# 2020 EAAFP Small Grant Fund (WG/TF) Report



# STRENGTHENING THE ENFORCEMENT AND RAISING AWARENESS ON MIGRATORY BIRDS TRADING OR HUNTING THROUGH BUILDING THE CAPACITY TO RELEVANT STAKEHOLDERS IN CAMBODIA EANG PHALLIS

DATE OF SUBMISSION (26/02/2023)

DEPARTMENT OF FRESHWATER WETLANDS CONSERVATION PHALLISEANG@GMAIL.COM



## Section 1. Project Overview – This report will be shared on EAAFP website

### 1.1 BACKGROUND

Cambodia is located along the EAAFP and has become partner of East Asian-Australian Flyway Partnership since 2007 for the international cooperation and national action for the conservation migratory birds and their habitat along the flyway. More than 30% Cambodia is covered by wetland and some of those important wetlands provide essential habitats or the stop over sites for many migratory bird species including great knot, Nordmann's greenshank, Asian Dowitcher, black-tailed godwit, bar-tailed godwit, yellow breasted bunting as well as short distance migratory birds like Sarus Crane. To date, there are five Ramsar Sites in Cambodia which are Boeung Tonle Chhmar Ramsar Site, Koh Kapik Ramsar Site, Stung Treng Ramsar Site, Prek Toal Ramsar Site, and Stung Sen Ramsar Site. Recently, Cambodia has nominated its first flyway network site, the Anlung Pring Protected Landscape, which is located in the southern part of Cambodia close to the border of Cambodia-Vietnam.

About 600 bird species recorded in Cambodia which including land and waterbirds. Little known on migratory bird hunting and the relevant regulations on illegal bird hunting and trading, but we could observe the selling of wild birds, especially the Anatidae spp. in the market and along the road to provinces. Moreover, the markets for captive wild birds for merit release purpose were also spotted. The relevant legislations related to illegal hunting are in place, but the dissemination on the illegal hunting of migratory waterbirds is limited.

In 2019, BirdLife International Cambodia Programme has carried out the initiation of survey on situation analysis of illegal bird hunting in Cambodia which is part of the regional situation analysis on illegal bird hunting in Southeast Asia coordinated by BirdLife Asia. About 112 species were recorded from both field survey and data obtained from relevant institutions. Necessary actions should be taken for prevention and protection of those migratory birds which some of those listed in the IUCN red list.

This small grant project has strengthened and contributed to the awareness of illegal bird hunting and it impacts through online workshop by enhance the capacity of relevant authorities on related regulation on illegal hunting of migratory bird in Cambodia. Serval awareness raising materials also developed for the dissemination and also for the social media.

A. Describe about your organization by filling out the table below:

Type of the organization -	( <u>Government</u> /NGO, Private Sector/Other)
Government/NGO/Private Sector/Other	
Name(s) of the division and/or position	General Directorate of Natural Protected Area
	s or yourself might have been involved for the
conservation of the migratory waterbirds, their habitats and East – Asian Australasian Flyway	
below.	
<ul><li>below.</li><li>Manage and conserve the wetlands (F</li></ul>	Ramsar Sites and FNS) in Cambodia
- Manage and conserve the wetlands (F	Ramsar Sites and FNS) in Cambodia irds in the wetland protected areas including FNS
- Manage and conserve the wetlands (F	irds in the wetland protected areas including FNS
<ul> <li>Manage and conserve the wetlands (F</li> <li>Monitor the population of the waterb</li> </ul>	irds in the wetland protected areas including FNS gratory waterbirds conservation

Organize education and awareness raising activities



# - Regional cooperation among Flyway partnership

B. Provide a brief abstract summary of your project. In the summary, please include its objective and its location (Name of Place, City and Country), and explain the significance and relations of the species and its location (in link with EAAF Key Species and Flyway Network Site) for your project.

Cambodia rich is biodiversity and more than 600 bird species were recorded including land and waterbirds. Little known on migratory bird hunting and the relevant regulations on illegal bird hunting and trading. We could observe the selling of wild birds. Moreover, there are also selling captive wild birds for merit release purpose. The relevant legislations related to illegal hunting are in place, but the dissemination on the illegal hunting of migratory waterbirds is limited.

Under EAAFP small grant project, an online workshop on bird identification and relevant regulation on illegal trading of wild birds were organized in order to provide the capacity building to relevant authorities as well as raising the awareness to public. The overall objective of the workshop is to provide capacity building to site managers and rangers on the bird identification and relevant regulation on illegal trading of wild birds. About 90 participations from relevant department, local authorities, wetland site managers, rangers and relevant institution attended the workshop. Three training presentations were delivered focus on the basic of waterbirds identification, the study results of illegal bird hunting situation in Southeast Asia and the relevant laws and regulations related to illegal bird hunting in Protected Areas.

The number of awareness materials focus on illegal trading and hunting of migratory birds were produced. Those including the video and posters which were develop and design by youths. The posters were provided to relevant institutions especially to the Provincial Department of Environment and wetland site managers for the awareness raising purpose while the video was public in the social media platform reaching more than thousand public.

# 1.2 DETAILS

Please provide a project description of the following:

A. **Detailed Project Progress**: Describe about process of your project, including methodologies, field work, interview, conference, etc. Please include analysis of your process, if applicable. (Any visual data, including maps, graphs, tables, photos, etc. are strongly preferred)

Illegal bird trading or hunting impact to the population of migratory species along the flyway. Little known about the migratory bird hunting situation in Cambodia. In addition, the knowledge and aware of the regulation, prevention of trading or hunting of wildlife especially migratory birds are still limited. The project is designed with the following objectives (1) to provide capacity building to site managers and rangers on the regulation, and prevention measure for the illegal trading or hunting of migratory birds; and (2) to produce awareness materials on illegal trading and hunting of migratory birds.

With the support from EAAFP small grant, the training materials including slide presentations were developed and the experience trainers were identified. Those trainers included Mr. Hong Chamnan for waterbirds identification training, Dr. Ding Li Yong for dissemination of IKB feasibility study in Southeast Asia and Mr. Sou Sontara on the relevant laws and regulations related to illegal bird hunting in Protected Areas.

Under objective one, a dissemination and training workshop was organized on 06 August 2021 in virtual format due to covid-19 restriction. The purposes of the workshop aimed to provide basic training on waterbirds



identification, to disseminate the study result on bird hunting in Southeast Asia, and to share knowledge on relevant laws and regulations related to illegal bird hunting in Protected Areas.

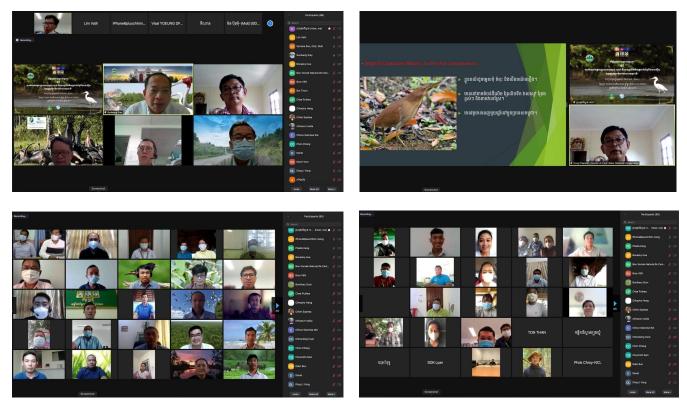
The workshop was precise over by H.E. Kim Nong, Director General of General Directorate of Natural Protected Area, with 90 participations from 7 departments under General Directorate of Natural Protected Area, Department of Environmental Knowledge, Department of Community Livelihood, Department of Biodiversity, Department of Environmental Information and Dissemination, Department of Ecotourism, 12 Provincial Department of Environment such as Takeo Province, Kampot Province, Kep Province, Koh Kong Province, Battambang Province, Kampong Thom Province, Siem Reap Province, Stueng Treng Province, Kampong Cham Province, Tboung Khmom Province, Banteay Meanchey Province and Prey Veng Province, relevant NGOs included BirdLife International, NataureLife Cambodia, WWT, WCS, WWF, WA, WEA, as well as from the Pannasastra University of Cambodia and the Royal University of Agriculture.

There were three presentations from the trainers. The first presentation was delivered by Mr. Hong Chamnan on the basic of waterbirds identification. The next presentation was provided by Dr. Ding Li Yong from BirdLife International Asia and his presentation was focused on the results of illegal bird hunting situation in Southeast Asia. The last presenter was Mr. Sou Sontara who present on the relevant laws and regulations related to illegal bird hunting in Protected Areas. After series presentations, the video on impact of wild bird consumption was played for all participants. There was an active discussion during Q&A session and the participants also requested to organize this kind of training workshop annually in order to provide the opportunity to the ranger and relevant stakeholders on the knowledge and updates on the illegal bird hunting situation and relevant policy and regulation, as well as to exchange information and knowledge. The participants also requested to conduct the study and develop/update the National List of Threaten Water Bird Species in Cambodia.

For the project objective two, the number of awareness materials focus on illegal trading and hunting of migratory birds were produced. Those including the video and posters which were shoot and design by youths. The posters were provided to relevant institutions especially to the Provincial Department of Environment for the awareness raising purpose while the video was public in the social media platform reaching more than thousand public. In addition, the article showcased on the training workshop was also public in the Ministry of Environment Cambodia official Webpage and Facebook Page. (https://www.moe.gov.kh/index/32753) and (https://www.facebook.com/314699302002531/posts/2096349793837464/).







B. **Problems Encountered/Adjustments:** If there were some changes made, please indicate them and explain (ex. unexpected circumstances, sudden cancellation, etc.)

Due to Covid-19 pandemic, it was challenges to organize the training workshop physically. Therefore, the virtual format was used for organizing the workshop. In addition, the preparation meeting and meeting with youth to design and develop the awareness raising's posters and video also quite challenging while we need to conducted those meeting via online platform. However, we have overcome those challenges after all.

C. Details on any community education and public awareness activities associated with your project.

The posters were disseminated to the Provincial Department of Environment who attend the online training workshop as the materials for their education and public awareness activities in their respective Province. In addition, the video was posted to the social media platform for public awareness on the impact of wild bird consumption.

D. Please include any additional supporters of this project

NatureLife Cambodia (BirdLife Partners in Cambodia) and BirdLife International Asia were the additional supporters to this project as they provided the resource person for the training workshop, and the photos for our design materials. We also worked with YouthAGE on the video.

#### 1.3 RESULT



Explain and evaluate the outcomes and findings of your project (Any visual data, including maps, graphs, tables, photos, etc. are highly preferred).

Relevant departments, provincial department of environments, wetland site managers, rangers, academy and other participants who attended this workshop ware gained the knowledge and understanding on the water bird identification and relevant regulation on illegal trading of wild bird. They will share that knowledge with their colleagues and relevant people who work at the same field. Moreover, through the dissemination of posters and awareness video, the public aware of the disadvantages of illegal trading and hunting of migratory birds and also the negative impact of wild bird consumption to their health. The results from this project will contribute to the effort of reducing illegal trading and hunting of migratory birds. In addition, the trainees who are working at the ground will continues to share the knowledge and information from the workshop to their community.

#### The link to video and posters:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1aKiW9kTbEb6HenpvP3wG6elJOW9APZA\_?usp=share\_link











#### **1.4 RECOMMENDATIONS**

How might the outcome of your project be applied in future research.

We should conduct more bird identification training and dissemination workshops on law and regulation related to illegal hunting, trading and consuming of wild birds and involved more relevant people especially the site manager and rangers who work on the ground. This capacity building program is a mechanism to sustainably protect and conserve the migratory waterbird species in Cambodia for both now and the future. It is also recommended to organized series of education and awareness raising activities or campaign at the ground level. In addition, more research study on the hunting and trading of migratory waterbird species in Cambodia should be conducted in order to provide data and information for supporting the decision making and policy development.

Discuss how this project contributes to the implementation of the EAAFP Strategic Plan 2019-2028.



The results of this project have contributed to the EAAFP Strategic Plan 2019-2028 as following:

- Partnership Objective 4- Build the habitat and waterbird management capacity of natural resource managers, decisions makers and local stakeholder.
- Partnership Objective, Key Result Area 5.4 Measures to reduce and, as far as possible eliminate, illegal hunting, take and trade of migratory waterbirds are developed and implemented.

Through the training workshop, the relevant departments especially the wetland site managers and rangers who are working on the ground ware gained the knowledge and understanding on the water bird identification and relevant regulation on illegal trading of wild bird.

The training workshop and the awareness activities including distributed the posters and posted the video in the social media platform were providing the key massages about the regulation and the impact of the wild bird trading, hunting and consumption and further contribute to reduce the illegal bird hunting and hunting of migratory birds in Cambodia.