World Migratory Bird Day (WMBD) Small Grant 2025

Application Form

WMBD Small Grant 2025 for East Asian–Australasian Flyway
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About World Migratory Bird Day 2025

World Migratory Bird Day (WMBD) is an annual awareness-raising campaign highlighting the need for the conservation of migratory birds and their habitats. It has a global outreach and is an effective tool to help raise global awareness of the threats faced by migratory birds, their ecological importance, and the need for international cooperation to conserve them. In 2018, WMBD unified the planet's major migratory bird corridors, or flyways: the African–Eurasian flyway, the East Asian–Australasian flyway, and the Americas flyways. **WMBD is now celebrated twice a year, on the Second Saturday in May and in October. In 2025, WMBD will be held on 10 May and 11 October. This year, the theme is "Shared Spaces: Creating Bird-Friendly Cities and Communities".** The EAAFP Secretariat encourages Partners to celebrate WMBD twice a year.

Introduction of EAAFP WMBD 2025 Small Grant

The Small Grant for 2025 World Migratory Bird Day (WMBD) has been established to provide financial support to EAAFP Partners, Task Forces, Working Groups, and NGOs who plan to organize **public events and/or conservation action-oriented workshops** at national or local levels through participating in World Migratory Bird Day. We strongly encourage EAAFP Partners and collaborators to make an application for any suitable event or development of WMBD materials in the local language that aims to raise awareness of the need for conserving migratory waterbirds and the value of their habitats in the East Asian–Australasian Flyway.

Eligibility Criteria

Applicants who plan to organize an event to celebrate World Migratory Bird Day 2025 need to be **based in EAAFP Partner countries.** In addition, EAAFP Partner countries included in the DAC list of ODA Recipients are our priority to support (If you are not sure, please see the list of EAAFP Partners, and DAC list of ODA Recipients). If you are not the country focal point of EAAFP, please consult and plan with the EAAFP focal point of your country before you apply.

Please note that this grant is to initiate a WMBD event. You can co-fund the event with other sources, but please indicate this in the budget session. Applications with similar content (location, target participants, etc.) to previous years may not be accepted. We also encourage proposals to promote Flyway Network Sites for the WMBD activities.

Information of the application

Firstly, applicants must meet the eligibility criteria set for funding assistance under the EAAFP WMBD 2025 Small Grants Programme.

For your budget planning, please note a maximum of 1,000 USD will be allocated to each country. We recommend you submit your application as early as possible.

The deadline for application is **7th April 2025**. Please submit your application to the Communications Officer via email (Word or PDF document) to secretariat@eaaflyway.net and communication@eaaflyway.net .

After the Secretariat receives your application, the approval of successful proposals is made by the Secretariat. Applicants will hear the result within two weeks after the deadline. Incomplete applications will not be accepted.

Successful applicants have the responsibility to help translate the World Migratory Bird Day materials into their own languages. These translations will be shared on the World Migratory Bird Day website (https://www.worldmigratorybirdday.org/).

ANNEX 1

Standard Format for the World Migratory Bird Day

Final Report Template

Section 1. EVENT INFORMATION (Compulsory)

1.1 Contact Information — Provide your contact information for this report.

Full name:	Chantsalmaa Nyam-ochir
Name of the organisation:	Saraana Nature Conservation Foundation
Name(s) of the division and/or position:	Biologist
Type of organisation — Government/NGO/Private Sector/Other:	Environmental Non-Governmental Organization
Email:	chantsal@saraanaconservation.org; chantsalmaasncf@gmail.com;
Postal address:	Bayanzurkh district, 16th khoroo, 16th khoroolol, 9-31, Ulaanbaatar city
Office phone numbers:	+976 77464555
(Your) Cell number (optional):	+976 88752203
Fax (optional):	
Website (optional):	https://www.saraanaconservation.org/
Additional contact person (optional):	Sarangerel Ichinkhorloo (CEO) +976 80884649; sara@saraanaconservation.org
Date of submission:	13nd of May, 2025

☒ Please check if you permit to reveal your personal contact information on EAAFP website.

1.2 Event Title

Let's protect our urban birds and wetland

1.3 Event Location — Where did your event take place?

Name of country:	Mongolia
Name of city:	Ulaanbaatar
Name of event place/venue:	Swan lake, located next to 22nd Auto Trade in the Songinokhairkhan district, Ulaanbaatar city, Mongolia.

1.4 Event Type — Check the relevant categories below.

Public awareness activity — local and/or national:	☒
Field trip (e.g. Birdwatching):	☒
Monitoring/survey:	☐
Educational activity/lecture:	☒
Festival:	☐

Media event (e.g., press release):	☐
Movie/video:	☐
Others — specify:	☐

1.5 Event Organiser — Who were organiser and/or sponsor for your event?

Organizer: Saraana Nature Conservation Foundation, Ulaanbaatar Environmental Department, 32nd subdistrict of Songinokhairkhan district
Sponsor: EAAFP, WMBD Small Grant

1.6 Target Audience — Who were the participants for your event (**Compulsory)**?

Target Audience Types	**Number Participated**
School students, teachers or parents	29
University students	10
Researchers, scientist	2
Birdwatchers	
Site managers for flyway site and wetlands	
Decision or policy makers	5
Media	
Others — specify (Volunteer and citizens)	17
Total number of participants	**63**

1.7 Outcome — What is the outcome from your event?

On May 11, 2025, with the support of a small grant from EAAFP, we successfully organized our annual "Protecting Birds of the Swan Lake" clean-up campaign to celebrate World Migratory Bird Day. Within the framework of this project, we carried out two main activities:

1. Swan Lake Eco Tour
A total of 29 tenth-grade students from the 122nd secondary school in Songinokhairkhan District participated in the Swan Lake Eco Tour in Ulaanbaatar city. According to the eco tour program, students were introduced to information about the Swan Lake wetland, urban ecology, migratory birds, and took part in birdwatching at the lake. They also learned about aquatic invertebrates and water plants, which serve as food sources for birds, and became acquainted with these organisms firsthand. Finally, the students helped clean up litter around Swan Lake, helping to create a cleaner environment for the many birds that gather at this wetland, which is the closest such habitat to the capital city named Ulaanbaatar.

2. “Protecting Birds of the Swan Lake” Clean-up Campaign
Swan Lake is a wetland located closest to the capital city and is a major gathering site for water birds. However, due to its proximity to human activity, it is heavily affected by pollution and livestock, making it vulnerable to many negative impacts. To address this, we conduct clean-up activities at Swan Lake twice a year in celebration of World Migratory Bird Day.

This year, more than 60 participants joined the clean-up, including representatives from the Ulaanbaatar Environmental Department, 32nd sub-district of Songinokhairkhan District, students from the Ecology Science Club of the National University of Mongolia, KOICA-KIDC volunteers, and citizens who registered for the campaign voluntarily. Participants were also provided with educational information and took part in birdwatching as part of the eco tour program, making the cleanup campaign a success.

1.8 Any additional comments? (Optional)

This time, with the support of EAAFP, we organized the clean-up campaign, successfully engaging a large number of participants to thoroughly clean the surrounding area of the lake. We were able to effectively raise awareness among people of all age groups about the value of bird-friendly cities, wetlands, urban ecology, and the importance of bird conservation for the migration and breeding habitats. In particular, through the Swan Lake eco tour, we were able to educate children and youth — the future generation — on the significance of coexisting with nature, urban biodiversity, and the role of birds in maintaining ecological balance.

Section 2. EVENT PROGRAMME (Compulsory)

Provide your event agenda, programme or discussion paper in details here. If your event was recorded or held online, please share the links.

1. Swan Lake Eco tour program

Swan Lake Eco Tour Program

08:30 – 09:00 Arrival at Swan Lake from Ulaanbaatar City

09:00 – 09:30 Introduction to the Swan Lake, Urban Ecology, and the importance of wetlands ecosystem in the city.

09:30 – 10:00 Birdwatching at Swan Lake

Activities:

Observing globally and regionally endangered water birds

Getting familiar with birdwatching equipment and learning how to use it

Learning to identify common characteristics of frequently seen water birds

10:00 – 10:30 Educational session on aquatic plants and algae

Activities:

Introducing the role and importance of aquatic plants in ecosystems

Identifying common plants and learning to distinguish their features

Learning about five types of algae recorded in Swan Lake

Collecting water samples and observing algae

10:30 – 11:00 Information session on birds of prey

Learning about the birds of prey found around Swan Lake and their migration patterns

11:00 – 11:30 Introduction to fish and aquatic invertebrates

Learning about the fish species recorded in Swan Lake

Identifying common aquatic invertebrates and understanding their ecological role and significance

Water quality assessment

11:30 – 12:30 Lunch and free time

12:30 – 14:30 To clean up Swan Lake

14:30 – 15:00 End of the tour and return to Ulaanbaatar City

2. Cleaning up campaign program

Section 3. SHORT SUMMARY REPORT (Compulsory)

Provide a short article about your WMBD event or activity you arranged to celebrate WMBD. The following information (venue, organiser, number and type of participants, outcome) should be included in your article. (Minimum 400 words)

Let's protect our urban birds and wetland

Swan Lake is the only remaining wetland area near Ulaanbaatar where many water birds gather and citizens can learn about the urban ecology and biodiversity. Due to its proximity to the capital city and the high human activity in the area, a large amount of waste accumulates, livestock grazing, continuously degrading bird habitats and negatively impacting the ecosystem. Therefore, since 2021, our organization has been regularly implementing a cleanup campaign twice a year under the slogan “Protecting Birds of the Swan Lake” in celebration of World Migratory Bird Day. These activities are held in celebration of World Migratory Bird Day (WMBD) to highlight the importance of conserving urban wetlands, biodiversity and migratory bird habitats.

Swan lake is located next to the Tuul River valley, on the eastern slopes of Songinokhairkhan Mountain, 22 kilometres west of central Ulaanbaatar city.

The first clean-up campaign of this year was organized on May 11, 2025, in celebration of World Migratory Bird Day, with support from EAAFP.
As part of the project, two main activities were successfully carried out.

The first activity was an ecological tour to Swan Lake aimed to educate secondary school students about wetlands, their importance, urban ecology, and the benefits of coexisting with birds and nature in urban areas. We organized an eco tour for 29 tenth-grade students from the 122nd Secondary School in Songinokhairkhan District as part of the Swan Lake Eco Tour Program, and they also took part in the clean-up campaign.

The second activity was the Clean-up Campaign, focused on reducing habitat degradation, protecting the ecosystem for birds and promoting the citizens for the protection.
More than 60 participants took part in the clean-up campaign, including representatives from the Ulaanbaatar Environmental Department, the 32nd subdistrict of Songinokhairkhan District, students from the Ecology Science Club of the National University of Mongolia, volunteers from KOICA-KIDC, and citizens who registered voluntarily.

We provided participants with information on the importance of protecting urban wetlands and the vital role of coexistence with birds and wildlife in maintaining urban ecological balance.

Section 4. EXPENDITURE REPORT (Compulsory)

Expense items	USD
Transportation (bus rental, petrol fee)	250 USD
Cleaning materials (Gloves, Sack, Shovel)	100 USD
Lunch and Drinks for students	400 USD
Brochures (migratory birds)	100 USD
Educational materials	100 USD
Banner	50 USD
Total	**1000 USD**

*Please keep the receipt in case auditing is needed.

Section 5. PHOTO, VIDEO & MATERIALS (Compulsory):

Name of Photo/Video	e.g. photo 1 or video 1 Photo 1. Group photos Photo 2. Clean-up photos Photo 3. Eco tour photos
Photo/Video	Please insert a photo here 1. Group photos 2. Clean-up photos

3. Swan lake Eco tour photos

Credit Info	Saraana Nature Conservation Foundation
Link	Please provide a link of this photo/video (e.g. FB posting or Flickr link) https://www.facebook.com/saraana.conservation

Note:

- Email us the electronic file (JPEG or PDF) of your language version of the WMBD poster for publication on the EAAFP website.
- Post the printed poster to the EAAFP Secretariat if you can and have one available.
- Take plenty of photos of events or activities featuring the WMBD poster and send us these photos in .jpg or .png format; and videos if you have any.
- The logos of WMBD and EAAFP must be displayed on all your printed and digital promotional materials.