

Small Grant Fund for EAAFP Working Groups & Task Forces

2024 Application Form

A. Personal Details of Applicant

Title: Mr. Yu Yat Tung
(Mr, Ms, Dr etc.) Family Name Given Name/s

Position: Director
Institution: The Hong Kong Bird Watching Society

yyattung@hkbws.org.hk /
info@hkbws.org.hk
Email Address

B. Applicant's membership of Working Groups/Task Forces

Please list the names of the WGs/TFs of which you are a member:
Black-faced Spoonbill Working Group

C. Relevant Working Group or Task Force Chair/Coordinator - Details

Please contact the EAAFP Programme Coordinator at godwit@eaaflyway.net if additional guidance is needed in relation to this section.

Name of Working Group or Task Force: Black-faced Spoonbill

Title of Chair/ Dr. Lee Ki-sup
Coordinator: (Mr, Ms, etc.) Family Name Given Name/s

Email address of larus@daum.net
Chair/Coordinator:

D. Project Proposal Details

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

Flights of the Black-faced Spoonbill: Connecting Habitats, Communities, and Commitments - International Conference for the Black-faced Spoonbill's Future

Project Proposal:

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

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>1. Objectives:</p> | <p>This international conference for the Black-faced Spoonbill’s Future is organised with the following objectives:</p> <p>International Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Raise awareness for Black-faced Spoonbill conservation among key stakeholders and decision-makers in range countries. - Promote international cooperation and coordination of conservation efforts across the species' distribution range, including scientific research, habitat management and CEPA activities. - Strengthen the existing network to meet a future need of the conservation of the species and its critical habitats. - Encourage research to fill key knowledge gaps about the species' ecology, threats, and conservation needs. - Evaluate implementation of recommendations listed in the International Single Species Action Plan of the Black-faced Spoonbill <p>Regional/National Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identify and designate a network of protected areas to safeguard the species' key breeding, staging, and wintering sites. - Manage and restore degraded wetland habitats to improve site suitability for Black-faced Spoonbills. - Engage local communities and build capacity for participatory conservation through Communication, Education, Participation and Awareness (CEPA) activities. - Develop and implement national species action plans or recovery programs. - Improve cross-border cooperation and information sharing among range countries <p>From these objectives, the outcomes of the Black-faced Spoonbill conference can align with all 5 Objectives of the Partnership cited in the EAAFP Partnership Document.</p> |
| <p>2. Background:</p> | <p>The EAAFP Black-faced Spoonbill Working Group (EAAFP BFS WG) was established in October 2013. Since then, the WG has coordinated colour-banding and tracking of the species for scientific research, conducted international censuses for population monitoring, maintained a database for information sharing, engaged the public through events to promote the species and its conservation, and encouraged international collaboration to identify and manage Flyway Network Sites. However, the EAAFP BFS WG has not yet organized an international conference since its establishment.</p> <p>Approval of this proposal would greatly improve the chance for the EAAFP BFS WG to conduct its first international conference. This would be an important milestone for the working group and provide a valuable platform to advance the conservation of the Black-faced Spoonbill.</p> <p>In parallel, I will continue to seek other funding opportunities from local and overseas sources to support this conference. One funding source in Hong Kong has already expressed strong interest in supporting Black-faced Spoonbill conservation and this conference specifically.</p> <p>Organizing this inaugural EAAFP BFS WG international conference would be a significant step forward in coordinating conservation efforts for this endangered species across its flyway. The objectives outlined previously align well with the key priorities of the EAAFP Partnership, and the event would bring together the relevant experts and stakeholders to drive progress.</p> |
| <p>3. Project plan, timeline, and methods:</p> | <p><i>Please include the proposed timing of project commencement, start and completion of fieldwork (if applicable), project completion. Kindly also comment on the flexibility of the timeline of the project.</i></p> <p>We suggest organising a 2-day conference and 1-day field visit for EAAFP BFS WG members and key stakeholders of Black-faced Spoonbill conservation works. This is the first meeting for BFS conservationists since 2010 when the International Single Species Action Plan of the Black-faced Spoonbill was published and launched. It is proposed to organise this BFS conference in late 2024 or early 2025 and the date will be confirmed once the funding is secured. A maximum of 30 International and local participants from China, Republic of</p> |

Korea, Japan, Vietnam, Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, the Philippines and EAAFP secretariat will be invited subject to funding situation.

Timeline and Workplan:

| Works | Proposed timeline |
|---|--|
| Apply EAAFP Small Grant and other funding | June and July 2024 |
| Secure funding, confirm agenda items and topics for the conference, send invitation to all international and local participants, confirmation of venue and accommodations, book flight tickets. | August and September 2024 |
| Preparation of the conference includes confirmation of local logistics | October and November 2024 |
| International conference for the Black-faced Spoonbill’s Future held at Hong Kong | 3-day within the period of December 2024 to February 2025, date will be confirmed. |
| Prepare and submit the final report for this conference | April 2025 |

4. Expected benefit to the conservation of migratory waterbirds and their habitat / or key research outputs:

In addressing this question, please also identify which EAAFP Key Result Areas the project will contribute to (see the EAAFP Strategic Plan 2019 – 2028).

Agenda items of this conference include:

- Update and sharing the latest information and data of the Black-faced Spoonbill research activities
- Evaluation of implementation of the International Single Species Action Plan
- Recommendations of future conservation activities
- Strengthening the EAAFP BFS WG network
- Revamp the EAAFP BFS WG

With gathering all the experts of the Black-faced Spoonbill’s research, conservation, site-management, education activities and EAAFP Secretariat representative, we will focus discussion on the agenda items and this will bring the outcomes to meet the EAAFP’s Key Result Areas:

KRA 1.1. – A conservation network of Black-faced Spoonbill has been developed and this conference is a good platform to further strengthen the existing.

KRA 1.6 – With gathering international experts of Black-faced Spoonbill, the EAAFP Sister Site programme can be further discussed. Mai Po and Incheon are designated as sister sites for the Black-faced Spoonbill, this conference can help further promote the sister site programme.

KRA. 1.7 – This conference will invite young researchers and conservationists and one major objective is to recruit new members for EAAFP Black-faced Spoonbill Working Group. It is expected in the end of the conference and new members can be identified and join the WG.

KRA 2.1 – CEPA activities will be included in the conference agenda. EAAFP CEPA Action Plan will be discussed how to implement with the Black-faced Spoonbill conservation activities

KRA 3.1 – National monitoring programme will be discussed and share of experience of species monitoring of participants can help further establish, maintain and enhanced among Black-faced Spoonbill Working Group members.

KRA 3.2 – Conservation status review for Black-faced Spoonbill and the recent proposed changes to the IUCN Red List for the Black-faced Spoonbill status will be discussed, updated and followed by actions in responses to the changes.

KRA 3.3 – Conference participants will identify sites of international importance for the Black-faced Spoonbill. Suitable habitat management and action prioritization on these sites will be discussed.

| | |
|--|--|
| | <p>KRA 3.6 – The Hong Kong fishpond conservation scheme can be presented and site visit can also be prepared. It demonstrates best practice for Black-faced Spoonbill and habitat conservation program which includes the incorporation of traditional fish-farming knowledge.</p> <p>KRA 4.1 – Habitat management of Mai Po Nature Reserve to the Black-faced Spoonbill is one of the best practices for the species conservation and training course from Mai Po is provided by WWF Hong Kong. WWF Hong Kong can also demonstrate how they facilitate sharing of knowledge and experience</p> <p>KRA 4.2 – This conference is also served as a partner focal point and site managers for Black-faced Spoonbill habitat can have a meeting.</p> <p>KRA 4.3 – Important sites of this species will be identified in the conference and it is expected the number of these sites can be updated after the conference.</p> <p>KRA 5.1 – We will invite representatives from 7 countries for this conference, this is almost 100% coverage of this species distribution range. One key objective of this conference is to actively promote international collaboration, including cross-boundaries initiatives for the conservation of the Black-faced Spoonbill.</p> <p>KRA 5.2.2 – Single Species Action Plan of Black-faced Spoonbill has been developed, published and implemented. This conference is important for all experts to review and evaluate this action plan.</p> <p>KRA 5.2.3 – The population of Black-faced Spoonbill is increasing. This conference will also bring discussion on how to priorities conservation actions under this situation in the future.</p> <p>KRA 5.3. – Regional action plans of this species have been under preparation. This conference can facilitate participants to discuss the preparation and implementation of the regional action plans.</p> |
| <p>5. Alignment with EAAFP Working Groups and Task Forces priorities:</p> | <p><i>Please indicate which of the EAAFP Working Groups and Task Forces objectives and priorities are addressed in this project.</i></p> <p>Expected outcomes mentioned above are all aligned with EAAFP Black-faced Spoonbill Working group’s top working priorities.</p> |
| <p>6. Explain the part(s) of your project for which you are seeking EAAFP funds in this Application <i>(provide details in the Project Budget section below):</i></p> | <p>Securing sufficient funding will be critical to organizing the EAAFP Black-faced Spoonbill Working Group (EAAFP BFS WG) conference. The total estimated cost of the conference exceeds the maximum amount available through the EAAFP small grant program (i.e. US\$5,000).</p> <p>Therefore, I will need to apply for additional funding from other sources and seek sponsorships to fully support this event. Obtaining funding from the EAAFP small grant program would be an important first step, as it would demonstrate the EAAFP’s commitment to leading Black-faced Spoonbill conservation efforts in the East Asian-Australasian Flyway region.</p> <p>As the key stakeholder organization for Black-faced Spoonbill conservation activities across the flyway, EAAFP’s support for this conference would significantly increase the chances of securing further funding from other donors and partners. It would show that EAAFP is taking a proactive role in convening the relevant experts and stakeholders to advance the conservation of this endangered species and its critical habitats.</p> |
| <p>7. Confirm that the part(s) of the project for which EAAFP funds are requested can be undertaken even if no co-funding is available</p> | <p>YES ... or NO....</p> <p>Yes, the EAAFP Black-faced Spoonbill Working Group (EAAFP BFS WG) has identified a pressing need to organize an international conference for Black-faced Spoonbill conservation. Hence, the EAAFP BFS WG is committed to organizing this important conference, but its realization is contingent on securing the necessary funding. Once adequate funding is obtained, the working group will proceed with the conference planning and implementation.</p> <p>This conference will be a critical milestone for the EAAFP BFS WG, allowing the group to take stock of past efforts, share the latest scientific findings, and chart the path forward for Black-faced Spoonbill conservation. Convening the leading experts and stakeholders from</p> |

across the flyway will be essential to driving coordinated, effective actions to protect this endangered species.

8. Scientific references cited in the Application: https://www.cms.int/sites/default/files/publication/ts22_black_faced_spoonbill.pdf

FOR CONFERENCE APPLICANTS ONLY

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

| | | |
|---|------------------|---------------|
| Conference Title: | Location: | Dates: |
| Presentation Abstract (250 word maximum): | | |

E. Experience of applicant relevant to the proposed project

0.5 page maximum

Coordinator of the EAAFP Black-faced Spoonbill Working Group
<https://eaaflyway.net/black-faced-spoonbill-working-group/>

Director, The Hong Kong Bird Watching Society (EAAFP Partner)
<https://cms.hkbws.org.hk/cms/en/about-us/office-en>

Editor of the International Single Species Action Plan for Black-faced Spoonbill
https://www.cms.int/sites/default/files/publication/ts22_black_faced_spoonbill.pdf

Please also include a recent maximum 2-page CV or list non-academic research experience and experience with migratory waterbird and wetland conservation e.g. work experience, volunteer experience, bird banding, birdwatching.

F. Project Budget

Please outline the costs of your entire project, not just the project component(s) for which funds are being sought from the EAAFP.

| | Item (Please list) | Total Project Budget (USD) | Co-funding confirmed from sources other than EAAFP (source and amount in USD) | Co-funding applied for from sources other than EAAFP (source and amount in USD) | Funding requested from EAAFP (USD) |
|-------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|---|---|--|
| Equipment: (details) | Venue for conference (US\$3,838/day x 2 days) | 7,673 | | 7,673 | - |
| | | 639 | | 639 | - |

| | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|---|--------|-----|-------|-------|
| | Hiring equipment for conference | 959 | Nil | 959 | - |
| | Mai Po field trip – Permit rental (US\$32@ x 30) | 115 | | 115 | - |
| | HK Wetland Park Entrance Fee (US\$3.8@ x 30) | | | | |
| Consumable items (details) | | Nil | Nil | Nil | - |
| Travel and accommodation (details) | | | | | |
| | Air tickets for international experts to Hong Kong (25 persons x US\$512) | 12,800 | | 7,800 | 5,000 |
| | Local transportation from airport to hotel (mini-van US\$191/trip x 2) | 384 | | 384 | - |
| | Local transportation for site visit (two sites) (Coach US\$256) | 256 | Nil | 256 | - |
| | Accommodations, 10 rooms (20 persons) x US\$153 per room x 4 nights | 6,138 | | 6,138 | - |
| | Meals and refreshment (US\$26 pax per day x 30 pers x 4 days) | 3,069 | | 3,069 | - |
| | Transportation allowance (for local participants) | 128 | | 128 | - |
| Computing & clerical (details) | | 128 | Nil | 128 | - |

| | | | | | |
|---|-------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| | Photocopying and consumables | | | | |
| Others (details) | Insurance | 256 | Nil | 256 | - |
| | Contingency and miscellaneous | 383 | Nil | 383 | - |
| Total amount requested from EAAFP Small Grants Fund: (in USD) | | | | | 5,000 |

Budget justification: Please provide a 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 words maximum):

Hong Kong is an ideal location to host the EAAFP Black-faced Spoonbill Working Group (EAAFP BFS WG) conference. Not only is Hong Kong a traditional wintering ground for the Black-faced Spoonbill, but it is also designated as both a Flyway Network Site and a Sister Site (with Incheon, Republic of Korea) under the EAAFP framework. This makes Hong Kong a strategically important hub for Black-faced Spoonbill conservation efforts in the region.

The proposed conference budget includes all the necessary costs for organizing an international event of this scale in Hong Kong. One of the key budget items is the international transportation expenses for conference participants. It is suggested utilizing the EAAFP small grant funding to cover the cost of international flight tickets for the EAAFP BFS WG members and other expert participants traveling to Hong Kong for the conference. By supporting the participation of experts from across the flyway, the EAAFP would be taking a leadership role in convening the relevant parties and aligning conservation efforts for this endangered species.

G. Application Checklist

| | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|----|
| All relevant sections of this Application have been completed. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No |
| Full payment details have been provided in Section H Payment Details. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No |
| The Application is being submitted electronically as one single document. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No |
| The Application is being submitted in MS Word format. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No |

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

H. Payment details

To ensure prompt payment of successful applications please complete the following details:

PREFERRED PAYMENT METHOD

I. Grant conditions

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

1. Funds are to be strictly used for the purposes of implementation of the project as per the application form and budget provided.

2. Grants are awarded on the strict understanding that funds will be exempt from institutional administration charges unless a Partner government law so requires.
3. Lead investigators are responsible for obtaining all necessary permits from government authorities, indigenous communities, ethics committees etc., to undertake approved research or monitoring studies.
4. You are able to undertake and complete the project, with the funds received from the SGF. This should be possible even if you do not receive co-funding from other sources that you propose/may have applied for from other sources, as mentioned in Section F. budget table in the application.
5. Project completion is required within 18 months of the close of the Application period, which would be XX Month 2025.
6. You are required to submit to the EAAFP Secretariat at secretariat@eaaflyway.net and copy the Programme Coordinator at godwit@eaaflyway.net and the Relevant Working Group or Task Force Chairs/Coordinators with the following:
 - a final report within 3 months of the completion of the project;
 - a short write-up with photos for the EAAFP newsletter and website as well as a report to the relevant Working Group or Task Force within 3 months of the completion of the project; and
 - a copy of any publications that result from your grant.
7. You are required to acknowledge the EAAFP and the Small Grant Fund in any presentations, publications, reports or promotional material arising from this work.
8. You are required to include a logo of the EAAFP on any display material you will be preparing. Please email the EAAFP Secretariat at secretariat@eaaflyway.net and copy the Programme Coordinator at godwit@eaaflyway.net to obtain an electronic copy of the EAAFP logo.

J. Declaration

Applicant's Full Name: *Yat-tung Yu*

I have discussed the contents of this Application with the relevant Chair/s and Coordinator/s of the Working Group and/or Task Force and they have been carbon copied (cc) to this application submission as evidence that they have seen and supported this application.

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 box, you are agreeing to the above statements:

K. Application Submission

Please email your application as a single document to the EAAFP Secretariat at secretariat@eaaflyway.net and copy the Programme Coordinator at godwit@eaaflyway.net.

The EAAFP Secretariat will acknowledge the receipt of your application.

Applications close at 5:00 pm (KST) on 03 June 2024

Results will be announced by 01 August 2024 on the EAAFP webpage and communicated via email.