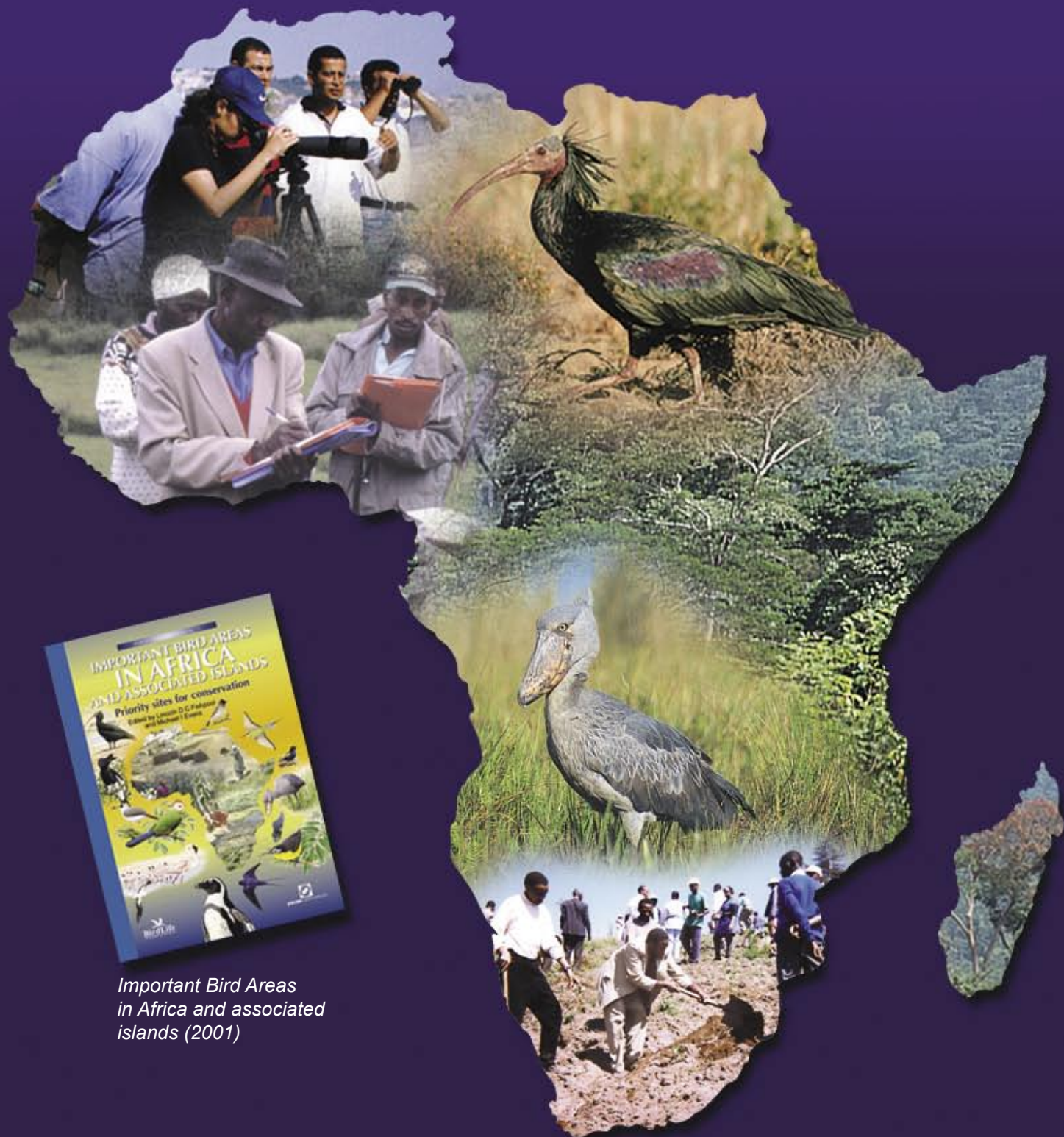


Strategy for the Conservation and Sustainable Management of Important Bird Areas in Africa: 2005–2015



*Important Bird Areas
in Africa and associated
islands (2001)*

Strategy for the conservation and sustainable management of IBAs in Africa: 2005–2015

Compiled by:

Julius Arinaitwe, BirdLife Africa Partnership Secretariat

Principal contributors:

Achilles Byaruhanga, *NatureUganda*;

Aldo Berruti, BirdLife, South Africa;

Chipangura Chirara, BirdLife Zimbabwe;

DD Siaffa, Conservation Society of Sierra Leone;

Dorm Adzobu, Ghana Wildlife Society;

Eric Giti, Association Burundaise pour la protection des oiseaux;

Harold Hester, BirdLife, Botswana;

Paul Matiku, *NatureKenya*

Comments and further input by:

Elizabeth Kennedy, Conservation International;

Hazell Thompson, BirdLife Africa Partnership Secretariat;

Lincoln Fishpool, BirdLife Global Secretariat;

Maaïke Manten, BirdLife Africa Partnership Secretariat;

Mengistu Wondafrash, Ethiopian Wildlife and Natural History Society;

Paul Buckley, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds;

Paulinus Ngeh, BirdLife Africa Partnership Secretariat;

Roger Fotso, Cameroon Biodiversity Conservation Society /
Wildlife Conservation Society, Cameroon;

Souleymane Zeba, NATURAMA;

Steve Evans, BirdLife South Africa/Endangered Wildlife Trust;

Tim Dodman, Wetlands International

Design and Layout: Irene A. Ogendo, ICIPE

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Glossary of Acronyms

- AAO:** Association les Amis des Oiseaux. The BirdLife Partner Designate in Tunisia
- ABO:** Association Burundaise pour la protection des Oiseaux. The BirdLife Affiliate in Burundi
- ACNR:** Association pour la conservation de la Nature au Rwanda. The BirdLife Affiliate in Rwanda
- AU:** African Union
- CAP:** Council for the BirdLife Africa Partnership. The governing body of the BirdLife Partners in Africa
- CBCS:** Cameroon Biodiversity Conservation Society. The BirdLife affiliate in Cameroon
- CBD:** Convention on Biological Diversity
- CI:** Conservation International
- CMS:** Convention on Migratory Species
- CSSL:** Conservation Society of Sierra Leone. The BirdLife Partner in Sierra Leone
- DOF:** Dansk Ornitologisk Forening. The BirdLife Partner in Denmark
- EAC:** East African Community
- ECOWAS:** Economic Community of West African States
- EWNHS:** Ethiopian Wildlife and Natural History Society. The BirdLife Partner in Ethiopia
- GEF:** Global Environment Facility
- GWS:** Ghana Wildlife Society. The BirdLife Partner in Ghana
- IBA:** Important Bird Areas. Sites of global importance for conservation of birds and biodiversity identified nationally using global criteria
- ICIPE:** International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology
- ICRAF:** World Agroforestry Institute
- IUCN:** World Conservation Union
- LIPU:** Lega Italiana Protezione Uccelli. The BirdLife Partner in Italy
- LPO:** Ligue pour la Protection des Oiseaux. The BirdLife Partner in France
- NABU:** Naturschutzbund Deutschland. The BirdLife Partner in Germany
- Naturama:** Fondation des Amis de la Nature. The BirdLife Partner in Burkina Faso
- NBSAP:** National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
- NCF:** Nigerian Conservation Foundation. The BirdLife Partner in Nigeria
- NEPAD:** New Partnership for Africa's Development
- NGO:** Non-governmental organization

- NIBACS:** National IBA Conservation Strategies. Processes and documents specifying the national vision and objectives of the national IBA programmes and how they will be achieved
- NLC:** National Liaison Committee: A steering committee comprised of stakeholders at national level that oversees a national IBA programme
- NOF:** Norsk Ornitologisk Forening. The BirdLife Partner in Norway
- PRSP:** Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper
- RIBACS:** Regional IBA Conservation Strategy. Document specifying the regional vision and objectives of the IBA programme and how it will be achieved
- RSPB:** Royal Society for the Protection of Birds. The BirdLife Partner in UK
- SADC:** Southern Africa Development Community
- SAU:** The Site Action Unit of BirdLife Secretariat
- SEO:** Sociedad Española de Ornitología. The BirdLife Partner in Spain
- SPI:** Science, Policy and Information Department of the BirdLife Secretariat
- SSG:** Site Support Group. A voluntary local community group working to protect an IBA in collaboration with the BirdLife partner
- TAC:** Technical Advisory Committee. A body of experts in various fields from within and outside BirdLife that provide technical advice to the BirdLife Africa Programmes
- UNDP:** United Nations Development Programme
- UNEP:** United Nations Environment Programme
- VBN:** Vogelbescherming Nederland. The BirdLife Partner in the Netherlands
- WBDB:** The World Bird Database. The repository and tool for handling and analyzing BirdLife's information on bird species and their sites
- WBMS:** Wetland Biodiversity Monitoring System
- WCMC:** World Conservation Monitoring Centre
- WCS:** Wildlife Conservation Society
- WCST:** Wildlife Conservation Society of Tanzania. The BirdLife Partner in Tanzania
- WI:** Wetlands international
- WWF:** World Wide Fund for Nature
- ZOS:** Zambian Ornithological Society. The BirdLife Affiliate in Zambia

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1. Introduction

1.1 The Important Bird Areas (IBA) programme

The Important Bird Areas (IBA) Programme of BirdLife International is a world-wide project launched in 1989 aimed at identifying, monitoring and protecting a network of critical sites for the world's birds. The IBA Programme is global in scale, and it is anticipated that up to 15,000 IBAs will be identified worldwide through this project. IBAs are sites of global importance for biodiversity identified at a national level, using internationally agreed, objective, quantitative and scientifically defensible criteria. IBAs are selected because they hold bird species that are threatened with extinction, have highly restricted distributions, or are characteristic of particular biomes. Sites holding exceptionally large numbers of congregatory birds also qualify. The IBA network can be considered as a minimum set of sites critical for the long-term viability of wild bird populations, across the range of those bird species for which a sites-based approach is appropriate.

The IBA Programme is often considered to have four overlapping stages, as shown in Table 1 below:

Table 1. The four stages of the Important Bird Areas Programme

Stage 1	'Start-up' : Consultation, background context assessment, stakeholder analysis and establishment of national partnerships and agreements; setting up a suitable institutional framework, which usually involves obtaining the co-operation of non-BirdLife institutions such as government agencies, development NGOs, universities, etc. Agreeing national objectives
Stage 2	'Identification/survey' : A process of identifying potential IBA sites, data collection, field surveys, confirmation of these sites as IBAs, production of an IBA inventory and population of a database
Stage 3	'Action planning' : Setting priorities and implementing advocacy, monitoring and action for key sites
Stage 4	'Fully-developed national site conservation programme' : Establishing a sustainable management cycle in which a programme of action, monitoring and advocacy for the network of national IBAs is well-established, with security of future funding

Source: Coulthard, 2001

1.2. The IBA Programme in Africa

The IBA Programme in Africa started in 1993 with the main goal to identify and document the IBAs in Africa and its associated islands. Mainly with support from the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) a co-ordinator was recruited to manage the regional programme. Furthermore BirdLife Partners in Africa mobilised resources from a variety of sources to undertake national IBA programmes and feed information into the regional programme. In countries without BirdLife Partners, consultants were hired to undertake desk studies to identify potential IBAs.

The IBA Programme in Africa was set-up with the following objectives (Fishpool and Evans 2001):

- i. Identify and document globally important places for bird conservation in Africa based on inclusion of endemic avifauna, threatened species, concentrations of numbers of individuals or species and representation of regionally characterised bird assemblages.

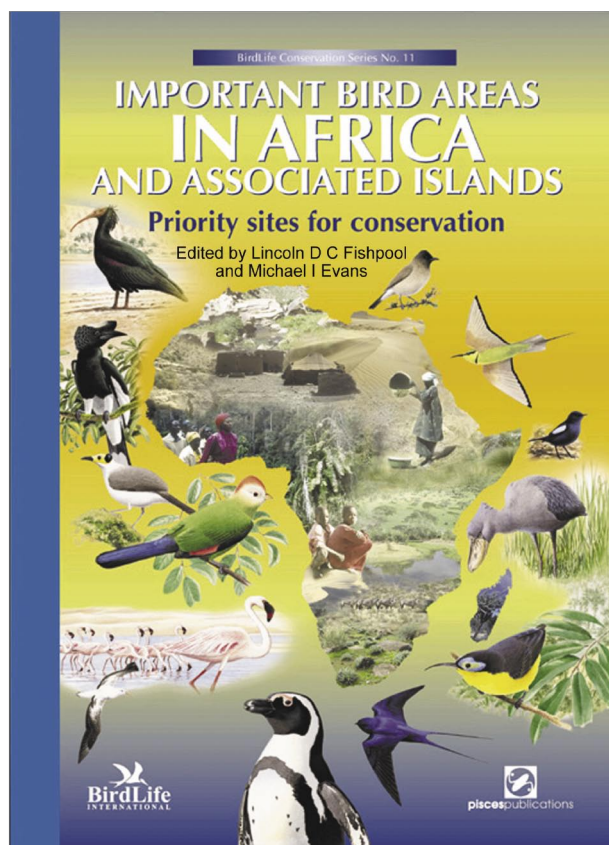
- ii. Promote, develop and involve national organisations and contributors in the implementation of the programme.
- iii. Increase national contributions to the programme through the promotion of institution-building, network development and training as appropriate.
- iv. Publish and distribute widely a continental directory of sites, *Important Bird Areas in Africa and associated islands*.
- v. Promote the publication of national IBA directories in appropriate languages.
- vi. Establish a database containing the critical IBA information in a way that can be maintained, updated and made available in individual countries and to the wider conservation community.
- vii. Inform relevant national authorities, where appropriate, of the programme and seek their acceptance of its concept, aims and progress at the national level.
- viii. Inform decision-makers at all levels of the existence and significance of Important Bird Areas.
- ix. Encourage and initiate conservation actions at Important Bird Areas throughout the continent.

Significant progress has been made to achieve stage 1 (start up) and stage 2 (identification /survey) of the IBA process (Table 1). A major milestone was reached with the publication of an IBA directory for Africa and its associated islands (Fishpool & Evans, 2001). This directory lists 1,230 IBAs in 58 countries and territories. In addition, national IBA directories have been published by the Partners

or with the support of BirdLife covering 14 African countries. Some members of the BirdLife Africa Partnership have even moved beyond IBA identification (Stage 2) to the next stages of the IBA process, which involve advocacy, action and monitoring to protect these sites in perpetuity.

While methods for IBA identification were well established at the start of the programme (stages 1 and 2), fewer guidelines for sustainable conservation of IBAs (stages 3 and 4) of the programme had been developed. The approaches used by the BirdLife Africa Partnership to address the later stages of the IBA Programme have therefore evolved at national and regional levels as innovations in biodiversity conservation adapted to the Africa region. The development of these approaches was catalysed by the African NGO-Government Partnerships for Sustainable Biodiversity Action project (1998–2002), funded by UNDP/GEF, RSPB and other BirdLife Partners in Africa and Europe and implemented in ten countries. Through the work of BirdLife Partners in Africa, mainly those involved in the above project, various tools for sustainable IBA conservation have

been developed. The achievements of the IBA Programme (see section 1.3) provide a strong foundation for activities to ensure the conservation of IBAs in perpetuity.



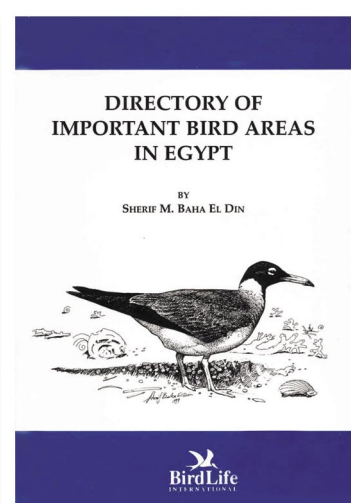
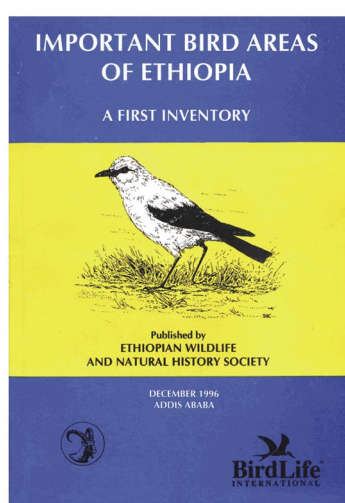
Information on the IBA is available through national and regional directories and on www.birdlife.org/datazone

1.3. Achievements of the IBA Programme in Africa

The achievements of the IBA Programme in Africa to date are substantial and have contributed to global recognition of IBAs as priority areas for conservation action. This is reflected in the words of Mr Mohamed T. El-Ashry, former CEO and Chairman of the Global Environment Facility: *“Important Bird Areas (IBAs) are recognised as one of the systems for classifying sites that can be considered globally important.”* (Fishpool and Evans, 2001). These achievements can be summarised into three main classes:

1.3.1 Information on Key sites for Biodiversity

Several of the objectives of the IBA Programme (see Section 1.2) deal with identification of IBAs and making this information available for conservation purposes. National IBA inventories were compiled either through in-country programmes involving targeted fieldwork, where possible or through reviews of existing literature. Compilation of the national accounts led to the publication of national and sub-regional directories in appropriate languages. To date, 14 national IBA inventories have been published and more are in preparation. These cover Botswana, Egypt, Ethiopia, Guinea Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Namibia, Nigeria, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Uganda and Zimbabwe. Partners in several countries including Burkina Faso, Ghana, Cameroon, Sierra Leone, Tunisia and Zambia are at advanced stages of producing national directories.



National directories make IBA information more accessible for consideration in development planning.

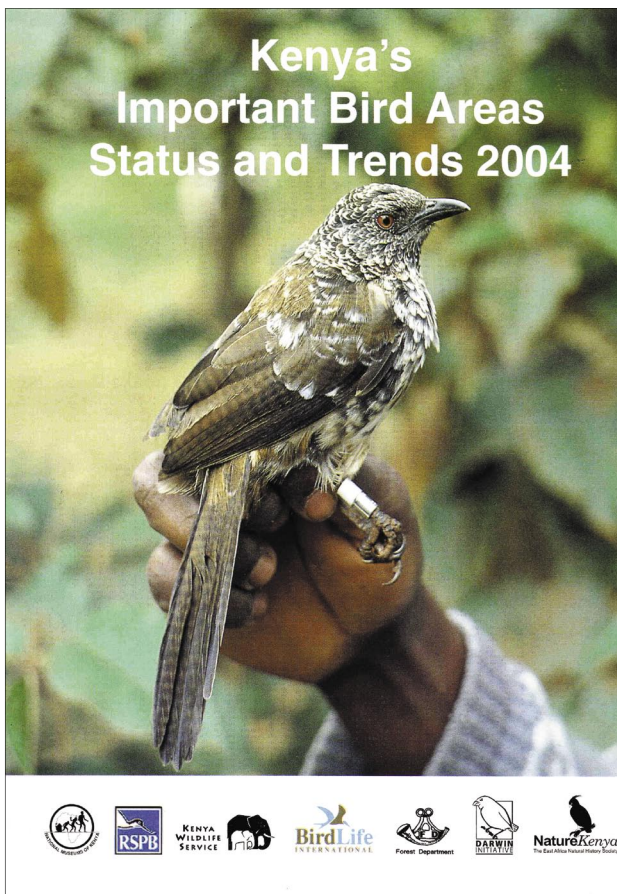
At a regional level, the *Important Bird Areas in Africa and associated islands* was published in 2001, and quickly followed up in 2002 with the publication of *‘Important Bird Areas and potential Ramsar Sites in Africa’* (BirdLife International, 2002). Furthermore, a number of advocacy materials including a glossy summary, posters and brochures have been produced.

IBAs are increasingly being recognised as a major part of the larger network of the most important sites for biodiversity conservation, the key biodiversity areas. Studies to date indicate that IBAs capture very well other threatened and restricted-range species from most other taxa. For example a study in East Africa concluded that IBAs are effective on-the-ground priorities that represent the majority of other terrestrial vertebrate diversity (Brooks *et al* 2001).

1.3.2 Capacity for Conservation Action

Several other objectives of the IBA Programme (see Section 1.2) relate to developing capacity and establishing partnerships to conserve IBAs in Africa. National IBA conservation programmes were established with trained staff and IBA conservation and advocacy activities in 13 of the 18 BirdLife Africa network countries namely, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Seychelles, South Africa, Tanzania, Tunisia, Uganda and Zimbabwe.

Kenya's Important Bird Areas Status and Trends 2004



Through IBA monitoring, we can tell how the status of these sites is changing over time and target management interventions more precisely

In these countries, the BirdLife Partners working with government agencies and local stakeholders developed national plans of action and advocacy to move the IBA process on from identification to action that protects sites. Implementation of the IBA Programme resulted in the development of innovative participatory conservation concepts and techniques, including:

- Tools for prioritising conservation action at IBAs,
- Mechanisms for fostering national participation such as the National Liaison Committees (NLCs) and National IBA Conservation Strategies (NIBACS),
- New ways of mobilising local community involvement and support through the Site Support Group (SSG) approach, and
- A framework for monitoring IBAs.

A toolkit that provides more information on these approaches and how they are applied in the field was developed by the BirdLife Africa Partnership and can be available on request from the BirdLife Africa Partnership Secretariat.

1.3.3 Conservation benefits

The remaining objectives of the IBA Programme in Africa (see Section 1.2) relate to improving the status of biodiversity in IBAs and monitoring. The IBA Programme has started delivering tangible conservation benefits including:

- **Enhanced legal protection:** Since the start of the IBA Programme, over 50 IBAs have acquired enhanced legal protection under national and international Protected Area designations, at least partly because of their recognition as IBAs. Examples include Kitulo Plateau in Tanzania which was designated a National Park while in Tunisia, all IBAs were legally designated for conservation, with hunting restrictions imposed. In Uganda and Rwanda, Lake Nabugabo and Rugyezi Swamp respectively were listed as Ramsar sites.
- **Improved status of biodiversity:** A monitoring system for IBAs in Africa was developed in 2002 that assesses the state of biodiversity at sites, the threats (or pressures) they are facing and what is being done about it (the responses). The assessments are undertaken at two levels, the basic level using simple indicators, and a more detailed level using more rigorous planning and survey methods (Bennun 2002). The data have been systematically analysed in some of the network countries indicating the status of IBAs over the last five years. For example in Kenya, threats to IBAs continue to degrade the status of biodiversity, but simultaneously, the efforts to protect these sites is increasing (Ng'weno *et al* 2004). There is evidence that the status of biodiversity at some IBAs has improved. Examples are Mt. Afadjato in Ghana where rapid forest regeneration is taking place and Musambwa Islands in Uganda where breeding success of the Grey-headed Gull and other species has improved.

Table 2. Some statistics on IBAs in the BirdLife network countries (2004)	
Item	Comments
Total number of IBAs in Africa (2001)	1,230
Number of IBAs that overlap with Protected Areas	701
Number of IBAs within the BirdLife Network Countries (n = 18)	628
Number of SSGs in place	70
Number of BirdLife Partners with established IBA Conservation programmes	13
Number of countries with functional IBA monitoring programmes	13
Number of IBA projects run by Partners	54

- **Establishment of SSGs:** Site Support Groups (SSGs) are voluntary groups comprised mainly of members of local communities living within or around an IBA, whose principal objectives include or contribute to the sustainable management and conservation of natural resources within the IBA. Almost 70 SSGs have been established in the region to provide sustainable conservation action and advocacy for the better management of more than 50 IBAs. SSGs have proved very effective in promoting conservation awareness, policing, fire control and diversifying initiatives for local livelihoods.

1.4. IBAs and the Protected Areas system in Africa

The majority of IBAs in Africa (57% of the 1,230 sites) overlap to varying degrees with some kind of Protected Area. In principle at least, they are therefore partly or wholly covered by conservation management provisions that aim to protect the sites' natural values and prevent unsustainable uses (BirdLife International, 2004). A significant number, however, benefit from no such formal protection, even on paper. An analysis of all IBAs has been undertaken to identify those most in need of conservation action. The analysis involved ranking IBAs according to their relative importance for threatened birds, restricted-range species, biome restricted species and important congregations and ascertaining their protection status. This analysis has identified those unprotected sites which hold the greatest number of globally threatened birds, which therefore are themselves unprotected. By extension, these IBAs guide us to the priority habitats and countries in Africa where the BirdLife network and collaborators need to focus conservation attention most urgently. This analysis is presented in Figure 1 below, and the site names of the top 20 unprotected sites are shown in Table 3. Also included in the table is the nature of BirdLife involvement in the countries holding these IBAs.

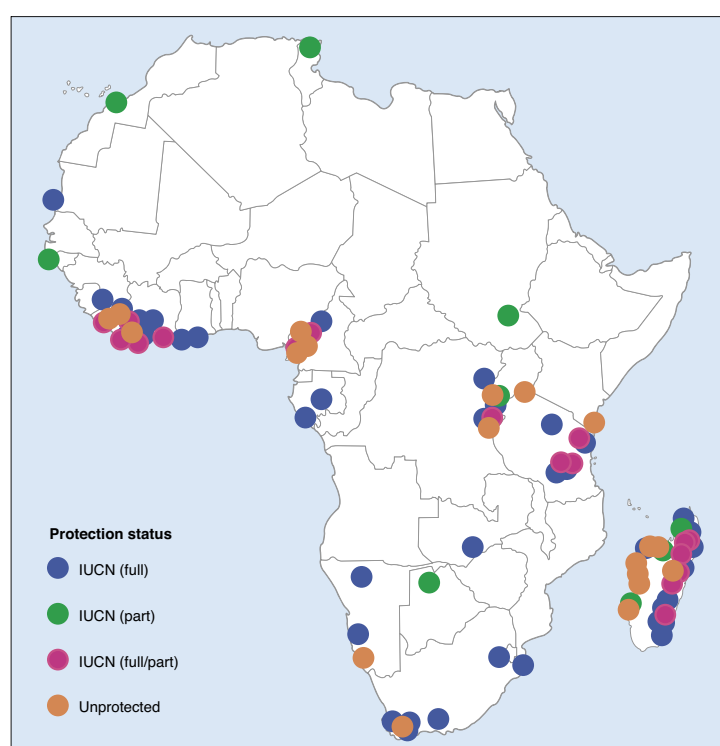


Figure 1. Location of the top 100 IBAs in Africa (in terms of importance for bird conservation). 20% of these are unprotected (orange dots)

Table 3. The 20 highest priority unprotected IBAs in Africa according to their relative importance for globally-threatened birds

Name of IBA	Site code	Country	Priority Score*	BirdLife Representation
Itombwe Mountains	CD014	The Democratic Republic of Congo	18.0	Informal
São Tomé lowland forests	ST001	São Tomé e Príncipe	15.5	Informal
Zwedru	LR006	Liberia	13.5	Project
Lake Alaotra	MG046	Madagascar	12.0	Project
Bemamba wetland complex	MG038	Madagascar	11.5	Project
Mount Kupe	CM025	Cameroon	10.5	Partnership
Bakossi mountains	CM022	Cameroon	10.0	Partnership
Forests west of Lake Edward	CD012	The Democratic Republic of Congo	10.0	Informal
Mount Karthala	KM001	Comoros	9.5	Informal
Mont Manengouba	CM021	Cameroon	8.5	Partnership
Mount Cameroon and Mokoko-Onge	CM027	Cameroon	7.5	Partnership
Bombetoka Bay and Marovoay wetlands	MG024	Madagascar	7.5	Project
Mahavavy delta wetlands	MG025	Madagascar	7.5	Project
Wetlands of the Tsiribihina delta and upper Tsiribihina river	MG059	Madagascar	7.5	Project
Sterkfontein/Merinodal	ZA030	South Africa	7.5	Partnership
Gabela	AO011	Angola	7.0	Informal
Alexpan	ZA032	South Africa	7.0	Partnership
Mont Nlonako	CM023	Cameroon	6.5	Partnership
Wologizi mountains	LR001	Liberia	6.5	Project
Tambohorano wetlands	MG035	Madagascar	6.5	Project

* Score calculated through assigning points to each globally-threatened species as follows: Critical = 3 points, Endangered = 2 points, Vulnerable = 1 point and Near-threatened = 0.5 points.

The 20 IBAs are found in 8 countries of which only two (South Africa and Cameroon) have formal BirdLife presence through a member of the BirdLife Africa Partnership. In two other countries (Madagascar and Liberia), BirdLife is working through projects and in the remaining four countries, BirdLife has informal contacts. In terms of sites, seven are found within the BirdLife Africa network countries, eight are in countries with BirdLife projects and five are in countries without formal BirdLife representation. This example illustrates how the IBA Programme can be used as a starting point in planning and targeting of regional interventions, and also why the BirdLife Africa Partnership must involve other collaborators.

1.5. Rationale for a regional IBA conservation strategy

IBAs in Africa face significant threats which require action at local, national, regional and global levels. These problems include, but are not limited to, deforestation, agricultural expansion and intensification, and urban encroachment underpinned by poverty at the local level and exacerbated by competing political priorities at

national level (Fishpool and Evans 2001). These problems are being addressed by various stakeholders including governments, national and international NGOs and donor agencies. The IBA Programme has developed home-grown approaches that provide sustained action at the local and national levels, thus making a significant contribution to addressing these problems. Furthermore, by working together across different countries through the BirdLife Partnership, the impacts of these national actions are enhanced regionally. This regional IBA conservation strategy is therefore expected to further promote collaboration by various stakeholders at national, regional and global levels, as a contribution to addressing threats to Africa's IBAs.

The publication of a continental IBA directory and the development of tools for IBA conservation have proved to be good vehicles for fostering cohesion and collaboration within the BirdLife network in Africa and among various other stakeholders. The strategy outlined in this document aims to build upon this foundation by organizing the IBA conservation objectives into a cohesive programme of work, around which Partners and other stakeholders can continue to enhance collaboration in biodiversity conservation.

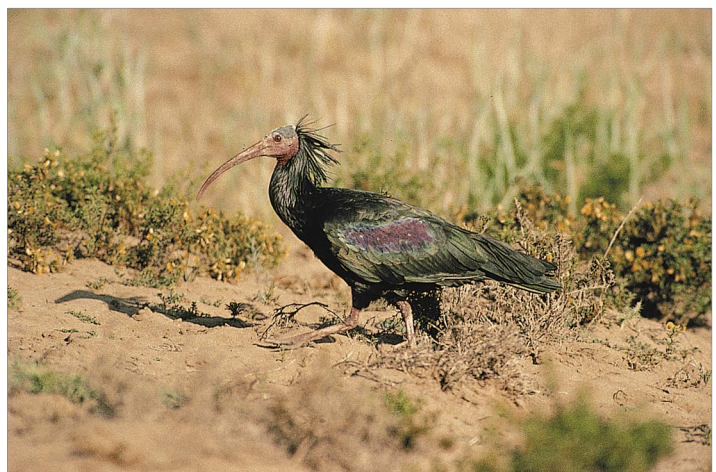
Significant gaps exist in the IBA Programme, the main ones being inadequate capacity at national level to conserve IBAs in most countries, the many sites that hold significant biodiversity that have not been surveyed or identified as IBAs, inadequate policies that do not recognise and protect IBAs, limited site action to protect IBAs and inadequate monitoring. The strategy outlined in this document seeks to fill these gaps and contribute towards protecting IBAs in Africa in perpetuity.

The Regional IBA Conservation Strategy (RIBACS) is also necessary to promote synergies between the conservation activities of BirdLife and other regional and international organisations working in the Africa region, for example, Conservation International (CI) in the hotspots, Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF) in the eco-regions programmes, Wetlands International in wetlands conservation and management, the World conservation Union (IUCN) in species conservation and monitoring and many others.

1.6. Links to other BirdLife Processes

BirdLife International's work is organised around four separate but related themes, namely conservation of species, conservation of sites, conservation of habitats and working with people. The IBA programme primarily deals with the conservation of sites identified using information on bird species. The achievement of the objectives of this strategy will require the input and contribution of people, both as advocates for bird and biodiversity conservation and as beneficiaries from conservation activities. Moreover, protection of some of the sites, which are facing threats emanating from the wider landscape, will necessitate habitat level interventions.

Implementation of BirdLife International's programmes is organised in six regional entities, through which the Partners agree their priorities and activities under each theme. The actions required to achieve the objectives outlined in this strategy have been harmonised with the BirdLife Africa Programme 2005-2008, adopted by the BirdLife Africa Partnership in 2004.



The IBA Programme contributes to the protection of globally-threatened species such as the Bald Ibis, which have discrete breeding sites

The strategy outlined in this document focuses on regional aspects of IBA conservation where standardisation, collaboration and collective efforts by BirdLife and its collaborators is necessary to achieve IBA conservation in Africa. National and local actions in the BirdLife network countries are covered by the relevant National IBA Conservation Strategies (NIBACS). Furthermore, the global IBA Programme, to which this strategy contributes, is guided by a global IBA strategy, still in development.

The BirdLife Science, Policy and Information (SPI) department co-ordinates the IBA Programme globally by promoting harmonised programme development, ensuring adherence to global standards and facilitating cross regional exchange. Some of the actions in this strategy will be implemented by or in collaboration with SPI.

Implementation of site actions within BirdLife network countries is mainly undertaken by the Partners themselves, but outside the network and where there is insufficient capacity, the Site Action Unit of BirdLife Secretariat will be called upon to assist and, in some cases implement interventions at priority IBAs.

Some BirdLife Partners (and the Secretariat office in Africa) are assisted by some of their European counterparts, called Supporting Partners. Through this arrangement, the Supporting Partners contribute to the IBA Programme through technical support, international advocacy, support to Partner programme development and fund-raising. The main supporting Partners for the IBA Programme in Africa so far are the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB), Vogelbescherming Nederland (VBN), BirdLife Suomi – Finland, Dansk Ornitologisk Forening (DOF), Naturschutzbund Deutschland (NABU), Sociedad Española de Ornitología (SEO), Norsk Ornitologisk Forening (NOF), Ligue Pour La Protection des Oiseaux (LPO) and Lega Italiana Protezione Uccelli (LIPU).

1.7. Process of developing this Strategy

At CAP 2002 in Nigeria, a decision was taken to develop a RIBACS to guide the development of the IBA Programme in Africa. This effort was deemed necessary at this time mainly to sustain the momentum gained through the *African NGO-Government Partnerships for Sustainable Biodiversity Action project*. CAP established a taskforce to assist the Secretariat in developing the Regional IBA Conservation Strategy in consultation with the Partnership. The taskforce comprised of Prof. Dorm Adzobu of GWS, Paul Matiku of Nature Kenya, Achilles Byaruhanga of Nature Uganda, D. D. Siaffa of CSSL, Aldo Berruti of BLSA, Chipangura Chirara of BirdLife Zimbabwe, Eric Giti of ABO and Harold Hester of BirdLife Botswana. CAP wished that the strategy should be outlined in a simple and short document with the emphasis on ownership, participation and usefulness to the Partnership. The process proposed for the development of the strategy involved four main steps. These were to:

- Develop a simple framework, based on a review of the progress made by the Partnership and the objectives of the global IBA strategy, and circulate this to the taskforce members for comments and input.
- Produce a draft strategy and submit it to the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) for comments, and
- Incorporate comments from TAC and produce a final draft for comments by a wide range of stakeholders including the BirdLife Africa Partnership, BirdLife International Secretariat, collaborators and other stakeholders.
- Finalisation and endorsement by CAP.

The above steps were followed in producing this document, published and distributed by the BirdLife Africa Partnership Secretariat.

2. Objectives of the Strategy

2.1 Goal of the IBA Programme in Africa

The goal of the IBA Programme is to identify a network of priority conservation sites, using criteria based on birds, and protect them in perpetuity. These sites provide a practical focus for the conservation efforts of the BirdLife Partnership and other stakeholders as well. In Africa, the Programme seeks to complete the identification of IBAs, but at the same time secure effective long-term conservation and monitoring of Africa's 1,230 IBAs identified so far.

Much of the work required to achieve this goal will have to be done in collaboration with others, including NGOs, governments and other international organisations. BirdLife's role in this strategy therefore includes facilitating and stimulating action both by the BirdLife Partnership and by other collaborators.

2.2. Strategic Objectives

The strategy is expected to guide the BirdLife Africa Partnership in the conservation of IBAs in Africa, by:

- promoting standardised approaches in IBA conservation in order to facilitate information/experience exchange and aggregation of data from local to regional levels,
- promoting home-grown and culturally appropriate methodologies and solutions to IBA conservation challenges, and
- providing a common focus/ sense of purpose for the BirdLife Africa Partnership.

Implementation of the strategy will build upon the Africa regional IBA directory, the existing tools and expertise within the BirdLife Partnership, and the institutional and programmatic framework provided by the BirdLife Africa Partnership and the BirdLife Africa Regional Programme 2005-2008. Collaboration with existing and new partners in governments and other organisations will be pursued in order to enhance our effectiveness in the conservation of biodiversity in Africa.

Specifically, this strategy will ensure that by 2015:

- i. Capacity of the BirdLife Africa network to implement all aspects of the IBA Programme is in place and deployed for IBA conservation
- ii. An up-to date list of all IBAs in Africa is maintained.
- iii. All IBAs in critical need of conservation action in Africa (referred to as priority IBAs) are identified.
- iv. Legal and other mechanisms that recognise IBAs and protect them from inappropriate development and degradation are in place and being implemented.
- v. Site conservation action involving governments, other NGOs and local communities is taking place at 75% of priority IBAs.
- vi. Appropriate initiatives to enhance the livelihoods of local people in/ around IBAs are taking place.
- vii. Effective and coordinated monitoring of IBAs in Africa is taking place with the engagement of local communities and other stakeholders.
- viii. Up-to-date information on the biodiversity, threats and conservation actions at IBAs is available through databases, publications and on the web.
- ix. The IBA Programme in Africa is effectively communicated to stakeholders at local, national and global levels

3. Strategic Implementation

3.1. Capacity Development

Objective (i): Capacity of the BirdLife Africa network to implement all aspects of the IBA Programme is in place and deployed for IBA conservation.

The IBA Programme has been used by BirdLife Africa Partners as a vehicle for capacity-building in conservation science, site-action, advocacy, fund-raising and project management at local, national and regional levels. Where this capacity is in place, vibrant national IBA conservation programmes are running with increased conservation efforts targeting the most threatened sites. Funding is mobilised from various sources to ensure that the IBAs in these countries are conserved. Such capacity is lacking in some members of the BirdLife Africa Partnership and in most non-BirdLife network countries in Africa.

Capacity development at the local level will focus on networks of SSGs and will not only cover organisational development and conservation but also other priorities of the local communities such as income-generation and management of projects seeking to enhance livelihoods.

National level partnerships will be encouraged between members of the BirdLife Partnership and other institutions, NGOs and government agencies to ensure open information flow between site and national levels, and hence minimise duplication and promote efficient utilisation of the unique competencies and funds of the various stakeholders. Where appropriate, BirdLife Partners will be encouraged to establish National Liaison Committees (NLCs) as the main mechanism for facilitating national level collaboration.

At the regional level, emphasis will be placed on developing the capacity of members of the BirdLife Partnership to enhance their credibility and ability to contribute meaningfully to national conservation programmes and policies. In addition, partnerships with other like-minded organisations (e.g. CI, IUCN, WCS, WWF and WI) in Africa will receive appropriate input from BirdLife Partners and the Secretariat. Capacity development will cover conservation science and practice, organisational development, fund-raising and improving livelihoods, among others.



Training in IBA monitoring, Tunisia

3.1.1 Targets and milestones

- I. Skills/Staff database of the BirdLife Africa Partnership for implementing IBA conservation work in place by end of 2005.
- II. Training in essential skills required by the BirdLife Africa Partnership to implement IBA conservation work completed by 2008.
- III. Functional relationships with governments and other stakeholders for IBA conservation in 95% of the BirdLife Africa Partnership by 2008.
- IV. Costs of IBA conservation determined and strategies to meet them being implemented by 2008.

3.2. Preparation and Identification

Objective (ii): An up-to date list of all IBAs in Africa is maintained.

New sites that meet the IBA criteria will (following review and confirmation of their status by the Secretariat) be added to national and regional IBA lists, while existing sites that no longer meet global site selection criteria may, after due process, be removed from the inventory.

The BirdLife Secretariat will support the publication of national and/or sub-regional IBA directories by Partners in countries within the BirdLife network, and will work with other stakeholders where there is no Partner to ensure that the IBA directories produced meet the required standards.

Information, knowledge and skills will be provided to all BirdLife network countries to enable them to identify new potential IBAs nationally. The secretariat, drawing on expertise and experience in the best-equipped Partner countries, will provide the necessary technical support. The Secretariat will also support Partners to develop project proposals seeking to establish national IBA programmes.

Close links with key institutions that regularly update information of relevance to IBA identification will be maintained to ensure that IBA identification is based on the best available knowledge. These include Wetlands International that updates the waterbird population estimates, UNEP-WCMC that updates the World Database of Protected Areas, CI that maintains Outcome Databases in the hotspots and others.

3.2.1. Targets and milestones

- I. IBA start-up kits available to the BirdLife Africa Partnership by end of 2005.
- II. At least 10 national IBA inventories published by 2015.
- III. Regional evaluation and update of IBAs coverage undertaken by 2008 and repeated in 2012 and 2016.
- IV. Second edition or supplement of the regional IBA directory published by 2008 incorporating updated information on species and sites.
- V. IBA module of WBDB available on the web by 2005, and is widely used in communication, advocacy and monitoring by all network countries and other conservation practitioners.

3.3. Planning for Action

Objective (iii): All IBAs in critical need of conservation action in Africa are identified.

All IBAs are priority sites for conservation; however, not all are faced by immediate threats and hence not all require immediate conservation actions. A mechanism for national prioritisation has been developed that determines those sites where additional conservation action is most urgently required, and has been applied by Cameroon, Ethiopia, Kenya, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia. This approach will be extended to other countries both within and outside the BirdLife network.

A mechanism for regional prioritisation is still under development but could involve ranking of IBAs in terms of relative importance for biodiversity (indicated through the numbers of species present at a particular IBA that meet the IBA criteria), and whether or not sites enjoy legal protection status. This prioritisation process will be conducted in a participatory manner to encourage broad ownership of the outcomes. A prioritisation exercise at the regional level will reveal the priority

sites, habitats, biomes, and countries where interventions, both within and outside the network countries are most urgently needed.

BirdLife will continue to contribute information on species and IBAs to donors, governments and other organisations for their own prioritisation of conservation work. In doing so, BirdLife will ensure that conservation attention is paid to the IBAs that urgently need it.

3.3.1. Targets and Milestones

- I. Mechanism for regional level prioritisation of IBAs in terms of the need for conservation action developed and published by 2005.
- II. Prioritisation process at national level applied in all BirdLife network countries by 2006.
- III. Prioritisation process at regional level applied and the priority sites documented by 2006.
- IV. Revision of the priority lists undertaken in 2008, 2012 and 2016.

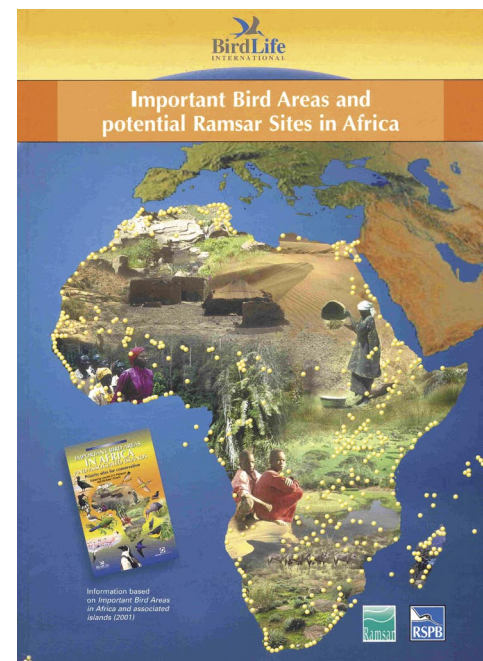
3.4. Recognition and Safeguard

Objective (iv): Legal and other mechanisms that recognise IBAs and protect them from inappropriate development and degradation are in place and being implemented

Recognition of sites as priorities for the conservation of biodiversity is essential, at the very least to prevent their degradation due to ignorance. Initial recognition by national stakeholders is important for rallying the support of national conservation practitioners and should be the first step in advocacy. This will be mainly promoted through the formation of IBA National Liaison Committees, who oversee the integration of IBA conservation into other national planning processes, such as the National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) and Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs).

In many countries, the justification for IBA protection is weakened by the perception that these sites are important for birds only. As a result, several Partners are engaged in an analysis of the extent to which IBAs hold other important biodiversity, with preliminary results suggesting that indeed IBAs in Africa represent areas important for many other taxa as well and so can be recognised as 'key biodiversity areas'. Efforts will be undertaken to promote recognition of all IBAs at the national level as priority sites for the conservation of biodiversity, with formal protection accorded to those that would best be managed as Protected Areas. Regionally, discussions are well advanced to promote IBAs as an initial set of key biodiversity areas, with the support of PlantLife International, Conservation International and other international NGOs.

Many African countries are signatory to international conservation conventions, such as the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, the World Heritage Convention, etc that provide levels of recognition and protection to sites of global biodiversity significance. Use of these international schemes will be sought, where appropriate, to enhance the recognition and protection of IBAs. In 2002, BirdLife published a directory of IBAs that potentially qualify as Ramsar sites, which provides a starting point for advocacy to enhance recognition and protection of wetland IBAs. Although 586



IBAs qualify for Ramsar designation based on their biological characteristics, only 112 sites had been designated by July 2002 (BirdLife International 2002) and by June 2004, this number had increased to 117.

3.4.1. Targets and Milestones

- I. The importance of IBAs for selected other taxa demonstrated and the information published by 2006.
- II. IBAs recognised in 40% of the BirdLife Africa Partnership countries as a major part of key biodiversity areas by 2008.
- III. IBA networks recognised and their conservation promoted under SADC, EAC, ECOWAS and NEPAD by 2008.
- IV. At least 200 more IBAs have gained legal Protection Status by 2015.
- V. At least 50 more IBAs are listed under international conventions that accord protection to sites e.g. the Ramsar Convention and the World Heritage Convention by 2015.

3.5. Intervention at Sites

Objective (v): Site conservation action involving governments, other NGOs and local communities is taking place at 75% of priority IBAs in Africa.

A wide array of conservation action approaches are implemented by governments, civil society organisations and local community groups to address site-specific causes of biodiversity loss, ranging from exclusion of human use to collaborative management practices. All these approaches can benefit from involving local communities in a supportive role. BirdLife is pioneering the Site Support Group (SSG) approach as a mechanism to rally local community support for conservation. This approach is being refined and will be extended to provide sustainable local action at many more IBAs.

Many IBAs are directly important for the livelihoods of local people by providing food, medicine, shelter and cultural resources. IBAs that support tourism activities provide employment and other income to the local communities. As a result, local communities have developed management systems that protect their rights to access and use resources in IBAs, while at the same time preventing their degradation. Where traditional and local community management systems are in place, these will be encouraged to protect IBAs.

BirdLife, mainly through the Site Action Unit, will be engaged in a range of conservation efforts, including carefully selected integrated conservation and development projects in countries where there is no Partner, where the capacity of the Partner is still insufficient to undertake large projects and where projects involve more than one region.

BirdLife will encourage other organisations and government institutions to undertake site action to conserve priority IBAs, including the protected area and forestry management authorities, environment management agencies, wetlands and rangeland management bodies, etc.

3.5.1. Targets and Milestones

- I. 90% of the members of the BirdLife Africa Partnership are implementing site action projects at 20% of priority IBAs by 2008.
- II. Over 500 effective SSGs in place within and outside the network countries by 2015.
- III. A mechanism for sharing of experience between national SSG networks in place and functioning by 2008.

- IV. At least six transboundary IBA conservation initiatives ongoing by 2008
- V. 10% of the sites listed as priority IBAs in 2005 are down-listed (moved lower on the priority list) by 2015 due to successful conservation action.

3.6. Contribution to Livelihoods

Objective (vi): Appropriate activities to enhance the livelihoods of local people in/around IBAs are taking place.

Most African countries have recently developed policies that lay heavy emphasis on poverty reduction in recognition of the adverse impact of poverty on sustainable development (for example in PRSPs). However, the livelihood of people is often intricately linked to natural resources and biodiversity. Biodiversity resources are directly exploited, especially by the poorest and most disadvantaged groups, for food, water, medicine, shelter and cultural practices and also form a basis for income generation. The BirdLife Partners have shown that IBA conservation can lead to enhanced livelihood opportunities for the people living in and around IBAs and this approach will be further strengthened.



Site Support Group members in their vegetable garden at Berga wetlands, Ethiopia

Partnerships with organisations and institutions promoting sustainable development of local communities such as the International Centre for Insect Physiology and Ecology (ICIPE), CARE and ICRAF to focus at IBAs will be a major element of the Africa IBA programme.

3.6.1. Targets and Milestones

- I. Opportunities for enhancing the livelihoods of people living in and around priority IBAs (e.g. through ecotourism) identified by 2006.
- II. Tools for guiding the BirdLife network in addressing livelihood issues developed by 2007.
- III. Communities living within/around 20% of the priority IBAs engaged in sustainable development enterprises through strategic partnerships with development organisations (e.g. ICIPE, CARE, ICRAF, etc) by 2015.
- IV. Impacts of SSGs on conservation and livelihoods investigated and the results published by 2008.

3.7. IBA Monitoring

Objective (vii): Effective and coordinated monitoring of IBAs in Africa is taking place with the engagement of local communities and other stakeholders

Monitoring will be promoted to record changes in biodiversity status and condition of key habitats, to detect and record changes in pressures/threats to biodiversity in IBAs, and hence ensure that interventions take place in good time and at sites where they are needed the most. The BirdLife Africa Partners have developed a framework for monitoring IBAs across the region, but initially focusing on the network countries (Bennun 2002). This framework advocates for monitoring at two levels, 'basic' monitoring using simple indicators at all sites and 'detailed'



Monitoring involving the local community has prospects for being sustainable in the long term

monitoring that is more elaborate with quantitative assessments, at a smaller number of IBAs. The framework advocates for monitoring that can be sustained in the long-term at low cost and with maximum involvement of local field workers and community groups, building on other biodiversity monitoring schemes such as the African Waterfowl Census. This framework will be promoted as the main mechanism for information gathering, analysis and dissemination to the various stakeholders at local, national and regional levels.

Remote sensing provides an efficient opportunity for gathering monitoring information, especially for very large IBAs, or in areas with restricted access and where there are no SSGs. This technology is already being applied within the Partnership to predict impacts of climate change and by many external organisations, for example in Conservation International's hotspot monitoring. This approach will be promoted, mainly in collaboration with other organisations.

Furthermore, monitoring will be used to assess how well the BirdLife Africa Partnership is achieving conservation goals nationally and regionally. This will involve gathering and collating information on what actions are being undertaken at national and regional levels with regards to IBA conservation.

3.7.1. Targets and Milestones

- I. Basic IBA monitoring taking place at 90% of IBAs in countries with BirdLife representation by 2008 and at all IBAs by 2015.
- II. Annual national IBA status reports produced by 90% of the BirdLife network countries by 2008.
- III. Regional annual IBA status report produced beginning in 2005.
- IV. Regular regional analyses and syntheses of IBA status taking place every 4 years, beginning in 2008.
- V. Monitoring of IBAs taking place at 20% of the IBAs outside the BirdLife network by 2008 and 50% by 2015.
- VI. Information on at least 70% of IBAs in Africa incorporated in reporting on the CBD targets and the Millennium Development Goals by 2010.

3.8. Managing Data

Objective (viii): *Up-to-date information on the biodiversity, threats and conservation actions at IBAs is available through databases, publications and on the web.*

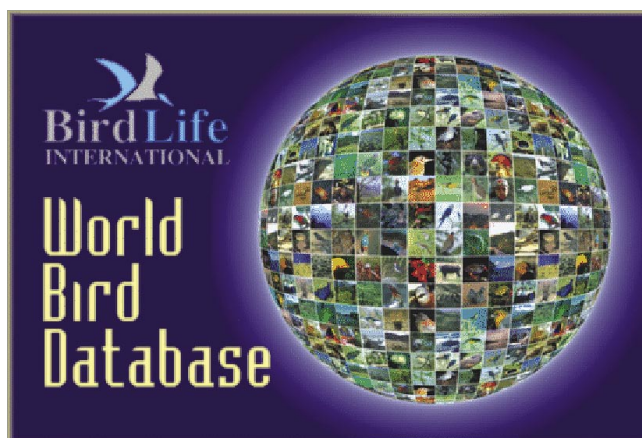
The IBA data are stored, organised and made available for analysis through the IBA module of the World Bird Database, which holds data on both sites and species. Updating of the IBA data is a continuous process carried out initially by the national WBDB focal points, and transmitted to the WBDB manager via the regional IBA programme manager. Use of the WBDB will be promoted initially within the BirdLife network countries, but also to other interested organisations.

Avenues for data sharing at national, regional and global levels, such as the

clearing house mechanism of CBD, links to international conventions such as Ramsar, and partnerships with other international biodiversity conservation NGOs to incorporate IBA priorities into the work of their agencies will be vigorously pursued.

3.8.1. Targets and Milestones

- I. All BirdLife network countries have the WBDB installed by 2005 and have the capacity to update their data by end 2006.
- II. Major review and update of species and sites information in the database at national and regional levels completed by 2007.
- III. Data on IBAs held in the WBDB freely available on the web and regularly updated beginning in 2005.



The World Bird Database is the main tool for collection, collation, standardising, analysing and disseminating information on IBAs and the birds that they contain

3.9. Communication, Education and Public Awareness

Objective (ix): The IBA programme in Africa is effectively communicated to stakeholders at local, national and global levels

Effective communication is fundamental to gaining collaborators and advocating good policy. However, often this aspect of conservation programmes does not receive the support required, with the result that innovations are not widely known and opportunities for collaboration are missed.

Education, through both formal and informal approaches, plays a key role in creating awareness and changing attitudes and behaviours of politicians, local communities and the general public towards actions that promote sustainable natural resources use.

BirdLife Partners and the Secretariat will gather, collate and publish information on what is happening with regards to IBA conservation at national and regional levels. Information on IBAs and on BirdLife's approach to conservation, which emphasises home-grown solutions that take into account the needs and priorities of local communities will be disseminated using existing channels such as the BirdLife website and newsletters.

Articles for the written media and radio/television programmes will be produced and new information dissemination approaches developed where necessary. IBA information will also be made available through advocacy materials targeting international institutions such as the secretariats of global conventions.

3.9.1. Targets and Milestones

- I. Regional IBA Conservation Strategy published by end of 2005
- II. Regional communications strategy developed, implemented and targets in the strategy being met by 2008
- III. All members of the BirdLife Africa Partnership develop and implement national advocacy, communication and education strategies by 2015.
- IV. IBA information incorporated in relevant convention reports in 50% of BirdLife network countries by 2008.
- V. IBA and bird conservation information integrated in the formal education curricula of at least nine countries by 2008 and 15 countries by 2015.

4. Implementation Arrangements

4.1. Funding for the IBA Programme

A conservative estimate of the costs of running national IBA programmes is USD 25,000 to 50,000 per country per year, and regional coordination requires a similar amount. Therefore, about USD 700,000 per year would be required to implement the strategy.

A regional fundraising strategy for the Africa Partnership and Programme was endorsed by CAP in 2003. This strategy describes the priorities for fundraising for the Africa Partnership from five different perspectives ('strategic directions'), and it gives recommendations for the role of the regional and global BirdLife Secretariat, the national BirdLife Africa Partners and other relevant stakeholders in fundraising to support the implementation of the Africa Programme. According to the regional fundraising strategy, the following activities should lead to obtaining the financial resources necessary to implement this Regional IBA Conservation Strategy:

- I. Develop and submit high-quality project proposals, reflecting regional and national IBA Programme priorities, to selected donors, in a concerted manner [Partners and Secretariat];
- II. Develop and maintain strong and long-term relationships with donor agencies which have shown interest in supporting conservation and development projects and programmes in Africa [Partners and Secretariat];
- III. Develop the fundraising capacity of the BirdLife Africa network at local, national and regional levels (by means of training, on-the-job support, information dissemination and donor liaison) to enable the effective implementation of I. and II. [Partners and Secretariat];
- IV. Promote collaboration in terms of fundraising for IBA conservation projects between the BirdLife Secretariat and the African Partners, and between the Partners among themselves, by means of a 'fundraisers network', joint (multi-country / cross-border) project development, donor coordination and experience-sharing [Partners and Secretariat];
- V. Expand the fundraising and marketing capacity of the BirdLife Africa Secretariat to provide for regional coordination and IBA Programme development activities at the Secretariat offices in Nairobi and Accra [Secretariat].

Basing on national and regional IBA priority setting mechanisms, national and regional fundraising plans will be developed and implemented using a variety of existing fundraising tools (including the Africa Project Catalogue).

Annual monitoring of this fundraising strategy will ensure that fundraising efforts to support the implementation of this RIBACS will be strategic, collaborative, focused, efficient and effective.

4.2. Key Actors and their Roles

4.2.1. BirdLife Partnership

Achievement of this strategy requires concerted efforts of the BirdLife Partnership in Africa, other BirdLife network members (Supporting Partners) and the BirdLife Global Secretariat. The BirdLife Partners will have responsibility for the national and local actions in support of this strategy. Most of these actions are already incorporated in the Africa regional programme 2005–2008 and agreed by the Partners.



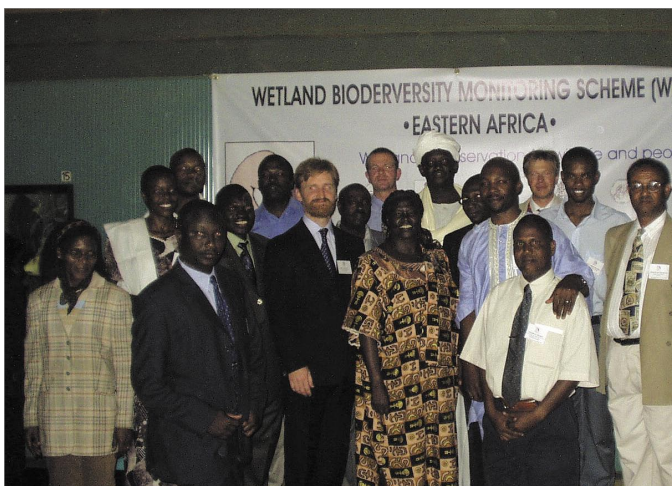
Members of the Council for the Africa Partnership and Technical Advisory committee at a meeting in South Africa

continue to work together with BirdLife Supporting Partners in programme development, international advocacy and fundraising.

Overall guidance in the implementation, monitoring and delivery of this strategy will be provided by the Council for the Africa Partnership (CAP), with technical support from the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC).

4.2.2. Collaborators

Partnerships at local and national levels will be established by the BirdLife Partners within the BirdLife network countries and by the Secretariat in countries outside the BirdLife network hosting priority IBAs. Collaboration with institutions in countries outside the BirdLife network will lead, in some cases, to recruitment



Launch of the Wetland Biodiversity Monitoring System (WBMS), a collaboration between BirdLife Africa Partners in Eastern Africa, Wetlands International and the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust UK for monitoring wetlands

The BirdLife Africa Partnership Secretariat will be responsible for the day-to-day implementation of regional activities, harmonisation of national IBA programme development, coordination of efforts at a regional level, stimulating action by collaborators, international advocacy and monitoring.

The Science, Policy and Information department at the BirdLife Global Secretariat will ensure co-ordination and harmonisation with global strategy and global IBA programme.

Both the Partners and BirdLife Africa Partnership Secretariat will

of a BirdLife Partner according to the Network Development Plan (BirdLife International, 2003).

Partnerships at regional/sub-regional level will be developed with other international NGOs dealing in biodiversity conservation, where they can contribute to the protection of priority IBAs, improvement in advocacy for IBA conservation or identification of new IBAs. Examples of such organisations are CI, IUCN, WCS, WWF and Wetlands International.

Partnerships will also be developed with international organisations involved in development work, for the purposes of enhancing opportunities for local communities to benefit from the IBAs. Examples of such

organisations are ICIPE, CARE, ICRAF and Action Aid.

Partnerships will be developed with inter-governmental agencies and organisations for advocacy purposes. Examples of these agencies are SADC, EAC, ECOWAS, NEPAD, AU, etc.

4.3. Monitoring and Evaluation

Monitoring of the implementation of this strategy on an annual basis will be overseen by TAC based on an annual workplan developed by the regional IBA Programme Manager and the 10-year Implementation Plan (see below). The set of 41 indicators and milestones in this document will form the basis for annual reporting on the implementation of this strategy.

Mid-term and final evaluations will be undertaken by CAP alongside evaluations of the BirdLife Africa Regional Programme.

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6. Implementation Plan 2005–2015

Objectives/Activities	Indicators	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
1. CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT												
<i>Objective (i): Capacity of the BirdLife Africa network to implement all aspects of the IBA Programme is in place and deployed for IBA conservation.</i>	I. Skills/Staff database of the BirdLife Africa Partnership for implementing IBA conservation work in place by end of 2005.											
	II. Training in essential skills required by the BirdLife Africa Partnership to implement IBA conservation work completed by 2008.											
	III. Functional relationships with governments and other stakeholders for IBA conservation in 95% of the BirdLife Africa Partnership by 2008.											
	IV. Cost of IBA conservation determined and strategies to meet them being implemented by 2008.											
2. PREPARATION AND IDENTIFICATION												
<i>Objective (ii): An up-to-date list of all IBAs in Africa is maintained.</i>	I. IBA start-up kits available to the BirdLife Africa Partnership by the end of 2005.											
	II. At least 10 national IBA inventories published by 2015.											
	III. Regional evaluation and update of IBAs coverage undertaken by 2008 and repeated in 2012 and 2016.											
	IV. Second edition or supplement of the regional IBA directory published by 2008 incorporating updated information on species and sites.											
	V. IBA module of WBDB available on the web by 2005, and is widely used in communication, advocacy and monitoring by all network countries and other conservation practitioners.											
3. PLANNING FOR ACTION												
<i>Objective (iii): All IBAs in critical need of conservation action in Africa are identified.</i>	I. Mechanism for regional level prioritisation of IBAs in terms of the need for conservation action developed and published by 2005.											
	II. Prioritisation process at national level applied in all BirdLife network countries by 2006.											
	III. Prioritisation process at regional level applied and the priority sites documented by 2006.											
	IV. Revision of national and regional priority lists undertaken in 2008 and 2012 and 2016.											

Objectives/Activities	Indicators	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
4. RECOGNITION AND SAFEGUARD												
<i>Objective (iv): Legal and other mechanisms that recognise IBAs and protect them from inappropriate development and degradation are in place and being implemented.</i>	I. The importance of IBAs for selected other taxa demonstrated and the information published by 2006.											
	II. IBAs recognised in 40% of the BirdLife Africa Partnership countries as a major part of key biodiversity areas by 2008.											
	III. IBA networks recognised and their conservation promoted under SADC, EAC, ECOWAS and NEPAD by 2008.											
	IV. At least 200 more IBAs have gained legal Protection Status by 2015.											
	V. At least 50 more IBAs are listed under international conventions that accord protection to sites, e.g. the Ramsar Convention and the World Heritage Convention by 2015.											
5. INTERVENTION AT SITES												
<i>Objective (v): Site conservation action involving government, NGOs and local communities is taking place at 75% of priority IBAs in Africa.</i>	I. Ninety percent of the members of the BirdLife Africa Partnership are implementing site action projects at 20% of priority IBAs by 2008.											
	II. Over 500 effective SSGs in place within and outside the network by 2015.											
	III. A mechanism for sharing experience between national SSG networks in place and functioning by 2008.											
	IV. At least six transboundary IBA conservation initiatives ongoing by 2008.											
	V. Ten percent of the sites listed as priority IBAs in 2005 are down-listed (moved lower on the priority list) by 2015 due to successful conservation action.											
6. CONTRIBUTION TO IMPROVED LIVELIHOODS												
<i>Objective (vi): Appropriate activities to enhance livelihoods of local people in/around IBAs taking place.</i>	I. Opportunities for enhancing the livelihoods of people living in and around priority IBAs (e.g. through ecotourism) identified by 2006.											
	II. Tools for guiding the BirdLife network in addressing livelihood issues developed by 2007.											
	III. Communities living within/around 20% of the priority IBAs engaged in sustainable development enterprises through strategic partnerships with development organisations (e.g. ICPE, CARE, ICRAF, etc.).											
	IV. Impacts on SSGs on conservation and livelihoods investigated and the results published by 2008.											

Objectives/Activities	Indicators	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
7. IBA MONITORING												
<i>Objective (vii): Effective and coordinated monitoring of IBAs in Africa is taking place with the engagement of local communities and other stakeholders.</i>	I. Basic IBA monitoring taking place at 90% of IBAs in countries with BirdLife representation by 2008 and at all IBAs by 2015.											
	II. Annual national IBA status reports produced by 90% of the BirdLife network countries by 2008.											
	III. Regional annual IBA status report produced beginning in 2005.											
	IV. Regular regional analyses and syntheses of IBA status taking place every four years, beginning in 2005.											
	V. Monitoring of IBAs taking place at 20% of the IBAs outside the BirdLife network by 2008 and 50% by 2015.											
	VI. Information on at least 70% of IBAs in Africa incorporated in reporting on the CBD targets and the Millennium Development Goals by 2010.											
8. MANAGING DATA												
<i>Objective (viii): Up-to-date information on the biodiversity, threats and conservation actions at IBA is available through databases, publications and on the web.</i>	I. All BirdLife network countries have the WBDB installed by 2005 and have the capacity to update their data by end 2006.											
	II. Major review and update of species and sites information in the database at national and regional levels completed by 2007.											
	III. Data on IBAs held in the WBDB freely available on the web and regularly updated beginning in 2005.											
9. COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS												
<i>Objective (ix): The IBA programme in Africa effectively communicated to major stakeholders at local, national and global level.</i>	I. Regional IBA Conservation Strategy published by end 2005.											
	II. Regional communications strategy developed, implemented and targets in the strategy being met by 2008.											
	III. All members of the BirdLife Africa Partnership develop and implement national advocacy, communication and education strategies by 2015.											
	IV. IBA information incorporated in relevant convention reports in 50% of BirdLife network countries by 2008.											
	V. IBA and bird conservation information integrated in the formal education curricula of at least 9 countries by 2008 and 15 countries by 2015.											

The BirdLife International Africa Partnership



Botswana



Burkina Faso



Burundi



Cameroon



Ethiopia



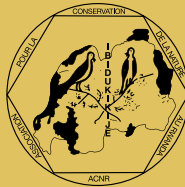
Ghana



NatureKenya
Kenya



NCF
Nigeria



Rwanda



Seychelles



Sierra Leone



South Africa



Tanzania



Tunisia



NatureUganda
Uganda



Zambia



Zimbabwe