CMS Standing Committee 23.10.2018, Bonn
Bird monitoring and conservation
for African Biosphere Reserves

Content: Samuel Fournet & AfriBiRds team
Speaker: Samuel Fournet
Contact: Samuel.Fournet@nabu.de
Web-site: https://en.nabu.de/projects/afribirds/
Project Introduction

Objectives

• Develop and implement a pilot scheme for long-term monitoring of bird populations including Palaearctic migrants in African biosphere reserves as a template for application in other biosphere reserves and the wider landscape

• Supports

1. the integration of the African-Eurasian Migratory Landbirds Action Plan (AEMLAP) from the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS),

2. the UN implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD),

3. the “Life on Land” Sustainable Development Goal (SDG15)

4. the monitoring of the African Biosphere Reserves from UNESCO‘s Man and the Biosphere Programme (MAB).
‘African Biosphere Reserves as pilot sites for monitoring and conservation of migratory birds’

**Project Introduction**

**Factsheets**

- **Duration:** from Dec. 2016 to Aug. 2019
- **Budget:** 80% BfN-BMUB // 20% NABU
- **Financed Staff (part-time):** 6: 1 NABU, 3 BirdLife, 1 Sos Fôrets, 1 NCF
- **Funder:** Bundesamt für Naturschutz - BfN - Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz, Bau und Reaktorsicherheit - BMUB –
- **Project Advisory Committee:** 20 membered organizations conveyed annually to a virtual meeting
‘African Biosphere Reserves as pilot sites for monitoring and conservation of migratory birds’

Project Introduction
Project Advisory Committee
Afri
Biosphere R
eserves as pilot sites
for monitoring and conservation of migratory bir
da’s

**Project Highlight (1)**

Bird monitoring surveys African biosphere reserves

- Design of a survey in French and English
- Networking with African Biosphere Reserves managers and with representatives of the UNESCO MAB national committee
- Reply of 43 (red dots on map) out of 97 BR management units in Africa
- Outcomes post-processed and reported
- Multi weighted criteria to identify the two following pilot sites:

Comoé (Côte d’Ivoire), Omo (Nigeria)

Results to be released online in WP1 AfriBiRds report

Plan for a scientific publication by the end of the project

NABU
‘African Biosphere Reserves as pilot sites for monitoring and conservation of migratory birds’

Project Highlight (2)
Training workshop at pilot case studies

→ 38 participants with 6 African nationalities (Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d’Ivoire, Kenya, Niger, Rwanda)
→ 8 Biosphere Reserves
→ 5 Ivoirian research organizations active in monitoring
→ 2 national agencies having monitoring in their portfolio
→ 4 BirdLife partners and 1 other environmental NGO

Workshop 2: Omo Biosphere Reserve, Nigeria (29.01–03.02.2018)
→ 29 participants with 5 African nationalities (Ethiopia, Ghana, Nigeria, Kenya, Rwanda)
→ 8 Biosphere Reserves
→ 2 Nigerian research organization active in monitoring
→ 1 regional agency having monitoring in their portfolio
→ 4 BirdLife partners and 1 other environmental NGO

Collaborative support from GiZ Ethiopia, Benin, Côte d’Ivoire
‘African Biosphere Reserves as pilot sites for monitoring and conservation of migratory birds’

Project Highlight (3)
Training workshop at pilot case studies

Workshop contents

- Introduction on bird monitoring initiatives: AfriBiRds / Common Bird Monitoring Scheme / Waterbird counts / IBA / Bird Atlas
- How to plan the setting of “AfriBiRds” Common Bird Monitoring Scheme?
- How to use observation.org as supportive monitoring tool?
- How to use monitoring equipments in the field to identify birds and insert correctly observations into a bird monitoring protocol?
- How to develop bird monitoring and conservation program in African Biosphere Reserves?

French and English Monitoring toolkits are already shared with the workshop participants and will be released online soon for all active African Biosphere reserves as guidelines and worked out demonstration schemes for effective common bird monitoring.
‘African Biosphere Reserves as pilot sites for monitoring and conservation of migratory birds’

Project Highlight (4)
Launch of the 1st Bird monitoring campaign

Record summary in Comoé:
• 8 point counts along a 2.8 km transect lines in 30 randomly selected sample squares (4.5x4.5 km)
• 1475 observations with 183 different species recorded by 4 ornithologists, 4 trainers and 2 volunteers

Record summary in Omo:
• 8 point counts along a 2.8 km transect lines in 50 randomly selected sample squares (4.5x4.5 km)
• 2508 observations with 93 different species recorded by 21 trained people

AfriBiRds
‘African Biosphere Reserves as pilot sites for monitoring and conservation of migratory birds’

Project Dissemination (1)

Publication

Project materials

- 2 web sites
- Project Leaflet in 4 languages
- Annual Newsletter

Project publications

- Article submitted to African Conservation Telegraph (Special Issues on Endangered Birds of Africa)
  - www.cms.int/
  - www.worldmigratorybirdday.org/
  - NABU Zugvogel-Post

- https://en.nabu.de/projects/afribirds/
‘African Biosphere Reserves as pilot sites for monitoring and conservation of migratory birds’

**Project Dissemination (2)**

**Agenda**

**In 2017**

- Workshop UNESCO-Biosphärenreservate in Afrika, May 2017 in Germany
- ArabMAB meeting, May 2017 in Algeria
- AfriMAB meeting, Sep. 2017 in Nigeria
- AEMLAP Side event at CMS COP 12, Oct. 2017 in Philippines

**In 2018**

- Global Summit for Flyways in Abu Dhabi 23-26.04
- International Ornithological Conference in Canada
- AEWA Conferences in Germany and in South Africa

**In 2019**

- AfriMAB general assembly in Côte d’Ivoire(?)
- EBCC conference in Portugal
Project upcoming
Expected results and long term vision

- Keep active the monitoring and conservation framework for birds in pilot case studies after the project
- Promote the use of the project materials for a broader implementation across Africa (in other BR and on national level)
- Accompany the expansion of the African Bird Atlas initiative
- Participate to the emergence of a Pan-African Common Bird Monitoring Scheme (PECBMS) and an African Bird Census Council?
Thank you for your attention!

Feel free to contact us for additional infos

Contact: Samuel.Fournet@NABU.de
Web-site: https://en.nabu.de/projects/afribirds/