Six monthly project progress report to the

AAGE V. JENSEN CHARITY FOUNDATION

BirdLife Wildlife Clubs of Africa Project

REPORT PERIOD

October 2008 to April 2009

A group picture of participants with the Minister of Education after the opening ceremony at the information sharing workshop held in Accra, Ghana from the 5th to 9th April 2009
1. **Project Background**

The project is combining biodiversity conservation with education and sustainable development initiatives using bird conservation as the strategy to help bridge the digital divide in Africa and also to link up to almost 400,000 African children, members of wildlife clubs. The project was developed to fill gaps and support seventeen BirdLife Partner NGOs using wildlife clubs for environmental education in primary and secondary schools in Africa through a needs assessment of these wildlife clubs activities in 2004. These Partners are involved in providing environmental education to children in primary and secondary schools by means of Wildlife Clubs with a focus on the protection of the environment. The overall conclusion of the assessment was that there was a need to boost Wildlife Clubs activities through: 1) sharing of information with other wildlife clubs; 2) strengthening capacities in environmental education and wildlife club work; and 3) improving communication facilities to enable children in wildlife clubs throughout Africa to exchange experiences with other children from around the world and each other.

The project is an African initiative being implemented by BirdLife Partners in Africa and coordinated from the West African Sub Regional Office and Nairobi National office giving advisory support.

2. **The involvement of AAGE V Jensen Charity Foundation to date**

The Jensen Charity Foundation is providing funding of Euro 286,360 to initiate the wildlife clubs project. The project is to contribute to the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals number 7: to ensure environmental sustainability; as well as goal number 2: to achieve universal primary education by 2015, by integrating conservation and sustainable use into education programmes (formal and non-formal) through the provision of education opportunities that particularly target communities that are poor and overly dependent on natural resources.

![Gondar Basic Wildlife Clubs in a cultural display](image)

![Cross section of participants at the workshop](image)
### 3. Project progress during the reporting period from October 2008 to April 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project outputs</th>
<th>Key activities</th>
<th>Progress</th>
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</table>
| Establish an electronic exchange network and a Clearing House Mechanism (CHM) | - Collect and collate baseline information on Wildlife Clubs from BirdLife Partners involved in the project  
- Organize a regional workshop to bring together Wildlife club focal points within the Birdlife partner NGOs and the Project Advisory Committee (PAC) members  
- Establish a net work of focal points for club coordinators in the various participating countries | ➢ Wildlife clubs inventory updated for all seventeen participating partners  
➢ Regional workshop organised – with good participation (15 partners out of the 17 participated in the 3 day programme)  
➢ The Project Advisory Committee (PAC) also held its first meeting. The meeting discussed their mandate of operations and also deliberated on the wayforward. Dr. Paulinus Ngah was elected the chair of the PAC.  
➢ Database of focal points is in place, mail list server has been created for focal points  
➢ Terms of Reference (TOR) for managing the networking group to be developed with the suggested criteria by participants.  
➢ Networking of focal points have been initiated via skype platform  
➢ A portal first phase for the development of WCA CHM is in place |
| Develop an electronic manual for the establishment of wildlife clubs | - Development of TOR for consultant to set up an electronic manual  
- Sourcing for a consultant  
- Development of TOC for manual  
- Development of manual | ➢ TOR for the development of the electronic manual has been finalised  
➢ Consultant identified and a contract signed with him  
➢ A draft Table of Content (TOC) for the manual was reviewed and agreed at the workshop, and mandate given to the consultant for the development of the actual manual and given to participants |
Improved communications facilities and outreach activities for the benefit of over 400,000 African Children

- Set up Implementation system for grants award
- Prepare modalities for assessing small grants
- Disbursement of grants initiated
- Facilitate payment of subcontract fees

Call for proposals sent to partners – dead line for submission being 8th May 2009 as agreed during the workshop
- Selection criteria for grants award has been developed
- Signing of subcontract documents with partners on the project is ongoing

Sustainability

- Develop a project catalogue
- Explore means of mainstreaming Environmenta Education (EE) into the educational systems across Africa
- Explore the establishment of an EE education fund

A list of suggestion for proposals development was produced during the workshop
- There was a strong presence of the Ministry of Education in Ghana at the workshop including official opening of the workshop by the Minister of education which is good for advocacy and lobbying later

Summary of the Workshop Programme – “Information & Experience Sharing for the Focal Points”

The workshop with the theme “information and experience sharing” for focal points from the seventeen participating partner NGOs was held from 6th to 8th April, 2009 at Marina Hotel Dodowa Accra in Ghana. The workshop was one of the major outputs the Birdlife Africa Wildlife Clubs Project - Linking African children to the global conservation community – for the benefit of nature and people. In all, fifteen focal points and thirteen representative from other environmental organization and educational institutions participated.

As an immediate step to delivery on output one of the project, it was proposed to provide this forum for stakeholders to reflect, discuss, share information on activities and agree on a process through which wildlife clubs activities (environmental education) would be improved and sustained. The workshop was also a participatory process to develop a consensus on the work plan of the project and also to standardise protocols with the focal points to ensure that they feel full ownership of the project. The meeting was convened by the BirdLife International West Africa Regional Office (WASRO) in collaboration with the Kenya Office and the Ghana Wildlife Society the local BirdLife Partner.

Main objectives of the workshop

The workshop aimed to do the following:
- Share information, experiences, lessons learnt, best practise and issues in wildlife club establishment, management and development in Africa
- Review draft contents of an electronic manual for Wildlife Clubs in Africa and agree on the way forward
- Review draft concept of the Clearing House Mechanism for wildlife clubs and agree next steps
- Develop and agree on a ‘wildlife club/environmental education coordinators network’, and a communication mechanisms to facilitate continuous sharing of information
- Deliberate on mechanisms to advocate for National Governments to incorporate the electronic manual into their educational systems as a tool for furthering environmental education and awareness creation.
Develop a strategy to sustain wildlife clubs and their activities
Review the project work plan for the project, specifically discussions were to clarify and explain the support fee and small grants awards of the project and the way forward.

What the workshop achieved:
The three day workshop was a great success in facilitating consensus building in critical issues relating to the formation, management and maintainence of wildlife clubs within Africa. With a combination of presentations, plenary discussions and participants working in groups, the above objectives were achieved.

Workshop resolutions:
At the end of the workshop, the focal persons and other invited stakeholders unanimously resolved to:
- work together to develop a sustainable agenda for environment education in Africa,
- Set up a committee to help the secretariat to develop a framework for networking of the group,
- Meanwhile they mandated the BirdLife Secretariat to continue coordinating the programme, maintain communication and inform participants who pledge of their maximum support.
- Give the consultant working on the curriculum a go ahead with the development after deliberating on the draft TOC and agreeing a revised version

Next Steps:
The Secretariat was to follow up on ideas for the sustainability of the programme and communicate the way forward, and Focal points were asked to involve other relevant stakeholders in their activities at all levels to get maximum support in their programmes

The workshop ended in a very high spirited mood and there was a general agreement that it achieved the objectives for which it was planned. The proceedings for the workshop will be forwarded to all participants as well as loaded on the CHM.

Additional Achievements:
Ground breaking -
- The strong presence of the Ministry of Education in Ghana, the host country for the workshop will help with the follow up work on mainstreaming of the WCA manual into the Ghana educational system which was identified as a major forum for sustainability of the wildlife clubs programme during the workshop. The Minister was the special guest of honour, with the Director of education giving the key note address and the focal point to the project from the ministry staying through the three day programme. This has given the project access to the minister’s office.

During the opening ceremony Gondar Basic School wildlife clubs presented cultural displays and a skit on the importance of communication and biodiversity conservation. At the end of the ceremony the minister presented a set of cultural drums and money donated to the club by BirdLife International.

The Minister, Honourable Alex Tetteh Enyo delivering his speech at the opening ceremony

Tetteh Enyo delivering his speech at the opening ceremony
4. **Are there any potential changes required to the project design?**

The need to identify means of involving the remaining African country partners not initially included in this project, at least to share the draft manual and the results of the project without increasing the project budget requirements.

5. **Project sustainability**

*Do you for see any major changes being required to ensure that the positive impact of this project is sustained once this project ends?*

It is anticipated that by the end of the project, the capacity of Partners would have significantly increased to allow them to continue running the clubs. Governments in participating countries will have been lobbied to incorporate the WCA electronic manual into the mainstream of their educational systems.

The electronic network will be low-cost, and, once established, will be maintained by the wildlife clubs coordinators themselves. Terms Of Reference are being developed for the management of the network.

Other countries will also be encouraged to have the environmental curriculum component taken up within their school curriculums and learning from those countries who already have national environmental manuals embedded in their national curriculums.

The current AVJCF project includes 17 Partners across Africa, including: Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, Rwanda, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Tanzania, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe. However, in the longer term we would like to increase the size of the project to include all 22 of BirdLife’s Partners in Africa.

6. **Annexes**

   a. Work plan for next reporting period with the logical frame work.
   b. Expenditure to date for project against original budget
Annex a

Work plan for the next reporting period: May to October 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Main Work Objectives/ Activities</th>
<th>Success criteria-</th>
<th>Targets and dates</th>
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</table>
| Experience exchange network/ Clearing House Mechanism | - Wildlife clubs network established and functioning (frequent communication via e-group, e-bulletin etc)  
  - Develop Terms Of Reference for the networking group  
  - Clearing House Mechanism (CHM) in place  
  - Review out put of CHM  
  - Ongoing update of information collection and collation for good practice on Nature clubs  
  - Source and consolidate information locally and internationally on good and emerging practices within and without on Nature Clubs | May/June 2009  
  July 2009 |
| Electronic wildlife club manual | - Draft Manual for review  
  - Finalize Manual  
  - Launch of Wildlife Clubs manual | May 2009  
  July 2009  
  August 2009 |
| Improved communications facilities and outreach activities | - Facilitate on time payment of subcontract fees  
  - Review of contract documents  
  - Forward to Cambridge for disbursment  
  - Call for proposals  
  - Assessing of Proposals  
  - Disbursement of funds | April/May 2009  
  April 2009  
  May 2009  
  May/June 2009 |
| Sustainability mechanisms in place | - Develop a catalogue of proposals  
  - Database of potential donors developed and made available to focal points  
  - Proposals submitted for funding | June/July 2009  
  June/July 2009  
  August/ September 2009 |
| Monitoring and evaluation | - Evaluation of project progress  
  - Monitoring of disbursed funds and partner progress | Review work plan every quarter and strategized  
  Review progress report by partners and information flow on activities undertaken each month – Jan. 2010 |

Priorities for next reporting period May to October 2009

- Develop TOR for working groups – Networking
- Review the CHM portal and update information
- Facilitate disbursment of subcontract funds
- Facilitate small grants awards
- Develop a project catalogue
- Explore the involvement of other stakeholders to facilitate sustainability

Logical Framework for the WCA project
## Project Summary

**Goal:** Is to contribute to the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals numbers 7: to ensure environmental sustainability; and 2: to achieve universal primary education by 2015, by 'integrating conservation and sustainable use into education programmes (formal and non-formal) through the provision of education opportunities that particularly target communities that are poor and overly dependent on natural resources'.

### Purpose/need:

To build the capacity of BirdLife Partner NGOs in Africa who are involved in providing environmental education to kids in Primary & secondary schools through the formation of wildlife clubs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Purpose/need</th>
<th>Indications</th>
<th>Means of Verifications</th>
<th>Risk</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To build the capacity of BirdLife Partner NGOs in Africa who are involved in providing environmental education to kids in Primary &amp; secondary schools through the formation of wildlife clubs</td>
<td>1. Seventeen birdlife partners networking and sharing information and experience electronically on wildlife clubs 2. A clearing mechanism for exchange of information on wildlife clubs established 3. Wildlife club manual developed and used for education in schools in 20% of countries involved in the project.</td>
<td>Project and partner reports  Links to CHM site  Manual available for inspection</td>
<td>All partner countries continue to support wildlife clubs.  Government will mainstream wildlife into education programme  All wildlife clubs have access to communication facilities.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Outputs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Risk</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>An electronic 'experience exchange network' / Clearing House Mechanism (CHM) developed and functioning</td>
<td>Workshop to bring together club coordinators within the BirdLife Partnership and the PSC organized and report available  All 17 implementing countries using the CHM as part of their wildlife clubs programme  Other organizations and partners using the CHM</td>
<td>Wildlife clubs focal points network established and functioning – March 2009  Frequent communication via e-group, e-bulletin - May 2009  Links to the CHM on the internet – Dec. 2009. Records of users of the CHM – Jan 2010</td>
<td>All wildlife clubs have access to communication facilities.  The electronic network will be low-cost, and, once set up, will be maintained by the wildlife clubs coordinators/focal points themselves. Agreement and procedures on how to do this will be developed during the workshop.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A ‘wildlife club ‘manual’ produced and used for education.</td>
<td>Wildlife Club manual produced and being used by all partners.  Partners incorporating manual into mainstream educational system</td>
<td>Feedback from focal points.  An electronic manual for the establishment of wildlife clubs in place - Dec 2009</td>
<td>It is also assume with time it would be adopted into the school’s curriculum as an examinable activity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improved communication facilities and outreach activities for the benefit of over 400,000 African children</td>
<td>Small grants awarded to partners</td>
<td>Improved communication facilities of partners – Dec 2009</td>
<td>Partners would be committed to project always as</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sustainability</td>
<td>Programmes for sustainability in place</td>
<td>Catalogue of proposals and database of possible donors in place</td>
<td>Projects submitted for funding, some funding secured</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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