

BirdLife action in the African Eurasian flyway

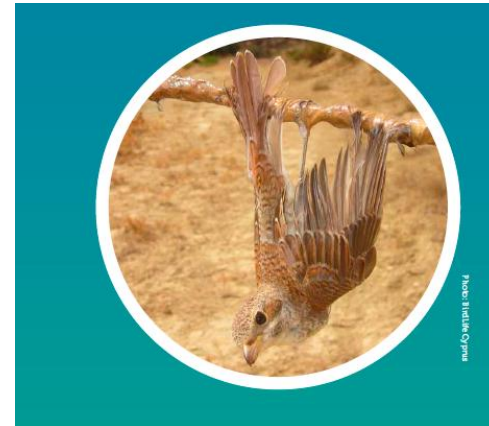
Kate Hand, RSPB

1. BirdLife African Eurasian flyway strategy
2. Six flyway initiatives and key projects

1. BirdLife Africa-Eurasia Flyway Strategy

- Delivery of BirdLife's Migratory Birds and Flyways programme in the Africa-Eurasia Flyway (2015 – 2020)
- Linking together work by BirdLife Partners in the flyway
- Identifies agricultural intensification, wetland loss and degradation, illegal killing, power infrastructure and climate change as key threats
- Six key initiatives

2. Six flyways initiatives



Safeguarding migratory birds in the energy sector

- Approach: supporting sound landscape planning to avoid collision and electrocution from powerlines, and collision and displacement by wind farms
- Project example: CMS Energy Task Force
- Next steps:
 - raise awareness through e.g. World Migratory Bird Day
 - Produce technical tools and guidance to support mainstreaming
 - Coordinate CMS Energy Taskforce

Protecting migratory birds from illegal killing and poisoning

- Approach: scaling up site-specific work and increasing advocacy
- Project example: illegal killing in Egypt/ Libya
- Next steps:
 - Communicate BirdLife's review of illegal killing of birds
 - Tackle illegal killing at black spots
 - Collate baseline data on illegal killing for the Europe, North Africa and the Middle East
 - Monitor illegal activities on the ground

Raising awareness of migratory birds

- Approach: educating children about the wonders of migration
- Project example: Wildlife Clubs of Africa
- Next steps:
 - Mainstream environmental education into national curricula;
 - Link wildlife clubs to conservation projects
 - Build Spring Alive

Collaborating in the East Atlantic Flyway

- Approach: addressing priority threats, strengthening the Partnership's capacity and coordinating action.
- Project example: Living on the Edge
- Next steps:
 - Scale up waterbird monitoring
 - Undertake non-breeding research
 - Support the Bijagós Archipelago nomination as at World Heritage Site
 - Develop nature-inclusive Shea
 - Dissemination of scientific results (e.g. preferred tree species) and best practices from LotE in region

Project: Living on the Edge

- Improving the environment for migratory birds and people *in tandem*
- Vegetation and soil water conservation:
 - 123,278 trees planted; > 250 ha habitat restored; > 5,000 efficient stoves (saving 107 kg wood/ year each)
 - Community education on natural resource management, including ongoing bird counts and ringing
- Six Local Conservation Groups established, six newly registered and three had offices built



- Income generating activities (e.g. vegetable gardening, dyeing of cloths, sustainable fishing and production of organic manure) have contributed to increased incomes (in varied degrees), and reduction in the dependency and pressure on natural resources, especially wood, as a result of sustainable Natural Resource Management
- Advocacy and awareness has increased, and has supported e.g. the gazettelement of Lake Mâl (ML)

2015

AEWA Waterbird Conservation Award



- L'Association Inter-Villageoise du Ndiaël: LotE Local Conservation Group in Senegal
- L'association: 32 villages surrounding Ndiaël wildlife reserve (Ramsar, biosphere reserve) working to restore its wildlife
- Activities: floodplain restoration (restoring water to the inlet and reinstating regular flooding); artificial breeding sites for birds; viewing platform for eco-tourists; training and advice for local activists and landowners.
- Impact: Ndiaël the site again hosts significant numbers of Garganey, Ruff, Whistling Duck, Spoonbill and Black Stork.

Collaborating in the Mediterranean

- Approach: developing the BirdLife network for effective protection of migratory birds
- Project example: Mediterranean Flyway Conservation Network
- Next steps:
 - Develop national sensitivity maps and best practice guidance for renewable energy sectors
 - Continue to raise awareness of illegal killing at national and international levels
 - Develop partner to partner mentoring.

Collaborating in the Red Sea-Rift Valley flyway

- Approach: mainstreaming migratory soaring bird conservation into the energy, agriculture, waste management, hunting and tourism sectors
- Project example: Migratory Soaring Birds
- Next steps:
 - Promote use of technical tools and best practice materials
 - Support Partners to mainstream migratory soaring bird conservation
 - Promote awareness of flyway conservation

Thank you

