



AfriBiRds Project: Survey on Bird monitoring at Biosphere Reserves in Africa

QUESTIONNAIRE for Biosphere Reserves Managers

Introduction

Background: The survey is part of the project titled "African Biosphere Reserves as pilot sites for monitoring and conservation of migratory birds (AfriBiRds)" implemented by The Nature and Biodiversity Conservation Union (NABU) and BirdLife International Africa Partnership Secretariat (BirdLife) and commissioned by the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN) with funds from the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB). The project started in December 2016 and will end in August 2019. Please find out more details on the project web page <https://en.nabu.de/projects/afribirds/>

Objective of this survey: Providing an overview on the status of bird monitoring and conservation in all Biosphere Reserves (**BR**) in Africa. Based on the results, at least two pilot sites will be selected for the development and implementation of a long-term monitoring and conservation framework for common birds with a special focus on migrant species that is feasible for African BR and scalable to the wider landscape. Other BR will be also selected to take part in training activities. The questionnaire will enable to draw a continental state of the art on bird monitoring and identify in the African UNESCO networks key regions for prospective conservation programmes.

Confidentiality note: Please note that the information and data provided will be treated confidentially. The final survey report will not include personal information of the respondents. NABU, BirdLife International and BfN will strictly use the results of the survey for the dissemination and the reporting of projects involving their own organization and for scientific publications with acknowledgments. Raw data are only shared within the MAB program, the AfriMAB and ArabMAB regional networks. Other requests from external entities to access the data need an exceptional approval from BfN and from the respective MAB regional network.

Instructions for respondents:

- This questionnaire should be filled out by the BR Manager or other staff member resp. (external) expert designated by him/her.
 - Please kindly answer all the questions based on your state of knowledge (scientific data might not be available to answer every question in detail).
 - Please note that this is a scientific study and your response should not try to meet any political expectations but enable us to realistically analyze bird monitoring and conservation as a contribution for creating awareness and for filling the knowledge gaps regarding the state and the causes of declining bird species along their flyways.
 - Please complete the questionnaire as far as possible in case your BR did not engage in bird monitoring or bird conservation activities yet.
 - Please fill one questionnaire per BR and send it back as a pdf file **by 15 July 2017 to afribirds-survey@NABU.de**
 - You will need **approximately 20-25 min.** to answer the questionnaire.
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Name of your BR:

Country of your BR:

Year of UNESCO designation:

Personal Information of the Respondent and Contact for potential Follow-up from Survey Analysts

Affiliated organization:

First name:

Last name:

Function related
to the BR:

Manager

Other:

Gender

Ms

Mr

Title (if any)

Email address:

Mobile phone number
(incl. country code):

Office phone
number (incl.
country code):

A. Bird Conservation and Monitoring

A.0.1 Are you willing your BR to become one of the AfriBiRds pilot sites for birds monitoring? This relates to issuance of authorizations to run regular bird monitoring at BR, and to collaborate with other stakeholders including national BirdLife partners where applicable:

Yes

No

Don't know

A.0.2 In case your BR will be selected as pilot site within the project, are you interested to continue the pilot bird monitoring programme after the project ends on a regular and long term basis also as a demonstration scheme ? This implies to allocate human resources with transport and monitoring facilities:

Yes

No

Don't know

A.1 Resources

A.1.1 Technical/Financial resources

A.1.1.1 Please indicate the number of current biodiversity monitoring equipments available within your organization:

Binocular(s)

GPS

Camera(s)

Telescope(s)

Laptop(s)

Bird field book(s)

Ring

Mist net

Sound
recorder

Other(s) types+ no.

A.1.2.2 Please estimate the current numbers of bird watchers for supporting monitoring in your BR according to their level of expertise and status:

BR staff community national international

High level of expertise

Advanced level of
expertise

Basic level of expertise

No expertise

A.1.2.3 Did your staff receive professional monitoring training in the last 5 years on...

...bird?

Yes

No

...biodiversity/ecological?

Yes

No

If YES, please provide further information on the different training (e.g. n° of staff, thematic, provider, duration):

A.2 Partnerships

A.2.0 Please describe the relationship, if any, of the BR has with BirdLife partner organizations? (List of BirdLife members [HERE](#))

A.2.1 International: Please indicate the hosting or participation of your BR in international bird monitoring programmes and initiatives:

Wadden Sea Flyway Initiative (WSFI)

African Waterfowl Census (AfWC)

South African Bird Ringing Scheme (SAFRING)

Migratory Soaring Birds Project

World Migratory Bird Day

Other(s)

BirdLife Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas (IBAs)

Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF)

Wings Over Wetlands (WoW)

International Waterbird Census (IWC)

Bird Atlassing Projects

A.2.2 National: Do you know of national bird monitoring programs covering your BR? Yes No

If YES, please provide further details (e.g. name of program, coordinating organization, when started, frequency, focus, level of involvement of BR):

A.2.3 Local

A.2.3.1 Are there any national or local organizations involved in bird watching in your BR? Yes No

If YES, please provide further details (e.g. name of organization, activities, level of involvement of BR):

A.2.3.2 Are you involved in developing awareness and environmental educational programs on birds at the community level? Yes No

If YES, please provide further details (e.g. name of program, duration, focus, target group, level of involvement of BR):

A.2.4 Research

A.2.4.1 Do you have partnerships with research institutions to support bird monitoring and conservation in your BR? Yes No

If YES, please provide further details (e.g. name of research institution, research topic, level of involvement of/in BR):

A.2.4.2 Please name and indicate roughly the distance of the closest university (or tertiary education institution) from your BR zones:

A.2.4.3 Please name ornithological institutions in your country:

A.3 Monitoring

A.3.1 Data Collection

A.3.1.1 Please select and name up to 10 key bird species present in your BR (referring to Palaearctic migratory common bird species would be an asset):

Bird species 1:

Bird species 6:

Bird species 2:

Bird species 7:

Bird species 3:

Bird species 8:

Bird species 4:

Bird species 9:

Bird species 5:

Bird species 10:

A.3.1.2 Please provide annual population estimates for the selected key bird species for the last five years and/or indicate the general trends if known:

2016

2015

2014

2013

2012

Change 0= stable / - = decrease / + = increase / ? = unknown

Bird species 1:

Bird species 2:

Bird species 3:

Bird species 4:

Bird species 5:

Bird species 6:

Bird species 7:

Bird species 8:

Bird species 9:

Bird species 10:

A.3.1.3 Please select your 3 most relevant bird monitoring census activities hosted in your BR and give as much details as you can on the following:

	Name of census	v BR staff	Numbers of v persons involved v Volunteer	v Local community (yyyy)	Start (yyyy/unlimited)	End (yyyy/unlimited)	Frequency /year (U = 1 count)
Census 1:							
Method (s) used in the census:	Total count	Time transects		Fixed-width transect	Fixed-width point		
	Distance sampling	Mist netting & ringing		Sound recording	Timed species		
	Name census	v BR staff	Numbers of v persons involved v Volunteers	v Local community (yyyy)	Start (yyyy/unlimited)	End (yyyy/unlimited)	Frequency /year (U = 1 count)
Census 2:							
Method (s) used in the census:	Total count	Time transects		Fixed-width transect	Fixed-width point		
	Distance sampling	Mist netting & ringing		Sound recording	Timed species		
	Name census	v BR staff	Numbers of v persons involved v Volunteer	v Local community (yyyy)	Start (yyyy/unlimited)	End (yyyy/unlimited)	Frequency /year (U = 1 count)
Census 3:							
Method (s) used in the census:	Total count	Time transects		Fixed-width transect	Fixed-width point		
	Distance sampling	Mist netting & ringing		Sound recording	Timed species		

A.3.2 Data Reporting and Sharing

A.3.1.1 Is your BR using a data-base to archive bird monitoring results ? Yes No (paper archive) No (no census)

If YES, please name the database and the organization holding it (if other than BR):

A.3.2.2 Is your BR responsible for transferring bird census in the data-base ? Yes No

If NO, please name the organization doing this task (if any):

A.3.2.3 Is your BR responsible for cross-checking and validating the data on bird monitoring? Yes No

If NO, please name the organization doing this task (if any):

A.3.2.4 Please indicate your type of data sharing policies for bird monitoring:

confidential

available on request

web open access

Other

A.3.2.5 Please indicate the organization in your country with whom your BR is sharing bird census data:

A.3.2.6 Please indicate if your BR is sharing data with the following international bird monitoring global data-bases:

World Database of Key Biodiversity Areas

eBird

(Common) Bird Population Monitoring in Africa

Bird Atlas project (e.g. South Africa, Kenya)

West African Bird Database

Avibase

International Waterbird Census Database

Waterbird Population Estimate

BirdTrack

Data.biolovision.net

observation.org

African Raptor Database

Other(s):

A.4 Conservation

A.4.1 Please identify the most significant threats for avian diversity in your BR:

Hunting
Land clearing/encroachment
Habitat fragmentation/degradation
Modification of natural ecosystem
Man-made infrastructure and obstacle
Noise pollution
Soil and water pollution
Decrease of food availability
Limited water access
Avian disease and parasites
Other(s):

A.4.2 Please identify the most significant challenges generating those threats in your BR:

Permissive environmental policies
Conservation regulations not respected
Low environmental education and awareness
Community vulnerability (e.g poverty)
Domestic biomass harvesting (e.g fuelwood for cooking)
Poor public governance
Private economic predations (e.g land grabbing)
Population growth
Urbanization
Uncontrolled solid waste and sewage emissions
Tourism infrastructures (e.g: golf)
Industrial or mining activities
Transport infrastructures (e.g airport)
Energy infrastructures (e.g power line)
Water infrastructures (e.g dam)
Drainage of wetlands
Deforestation
Agriculture, plantation extension
Land use intensification
Erosion, desertification
Livestock grazing, trampling
Invasive species
Hazard (e.g fire, salinity intrusion)
Climate extremes (e.g drought, heat/coldwave)
Other(s):

B.8 Please give approximately the share of each major landscape in the total area of your BR and provide details by ticking the most relevant sub-characteristics:

Landscape type	%	Sub-characteristics (please tick relevant boxes)				
Temperate forest:		Needleleaf	Broadleaf	Mixed	Lowland	Mountainous
(Sub-)tropical forest:		Dry	Moist	Mangrove	Swamp	Lowland Mountainous
Savanna:		Dry	Moist			
Shrubland:		Temperate	Mediterranean	(Sub)-tropical	Dry	Moist Lowland
		Highland	Open	Closed		
Grassland:		Temperate	(Sub)-tropical	Dry	Moist	
		Lowland	Mountainous	Seasonnally flooded		
Wetlands:		Permanent	Intermittent	Freshwater	Saline/Brackish/Alkaline	
		Lake	Marsh/Pool	Spring/Oases		
Barrenland:		Desert	Mountainous	Sandy	Rocky	
Artificial:		Arable Land	Pastureland	Plantations	Rural Gardens	
		Degraded former forest				
Urban:		Dense	Sparse			

C. Feedback

In case you have a general feedback on the AfriBiRds project or this questionnaire in particular, please share it with us:

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR VALUABLE TIME.

Please send back the questionnaire **by 15th of July** to this email address: afribirds-survey@NABU.de.

Once completed, we will share a report with the results of this survey among the responding Biosphere Reserves.

AfriBiRds project contacts for further questions:

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