	

***Additional funding should be reported using the following categories:**

- A** *Project co-financing (Other donors contribute to the direct costs of this CEPF project)*
- B** *Complementary funding (Other donors contribute to partner organizations that are working on a project linked with this CEPF project)*
- C** *Grantee and Partner leveraging (Other donors contribute to your organization or a partner organization as a direct result of successes with this CEPF project.)*
- D** *Regional/Portfolio leveraging (Other donors make large investments in a region because of CEPF investment or successes related to this project.)*

V. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

None

VI. INFORMATION SHARING

CEPF is committed to transparent operations and to helping civil society groups share experiences, lessons learned and results. One way we do this is by making programmatic project documents available on our Web site, www.cepf.net, and by marketing these in our newsletter and other communications.

These documents are accessed frequently by other CEPF grantees, potential partners, and the wider conservation community.

Please include your full contact details below:

Name: Dr Hazell Shokellu Thompson
Organization name: BirdLife International
Mailing address: ICIPE Campus, Kasarani, P O Box 3502, 00100, Nairobi, Kenya
Tel: +254 (0)20 8562 246
Fax: +254 (0)20 8562 259
E-mail: hazell.thompson@birdlife.or.ke

Appendix: Contributions by delegates supported through this project

Oral Presentations

Hazell S. Thompson, George W. Eshiamwata, Julius Arinaitwe & Paul K. Ndong'ang'a: *Trade in wild species in Africa: status, impacts and way forward*

Hazell S. Thompson, Jane W.N. Gaithuma & Julius Arinaitwe: *Conservation and development in Africa: the contribution of IBAs and KBAs to sustainable human development*

George W. Eshiamwata, Julius Arinaitwe & Graeme M. Buchanan: *Land cover changes on sites of high conservation importance in Africa assessed by remote sensing*

Julius Arinaitwe, Hazell Thompson, Enock Kanyanya, Geoffroy Citegetse and Isaac Olesu-Adjei: *Empowering local community engagement in biodiversity conservation in Africa through BirdLife's Site Support Group approach*

Philista A. Malaki: *Kenya Birdfinder: promoting effective bird monitoring and conservation through online databasing*

Erasmus. H. Owusu & A. Asamoah: *Impact of surface mining operations on avifauna species composition and diversity*

Ademola A. Ajagbe: *Effect of fire on the foraging strategies of birds in farmlands*

Keddy Mooketsa, Chris Brewster, Stephanie Tyler, Marc Herremans & Kabelo Senyatso: *Survey of the population status of Short-clawed Lark *Certhilauda chuana*: what is the trend in Botswana?*

Jean Jacques Randriamanindy, Marie V. Clementine & Mamonjy Razafindrakoto: *A newly established protected area involving directly local people in conservation: the Mahavavy-Kinkony Wetland Complex in the north west of Madagascar*

Lorien Pichegru, Peter Ryan, Olivier Gimenez, Samantha Petersen, Sue Lewis, Jan van der Westhuizen, Carl van der Lingen, Céline Le Bohec & David Grémillet: *Using GPS-tracking to design Marine Protected Areas for endemic seabirds in the Benguela upwelling system*

Posters

Jasson John and Fadhili Njilima: *Conservation status of the critically endangered Long-billed Tailorbird *Artisornis moreaui* in Tanzania: Do anthropized habitats have a role to play?*

Rado Andriamasimanana: *Predicting impacts of Climate changes on threatened forest-limited bird distribution in Madagascar*