



**SECRETARIAT OF THE EAST ASIAN–AUSTRALASIAN FLYWAY PARTNERSHIP**

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# **2024 Small Grant Fund for Working Groups and Task Forces Report**

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

**Project Duration: June 2024 – October 2024**

**China**

*Submission Date: 13 December 2024*

## GRANTEE OVERVIEW

Describe your organisation by filling out the table below.

<b>Grantee Details</b>	Yuzhu Yin Conservation Director yinyuzhu@mcf.org.cn
<b>Organisation</b>	Shenzhen Mangrove Wetlands Conservation Foundation NGO
<b>Country</b>	China

**List any contributions that your organisation or yourself might have been involved for the protection of the migratory waterbirds and their habitats across the East-Asian Australasian Flyway below.**

*Brief summary of your contributions. If applicable, please include the year, Flyway Network Sites, type of activities, and other relevant information.*

As an applicant for this grant, we have facilitated a series of shorebird conservation meeting and the development of educational materials aimed at enhancing awareness and understanding of the conservation requirements for migratory waterbirds within the East Asia-Australia Flyway (EAAF). This initiative has encompassed funding for expert presentations at a series of shorebird conservation meeting in Beijing, the design and print of the Shorebird Working Group's (SWG) educational brochure, and the production of the SWG's metal pin.

### 1.1 PROJECT SUMMARY

<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Organising EAAF shorebird conservation meetings and production of shorebird educational materials</b>
<b>Location</b>	Beijing , China
<b>Project Budget</b>	5000 USD
<b>Co-funding</b>	Mangrove Conservation Foundation ( MCF ) , NA Beijing Forest University , NA
<b>EAAFP Working Group or Task Force</b>	EAAFP Shorebird Working Group
<b>Relevant EAAFP Strategic Plan</b>	KRA 2.1, KRA 4.2, KRA 5.1, KRA 5.2

#### Project Overview and Outcomes

*Please provide a brief 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. Please also discuss how this project contributes to the implementation of the [EAAFP Strategic Plan 2019-2028](#).*

Abstract:

The project was aimed at enhancing the conservation of migratory shorebirds within the East Asian-Australasian Flyway (EAAF).

#### Goals and Locations:

The primary objectives of this project included organizing shorebird conservation meetings in Beijing, China, and producing educational materials to raise awareness about the conservation needs of migratory shorebirds.

These meetings were designed to facilitate dialogue, share research findings, and develop collaborative strategies for shorebird conservation.

The project also aimed to provide funding for expert presentations to enhance site managers' skills and knowledge by discussing best practices, challenges, and management strategies for shorebird conservation. An educational brochure and collectible metal pins were designed and distributed to educate and engage the public and stakeholders in shorebird conservation efforts.

#### Contribution to EAAFP Strategic Plan 2019-2028:

This project aligned with the EAAFP Strategic Plan 2019-2028 by achieving several key result areas:

- KRA 2.1: The project enhanced conservation efforts through educational initiatives, such as the creation and distribution of brochures and metal pins, which educated stakeholders, donors, and the public about the ecological roles and conservation needs of migratory shorebirds.

- KRA 4.2: The shorebird conservation meetings provided opportunities for site managers to engage deeply with their counterparts from various regions, enhancing their skills and knowledge, and aligning local management efforts with broader EAAFP objectives.

- KRA 5.1 and 5.2: The project fostered international collaboration to develop approaches to conserve migratory waterbirds and their habitats across national boundaries and protected threatened migratory waterbirds, contributing to stable or increasing populations.

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## 1.2 PROJECT DETAILS

### Detailed Project Implementation Process and Methodologies

*Describe the process of your project, including timeline, methodologies, field work, interview, conference, etc. Please include analysis of your process, if applicable. (Any visual aids, including maps, graphs, tables, flowcharts, photos, etc. are strongly preferred)*

The aim of this project was 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), were crucial in promoting conservation and fostering effective collaboration. The objectives were outlined as follows:

- a) To fund the shorebird conservation meeting (as part of the overall EAAF 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 were also to be held and would require funding. This funding was crucial for facilitating the participation of key participants from the SWG & NGSB core team from around the region (Annex 1. List of Core Team member of EAAFP SWG and NGSB). The meeting focused 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 highlighted key information regarding the conservation needs of shorebirds, including details on globally threatened species. This brochure covered the conservation status and the SWG Workplan. It aimed 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 served as a symbol of support and awareness for shorebird conservation efforts. This pin was distributed to promote community engagement and pride in the conservation activities at various venues, including the upcoming shorebird conservation meeting in China in October.

### **Problems Encountered/Adjustments/Challenges**

*If there were some changes made, please indicate them and explain (ex. unexpected circumstances, sudden cancellation, etc.)*

## **1.3 PROJECT RESULTS**

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

**A.** The “EAAF Shorebird Conservation Forum & Shorebird Working Group Meetings” jointly organized by Beijing Forestry University, Jiangsu Yancheng National Rare Bird Nature Reserve, Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve (Singapore), Mangrove Conservation Foundation, and EAAFP Shorebird Working Group, was successfully held at Xiamen Air Jianianhua Hotel in Beijing on 18 Oct 2024. The forum was held as an important part of the 1<sup>st</sup> EAAFP Science Symposium, which aimed to strengthen research, cooperation on shorebird conservation in the East Asian-Australasian Flyway (EAAF), and promote regional ecological protection. Details of the meeting as below.

### **Opening Session:**

- Prof. Lei Guang Chuan, Beijing Forestry University
- Mr. Chen Zhizhou, Director, Yancheng Nature Reserve
- Ms. Jennifer George, Chief, EAAFP
- Mr. Yang Fengwei, Deputy Director General, Wetland Department, National Forestry and Grassland Administration, China

### **2. Keynote session 09:00 – 10:05**

- Prof. ZHANG Zhengwang, Beijing Normal University  
Status of the World Heritage site in the Yellow and Bohai Sea
- Prof. Kelin Chen, Director, International Wetland & River Beijing  
Status of the World Heritage site in the Yellow and Bohai Sea

### **3. Research session 10:05-11:00**

- Richard Lanctot, United States Fish and Wildlife Service  
Collection and Use of Shorebird Tracking Data to Inform Conservation of shorebirds along the East Asian–Australasian Flyway
- Dr. Yuri Gerasimov, Institute of Far-eastern Branch of Russian Academy of Science  
Shorebird migration studies in Far-eastern part of Russia as important direction for its conservation
- Prof. Zhijun Ma, Fudan University  
Tracking the movement of Whimbrel in the East Asian–Australasian Flyway
- Prof. Qing Chang, Nanjing Normal University  
Migration Route of Grey Plover in the EAAF

#### 4. Species Conservation 11:00-11:40

- Dr. Elena Lappo, Institute of Geography Russian Academy of Science  
SBS Survey and Conservation in Russia
- Mr. Jian Huang, Mangrove Conservation Foundation  
2024 China Spoon-billed Sandpiper winter census
- Mr. Philipp Maleko and Dr. Jonathan Slaght, Wildlife Conservation Society  
Nordmann's Greenshank Single Species Action Plan (SSAP)
- Dr. Vladimir Pronkevich, Institute of Water and Ecology Problems of the Far Eastern Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences  
Status of the Nordmann's Greenshank (*Tringa guttifer*) population in the nesting are
- Dr. Dong Li, Yantai Coastal Research Institute, China Science Academy  
Activity rhythm and habitat utilization characteristics of the Yellow River Delta Avocet

#### 5. Habitat Management Session 11:40-12:30

- Mr. Li Honglei, Jiangsu Yancheng National Rare Bird Nature Reserve  
Importance of Yancheng Nature Reserve in Shorebird Conservation
- Dr. Yifei Jia, Beijing Forestry University  
Enhancement of high-tide roost management at Tiaozini World Heritage site
- Mr. Yuxiang Li, Director, Panjin Wetland Centre, Liaoning Province  
Waterbird monitoring and habitat management at Nanxiaohe Wetland, Liaohe River mouth
- Dr. Xianji Wen, WWF Hongkong  
Habitat management of Mai Po Nature Reserve

#### Afternoon Session: EAAFP Shorebird Working Meetings 15:00 – 19:30

Location:-Beijing Forestry university

Shorebird Working Group (15:00 -16:30)

Spoon-billed Sandpiper Task Force (16:30 -18:00)

EAAFP Shorebird Working Group Nordman's Greenshank Sub-group (18:00 -19:30)

EAAFP Shorebird Working Group Dunlin interest group meeting on 9:00 - 12:00, 19 Oct 2024

Location: Fengtai Science and Technology Park, Beijing

**B.** Designed and printed 1500 copies of the educational brochure of the SWG, this was distributed at the shorebird conservation meetings. Intern of Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve helped with the design; all core team members helped to finalise the design with input from EAAFP. Shenzhen Mangrove foundation helped to manage the printing of the brochure.

**C.** The Shenzhen Mangrove foundation kindly helped in the design of the collectible metal pin of the SWG. The sample of the pins was received and presented to the chief of EAAFP on 18 Oct. A total of 2000 pins were produced and to be distributed.



Members of the Shorebird Conservation Forum at the 1<sup>st</sup> Science Symposium of EAAFP held by Beijing Forest University, Beijing, China.



Dr Xianji Wen introduced the management of Mai Po Nature Reserve at the Shorebird Conservation Forum



Dr Rick Lanctot introduced Collection and Use of Shorebird Tracking Data to Inform Conservation of shorebirds along the East Asian-Australasian Flyway at the Shorebird Conservation Forum

## 1.4 COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION, PARTICIPATION, AND AWARENESS (CEPA)

Please provide details on any CEPA-related activities associated with your project.

	<p>Christoph, the chairman of SBSTF, introduced the Action Plan of SBSTF at EAAF Shorebird Working Meeting</p>
	<p>David Li, the chairman of SWG presented brochure, pin and patch to Jennifer, the chief of EAAFP at the Shorebird Conservation Forum</p>
	<p>Brochures were used to describe the work of SWG at the Shorebird Conservation Forum</p>
	<p>Pins were used to attract attention and serve as a take-home message of SWG at the Shorebird Conservation Forum.</p>

## 1.5 RECOMMENDATIONS AND SUSTAINABILITY

Please provide suggested actions or improvements based on your findings. Sustainability focuses on how the project's outcomes or benefits can continue over time or be maintained.

Please also include how the outcomes of your project might be applied in future research or its implications for future research.

## 2. BUDGET REPORT

Please provide a table for the expenditure breakdown. See example below.

Dr. Wen Xianji and Dr. Rick Lanctot were sponsored to attend the Shorebird Conservation meetings in person. Mr. Yin Yuzhu kindly helped to arrange payment for the production of the SWG brochure and metal pins. The total cost spent is USD 4576.04, which is within the total amount approved at USD 5,000.

Name	Used for	Other Currency	USD	
Xianji Wen	Flight	Sh-Yi 666.00 HKD Yi-Beij 611.00 HKD Beij-HK 954.00 HKD		As of 16.10.; 1 HKD = 0.1287 USD
	Hotel	3,900.1 HKD (Includes Rick)		
	Sub-Total	6,131.10 HKD	789.07 USD	
Rick Lanctot	Flight		2,082.90 USD	
Yuzhu Yin	Pin	11100 CNY		As of 15.11.; 1 CNY = 0.1385 U SD
	Brochure	1200 CNY		
	Sub-Total	12300 CNY	1704.07 USD	
Total			4576.04 USD	

## ANNEXES

1. Report of the Shorebird Conservation Forum
2. Minutes of the SWG meeting with participants list
3. Detailed itineraries of the Shorebird Working meetings
4. Photo documentation