

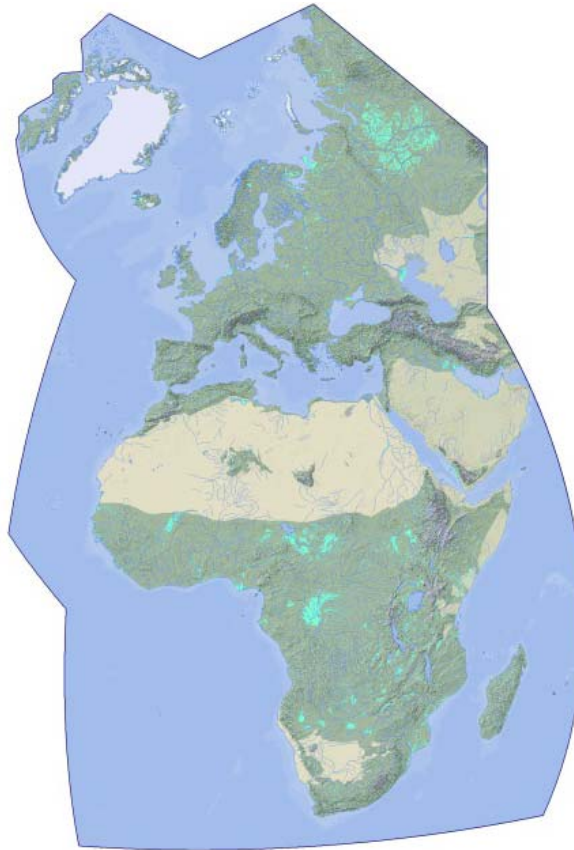
Migratory birds - Connecting Wetlands and People

Management of migratory species succeeds where critically important sites are well managed along flyways.

Migratory waterbirds depend on a range of secure sites from their breeding grounds to staging and non-breeding sites that they use during their annual migrations. These birds depend on a range of natural and man-made wetland habitats - many are managed as nationally protected areas, Natura 2000 sites, Ramsar Sites, World Heritage Sites, and under other local designations.

Sharing between site managers is a powerful tool to develop more committed and connected human networks for the conservation of migratory species. This includes the opportunity for sites that are better off to support the improved management of connected sites that are in need, and provides the basis for a more sustainable flyway.

Establishment of **"Flyways Linking Organisations and Wetlands - FLOW"**, a flyways-linked twinning programme within the African-Eurasian flyway aims to stimulate and support twinning and exchange by focussing on some of the 3080 critically important wetlands.



We support:

National agency efforts to implement:

- ✓ **AEWA Strategic Plan 2009-2017**
- ✓ **Ramsar Strategic Plan 2009-2015**
- ✓ **AEWA Plan of Action for Africa 2012-2017**
- ✓ **AEWA Resolution 5.20**, that specifically encourages twinning amongst sites

We propose:

- Identifying and matching the needs of site managers
- Promoting a more flyways-wide twinning and exchange

We offer:

- Access to a rich and diverse pool of knowledge, skills and experiences within the largest network of nature conservation organisations in Africa, Europe, Central and West Asia
- A flyway audience and dimension for each organisation's site-based activities
- A gateway to wider information exchange
- A mechanism to develop joint proposals for projects and site management activities
- A valuable platform to attract the attention of decision-makers and funders



Migratory birds - Connecting Wetlands and People

What can sites expect?

- Jointly developed solutions to site-based problem areas or priorities for development
- Jointly developed solutions to species-based conservation or management issues
- Giving your work at a local level a flyway dimension, through greater awareness raising
- Personal development opportunities for staff, either through an exchange scheme, or, through contact with other professionals and new areas for work
- Sharing ecological data, comparing site-based management practices and approaches
- Workshops/seminars to bring the twinned sites and planned work to wider audiences
- Joint research programmes to highlight similarities and difference between the sites and what approaches have or have not been used
- Preparation of joint project proposals to secure funding
- Development and publication of good practice guidance or advice.

Get involved

Site managers, sign up if your site:

- Is of critical importance for one or more migratory waterbird population
- Lies within the AEWA region
- Has a secure legal status or tenure
- Has or is committed to developing a management plan with clear objectives
- Is open to the public, preferably with a visitor centre or similar facility on site/close by

Governments and Institutions:

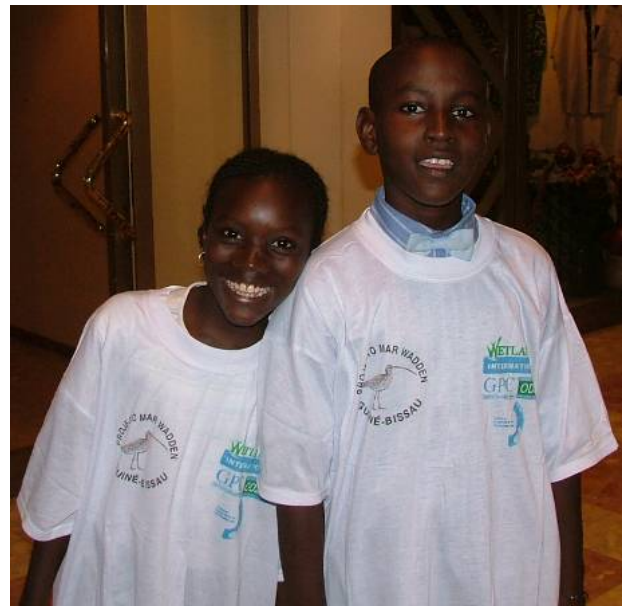
We seek endorsement and funding from governments, institutions and others to make our vision of a coordinated human network across these internationally important migratory bird flyways succeed.

We are launching this programme thanks to an initial donation from the Arcadia Fund.

We need your support to make this an AEWA-wide programme, and to link up critical sites with willing participants and tangible resources.

For more information, contact:

Taej Mundkur
 Programme Manager – Flyways
 Wetlands International Headquarters
 Horapark 9 (2nd floor), 6717 LZ Ede
 The Netherlands
 Tel: +31 318 660910
 E-mail: taej.mundkur@wetlands.org
 Website: www.wetlands.org



Children from Guinea-Bissau in west Africa wearing t-shirts from a twinning arrangement with the Wadden Sea in Europe

