# Strengthening Civil Society Capacity to Advocate for Mainstreaming Biodiversity Project (CAMB)

**Project Manager:** Dansk Ornitologisk Forening (DOF/BirdLife Denmark)

**Key BirdLife Partners:** BirdLife Global Secretariat, Asia and Africa

Secretariats

Bird Conservation Nepal (BCN), Nature Kenya. Nature Uganda

**Project value:** 3,329,800 Danish Krone (approx. £390,000)

Project dates: 1 January 2017 – 30 June 2018 (18 months)

Funding institution: Civil Society in Development (CISU) through DANIDA

### Executive

#### summary

BirdLife Denmark (Dansk Ornitologisk Forening) has secured funding to work with the BirdLife Secretariat (Global, Asia, Africa) and three BirdLife Partners (Kenya, Uganda, Nepal) to build the capacity of 20 BirdLife Partners in Asia and Africa to advocate for the integration of biodiversity into their government's sectoral policies and practices and enhance their engagement in the Convention of Biological Diversity (CBD) processes and particularly the goal of mainstreaming biodiversity into multiple sectors.

#### **Key activities**

- Training package for advocacy in biodiversity mainstreaming, developed by the BirdLife Secretariat with input from 3 local BirdLife Partners (and other interested Partners)
- Development of comprehensive advocacy strategies by 3 Partners which are tested nationally
- Capacity building workshops attended by 20 BirdLife Partners to develop national sectoral advocacy strategies
- Support to participating Partners to develop Policy statements for CBD meetings
- Attendance by 3 key Partners at CBD preparatory meeting.

#### Key output

Training manual and online training materials made available for all BirdLife Partners

#### **Benefits for the Partnership**

Working directly with 3 local BirdLife Partners who will then build the capacity of the BirdLife Partnership in Africa and Asia, including almost 20 Partner organisations who will directly benefit from participation in the training workshops. The BirdLife Partnership will also benefit from the sharing of these outputs from the training workshops with the objective to enhance the ability of Partners to advocate for biodiversity mainstreaming into sectoral policies and practices.

#### Links to Convention on Biological Diversity and the mainstreaming biodiversity agenda

The Project's strategic approach is informed by the CBD and the 2020 goals. It also supports the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development, in that it supports the goal of strengthening the capacity of civil society to integrate poverty reduction and nature protection as well as empowering civil society to carry out advocacy, particularly on the mainstreaming biodiversity agenda.

## Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

- CBD's Strategic Plan 2011-2020 has a mission, strategic goals and 20 targets, collectively known as the Aichi Targets
- Strategic Goal A: 'Address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society'
- Strategic Goal E: 'Enhance implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity building'

### CBD Meeting 13 (2016) - push for mainstreaming biodiversity

- Cancun Declaration at COP13countries pledge to step up efforts to integrate biodiversity into the policies of their forests, fisheries, tourism and agriculture sectors.
- BirdLife Position Paper for CoP13 calls for countries 'to take biodiversity beyond the environment scene and find conservation solutions with those sectors that most use and are directly dependent on biological resources'.

#### BirdLife Partnership and CBD

- Implementation of the CBD is mainly at the national level, and the BirdLife Partnership supports national governments to facilitate national action to meet the 20 Aichi Targets.
- BirdLife Partners have contributed to the development and the implementation of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs).
- By participating in CBD negotiations, Partners will have increased capacity to participate and advocate for CBD implementation nationally.

Steps in Strengthening Civil Society Capacity to Advocate for Mainstreaming Biodiversity Project

Stakeholder analysis
by 3 core Partners

- 3 Partners undertake stakeholder gap analysis to identify the most important sector(s) for mainstreaming biodiversity.
- National consultation processes with important stakeholders facilitated workshops where relevant ministries are convened by environment ministries to agree to recognise biodiversity in their strategic plans and targets.
- Stakeholder gap analysis report to be fed into training package development.

Training package on policy and advocacy

- BirdLife Secretariat to conduct review of current knowledge products, best practices, tools etc. on advocacy training to inform the development of the training package and help avoid duplication.
- Training package and associated workshop materials to be developed by BirdLife Secretariat with input from regional secretariat and core Partners.
- Training package to include modules on: (1) mainstreaming biodiversity; (2) developing advocacy strategies; and (3) influencing CBD processes at international and national levels.

Workshops on policy and advocacy

- Training package delivered through workshops, one workshop held in Asia and one workshop in Africa.
- 10 BirdLife Partners to attend each workshop (including 3 core Partners) .

Advocacy Strategies

- All workshop attendees to develop national sectoral advocacy strategies to both consolidate what was learned at the workshop, but also to be able to guide their national advocacy actions.
- Nature Kenya, Nature Uganda and BCN will have resources to build comprehensive advocacy strategies for mainstreaming biodiversity and to pilot startegies through national consultations.
- BirdLife Secretariat will establish a virtual 'help desk' to support Partners in developing advocacy strategies for biodiversity mainstreaming.

Support for national CBD processes

- Nature Kenya, Nature Uganda and BCN will develop Policy Statements to national preparatory meetings and seek to influence national positions (e.g. through meetings to discuss biodiversity mainstreaming in NBSAPs).
- They will also foster national meetings with decision makers and the private sector to discuss biodiversity mainstreaming in the context of NBSAP implementation.

Attendance at CBD meetings

Nature Kenya, Nature Uganda and BCN will be supported to participate at least in one meeting of the CBD, most
likely the back-to-back meetings of the SBSTTA and SBI which should be held in the spring of 2018 (dates yet to be
confirmed). The participation in the meetings will be an opportunity to be working more closely with their
governments in respect to biodiversity mainstreaming, either providing support or advocating for changes during
negotiations.

Utilisation of project knowledge

- Lessons learned/ evaluation workshop with DOF/3 partners/Secretariat to reflect and finalise training package.
- •Training to be utilised on BirdLife extranet, including modules which can be used and shared across the wider Partnership after the project has ended.
- BirdLife Secretariat to ensure the sharing of experiences and best practises (through the outputs of the project) within the Birdlife Partnership. The BirdLife Secretariat regional offices have a role to play in ensuring knowledge sharing and better policy and advocacy capacity in the regions.