Project "Migratory Birds for People"

NEWSLETTER no. 5 (December 2010)

Introduction:

Dear colleagues,

Since our latest newsletter, which was issued in November 2010, the project team came together in Slimbridge (UK) in order to work on the preparation for the submission of a bid for the Life + Communication funding. On the 6th of Dec. we discussed the content for the log frame and the budget. We have clarified our objectives for the projects more clearly, downsized the budget to an acceptable level and adopted a timeline for the coming months. We also concluded that further defined steps should be made together with all participants in the project. Therefore we strongly invite you all to come to our meeting which will be held in the nature reserve Aiguamolls de l'Emporda (near Barcelona). This workshop is planned on the **25th and 26th of January 2011**. (See more details in this newsletter).

There has been a change in the steering group: Alex Kaat is now replaced by Sander Carpaij (Communications officer for Wetlands International). We welcome him in our midst and had already good experiences with him in the meeting in Slimbridge. We thank Alex for his inspiring, positive and enthusiastic input in our meetings and for being chair of the steering group.

On behalf of the steering group,

Roelof Heringa

In supplement you find:

- **1. Mission project ""Migratory Birds for People"**
  The steering group thought it might be useful to have our "dream" in writing to inspire you and to tell your colleagues what we would like to realise in this project.
- **2. List of participants**
- **3. and separate is attached : A template to enter <u>your</u> ideas for this project**

Project **"Migratory Birds for People"**

NEWSLETTER no. 5 (December 2010)

News from the network:

Natuurpunt, Belgium

The coordinator for visitor centres for Natuurpunt, Liesbet Cleynhens, has informed us about a change in their involvement in this project. Instead of the visitor centre "de Blankaert", the management has decided to have the visitor centre for the "Oudkerkse Polder" as their participant in the project. We therefore welcome Bob Vandendriessche and thank Sigrid Verhaeghe from "de Blankaert" for her spontaneous promise to join the project in the first place.

++

Denmark

We received message from Søren Ferdinand Hansen, that the information centre Hyldevang / Nyord would not fulfil the expectations for this project. One of the reasons being that this information centre does not have full staff. He therefore advised to contact another visitor centre in Denmark: Vestamager on Sjealland. First contacts with the manager Jes Aagaard are positive, but their involvement has to be confirmed as yet.

Meeting project team in Slimbridge 6th and 7th of December 2010

In the office of the Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust (WWT) in Slimbridge gathered: Chris Rostron (chair), Natasha Cook (WWT), Sander Carpaij (Wetlands International), Richard Lloyd (Europarc-Consulting), Theo de Bruin and Roelof Heringa (Staatsbosbeheer) to discuss progress in the preparation of the project.

visitor centre Slimbridge

Notes from Migratory Birds for People meeting Slimbridge, 6th December 2010

LIFE Information and Communication strand is of course part of the overall biodiversity theme, but has a focus on information sharing and building networks. Generally speaking, the average size of the bid should be around one million Euros, and have a maximum of 5 or 6 core partners, which will limit the

scope of our proposal. The discussions at Slimbridge aimed to get an idea of how this affects our plans, focus on the problem that we are trying to tackle, and develop suitable tasks and co-financing. Firstly, the issue of limited numbers of partners is a serious challenge. We started with 12 partners, and even with two of the originals dropping out, we still have more than the recommended number. The EU definition of 'Associated Beneficiary' is a partner that receives funding and provides co-financing as part of the project, and we still need to agree which of the partners will be included in this role. This will depend on:

- Geography. We need a good spread of partners along the flyway.
- All partners must work on a Natura 2000 site.
- Relation to project leaders. In this case, WWT and Staatsbosbeheer are leaders who also have centres.
- Provision of co-financing. We need partners who have plans to develop their centre that will coincide with plans for the MBP project. These do not have to have confirmed funding, but should be able to show where it might come from.
- Capacity. The centres should have the time and resources to contribute to the development of the project, as well as its delivery.
- Baseline information. At the start of the project, we need information on visitor numbers, community involvement and attitudes to wetlands to show how the project will help.

Clearly, not all centres will meet all these criteria, but it is worth pointing out that as well as the 'Associated Beneficiaries' we also plan to keep the wider network involved, as partners that helping deliver the project, but not financially.

This means that they can take part by sharing information, using resources that are being developed, commenting on developments, and using local funding to help support the central delivery. We also have a wider network of WLI members that will benefit from the project, and could have a valuable input.

At the next meeting in Aiguamolls de l'Emporda, near Barcelona, we hope that as many partners as possible can attend, in order to plan and develop the project. We would anticipate that all final Associated Beneficiaries will be present, as detailed planning will require them to have a full input to the process.

Work plan summary

The overall problem that we are trying to solve is that Natura 2000 wetland (SPA) sites are not achieving their full conservation potential as a coherent ecological network, largely due to insufficient communication and sharing of information between sites. We now have a document with costings which outline our ambitions for the project. Broadly speaking we have work headings of: community involvement and engagement; international communication and cooperation; tracking of migratory birds; development of interpretation and information materials; webcams and website. These are all components that we agreed at previous meetings, and we hope will provide you with useful resources.

Although the costs associated have only roughly been calculated, it already appears that with an estimated bid of €1m, we will have trouble delivering some of the more costly elements of the bid. We therefore have options either to find more co-financing, or to scale down these elements. Satellite tracking of birds and the production of 5 films would, between them, amount to more than €1m and we need to consider all elements carefully. If we feel that all elements are important, we need to find match-funding from elsewhere to support them.

Welcome Natasha!
Natasha Cook is specialist in fundraising for WWT and she will also assist us with her knowledge in the preparation of the Life bid.

f.l.t.r.: Natasha Cook, Chris Rostron and Sander Carpaij during the meeting in Slimbridge (6 Dec.2010)

++

Announcement of 2nd Workshop ""Migratory Birds for People"

25-26th of January 2011 in AIGUAMOLLS DE L'EMPORDÀ NATURAL PARC, Spain.

Aim:

To bring all partners together to develop detailed ideas on how the MBP project will be delivered. We hope to hold the meeting at Aiguamolls l'Emporda site, just north of Barcelona, courtesy of the site managers there. There are options for free accommodation and some of the food expenses will be covered. We won't, however, be able to cover the transport costs, although we can arrange a pick up from Barcelona airport. The meeting will take place over the 25th and 26th of January 2011.

It is also crucial that members of the network will get to know each other, because it is a proven fact that this will enhance future contacts. The workshop will be organised on low-budget basis. Barcelona is easy to reach by low-cost carriers and transport from airport will be organised.

We hope to cover:

- Detailed content of the bid and methodology for delivery (4 year plan)
- Planned activities and co-financing options
- Agreement of roles and responsibilities of partners
- Monitoring and reporting of the project

The meeting will take place over two days to give partners the opportunity to get to know each other, and to really explore a detailed plan for the project. There are many items that we still need to cover, including the options to share economies of scale versus specific requirements of each centre.

To prepare for the meeting we are asking partners to provide us with information on the following points:

- Comments on log frame and budget.
- Identify the work areas and outputs, linked to objectives
- Details on co-financing and possible complementary projects
- Project plan for how they will deliver the work
- Who will deliver and with what resource?
- What capacity will they need additionally?
- Immediate time schedule – can they deliver development work leading up to the bid?
- Baseline info – numbers of visitors, size of site and building, dates running, annual budget etc.
- All to be back by the 14th January – digest and request further info for meeting if necessary.

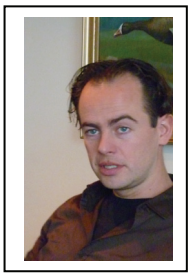
(Separate to this newsletter is added: A template to enter <u>your</u> ideas for this project)

Aiguamolls l'Emporda

Contact details Working group:

Chris Rostron (Head of Wetland Link International, London)
Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust (WWT)
Slimbridge, Glos GL2 7BT, UK
T +44 (0)1453 891214
F +44 (0)1453 890827
M +44 (0)7906 564 641
E chris.rostron@wwt.org.uk
W wli.org.uk

Sander Carpaij (Communications officer, Wetlands International Headquarters)
Visiting address: Horapark 9 (2nd floor), 6717 LZ Ede, THE NETHERLANDS
Postal address: Postbox 471, 6700 AL, Wageningen, (NL)
Office Tel: +31 318 660910
Fax: +31 318 660950 E-mail: sander.carpaij@wetlands.org
Website: www.wetlands.org Skype: sandercarpay



Taej Mundkur (Programme Manager - Flyways, Wetlands International Headquarters),
Visiting address: Horapark 9 (2nd floor), 6717 LZ Ede, THE NETHERLANDS
Postal address: Postbox 471, 6700 AL, Wageningen, (NL)
Office Tel: +31 318 660910 (Direct 660940), Cell: +31 614987324
Fax: +31 318 660950 E-mail: taej.mundkur@wetlands.org
Website: www.wetlands.org Skype: taejmundkur

Theo de Bruin (Projectleader visitor centre, Oostvaardersland Staatsbosbeheer)
Staatsbosbeheer , Regional office Region East
Postbus 6, 7400 AA Deventer (NL)
T.+31-570747100 / M +31-63555985
E-mail: th.bruin@staatsbosbeheer.nl

Roelof Heringa (Project manager & International affairs, Staatsbosbeheer).
Staatsbosbeheer , Regional office Region East
Postbus 6, 7400 AA Deventer (NL)
T.+31-570747100 / M +31-655306276
E-mail: r.heringa@staatsbosbeheer.nl

Supplement 1.

Migratory Birds for People

Mission

European wetland sites make up a chain along bird migration routes, and many of these sites have visitor centres that function as ways to engage local people. They connect the birds and sites to the visiting audience, local citizens, children, birdwatchers and other lovers of these Natura 2000-locations. It is our dream to get these birds, their migration routes and their sites firmly in the hearts and minds of the European citizens. We want to really connect the Natura 2000 sites and their centres and emphasize their importance as a coherent system by which thousands and thousands of birds roam across Europe and Africa. The idea is simple. The chain of sites and related centres linked by migrating birds is also directly expressed in the centre itself. Modern digital equipment and technique play an essential role in this flow of information.

The first step is to collect data of birds flying over Europe and Africa in all directions. This can be done by radio- and/or satellite tracking, as well as through sightings from local birdwatchers. Data of existing and extended tracking programmes can be used and displayed on large screens in each of the partaking visitor centres all over Europe, raising awareness amongst visitors that their centre is an important part of a chain of similar ones. Through indicators and digital software, local visitors can collect extra information of the particular site the birds are residing at the specific moment.

The input for the information mentioned above, is gathered by local amateurs and committed visitors and contains, for example, local made films, pictures taken by amateur photographers and actual counts and other gathered data. Every visitor centre, being a meeting point and a centre of all sorts of activities, is creating a database of information, connected through an interactive website, specially developed for the project.

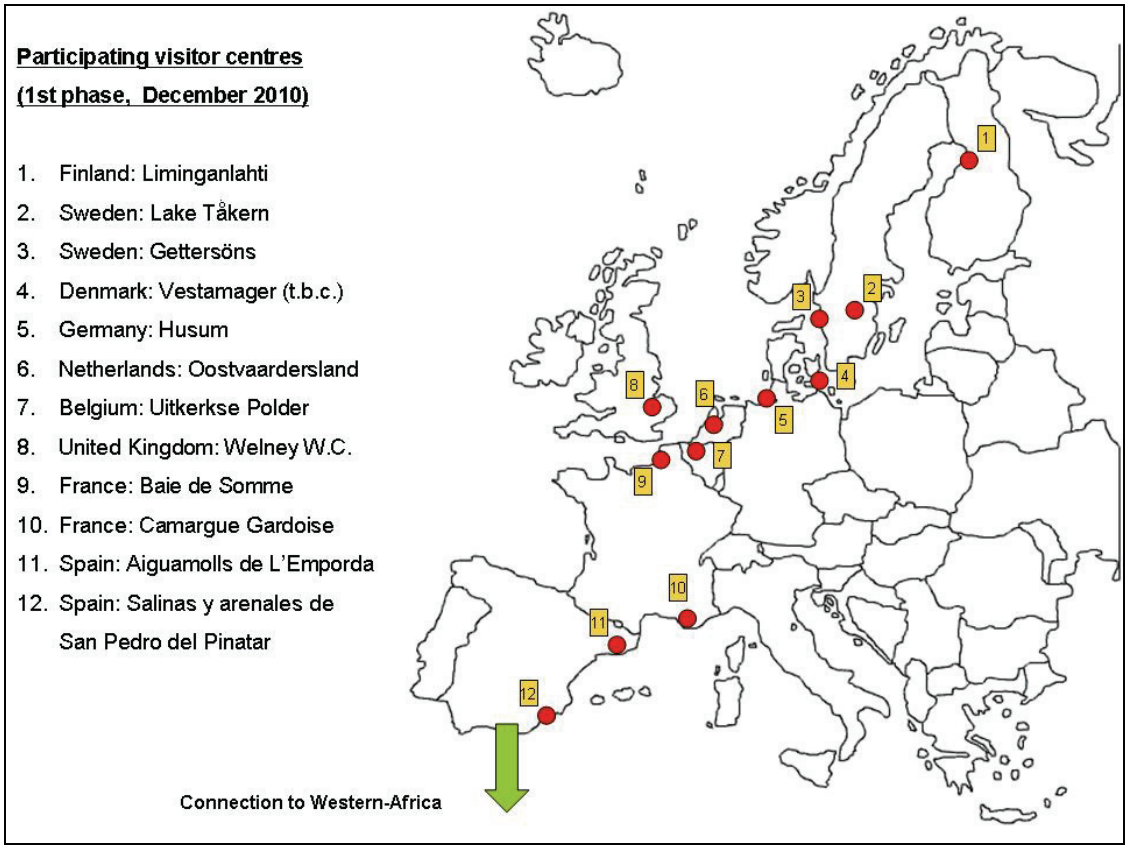
The most important connection will be made in the minds of the visitors. During a visit or by means of a website, a visitor is asked to connect him or herself to a migrating bird by leaving his/her e-mail address behind. Through this e-address, information is broadcasted periodically of where and when the bird is flying, nesting, foraging and resting. The information gathered is giving an extra and in-depth view of the local circumstances in which the 'connected bird' is living at that particular moment in time. Thus the person or group of young students that are connected are given real-time impressions of the circumstances and conditions in which 'their' bird is residing.

By this 'broadcasting' of information and creating a life-long connection with a bird or groups of birds, a deeper understanding will be created among European citizens of the value of Natura 2000 wetlands. More than before, people will be able to understand the importance of their site in relation to the migratory routes or the birds. Information is made easily accessible by sending email messages and using the website and social media. With this knowledge, support for the conservation and management of the local site will increase as well as the support for the other sites will grow. Not only will people be involved in their own community and their local Natura 2000 site and wetland, they will also become a stakeholder for the other European Natura 2000 Wetlands.

With the migration routes as central chain, sites, centres and people will get connected. A better understanding of the importance of the network of site is created and an increased co-operation among centres is established. Not just for the partners taking part, but as a start for a European collaboration among centres and their organisations illustrating the wonders of migrating birds and their wetlands.

(December 2010)

Supplement 2.



List of participants

1. **Finland** : Liminganlahti conservation area
   Contact: Sari Airas, Project manager Metsähallitus
   Jukupolku 5, 85100 Kalajoki
   Mob: +358-40-5016127
   sari.airas@metsa.fi

2. **Sweden:**
   a. Lake Täkern (Lansstyrelsen)
   Contact: Dan Nilsson, Länsstyrelsen, Östgötgatan 3, 58186 Linköping
   T:+46-13196351 M:
   Email: dan.nilsson@lansstyrelsen.se

   b. Getteröns Naturcentrum, Avosetta AB
   Lassavägen 1, 432 93 Varberg
   contact: Linda Eklund
   tfn. +46(0)340 - 875 10
   Office +46 340 – 10189
   Mob. +46-703925389
   Fax +46(0)340 - 150 54
   Linda.eklund@lansstyrelsen.se

3. **Denmark: (to be confirmed)**
   a. Nature Centre Vestamager,
   Granatvej 3-9,
   2770 Kastrup
   Contact: Jes Aagaard
   Tel: +45-39973910
   Mob: +45-23730261
   Email: jaa@sns.dk
   Web:
   http://www.skovognatur.dk/Ud/Beskrivelser/Hovedstaden/Vestamager/Naturcenter/Vestamager.htm

4. **Germany :**

   Nationalpark - Haus Husum,
   Hafenstraße 3,
   25813 – DE Husum
   Contact: Dr. Hans-Ulrich Rösner
   Tel : +49-4841-6685-51
   Email: roesner@wwf.de
   info@nationalparkhaus-husum.de
   Web: www.nationalparkhaus-husum.de
   www.wwf.de/wattenmeer

5. **Netherlands:**
   a. Infocentrum "Oostvaardersplassen"
   [to be changed in visitor centre "Oostvaardersland" - 2012]
   Contact: Wenda Kloen;
   T: +31-320-254585 / M: 06-21266674
   E: w.kloen@staatsbosbeheer.nl

6. **Belgium:**
   Bezoekerscentrum Uitkerkse Polder
   Contact: Liesbet Cleynhens (Coordinator visitor centres for Natuurpunt.) Coxiestraat 11, 2800 Mechelen |
   Tel: +32-15-29 72 20
   Mob: +32-479839287
   Email: liesbet.cleynhens@natuurpunt.be

   And: Bob Vandendriessche
   Kuiperscheeweg 20
   8370 Uitkerke
   Telefoon +32-50 42 90 40
   E-mail: bc.uitkerksepolder@natuurpunt.be
   Website http://www.natuurpunt.be/blankenberge

7. **United Kingdom:**
   a. WWT Welney Wetland Centre
   Contact: Leigh Marshall, Hundred Foot Bank, Welney, Nr. Wisbech, PE14 9TN
   T: +44-1353 860711 F: +441353 863524
   E: leigh.marshall@wwt.org.uk

8. **France:**
   a. Baie de Somme (**contact:** Patrick Triplet)
   Syndicat Mixte Baie de Somme
   1, place de l'Amiral Courbet
   F 80 100 Abbeville
   +33 (0)6 86 67 97 92
   email: patrick.triplet1@orange.fr

   b. Camargue Gardoise / Centre de découverte du Scamandre
   Syndicat Mixte pour la protection et la gestion de la Camargue Gardoise
   contact : Cécile Mundler
   Registered office : SMCG - Hôtel du Département - rue Guillemette - 30044 NIMES cedex 9
   téléphone : +33-4 66 76 78 55
   Visitor centre : +Centre de découverte du Scamandre – Gallician – 30600 VAUVERT
   Tel:+33-4 66 73 52 05
   email : mundler@camarguegardoise.com

9. **Spain:**
   a. AIGUAMOLLS DE L'EMPORDÀ NATURAL PARC (NE Catalonia, Spain)
   Contact: Ponç Feliu
   Information Centre **:** El Cortalet, Castelló d'Empúries (road to Sant Pere Pescador).
   Tel.: +34-972 454 222.
   email : pfeliu@serpa.cat

   b. PARQUE REGIONAL SALINAS Y ARENALES DE SAN PEDRO DEL PINATAR
   Contact : Ana Belén Martínez Fernández
   Consejería de Agricultura y Agua.
   Dirección General de Patrimonio Natural y Biodiversidad.
   Servicio de Caza, Pesca Fluvial y Defensa del Medio Natural.
   C/ Catedrático Eugenio Úbeda, nº 3, 30008 Murcia
   4º Planta, Despacho 440
   Teléfono; +34- 968228858
   Email: anab.martinez14@carm.es

C. **partner on waiting list (cc):**
EBRO DELTA
contact: Xavier Escuté i Gasulla
Àrea de Territori i Paisatge
Fundació Caixa Catalunya
+34 93 484 70 08
xavier.escute@fcaixacatalunya.es