



CORPORATE PROFILE



ABOUT US

BirdLife Botswana, the BirdLife International (BLI) partner in Botswana, is a not-for-profit conservation society, formerly known as Botswana Bird Club. BirdLife Botswana has been in existence since 1980. The organisation's work is aligned to the four strategic pillars of the BLI strategy: Species, Sites and Habitats, Ecological Sustainability and People. BirdLife Botswana conserves species, sites and habitats to:

- **Prevent the extinction of any bird species in the wild.**
- **Maintain and improve the conservation status of all bird species.**
- **Conserve, enhance and enlarge sites and habitats important for birds.**
- **Help, through birds, to conserve biodiversity and to improve the quality of people's lives.**

BirdLife Botswana has also designed, coordinated and contributed data or was involved in numerous national and sub-regional projects including publication of Bird Atlas of Botswana, a Birds of Botswana field guide, Selected Botswana Biodiversity Indicators, Atlas of Southern African Birds, Important Bird Areas (IBAs) of Southern Africa, biannual waterfowl counts (as part of Wetlands International's African Waterfowl Census Programme) and monitoring of Wattled Cranes, Southern Ground Hornbills, Lesser Flamingo, Slaty Egret, Kori Bustards, Short-clawed Lark, Lappet-faced Vultures and Cape Vultures. The Society also collects data on bird ecology and distribution via the Bird Population Monitoring programme, a Nest Record Scheme, and records of rare birds. BirdLife Botswana also produces promotional materials such as brochures, posters, calendars and celebrates bird awareness days (e.g. World Migratory Bird Day) and other environmental days with the public.

HOW CAN YOU SUPPORT BIRDLIFE?



BECOME A MEMBER...

subscriptions are used in protecting and conserving Botswana's birds and their habitats.



READ OUR PUBLICATIONS...

increase your knowledge and understanding of different bird species by reading Babbler & Familiar Chat.



ASSIST OUR RESEARCH...

members are encouraged to register for the BirdLasser Challenge, and record bird sightings for our BPM and Waterbird counts.



MAKE A DONATION...

financial, literature, or used equipment.



SUPPORT OUR PATRON'S TRUST...

assists rural and underprivileged children to partake in bird and environmental activities.

CONSIDER US IN YOUR WILL...

a simple way to donate money towards our research initiatives.

IMPORTANT BIRD AREAS [IBAs] IN BOTSWANA

The Important Bird Area [IBA] Programme of BirdLife International, and its country BirdLife partners, is a worldwide initiative aimed at identifying, documenting and protecting a network of sites critical for the conservation of the world's birds.

The IBA programme in Africa is addressing site-oriented research and action, encompassing management, monitoring, education, advocacy and national and international legal protection. Botswana currently has 12 IBAs.

HOW ARE IBAs CHOSEN?

A site is recognised as an IBA only if it meets certain criteria, based on the occurrence of key bird species that are vulnerable to global extinction, or whose populations are otherwise irreplaceable. The IBA criteria are internationally agreed, standardised, quantitative and scientifically defensible. Ideally, each IBA should be large enough to support self-sustaining populations of as many as possible of the key bird species for which it was identified or, in the case of the migrants, fulfill their requirements for the duration of their presence.



5 Lesser Flamingo, *Phoenicopterus minor*

MAGADIKADI PANS IS AN IBA FOR THE LESSOR FLAMINGO



1 Reddish Eagle, *Neohelius orientalis*



2 Sally Egret, *Egretta sally*



3 Wetland Crane, *Grus carunculata*



4 Black-winged Pratincole, *Colinva melanotos*



6 Burchell's Sandpiper, *Pterodroma burchelli*



7 Cape Griffon Vulture, *Gyps capensis*



8 Cape Griffon Vulture, *Gyps capensis*



12 Kari Bastard, *Anas boschas*



11 Sharptailed Lark, *Puffinbergeria*



10 Russett Duck, *Ayya maccoa*



9 Southern Pochard, *Nettion erythrorhynchos*

BIRD POPULATION MONITORING PROGRAM

The BPM Programme was started in 2010 and is part of the global effort to monitor terrestrial birds around the world (for more information see <http://www.bipindicators.net/wbi>).

The Programme is aimed at demonstrating that birds are useful in showing changes in the overall condition of ecosystems or the environment and can be used by decision-makers to influence politicians to find suitable biodiversity management solutions.

The BPM Programme mobilizes the participation of the citizen scientists in Botswana. The Programme connects people with nature and birding and being part of the programme provides the chance to enjoy the contribution made to conserve the environment as well as the opportunity to interact with the environment and learn more from it.



VULTURE MONITORING PROGRAM

The programme involves volunteers in monitoring vultures. The monitoring program includes breeding site monitoring, population monitoring and vulture mortality monitoring (poisoning monitoring). Vultures can die naturally or be killed by one of the following.

- **Poisoning**
- **Electrocution**
- **Collision with structures**





Conserving birds, empowering people

VULTURES CLEAN UP CARCASSES AND PREVENT DISEASES

FIVE VULTURE SPECIES IN BOTSWANA



Cape Vulture

STATUS: **ENDANGERED**



Lappet-faced Vulture

STATUS: **ENDANGERED**



White - headed vulture

STATUS:
CRITICALLY ENDANGERED



White-backed vulture

STATUS:
CRITICALLY ENDANGERED



Hooded Vulture

STATUS:
CRITICALLY ENDANGERED

Vulture poisoning poses the biggest threat to vulture population and the species survival.

SOME PROJECTS CARRIED OUT BY THE ORGANISATION

PROJECT	CONTRACT AMOUNT (BWP)
GEF/UNDP; Strategic Partnerships to Improve the Financial and Operational Sustainability of Protected Areas	9,533,000.00
GEF/UNDP; Using SLM to improve the integrity of the Makgadikgadi ecosystem and to secure the livelihoods of rangeland-dependent communities	7,928,320.00
EU/RSBP; Instituting Effective Monitoring of Protected Areas (Important Bird Areas)	2,500,000.00
German Cooperation/KFW/KAZA; Improving livelihoods of communities in the hwange-kazuma-chobe wildlife dispersal area through meaningful participation in tourism joint venture partnerships	7,371,000.00
German Cooperation/KFW/KAZA; Improving the livelihood of the Southern Sua Pan Communities in Makgadikgadi Wetland System through the establishment of a small stock community farms	716,027.00
German Cooperation/KFW/KAZA; COVID-19 Impact Mitigation through Securing the Salaries of Community-based Organisations and Securing Alternative Livelihoods for Rural Communities in the Botswana Component of the KAZA TFCA	17,436,939.00
JICA - Capacity development and implementation plan of the Community-Based Ecotourism activities for Chobe Enclave Conservation Trust using Chobe Forest Reserve	480,600.00
EU/BIOPAMA; Building multi-sectorial capacity to tackle illegal wildlife poisoning: poaching and conflict in the world's largest transfrontier conservation area	1,109,392.05
ISDELL: Saving Vultures in Southern Africa	220,000.00
National Geographic; Improving data quality and strengthening communities 'participation in bird population monitoring	300,000.00
GEF/SGP (cumulative)	2,000,000.00

6 QUICK FACTS: BOTSWANA AND BIRDS

600
species

30
Globally Threatened
Birds (GTB)

largest population of
Wattled Cranes
20%
& Slaty Egrets
>60%
of world's population

Other GTB (Lappet-faced & Cape
Vulture, Lesser Kestrel, Corncrake,
Black-winged Pratincole & African
Skimmer)

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PUBLIC EDUCATION

Regular publications: **Babbler**

- (x2/yr since 1980), Familiar Chat,
- Conservation newsletter

Reports: e.g. **Wattled Crane Species Action Plan**,

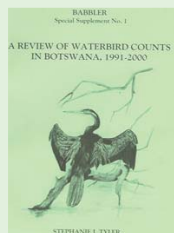
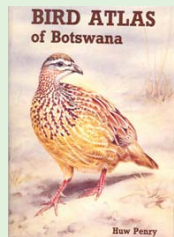
- Beginner's Bird Guide & Activity Guide

Public seminars none pre-2000

- Policy engagement (e.g. flamingo data
- to lobby for establishment of flamingo sanctuary)

Popular articles & TV + radio (**Peolwane**;

- Farmer's Magazine; Africa Birds and
- Birding, World BirdWatch etc.)



CRANE FUND

The Crane Fund has been set up mainly to monitor crane numbers, carry out research and create awareness among the public about the threats faced by these birds. Hoisting Solutions and Ian Nuttall-Smith are currently the sole financial supporters of the fund.

In Botswana the species is rare with a few records having been made in some areas of the northern Botswana. Wattled Crane is the only species found in large concentrations in Botswana, particularly in the northern parts of the country including Chobe, Linyanti, Makgadikgadi, Lake Ngami and along the Boteti river.

OUR PARTNERS



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