

Wetlands International Annual Review 2007



Presenting...

We proudly announce the appointment of Mr. Raymond C. Offenheiser as the new Honorary President of Wetlands International. Mr. Offenheiser is the President of Oxfam America, an international relief and development organisation and the U.S. affiliate of Oxfam International. In his role as the Honorary President of Wetlands International, Raymond C. Offenheiser supports the organisation by providing advice and guidance on key policy and strategic issues.

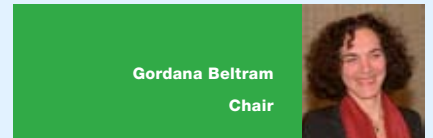


In particular, he is guiding the organisation's partnership approach with the development sector in its work connecting wetlands and livelihoods in developing countries. Mr. Offenheiser also participates as an observer in the organisations' governance structures and plays a role in representing the wider Wetlands International family of staff, members and partners.

Mr. Offenheiser, who has worked his entire career in the non-profit sector, is a recognized leader on issues such as poverty alleviation, human rights, foreign assistance, and international development. Before joining Oxfam America, he served for five years as the Ford Foundation Representative in Bangladesh. He is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, the Global Interdependence Initiative at the Aspen Institute, and the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace and Inter-American Dialogue. He holds a Masters Degree in Development Sociology from Cornell University, earned his Bachelors Degree from the University of Notre Dame and speaks fluent English, Spanish and Portuguese.

"I am delighted to join the Wetlands International's network as Honorary President. I hope to join others within the network seeking to build linkages between our shared concerns for sustainable livelihoods and conservation stewardship. In a world in which we are seeing everyday the limits to growth in ever sharper relief, it is urgent that we create the vision, public support and institutional responses that will deliver appropriate management of global wetlands. I hope that I will work with everybody throughout the network who shares this vision and want to build Wetlands International into a global institutional force to achieve these goals".

As the new Chair of Wetlands International, Dr. Gordana Beltram's main interest is in mainstreaming wetlands into development thinking. Since 1990 she has been working on wetlands from very different perspectives and at different levels. She is currently the Under-Secretary for Environment and Spatial Planning of Slovenia.



She has been Chair of the Ramsar Convention Standing Committee and is still a member. Dr. Beltram is interested in bringing the environmental - particularly biodiversity - concerns into the water discussions.

"As the Chair of Wetlands International I particularly hope to contribute to the good governance of Wetlands International and enhance internal guidance, cooperation and active involvement of its members and bodies, as well as promotion of the network and its work to actively contribute to wetland conservation, promotion of ecosystem services and understanding of the role of wetlands in new and emerging environmental issues".



Introduction to our organisation

Wetlands International is a global non-profit organisation dedicated to sustaining and restoring wetlands, their resources and biodiversity for future generations. We work through 20 regional offices, supported by a headquarters based in The Netherlands.

We work in over 100 countries to tackle the most pressing problems affecting wetlands. With the support of governmental and NGO members and donors, we promote and demonstrate the positive role that wetlands can play in addressing biodiversity loss, poverty and climate change.

Our work ranges from research and community-based field projects to advocacy with governments, corporations and international policy fora and conventions.

Wetlands International works through partnerships and is supported by contributions from an extensive specialist expert network and tens of thousands of volunteers.

Global map of our offices



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Mangrove seedlings
planted in Indonesia.
Photo: Pieter van Eijk



From the CEO

Wetlands International clearly demonstrated in 2007 the important role it can play as a science-based organisation that can act as a global witness - bringing key facts from the field to the attention of policy-makers. A good example of this was our role in highlighting and quantifying the role of wetlands and especially peatlands as the worlds' biggest natural terrestrial carbon stores - and demonstrating that through restoration of damaged wetlands we can cost-effectively reduce emissions of carbon dioxide (CO₂) and even halt and reverse them, through carbon sequestration. Equally our role in a number of global and regional projects addressing the avian influenza threat has been to provide data on waterbirds and wetlands so as to contribute to the understanding of how the disease spreads, analyse risks and help countries to make preparations in case of an outbreak.

During 2007, the Wetlands International network started to document its research and field experiences that have highest relevance to climate adaptation strategies, focusing on vulnerable coasts, the Sahelian zone and high mountain wetlands. This information is used to urge governments, development organisations and finance institutions to integrate wetlands conservation and restoration into climate change and development strategies. The role of Wetlands International in demonstrating practical solutions to wetland degradation is proving valuable in all regions of the world.

Our major field programmes - for example in Green Coast, Wings over Wetlands (WoW, Wetlands and Poverty Reduction Project (WPRP), Central Kalimantan Peatland Project (CKPP) - have been monitored and evaluated by external parties over the last year. The reviews have provided the opportunity for valuable institutional reflection and learning. It is noteworthy that they all highlighted the value of our science-base and our partnerships as well as the tangible evidence of benefits to nature and livelihoods that have resulted from our community-based projects. Commentators have also emphasised the relevance and potential of our innovative approaches to analysing, financing and facilitating community action to the globally-connected challenges of poverty reduction and climate change adaptation. Clearly, we have more work to do!

At our well-attended Members Meeting held in Shaoxing, China in November 2007 we celebrated the formal adoption of the statutes of the Association of Members, the establishment of the Board of the Association as well as the appointment of our new Chair and President and a number of new Supervisory Council members. It is my pleasure to work for and with these inspiring and knowledgeable people. This Meeting also provided an excellent opportunity to evaluate our overall progress against our Strategy goals and targets and to refresh the regional perspectives on future programmatic and institutional priorities. Together with our Chinese hosts, we staged an international Symposium on the theme of 'Healthy wetlands, Healthy people'; the outputs of which have helped to shape Ramsar Convention thinking and development of draft Resolutions on wetlands and human health for COP10 in 2008.

As noted by our members and partners during our Members Meeting and in the following pages, the turnover, reach and impact of Wetlands International has grown at a faster pace than was anticipated in 2004 when our new Strategy was launched. However, the Strategy has served to focus our activities and growth has not resulted from a broadening of scope. Instead, it mostly reflects the scaling up and extension of our flagship projects in the regions and our increasing attention on converting our experience and knowledge into policy influence. This growth has been accompanied and assisted by greater visibility in the media and some exciting new partnerships - including with the development sector, industry groups and many other international and national CBOs and NGOs. Mindful of the challenges and risks from fast growth, we have increased our attention and investment on strengthening our organisational capacity, systems and processes - and this will necessarily be a continuing focus during the coming years. A key component of this will be improving our communications, coordination and collaboration with our specialist expert network, members, partners and donors. I would like to thank you all for your valuable support.

Jane Madgwick
Chief Executive Officer



Morning light of Kalimantan's peatlands (Borneo), Indonesia



Poverty reduction, policy change, coastal restoration, forest recovery and the prevention of wetland destruction - these are among our achievements over the last year. They are tangible gains, and complement our high level policy work with governments, where our influence extends from wetland protection to biofuel development policy.

Here we describe some of what we've achieved: the tip of the iceberg of Wetlands International's Global Achievements 2007.

Wetlands International Global Achievements 2007





Women replanting mangroves as part of the Green Coast project.
Photo: Jane Madgwick



Local firefighters of the Central Kalimantan Peatland Project (CKPP), trained and equipped to fight the peat fires. Photo: Alue Dohong

Restoring and preserving wetlands

Consistent with our policy work at national and global levels, Wetlands International works on the ground with local communities to restore and manage wetlands that are critical for biodiversity and livelihoods.

Green Coast

Using our experience from previous projects, we developed and implemented effective mangrove restoration in Western Africa and Southeast Asia. *Green Coast*, the tsunami response initiative led by Wetlands International, consolidated its work in five tsunami-affected countries - Indonesia, India, Thailand, Sri Lanka and Malaysia - to make coastal regions more resilient to storms and floods.

In the past two years, the establishment of coastal forests has provided greater environmental security to people living behind them, as the forests form natural buffer zones against high tides, sea level rise and storms. The recovery of coastal ecosystems has significantly improved livelihoods, as fish stocks have increased, water quality has improved and agricultural land has become fertile again.

Project partners WI, WWF, IUCN and Both ENDS worked with local community organisations to restore sand dunes, clean up sea grass beds, coral reefs and beaches, and to restore drinking water wells and agricultural land which had become saline because of the tsunami. The project also provided technical and financial support to affected local communities to start income generating activities. Since 2005, Green Coast has implemented 175 community-based ecosystem restoration projects - benefitting 91,000 people in the five countries.

Furthermore, in 2007 new funding was mobilised for Green Coast Phase 2 in Aceh to establish 16 demonstration projects. Phase 2 benefits an additional 16,000 people and is aimed to prevent further environmental damage from new infrastructure development projects. In Aceh alone, Green Coast facilitated the planting of some 566,000 mangrove and beach trees in 2007, covering more than 300 hectares. For more information, please visit www.greencoasts.org.

Central Kalimantan Peatland Project

The Central Kalimantan Peatland Project (CKPP) gave new life to the peatlands of Central Kalimantan, Indonesia. These peatlands were turned into wastelands in the 1990s by the Indonesian government's disastrous Mega Rice Project. After the forest was drained and logged, no rice was able to grow on the peaty soil and the megaproject turned into a mega development failure. The huge drainage canals continue to drain the peatswamp. In the tropical conditions of Kalimantan, drained peat decomposes at an alarming rate. Fires in the drained area occur every year, causing smog pollution and enormous carbon dioxide emissions.

To stop and reverse the destructive drainage of part of these peatlands Wetlands International and the project partners BOS Foundation, Care Indonesia, WWF and the University of Palangka Raya worked with local communities to build 12 large water control structures and 50 small ditches. These rewetted 60,000 hectares of peatland, preventing fires and further decomposition of the peatswamps. This in turn prevents emissions of some 4 million tonnes of CO₂ a year. Furthermore, about 1000 hectares of peatland have been reforested, creating livelihood opportunities for local people.

Wetlands International
Field Station of the
Central Kalimantan
Peatland Project
(CKPP) in Central
Borneo, Indonesia.
Photo: Alue Dohong

To prevent the burning of the peatlands, 25 community-based fire-fighter brigades were established. Using satellite monitoring, these brigades work to mitigate the impacts of the fires. Communities in the area benefitted directly from these project activities. In addition, local people were trained and supported in raising and planting commercial tree species in the rewetted areas and to establish fish ponds behind the dams. Read more about this project on www.ckpp.org.

'Waterbirds around the World'

Three years after the global flyways conference in Edinburgh, the UK Minister of the Environment, Barry Gardiner MP, the Dutch Minister of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality, Mrs Gerda Verburg, along with Secretary Generals from the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, the UN Convention on Migratory Species, the African Eurasian Waterbird Agreement and other experts met on 12 March 2007 to launch a new global guide to conservation: 'Waterbirds around the World'.

The book gives a unique overview of the current status of the world's waterbirds and documents examples of best practice from successful actions taken in many countries.

CEO Jane Madgwick presents the comprehensive book 'Waterbirds around the World' to UK Environment Minister Barry Gardiner MP



Flamingo breeding colony at Lake Natron, Tanzania.
Photo: Andrew Burton

Wings Over Wetlands

After many years of preparation, the Wings over Wetlands project became fully operational in 2007, covering the entire area of the African-Eurasian Waterbird Agreement (AEWA). It provides strategic support to the implementation of AEWA and the Ramsar Convention. Four subregional centres have been established in priority regions: Central Asia and the Caucasus States, the Middle East, Eastern and Southern Africa, and Western and Central Africa.

The Critical Site Network was developed, bringing together key information held by Wetlands International and BirdLife International. The Network will support site managers, national decision makers and international organisations. Workshops were held in Africa and monitoring activities were supported through the provision of field guides and binoculars. A generic training programme on the flyway approach was developed, and Subregional Training Boards were formed.

Avian Influenza

Wetlands International continued to play an important role in providing international organisations and decision-makers with information relevant to the efforts to contain avian influenza.

The data from the International Waterbird Census (IWC) were used to understand concentrations of high risk species, and hence better target surveillance. We coordinated a major investigation in Africa to collect samples in high-risk areas. Small teams from Wetlands International, with local support, were sent to wetland areas to investigate birds. This provided information on the possibility of the migration of avian influenza via wild birds.

In collaboration with CIRAD and the WCS respectively, we implemented satellite tracking programmes in three African countries and in Kazakhstan. We also coordinated a major survey in Europe for the European Commission to collect information on the interactions between wild birds and free-ranging domestic birds.

International Waterbird Census (IWC)

In 2007, the IWC celebrated its 40th anniversary! It is the longest standing global waterbird monitoring programme. With the help of the Wings Over Wetlands and Avian Influenza related projects, we made major progress in the development of a web-enabled database, which will significantly simplify and improve the dataflow from our national collaborators and make it much easier to share information across the network. We also invested a lot of effort into improving the quality of our data.

Poverty Reduction

Linking wetlands and their importance to the livelihoods of local communities, Wetlands International executed a broad spectrum of projects directed at the sustainable use of wetlands in developing countries.

One important strategy is the BioRights approach, which has proved to be an effective financial mechanism for connecting livelihood improvement to wetland conservation. The idea is simple: local people are rewarded for the environmental services

Wetlands International continued its research on avian influenza to provide better understanding of the relation between migratory birds and the spread of the flu.

Photo: Nicky Petkov



In Mali, Wetlands International worked with sixteen women's groups from 22 villages totalling 1500 direct beneficiaries

they deliver. These services have benefits at a national or even global scale and include biodiversity protection and the reduction of climate change by ending drainage and fires.

The following examples illustrate how poverty reduction and biodiversity conservation can go hand in hand if we use innovative finance mechanisms, deliver effective capacity building, and respect the wishes of local people.

- In Mali, Wetlands International worked with sixteen women's groups from 22 villages totalling 1500 direct beneficiaries (plus 35,000 indirect). The women received funds for establishing vegetable gardens in return for reforestation and other conservation activities. Wetlands International also built drinking water boreholes through the same approach.
- The Special Heron Fund in Rebeira Montaña in Cape Verde mitigated poverty in this rural community through support to the local agricultural development programme, while community members safeguard the purple heron and develop ecotourism.
- In Mauritania, local people now provide bird ecotours for wildlife enthusiasts.



Our stand at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Bali, December 2007. Photo: Susanna Tol

Advocating for Policy Change

Due to our field experience and the scientific basis of our policy positioning, Wetlands International is considered an important player in international policy-making. We are present at all major international policy events relevant to wetlands, influencing agendas and outcomes and ensuring that stakeholders and decision makers are well-informed about the status and trends of wetlands and the priorities for action. Here are a few examples of our achievements in this area.

- Advocacy on climate change policy
Wetlands International has advocated strongly on the policies of the UN Climate Change Convention. In 2007 (prior to and during the Bali Climate Summit) we highlighted the devastating impact of the loss of the Southeast Asian peat swamp forests. As a result, carbon in forest soils such as peat is now included as a key issue to address in the Bali Roadmap, the agenda for a new climate treaty after 2012. Furthermore, countries decided at this summit to make resources directly available for reducing emissions from deforestation - including the loss of carbon from soils.

Wetlands play a critical role in mitigating the impacts of climate change, such as melting glaciers and extreme weather events. The capacity of many inland wetlands to store excessive water from melting glaciers and extreme rainfall can be critical in preventing floods. Wetlands International's persistent lobbying has resulted in the mainstreaming of wetlands into India's climate change policy and strategy. In order to protect the inhabitants of the Indian Kashmir Valley against negative events such as flooding, a plan for wetland restoration at Jhelum Basin level was developed as an adaptive strategy.

- Advocacy on biofuels
Biofuels, although sounding like a sustainable solution, are not as clean as first thought. Crops such as palm oil are cultivated on former forests and peatlands, which release enormous amounts of carbon dioxide when converted into cropland. In 2007 we have achieved relevant policy influences related to wetlands and CO₂ emissions.

Due to our lobbying together with other partner NGOs, wetlands with high carbon values were excluded from the label 'biofuels' in the draft European Renewable Energy Directive.

- Advocacy on dams
Our 2006 publication 'The Niger: A Lifeline' contributed in 2007 to the reassessment and re-planning of the future Fomi Dam in Guinea. Our study showed the potentially negative impacts of this planned dam on people and nature in the Inner Niger Delta. The focus of the planners shifted towards mitigating impacts on the downstream Inner Niger Delta with its one million inhabitants, millions of livestock and rich biodiversity.

- Regional policy change
In West Africa, we were able to get political support for wetland management. Thanks to our advocacy paper and recommendations from country consultations, improvements in management policies and wise use of wetlands in five eco-regions were endorsed by five states of the sub-region (Mauritania, Senegal, The Gambia, Guinea Bissau and Mali). This was confirmed in the Bamako Declaration. For the text of the Declaration visit www.wetlands.org, section Watch & Read.

Biofuels, although sounding like a sustainable solution, are not as clean as first thought. This is sugar cane for ethanol production





Some one million people live in the Inner Niger Delta. Photo: Leo Swarts

Furthermore, due to the work of Wetlands International and its partners, 2007 resulted in some hope for the threatened populations of West African Manatee (*Trichechus senegalensis*). Its protection through the Abidjan Convention by seven countries was expanded to 22 countries by its inclusion in the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS).

- National policy change

Wetlands International also influences policy at the national level. For example, Ghana's Water Policy was changed due to our combined action with the Centre for Environmental Law and Development (CELD) and now includes wetlands as a vital ecosystem. This means that wetlands are now acknowledged as being critical for water provision for the country.

Strong advocacy together with NAPE on the planned dam in Bujugali, Uganda (the dam is to be financed by the World Bank and African Development Bank, AfDB) has drawn attention to its destructive effect on surrounding wetlands and communities.

Water allocation to hydropower generation endangers water availability for wildlife habitats. Faced with the risk of dropping water levels in India's Loktak Lake and the Manipur River Basin, water allocation has become more balanced thanks to the efforts of our South Asia Programme. Lobbying backed up by detailed research has resulted in protection of this wetland, which is the natural habitat of an endangered deer (*Cervus eldi eldi*) and many migratory fish species.

Building partnerships

Building global, regional and local partnerships, our offices all over the world brought new players to the scene of wetland conservation and sustainable use. For example, the Ukraine-based Black Sea office of Wetlands International (BSO) rallied 46 partners around the wetlands of the Black Sea in a meeting in Odessa. This Black Sea Regional Initiative for the Wise Use of Coastal Wetlands (BlackSeaWet) includes participants from all six countries bordering the Black Sea, now sharing and working for the same 20-year vision.

This office also further strengthened cooperation of the Ukrainian River Network by establishing the Southern Bug Working Group, which started to work on river conservation and restoration. Together they worked with local communities and continue to draw the attention of regional and central governments to unwise land privatisation, inappropriate, commercial projects and the breaking of environmental law.

Working closely with governments, our Oceania team and Asia offices formally established the Partnership for the East Asian-Australasian Flyway. Countries and organisations along this flyway for migratory waterbirds will now work together on the conservation of waterbirds and wetland areas.

Our Japan Office (WIJ) - with support from the Japanese government - installed a Control Panel for the preservation of the East Asian-Australasian Shorebird and Ramsar-site Yatsu-Higata. This area right next to Tokyo is one of the last remaining urban tidal flats in Japan.

The West African Manatee (*Trichechus Senegalensis*) can get stuck when rivers run dry and has to be transported to deeper riverbeds



In partnership with the local government, the national Ramsar Focal Point of Argentina and FARN, the strategy for the wise use of peatlands of Tierra del Fuego, Argentina, was developed.

Under the Wings Over Wetlands (WOW) programme, community support and trans-border cooperation on the Saloum-Niumi complex in Senegal and The Gambia led to common management of this wetland in the two countries. As a member of the Steering Committee, the Wetlands International Africa office in Dakar (Senegal) developed the new phase of the Regional Conservation Programme for the West African Marine Coast (PRCM) and led the facilitation process of Sierra Leone's inclusion into the programme.

Moreover, 2007 was the year in which our partnership with WASTE was formalised by the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding. WASTE is a Dutch NGO that works in developing countries to assist local water and sanitation programmes using its expertise in solid waste and waste water management. Together we are developing an approach to integrate wetlands conservation into the sanitation sector.

Capacity building

Capacity building forms an integral part of many of our projects and programmes. From Fiji to Côte D'Ivoire, our organisation has trained people from village level to governments in subjects such as ecotourism, water management and waterbird monitoring.

Ensuring that training processes are owned locally has proven to be a practical way of building sustainability. In 2006/2007, the Wetlands and Poverty Reduction Project (WPRP) trained 46 participants in a Training of Trainers course within its Poverty Reduction Project. For the past 18 months, 20 of these trainers have adapted the modules to their own local contexts and have in turn trained over 100 practitioners in ongoing courses hosted in existing training centres in the region. The courses were run in French and English.

For the improvement of our knowledge base, joint capacity building sessions by Wings over Wetlands (WoW) with the Integrated Coastal and Marine Source Management Project (GIRMac) led to improved monitoring of nesting colonies of waterbirds.

On-site training of resource management personnel from community organisations in Australia contributed to the improved management of national and internationally important wetlands, particularly in remote northern and inland regions of the continent.

Closing the evaluation stage of the Freshwater Biodiversity Assessment Project, twenty people were trained in GIS (Geographic Information Systems) for the incorporation of data collected in water resource management systems. Moreover, our Mali office trained 300 guides, who improved their income by showing tourists the uniqueness and beauty of Mali's wetlands.

Building and sharing knowledge

Scientific research is the basis for our operations: we gather and share this knowledge for the benefit of wetlands. Our policy statements and advocacy work are based on this scientific knowledge. In 2007, our knowledge base grew further through wetland inventory work, and through monitoring and mapping, as well as through technical research. Some examples of our research and monitoring include:

- Wetlands International Japan has monitored Japanese coastal ecosystems through a national survey of tidal flats, rocky shores, and seaweed and sea-grass beds. Furthermore, the Japan office embarked on a survey of wise wetland use practices throughout the nation, revealing various traditional practices that are still relevant in today's world.
- In Papua New Guinea we conducted a rapid assessment of the ecological wealth of the Oake Kubutu Ramsar site, with an emphasis on endemic freshwater fish populations and community fisheries. This unique wetland is situated within an actively used oil and gas extraction field.

Benin translators pause during Wetlands International Training of Trainers courses in Senegal supported by the Wetlands and Poverty Reduction Project (WPRP)





Through our research and sharing of knowledge, we aim to inform stakeholders and decision makers about the status and trends of wetlands, their biodiversity and priorities for action



Waterbird monitoring in South America's rice fields.
Photo: Daniel Blanco

- Wetlands International collected and analysed data concerning valuable species and sites in the valley of the Southern Bug river and adjacent areas in the Ukraine. We created an indicative map for the river corridor, in agreement with specialists from local-regional ('Oblast' level) departments of the Ukrainian Ministry for Environmental Protection.
- In the Moscow region 41 important wetland sites were investigated and mapped. Cultural heritage significance and traditional landscapes and architecture were documented: the results will be published in 2008.
- As ongoing features of our work, waterbird censuses were held, people were trained and results published from counts all over the world. In Australia, we completed three assessments (including migratory shorebird analyses) of the condition of coastal and freshwater swamp (including peat-based) wetlands and streams in the Shoalwater Bay Military Training Area.

Also in 2007, many activities were directed at building the awareness of specific target groups about wetland function and wetland values, so as to support corporate and governmental policy change. Our press outreach has increased substantially. Many workshops, as well as side-events at international conferences, exhibitions, celebrations and even a Crane Festival (at the Desna Wetland Complex) have helped to spread the word.

Moreover, many publications, booklets, brochures, posters, videos and even comics were published to keep everybody - from policy makers to rural communities - well-informed. For a complete list of publications see page 23 or check our website www.wetlands.org.

Institutional development

For the fourth consecutive year, our organisation has shown consistent growth, both operational and financially. Projects have grown in size, and our staff have grown in number, as have the volunteers backing our organisation with their dedicated support. Many of our volunteers belong to our Specialist Groups, which are further explained on page 28.

Wetlands International is now more globally present than ever. Through the WoW project, we extended our presence to Nairobi, Kenya and we plan to also have a staff presence in Panama by the end of 2008, to develop our work on wetlands and livelihoods in the Latin American and Caribbean region. Refer to page 25 for the financial overview of our global operations.

Projects 2007

HEADQUARTERS (The Netherlands)

LIVELIHOODS

Wetlands and Poverty Reduction Project (WPRP)

This four-year project aims to improve policies; especially in developing countries. We train people, support demonstration projects, provide seed funds for project and partnership development, create partnerships with NGOs working on policy change, and advocate our message among decision makers, NGOs and foundations at national and international level.

Donor: Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Green Coast; for nature and people after the tsunami

We work with local communities to restore and manage coastal ecosystems, such as mangroves, sand dunes and coral reefs. Restoring coastal ecosystems improves coastal resilience and provides the basis for improved livelihoods in tsunami-affected regions. This project is carried out together with our offices in India, Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia and offices of WWF, IUCN and Both Ends in these countries and Sri Lanka.

Donor: Oxfam-Novib

Biorights

Aim is to develop and advocate the BioRights principle: to pay poor people for managing local natural and environmental resources that are of global importance, for example protecting rainforests, or managing subsoil carbon stocks in Peatlands. This project is led by our headquarters but draws on our field experiences in Africa, Asia and Latin America in particular.

Donor: Vodafone Foundation Netherlands

BIODIVERSITY

BioScore - Biodiversity impact assessment using species sensitivity scores

The BioScore project aims to develop a tool for linking pressures from policy sectors to the (change in the) state of biodiversity as measured by the presence and abundance of individual species.

Donor: ECNC-European Centre for Nature Conservation

International Waterbird Census (IWC)

This ongoing programme collects and analyses monitoring data on millions of waterbirds from around 2000 volunteers globally to produce the fourth edition of the tri-annual Waterbird Population Estimates. The project is being carried out in many countries throughout the world, with input from all our offices and strong support from our network of experts in the specialist groups.

Donor: UK-Joint Nature Conservation Committee; Netherlands-Ministry of Agriculture, Nature Management and Fisheries (LNV), Alterra Green World Research; Denmark-National Environmental Research Institute, Migratory Birds of the Western Palearctic (OMPO), African-Eurasian Waterbird Agreement (AEWA), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Nature Agency, Lynx Edicions

Wader Atlas

This project aims to produce an atlas of African and Eurasian wader flyways and is being carried out with the support of our expert network (wader specialist group).

Donor: Flemish Ministry for the Community

Technical support to the European Commission for implementation of the Birds Directive

This project provides information and support for implementation of the European Commission Birds Directive, especially concerning waterbirds.

Donor: European Commission

European Topic Centre

The European Topic Centre develops reports, policy recommendations and analyses on biodiversity in the EU countries. We are the lead agency providing technical analyses on methods within this partnership. It is carried out at European Union level.

Donor: European Environment Agency

African-Eurasian Waterbird Agreement (AEWA)

This project provides technical information and organisational input to support AEWA, which covers 235 species of birds ecologically dependent on wetlands for at least part of their annual cycle. It covers 118 countries and the European Community (EC) from Europe, parts of Asia and Canada, the Middle East and Africa.

Donor: AEWA

New FluBird Project (NFB)

The NFB project aims at setting a Network for Early Warning of Influenza viruses in migratory birds in Europe. Our role is to provide data and expertise on high risk bird species, coordinate surveillance in high risk sites and build capacity for monitoring waterbirds. We are the co-coordinator to this project with Erasmus University and 10 other partners throughout Europe.

Donor: European Commission

Global Avian Influenza Network for Surveillance (GAINS)

We are partner in this global initiative to share data on Avian Influenza and wild birds. We provide data on waterbirds (International Waterbird Census - IWC), to implement and coordinate surveillance in Egypt, Nigeria, Ukraine and India, together with our offices in Malaysia, India, Senegal, Ukraine and Argentina, to build capacity for monitoring waterbirds and to coordinate waterbird ringing activities in Asia.

Donor: USAID

Task Force Avian Influenza and Wild Birds

The Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) leads the Task Force, of which WI is a major partner. It relies heavily on technical input from our two representatives and one associate expert, which are task force members. It works, amongst others, to develop an early warning system on outbreaks of Avian Influenza (H5N1 hp).

Donor: AEWA





Avian Influenza: preparing countries on an outbreak

This project provides advice, expertise and data, and gathers information on Avian Influenza in wild birds, to contribute to the understanding of how the disease spreads and help countries preparing in Africa, the Middle East and Eastern Europe. It is carried out in 16 countries in Africa, the Middle East and Eastern Europe, together with our offices in Senegal and Ukraine, with support from our network of experts, including our waterbird specialist groups.

Donor: Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), under subcontract and in partnership with the Centre de Coopération Internationale en Recherche Agronomique pour le Développement (CIRAD)

Avian Influenza: investigating the role of wild birds in Europe

Aim is to identify high-risk bird species, compile data on wild birds and Avian Influenza, and analyses risks for Europe. It mobilises data on wild birds relevant to its spread in Europe and is carried out together with our offices in Senegal and Ukraine.

Donor: European Commission

FLYWAYS

Wings over Wetlands (WoW)

Aim is to improve the conservation status of African-Eurasian migratory waterbirds by assisting countries to conserve key wetland areas. The project takes place in 119 Asian, European and African countries along the African Eurasian Flyway, identifies the critical network of wetland, trains people and raises awareness about the conservation and wise use of migratory waterbirds and their wetlands. It is coordinated by the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS). We are the senior lead subcontractor (headquarters together with our Africa, Black Sea, Russia and South Asia offices).

Donor: Major partners are Birdlife International, AEWA, Office National de la Chasse et de la Faune Sauvage, France, United Nations Environment Programme-World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC), Ramsar Bureau, Global Environment Facility (GEF), Germany: Bundesamt für Naturschutz, Sweden: Environmental Protection Agency, Danish Ministry of Environment and Energy, Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, France, Swiss government Agency - Bundesamt für Umwelt, Wald und Landschaft (BUWAL)

WATER MANAGEMENT

Flood Awareness Prevention Policy in Border Areas (FLAPP)

This project is developing a report on sustainable flood management that will share the knowledge and experience of local and regional flood experts from across Europe on how to prevent and forecast floods, evacuate people and limit flood damage. FLAPP comprises 35 partners, mostly local governments.

Donor: European Union

Engage Civil Society in Water Management in the Southern and Eastern Mediterranean Region

Pilot projects in three countries (Jordan, Morocco and Tunisia) are undertaken to develop the capacity of civil society to engage in and strengthen the role of wetlands in water resource decision-making.

Donor: Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)

Guidelines on Agriculture, Wetlands and Water Resource Interactions Project

The project addresses agriculture - wetlands interactions and is aiming to develop guidelines for contracting parties of the Ramsar Convention on how to balance needs for agriculture and provision of food from wetlands with their other supporting services. We provide case study material and help to develop key livelihoods concepts.

Donor: Netherlands Ministry of LNV and FAO - Netherlands Partnership Programme (FNPP)

Netwerkplaats on wetlands, water and sanitation

A joint project between WI and the Netherlands Water Partnership to support a position based in our office to develop initiatives and projects under the theme of wetlands, water and sanitation.

Donor: Netherlands Partners for Water

Building Strategic Partnerships to Catalyze Sustainability of Wetlands for Biodiversity Conservation at Central Anatolia Region of Turkey

The project aimed to contribute to wetland biodiversity conservation of Central Anatolia Region, Turkey with a particular emphasis on the Konya Closed Basin. The project increased institutional and managerial capacity and enhanced the sustainability of local NGOs to contribute to conservation and sustainable use of wetland biodiversity in protected areas.

Donor: Dutch BBI Matra programme

KNOWLEDGE BASE

Database on all wetlands of the Ramsar list

This project collates, manages and analyses data on all wetlands on the global Ramsar List to underpin implementation of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands. This information is online available (<http://ramsar.wetlands.org/>).

Donor: Ramsar Convention on Wetlands

GlobWetland: Wetlands surveyed from space

GlobWetland is led by the European Space Agency-led in collaboration with the Ramsar Convention Secretariat, and uses satellite imagery to provide detailed wide-area views of individual wetlands to aid national and local conservation efforts.

Donor: European Space Agency (ESA)





Support for the Ramsar Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP)

This project manages a website as a communications tool on a global level for specialists on the Scientific and Technical Review Panel of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands.

Donor: Ramsar Convention on Wetlands

AFRICA

Africa Office (Senegal)

Wings Over Wetlands (WOW)

As part of WOW, the Africa office supports the development, establishment and implementation of bird ecotourism in the Banc d'Arguin National Park in Mauritania. In Niger, it contributes to the management and sustainable use of resources in the Namga-kokorou complex, through the development of a community management plan for the site. In Saloum-Niuni, it conducts a capacity building session jointly with the Integrated Coastal and Marine Resource Management project (GIRMac), which enables the training of more than 20 agents in the two countries in the monitoring of nesting colonies of waterbirds. Finally, the project includes a workshop on the identification of training needs which gathered all the partners of the region.

Donors: see under Headquarters.

Freshwater biodiversity assessment project

This project builds capacity in developing databases of (endangered) species supporting the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) red list.

Donor: European Union through the IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC)

African Waterbird Census

We produce the African Waterbird Census, being the only source of structured information about African waterbird populations. Counts by thousands of volunteers have taken place in January and July every year since 1991 and several annual reports summarise results and provide feedback to observers.

Donor: Wetlands International Global Waterbird Monitoring Programme

African-Eurasian Waterbird Agreement (AEWA) support, Mali

In Mali, this project supports the conservation of flyways.

Donor: African-Eurasian Waterbird Agreement (AEWA)

'Heron Trust Fund' for local farmers, Ribeira Montaña, Cape Verde

Together with local people, this project is aimed at the conservation of the areas of the Purple Heron specie.

Donor: Netherlands Ministry of LNV; AEWA

Trans-boundary management of Saloum Niuni Complex

This project aims to support the management of a trans-boundary wetland park between Senegal and the Gambia.

Donor: Fondation Internationale pour le Banc d'Arguin (FIBA)

Conservation of the West African manatee (Trichechus Senegalensis)

The goal is to identify key sites for manatee conservation in seven West African countries, identify experts and raise awareness in order to protect the West African manatee.

Donor: Netherlands Ministry of International Cooperation (DGIS)

Wetlands and Poverty Reduction Project (WPRP)

As part of the global programme of WPRP the Africa office implemented demonstration projects in the central part of the Niger Inner Delta in Mali, the Kimana Wetland System in Kenya and in the north of Zambia and Malawi (Chimù and Simlemba) and the capacity building component. Furthermore, trainers were trained in francophone West Africa (25 trainers) and Anglophone (50 trainers) Africa.

Donor: DGIS as a Demonstration Project of WPRP (see under headquarters)

Research Integration and Wise Use of Wetlands (BBI)

This project aims for the improvement of management policies and wise use of wetlands in five approved ecoregions, endorsed by 5 States of the sub region (Mauritania, Senegal, Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Mali) and materialized by the Bamako Declaration.

Donor: BBI Matra

Regional Programme for the Protection of Coastal Marine Resources (PRCM)

This project supports our project development officer to develop initiatives and resources for wetland conservation in coastal West Africa, within the framework of PRCM.

Donor: MAVA Foundation for Nature Conservation, Switzerland.

Guinea Bissau office

Conservation and monitoring of Important Bird Areas (IBA) in Guinea Bissau

This project is working on bird conservation at key sites in Guinea Bissau.

Donor: Netherlands Society for the Protection of Birds (Vogelbescherming Nederland, VBN)

Mali Office

Poverty reduction in the Inner Niger Delta, Mali

This project implements restoration activities of agrobiodiversity in the Inner Niger Delta in Mali, in order to alleviate poverty and malnutrition and to protect environment and farming systems. It is part of the Wetlands Poverty Reduction Project (see Headquarters).

Donor: DGIS



Support for the local dialogue on water, food and the environment in Mali

It sets up a dialogue on water, food and the environment in Mali with the aim of establishing or revitalising local fishery councils to provide better management of fish stocks and wetlands.

Donor: WWF, Water Resources Planning Organization (WARPO)

Dams in Mali

This project aims for political capacity strengthening and transfer of responsibilities to local communities in the frame of management of agro-biodiversity in Mali: research-action-training, awareness and political process.

Donor: DGIS, through Poverty Reduction and Environmental Management (PREM)

Integrated Water resources management upstream Taoussa dam

The project aims to demonstrate an operational approach, highly integrated in management of water resources upstream of the Taoussa dam.

Donor: Partners for Water, The Netherlands

Test implementation of restoration practices to re-establish sustainable agro biodiversity in the Inner Niger Delta, Mali.

To test the implementation of restoration practices in order to re-establish sustainable agro biodiversity in the Niger Inner Delta

Donor: FAO / Netherlands Partnership Programme

LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARRIBEAN

South America office (Argentina)

Wetlands of Argentina video

The production of a Spanish-English video-documentary of 43 minutes long, which illustrates the diversity and benefits of the wetlands in Argentina.

Donor: Ramsar / Wetlands for the Future

Buff-breasted Sandpiper habitat conservation in Uruguay (2nd & 3rd year)

Wetlands International works with private land-owners on Buff-breasted Sandpiper habitat conservation in Ea. La Rinconada and other ranches in the surroundings of Rocha lagoon, Uruguay.

Donor: Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network (NFWF)

Neotropical Waterbird Census Programme

This long-term programme of waterbird monitoring started in 1990, and is based on simultaneous counts developed twice a year in 10 countries in South America.

Donor: Canadian Wildlife Service

Upland Sandpiper Conservation Plan

The aim is to prepare the South America component of the Upland Sandpiper conservation plan, including a revision of all the available information.

Donor: NFWF

Rice fields use and threats to the Bobolink in north-eastern Argentina

This project implements the assessing and weighing the use and threats to bobolinks using rice fields during the non-breeding season in central-east Santa Fe, Argentina.

Donor: Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act / USF&WS

Neotropical Waterbird Census database integration

The development and integration of the Neotropical Waterbirds Census database 1990-2006, which includes waterbirds count data from 10 countries of South America.

Donor: GAINS / Wildlife Conservation Society

Mapping waterbird distribution and migratory routes in the Neotropics

This project works the distribution and migration maps for 25 waterbird species of importance for Avian Influenza monitoring in South America, based on the NWC data as well as data from other sources.

Donor: GAINS / Wildlife Conservation Society

Workshop on shorebird conservation and rice cultivation in southern South America

This is the first workshop on shorebird conservation and rice fields in South America with the aim is to exchange information between countries of South America and to develop guidelines for action towards 'green' rice cultivation.

Donor: Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network / NFWF

Developing a Strategy for the Wise Use of Peatlands of Tierra del Fuego, Argentina

It is directed at the development of a strategy for the wise use of peatlands of Tierra del Fuego, working in partnership with the local government, the national Ramsar Focal Point of Argentina and FARN.

Donor: WPRP / WI HQ

NORTH ASIA

North Asia office (China)

Technical advisory group for the 'Wetland Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Use in China' project

The aim of this project is to provide an independent team to be known as the project's Technical Advisory Group (TAG), which will provide technical advice to the Project Steering Committee on project implementation and impact over the 30 months duration of the project.

Donor: United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), GEF, Government of the People's Republic of China.



Natural wetlands study, Eastern China

This project aims to reduce degradation of marine ecosystems by scaling up investment in reducing land-based pollution, designating wetlands and proposing coastal management options.

Donor: World Bank, GEF

Conservation of the Relict Gull in Hongjiannao Wetland, Yunlin, Shaanxi Province

The main objectives of the project are to identify the Hongjiannao Wetland as an important breeding area of the Relict Gull, monitor and survey the number of breeding pairs at the wetland, identify the main threats to breeding pairs and suggest effective conservation methods or measures of breeding Relict Gulls at Hongjiannao Wetland.

Donor: Shell China Exploration and Production Company Ltd.

Asian Waterfowl Census

The Asian Waterbird Census (AWC) is an annual event that takes place once a year in January. Sites covered many different habitats including rivers, lakes, reservoirs, tanks, swamps, coastal sites, mangrove forests and mudflats, reefs and sandy beaches.

Donor: The Keidanren Nature Conservation Fund of Japan and The Royal Netherlands Embassy in Beijing

7th Asian Wetland Week Celebration Event

The project seeks to raise awareness of the importance of wetland conservation among children, strengthen the exchange of information on wetland education and establish the network of wetland experiential school in the Northeast Asian region.

Donor: Japan Fund for Global Environment (JFGE)

Municipal Governance, Capacity and Social Responsibility in Wetland Biodiversity Conservation

The project aims to incorporate wetland biodiversity conservation into the routine business of The Peoples Government of Anqing Municipality (GAM) in middle and lower Yangtze river, S. W. Anhui Province.

Donor: European Commission

Global Environment Fund Project, Nimbo Cixi

This project is aimed at the Development of an Ecological Management Plan and Business Plan for the created Wetland Centre, to provide guidance in Ecological Restoration Design and Operation, support the Operations of the Wetland Centre, and the preparation of a Training Programme.

Donor: GEF, World Bank

Integrated Management of Wetlands in Ruergai Plateau and Altai Mountains to support Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Development

The project focuses on identifying and promoting options for integrated management of mountain wetlands in western China, in partnership with different economic sectors across different levels of governance (central, provincial, prefecture, county and community).

Donor: European Union through the European China Biodiversity Programme

Seed Funding Facility: Wetlands and Poverty Reduction in Hengshui Lake

This project is aimed at the integration of wetland resource conservation and poverty reduction for local communities around Hengshui Lake wetlands.

Donor: Wetlands International

Technical Advisory Group for UNDP / GEF China's Wetlands Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Use

This project aims to provide an independent team to be known as the project's policy and funding mechanisms and, establishment of an integrated, multi-sectoral wetland conservation management system.

Donor: GEF, UNDP

Japan office

Monitoring Site-1000: Monitoring of Japanese coastal ecosystems

This project aims to monitor Japanese coastal ecosystems through a national survey of tidal flats, seaweed and sea-grass beds and rocky shores

Donor: Japanese Ministry of Environment

Survey and workshops: Wise use of wetlands

The project aims to determine the current state of wetlands in Japan and to promote their wise use. To date, nine Japanese Ramsar sites have been surveyed; evaluation criteria for wise use have been developed and a workshop has been held at the Katano-kamoike, Kushiro-shitsugen and Sakata Ramsar sites.

Donor: Japan Fund for the Global Environment

Control of Sea Lettuce (*Ulva pertusa*) in Yatsu-higata

A Study Panel has been established to mitigate the effects of the sea lettuce. Discussions and surveys are in progress.

Donor: Japanese Ministry of Environment

Research and Surveys on the Kirikuchi Char (*Salvelinus leucomaenis japonicus*)

The project carried out and monitored the improvement and restoration of the habitats of the southernmost char species in the world.

Donor: Mitsui & Co., Ltd Environment Fund

Development of participatory tidal flat survey methodology and guidebook

Participatory survey methodology is being developed for tidal flat benthos.

Donor: Keidanren Nature Conservation Fund

Symposium for the Conservation of Native Species of Bitterling Fish in Japan

Forum to exchange information and share best practice for the conservation of bitterling species and their habitats

Donor: Pro Natura Foundation-Japan and the Nature Conservation Society of Japan



Biodiversity festival booth

This booth is aimed at raising awareness of the biodiversity of wetlands, and featured a fishing game and pressed seaweed activities.

Donor: Japanese Ministry of Environment

Lecture series: The network of riparian ecosystems (Japan)

This is a series of lectures on riparian ecosystems in Japan.

Donor: River Environment Fund

Eco-life fair exhibition booth

This booth aimed to raise awareness about the Ramsar Convention and wetland functions. It was organized jointly by the Ramsar Centre Japan and the Japanese Ministry of Environment.

Donor: Japanese Ministry of Environment

SOUTH-EAST ASIA

Thailand office

Mangrove Restoration at Krabi Ramsar Site, Thailand

This project aims to restore the mangroves of the Krabi Estuary wetlands.

Donor: APFED/UNEP

Wetlands and poverty reduction at Pattani Bay

It aims to raise awareness in the development and humanitarian aid sector for the need to take the values of wetlands into account in their plans and activities for Pattani Bay and, similarly, to influence the conservation and environment sector to consider poverty reduction and socio-economic development issues in their plans and actions.

Donor: The Royal Netherlands Embassy in Thailand

Impact Assessment of the Coastal Habitats and Resources Management (CHARM) project

The CHARM project was a five year collaboration between the EU and Royal Thai Government (RTG), implemented through the Department of Fisheries (DoF) and CHARM's own staff. It aimed to produce a coastal resource management framework through the promotion of co-management between the RTG at all levels and the private sector, non-government organizations and local communities.

Donor: European Union

Rapid Assessment of Waterbirds and Wetlands along the Ranong and Phang-Nga Coastal Areas, Thailand

The project is aimed to assess the importance of wetlands along the Ranong and Phang-Nga coast for biodiversity, and specifically to identify critical areas for waterbirds and wetland habitat conservation and promote their values as indicators of the overall biodiversity in the area.

Donor: IUCN Thailand

Indonesia office

Central Kalimantan Peatland Project (CKPP)

The project aims to restore the water table in logged and drained Peatswamp forests in Central Kalimantan. Dedicated to maintain and restore the great natural and economic values of Kalimantan's tropical peatlands, the project is restoring the area and preventing huge CO₂ emissions by closing drainage canals, ending the drainage, replanting forests and developing sustainable livelihoods.

Donor: DGIS

Climate change, forest and peatlands in Indonesia

It supports management of two core peatland areas in Indonesia, and builds national capacity to participate in evolving climate change mitigation initiatives, such as carbon storage and sequestration.

Donor: CIDA

Demonstration of Community-based Mangrove Reforestation in Aceh

This project aims to reduce poverty and coastal vulnerability by encouraging and enabling community groups to replicate a mangrove-aquaculture ecosystem in Aceh

Donor: UNEP

Green environment data mapping exercise for tsunami-impacted areas

It is designed to produce a database of environmental information on the tsunami-affected areas in North Sumatra and Nias (e.g. ecosystem types and threats, biodiversity, protected areas, land use) and to disseminate this information to several agencies.

Donor: UNEP

Case study in Environmental Management and the Practice of Reducing Disaster Risk

This project supports the development of a pilot case study addressing Environmental Management and the Practice of Reducing Disaster Risk in Aceh, Indonesia.

Donor: UNEP

Seedling preparation and Planting Hurah Island, Maldives

The project focuses on seedling preparation and the planting of seedlings on Hurah Islands, one of the 1,190 islands and islets of the Maldives.

Donor: UNEP

Tomini Bay Sustainable Livelihoods and Management (SUSCLAM)

Aim is to improve the management of communities of the marine and coastal resources of Tomini Bay, while improving their livelihoods which rely on the Bay's natural resources. The project works in the provinces of Central Sulawesi, Gorontalo and North Sulawesi.

Donor: CIDA/IUCN Canada



Malaysia office

Develop capacity of Malaysia's Environmental NGOs in Integrated Water Resource Management

In partnership with the Malaysian Environmental NGO (MENGO), the Malaysia office developed a programme to empower civil society, mobilise community action, capitalise local knowledge and raise awareness among the public sector for Integrated Water Resource Management. Our office played a coordinating role.

Donor: MENGO

Developing Community Based Mangrove Replanting and Monitoring in Sedili Kecil Mangrove, Johor

The project aims to rehabilitate degraded mangrove areas in the Sedili Kecil mangrove area using community participation and local corporate support.

Donor: Forestry Department Malaysia

Wetland Resource Centre

The aim is to develop a Wetland Resource Centre, managed by WI Malaysia, where information on wetlands and related topics is easily obtainable for, in the first place, (Malaysian) decision-makers, planners, other NGOs, consultants, scholars and students, and in the second place anyone else who might be in need for such information and so, on the long run well, take informed decisions.

Donor: Embassy of the Kingdom of The Netherlands, Malaysia

Status of peatland in Malaysia: Its relation to CO₂ emissions and climate change

This project is aimed at gathering and disseminating relevant information on the threats to peatlands and their carbon stocks.

Donor: Embassy of the Kingdom of The Netherlands, Malaysia

Stakeholders Outreach on Unsustainable Use of the Peatlands and Climate Change

Held at the side event of the Regional Climate Change Conference organised by the Ministry of Environment & Natural Resources & The British High Commission, the side-event brought stakeholders together and share their views on climate change and the environment, especially the peatlands.

Donor: Embassy of the Kingdom of The Netherlands, Malaysia

Provision of Wetland and Biodiversity Enhancement Consultancy Services for the Ras Al Khor Wetlands

The project involved providing consultancy services on a low impact development project that would have minimal disturbance on the wildlife and environment, as well as enhancing eco-tourism activities, biodiversity enhancement opportunities of this important wetland site.

Donor: Teo A. Khing Design Consultants Sdn Bhd.

Conservation & Sustainable use of the biodiversity at Sedili Kecil River Basin

Objective is to transfer the lessons learnt from Tasek Bera - Malaysia's first Ramsar site, where local communities are actively participating in maintaining its ecological integrity and the sustainable use of the wetland resources to sustain livelihood of local community in this unique area.

Donor: UNDP/GEF Small Grants Programme

Habitat and Biological Diversity Enhancement and Improvement

The project works with the Royal Selangor Golf Club to enhance its wetland habitat on its golf greens.

Donor: Royal Selangor Golf Club

Status of peatland in Malaysia: its relation to CO₂ emissions and climate change

To promote the wise use of peatland in Malaysia through developing a solid scientific foundation on which to base sustainable management initiatives.

Donor: Embassy of the Kingdom of The Netherlands, Malaysia

Asian Waterbird Census (AWC)

AWC is a regional programme to promote public participation to monitor the distribution and populations of waterbirds and status of wetlands. It covers the region of Asia, from Afghanistan eastwards to Japan, Southeast Asia and Australasia. AWC runs parallel to other international census of waterbirds in Africa, Europe, West Asia and Neotropics under the umbrella of IWC.

Donor: Keidanren Nature Conservation Fund of Japan, The Royal Netherlands Embassy in Beijing, GAINS

SOUTH ASIA

India office

Management Planning for Wular Lake, Kashmir

Rapid degradation of Wular Lake and its consequent impact on community health and livelihoods prompted the state government to engage WI South Asia for formulation of an integrated management plan for the lake. The plan proposes a series of measures within the lake and its catchments to ensure rejuvenation of the wetland and livelihood security of associated communities.

Donor: Government of Jammu and Kashmir

Water management plan for Loktak and associated wetlands, Manipur

The project is aimed at developing and implementing a water allocation strategy for Loktak Lake and associated wetlands. Its aim is balancing allocation for hydropower generation and conservation of habitat of globally endangered deer species, *Cervus eldi eldi*, which inhabit the lake and migratory fish species from the Chindwin-Irrawady river system. This initiative is a strategic shift from hydropower dominated water allocation system.

Donor: Loktak Development Authority



Economic Valuation of Chilika Lake, Orissa

It aims at value assessment of ecosystem services of Chilika Lake to define their contribution to local and regional economy and analyse the impacts of developmental activities. Proposed are a review of current management plans, alternate strategies to ensure their sustainability for overall livelihood security for the dependent communities.

Donor: Chilika Development Authority

Post tsunami ecosystem restoration in the Maldives

Implemented in partnership with Maldives Ministry of Environment, Energy and Water, this project aimed at restoring coastal ecosystems that were damaged by Indian Ocean tsunami thereby promoting recovery of habitats, biodiversity and livelihoods. Focussing on the touristic Hurra Islands, the project supported establishment of mangrove nursery, a visitor education centre and a series of awareness generation events on values of coastal ecosystem, particularly mangroves.

Donor: UNEP

Vulnerability mapping to incursion by highly pathogenic avian influenza H5N1

WISA and UNICEF-India worked on a two month desk study to review and map available information in relationship to water bird concentrations and poultry productions, with an objective of prioritizing regions for Avian Influenza awareness raising activities under current programmes of UNICEF and Ministry of Agriculture.

Donor: UNICEF - India Programme

Global Avian Influenza Network for Surveillance (GAINS) Initiative

Implemented in partnership with BNHS, the initiative work in India focuses on active surveillance of virus / antibodies detection at Chilika Lake and field monitoring of birds at Chilika and Nandur Madhmeswar, Maharashtra. Strengthening of the Asia Pacific Working Group on Migratory Water birds and Avian Influenza, which has representation from major countries from the Central Asian and East Asian Australasian Flyways was also continued under the initiative.

Donor: USAID

Himalaya project (HimalWet)

This project aims to develop an information base for wise use of Himalayan high altitude wetlands through integrated water resource management. An inventory of high altitude wetlands based on remote sensing data is being developed together with a system of vulnerability assessment mapping. Based on these, a concept for an integrated management strategy for the region will be developed. This project is being carried out in Nepal, India, China and Bhutan through our offices in India and China.

Donor: European Commission

Seed funding facility: Poverty Alleviation of Communities in Mahanadi Delta through Conservation and Sustainable Use of Floodplain Wetlands

The development of a major programme that will aim to improve the livelihoods of poor communities living in the Mahanadi Delta by developing a sustainable approach to management of the wetlands in the region that will provide improved food sources from wetlands, development of sustainable approaches to sanitation using wetland technology.

Donor: Wetlands International

EUROPE

Russia office

Promotion of wetland biodiversity conservation in the Moscow region of the Russian Federation through the development of a Regional Strategy and Action Plan for Wetlands Wise Use

The project supports the sustainable use of water resources in the Moscow region by establishing the technical, legal and social conditions for the implementation of an integrated approach to land-use planning based on wise use of wetlands.

Donor: The Netherlands Ministry of LNV, BBI-MATRA

Project quick scan workshop about peatlands in Russia: Key issues to be addressed

This project accumulates and reviews information on peatlands provided by different stakeholders in Russia.

Donor: The Royal Netherlands Embassy in Moscow

Quick scan of peatlands in Central and Eastern Europe

This quick scan of peatlands in Central and Eastern Europe provides a background for the development of a strategy for conservation.

Donor: Netherlands Ministry of LNV

Management plan for the proposed Volga Delta world natural heritage site

This project aims to develop a management plan for the Volga Delta as a part of the nomination for World Natural Heritage site status.

Donor: Euronatur, European Nature Heritage Fund

Site network for birds and wetlands: Inventory, protection and community management

Strengthening the Network of Important Bird Areas (IBA) - for the conservation of small key sites - by providing new knowledge on the conservation needs of priority bird species and recommends effective conservation management practices to prevent decline of species and destruction of sites.

Donor: Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF)



Black Sea Office

Black Sea Regional Initiative: Establishing the foundations for the launch of a Black Sea Regional Initiative for the wise use of coastal wetlands (BlackSeaWet)

This project aims to enhance the conservation and sustainable development of the Black Sea coastal wetlands. It will establish the foundations for a regional wetlands initiative of countries around the sea that will underpin future wetland conservation efforts.

Donor: Netherlands Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality (LNV)

Dnipro river corridor in Ukraine: raising public awareness and promoting participatory approach to biodiversity conservation and ecological network development

Increased awareness on ecological networks and biodiversity conservation among governmental bodies, NGOs, schools is contributing towards the establishment of the Dnipro eco-corridor.

Donor: Netherlands Ministry of LNV, DGIS (BBI-Matra)

Indicative map for the Southern Bug Meridional river corridor

This project aims to enhance the development of the ecological network in Ukraine, particularly focusing on the Southern Boug meridional river corridor.

Donor: The Royal Netherlands Embassy in the Ukraine

OCEANIA

Canberra office

Development of the East Asian - Australasian Flyway Partnership

This activity comprises several actions all of which support development of the Flyway Partnership for East Asia - Australasia, including support to Meetings of Partners through drafting of technical documents.

Donor: Government of the Republic of Korea, Government of Japan and the Australian Government.

First meeting of the Asia-Pacific Working Group on Migratory Waterbirds and Avian Influenza

This aim of this project was to collate, analyze, and prepare a report on the Dunlin (*Calidris alpina*) band resighting data from Alaska and the East Asian - Australasian Flyway. This work was implemented in collaboration with University of Science and Technology of China.

Donor: GAINS, FAO

Meta-data on wetland inventory in Australia

The project involves a review of meta-data for wetland inventory that has occurred or is ongoing, across all jurisdictions in Australia, to inform development of national protocols.

Donor: Australian Government

Training of Indigenous rangers in wetland and waterbird conservation, northern Australia

In 2007, Wetlands International built capacity of indigenous rangers at Ramingining, Northern Territory, to identify and survey migratory shorebirds. This activity has explored the potential for developing proposals for ongoing funding for a substantial training and mentoring programme.

Donor: Australian Government through the Natural Heritage Trust and WWF

Review of the distribution and migration of Dunlin in the East Asian - Australasian Flyway

This aim of this project was to collate, analyze, and prepare a report on the Dunlin band resighting data from Alaska and the East Asian - Australasian Flyway. This work was implemented in collaboration with University of Science and Technology of China.

Donor: US Fish and Wildlife Service

Roebuck Plains management planning (Australia)

In this project a management plan will be developed to guide the managers of Roebuck Plains Station (Australia) in maintaining the natural heritage of the property and its Ramsar listed wetlands.

Donor: Indigenous Land Corporation

Brisbane office

A condition assessment of wetlands and waterbirds of Shoalwater Bay Training Area (Queensland, Australia)

It aims to assess the condition of intertidal wetlands (including migratory shorebird populations), freshwater swamps and streams in the internationally important Shoalwater Bay wetlands, to recommend any management responses, and propose appropriate monitoring of condition.

Donor: Australian Department of Defence

Broad Sound Coast Condition Assessment

The project involves a preliminary inventory of the wetland and waterbird assets of the coastal parts of the Broad Sound Basin, central Queensland, and an assessment of present condition, leading to recommendations for investment in natural resource management.

Donor: Fitzroy Basin Association (through Central Queensland University)

Support to NRM regional bodies and wetland managers across Australia in recognition and management of important wetlands

This three-year project will support priority, remote NRM regions across Australia in terms of their important wetland (Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, Directory and shorebird site) assets. Working closely with the regional bodies, WIO will transfer skills on recognition and management of these assets through one-to-one, on-site consultation at regional centres and important wetland sites.

Donor: Australian Government under the Natural Heritage Trust.



Ecological Character Description for Great Sandy Straits Ramsar Site, Queensland

The project required preparation of a comprehensive description of the ecological character of the Great Sandy Straits Ramsar Convention on Wetlands site, Southeast Queensland, using a recently-finalised national framework; also updating of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands Information Sheet and digital boundary map for the site.

Donor: Queensland Environmental Protection Agency

Technical advice on ecological character descriptions for Australian Ramsar sites

This activity involves invited technical advice to projects that are developing ecological character descriptions for selected Ramsar Sites in Australia. Emphasis is on review of Ramsar Criteria met and identifying the critical ecosystem services, especially those related to the Criteria met.

Donor: Australian Government, through State conservation agencies

National Aerial Survey of Waterbirds in Australia

Wetlands International is a partner in design and implementation of the first-ever aerial survey of waterbirds (including migratory shorebirds) across the Australian continent, to be conducted in October 2008. Results will provide context for recorded trends in waterbird use of degraded river basins and will inform updates to waterbird population estimates.

Donor: Australian Government (through University of New South Wales)

Fiji office

Developing a Generalizable Method for Adaptive Management and Protection from Climate Change in Mangrove and Coral Reef Ecosystems.

This project develops and tests a climate change adaptation approach for the inherent ability to recover from Climate Change, in high biodiversity tropical mangrove areas and associated coral reef, sea-grass and upland ecosystems.

Donor: GEF / UNEP with co-financing from WWF and partner organizations

Management of Lake Kutubu Ramsar Site, Papua New Guinea

The project aims to assess current condition of populations of freshwater fishes (especially endemic species) at Lake Kutubu, Southern Highlands, Papua New Guinea, comparing species composition, sizes and abundances to baseline data from around the date of listing of the Ramsar Convention of Wetlands.

Donor: WWF

Fiji Seascapes

The Fiji seascapes/ecosystem-based management for coastal marine ecosystems project is carried out in collaboration with several other organisations. Aim is to facilitate the shift of marine ecosystems back to a 'natural' state and enhance their resilience to disturbance by promoting functionally intact marine communities. This project will serve as a model for ecosystem-based management in Fiji and the Western Pacific.

Donor: Wildlife Conservation Society

Strengthening local capacity to monitor and manage coastal and freshwater ecosystems in Papua New Guinea, Fiji and the Solomon Islands

This project trains and assists communities in Papua New Guinea (Madang Marine Area), Fiji and the Solomon Islands to monitor and assess coral reef resources and freshwater ecosystems and plan for their sustainable use.

Donor: MacArthur Foundation

Review of the delineation for Oceanic ecoregions, based on freshwater fish biogeography

This project involved a review of the draft delineation of Freshwater Ecoregions for Oceania based on knowledge of freshwater fish distribution.

Donor: WWF

Publications 2007

CHINESE

Rapid Assessment of Biodiversity and Community around Hongjiannao Wetland, Shaanxi Province; The conservation of the Relict Gull in Hongjiannao Wetland

Wetlands International China

Obtainable from: Wetlands International China:
peter@wetwonder.org

ENGLISH

Coastal waterbirds along the West African Seaboard

Cheikh Hamalla Diagana, Tim Dodman

Obtainable from: Headquarters,
www.wetlands.org

Impact of dams on the people of Mali (English, French, Bambara & Fulani)

Wetlands International, Altenburg & Wymenga, IVN Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

Obtainable from: Headquarters,
www.wetlands.org

Wetlands, poverty reduction and sustainable tourism development, opportunities and constraints (English, Spanish, French)

Van der Duim, R and Henkens, R
ISBN 978-90-5882-037-2, 978-90-5882-038-9, 978-90-5882-039-6

Obtainable from: Headquarters,
www.wetlands.org

Numbers and distribution of waterbirds and wetlands in the Asia-Pacific region: Results of the Asian Waterbird Census: 2002-2004

ZWD Li, T Mundkur

ISBN 13: 9789058820365

Obtainable from: Headquarters,
www.wetlands.org, www.nhbs.com

Inventory of Bulgarian wetlands and their biodiversity (English & Bulgarian)

Tanyo M. Michev & Maya P. Stoyneva

ISBN 978-954-9441-09-3

Obtainable from: Le Balkan Bulgaria Foundation

Assessment on Peatlands, Biodiversity and Climate Change - Executive Summary

F. Parish, A. Sirin, D. Charman, H. Joosten, T. Minayeva, M. Silvius

Obtainable from: Headquarters,
Global Environment Centre (GEC)

Wetlands International 3 year review: 2005-2007

Wetlands International

Obtainable from: Headquarters,
www.wetlands.org

The Greater Flamingo

Alan Johnson, Frank Cézilly

ISBN 978-0-7136-6562-8

Obtainable from: www.nhbs.com

Tasek Bera. A Semelai Medicine Chest in the Malaysian Rain Forest

S. S. Lee, M. Sugumaran, K.M. Wong

ISBN 9834227604

Obtainable from: Malaysia Office:
gabriel@wetlands.org.my

The Status of Coastal Waterbirds and Wetlands in Southeast Asia: Results of Waterbird Surveys in Malaysia (2004-2006) and Thailand and Myanmar (2006)

David Li Zuo and Rosie Ounsted (eds.)

ISBN 13: 9789058820419

Obtainable from: Malaysia Office:
gabriel@wetlands.org.my,
www.wetlands.org

People & Nature, a fishing village in Malaysia

Peter Bejder & Kim Boye Holt

ISBN 87-90483-94-4

Obtainable from: Malaysia Office:
gabriel@wetlands.org.my,
www.wetlands.org

Conservation Strategy for the West African Manatee *Trichechus senegalensis*

UNEP/PRCM - Wetlands International

Obtainable from: Africa Office
(Senegal): charleswet@orange.sn,
www.wetlands.org

Land Cover and Avian Biodiversity in Rice Fields and Mangroves of West Africa

Daan Bos, Ion Grigoras, Abdoulaye Ndiaye

ISBN 90-5882-034-3, 978-90-5882-034-1

Obtainable from: Africa Office
(Senegal): charleswet@orange.sn,
www.wetlands.org, www.nhbs.com

Priority conservation actions for coastal wetlands of the Gulf of Guinea

Tim Dodman, Mame Dagou Diop, Jérôme Mokoko Ikonga & Abdoulaye Ndiaye

ISBN 9058820335, 978-9058820335

Obtainable from: Africa Office
(Senegal): charleswet@orange.sn,
www.wetlands.org

Wild Birds and Avian Influenza: an introduction to applied field research and disease sampling techniques

Darrell Whitworth, Scott Newman,

Taej Mundkur, Phil Harris

ISBN 978-92-5-105908-1

Obtainable from: FAO:
www.fao.org/avianflu

Comprehensive Action Plan for Wular Lake, Kashmir (CD-ROM)

Wetlands International - South Asia

Obtainable from: South Asia office:
kamal.dalakoti@wi-sa.org

Waterbirds in the UK, 2005/06 The Wetland Bird Survey

Andy Musgrove, Mark Collier, Alex Banks, Neil Calbrade, Richard Hearn, Graham Austin

ISBN 978-1-906204-27-3

Obtainable from: www.nhbs.com

Rapid Ecological Assessment of Waterbirds and Wetlands along the Ranong and Phang-Nga Coastal Areas, Thailand

John Howes, Donnapat Tamornsuwan and Parinya Bantito

Obtainable from: Thailand Office:
benchawan-t@psu.ac.th

Impact Assessment of the Coastal Habitats and Resources Management (CHARM) project (English & Thai)

Wetlands International Thailand Office

Obtainable from: Thailand Office:
benchawan-t@psu.ac.th

FRENCH

Plan de Suivi et de Conservation de l'Écorégion Littoral de l'Afrique de l'Ouest

Wetlands International and WWF-Wamer

Obtainable from: Africa Office
(Senegal): charleswet@orange.sn,
www.wetlands.org

Oiseaux d'eau des zones humides côtières de l'Afrique de l'Ouest

Cheikh Hamalla Diagana, Tim Dodman

Obtainable from: Headquarters, www.wetlands.org

Manuel pour le suivi des colonies de nidification d'oiseaux marins en Afrique de l'Ouest

Jan Veen, Jacques Peeters, Wim C. Mullié & Cheikh H. Diagana
ISBN 90-5882-032-7, 978-90-5882-032-7
Obtainable from: Africa Office (Senegal): charleswet@orange.sn, www.wetlands.org

Renforcer les politiques pour la gestion et l'utilisation rationnelle des zones humides dans quatre écorégions (Afrique de l'Ouest et du Centre) (French & English)

Wetlands International - BBI Project
Obtainable from: Africa Office (Senegal): charleswet@orange.sn, www.wetlands.org

Integration de la recherche et de l'utilisation rationnelle dans quatre ecoregions humides de l'Afrique de l'Oest (French, English & Portugese)

Research Integration and Wise Use of Wetlands (BBI) Programme
Obtainable from: Africa offices (Senegal, Mali, Guinea Bissau), www.wetlands.org

Les Forêts Indonees: trésors du Delta Intérieur du Niger au Mali

Albert J. Beintema, Jan van der Kamp & Bakary Koné (eds.)
ISBN 978-90-807150-9-7
Obtainable from: West Africa Office - Mali: malpin@afribone.net.ml

INDONESIAN

Warta Konservasi: Lahan Basah
Wetlands International Indonesia Programme

Obtainable from: Indonesia Office: publication@wetlands.org.id

Pengelolaan Lahan Gambut Berbasis Masyarakat di Indonesia

Yus Rusila Noor & Jill Heyde
ISBN 978-979-99373-9-1
Obtainable from: Indonesia Office: publication@wetlands.org.id

Kajian Perolehan Karbon Sebagai Dampak Intervensi pada Lokasi Kegiatan Proyek CCFPI di Eks-PLG Bloka A, Mentangai, Kalimantan Tengah, dan Sekitar TN. Berbak, Jambi

Dr. Istomo, dkk.
Obtainable from: Indonesia Office: publication@wetlands.org.id

Pengembangan Model Reforestasi Mangrove Berbasis Masyarakat di Lingkungan Tambak, dalam Rangkang Mempromosikan Produktivitas Ekologi, Kesinambungan dan Keamanan Lingkungan di NAD (Lap. Akhir)

INN & Telly K
Obtainable from: Indonesia Office: publication@wetlands.org.id

Demonstration of Community-based Mangrove Reforestation in Aquaculture Landscapes to Promote Ecological Productivity, Sustainability and Environmental Security in Aceh

Wetlands International Indonesia Programme
Obtainable from: Indonesia Office: publication@wetlands.org.id

Serial CAKRA 8: Karyawisata ke Pesisir yang Sehat

Aldo Suryadiputra
ISBN 979-95899-1-6
Obtainable from: Indonesia Office: publication@wetlands.org.id

Serial CAKRA 7: Petualangan Menyelamatkan Penyu

Aldo Suryadiputra
ISBN 979-95899-1-6
Obtainable from: Indonesia Office: publication@wetlands.org.id

JAPANESE

Third National Bitterling Summit in Kasumigaura: Using the bitterling as a base for regional co-existence with rare species

Wetlands International Japan, Kasumigaura Citizen's Association
Obtainable from: Wetlands International Japan: harumi_kambe@wi-japan.org

Tidal Flat Benthos Survey Guidebook (Sendai Bay Version). co-author: Dr. Takao Suzuki

Wetlands International Japan
Obtainable from: Wetlands International Japan: harumi_kambe@wi-japan.org

Ramsar Spirit and Wise Use of Wetlands (DVD, Japanese & English)

Wetlands International Japan
Obtainable from: Wetlands International Japan: harumi_kambe@wi-japan.org

RUSSIAN

Vinogradovskaya Floodplain
Mischenko, A.

Obtainable from: Russia Office, ikamennova@wwf.ru

SPANISH

Valoración Socioeconómica de los Humedales en América Latina y el Caribe (Spanish & English)

Stolk, M. E., P. A. Verweij, M. Stuij, C. J. Baker and W. Oosterberg
ISBN 90 8672 015 3
Obtainable from: LAC Office: infohumedales@wamani.apc.org, www.wetlands.org

Video: Wetlands of Argentina / Húmedales de la Argentina (Spanish & English)

Latin America & Caribe Office
Obtainable from: LAC Office: infohumedales@wamani.apc.org, www.wetlands.org

UKRAINIAN

Merry Ant Hill: School-book on environmental education for schoolchildren

Georgii Kobenyok
Obtainable from: Black Sea Office: strategy@wetl.kiev.ua, www.wetlands.org

The Southern Bug meridional river corridor: biodiversity and valuable areas (Ukrainian & English)

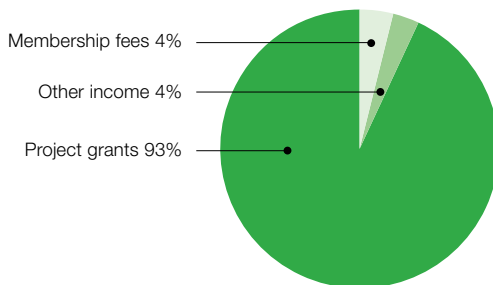
Kostyushin, A. Kuzemko, V. Onischenko, G. Chorna, S. Taraschuk, O. Derkach, O. Mishta, E. Vorona, M. Matveev, Yu. Voznyi, Yu. Kutsokon, S. Kardash, A. Vasylyuk, G. Kolomitsev, V. Novak, M. Tarasenko, M. Kozak.
Obtainable from: Black Sea Office: strategy@wetl.kiev.ua, www.wetlands.org

Financial Report of the Management Board

Global Financial Overview

During 2007 total worldwide income through all offices increased by 17% to Euro 13,6m (2006: Euro 11,6m). This comprised Project Income of Euro 12,7m (2006: Euro 11,6m), Membership Income of Euro 0,5m (2006: Euro 0,5m) and Other Income including Interest and Foreign Exchange results of Euro 0,4m (2006: Euro 0,2m).

Chart 1.
Global income
by category



NOTE: Global financial data is derived from the audited financial statements of the Foundation and the Association based in The Netherlands, combined with the provisional or, where available, audited results prepared by the regional offices. A financial consolidation of worldwide data for all the regional offices is not required under the legal entity structure and the global data has been presented only for informational purposes. Owing to different accounting periods and accounting conventions certain estimates have been made in respect of some regional offices. The audited financial statements of the Foundation and the Association for 2007 are available from the headquarters office.

Project Income

Projects continued to be the primary source of income in 2007, with the proportion raised by headquarters being 67% (2006 63%) and the income raised by the regional offices accounting for 33% (2006 37%). Both sources increased in absolute terms, headquarters from Euro 6,9m to Euro 8,5m and the regional offices from Euro 4,0m to Euro 4,2m.

Membership Income

Membership Income of Association Wetlands International rose to Euro 525k in total in 2007 from Euro 470k in 2006. This figure represents the dues of approximately 30 member countries and NGOs active in international wetlands conservation.

Expenditure

Direct project costs worldwide increased in line with project income amounting to 91% of total income. The trend towards larger multi year projects continued and as in previous years the implementation of certain activities on major projects secured through headquarters was sub-contracted to a range of Wetlands International Regional Offices as well as to external partner organisations.

During 2007 the triennial Association of Members Meeting was held in China and the reserve built up over the previous 3 years was released to cover the costs apart from those costs covered due to the generous hosting by Shaoxing Municipality.

Chart 2.
Project income
by region

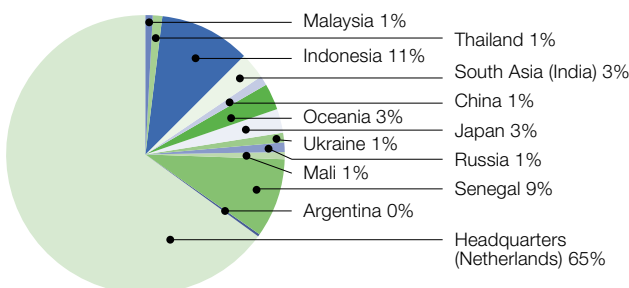
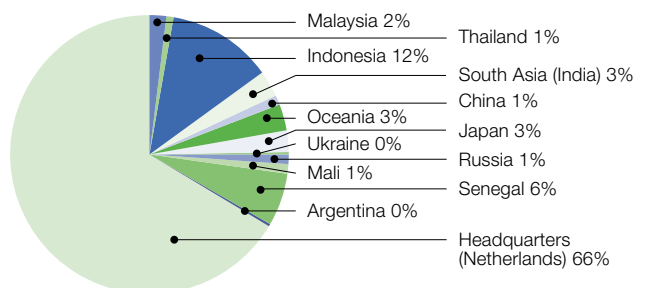


Chart 3.
Project expenditure
by region



Financial Statements of the Foundation and the Association

A summary of key financial data of the Foundation and Association combined is provided as Table 1. Total project income for the Foundation was Euro 8,537k, an increase of 25% on 2006 which led to a lower than budgeted contribution from the Association's membership fees being needed to cover Foundation operating costs.

This enabled a higher than budgeted transfer to reserves to be made for 2007 and was the third successive year that a surplus was recorded, demonstrating increased financial stability. It is anticipated however that part of the reserves built up in the Association will need to be utilized in connection with the relocation of the headquarters commencing in 2008. The full audited Report and Financial Statements of the Association and the Foundation are available from the headquarters office.

Outlook for 2008

Continued growth is envisaged in 2008 both in the headquarters and the regional offices with worldwide project income expected to rise by 15% to Euro 14,6m. Capacity constraints and infrastructure challenges in some regions however mean that new project opportunities have to be carefully evaluated in advance. As in previous years Wetlands International's efforts in carrying out and supporting major projects will generate considerable additional co-financing but this is not reflected in Wetlands International's income projections as such funds pass directly to other parties.

A global partnership with Shell is also expected to be entered into in 2008 with the establishment of a base programme for co-operation in areas of mutual interest potentially leading to engagement in more specific projects in later years. As noted under the comments on the Foundation and Association the necessity for relocation of the headquarters office from the current subsidized premises is expected to require funding from accumulated reserves and will also have an impact on the availability of funds to invest in capacity building throughout the global network. Additional sources of funding will be sought to address this challenge as the relocation cannot be deferred.

Jane Madgwick, CEO Wetlands International

Chart 4.
Project expenditure
by global goal

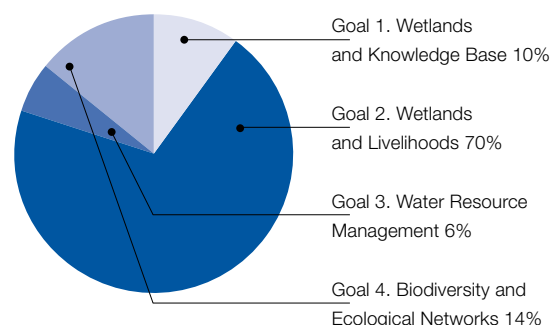


Table 1.
Combined summary of income and
expenditure for Association and
Foundation 2007

All amounts in thousand €	2007	2007	2006
	Actual	Budget	Actual
INCOME			
Project income	8.537	10.462	6.843
Membership fees	525	460	471
Contribution from restructuring fund	10	10	84
Other income	49	135	53
Total income	9.121	11.067	7.451
EXPENDITURE			
Project costs	7.863	10.112	6.665
Operational costs	1.058	905	736
Surplus transferred to reserves	200	50	50
Total expenditure	9.121	11.067	7.451

Summarised financial statement

All amounts in thousand €	Balance at	Balance at
	31 December 2007	31 December 2006
	Actual	Actual
ASSETS		
Fixed assets		
Computers and office equipment	14	17
Current assets		
Cash and bank	1.741	3.765
Deferred project costs	116	0
Receivables	255	387
Total Assets	2.126	4.169
LIABILITIES AND RESERVES		
Current liabilities		
Deferred project income	1.288	3.493
Creditors and accruals	516	496
Membership dues paid in advance	36	84
Reserves		
General reserve	286	86
Restructuring fund	0	10
Total liabilities and reserves	2.126	4.169

Table 2.
Combined summary balance sheet for Association and Foundation 2007

BioRights provide payment for sustainable development to local communities in exchange for their active involvement in environmental conservation



Specialist Groups

Wetlands International relies heavily on its network of voluntary experts for the gathering of information, but also for analysis and transformation into knowledge. This forms the basis for Wetlands International's advice to governments and for communicating important challenges that are in need of solutions. Specialist Groups are formal or informal networks of experts who provide information and advice in support of Wetlands International's programmes and projects.

There are currently 20 Specialist Groups divided into 14 groups for waterbird taxa, 5 thematic groups and 1 for freshwater fish; overall, these groups involve over 2000 people. These networks are essential for the delivery of wetland and wetland species expertise in support of wetland conservation globally. Therefore, they represent a vital part of Wetlands International's knowledge base.

Contributions

The Specialist Groups have proven to be invaluable in providing key data and insights in a number of cases during the past year alone. One example is through Wetlands International's current involvement in several projects aiming at (1) strengthening the understanding of the role of wild birds in the spread of avian influenza, (2) establishing appropriate wetland management responses and (3) establishing an early warning system. Thanks to these specialist networks, Wetlands International is able to carry out the International Waterbird Census (IWC). For more information on the IWC, contact Simon Delany (simon.delany@wetlands.org) or our global website www.wetlands.org under 'What We Do - Biodiversity'.

Coordinators

This valued partnership with experts is part of the core for Wetlands International to reach all four global goals of its strategic intent. The following list are the coordinators, indicated per specialist group:

Cormorant

Mennobart van Eerden
freebird@flevonet.nl

Crane

George Archibald - george@savingcranes.org

Diver and Loon

Joseph Kerekes - joe.kerekes@ec.gc.ca

Duck

Richard Hearn - richard.hearn@wwt.org.uk

Flamingo

Brooks Childress - Brooks.Childress@wwt.org.uk

Goose

Bart Ebbinge - b.s.ebbinge@alterra.wag-ur.nl

Grebe

Heron

James Kushlan - jkushlan@earthlink.net

Pelican

Alain Crivelli - a.crivelli@tourduvalat.org

Seaduck

Stephan Pihl - sp@dmu.dk

Storks, Ibises & Spoonbills

Wim van den Bossche & Malcolm Coulter
wim.vandenbossche@natuurpunt.be

Swan

John Ø. Albertsen
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Threatened Waterfowl

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Wader

David Stroud - David.Stroud@jncc.gov.uk

Woodcock and Snipe

Yves Ferrand - yves.ferrand@oncfs.gouv.fr

Freshwater Fish

Gordon McGregor Reid - gordonr@chesterzoo.org

Wetlands Inventory, Assessment & Monitoring (WIAM)

Dr Peter Bayliss - pbayliss5@bigpond.com

Wetlands Restoration

Kevin L. Erwin - KLErwin@environment.com

Communication, Education & Public Awareness (CEPA)

Christine Prietto - christine.prietto@det.nsw.edu.au

Waterbird Harvest

Gilles Deplanque - gillesdeplanque@nordnet.fr

The Specialist Groups focal point within Wetlands International in 2008 is Mr. Nicolas Tubbs:
nicolas.tubbs@wetlands.org.

For more information you can also visit the section on Specialist Groups on our new website www.wetlands.org under 'About Us'.

Supervisory Council & Board of Association, Member Organisations

Governance

Management Board

Chief Executive Officer

Jane Madgwick

Supervisory Council and Board of Association

Ray Offenheiser
United States of America
Honorary President

Gordana Beltram*
Slovenia
Chair of Supervisory Council and Board of Association; Chair Nominations Standing Committee

Jean-Paul Taris*
France
Vice Chair of Supervisory Council and Board of Association

Ruud Keulen*
The Netherlands
Chair of Finance and Operations Standing Committee, Treasurer, Board of Association

Sergio Lasso Barreto*
Ecuador
Secretary, Board of Association

Paul Mafabi*
Uganda
Chair of Programme Review and Science Standing Committee

Cees van Woerkum
The Netherlands
Chair of Resource Development and Communications Standing Committee

Nick Davidson
Switzerland
Permanent Observer of the Ramsar Convention

Giuseppe Raaphorst
The Netherlands
Permanent Observer of the Host Country

Margarita Astralaga
Spain

Baz Hughes
United Kingdom

Idrissa Doucouré
Senegal / United Kingdom

Sidharth Kaul
India

Kevin Erwin
United States of America

Yoshihiro Natori
Japan

Maria Carolina Hazin
Brazil

Hazell Shokellu Thompson
Kenya

Honorary Supervisory Council Member

Alison Russell-French
Australia

Counsellors of Honour

M. de Cognac
Luc Hoffmann
Chris Kalden
Geoffrey Matthews
Michael Moser
Max Finlayson
Stewart Morrison

*= Executive Board of Association

Member Organisations

Non-Governmental Members:

BirdLife / Danish Ornithological Society

BirdLife / Vogelbescherming Nederland

British Association for Shooting and Conservation (BASC)

Danish Hunters Association

Deutscher Jagdschutz-Verband EV

Federation of Associations for Hunting and Conservation of the EU (FACE)

Greek Biotope / Wetland Centre (EKBY)

National Association of Regional Game Councils

Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB)

Schweister Vogelschutz

Sveriges Ornitologiska Förening (SOF)

Government Members:

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Austria

Belgium

Benin

Bulgaria

China

Czech Republic

Denmark

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Hungary

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Japan

Kenya

Latvia

Macedonia

Malaysia

Netherlands

Norway

Pakistan

Poland

Portugal

Slovakia

Slovenia

Sweden

Switzerland

Tunisia

United Kingdom

The Wetlands International Members Meeting was held in Shaoxing, China in November 2007



New Wetlands International global website

Wetlands International proudly presents the new and integrated global web system, including the global website of our organisation www.wetlands.org and many subsites.

The new web system provides you with a lot of information about our work in general, our dozens of projects and hundreds of publications. All this information is presented in a user-friendly way, varying from clickable maps with our projects to search selections for all our work by topic, region or type of activities.

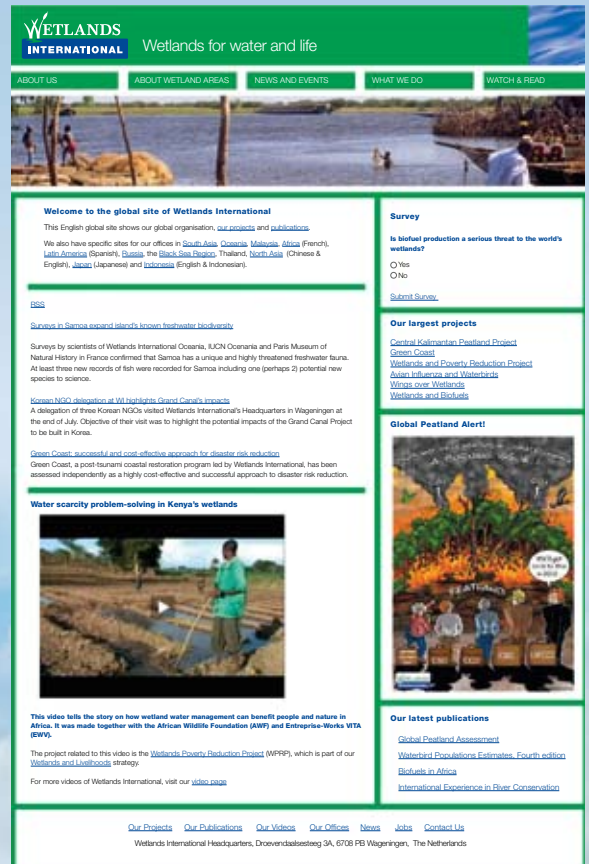
It also features the videos made by our offices and projects, as well as RSS Feeds or email subscription to our Global Newsletter to keep you up-to-date on all the wetland news.

Websites of the offices

There are subsites for all our offices around the globe. These present their selection of projects or publications in the languages that are used by the offices. Additionally, there is a website about our work on restoring the peatlands of Indonesia (www.ckpp.org), the Green Coast project (www.greencoasts.org), the Wings over Wetlands programme (www.wingsoverwetlands.org), and a new site presenting information about all the Ramsar sites of the world (<http://ramsar.wetlands.org>).

Databases

The site system with several subsites and a global site is integrated by commonly shared databases with our projects, publications, images and staff. Also all the news of different offices is presented in an integrated way. The site is developed with the global shareware system DNN.



The screenshot shows the homepage of the Wetlands International website. At the top, there is a green header with the logo and the tagline "Wetlands for water and life". Below the header is a navigation menu with links for "ABOUT US", "ABOUT WETLAND AREAS", "NEWS AND EVENTS", "WHAT WE DO", and "WATCH & READ". The main content area is divided into several sections: "Welcome to the global site of Wetlands International", "Survey" (with a poll question: "Is biofuel production a serious threat to the world's wetlands?"), "Our largest projects" (listing Central Kalimantan Peatland Project, Green Coast, Wetlands and Poverty Reduction Project, Asian Inflow and Wetlands, Wings over Wetlands, and Wetlands and Biodiversity), "Global Peatland Alert!", and "Our latest publications" (listing Global Peatland Assessment, Wetland Ecosystems Estimates, Fourth edition, and Biodiversity in Africa). At the bottom, there are links for "Our Projects", "Our Publications", "Our Videos", "Our Offices", "News", "Jobs", and "Contact Us", along with the address: "Wetlands International Headquarters, Droevendaalsesteeg 3A, 6708 PB Wageningen, The Netherlands".

Homepage website www.wetlands.org

So visit the new www.wetlands.org website for all your information on wetlands and much more!

Seedling banks of valuable indigenous tree species that can live under waterlogged circumstances, Central Kalimantan Peatland Project (CKPP), Borneo, Indonesia



Donors

Wetlands International wishes to thank the following donors
for their contributions to our projects:

Intergovernmental organisations

African-Eurasian Waterbird Agreement (AEWA)
Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF)
European Commission
European Space Agency (ESA)
European Union
Global Environment Facility (GEF)
Ramsar / Wetlands for the Future
United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) - India Programme
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) - Global Environment Facility (GEF) - Small Grants Facility (SGF)
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO)
World Bank

National governments

Australia: Government
Australia: Queensland Environmental Protection Agency
Belgium: Flemish Ministry for the Community
Canada: Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)
Canada: Canadian Wildlife Service
China: Government of the People's Republic
Denmark: Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development
Denmark-National Environmental Research Institute
France: Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development
Germany: Bundesamt für Naturschutz
India: Chilika Development Authority
India: Government of Jammu and Kashmir
India: Loktak Development Authority
Japan: Fund for Global Environment (JFGE)
Japan: Government
Japan: Ministry of the Environment
Korea: Government of the Republic of Korea
Malaysia: Forestry Department of Malaysia
Netherlands: Ministry for International Cooperation (DGIS)
Netherlands: Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality (LNV)
Netherlands: The Royal Netherlands Embassy in Beijing
Netherlands: The Royal Netherlands Embassy in Moscow
Netherlands: The Royal Netherlands Embassy in Thailand
Netherlands: The Royal Netherlands Embassy in the Ukraine
Netherlands: Poverty Eradication and Environmental Management Programme
Netherlands: The Royal Netherlands Embassy, Malaysia
Netherlands: Partners for Water
Sweden: Swedish Environmental Protection Agency
Switzerland: Bundesamt für Umwelt, Wald und Landschaft (BUWAL)
United Kingdom: Joint Nature Conservation Committee
USA: United States Agency for International Development (USAID)
USA: US Fish and Wildlife Service

Private sector, research institutes and NGO donors

Alterra Green World Research
Asia-Pacific Forum for Environment and Development (APFED)
ECNC-European Centre for Nature Conservation
Euronatur, European Nature Heritage Fund
Fitzroy Basin Association
Fondation Internationale pour le Banc d'Arguin (FIBA)
Global Avian Influenza Network for Surveillance (GAINS)
Indigenous Land Corporation
International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
Keidanren Nature Conservation Fund
Keidanren Nature Conservation Fund of Japan
Lynx Edicions
MacArthur Foundation
Malaysia Environmental NGO (MENGO)
MAVA Foundation for Nature Conservation, Switzerland
Migratory Birds of the Western Palearctic (OMPO)
Mitsui & Co., Ltd Environment Fund
Natural Heritage Trust
Nature Conservation Society of Japan
Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act / USF&WS
Oxfam-Novib
Pro Natura Foundation-Japan
River Environment Fund
Royal Selangor Golf Club
Shell China Exploration and Production Company Ltd
Teo A. Khing Design Consultants Sdn Bhd.
Vodafone Foundation Netherlands
Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network / NFWF
Wildlife Conservation Society
Wildlife Conservation Society
World Wildlife Fund for Nature (WWF)

Mission:

To sustain and restore wetlands, their resources and biodiversity for future generations.

WETLANDS INTERNATIONAL'S OFFICES AND THEIR DIRECTORS/HEADS OF OFFICE

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