

**2021 EAAFP Small Grant Fund Application Form**

**Personal Details of Applicant**

<b>Title:</b>	Mr		Pyae Phyo Aung
	(Mr, Ms etc)	<b>Family name</b>	<b>Given Name/s</b>
<b>Institution:</b>	Nature Conservation Society-Myanmar (NCS)		
<b>Institutional address:</b>	No (69) B, Ground Floor, Thukha 52 Street, 6 Ward, Hlaing Township, Yangon		
	<b>Street address or GPO Box</b>		
<b>Degree type:</b>	Yangon	Myanmar	11051
	<b>Suburb or town</b>	<b>State or country</b>	<b>Postcode</b>
	+95-9-763445216	+95-9-421124991	
	<b>Primary contact number</b>	<b>Mobile phone number</b>	

**Email address:** pyaephyoaung@ncsmm.org

**Relevant Working Group or Task Force Chair/Coordinator - DETAILS**

*Please contact the EAAFP Programme Officer if additional guidance is needed in relation to this section (programme@eaaflyway.net)*

**Name of Working Group or Task Force:** International Spoon-billed Sandpiper Task Force

<b>Title of Chair/Coordinator:</b>	Mr		Christoph Zöckler
	(Mr, Ms etc)	<b>Family name</b>	<b>Given Name/s</b>

**Email address:** christoph.zoekler@m-h-s.org

**Eligibility of Projects**

- |   |            |    |
|---|------------|----|
| • The focus of the project is migratory waterbirds and their habitats.  | <b>Yes</b> | No |
| • The project will improve the understanding of factors important for the conservation of migratory waterbirds and their habitats in the EAAF.  | <b>Yes</b> | No |
| • The applicant agrees to provide a final report within 3 months of the completion of the project.  | <b>Yes</b> | No |
| • The applicant agrees to submit 1-2-page article and photographs for inclusion on EAAFP's website and/or write a brief article for the EAAFP's newsletter. Photographers will be acknowledged. | <b>Yes</b> | No |
| • The applicant will acknowledge the support of the EAAFP in any publications, presentations and reports arising from this work.  | <b>Yes</b> | No |

## Project Details

**Project Title:** Please provide a concise and informative title of your entire project (not just the component for which funds are sought)

Conservation of Spoon-billed Sandpiper in Gulf of Mottama and Tanintharyi Coastal of Myanmar

### Part A. Project Proposal

**Details of your entire project (not just the component for which funds are sought) (2.5 page maximum)**

Monitoring the population status of Spoon-billed Sandpiper and establish conservation actions

#### 1. Objectives:

#### 2. Background:

The Spoon-billed Sandpiper is a long-distance migrant, breeding on the coastal tundra of far eastern Russia, and migrating 8,000 km south along the East-Asian Australasian Flyway, including key staging posts in the Yellow Sea. The species winters on intertidal mudflats in South and South-east Asia, particularly Myanmar, China, and Bangladesh. The Spoon-Billed Sandpiper (*Calidris pygmaea*) is categorized as Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. In 2010, it was assessed that the global population of this species was declining by 26% per year, with a global population estimate of approximately 100 pairs (Zockler et al. 2010).

In Myanmar, five wintering sites of Spoon-billed Sandpiper located at Nanthar Island, Delta, Gulf of Mottama, Myeik and Bokepyin mudflat along the coastal Myanmar. Since established conservation efforts in 2010 onward, designated three areas (Nanthar Island, Meinmahla Kyun Wildlife Sancturay and Gulf of Mottama) as designated as Flyway Network Site and Ramsar Site respectively includes continued regular monitoring population status.

Particularly Gulf of Mottama is hosting larger numbers of migratory waterbirds including Spoon-billed Sandpiper, Great Knot. The Tanintharyi coastal area (Myeik and Bokepyin) have recorded Spoon-billed Sandpiper, estimate about 2000 Great Knot and a minimum of 60 number of Nordmann's Greenshank were confirmed (Zockler et al 2019). Moreover, over 1% of flyway population of Eurasian Curlew, Bar-tailed Godwit ar wintering here. Near-threatened Asian Dowitcher as well Beach Thick knee and 'vulnerable'Chinese Egret are at the site which is outstanding as Flyway Network or Wetland of International under the Ramsar Convention. Not only the presence of large numbers of waterbirds, but also large areas of natural mangrove forest is highly productive for fishery as vital resources for local community.

The global population of the Spoon-billed Sandpiper population is still declining (Aung et al 2018) and needs regular monitoring in all the key wintering site across the flyway, particularly Myanmar is importance Gulf of Mottama host over 100 individuals. Since the results of 2015 overall Spoon-billed Sandpiper and waterbird population are still declining despite conservation efforts, thus the need for further monitoring of the population survey is crucial for further analysis. Tanintharyi (Bokepyin and Myeik) have less than 4 SBS recorded but are important for many globally threatened waterbirds such as Nordmann's Greenshank.

The establishment of Local Conservation Group (LCG) is essential for long-term monitoring of waterbirds and awareness outreach activities. Particularly, Tanintharyi coastal have lack of LCG and weak of awareness on the waterbirds. By conducting the CEPA, local communities can be attention on the wetlands and waterbirds conservation, thus can help for future Flyway Network Site and Ramsar site designation process.

#### 3. Project plan, timeline and methods:

*Please include the proposed timing of project commencement, start and completion of fieldwork (if applicable), project completion. Please also comment on the flexibility of the timeline of the project.*

Project Plan: To monitoring annual census population of Spoon-billed Sandpiper at Gulf of Mottama and Tanintharyi providing capacity building for Local Conservation Groups through awareness activities

Project Time period:

- Establish two Local Conservation Groups (LCG) in Bokepyin and Myeik area of Tanintharyi coastal through focus group discussion meetings (May 2021- July 2021)
- Conduct CEPA outreach activities with LCG members in 5 villages of Bokepyin and Myeik (October 2021- December 2021)
- Conduct Annual wintering census survey of Spoon-billed Sandpiper at Gulf of Mottama and Tanintharyi coastal with LCG members (January 2022)

	<p>Methodology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish the Local Conservation Group will conduct through participatory approach and focus group discussion</li> <li>Conduct CEPA activities in 5 villages of Bokeyyin and Myiek with contribution of Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials</li> <li>Improve capacity building of Local Conservation Group members participation in the annual census population survey,</li> <li>Monitoring population of Spoon-billed Sandpiper includes wintering waterbirds at the Gulf of Mottama and Tanintharyi coastal</li> </ul>
<p><b>4. Likely benefit to the conservation of migratory waterbirds and their habitat / or key research outputs:</b></p>	<p><i>In addressing this question, please also identify which EAAFP Key Result Areas the project will contribute to (see the EAAFP Strategic Plan 2019 – 2028).</i></p> <p>By implementation the project, contributes to the following EAAFP's KRA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Key Result Area 2.1 : Produced number of IEC materials and CEPA outreach for local communities includes capacity building of local communities</li> <li>Key Result Area 3.1. 3.2. 3.3 : Contribute the census results to Asian Water Census Data based and moreover conservation status review and update priorities action for further management</li> <li>Engage local communities in the waterbird surveys</li> <li>Develop a waterbird guarding systems of local communities protecting waterbirds in Thanintharyi</li> <li>Develop site information sheet of Tanintharyi coastal for EAAFP FSN and Ramsar</li> </ul>
<p><b>5. Alignment with EAAFP Working Groups and Task Forces priorities:</b></p>	<p><i>Please indicate which of the EAAFP Working Groups and Task Forces priorities are addressed in this project.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitoring and Research of the species population and ecology</li> <li>Secure the Spoon-billed Sandpiper wintering site for legal protection</li> <li>In collaboration with several stakeholders including capacity building of LCG for long-term monitoring at key wintering sites.</li> </ul>
<p><b>6. Explain the part of your project for which you are seeking funds in this Application:</b></p>	<p>Gulf of Mottama is well-know key wintering site of Spoon-billed Sandpiper in Myanmar and need to monitoring annual the population census survey which can help the estimate the global population of Spoon-billed Sandpiper and to priorities the further necessary actions for the local and flyway level. Moreover, establish the local conservation groups and providing the capacity building activities that can be enhanced the conservation status of waterbird in Tanintharyi coastal and contributes for further designation of Flyway Network Site and management with local communities.</p>
<p><b>7. Scientific References cited in the Application:</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aung, P.P et al (2020) Monitoring of migratory shorebirds at gulf of Mottama</li> <li>Aung, P. P. <i>et al.</i> (2020) 'Recent changes in the number of spoon-billed sandpipers <i>Calidris pygmaea</i> wintering on the Upper Gulf of Mottama in Myanmar', <i>ORYX</i>, 54(1). doi: 10.1017/S0030605318000698.</li> <li>BRADFER-LAWRENCE, T. <i>et al.</i> (2020) 'Modelling the potential non-breeding distribution of Spoon-billed Sandpiper <i>Calidris pygmaea</i>', <i>Bird Conservation International</i>, pp. 1–16. doi: 10.1017/S0959270920000398.</li> <li>Zöckler, C. <i>et al.</i> (2018) 'The Water Bird Survey of the Southern Myeik Archipelago', (December 2016), p. 30.</li> <li>Zöckler, C. <i>et al.</i> (2020) 'The importance of the Myanmar coast for water birds', <i>Oryx</i>, 54(1), pp. 23–29. doi: 10.1017/S0030605318000698.</li> </ol>

**Part B. FOR CONFERENCE APPLICANTS ONLY**

*(For Task Force or Working Group members delivering their own work as a presentation, paper or poster)*

<p><b>Conference Title:</b></p>	<p><b>Location:</b></p>	<p><b>Date:</b></p>
<p><b>Presentation Abstract</b> (250 word maximum):</p>		

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**Part C. FOR ALL APPLICANTS**

**Experience Relevant to Project:**

Nature Conservation Society-Myanmar (NCS) is well experienced in waterbird monitoring, research and capacity building for local communities. NCS is as the recognised National Partner of the Spoon-billed Sandpiper Task Force . Annual wintering waterbird population surveys of Spoon-billed Sandpiper are conducted by Nature Conservaiton Society Myanmar (NCS). They are supported by the Spoon-billed Sandpiper Task Force and international experts in the Gulf of Mottama and Tanintharyi since 2010, NCS is supporting the national government in developing the CEPA national action plan, as key partner related to migratory bird conservation and Wetlands conservation in Myanmar. Moreover, NCS has experiences on advocacy and local stakeholders engagement and the development of LCGs in Gulf of Mottama and Nanthar Island for Ramsar Site designation and management.

Please **also** attach a maximum 2-page CV or list non-academic research experience and experience with migratory waterbirds/conservation e.g. work experience, volunteer experience, bird banding, birdwatching.

**Project Budget (please outline your entire project, not just the component for which funds are being sought)**

Item (Please list)	\$ Budget (in USD)	Current support / Requested Support (source and amount)	Requested support from EAAFP (source and amount)
Equipment: (details) Binoculars ( 4 items)	1000	0	1000
Consumable items (details) (Annual Census Survey : 4 Persons x 6 days x 50 =1200 USD ) Gulf of Mottama (Annual Census Survey : 2 Persons x 6 days x 50 =600 USD ) Gulf of Tanintharyi  (Awareness and Capacity building activities : 2 Persons x 10 days x 25 = 500 USD)	2300	1000 (Manfred Hermsen Foundation & and private donors)	1300
Travel and accommodation (details) (Annual Census Survey: Boats/ Vehicles, Accommodations x 6 days in Gulf of Mottama = 1000 USD)  (Annual Census Survey: Boats/ Vehicles, Accommodations x 6 days in Tanintharyi = 800 USD)  Awareness and Capacity building, Formation LCGs activities in 5 villages x 15 days transports = 1000 USD)	2800	600 (Manfred Hermsen Foundation)	2200

Computing & clerical (details)	Produce IECs materials pamphlets	300		300
Other (details)	Organising focus group meetings 2 villages x 100 USD	200		200
<b>Total amount requested from Small Grants Fund:</b> (All amounts in USD)				5000

**Budget justification:** Please provide brief description and justification of all major budgetary items requested, indicating any that are essential to the project and/or conference for which you are applying (250 word maximum):

Need to provide Binoculars for new Local Conservation Groups in Tanintharyi coastal area

## Declaration

I have discussed the contents of this Application with the relevant Chair/s and Coordinator/s of relevant Working Group and/or Task Forces and I certify that to the best of my knowledge all documentation and information submitted or made available by me is true, accurate and complete.

By ticking the following box you are agreeing to the above statement:

## Application Checklist

All relevant sections of this Application have been completed.	Yes	✓	No
Full payment details have been provided on the final page.	Yes	✓	No
Application is being submitted electronically as one single document.	Yes	✓	No
Application is being submitted in MS Word format.	Yes	✓	No
Application has been discussed with the relevant Chair/s and Coordinator/s of relevant working Group and/or Task Forces and these have been carbon copied (cc) to this application submission as evidence they have seen and approved this Application.	Yes	✓	No

Applications that do not comply with these guidelines will be returned to the applicant.

## Application Submission

Please email your Application as a single document to:  
[secretariat@eaaflyway.net](mailto:secretariat@eaaflyway.net)

EAAFP will acknowledge the receipt of your Application.

**Applications close at 5pm (Seoul Time) on 5 February 2021**  
**Results will be announced on 3 March 2021 on EAAFP Webpage and via email**

### OFFICE USE ONLY:

Decision:

Authorised:                    \_\_ / \_\_ / \_\_  
Entered:                        \_\_ / \_\_ / \_\_

Comments:

Lead Investigator Advised:                    \_\_ / \_\_ / \_\_

**PLEASE COMPLETE PAYMENT DETAILS ON FINAL PAGE**

## PAYMENT DETAILS

To ensure prompt payment of successful applications please complete the following details and submit with your Application.

### PREFERRED PAYMENT METHOD

**Electronic funds transfer (EFT)**

### GRANT CONDITIONS

**In accordance with the application criteria, the following conditions must be met:**

- Funds are to be strictly exempt from organisational administration charges.
- You are required to submit one copy by email of the final report within 3 months of the completion of the project.
- You are required to acknowledge the EAAFP and the Small Grant Fund in any presentations, publications, reports or promotional material arising from this work. Please email [secretariat@eaaflyway.net](mailto:secretariat@eaaflyway.net) in order to obtain an electronic copy of EAAFP logo for use on any display material you will be preparing.
- You may be requested to write a brief article for the EAAFP newsletter.
- You are required to provide EAAFP with an electronic copy of your final report at the completion of your project, as well as a copy of any publications that result from your grant.