

Youth Think Tank Competition for the EAA Flyway



Youth Think Tank Competition for EAA Flyway Final Report

Instructions: Please complete all fields, and respond to all questions below before 1st October, 2022.

1. Project background information

<i>Project Title: Rediscover Kei Island Birds</i>
<i>Country of project implementation: Indonesia</i>
<i>Project Location: Kei Islands, Southeast Maluku, Indonesia</i>
<i>Is it an EAAFP Flyway Network Site (check here)? No. Yes, Name of the Flyway Network Site: No</i>
<i>Actual Project Start Date: 2 January 2022</i>
<i>Actual Project End Date: 21 October 2022</i>
<i>Project summary (max. 250 words, including background, project objectives and deliverables)</i> The Kei Islands are a vital point for monitoring the East Asia Australia Flyway Network. Unfortunately, bird migration monitoring and observation in the Kei Islands is rarely carried due to its remote location in the waters of the Banda Sea, Indonesia. The last research about bird biodiversity conducted in Kei Island was in 1994. Now Kei Island become new emerging tourist spot in eastern Indonesia. Migratory bird is commonly seen in the Kei Islands and this phenomenon also attracts tourists. This project has conducted waterbirds monitoring in two islands, namely Kei Kecil Island and Mangur Island to update monitoring and lists of Kei Islands birds using line transect methods by walking and by boat or ferry. Upon 22 days of observation (29 March 2022- 19 April 2022), only 20 waterbirds species and 17 land bird species found. Targeted species, Far Eastern Curlew (<i>Numenius madagascariensis</i>) and Great Knot (<i>Calidris tenuirostris</i>). Total of 35 Far Eastern Curlews spotted in Ohoidertawun Beach and Ngurtavur Beach, but no Great Knot was observed. Bird watching has been introduced to residents by doing birdwatching session with children in Mangur and discussion session with total 20 person reached. From fourteen observation sites there are two important habitat that need to be manage sustainably which are Ohoidertawun Beach and Ngurtavur Beach. Both of the sites are favorite tourism spots in Kei Islands, hence the threat of habitat loss and anthropogenic disturbance are higher.

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Discussion with three tourism actors have been conducted three times and but no code of conduct of eco-friendly & migratory bird-friendly has been drafted yet.

2. Project Rationale:

Project purpose:

2.1. *What was your identified 'Project purpose' in your proposal (i.e. what is the problem(s) you want to solve, what was the overall change you aimed to achieve in the project) (Max. 200 words)*

The Kei Islands are one of the East Asia Australia Flyway routes for migratory birds. Most migrant birds use archipelagic islands as a place to stop/transit when migrating. The Kei Islands are a vital point for monitoring the East Asia Australia Flyway. Unfortunately, bird migration monitoring/observation in the Kei Islands is rarely carried out because of its remote location and located in the waters of the Banda Sea, Southeast Maluku Province. The Kei Islands are also heading into the spotlight of one of the new tourism areas in Eastern Indonesia. This project main focus are conducted bird monitoring in the Kei Islands with objectives: 1) updated monitoring and lists of Kei Islands migratory birds (short term); 2) introducing bird watching to residents (citizen science); 3) obtaining initial conditions related to pelicans and other water birds that have the potential to become tourist attractions and find partners to conduct CEPA & counseling related to eco-friendly & migratory bird-friendly tourism

2.2. *Describe the new situation (and the change you achieved) you created through your project. What did you achieve in the context of Science, Society, Education, and awareness-raising (Max. 150 words)*

By doing observation for 22 days in 14 different sites throughout Kei Kecil and Mangur Island, we found only 20 waterbird species and 17 land bird species which are just 20% from 184 species that were listed by Johnstone and Bas V. Balen in 1992 and 1994. Observation can only be done in the late of north-wintering season (29 March 2022 – 19 April 2022). From interviews and site observation that have been conducted, the main challenge for the waterbirds habitat are land-use changes and tourism. Mangur village secretary was interested about the birds population and conservation in Mangur Island, follow up with formal audiency to the government are needed in the post-project. More people are aware about birdwatching tourism and three tourism actors can be future partner to develop code-of-conduct for birdwatching tourism. Mr. Edo, a local police in Debut, helped us to collect data of Pelican migration sightings. Two sites of listed nesting colonies were observed and we didn't find the colonies anymore, this findings has been reported and also has been presented in one of EAAFP webinar.

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Project objectives:

2.3 List your 'SMART objectives' again as included in your proposal: (Max. 150 words)

Objective 1: Update monitoring and list of Kei Island migratory birds (short term), Project is categorized as successful when at least 60% of the monitoring data covers listed birds species by Johnstone and Van Balen (2014) journal since the project main category is science.

Objective 2: Introduce bird watching to residents (citizen science)

Objective 3: Obtain initial conditions, related to pelicans and other water birds that have the potential to become tourist attractions and find partners to conduct CEPA and counseling related to eco-friendly and migratory bird-friendly tourism
For CEPA purposes at least there are a person that commit and passionate to do birdwatching and will share his/her knowledge to the community after our project ended in October 2022

2.4 Did you achieve these objectives? Use your project indicators to describe the progress. (Max. 150 words for each objective)

Objective 1: No. We listed and monitored the migratory birds we found on Kei Island, and compared to the initial research before (Johnstone and Van Balen, 2013). We only found total of 37 species (20%) from the 184 species that have been listed before. This is because the observation can only be done in the late of north-wintering season (29 March 2022 – 19 April 2022) and maybe the migration season has ended hence why only few species observed. We planned to go again to Kei Island in September but due to the inflation price of fuel and commodities, we could not afford to go and observed the second migration season.

Objective 2: Yes. Awareness-raising done in more of the informal way where the team interviewed and also have discussion and sharing session with locals to relay message about importance of birds existence in Kei Islands ecosystems. We met local government, tourism actors and other locals, some helped us a lot during our projects on Kei Island, including the four boat drivers, and three families we lived in there during the project. Birdwatching sessions have been done with nine children in Mangur island for two days. We tried to introduce migratory birds and how to monitor them using binocular and telescope that we brought. Also, we let them identify what migratory birds look like from the book we brought. Mr. Edo, a local police in Debut, voluntarily helped us to collect data of Pelican migration sightings by photos.

Objective 3: Yes. Pelicans also other waterbirds have the potential to attract tourists to come and visit Kei. We met a leader of a potential community and discussed what we did so far in Kei, they also had a potential mass on the social

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media platform Instagram. If it's possible, bird-watching to be one of the best to-do lists when in Kei, and the government wants to promote the tourist, then we hope that we can do this project together with Visit Kei community to promote it too. Two other tourism actor are a small trip business (no name, private contact) and boat drivers that also become guide for tourist in Ngurtavur.

Project activities and deliverables:

2.5 List your activities from your proposal. date, target audiences, number of participants respectively, etc. You can include photos or links of videos. (Max. 150 words for each activity)

Activity 1. Knowledge transfer & capacity building for team

29 January 2022, capacity building with Burung Indonesia and AWC Indonesia Team for Shofi.

11-12 February 2022, capacity building and birdwatching training in Surabaya for Ida and Gloria.

Activity 2. Migratory Bird monitoring

A. Method use line-transect by walking, and observed waterbirds when low tide period.

Ohoidertawun : 29-30 March 2022, 1 April 2022

Adranan Island : 2-4 April 2022

Faer Island : 4 April 2022

Tual Ferry Harbor : 3 April 2022

Mangur Island : 6-7 April 2022

Kur Island Harbor : 7 April 2022

Un gulf/ Taar : 11-12 April 2022

Waren Lake : 11-13 April 2022

Ohoililir & Ngurbloat Beach : 15 April 2022

Ngurtavur Beach : 9, 16, 18 April 2022

B. Method use line-transect by boat or ferry

Ubur Islands : 2 April 2022

Ferry from Tual to Mangur : 5 April 2022

Baer Islands : 14 April 2022

Ohoidertutu Beach : 19 April 2022

Activity 3. Observation session with local residents and socialization about citizen science.

Birdwatching sessions in Mangur : 6-7 April 2022, 9 kids, 1 adult

Birdwatching session in Ohoidertutu : 19 April 2022, 3 adults

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Activity 4. Meet with local government & local stakeholders (especially tour & travel activists/ local guides) to socialize project results & disseminate guidelines for sustainable ecotourism & migratory bird-friendly tourism. Target audience & stakeholders involved : district government and 5 tour and travel guides.

Meeting with district development government staff, Mrs Hani, 30 March 2022, to do interview about waterbirds condition in her village (Dullah Laut, in front of Adranan Island), Kai tribe culture and customary law named 'Larwul Ngabal' and its implication in Kai people everyday life, and her job as district development government staff.

Meeting with CEO of Visit Kei, Mr. Andi, 2 April 2022. At first we relay our intention of doing research about bird especially migratory waterbird. Visit Kei have been operating since 2018 before pandemic. He told us that actually birdwatching tourism have been done in Kei Islands especially in Soindrat village in Kai Besar Island, where we couldn't go there yet. But Soindrat focuses more on forest birds. He said that the birds population are declining and he have guided a few tourist from other country that especially wanted to see birds in nature. Some of the tourist asked him why the birds didn't turn up yet and he didn't know the answer. Visit Kei can be a future partner if we want to have collaboration, especially regarding the code of conduct of sustainable birdwatching tourism.

Meeting with Mangur village secretary, Mr. Husni Rifki, 7 April 2022, he is interested in bird population and research, need further follow up for formal audiency. He also let us to donate educational children books and we also disseminated educational posters for village government and village library. Posters have been put up in village library. No internet signal in Mangur, so offline meeting is really needed.

Boat drivers that also have discussed with us regarding birdwatching tourism are Mr. Fahri from Dullah Laut village and Mr Ferdi from Debut village.

Birdwatching session and trip to Ohoidertutu with Mr. Revo and Mr. Jams. Both have background in tourism sector and have guided people to tourism spot in Kei Islands. Mr. Revo have affiliation with Kei Sedjang, another vacation trip provider than Visit Kei. Mr. Jams have experience birdwatching guiding for researcher.

Activity 5. Analysis of project data & preparation of scientific journals, presentations at Indonesian Bird Watchers and Researchers Conference/ KPPBI ("Konferensi Peneliti dan Pemerhati Burung Indonesia"). Stakeholders involved : Yayasan Lahan Basah Indonesia. Target : One journal of waterbirds monitoring

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data results. Data analysis are not done yet and thus we haven't have any journal draft, because the data are obtained only in one migrational season, and it is not sufficient to make thorough analysis based on the only data that we have. We planned to go again to Kei Island in September but due to the inflation price of fuel and commodities, we could not afford to go and observed the second migration season. One of our species target, which is Australian Pelican, also could not be observed in the last migration season. We only received news about Australian Pelican migration from locals that send us picture through WhatsApp. In the future project, more data needed to be obtained.

2.6 List and describe the project deliverables, such as publications, materials developed, and multi-media materials such as photos and videos, you can submit the digital materials as attachments in session 5.

Project deliverables :

1. Monitoring data (including species, population and location) covers around 60% (110 species) from the listed species of Johnstone and Van Balen (2013) journal. → only 20% species in one migration season. Need observation for second migration season and cover more sites (not only in Kei Kecil and Mangur Island area).
2. Publish a journal of waterbirds based on monitoring data results – Not achieved
3. One observation & information session event about birdwatching citizen science – Achieved

3. Lessons learned

3.1 Describe what worked well in your project (Max. 150 words)

Although we only go to Kei Island for 23 days in total for this project, we gain several connection with key person in the community such as village secretary of Mangur, CEO of tourism agency, government staf and even boat drivers and foster family that help us to do this project. We also cover 14 observation sites through out Kei Kecil and Mangur Island area, which would be impossible without their helps. We told them the reason why we do this project and introduce them to the birdwatching activity by using the binoculars and telescope. We also ask person we interviewed to identify what kind of bird is it with the guide book. We gained insight about how tourism field in Kei Island was. How is the sense of belonging from the local people towards the birds and the environment too.

3.2 Describe what didn't go so well in your project, and how you addressed the challenges you encountered. (Max. 150 words)

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Due to the changes in economic situation, we couldn't afford to go back to Kei Island this September. We planned to do bird monitoring for the migration season, especially for Australian Pelican that arrived since August 2022. Australian Pelican might not be considered as a threatened species globally, but because of migration phenomena that occur annually in Kei Island, this bird has become an icon for Kei Island tourism. What we wanted to do was push Australian Pelican to be an example of a flagship species for educational purposes so that people can understand the importance of migratory birds and waterbirds in general. We also wanted to take additional footage for our video project that we couldn't get on our March-April trip. We also couldn't set up another offline audience meeting with some key person or do another proper birdwatching session with locals. We maximised the resource that we got for data analysis and video footage.

3.3 If you have a chance to improve your project, what would you do? (Max. 150 words)

If we have a chance to improve our project, we would like to do another observation to collect data as much as possible. Then from the data we can go more in-depth with the analysis such as distribution and habitat use. We also wanted to spend more time with the local people there, improve our insight into the migratory birds, and find the reason why the birds are declining. We also want to collaborate with the tourism sector to build up the tourism field by adding bird-watching activity as the top-of-mind activity that tourists can do when they travel to Kei Island (to attract them). For birdwatching code-of-conduct, we also wanted to go to Soindrat village to see birdwatching tourism that already exists as a comparative study. Later, the local people will also realize that they also need to keep the environment there safe, if the bird-watching activity attracted tourists to visit Kei Island.

3.3 Do you have any future plan developed from this project? If yes, please briefly tell us how you would sustain the project. (Max. 150 words)

To sustain the project, we would like to find the appropriate way to train local people there on how to do bird-watching, introduce them to how to recognize what kind of birds are with the guide book, and eco-friendly tourism which will attract tourists to come to Kei not only to visit the beaches but also to do birdwatching, and eco-friendly tourism which will attract tourists to come to Kei not only to visit the beaches but also to do birdwatching too. The data that we collected then can be published in a journal and from the habitat use data we can influence local government to do better land and coastal management to protect important habitats for birds.

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4. Financial report

4.1 Fill in the form of table to show the actual project expenses

	Items	Unit	Amount (USD)
1. Transportation	Flight ticket, fuels, ferry tickets, boat rent, entry tickets	1	\$ 1,799
2. Equipment	Rent telescope, tripod, medicine	1	\$129,84
3 Activity materials	Print, monitoring fees	1	\$ 34,60
4. Venue booking	Lodging	1	54,59
5. Deliverable production	Drone, Logo, Post-production	1	\$241,05
6.Others – Health test	PCR test	1	\$43,96
7.Others – Consumption	Food and drinks	1	\$222,42
8. Others	Lodging service	1	\$12.34
		Total (USD)	\$2,215.22

4.2. Did you get funding of financial resources to continue this project?

- Yes
 No

5. Attachments

Links of a shared folder of your project's digital deliverables (photos and videos could be shared as zip files)

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1vSJTOt6G71sxAa71HHrOCB310i5Zhgvz?usp=sharing>

Link of project video in mp4 format (3-5 mins, this video will be shared publicly)

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1vSJTOt6G71sxAa71HHrOCB310i5Zhgvz?usp=sharing>

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6. Declaration

Click the boxes below if you agree:

- Consent to disclosure of personal information: The project team's personal information (such as contact information) will not be publicly disclosed, but will be disclosed to the judging panel for review.
- Consent to the permission of the use of project-related materials to EAAFP: The project team agreed to grant the EAAFP Secretariat free access to any project materials developed under the Youth Think Tank Competition for the EAA Flyway. Ownership of the materials still belongs to the project team.
- I confirm the truth of all statements made by me in this report, and agree to all the terms, conditions, responsibilities, and obligations as set out above.

(Signature)

Name of Team leader: Gloria P.M

Name of Team: Rediscover Kei
Island Birds

Date: 01/10/2022

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