

# Small Grant Fund for EAAFP Working Groups & Task Forces

## 2024 Application Form

### A. Personal Details of Applicant

**Title:** Mr. Yin Yuzhu  
(Mr, Ms, Dr (Mr, Ms, Dr Family Name Given Name/s  
etc.)

**Position:** Director of Coastal Wetland Conservation Programme  
**Institution:** Shenzhen Mangrove Wetlands Conservation Foundation

yinyuzhu@mcf.org.cn

**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:

Core Team member of the EAAFP Shorebird Working Group

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

**Name of Working Group or Task Force:** EAAFP Shorebird Working Group

**Title of** Mr. Li David  
**Chair/** (Mr, Ms, Family Name Given Name/s  
**Coordinator:** etc.)

**Email address of**  
**Chair/Coordinator:** davidlizuowei@gmail.com

### 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)

**Organising EAAF shorebird conservation meetings and production of shorebird educational materials**

**Project Proposal:**

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

**1. Objectives:**

The primary aim of this project is to support a series of shorebird conservation meetings and produce educational materials to enhance awareness and understanding of the conservation needs of migratory shorebirds within the East Asian-Australasian Flyway (EAAF). These efforts, spearheaded by the EAAFP Shorebird Working Group (SWG), are crucial in promoting conservation and fostering effective collaboration. The objectives are outlined as follows:

- a) To fund the shorebird conservation meeting (as part of the overall EAAFP Waterbird Science Meeting organised by the EAAFP Science Unit) in Beijing, China in October 2024. In conjunction with the SWG meeting, the Nordmann's Greenshank Conservation Subgroup (NGSG) meeting and Dunlin interest group meeting are also to be held and would require funding. This funding is crucial for facilitating the participation of key participants from the SWG & NGSG core team from around the region (Annex 1. List of Core Team member of EAAFP SWG and NSSG). The meeting will focus on promoting conservation dialogue, sharing research findings, and fostering collaborative strategies for shorebird conservation.
- b) To design and print an educational brochure of the SWG that highlights key information regarding the conservation needs of shorebirds, including details on globally threatened species. This brochure will cover the conservation status and the SWG Workplan. It aims to serve as an informative resource for the donors, stakeholders, and members of public interested in shorebird conservation efforts.
- c) To produce a collectible metal pin of the SWG, which will serve as a symbol of support and awareness for shorebird conservation efforts. This pin will be distributed to promote community engagement and pride in the conservation activities at various venues, including the upcoming shorebird conservation meeting in China in October.

**2. Background:**

Many shorebird populations around the world are declining (Piersma et al. 2016; Studds et al. 2017). A disproportionate number of shorebird species have been classified as globally threatened in the EAAF (BirdLife International 2024), and the shorebirds using this flyway are under increasing threat from previous large-scale habitat loss and currently habitat deterioration (Ma et al. 2014, Murray et al. 2019).

Through this project, the SWG aims to foster greater understanding and conservation of these important bird populations by implementing a comprehensive educational campaign and coordinating a series of shorebird conservation meetings.

Additionally, drawing from decades of conservation experience, it is evident that spreading scientific knowledge beyond traditional confines to a broader audience is crucial for effective community involvement in conservation efforts (Prietto & Young, 2005). Well-structured environmental education programs, such as those demonstrated by past successful initiatives, have the power to engage diverse sectors, including governments, educational institutions, and community groups, significantly enhancing local commitment to conservation (Prietto & Young, 2005).

Our project will leverage these experiences to develop educational materials in the form of a brochure, specifically designed to inform the public about the migration patterns, conservation status and needs of shorebirds.

By combining direct educational outreach with strategic conservation collaboration, this proposal aims to significantly advance the conservation of migratory shorebirds and ensure the protection of their vital habitats across the EAAF. This dual approach will not only enhance public understanding and involvement but also facilitate critical conservation discussions and actions at the upcoming international meeting.

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

This project will support the funding of a shorebird conservation meeting (as part of the overall EAAF Waterbird Science Meeting organised by the EAAFP Science Unit) in Beijing, China, scheduled in October 2024. During the meetings, SWG and the NGSG will also allow for members to make decisions and provide updates on work progress on the working group and sub-groups. The meetings will be carried out in a hybrid style to enable SWG & NGSG members that cannot be present in person to attend online. A Dunlin interest group meeting will also be held as one of the side meetings.

These meetings will bring together experts, conservationists, and stakeholders to promote conservation dialogue, share research findings, and foster collaborative strategies for the conservation of shorebirds within the EAAF. This initiative is expected to play a crucial role in bolstering international cooperation and enhancing the effectiveness of shorebird conservation across the flyway.

We also propose the production of educational materials, including an SWG brochure and collectible metal pins. These brochures, tailored to convey scientifically-backed information, will educate and motivate communities to actively engage in conservation efforts. Brochures containing clear and engaging content has proven effective in reaching a broad audience, facilitating increased environmentally responsible behaviour across the public (Young & Witter, 1994). Moreover, the SWG metal pins to be produced not only promote awareness but also help forge a visible connection between the community and the conservation work. This fosters a sense of pride and belonging, essential for cultivating sustained community support (Erel-Koselleck, 2004).

<b>Activities</b>	<b>Jun-Jul 2024</b>	<b>Aug 2024</b>	<b>Sep 2024</b>	<b>Oct 2024</b>
<b>A. Support Shorebird conservation meeting</b>	Meeting announcement and identification of sponsored participants & speakers	Develop meeting programme	Finalise meeting programme	Shorebird conservation meetings conducted
<b>B. Design &amp; print an educational brochure</b>	Compile information for SWG brochures	Brochure design	Brochure printing	Distribute at the meetings
<b>C. Produce a collectible metal pin of the SWG</b>		Pin design confirmation	Pin production	Distribute at the meetings

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

**KRA 2.1 - The achievement of the elements in the EAAFP CEPA Action Plan (2019-2024).**

This project enhances conservation efforts through educational initiatives. The creation and distribution of educational brochures and symbolic metal pins effectively address this KRA by educating the stakeholders, donors and public on the ecological roles and conservation needs of migratory shorebirds, thereby increasing awareness and support for habitat conservation efforts. This directly contributes to achieving the CEPA Action Plan's goals of raising awareness and understanding of the importance of wetlands and migratory waterbirds.

**KRA 4.2 Capacity of Partner Focal Points and site managers to pursue the EAAFP objectives has increased.**

The shorebird conservation meetings provide opportunities for site managers, particularly those from China, to engage deeply with their counterparts from various regions. By discussing best practices, challenges, and management strategies for shorebird conservation, these managers can enhance their skills and knowledge. This platform not only facilitates the exchange of valuable insights but also strengthens their capacity to align local management efforts with broader EAAFP objectives.

**KRA 5.1 Partners are actively collaborating to develop approaches to conserve migratory waterbirds and their habitats in the EAAF across national boundaries.**

During the shorebird conservation meetings, SWG members and EAAFP partners will collaboratively work on identifying conservation issues and propose conservation actions. This engagement is crucial as it allows for the pooling of expertise and resources. The collaboration achieved in these discussions is vital for developing effective conservation concepts across the flyway.

**KRA 5.2 Threatened migratory waterbirds are protected from threats and populations are stable or increasing.**

A key component of the shorebird conservation meetings will be a focused meeting on the globally threatened Nordmann's Greenshank, among other species. By bringing together experts and stakeholders, the meeting aims to spotlight the urgent conservation needs of such species and develop targeted strategies to mitigate these threats. A dedicated session for the Nordmann's Greenshank will allow participants to delve into specific issues and response options, allowing for more effective protection measures and ensuring the stability and growth of this vulnerable population.

**5. Alignment with EAAFP Working Groups and Task Forces priorities:**

The project is proposed to meet the following SWG objectives (Annex 2. SWG TOR):

- To promote a network of shorebird expertise with a capacity to offer sound advice relating to management, education and research activities for the conservation of shorebirds and their habitats.

- To provide a forum for exchanging information on shorebirds between scientists and managers in the EAAF.
- To identify current and emerging shorebird conservation, management, research and public outreach issues and opportunities in the EAAF.
- To promote the collaboration and dissemination of information on shorebird related activities with national and regional shorebird groups within and outside of the EAAF.
- To identify priority shorebird species and populations of conservation concern and propose response options for consideration by the Flyway Partnership.
- To identify priority areas for shorebirds in the EAAF and propose strategies for the conservation and sustainable management of the sites.

The project also supports the implementation of the SWG Work Plan (Annex 3) in the following points:

- 2.2. Focus on conservation of the Nordmann's Greenshank, with potential to develop a conservation plan, support monitoring of important sites, and investigate declines.
- 2.3 Focus on conservation of Dunlin, with efforts directed toward understanding declines.
- 3.4 Organising shorebird science meeting to promote science and share experiences on best managing practices with shorebird groups operating in the EAAF and worldwide.
- 4.1. Organise regular, EAAF-wide focused meetings and online talks of shorebird working group members to promote collaboration, partnering and priority setting of shorebird conservation activities.
- 4.4 Produce new CEPA materials for shorebirds, particularly on new relevant issues and in languages currently not available.

**6. Explain the part(s) of your project for which you are seeking EAAFP funds in this Application:**

We are seeking funds for the following parts of the project:

**A. A. Funding for Participation in the Shorebird Working Group Meeting**

This EAAFP funding is crucial for facilitating the participation of key participants from the SWG & NGS core team from around the region (Annex 1). We propose to support the funding of international travel costs for 4 of the core team members of the SWG and NGS to participate in the meeting (exact names will be confirmed when the EAAFP grant is approved and co-funding is confirmed). They will conduct talks and lead discussions regarding the relevant conservation issues. Travel costs for additional participants besides the 4 people sponsored by EAAFP will either be self-funded or through other funding resources e.g. Beijing Forestry University. This ensures that critical voices and insights from diverse regions are included in the meeting, enhancing the dialogue and effectiveness of the outcomes.

**B. Design and Print of Educational Brochure**

This includes costs for professional graphic design, content gathering, and printing of a high-quality brochure for distribution at various conservation events and among community stakeholders.

**C. Production of Collectible Metal Pin of the SWG**

This refers to the cost of manufacturing of the pins of the SWG, ensuring they are both appealing and durable.

<p><b>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</b></p>	<p>This EAAFP funding is crucial for facilitating the participation of key participants from the SWG &amp; NGSG core team from around the region. Co-funding from other parties will only have an impact on the participation level for the meetings.</p> <p>The SWG brochure and the metal pins will be funded solely by the EAAFP funds.</p>
<p><b>8. Scientific references cited in the Application:</b></p>	<p>BirdLife International (2024) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <a href="https://datazone.birdlife.org">https://datazone.birdlife.org</a> on 29/05/2024.</p> <p>Erel-Koselleck, E. S. (2004). The Role and Power of Symbols in the Identity Formation of Community Members [M.S. - Master of Science]. Middle East Technical University</p> <p>Ma, Z, Melville, D.S., Liu, J., Chen, Y., Yang, H., Ren, W., Zhang, Z., Piersma, T. and Li, B. 2014. Rethinking China's new great wall. <i>Science</i> 346: 912-914.</p> <p>Murray, N.J., Phinn, S.R., DeWitt, M., Ferrari, R., Johnston, R., Lyons, M.B., Clinton, N., Thau, D. and Fuller, R.A. 2019. The global distribution and trajectory of tidal flats <i>Nature</i> 565, <a href="https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-018-0805-8">https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-018-0805-8</a>.</p> <p>Piersma, T., Lok, T., Chen, Y., Hassell, C. J., Yang, H-Y., Boyle, A., Slaymaker, M., Chan, Y-C., Melville, D. S., Zhang, Z-W., &amp; Ma, Z. 2016. Simultaneous declines in summer survival of three shorebird species signals a flyway at risk. <i>Journal of Applied Ecology</i> 53(2): 479-490. doi:10.1111/1365-2664.12582</p> <p>Prietto, C., &amp; Young, L. (2005). Status and Conservation of Shorebirds in the East Asian-Australasian Flyway. In <i>The Role of Wetland Centres in Shorebird Conservation</i>. (pp. 102–107). Canberra .</p> <p>Studds, C.E., Kendall, B.E., Murray, N.J., Wilson, H. B., Rogers, D.I., Clemens, R.S., Gosbell, K., Hassell, C.J. Jessop, R., Melville, D. S., Milton, D. A., Minton, C. D. T., Possingham, H. P., Riegen, A. C., Straw, P., Woehler, E. J. and Fuller, R. A. 2017. Rapid population decline in migratory shorebirds relying on Yellow Sea tidal mudflats as stopover sites. <i>Nature Communications</i> 8: 14895, <a href="https://doi.org/10.1038/ncomms14895">https://doi.org/10.1038/ncomms14895</a>.</p> <p>Young, C. F., &amp; Witter, J. A. (1994). Developing Effective Brochures for Increasing Knowledge of Environmental Problems: The Case of the Gypsy Moth. <i>The Journal of Environmental Education</i>, 25(3), 27–34. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1080/00958964.1994.9941955">https://doi.org/10.1080/00958964.1994.9941955</a></p>

**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>Shorebird Conservation Meeting</p>	<p><b>Location:</b> Beijing</p>	<p><b>Dates:</b> 16-18 Oct 2024</p>
<p><b>Presentation Abstract</b></p>	<p>Details will be made available at the project implementation stage.</p>		

## E. Experience of applicant relevant to the proposed project

The EAAFP SWG is one of the species conservation groups officially formed under the EAAFP. The core team of the SWG consist of 12 members (attached) with vast experience and knowledge of migratory shorebirds.

One of the core team members, Yin Yuzhu from the Shenzhen Mangrove Foundation, will implement the project by working together with the rest of the core team members.

Mr. Yin Yuzhu has engaged in mangrove wetlands restoration and urban biodiversity conservation since 2013. He worked as the monitoring team leader of Shenzhen Wildlife Rescue Center from 2013 to 2016. From 2016, he worked as the Conservation Program Director of Shenzhen Mangrove Wetlands Conservation Foundation. During this period, he participated in a wetland restoration project that created 30 ha of habitat for migratory waterbirds. He has also served as the Executive Director of Excellence of Shenzhen Futian Mangrove Ecological Park for the past 5 years.

## 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	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)
<b>A. Funding for Participation in the Shorebird Working Group Meeting</b>	16,000	2000 (EAAFP SWG core team time for planning and coordination of the Shorebird Conservation meetings)	10,000 USD (additional participants travel cost and all participants food & accommodation). Source from Beijing Forestry University and Yancheng National Nature Reserve.	<b>4000</b>
<b>B. Design and Print of Educational Brochure</b>	1,000	600 (EAAFP SWG core team member & volunteer time for planning. Support design and coordination)		<b>400</b> (200 USD for design and 200 USD for printing)

		of the brochure)		
<b>C. Production of Collectible Metal Pin of the SWG</b>	1,000	400 (EAAFP SWG core team time for planning and coordination of the metal pins)		<b>600</b>
<b>Total amount requested from EAAFP Small Grants Fund:</b> (in USD)				<b>5000</b>

**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):*

The budget is critical for the successful implementation of key conservation activities. The major portion, \$4000, is earmarked for international travel, allowing key stakeholders to attend the Shorebird Working Group meeting in China. This facilitates critical discussions and collaborations essential for the advancement of migratory shorebird conservation strategies across the flyway.

We request \$400 for the design and printing of educational brochures that provide vital information on shorebird conservation, aiming to raise awareness and educate the public and stakeholders. Additionally, \$600 is allocated for manufacturing metal pins, serving as symbols to foster community support and engagement in conservation efforts.

These funds will ensure the project's activities are well-supported, enabling effective execution and significant impact on conservation efforts.

## G. Application Checklist

All relevant sections of this Application have been completed.	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No
Full payment details have been provided in Section H Payment Details.	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No
The Application is being submitted electronically as one single document.	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No
The Application is being submitted in MS Word format.	Yes	<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](mailto:secretariat@eaaflyway.net) and copy the Programme Coordinator at [godwit@eaaflyway.net](mailto: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.

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](mailto:secretariat@eaaflyway.net) and copy the Programme Coordinator at [godwit@eaaflyway.net](mailto:godwit@eaaflyway.net) to obtain an electronic copy of the EAAFP logo.

## J. Declaration

Applicant's Full Name: Yin Yu Zhu

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](mailto:secretariat@eaaflyway.net) and copy the Programme Coordinator at [godwit@eaaflyway.net](mailto: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.**