

What WLI did in 2018



Social media: our website had 12,000 users. Our Facebook page grew to 1,050 followers.

In May we worked with wetland centres and schools across Europe, Africa and Latin America on the [schools and birds](#) project to celebrate World Migratory Birds Day 2018. We worked with seven schools and wetland centres to take part, with a final skype conference call between schools across Europe, Africa and Latin America, raising issues around how local groups can support migratory birds.





The head of WLI, Chris Rostron and our colleagues at [MCF, China](#), were successful in taking part in a **twinning project between China and Europe**. Chris spent a month working with wetland centre colleagues in Shenzhen, delivering training, understanding how wetland CEPA is delivered in China, and taking part in the launch of the Chinese Coastal Wetland Centre network. Chen Qing, our MCF colleague, spent a month with us at WWT Slimbridge.

WWT employed a new **International Engagement Officer**, Connor Walsh, a great addition to the WLI team at Slimbridge UK, with a strong background in communications, social media and web management.



WLI internship. We welcomed Samaneh Azizi to the team, from the Ramsar Regional Centre in Central and West Asia, Iran. She was based in Ramsar City where the treaty was originally signed, and will spend nine months with us at WWT Slimbridge, UK, supporting delivery of WLI and helping to develop connections in her home region.

Our **MBP (WLI East Atlantic) network Annual Meeting** took place at the Grand



Lieu lake, France, bringing together 20 partners from along the flyway, from Europe and Africa. The meeting gave us the chance to review our work and plan for 2019, including next annual meeting at WWT Slimbridge, UK, and celebrating MBP's 10th anniversary.

We found out that our **BioWet** EU funding application with Norway, the Basque Country and Portugal was successful (third time lucky!). This will see students and staff visiting each other's wetland centres to develop indicators of climate change impacts on wetlands.



WLI had a good presence at the **Ramsar COP13**, delivering a side event on CEPA good practice, taking part in side events on the global citizen science survey and others. WWT had an exhibition and promoted WLI and CEPA activities with governments and other partners in Dubai.

Wetlands and Culture. WLI has been playing an active role to continue the



work of the Ramsar Culture network, delivering a survey of culture activities at wetland centres, organising a well-received side-event at the Ramsar COP13, inputting to the Ramsar resolution on culture and wetlands, and facilitating the culture working group to plan for continued activity.

The carbon footprint of our staff and interns in 2018 was 19.9259 Tonnes CO₂e

Finally, eight new members from seven different countries joined the WLI network this year, making a total of 348 wetland centre members.

For more information on WLI, please contact:

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Or visit the website at www.wli.org.uk



WLI is recognised as a key implementer of the Ramsar CEPA programme



The WLI network is coordinated by WWT