CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES
OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA

Twenty-fourth meeting of the Animals Committee
Geneva, (Switzerland), 20-24 April 2009

TRADE IN GREY (BALEARICA REGULORUM) AND BLACK CROWNED (BALEARICA PAVONINA) CRANES

This information document has been submitted by the International Crane Foundation.*

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ICF / EWT PARTNERSHIP FOR AFRICAN CRANES
Private Bag X11, Parkview,
2122, South Africa
Tel: +27 (0) 11 486-1102
Fax: +27 (0) 11 486-1506
Cell: +27 (0) 82 877 5126
Email: kerrynm@ewt.org.za
kerryn@savingcranes.org

TRADE IN GREY (*Balearica regulorum)* AND BLACK CROWNED (*Balearica pavonina)* CRANES

Background information for the CITES Animals Committee meeting 20 – 24 April 2009
Put together by Kerryn Morrison of the ICF/ EWT Partnership for African Cranes

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Summary of the trade in Grey (*Balearica Regulorum)* and Black Crowned (*Balearica Pavonina)* Cranes

The cranes, belonging to the family Gruidae, are among the most threatened families of birds in the world. Of the world's 15 species of cranes, four are resident in Africa: the Near Threatened Black Crowned Crane (*Balearica pavonina*), and the Vulnerable Blue (*Anthropoides paradiseus)*, Wattled (*Bugeranus carunculatus)* and Grey Crowned (*Balearica regulorum)* Cranes. Although trade is a threat to all four species, it is of particular concern for the Grey and Black Crowned Cranes. This concern was outlined in a motion submitted to and endorsed by the IUCN World Conservation Congress in Barcelona in 2008 (Appendix I). The motion called for efforts to minimise the trade in wild caught African cranes, for CITES Secretariat to improve the accuracy of reporting to allow for improved analyses of the data, for the CITES Secretariat to place more stringent controls over countries that do not comply with its regulations, policies and procedures, and a request that the CITES Secretariat conduct a Significant Trade Review for all African crane species.

Growing numbers of unsubstantiated reports of African cranes in illegal trade precipitated the initiation of the African Crane Trade Project under the International Crane Foundation (ICF) / Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT) Partnership in 2006. Preliminary investigations into the supply of cranes from *in situ* studies, an assessment of the CITES trade database (UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre, Cambridge, UK) and a broad based investigation into the stud books being kept under the formal zoo associations internationally highlighted the dire threat that trade was to wild populations of cranes in Africa.

A workshop, facilitated by the IUCN's Conservation Breeding Specialist Group (CBSG) Southern Africa, was held in Naivasha, Kenya from 8 – 11 October 2007. The results of the studies were presented and provided a foundation upon which a prioritised mitigation plan was developed (Appendix V). Twenty five participants from eight countries were present at the workshop and represented local communities, NGOs, universities, governments and zoos.

Grey Crowned Cranes (*Balearica regulorum)*

The Grey Crowned Crane has declined by between 41 and 53% over a 20 year period and at last estimate in 2005, numbered between 50 000 and 64 000 individuals. This, together with supporting documentation (Appendix II), has resulted in the very recent uplisting of the species from Least Concern to Vulnerable on the IUCN Red Data List. Although the decision is final http://www.birdlifeforums.org/WebX/.2cba6757, it will only be released by BirdLife in May 2009 and by the IUCN towards the end of the year. Frighteningly, recent population estimates from Uganda suggest an 80% decline over the past 40 years, and Tanzania about a 75% decline over the last 25 years. Although these declines can be attributed to a number of factors, such as habitat loss and fragmentation, trade has undoubtedly been a serious contributing factor.

The *In situ* case studies conducted in Uganda suggest strongly that cranes are being moved from Uganda into Tanzania for the international trade market. The *in situ* case studies conducted in Tanzania too suggest that significant numbers of Grey Crowned Cranes are being removed from the wild for the legal and illegal trade market. Reportedly, Tanzania still has suitable habitat available for the cranes and yet their decline has been significant. Even with these data in hand, CITES provided Tanzania with a quota of 100 wild caught Grey Crowned Cranes in 2008. An assessment of the CITES trade database (Appendix IV) shows clearly that Tanzania is the biggest exporter of wild caught Grey Crowned Cranes in the world, and that trade continued even in years when no quota was given by CITES and exceeded quota in several years when quotas were given. They too have been the largest exporter of Black Crowned Cranes admittedly though not in recent years. However, it should be noted that Black Crowned Cranes are not resident in Tanzania and hence were either imported from near by countries or were recorded incorrectly on CITES permits – and were then most likely Grey Crowned Cranes.

According to the CITES trade database, the Netherlands was by far the greatest importer of Grey Crowned Cranes between 1985 and 2000. Between 2000 and 2005 though, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) has been the biggest importer, followed closely by China.

Black Crowned Cranes (*Balearica pavonina)*

The Black Crowned Crane has declined by between 22 and 33% over a 20 year period (Appendix III). The total number of the birds in Africa was estimated in 2005 to be between 43 000 and 70 000 individuals. A proposal to uplist the species from the IUCN Red Data List category of Near Threatened to Vulnerable was submitted to BirdLife (Appendix III). Sufficient supporting documentation for this uplisting was not provided and hence the species will remain as Near Threatened. Although habitat loss and fragmentation have contributed significantly to the population decline, the removal of cranes from the wild for domestication and trade has been the key factor in this decline. This was supported by a detailed investigation of the crane trade in the Inner Niger Delta of Mali in the early 2000's, and in recent surveys in Nigeria where the crane is now considered extinct in the wild - although a few birds can still be found for sale in the markets, most probably from neighbouring countries.

The assessment of the CITES trade database (Appendix IV) highlighted the role that Sudan has recently started playing in the trade in wild caught Black Crowned Cranes, with around 600 individuals being exported over a 5 year period. Unfortunately, population estimates from the country range between 25 000 and 50 000 due to the difficulties associated with surveying and hence the impact that this trade is having on the wild population is difficult to assess.

According to the CITES trade database, the Netherlands was by far the greatest importer of Black Crowned Cranes between 1985 and 2000. Between 2000 and 2005 though, the UAE has been the biggest importer of Black Crowned Cranes, followed by France.

APPENDIX I: 2008 IUCN World Conservation Congress Motion

The motion submitted to the IUCN World Conservation Congress in Barcelona in 2008, that was endorsed

1. Title: **Minimising the trade in wild caught African cranes**

2. Original Language: English

3. Primary Institutional Sponsor Name: **Endangered Wildlife Trust**
   Email: yolanf@ewt.org.za
   Membership ID Number: NG/500
   I certify that my institution's dues are paid up to and including 2007: yes
   Recent Dues Payment*:
4. Institutional Co-Sponsor 1 (CS1) Name: **Namibian Nature Foundation**
   CS1 Membership ID Number: NG/1080
   I certify that CS1's membership dues are paid up to and including 2007: yes
   CS1 Recent Dues Payment*:
5. Institutional Co-Sponsor 2 (CS2) Name: **BirdLife Botswana**
   CS2 Membership ID: NG/22484
   I certify that CS2's membership dues are paid up to and including 2007: yes
   CS2 Recent Dues Payment*:
6. Institutional Co-Sponsor 3 (CS3) Name: **Wildlife Conservation Society Uganda**
   CS3 Membership ID: NG/24654
   I certify that CS3's membership dues are paid up to and including 2007: Yes
   CS3 Recent Dues Payment*:
7. Institutional Co-Sponsor 5 (CS5) Name: **Royal Society for the Protection of Birds**
   CS5 Membership ID: NG/226
   I certify that CS5's membership dues are paid up to and including 2007: Yes
   CS5 Recent Dues Payment*:
8. Institutional Co-Sponsor 5 (CS5) Name: **Chester Zoo**
   CS5 Membership ID: NG/940
   I certify that CS5's membership dues are paid up to and including 2007: Yes
   CS5 Recent Dues Payment*:
9. Institutional Co-Sponsor 5 (CS5) Name: **NatureUganda**
   CS5 Membership ID: NG/24742
   I certify that CS5's membership dues are paid up to and including 2007: Yes

CS5 Recent Dues Payment

TITLE Minimising the trade in wild caught African cranes

PREAMBLE

RECALLING Resolution 18.39 (*Taking of Wild Birds for the Pet Trade)* of the 18th Session of the IUCN General Assembly (Perth, 1990), Resolution 1.69 (*Inspection of Wildlife Shipments)* of the 1st Session of the IUCN General Assembly (Montreal, 1996) and Resolution 19.49 (*International Trade in Wild Birds)* of the 19th Session of the IUCN General Assembly (Buenos Aires, 1994);

ALARMED that all four of Africa's resident cranes species, the Wattled *Bugeranus carunculatus*, Black Crowned *Balearica pavonina*, Grey Crowned *Balearica regulorum* and Blue *Anthropoides*

paradiseus Cranes are subject to being removed from the wild for food, traditional use, domestication and the legal and illegal trade markets;

CONCERNED that according to CITES trade statistics derived from the CITES trade database, UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre, Cambridge, UK, the primary countries importing wild caught African cranes since 2001 are China, France, Netherlands, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates;

NOTING too that according to CITES trade statistics derived from the CITES trade database, UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre, Cambridge, UK, the countries primarily exporting wild caught cranes from Africa since 2001 are Sudan and Tanzania;

YET MINDFUL of the discrepancies in the reporting information submitted by importing and exporting countries to the CITES trade database, UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre, Cambridge, UK;

AWARE that the Black Crowned Crane has declined by between 22 and 33% and the Grey Crowned Crane between 41 and 53% over a twenty year period;

ACKNOWLEDGING that the decline can be attributed to many factors including habitat loss, persecution and collision with overhead power lines, the illegal removal from the wild is putting greater pressure on already declining wild populations;

BUT CONCERNED that trade in wild caught cranes is reaching unsustainable proportions;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress at its fourth session in Barcelona, Spain, 5-14 October 2008:

1. RECOMMENDS that all States refuse the import of wild caught African cranes unless absolutely necessary to fulfil the requirements of a genetically viable, legally held captive population.

2. RECOMMENDS that all States take absolutely every measure possible to verify the legal status of imported cranes and if in doubt, refuse entry for illegally captured birds.

3. URGES all IUCN members to encourage captive facilities to combine efforts in developing and maintaining viable captive populations of cranes regionally and internationally.

4. CALLS UPON the CITES Secretariat to improve the accuracy of reporting by importing and exporting countries so that the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre can improve the accuracy of the CITES trade database to enable a better analysis of the legal trade in cranes and to highlight possible illegal movements.

5. REQUESTS that the CITES Secretariat places more stringent controls over countries that do not comply with its regulations, policies and procedures.

6. REQUESTS that the CITES Secretariat conducts a Significant Trade Review for all African crane species.

APPENDIX II: IUCN Red Data List Review Submission for Grey Crowned Cranes

Submission to BirdLife International for the web based review process, for consideration of the uplisting of Grey Crowned Cranes (*Balearica regulorum)* from Least Concern to at least Vulnerable

Grey Crowned Cranes *Balearica regulorum*

Information currently available on the status of Grey Crowned Cranes

29 November 2007

Balearica regulorum (Grey Crowned Crane)
(Bennett, 1834)

Identification:
106 cm. Mainly grey, with wings that are are predominantly white, but contain feathers with colours ranging from white to brown to gold. The head is topped with a crown of stiff golden feathers. Cheek patches are white, and a red gular sack is present under the chin. Legs and toes are black. The bill is short and dark gray. The subspecies are most easily distinguished by their facial features. The East African crowned crane has a larger area of bare red skin above the white cheek patch than does the South African crowned crane. **Similar species:** Black Crowned Crane *Balearica pavonina* darker colours and more bare red skin on the cheeks. **Voice**: Trumpeting flight call, far carrying "may-hem" and deep "huum huum" when breeding

Taxonomic source
Dowsett and Forbes-Watson (1993)
Sibley and Monroe (1990, 1993)

Category: LC
Either
EN: A2a,b,c,d; A3a,b,c,d; A4a,b,c,d
OR
VU: A2a,b,c,d; A3a,b,c,d; A4a,b,c,d

Threat justification:
The species has declined significantly over the past 20 – 30 years, particularly the significantly larger population of the East African subspecies (*B.r.gibbericeps)*. This decline can be attributed primarily to habitat loss and fragmentation and illegal removal of individuals and eggs from the wild for food, traditional use, domestication and the international illegal trade market. Grey Crowned Cranes often move from wetlands into agricultural lands to forage, resulting in them being faced with the additional threats of poisoning and collisions and electrocutions with overhead power-lines. In South Africa, these threats are key. The fragmentation and loss of suitable foraging and breeding habitat has been significant and will continue to be a significant threat for the years ahead, especially as the human population increases and the need for subsistence agricultural land increases. The removal of cranes from the wild is an ongoing problem that requires urgent action, but will no doubt take a while to reduce this threat as both the demand and supply need to be reduced. Power-lines will also pose a greater threat in the

years ahead as the drive to electrify Africa gains momentum. The large number of hydro schemes will all require overhead transmission and distribution lines to move the power from the source to the areas requiring electrification. Cranes are one of the families of birds most impacted upon by power-lines.

Questions for reviewers
Is the species being poisoned in relatively large numbers as a result of crop damage alone, or is it also for food or unintentional? How well are they adapting across their range to the combined threats of reduced habitat availability, poisoning and power-line collisions and electrocutions?

Population details (Note: zeros may equate to 'unset')
Year of estimate: 2005 Popn: 47,000-59,000 Popn band: unset
Data quality: low-medium Data derivation: estimated (directly)

Sub-population no.: 0 Sub-population band: unset

Mature individuals in 1 sub-population: unset
Largest sub-population: 0 Largest sub-population band: unset

Population justification: Beilfuss *et.al* (2007) :potentially a few 100 in Burundi; 5,000 in DR Congo; <50 in Malawi; 200 in Mozambique; potentially a few 100 in Rwanda; low 1000's in Tanzania; 13,000-20,000 in Uganda; <3,000 in Zambia; potentially a few 100 in Angola; <20 in Botswana; <20 in Namibia; 4,000 – 5,000 in South Africa and 3,000-5,000 in Zimbabwe. An estimated population of 20,000-25,000 exists in Kenya (Gichuki *pers.comm)*. The total population is therefore between 47,000 and 59,000.

Table 1. Population estimates of Grey Crowned Crane *Balearica regulorum* by country during the period 1985-2004 (Beilfuss et al 2007), with corrected figures for Kenya (Gichuki *pers comm.)*

	1985	**1994**	**2004**
B.r.gibbericeps			
Burundi	400-600	100s	100s?
DR Congo	5 000	5 000	5 000?
Kenya	35 000	27 000	17000-20 000
Malawi	100s	50-100	<50
Mozambique	100s to 1 000s	100s to 1 000s	<200
Rwanda	500–1 000	100s?	100s?
Tanzania	Low 1 000s	Several 1 000s	Low 1 000s
Uganda	35 000	<30 000	13 000-20 000
Zambia	Several 1 000s	5 000	<3 000
Sub-species total	>90 000	69,000-75,000	40,000-50,000
B.r. regulorum			
Angola	100	100	100?
Botswana	100	100	<20
Mozambique	?	?	?
Namibia	100	40	<20
South Africa	Low 1 000s	<4 000	4 000-5 000
Zimbabwe	Several 1 000s	3 000–5 000	3 000–5 000?
Sub-species total	10 000	8 000-12 000	7 000-9 000

Species total	>100 000	77,000-87,000	47,000-59,000

Population trend details (Note: zeros may equate to 'unset')
Trend period: 1975-2005 Trend: unset
Data quality: medium-good Data derivation: unset
Fluctuation: unset
Decline (10 years/3 generations past): 0 or Estimate: unset
Decline (10 years/3 generations future): 0 or Estimate: unset
Decline (10 years/3 generations past+future): 0 or Estimate: unset

Trend justification: Comparative population data are available for 1985 (Urban 1988), 1994 and 2005 (Beilfuss *e.t al.* 2007), i.e. a period of 20 years. The generation length for Crowned Cranes (as for most crane species) is, however, around 10 years. The period for which data are available though is only for a period of two generations. During the time period covering only two generations, the population decline has been estimated between 41 and 53%, depending on the population size (i.e. with more than 100,000 in 1985 reduced to between 47,000 and 59,000 in 2005).

Range details (Note: zeros may equate to 'unset')

Year: 0	EOO (br/res): 0	EOO (non-br): 0	Data quality: unset
Year: 0	AOO (br/res): 0	AOO (non-br): 0	Data quality: unset
Number of locations: 0	Locations band: unset	Fragmentation: unset	

Taxonomy:

Population and Range: This species has a large range, with an estimated global Extent of Occurrence of 3,900,000 km². It has a large global population estimated to be between 47,000 and 59,000 individuals (Beilfuss *et.al.* 2007).

There are two subspecies of Grey Crowned Crane (*Balearica regulorum)*, with a generally recognised biogeographical separation following the Zambezi River valley. Grey Crowned Cranes were considered the most secure of Africa's resident cranes (e.g. Meine and Archibald 1996), but recent reports suggest this is no longer the case.

The East African subspecies *B.r. gibbericeps* has declined significantly across its range in recent years, including all nations within its range where surveys have been recently conducted. The decline has been apparent in Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, Tanzania and Zambia in recent years. Using results from roadside transect counts; Muheebwa (2004) showed that Uganda's crane population was approximately 13,200 birds, a decline of 62% since 1985. In Kenya, Gichuki (1993 and 1996) showed that the estimated population of cranes had dropped from 34,000 in 1975 to 17,000 birds in the 1990s. In Tanzania, Baker (1996) reported this crane widespread in wetlands but with far fewer large flocks than in previous years, such as at Usangu Flats, where an estimated 10,000 have occurred in the past. Total losses to the wild bird trade are in the tens of thousands, and this bird is now far less common in Tanzania than in the 1980s (Baker and Baker 2004) dropping down from around 20,000 birds in the mid-80's to probably less than 5,000 at present mainly in Kilimanjaro and Serengeti regions (Baker *pers comm.).* In Zambia, large numbers occur in the Liuwa Plain (>500), Busanga Swamp (>200) and Luangwa Valley (perhaps 1500), but the cranes were absent from many of the other large floodplains that have been surveyed (Kamweneshe *et al*. 2003, Beilfuss *et al.* 2004), including the Barotse Plain where they were historically common (Katanekwa 1996). In Malawi, nationwide surveys covering the historic range of *B.r. gibbericeps* revealed only a few individuals scattered across Nyika

National Park, Vwaza Wildlife Reserve, Zomba plateau, Kasungu National Park, Elephant and Ndindi marshes (Kaliba and Nhlane 2003). In Mozambique, 200 Grey Crowned Cranes were observed at Gorongosa National Park during surveys in 2007 (Beilfuss *in press)*, with a few scattered pairs also reported from the Zambezi Delta region. Parker (1999) did not record any crowned cranes in southern Mozambique and there is no evidence elsewhere to support a population of more than low hundreds. In Rwanda, Kanyamibwa (1996) reported a steady decline in *B.r. giberriceps* prior to the civil war, and the species is unlikely to have fared well there, or in Burundi or D.R. Congo during recent armed conflicts. Beilfuss *et al* (2007) suggested that the total population of *B.r. gibbericeps* is between 40,000 and 50,000.

The southern population of Grey Crowned Crane *B.r. regulorum,* which has always been much smaller than the East African subspecies appears to be more stable (Beilfuss *et al.* 2007). Surveys by the Endangered Wildlife Trust's South Africa Crane Working Group suggest a slight upward trend in the national population of >4 000 birds. *B. r. regulorum* is also widespread in Zimbabwe and is regarded by some farmers as a pest species (O. Mabhachi in litt. to RDB). Elsewhere in southern Africa, *B.r. regulorum* numbers are low. The species is considered to be rare in Botswana and Namibia, probably numbering less than 20 birds in each country (McCann 2004, C. Brown in litt. to RDB). Grey Crowned Cranes were not observed during recent surveys in southern Angola (J. Mendelsohn in litt. to RDB). Beilfuss *et al* (2007) estimated the total population of *B.r. regulorum* between 7 000 – 9 000.

Country distribution	Extinct	Occur status	Res.	Br.
Angola	no	N	Yes	Yes
Botswana	no	N	Yes	Yes
Burundi	no	N	Yes	Yes
Congo, The Democratic Republic of the	no	N	Yes	Yes
Kenya	no	N	Yes	Yes
Malawi	no	N	Yes	Yes
Mozambique	no	N	Yes	Yes
Namibia	no	N	Yes	Yes
Rwanda	no	N	Yes	Yes
South Africa	no	N	Yes	Yes
Tanzania	no	N	Yes	Yes
Uganda	no	N	Yes	Yes
Zambia	no	N	Yes	Yes
Zimbabwe	no	N	Yes	Yes

Ecology:
Grey Crowned Cranes require mixed wetland-grassland habitats. They typically nest within or on the edges of wetlands while foraging in wetlands, nearby grasslands, and croplands. Nesting usually occurs in areas where wetland vegetation is of sufficient height to conceal the cranes on their nests. There they feed on the tips of grasses, seeds, insects and other invertebrates, and small vertebrates. The Grey Crowned Crane usually roosts by perching in trees (or on utility line posts). While rearing chicks, adult birds will sometimes hide their young in the wetland in the evening, and then fly to roost in trees. Thus, while Grey Crowned Cranes may breed in wetlands as small as 1.4 ha, the availability of upland feeding and roosting areas may determine breeding success as much as the availability of wetlands (Gichuki 1993).

The Grey Crowned Crane's generalist feeding strategy has allowed the species to adapt to human settlement. Most crane populations in East Africa now live in human-modified environments. They are commonly found in a variety of agricultural land types (pastures, grasslands, cultivated croplands, and irrigated lands), with sizable flocks occurring on farms and ranches in Kenya and Uganda. They have adapted especially well to commercial farms with man-made wetlands (reservoir shallows, seeps, etc.). In South Africa, Grey Crowned Cranes use permanent and temporary marshes in both grassland and open savanna areas (utilising smaller wetlands than do Wattled Cranes), but are also found at dam sites, in croplands and fallow fields, and in irrigated areas.

Altitude: - (Note: zeros may equate to 'unset')

Habitat	Type	Season	Tolerance	Importance
Artificial landscapes (aquatic)	Seasonally flooded agricultural lands	resident	unset	Major
Artificial landscapes (terrestrial)	Pastureland	resident	unset	Major
Artificial landscapes (terrestrial)	Arable land	resident	unset	Major
Forest	Subtropical/tropical lowland moist forest	resident	unset	minor
Forest	Temperate forest	resident	unset	minor
Grassland	Subtropical/tropical (lowland) seasonally wet/flooded grassland	resident	unset	Major
Grassland	Temperate grassland	resident	unset	major
Wetlands (inland)	Rivers, streams, creeks - permanent	Resident breeding	unset	major

Threats:
The decline of the population of the East African subspecies has been attributed to the loss of wetlands (Mafabi 1996), reduced breeding success (Gichuki 1996) and other human activities, such as loss of wet upland grasslands through cultivation and overgrazing, capture for trade, incidental poisoning on farmland as well as collisions with power-lines. The loss of wetlands is due mainly to the reclamation of marshes and seasonal wetlands associated with rivers and lakes in the Lake Victoria catchment in Kenya (Gichuki 1993) and Uganda (Mafabi 1996). As the wetlands become more fragmented and the fragments become smaller in size, the crane breeding pairs are forced to breed in less suitable areas, thereby resulting in reduced successes or breeding failure. This is clearly evident in Uganda where the breeding success has declined from an average of 1.3 young per pair per year in 1974/1975 to 0.88 in 1999/2000 (Muheebwa 2004). In South Africa, however, especially in the KwaZulu-Natal and the Eastern Cape Provinces, major habitat fragmentation has been seen and yet the population appears to be increasing (Eastern Cape – Carl Vernon *pers comm*., KwaZulu-Natal aerial surveys). Vernon (*pers comm.)* has suggested that the Eastern Cape population has increased due to the increase in maize lands in the area.

Action:
CITES Appendix II. CMS Appendix II. Conservation measures have expanded in scale since the mid-1980s, including efforts to mitigate power-line collisions, the adoption of stricter legal protection, increasing research on the species' biology and ecology, habitat protection and

management programmes, establishment of local conservation organisations, and the development of educational facilities, programmes and publications.

Targets:
Fully understand the status, distribution of and threats to the species and monitor trends across their range. Develop mitigation measure to reduce the impacts of the key threats on the species. Reduce the impact of trade and their removal from the wild for whatever reason. Develop a range wide conservation plan with a well established network of organizations and individuals. Develop community based conservation programmes to conserve cranes and wetlands.

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Contributors

Kerryn Morrison (International Crane Foundation / Endangered Wildlife Trust Partnership_
Jim Harris (International Crane Foundation)
Nathan Gichuki (University of Nairobi)
Kevin McCann (Ezemvelo KwaZulu-Natal Wildlife)
Leon Theron (Endangered Wildlife Trust's South Africa Crane Working Group)

APPENDIX III: IUCN Red Data List Review Submission for Black Crowned Cranes

Submission to BirdLife International for the web based review process, for consideration of the uplisting of Black Crowned Cranes (*Balearica pavonina)* from Near Threatened to least Vulnerable

Black Crowned Cranes *Balearica pavonina*

9 November 2007

Current status of the Black Crowned Crane in Africa

Summary of information for threatened status
Based on the information outlined below (Beilfuss *et al.* 2007), the decline in the Black Crowned Crane population over the past 20 years has been between 22% and 33%. The key threats to the species include habitat loss and fragmentation and the illegal removal of cranes from the wild for domestication and the illegal international trade market. Both of these threats are continuing and have resulted in the extinction or near extinction of the species in several countries (e.g. Mali and Nigeria).

Proposed threatened status
VU: A2a,b,c,d; A3a,b,c,d; A4a,b,c,d

Directly taken from Beilfuss, R.D., Dodman, T. and Urban, E. 2007. The status of cranes in Africa in 2005. Ostrich 78 (2): 175-184.

Two subspecies are recognized, although their biogeographical separation near the Chad/Sudan border is unclear. The West Africa population of Black Crowned Crane *B.p. pavonina*, once widespread and abundant from the Senegal Delta, south to Guinea and eastwards across the Sahel zone to northern Nigeria and the Lake Chad Basin, has become highly fragmented and reduced over the past 50 years. During 1999-2001 Wetlands International and the International Crane Foundation coordinated the first range-wide surveys of this crane in 20 African nations. The survey employed a combination of ground surveys, aerial surveys, questionnaires, interviews, and records to assess as accurately as possible the population size, distribution, and habitats of the species and the threats it faces (Williams *et al.* 2003). Thirty-eight distinct crane areas are recognized. These are grouped together into six regional sub-populations. The Lake Chad Basin (estimated 9 000) is the stronghold for *B.p. pavonina,* although numbers there have declined since the 1960s. An estimated 3 500 also occur in the coastal rice-growing zone from the Casamance region of Senegal to Guinea. This population was likely underreported in previous surveys. *B.p. pavonina* appears to be stable in central Niger (950), but has declined dramatically in the Inner Niger Delta of Mali, where perhaps as few as 50 birds now occur in this former stronghold (Kone *et al.* 2005). Declines are also evident in the Senegal Delta and eastern Mauritania (about 700 remaining) and the Sahelian Zone of eastern Mali/Burkina Faso/Togo/western Niger (fewer than 350). Our estimate of 15 000 *B.p. pavonina* (Table 3) falls within the lower end of the range given by Urban (1988, 1996) and suggests that the alarming rate of decline observed during the 1960s and 1970s (first reported by Fry 1987) may have slowed in recent years.

The status of *B.p. ceciliae* is less well-known than that of *B.p. pavonina*. Urban (1988, 1996) estimated the population of *B. p. ceciliae* at 55 000–60 000, based largely on an aerial count of 36 823 from the Sudd swamps of Sudan in 1979 (Mefit-Babtie Srl 1983). There is no reliable update or recent confirmation of this figure due to the difficult political situation in southern Sudan in recent decades. Ground surveys by Tirba (2000; in litt. in Williams *et al.* 2003) suggest that *B.p. ceciliae* is still common south of a belt extending from Darfur to the western parts of Kordofan, although estimated numbers (11 000 in Darfur, 3 000 in Kordofan and 1 000 in the Dinder Floodplains) are lower than those recorded in the 1970s. Substantial numbers of *B.p. ceciliae* also occur in Ethiopia, including an estimated 2 500 around Lake Tana and at least 100 in Ethiopia's southern Rift Valley (Williams *et al.* 2003). Recent surveys of the Omo River Basin between Kenya and Ethiopia suggest a population of some 415 cranes, including an estimated 250 resident birds in northern Kenya (Gichuki 2004). Gichuki notes that *B.p. ceciliae* are highly mobile in East Africa and large numbers of transient birds are not unusual. These surveys suggest an overall population of at least 18 000 *B.p. cecilae* in addition to the Sudd population, which is estimated at between 10 000–37 000. Based on these data, the *B.p. cecilae* population estimate is 28 000–55 000, and likely declining

Black Crowned Cranes face serious threats throughout their range. Direct threats to adult birds and chicks include egg removal, disturbance of nests, human-ignited bush fires, subsistence hunting, and capture for trade and domestication (Williams *et al.* 2003). The principal threats facing crane habitats are the conversion and over-exploitation of wetlands and other forms of wetland degradation including overgrazing, agricultural drainage, and the cutting of roost trees. Drought and population growth have forced people to migrate to relatively moist, less populated regions in Burkina Faso, Nigeria and Chad that contain prime crane habitat. In Sudan, the major threats to crane habitat include overgrazing of livestock, agricultural expansion in the Sudd wetlands, the planned Jonglei Canal to drain the Sudd, and oil exploration in and near wetlands (Eljack 1996).

Live-trapping may pose the most significant threat to the species. Black Crowned Cranes are trapped and sold to local, regional, and international markets for considerable profit. Many local traditions encourage domestication of cranes within West Africa, and there is considerable demand for the birds in North Africa, the Middle East, Europe, and China. Black Crowned Cranes are currently listed in Appendix 2 of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Fauna (CITES 1973), which allows limited trade of the species provided it is not detrimental to the survival of the species in the wild. There is, however, strong evidence that both legal and illegal international trade continue to deplete the population in the wild. Apparently legal export figures from Tanzania, where the species does not even occur, are particularly alarming, with 852 exported in 1993 and 1 840 in 1994. The majority are exported to The Netherlands; other African countries where export occurred between 1993 and 2002 were Guinea, Mali and Sudan (CITES 2004). This species is also commonly traded on the black market in Guinea (Clemmons 2003). Kone *et al.* (2005) demonstrate that market trading of Black Crowned Cranes is having a tremendous impact on the species in the Inner Niger Delta of Mali. In this region there are now more cranes in captivity than in the wild, and the species is close to becoming locally extirpated. In Nigeria, where Black Crowned Cranes have been extirpated from most of the country, there is still a market for live birds and body parts (Boyi 2001).

Ongoing conservation programmes for Black Crowned Cranes include sustainable management of the zone of freshwater wetlands, mangroves, and rice fields in coastal West Africa, an area that supports one of the few remaining viable populations of the species (Dodman *et al.* 2004). Conservation planning is also underway in the Senegal Delta (Sidibé *et al.* 2002) and Inner

Niger Delta (Kone and Fofana 2002) to address the impact of wetland conversion for agriculture and capture for trade, respectively. Ongoing monitoring is coordinated through the African Waterbird Census (e.g. Dodman and Diagana 2003).

Table 3. Estimate by country of Black Crowned Crane *Balearica pavonina*, 1985-2004. *B.p. ceciliae* is considered a vagrant in Eritrea and may occur in Central African Republic and Chad but its status there is uncertain.

	1985	1994	2004
B.p. pavonina			
Benin	50?	50?	50
Burkina Faso	100?	100?	50
Cameroon	2 000	2 000-3 500	3 000
Central African Republic	Several 100s	Several 100s	500
Chad	Few 1 000s	3 500-5 000	5 500
Congo	600-700	0?	0
Côte d'Ivoire	-	Vagrant?	<30
The Gambia	?	100	100
Ghana	50	50	<50
Guinea	-	-	200
Guinea-Bissau	0?	?	1 500
Mali	7 000–8 000	3 000-3 500	100
Mauritania	200	200	500
Niger	Several 100s	<1 000	1 300
Nigeria	Few 100s	<100	20
Senegal	1 000	1 000-2 000	1 900
Togo	50	50	50
Sub-species total	15 000-20 000	11 500-17 500	15 000
B.p. ceciliae			
DR Congo	-	-	occasional visitor
Egypt	-	Vagrant?	0
Ethiopia	Few 1 000s	Few 1 000s	2 500
Kenya	Few 100s	100s	250
Sudan	50 000	50 000	25 000-52 000
Uganda	500	500	50
Sub-species total	50 000–70 000	55 000–60 000	28 000-55 000
Species total	65 000–90 000	66 500–77 500	43 000-70 000

APPENDIX IV: Assessment of the CITES database

DRAFT 1 –1 September 2008

AFRICAN CRANE TRADE PROJECT
CITES Data Assessment for Africa's Cranes

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In order to better understand the supply and demand for Africa's four resident crane species, an assessment of the CITES database was conducted. Unfortunately, the discrepancies within the database allow for only superficial analyses. South Africa is the largest exporter of Blue Cranes, with the Netherlands the greatest importer. Wattled Cranes have been predominantly exported by Tanzania, although the DRC has recently become the biggest exporter, and Singapore the greatest importer. Both Black and Grey Crowned Cranes have been predominantly exported by Tanzania, but Sudan has recently become the biggest importer of Black Crowned Cranes. Although the Netherlands was the biggest importer of crowned Cranes, UAE has recently become the biggest importer.

BACKGROUND

The African Crane Trade Project is being coordinated under the International Crane Foundation / Endangered Wildlife Trust Partnership called African Cranes, Wetlands and Communities. Following many years of unsubstantiated reports on the removal of cranes from the wild in Africa for trade, preliminary investigations were conducted in 2007 to gain an improved understanding of the situation. In summary, all 4 short term localised *in situ* studies for this project, and together with studies previously completed in another two countries, found evidence of the illegal removal of cranes from the wild for food, traditional use, domestication and the illegal trade market. In addition, it was noted that the global captive population of Africa's cranes was probably unsustainable and the CITES data showed that wild caught trade was ongoing despite the fact that no quotas had been given. These findings formed the basis of a mitigation plan developed at a workshop in Kenya in October 2007. A full assessment of the CITES database to better understand the reported trade was one of the key actions proposed.

INTRODUCTION

CITES, or the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, is an international agreement between governments, whose aim it is to ensure that international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival. Coming into force in July 1975, it is the single most important mechanism in controlling and monitoring international trade. It is a voluntary international agreement to which countries become signatories. There are currently 169 Parties to the CITES Convention. These signatories are obliged to develop and enforce domestic legislation to adequately fulfill the requirements under the convention. Animal and plant species that are or could be impacted upon by trade are assigned to one of three CITES categories: Appendix I, II or III. Using a system of permits and certificates, the species listed under CITES can be traded in, with Appendix I species carrying the greatest restrictions and Appendix III the least.

Africa has four resident crane species, namely the Blue (*Anthropoides paradiseus)*, Black Crowned (*Balearica pavonina)*, Grey Crowned (*Balearica regulorum)* and Wattled Crane (*Bugeranus carunculatus)*. On 1 August 1985, the world's Gruidea species were listed under CITES Appendix II. This classification (Appendix II) includes species that are not necessarily threatened with extinction, but in which trade must be controlled in order to avoid utilisation

incompatible with their survival. As an appendix II species, any international trade in cranes requires an export permit (or re-export permit) and the shipment of the individuals must minimise any risk of injury, damage to health or cruel treatment. No import permit is needed unless required by national law.

All countries are obliged, under the Convention, to submit an annual report by 31 October of the following year. The database is currently managed by the United Nations Environmental Programme – World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC).

CITES trade statistics used in this report are all derived from the CITES trade database, UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre, Cambridge, UK.

METHODOLOGY

Accuracy of reporting

The CITES trade database provides comparative tabulations in which the accuracy of reporting can be determined and also the source and purpose for the individuals involved in the trade transaction. All data from 1985 to 2006 were included in these analyses. 2007 was excluded as the data are incomplete.

The following statistics were calculated:

- Number of records and transactions

The number of records was the total number of records in the database for that species. Any two records that were included in the same species database on the same year, between the same two countries, with the one country reporting an import and the other an export, irrespective of the difference in source, purpose or number traded, were considered to be one trade event and were therefore linked as one transaction for the purpose of this assessment. The "number of transactions" was therefore the total number of records less the number of "linked" records (i.e. each two linked records were counted as 1 transaction). The percentage of the linked records that differed in purpose or in source was also calculated. In many instances, the records differed in both source and purpose and hence the sum of these two percentages does not equal 100%. Differences in numbers traded between the linked records were excluded for these calculations.

- Percentage of the total number of traded cranes that were wild caught

Only those records noted as being from a wild source were included in the calculation. If one of the two records that were considered to be linked in this assessment had wild as a source, it was taken as such and the source for the linked trade record, whether absent or noted as something else, was not considered.

Minimum and maximum numbers were calculated for the total trade numbers and the wild caught source. The calculation is therefore a range between the minimum percentage of wild caught to the total minimum traded and the maximum percentage of wild caught to the maximum percentage of the total traded.

- Percentage of transactions that were 100% correct and complete

This included all transactions that had the same import and export data in the same record, i.e. the importing and exporting countries recorded the same information. This was expressed as a percentage of the total number of transaction.

- Percentage of transactions that differed only in quantity

This included all transactions that had the same import and export data in the same record, but differed only in the number of cranes traded in during the event. This was expressed as a percentage of the total number of transactions.

- Percentage of transactions with only one data set

Many transactions in the database had only an import record or an export record. The percentage of each, and the combined total for only export or import records, against the total number of records was calculated.

- Percentage of transactions with no source data

All records for which the source was blank was included in this calculation. If two records were considered linked for the purpose of this assessment, the source was considered to be blank only if both the import AND export record were blank for this field. This was calculated as a percentage of the total number of transactions.

- Percentage of trade transactions with non-CITES importers or exporters

This included all countries that were not yet signatories to CITES or were not signatories in the year of the trade event. This was expressed as a percentage of the total number of transaction.

- Number transactions with non-existent countries

On a few occasions, codes were given for countries for which there was no associated country name – at least not on the CITES web site.

- Percentage difference in the numbers of cranes traded recorded

In many instances, different numbers of traded individuals were reported by the importing and exporting country. This difference was calculated a percentage difference.

- Percentage difference in recorded numbers of wild caught animals

The minimum and maximum number of wild caught cranes reported was calculated and the difference recorded as a percentage.

- Total number of derivatives traded

There were a number of records that did not involve live trade in the species, but rather bodies, specimens, trophies, skulls, skeletons and feathers. The total number of derivatives, including all other terms besides “Live” , were included in this total.

Additional information on any wild caught trade has also been given.

The countries that on the most number of occasions for each species that had not reported on a trade event, where the importing or exporting country had reported, have been mentioned.

Volume of trade and countries involved

All data from 1986 to 2007 were used for each of the four crane species. Due to the fact that cranes were only listed as a CITES Appendix II species in August 1985, any data available for 1985 were excluded from the calculations.

Gross import and export trade tabulations from the database were used to obtain the volume of cranes in trade (all sources) and the countries involved. 2006 and 2007 were excluded from the calculations unless specifically noted, due to the fact that the database was assessed up to July 2008. The guideline for reliable data being 2 years previous therefore meant that data were the most reliable up to the end of 2005.

Only live trade was included in the analyses. The data were split into 5 year periods: 1986 – 1990; 1991 – 1995; 1996 – 2000 and 2001 to 2005. 2006 and 2007 were combined for one time period as well to get some idea of the trade during this period – but understanding that the data are probably incomplete. All countries that exported more than 10 Blue or Wattled Cranes, and more than 50 Grey Crowned and Black Crowned Cranes during the period are shown in the results.

Notes were also made on the number of cranes exported from African countries between 2001 and 2005 and all countries that imported cranes for the first time between 2001 and 2005. In addition, all cranes imported between 2006 and 2007 were noted for completion of the report.

RESULTS

ACCURACY OF REPORTING

Table 1 outlines the comparisons between the accuracy and general statistics of the four crane species.

Blue Cranes had the most number, and Black Crowned Cranes the least number of records that were 100% accurate for both importing and exporting records. However, it was surprisingly low in general (Table 1).

The CITES database for Black Crowned Cranes has, in general, the most discrepancies and missing information. The Grey Crowned Crane database follows closely behind with the Blue and Wattled Crane data sets having comparatively the least number of discrepancies.

Although the number of Grey Crowned and Black Crowned Cranes traded in were similar, in general, fewer Grey Crowned Cranes were traded per trade record than Black Crowned Crane (Table 1). The numbers of Blue and Wattled Cranes in trade were far fewer than for crowned cranes, and, based on the figures in Table 1 it does appear that fewer Blue Cranes were traded per event than Wattled Cranes.

More wild caught Black Crowned Cranes, are traded in than any of the other crane species both in terms of the total number trade and as a percentage of the total trade volume. Interestingly, they have a relatively small difference in reporting volume for wild caught trade, but have the highest variability of the four crane species for the total numbers of cranes in trade. However, the high percentage of records that lack source data could potentially change this.

Blue Cranes

Derivatives of wild origin were eggs, bodies, trophies, feathers and specimens (Table 1). Of the 300 recorded as wild origin, 270 were classified as “specimens” that were exported from South Africa to the UK in 2005. This is most likely blood samples that had been collected from wild cranes during ringing operations. These were sent by the Endangered Wildlife Trust’s South African Crane Working Group to a geneticist in the UK for research purposes.

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Table 1: Comparative table showing general statistics and the accuracy of reporting from 1985 to 2006 using the Comparative Tabulation Reports for Blue, Wattled, Grey Crowned and Black Crowned Cranes

Details	Blue Crane	Wattled Crane	Black Crowned Crane	Grey Crowned Crane
Number of records	161	67	363	490
Number of linked records	33	8	29	52
% of linked records that differ in purpose	21%	88%	83%	65%
% of linked records that differ in origin	79%	12%	31%	38%
Total number of transactions	128	59	334	438
% of total number traded that were wild caught	<1%	26 – 28%	52 – 68%	33 – 35%
% transactions that were 100% correct and complete	14%	10%	5%	8%
% transactions that differed only in quantity	2%	2%	8%	4%
% transactions with only one data set	32%	64%	73%	75%
% transactions with only import data	12%	45%	26%	28%
% transactions with only export data	19%	55%	47%	47%
Percentage of transactions with no source data	15%	16%	34%	43%
Importing country reported no source	4%	12%	35%	39%
Exporting country reported no source	21%	17%	32%	49%
% of trade transactions with non-CITES importers	9%	3%	8%	10%
% of trade transactions with non-CITES exporters	7%	0%	1%	2%
Number transactions with non-existent countries	0	0	0	2
% difference in recorded animals traded	4%	3%	25%	13%
Minimum number of animals traded	315	322	5763	6642
Maximum number of animals traded	327	331	7698	7716
% difference in recorded wild caught animals traded	0%	7%	2%	19%
Minimum number of wild caught traded	3	87	3912	2200
Maximum number of wild caught traded	3	94	3976	2732
Total number of derivatives traded (origin – wild)	330 (300)	143 (90)	2485 (4)	144 (12)

Wild caught cranes were reportedly taken from the Czech Republic and South Africa and were sent to the Netherlands and Swaziland respectively. The report from the Czech Republic is surprising as there are no wild Blue Cranes in that country and hence was more likely to be a re-export event.

The countries which did not report an import for, but where there were records from the exporting country for the trade event were numerous. However, the countries that imported Blue Cranes on three occasions each without reporting it were Belgium, UK, Zimbabwe and Netherlands. However, bearing in mind that Blue Cranes are an Appendix II species, no importing permit is required. However, Germany and South Africa each exported Blue Cranes on four occasions without reporting it, whereas the importing country recorded the event.

Wattled Cranes
Derivatives were eggs and specimens, with 90 specimens in 2001 from wild birds.

72% of all wild caught exports came from Tanzania, with others reportedly from Belgium, DRC, South Africa and Zambia. Tanzania sent 4 birds to Singapore in 2006 – despite the fact that there was no wild caught quota on cranes for Tanzania in this time. Interestingly, Tanzania has not yet reported on this transaction, even though they are the exporting country and hence should report it according to CITES. Singapore imported wild Wattled Cranes on more occasions than any other country (4 occasions), followed closely on three occasions by USA.

The USA on four occasions did not report an export of Wattled Cranes, but the importing country reported it. Germany on three occasions did not report an import into the country that had been reported by an exporting country – but essentially did not have to as Wattled Cranes are an Appendix II species.

Grey Crowned Cranes
Specimens, trophies, skins and bodies were the derivatives noted in the database as being of wild origin.

Grey Crowned Cranes were only reported as wild caught from 1991. 96% of all transactions involving wild caught individuals were from Tanzania. 54% of these transactions involved three countries in each of the trade transactions – i.e. Tanzania, a receiving and exporting country and a final importing country or country of final destination. Besides this, 32 wild caught birds were traded between Sudan to the UAE in 2005, 6 from the DRC were sold to South Africa in 1997, 4 were exported from Burundi to Côte d'Ivoire in 1997 and 2 were sent from Kenya to Brazil in 1991.

The transactions for which only import records are available, show that on five occasions each (highest in the database), Kenya, Netherlands and Tanzania did not report on the export. Canada and Columbia on five occasions (highest in the dataset) did not report on the import, whereas the exporting country did report on the transaction.

Black Crowned Cranes
Bodies, skulls, skins and feathers were the derivatives traded in. However, only 3 bodies were noted as being of wild source.

The trade in wild caught Black Crowned Cranes were only documented in the database from 1990. 41% of all transactions involving wild caught cranes had their origin in Guinea, followed by 19, 16 and 16% having their origin in Mali, Sudan and Tanzania respectively. Black Crowned Cranes however, are not indigenous to Tanzania so either Grey Crowned Cranes were sold incorrectly as Black Crowned Cranes, or Black Crowned Cranes were

moved to Tanzania from neighbouring countries and then sold. Several wild caught transactions were routed through a middle country, with France playing this role in 38% of such transactions.

The main importing countries for wild caught individuals were France (12% of the transactions), Belgium and Netherlands (both with 9% of the transactions) and South Africa (7% of the transactions). Of interest is the fact that although Black Crowned Cranes have been imported into South Africa, there are no exporting records even though very few can be found in captivity in the country. The birds have therefore either died since coming to South Africa or have been traded in without the necessary permits.

Tanzania was the country where the most number of transactions occurred where records were not submitted for the export (19% of all import records that had no export record). They were followed by Germany (13%) and Netherlands (8%). For records where no corresponding or linked data for the importer existed, but the export data were recorded, was primarily Germany (10%) followed by the UAE (8%) of that time.

VOLUME OF TRADE AND COUNTRIES INVOLVED

Blue Cranes

Export data

A total of 18 countries exported 325 Blue Cranes between 1986 and 2007. Of these however, 2 Blue Cranes were exported from an unknown country and hence this was excluded from the total number of countries involved. Seven countries exported more than 10 Blue Cranes between 1986 and 2005 (Fig 1).

Of all the African countries, only South Africa exported 17 Blue Cranes between 2001 and 2005. The countries that imported Blue Cranes between 2001 and 2005 for the first time were Portugal (2), Latvia (3) and the UAE (12), all three of which became CITES Parties previous to this, i.e. 1981, 1997 and 1990 respectively. In the time period 2006-2007, not shown in Figure 1, only 4 Blue Cranes were exported from the Netherlands, a country that has been an exporter in each time period.

South Africa being the largest exporter of Blue Cranes within each time period (Fig 1). This is not surprising as the Blue Crane is endemic to the country.

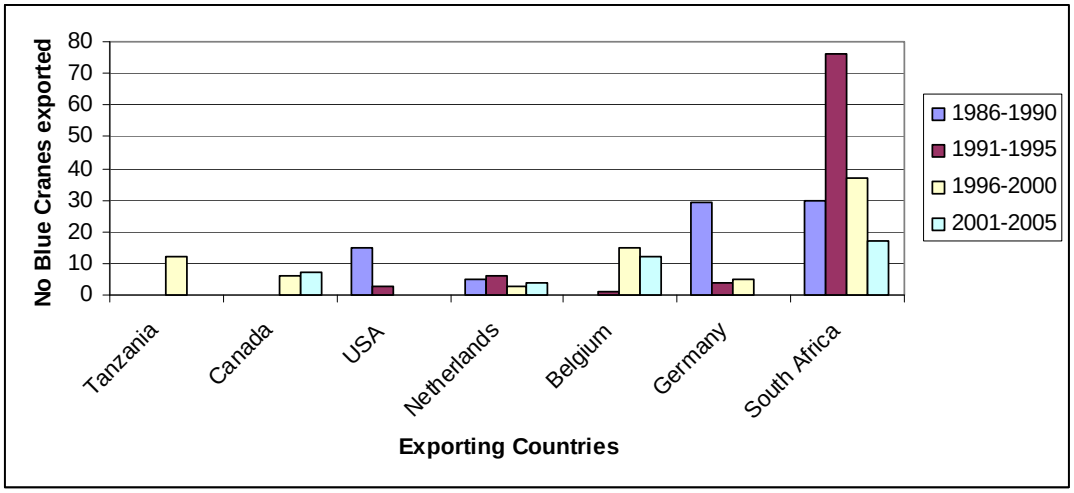

Fig 1: Countries that have exported more than 10 Blue Cranes in total from 1986 and 2005

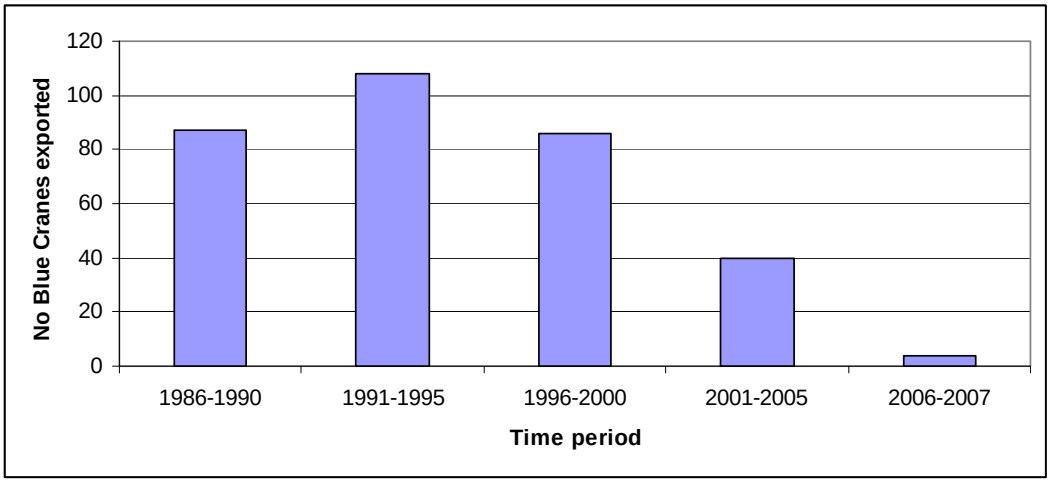

Fig 2: Number of Blue Cranes exported during each time period

In 2000, the highest number of Blue Cranes were exported (39 individuals) mainly from Belgium (14 individuals) and Tanzania (12 individuals). The 12 from Tanzania is of concern as Blue Cranes do not occur there and as far as is known, no captive breeding programme is present in the country. This is the only shipment from Tanzania. Although the 2006/2007 data cannot be included in this analysis due to the lack of complete data, it does appear that the number of cranes exported has more than halved since it peaked in the 1991 – 1995 time period (Fig 2).

Import data

A total of 30 countries imported Blue Cranes between 1986 and 2007, with 9 importing more than 10 in total during that time (Figure 3). The only import of Blue Cranes between 2006 and 2007 was to Bahrain.

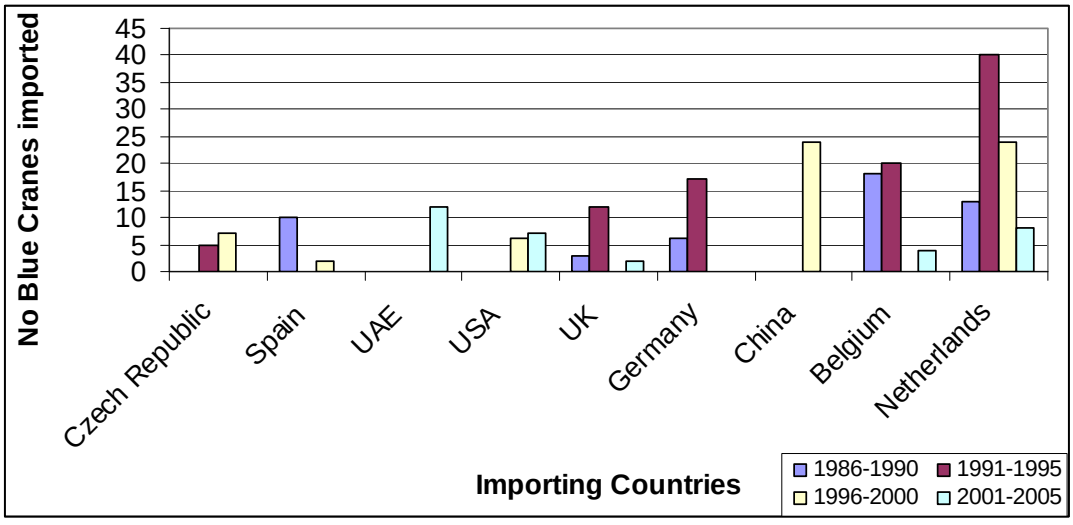

Fig 3: Countries that have imported more than 10 Blue Cranes in total from 1986 and 2005

The Netherlands has imported more Blue Cranes than any other country, with a definite peak between 1991 and 1995. China and Netherlands were the primary importers of Blue Cranes between 1996 and 2000 and changed to the UAE becoming the primary importer between 2001 and 2005 – although in reduced numbers when compared to previous time periods (Fig 3)

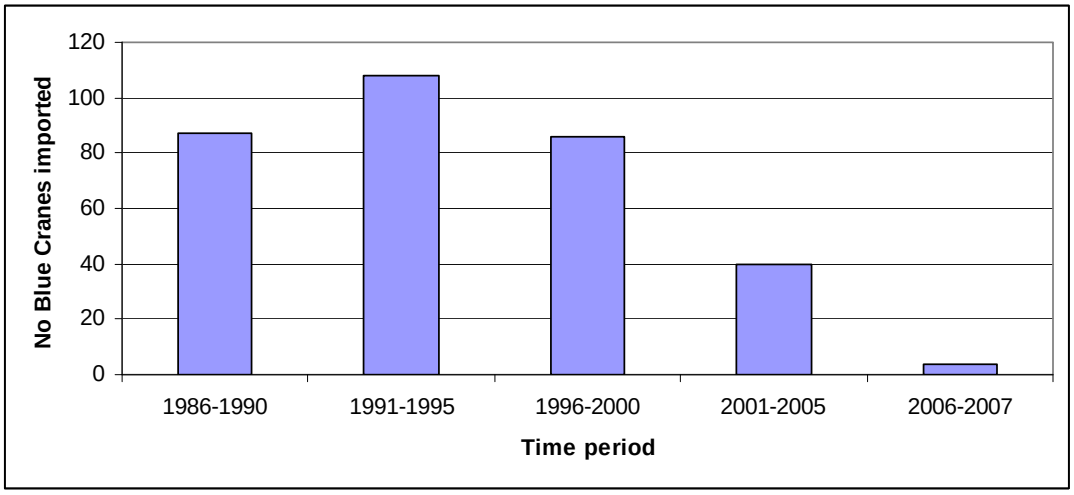

Fig 4: Number of Blue Cranes imported during each time period

The most Blue Cranes were imported between 1991 and 1995 and it appears as though the import of Blue Cranes is declining. (Fig 4).

The most number of Blue Cranes were imported in 1989 and 1992. In 1989, Belgium (12) and Netherlands (13) imported the bulk of these and in 1992, Belgium (15) and Netherlands (7) imported the most.

Wattled Cranes
Exporting

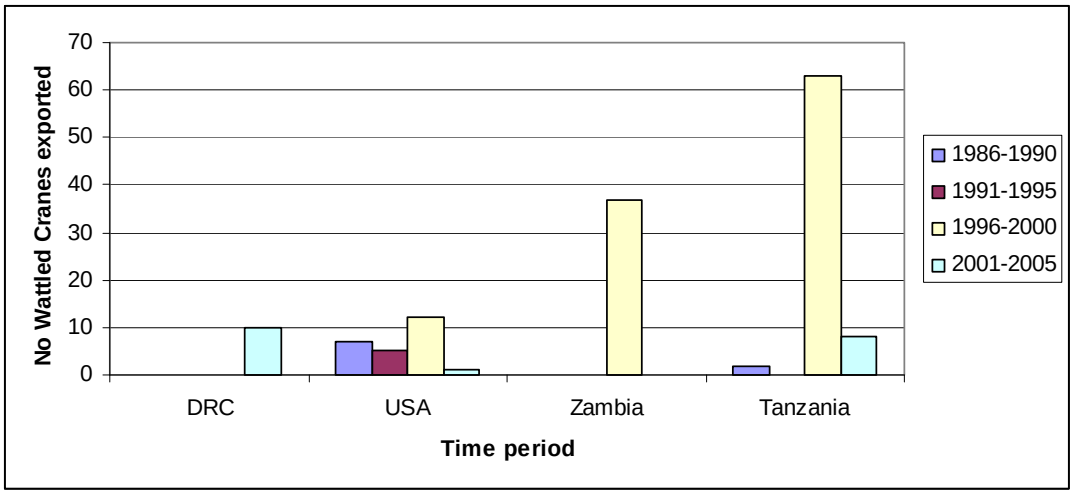

Fig 5: Countries that have exported more than 10 Wattled Cranes in total from 1986 and 2005

A total of 15 countries exported Wattled Cranes between 1986 and 2007, with only four of these exporting more than 10 over the time period (Figure 5). In the time period 2006-2007, Japan and Qatar each exported 1 Wattled Crane, Tanzania 4 and Belgium 6.

Tanzania has been the biggest exporter of Wattled Cranes (Figure 5), but Zambia exported relatively high numbers between 1996 and 2000. Between 2001 and 2005, the DRC exported the most Wattled Cranes, followed closely by Tanzania, albeit in much lower numbers than previously (Fig 5).

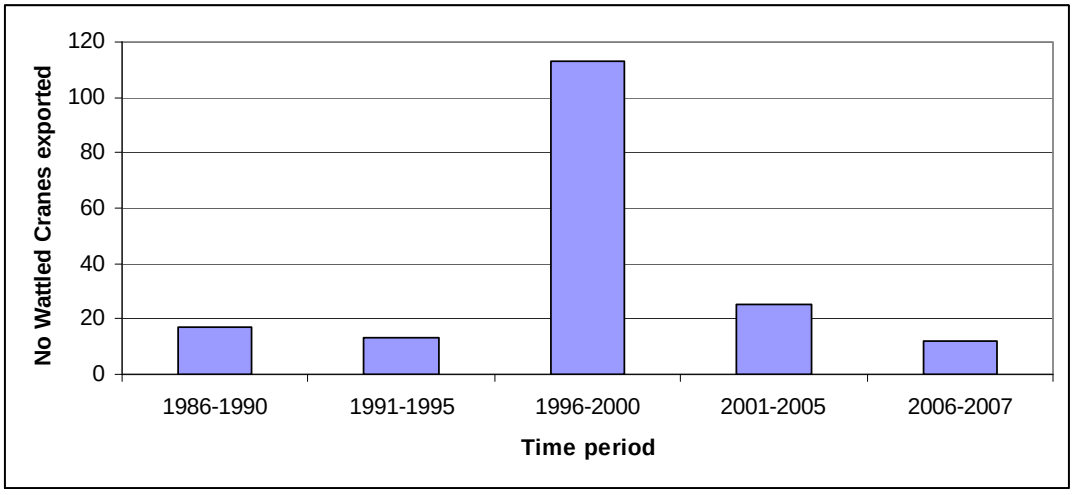

Fig 6: Number of Wattled Cranes exported during each time period

The most number of Wattled Cranes were exported between 1996 and 2000 (Fig 6). In 1998, the most number of Wattled Cranes were exported (47), of which 37 were exported from Zambia. This was followed by 2000 (30 individuals), and 1999 (28 individuals) where Tanzania was the biggest exporter with 29 and 24 individuals respectively. The number of Wattled Cranes being exported seems to have declined significantly.

Importing

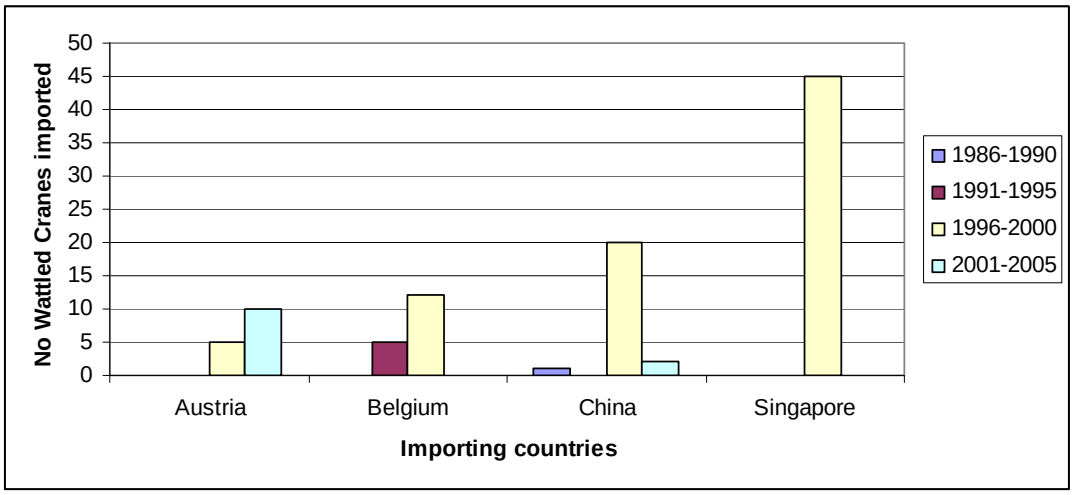

Fig 7: Countries that have imported more than 10 Wattled Cranes in total from 1986 and 2005

22 countries imported Wattled Cranes between 1986 and 2007 of which only 4 exported more than 10 individuals over the time period (Figure 7). Between 2006 and 2007, Germany and the Czech Republic each imported 1 Wattled crane, Singapore 4 and the UAE 6. Singapore appears to be the biggest importer of Wattled Cranes, followed by China (Figure 7).

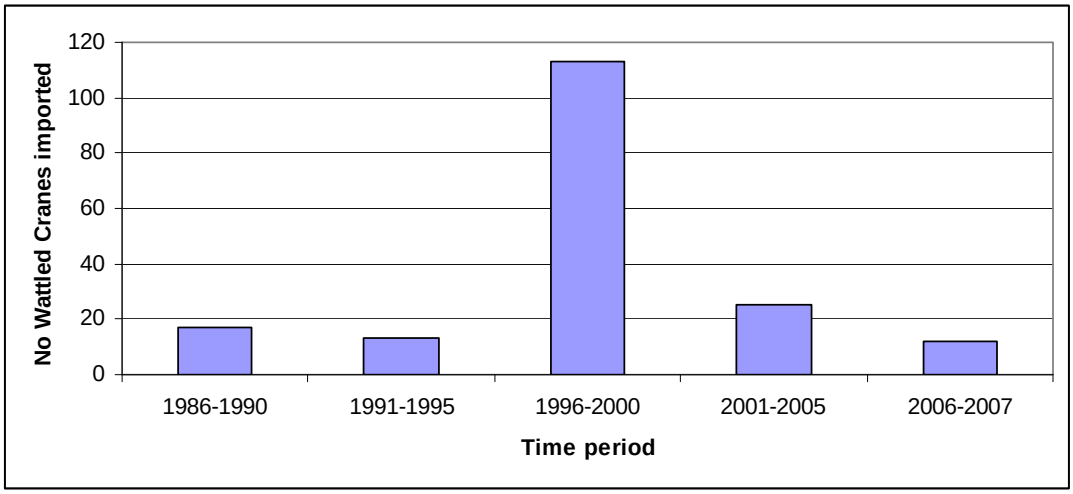

Fig 8: Number of Wattled Cranes imported during each time period

The most number of Wattled Cranes imported were imported between 1996 and 2000 (Figure 8). Within this time period, the most number of Wattled Cranes were imported in 1998 – 47, with 30 arriving in Singapore. This was followed in 2000 by 30 and in 1999, 28. In 2000, 11 went to Belgium and 10 to China and in 1999, 10 went to each Singapore and China.

Black Crowned Cranes

Exporting

A total of 41 countries exported Black Crowned Cranes between 1985 and 2007, with 9 exporting more than 50 over the period. Between 2006 and 2007, Pakistan exported 4 Black Crowned Cranes and 2 were exported from Nigeria.

Table 1: Countries that exported more than 50 Black Crowned Cranes between 1986 and 2005

	1986-1990	1991-1995	1996-2000	2001-2005	Total 1986-2005
Germany	50	6	0	6	62
Côte d'Ivoire	0	0	0	70	70
France	2	70	16	12	100
Belgium	65	1	11	28	105
Netherlands	83	18	43	14	158
Mali	20	15	561	15	611
Sudan	0	0	60	600	660
Guinea	22	750	269	128	1169
Tanzania	2191	2692	0	4	4887

Tanzania was by far the biggest exporter of Black Crowned Cranes (Table 1). It is unclear whether these were actually Grey Crowned Cranes that had been misidentified or whether they were bought in from near by countries where they are indigenous and then sold by Tanzania. Most of these cranes were sold between 1986 and 1995. Four however, were exported between 2001 and 2005. Between 2001 and 2005, Sudan was the biggest exporter. Although becoming a CITES signatory in 1983, they only started exporting between 1996 and 2000. Mali, although the major exporter between 1996 and 2000, has significantly reduced the number of cranes exported.

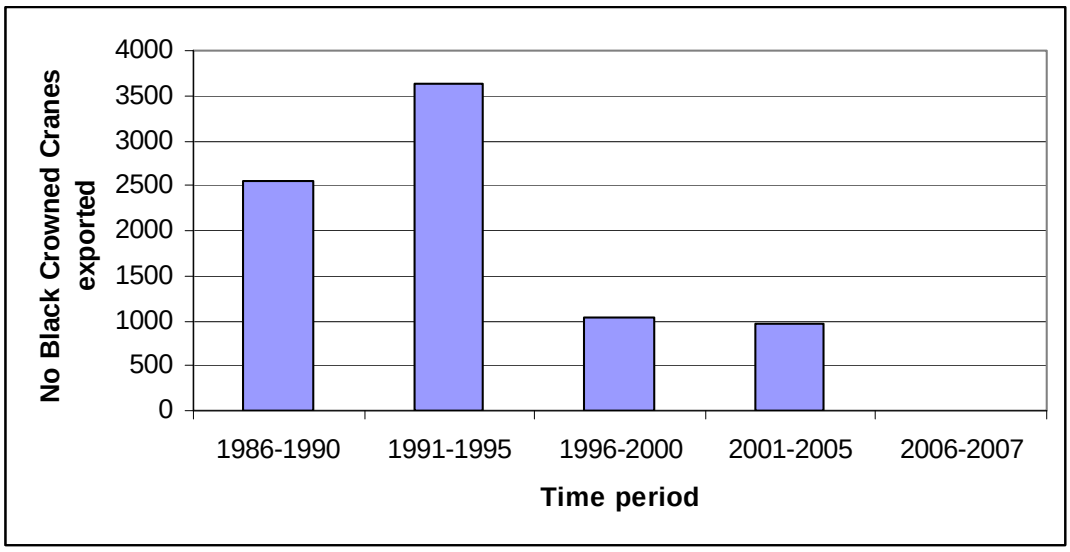

Fig 9: Number of Black Crowned Crane exported in each time period

In 1994, the largest number of Black Crowned Cranes were exported (2026), of which 1840 were exported from Tanzania and the next biggest exporter was Guinea (154) (Fig 9). This was followed by 1986 where 1080 of the total 1202 reported that year were exported from Tanzania.

The following African countries exported Black Crowned Cranes between 2001 and 2005 and not previous to that:
Senegal exported 4 individuals (CITES Member from 1977)
Benin exported 10 individuals (CITES Member from 1984)
Nigeria exported 32 individuals (CITES Member from 1975)
Côte d'Ivoire exported 70 individuals (CITES Member from 1995)

Imports

A total of 65 countries imported Black Crowned Cranes between 1986 and 2005, of which 19 imported more than 50 during this time (Table 2). In addition, two Black Crowned Cranes were imported into Gambia and 4 into Sri Lanka between 2006 and 2007.

Table 2: Countries that imported more than 50 Black Crowned Cranes between 1986 and 2005

	1986-1990	1991-1995	1996-2000	2001-2005	Total 1986-2005
Sweden	55	1	0	0	56
former Soviet Union	60	0	0	0	60
UK	59	9	0	0	68
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	0	0	40	32	72
Brazil	0	42	31	0	73
Japan	53	14	17	12	96
Singapore	54	52	14	8	128
Spain	21	5	69	34	129
USA	112	19	9	0	140
Qatar	32	0	0	122	154
South Africa	0	16	100	55	171

Thailand	84	137	5	0	226
Portugal	107	34	90	38	269
UAE	44	86	0	242	372
Italy	144	257	0	0	401
Germany	446	161	9	1	617
Belgium	372	290	218	0	880
France	273	202	271	217	963
Netherlands	466	2237	51	90	2844

Netherlands has been the biggest importer of Black Crowned Cranes, but most of these were imported between 1991 and 1995 (Table 2). The UAE, followed by France, were the biggest importers of Black Crowned Cranes between 2001 and 2005.

Black Crowned Cranes were imported by the following countries between 2001 and 2005 and not before:
Serbia and Montenegro imported 19 individuals (Not a CITES member)
Jordan imported 14 individuals (CITES Member from 1979)
Cyprus imported 12 individuals (CITES member from 1974)
Kuwait imported 12 individuals (CITES member from 2002)
Korea imported 9 individuals (Not a CITES member)
Ethiopia imported 8 individuals (CITES member from 1989)
Sri Lanka imported 4 individuals (CITES member from 1979)
Bahrain imported 2 individuals (Not a CITES member)
Monaco imported 2 individuals (CITES member from 1978)
Niger imported 2 individuals (CITES member from 1975)
Nigeria imported 2 individuals (CITES member from 1975)

In terms of CITES members, Kuwait is the only country that became a member between 2001 and 2005 and hence would not necessarily have been an importing country before. Of concern though is the large number of Black Crowned Cranes moving to non CITES member countries with Serbia and Montenegro being the largest new importer of Black Crowned Cranes.

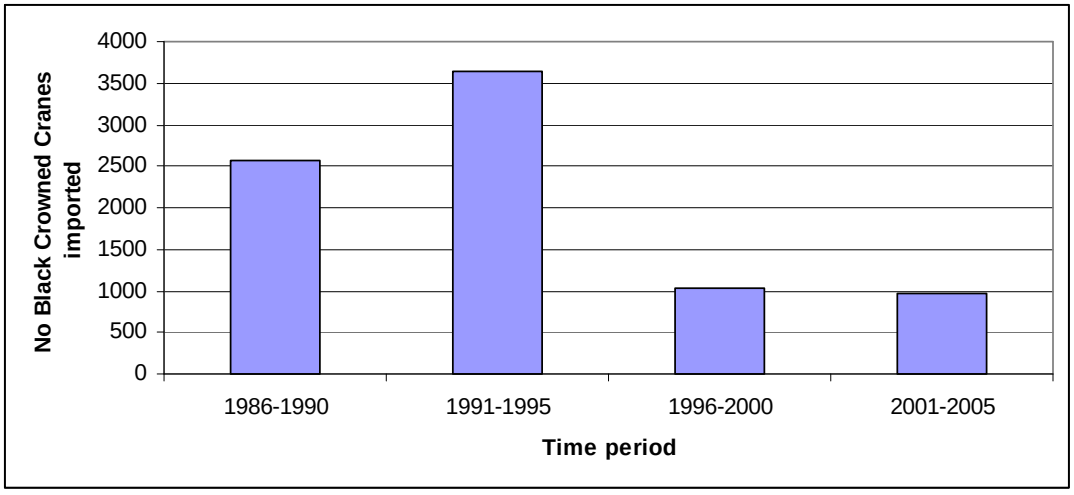

Fig 10: Number of Black Crowned Crane imported in each time period

The most number of Black Crowned Cranes were imported between 1991 and 1995 (Fig 10). In 1994, 2026 Black Crowned Cranes were imported, of which 1301 were imported by the

Netherlands. In 1993, 1013 were imported, again with Netherlands as the primary importer with 540 birds

Grey Crowned Cranes

Exporting

A total of 41 countries exported Grey Crowned Cranes between 1986 and 2007, of which 8 exported more than 50 over the full time period (Table 3). Between 2006 and 2007, Singapore exported 2 individuals, Kazakhstan 2, Canada 2, Czech Republic 2 and Netherlands 12.

Sudan was the only African country that exported Grey Crowned Cranes (52 individuals) between 2001 and 2005 and not before that. Of concern is the Grey Crowned Cranes are not indigenous to Sudan, so these were either birds from neighbouring countries or were actually Black Crowned Cranes that were misidentified.

Table 3: Countries exporting more than 50 cranes in total between 1986 and 2005

	1986-1990	1991-1995	1996-2000	2001-2005	Total 1986-2005
Sudan	0	0	0	52	52
Burundi	60	0	0	0	60
USA	17	42	2	0	61
Belgium	20	5	13	65	103
Germany	76	8	17	14	115
Kenya	484	0	0	0	484
Netherlands	180	184	97	80	541
Tanzania	1406	1937	557	115	4015

In each of the time periods assessed, Tanzania was the greatest exporter, followed by the Netherlands (Table 3). Burundi and Kenya were only recorded as having exported Grey Crowned Cranes between 1986 and 1990

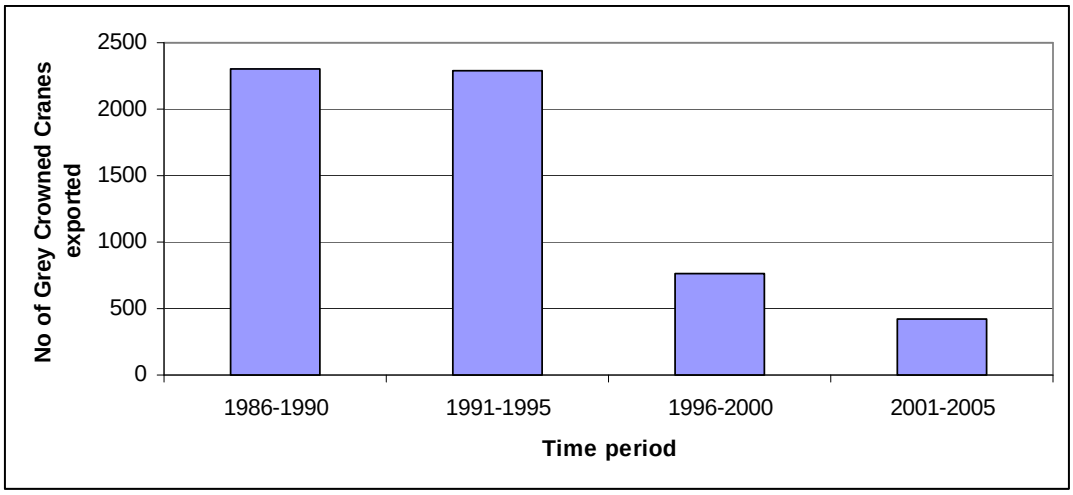

Fig 11: Number of Grey Crowned Cranes imported in each time period

2297 and 2294 Grey Crowned Cranes were exported in the 1986-1990 and 1991-1995 time periods respectively (Fig 11). The numbers then declined by 2/3 for the next time period (1996-200) and dropped further between 2001 and 2005. The year where the most number

of cranes were exported was 1986, where 866 Grey Crowned Cranes were exported, the majority of which (464) were exported from Kenya. This was followed in 1994 when 662 of the 775 were exported from Tanzania.

Importing
A total of 77 countries importing Grey Crowned Cranes between 1986 and 2005, with 14 of these countries importing more than 50 individuals (Table 4). Between 2006 and 2007, 12 Grey Crowned Cranes were imported into Pakistan, 2 into Georgia, 2 into Croatia, 2 into Korea, 1 to Malaysia and 1 to Netherlands. Korea is the only country that is not a CITES member and all the other countries have been CITES members for longer than this time period.

Netherlands was by far the greatest importer of Grey Crowned Cranes, with the majority of the imports occurring between 1986 and 1995. Although the Netherlands was the biggest importer between 1996 and 2000, the total imported was 30% of the total imported in the previous time period. China was the second biggest importer between 1996 and 2000. Between 2001 and 2005, the UAE was the biggest importer, followed by China.

The countries that imported Grey Crowned Cranes between 2001 and 2005 and not prior to this, included (total number of individuals imported in parentheses): Myanmar (2); Georga (3), Latvia (3); Slovenia (3); Iran (4); Qatar (4); Ukraine (4); Madagascar (6); Dominican Republic (8); Bahrain (20). Of these countries, Slovenia only became a CITES member in 2000, Qatar in 2001and Ukraine in 2000. Bahrain is not a CITES member.

Table 4: Countries importing more than 50 cranes in total between 1986 and 2005

	1986-1990	1991-1995	1996-2000	2001-2005	Total 1986-2005
Portugal	0	55	0	0	55
Belgium	18	40	0	0	58
Japan	6	48	19	4	77
Austria	10	78	0	0	88
USA	50	19	16	4	89
UK	38	54	0	5	97
Thailand	40	46	20	0	106
Brazil	0	81	26	0	107
UAE	6	17	4	98	125
Italy	0	140	0	22	162
France	60	125	0	0	185
China	4	0	142	60	206
Germany	288	91	1	9	389
Netherlands	1504	1203	369	2	3078

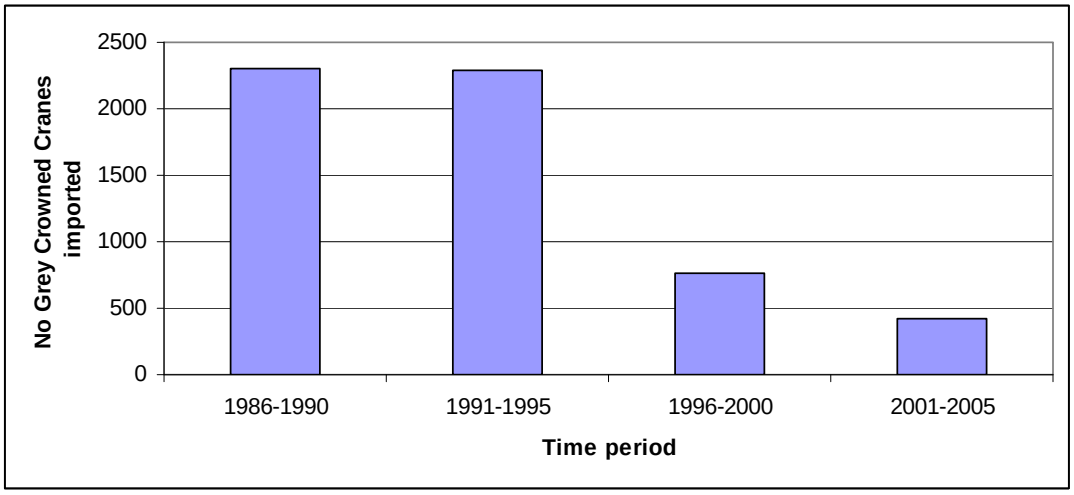

Fig 12: Number of Grey Crowned Crane imported in each time period

The most number of cranes were imported between 1986 and 1990, followed closely by 1991-1995 (Fig 12). The numbers imported reduced significantly between 1996 and 2000 and declined even further between 2001 and 2005.

MAJOR IMPORTING AND EXPORTING COUNTRIES FOR CRANES

The five countries importing the most number of each species of African crane assessed, constitute more that 60% of the total volume traded over the time period 1986-2005 (Table 5), whereas the five major exporting countries trade in 82% or more of the total volume exported (Table 6).

Table 5: The top 5 **importing** countries for each crane species and the percentage of the total number imported between 1986 and 2005.

	Countries importing the most number of cranes					Top 5 as % of total
	1	2	3	4	5	
Blue Cranes	Netherlands (26%)	Belgium (13%)	China (7%)	Germany (7%)	UK (5%)	60%
Wattled Cranes	Singapore (27%)	China (14%)	Belgium (10%)	Austria (9%)	South Africa and France (each 5%)	64%
Black Crowned Cranes	Netherlands (35%)	France (12%)	Belgium (11%)	Germany (8%)	Italy (5%)	70%
Grey crowned Crane	Netherlands (53%)	Germany (7%)	China (4%)	France (3%)	Italy (3%)	70%

Netherlands is the main importing country for Blue, Grey Crowned and Black Crowned Cranes, and interestingly is not within the top five countries for Wattled Cranes and have only ever recorded importing 4 Wattled Cranes between 1996 and 2000 (Table 5). In terms of crowned cranes, the top five countries for each species correlate, except for China which appears to have a minimal interest in Black Crowned Cranes, and Belgium which has an

interest in Grey Crowned Cranes, but is only the 13th biggest importer. Germany and France interestingly swap places, with France appearing to prefer Black Crowned Cranes and Germany Grey Crowned Cranes.

Table 6: The top 5 **exporting** countries for each crane species and the percentage of the total number imported between 1986 and 2005.

	Countries exporting most number of cranes					Top 5 as % of total
	1	2	3	4	5	
Blue Cranes	South Africa (50%)	Germany (12%)	Belgium (9%)	Netherlands an USA (Each 6%)		82%
Wattled Cranes	Tanzania (43%)	Zambia (22%)	USA (15%)	DRC (6%)	Russia and Germany (each 3%)	89%
Black Crowned Cranes	Tanzania (60%)	Guinea (14%)	Sudan (8%)	Mali (7%)	Netherlands (2%)	91%
Grey Crowned Cranes	Tanzania (70%)	Netherlands (9%)	Kenya (8%)	Germany (2%)	Belgium (2%)	91%

The fact that South Africa is the major exporter of Blue Cranes is to be expected due to the fact that Blue Cranes are a near endemic to the country (Table 6). Tanzania is the biggest exporter of Wattled, Grey and Black Crowned Cranes. Although the Black Crowned Crane exports are alarming considering that the species is not found in the country, the results are to be expected as Tanzania is one of only two countries in Africa which has a quota system for wild caught trade. Although many of the exports are re-exports from non-African countries, or exports of captive bred individuals, Zambia and the DRC were noted as key exporters of Wattled Cranes. Guinea, Sudan and Mali were major exporters of Black Crowned Cranes and the only other African country exporting Grey Crowned Cranes was Kenya. One would expect Guinea to have been a major exporter of Black Crowned Cranes as it is the only other country in Africa that has been given a CITES quota for trade in Black Crowned Cranes.

CITES QUOTAS

Tanzania has been the only country given a quota for wild caught capture of Grey Crowned Cranes from CITES. In Table 7, it is clear that Tanzania were within the quota in 1998, 1999 and 2000. However, they reportedly exported more than the quota allocated in 2001, 2002 and 2003, and although the quota was not used in 2004, Grey Crowned Cranes were exported in 2005 although there was no quota allocated. In 2008, the highest quota since 2000 has been allocated by CITES for Tanzania. The rationale behind this is unclear, especially considering that Tanzania has not stayed within its quota in 50% of the occasions where a quota has been given or not (2005).

Table 7: Export quota assigned by CITES for Grey Crowned Cranes (taken from www.cites.org)

Year	Country of Origin	Quota	Number Traded	Notes
2008	United Republic of Tanzania	100	?	Live www.cites.org, Updated: 01/04/2008

2005		0	8	
2004	United Republic of Tanzania	5	0	live www.cites.org, Updated: 23/04/2004
2003	United Republic of Tanzania	6	19	live www.cites.org
2002	United Republic of Tanzania	20	37	live www.cites.org
2001	United Republic of Tanzania	50	51	live CITES Notif. No. 2001/041
2000	United Republic of Tanzania	366	114	live CITES Notif. No. 2000/053
1999	United Republic of Tanzania	366	126	live CITES Notif. No. 1999/47
1998	United Republic of Tanzania	366	317	live CITES Notif. No. 1998/07

Guinea is the only African country that has been given a CITES quota for wild caught capture of Black Crowned Cranes (Table 8). Guinea exported Black Crowned Cranes without a quota between 1989 and 1998, before trading on quota between 2001 and 2003. In 2001, the quota was exceeded, but exports were below the quota in 2002 and 2003. However, 10 Black Crowned Cranes were exported in 2004 when no quota was given.

Table 8: Export quota assigned by CITES for Black Crowned Cranes (taken from www.cites.org)

Year	Country of Origin	Quota	Number Traded	Notes
2004		0	10	
2003	Guinea	50	13	live www.cites.org
2002	Guinea	50	25	live www.cites.org, Updated: 22/05/2002
2001	Guinea	50	80	live CITES Notif. No. 2001/041

DISCUSSIONS

An assessment of the CITES database was made in order to obtain an improved understanding of the supply and demand for Africa's cranes. Acknowledging the fact that the CITES database will report primarily on legal trade between countries only, the outcomes will reflect only a part of the total trade in cranes internationally. The extent of the illegal or unreported trade is unknown and hence has not been eluded to in any way in this report.

Considering that the only way to monitor trade in CITES listed species is through the CITES database, this assessment highlights the shortfalls and discrepancies in the database. The assessment was disappointing, primarily based on the fact that less than 14% of all the records relating to Africa's cranes had matching import and export data. Of particular concern as well was the fact that a large percentage of records had no purpose or source information and hence an assessment of the wild caught volumes was limited. The volume of trade also differed between linked import and export records. This is to be expected as most are probably due to the fact that CITES members do not always note whether the volume traded was taken from permits or certificates or whether they were actual numbers

traded. The differences in volume reported by the crowned crane species was higher than for Blue and Wattled Cranes. However, this is probably a factor of the number of trade transactions being so much higher for the crowned crane species.

The discrepancies are further complicated by the fact that the CITES database is "accurate" to only 2 years back due to late or absent reports from CITES member countries. This does not allow for the assessment of recent developments in trade and also whether quotas are being adhered to or not. Even though listed as an Appendix II species, the lack of countries reporting an export was surprising. Germany, Kenya, Netherlands, South Africa, Tanzania and USA all lacked export data on several records for which only import data existed. In addition, a large number of countries reported an import, in many cases even when such a record was not required. This all noted, only broad based trends and ideas around trade could be achieved.

In general, crowned cranes were traded in much higher numbers and were more sought after than Blue and Wattled Cranes. Grey Crowned Cranes seemed to be traded in lower volumes per shipment than Black Crowned Cranes. Wild caught individuals for all four species were recorded in trade – even though the quotas given by CITES were limited to a few numbers over a few years. Of note though was the several trophies that were exported from some African countries. The reason for this is not known.

Tanzania has been by far the greatest exporter of Wattled, Black Crowned and Grey Crowned Cranes between 1986 and 2005. Of concern is that they have been the biggest exporter of Black Crowned Cranes even though the species is not indigenous to the country. These have then either been gathered from neighbouring countries or were actually Grey Crowned Cranes that were misidentified.

Unsurprisingly, South African is the greatest exporter of Blue Cranes because they are a near endemic to the country. Interestingly, Tanzania supposedly exported wild caught Blue Cranes, a country which is not inhabited by Blue Cranes. Although the Netherlands is the greatest importer of Blue Cranes across the full time period assessed, the UAE was the largest importer between 2000 and 2005.

Tanzania was the biggest exporter of Wattled Cranes over the full time period, but the DRC became the biggest importer between 2000 and 2005. Singapore has remained the largest importer of Wattled Cranes.

Black Crowned Cranes were exported in large numbers from Sudan between 2000 and 2005. Although the numbers being traded in latter time periods, several west African countries, namely Cote d'Ivoire and Nigeria have become exporters in recent years. Nigeria in particular is of concern as recent surveys indicate that the species is extinct in the wild in that country. The origin of the individuals in trade is therefore questionable. The Netherlands has been the biggest importer of Black Crowned Cranes, but the majority of cranes have more recently been imported by the UAE and France. Of concern are recent importers Serbia and Montenegro and Jordan, the former being a non-CITES country and the latter being the only country in the Middle East that has no ban on the import of wild birds due to bird flu.

Grey Crowned Cranes have been exported primarily by Tanzania, but more recently, Sudan has become a serious exporter of the species. This species is not resident in Sudan and hence they are either being taken from neighbouring countries or they have been misidentified and are actually Black Crowned Cranes. Although the Netherlands was the biggest importer of Grey Crowned Cranes, the UAE and China have more recently been the biggest importers of the species.

Both Blue and Black Crowned Crane trade peaked between 1991 and 1995 and then decreased substantially each time period thereafter. Wattled Crane trade though peaked between 1996 and 2000 and then declined. Grey Crowned Cranes though peaked for two periods – 1986 to 1995 and then declined. In general therefore, the trade in cranes has declined significantly.

More than 60% of all trade, both in terms of importers and exporters, for each of the African crane species has been conducted by the five biggest importing or exporting countries. Interestingly, the biggest importer / exporter for each species accounts for more than double the volume of trade than the second country following it.

Although CITES has given quotas for wild caught cranes for Tanzania and Guinea over a few years, the trade in wild caught individuals is far greater than this.

Looking forward, a few concerns arise. Firstly, it does appear that the export trade of wild caught species will continue, involving in particular countries where the political situation is unstable, e.g. Sudan and DRC. Tanzania will remain a major source for wild caught cranes with the 2008 CITES quota and also the continuing trade albeit in significantly lower numbers. Netherlands and France remain major importing countries, but the trend seems to be moving toward the Middle and Far East. With trade bans in the EU and the Middle East, Switzerland – a non-EU partner, and Jordan – a Middle East country with no ban, respectively may well become bigger importer countries. Unsubstantiated reports also suggest that the Switzerland borders allow for easy trade to neighbouring countries and hence this route should be monitored as a potential new route for crane trade into Europe.

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CITES trade statistics are derived from the CITES trade database, UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre, Cambridge, UK.

Assessment completed by:
Kerryn Morrison
ICF/ EWT Partnership : African Cranes, Wetlands and Communities
African Crane Trade Project
Private Bag X11, Parkview, 2122, South Africa
Tel:+27 (0) 11 486-1102
Email: kerrynm@ewt.org.za

APPENDIX V: African Crane Trade Workshop Report

AFRICAN CRANE TRADE PROJECT

TRADE MITIGATION PLANNING WORKSHOP

Kenya Wildlife Services Training Institute, Naivasha, Kenya

8 – 11 October 2007

AFRICAN CRANE TRADE PROJECT
TRADE MITIGATION PLANNING WORKSHOP

8 – 11 October 2007

WORKSHOP REPORT

Hosted by:

International Crane Foundation / Endangered Wildlife Trust Partnership

Facilitated by:

Conservation Breeding Specialist Group (CBSG) Southern Africa
CBSG of the IUCN Species Survival Commission

Sponsored by:

Whitley Fund for Nature
SeaWorld and Busch Gardens Conservation Fund
North of England Zoological Society / Chester Zoo Keeper for a Day Fund
North Carolina Zoo

Report edited by:

Kerryn Morrison, Fred Beall, Yolan Friedmann, Cecilia Gichuki, Nathan Gichuki, Mike Jordan, Mzamilu Kaita, Paul Ndang'ang'a and Jimmy Muheebwa

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The CBSG, SSC and IUCN encourage workshops and other fora for the consideration and analysis of issues related to conservation, and believe that reports of these meetings are most useful when broadly disseminated. The opinions and recommendations expressed in this report reflect the issues discussed and ideas expressed by the participants in the African Crane Trade Project Mitigation Planning Workshop and do not necessarily reflect the opinion or position of the CBSG, SSC, or IUCN.

The main photograph on the front cover of this report was supplied by Mike Jordan and is of a pair of Grey Crowned Cranes in Nairobi National Park, Kenya.
The smaller pictures were supplied by from left to right:
Jimmy Muheebwa – Domesticated Grey Crowned Crane in Uganda.

Tanya Smith – A Grey Crowned Crane being held in a small enclosure in South Africa.
Wicus Leeuwner – A Blue Crane chick being raised in a small enclosure in South Africa.
Tim Dodman - Black Crowned Crane in captivity in the outskirts of Bissau, capital of Guinea-Bissau, West Africa. Cranes are popular here in local trade, both as live birds and for body parts from left to right.

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AFRICAN CRANE TRADE PROJECT

TRADE MITIGATION PLANNING WORKSHOP

8 – 11 October 2007

Kenya Wildlife Services Training Institute, Naivasha, Kenya

WORKSHOP REPORT

Workshop participants (*Yolan Friedmann*)

SECTION 1

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY, BACKGROUND AND WORKSHOP PROCESS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Preliminary investigations, as part of the African Crane Trade Project, coordinated by the International Crane Foundation / Endangered Wildlife Trust Partnership, have shown that populations of the Black Crowned (*Balearica pavonina),* Blue (*Anthropoides paradisea)*, Grey Crowned (*Balearica regulorum)* and Wattled (*Bugeranus carunculatus)* Cranes are all affected by the illegal removal of individuals and eggs from the wild for food, traditional use, domestication and illegal trade markets. In addition, the captive populations within the formal zoo associations' member's collections are currently unsustainable and the CITES database indicates that large numbers of wild caught cranes are still being traded in.

A workshop, facilitated by the Conservation Breeding Specialist Group (CBSG) Southern Africa, to present these findings and to develop a mitigation plan was held in Naivasha, Kenya from 8 – 11 October 2007. Twenty five participants from eight countries were present at the workshop and represented local communities, NGOs, universities, governments and zoos.

It was agreed that a proposal to upgrade at least the Black and Grey Crowned Cranes from Appendix II to Appendix I at the next CITES Conference of Parties to be held in 2010 would be developed and promoted. Concurrently, a review of the current Red List status of the cranes will be conducted and a proposal to uplist the Black and Grey Crowned Cranes to *Vulnerable* will be made. Two motions will be developed for the IUCN's World Conservation Congress to be held in Barcelona in October 2008, including one pertaining to the global crane trade and the other to the very serious inconsistencies in countries' management of, and reporting on CITES data.

The participants were divided into four working groups dealing with: supply, international demand, legislation, and research and conservation action. Within each of these groups, solutions and action steps were developed. The group which focussed on the supply of cranes and local *in situ* issues stressed the need to address the key elements of poverty, cultural beliefs, the lack of awareness at a local level and the need for community empowerment. A review of current legislation to identify gaps and loopholes and the need for greater awareness of current local, regional and international legislation and policies were the key solutions to addressing the lack of adequate and weak legislation and law enforcement. In order to address the conservation and research project needs and responses to the trade issue, information on crane biology and ecology is required, greater public awareness is needed, networks for information exchange should be established and communities should be involved in research and conservation programmes. A full understanding of the extent and factors driving the international demand for cranes is required, and the trade routes must be identified. Mortality rates need to be obtained. Sustainable captive populations need to be developed with the zoo community becoming more aware of the crane trade and its effects on wild populations.

By working together and involving many partners in the implementation of this plan, the extent of the removal of cranes from the wild and its subsequent impact on wild populations can be reduced. Additional measures will need to be implemented over time as the threat becomes more clearly understood and some of the factors addressed. Each mitigation measure implemented as a result of the workshop and those additional ones determined over time will contribute to positive accumulated conservation action to secure the future of wild cranes in Africa.

BACKGROUND

Four species of cranes are resident in Africa - Grey Crowned Crane *Balearica regulorum*, Black Crowned Crane *Balearica pavonina*, Wattled Crane *Bugeranus carunculatus* and Blue Crane *Anthropoides paradisea*. Over the past forty years, the West African Black Crowned Crane *B.p.pavonina* has declined from perhaps >100,000 to fewer than 15,000 birds and fragmented into scattered, isolated populations across its range (Williams *et al.* 2003). Widespread trade in the Sudan Black Crowned Crane *B.p.ceciliae* has also been reported. Recent investigations suggest that the capture of Black Crowned Cranes for domestication and trade may pose the most significant threat to the species. Kone *et al.* (2007) demonstrate that market trading is resulting in the extirpation of the species from Mali, where there are currently more cranes in captivity than in the wild. In Nigeria, where Black Crowned Cranes were nearly extirpated due to trade, there is still a market for live birds and body parts (Boyi 2001). In East Africa, a similar trend may be occurring with the Grey Crowned Crane. Since 1985, the East African Grey Crowned Crane *B.r.gibbericeps* population has declined from >90,000 to as few as 43,000 individuals (Beilfuss *et al.*2007). Grey Crowned Cranes are highly valued as ornamental birds for private collections throughout the world, and during 1992-2002, at least 4,854 were officially exported from Tanzania (CITES database), with untold higher numbers killed in capture or transit, or exported illegally. Over a two year period, 2003 and 2004, 41 Southern African Grey Crowned Cranes *B.r.regulorum* were confiscated from people in South Africa who had removed birds illegally from the wild for the illegal trade market, food or pets. This is most probably a fraction of the reality of the situation. With only around 3,000 birds in South Africa (McCann 2004), this annual removal is unsustainable. Capture for trade of the Vulnerable Wattled Crane (global population <7700) is reported from Mozambique, South Africa, Tanzania and Zambia. In Tanzania (estimated population <200 individuals) at least 47 Wattled Cranes were exported between 1999 and 2002 (CITES database). Vulnerable Blue Cranes may also be adversely affected by trade.

The African Crane Trade Project was initiated under African Cranes, Wetlands and Communities, a partnership between the International Crane Foundation and Endangered Wildlife Trust in 2006. The Project aims to better understand the African crane trade and to develop measures to minimise its impact on wild populations. Trade has been defined broadly in this project as the movement of cranes between captive facilities, and removal from the wild for any reason, usually with some form of financial or barter transaction, and includes live or dead cranes or their parts.

Four preliminary *in situ* case studies were conducted in localised areas in Kenya, South Africa, Uganda and Tanzania to determine whether or not the removal of cranes from the wild poses a significant threat to the species and whether mitigation measures are required. These studies were conducted in partnership with the Endangered Wildlife Trust's Conservation Leadership Group (South Africa), National Museums of Kenya and University of Nairobi (Kenya), *Nature* Uganda (Uganda) and TRAFFIC East/Southern Africa (Tanzania). Due to the localised nature of the studies, the short time frame to get a basic idea of the situation and considering that no ground truthing had been completed, it is important that the outcomes of these projects be considered carefully. Previously, studies were also conducted in Mali and Nigeria in partnership with Wetlands International.

The objective of this workshop was to bring together a small multi-stakeholder group, including representatives from local communities, governments, NGOs, universities and zoos, from the various countries where trade has been investigated to present. The outcomes of the studies were presented to provide a baseline idea of the situation, from which this action plan has been developed.

Thanks are extended to Whitley Fund for Nature, SeaWorld & Busch Gardens Conservation Fund, North Carolina Zoo and North of England Zoological Society / Chester Zoo Keeper for Day Fund for supporting this project and making this first phase possible.

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THE WORKSHOP PROCESS

Twenty-five participants from eight countries, including Kenya, Mali, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, United Kingdom and United States of America participated in a multi-stakeholder workshop to develop a mitigation plan for the African crane trade threat to wild population of cranes in Africa. Organisations represented included local communities, NGOs, universities, governments and zoos.

The participants arrived in Nairobi on Sunday 7 October 2007 and travelled together to the Kenya Wildlife Service Training Institute in Naivasha on the morning of 8 October 2007. The workshop started on the afternoon of Monday 8 October and finished at lunch time on Thursday 11 October 2007. The afternoon of the first day was dedicated to presentations on the *in situ* case studies conducted in Kenya, Mali, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania and Uganda. In addition, a presentation on the crane situation in Tanzania was given.

The standard CBSG workshop process comprises a series of plenary and working group sessions in which working groups work through tasks designed to facilitate free thinking, brainstorming, discussion and debate and finally, consensus building. As a result of the investigations already completed, the participants were split into four groups to address the main areas of concern:

- Supply and the local *in situ* situation
- International demand
- Law enforcement
- Conservation and research projects or response

Within each of these groups an initial brainstorming session was conducted and a list of the key issues outlined. Working groups then spent the three days tackling issues specific to their group, and systematically worked through the tasks assigned which included drafting a situation overview, compiling problem statements, developing and prioritising solutions and goals and finally, working out detailed action plans and steps that will contribute to achieving the identified goals.

Plenary discussion sessions enabled working groups to present the results of their discussions to the whole group and obtain the input of all participants, which resulted in additional debate and insight from members of other working groups.

The final plenary on the morning of 11 October included discussions on whether a CITES uplisting from Appendix II to Appendix I would be proposed, whether a review of the Red List status for the four species was needed and the potential submission of motions for consideration at the 2008 IUCN World Conservation Congress. In addition, the plenary discussed the accessibility and distribution of the *in situ* case study reports and the need for a forum to take the action plan developed forward.

A field visit was made by the participants to Nakuru National Park on the afternoon of 11 October. Thanks are extended to the Kenya Wildlife Service who made this visit possible.

WORKING GROUP SUMMARIES

Crane supply and local *in situ* issues working group

The various *in situ* crane trade studies conducted as part of the African Crane Trade Project, and some projects previous to this, have all confirmed that cranes are being removed from the wild for a number of reasons. Most of these removals are being conducted by members of the local community.

High poverty levels, which result in individuals in the community selling cranes for an income, can be addressed through carefully selected alternative income generating activities and the provision of micro-credit schemes and extension services. In addition an effective and focussed awareness and education programmes to improve skills and to build capacity for informed decision-making needs to be developed whilst encouraging wetland habitat restoration for the improvement of both human livelihoods as well as crane habitat.

The cultural beliefs that have led to the removal of cranes from the wild for traditional purposes need to be understood, both in the present and in their evolution. This knowledge can then be used to advocate for a change in attitude toward the use of cranes and for their conservation. At the same time, the notion of the crane's traditional use properties can be demystified, potentially substituting these beliefs around their use with an alternative model.

The lack of awareness as to the relevance of cranes in their environment can be mitigated through mainstreaming crane conservation into local habitat management plans whilst developing and implementing an effective awareness programme. Ultimately, a sense of appreciation for the cranes should be our goal.

The tragedy of the commons can be reversed by empowering local communities to manage local nature reserves and areas outside of protected areas. The active involvement of communities in crane and wetland monitoring will also assist in encouraging local communities to protect cranes outside of protected areas.

Cranes are rare in many areas, and although the crane trade is contributing to the decline, habitat loss is also a major factor. Communities should be encouraged to conserve remaining and restore degraded wetland habitats. Illegally kept cranes in domestication should be considered for release back into the wild if appropriate and once key threats have been resolved in the areas, reintroduction programmes should be considered.

Natural disasters and the over exploitation of natural resources often result in community members diversifying their income generating activities. Communities should be encouraged to prepare for disasters and micro-projects aimed at balancing the use of natural resources should be encouraged.

Law enforcement working group

Outdated wildlife laws and the lack of specifics in many legislative documents, together with weak laws and the lack of enforcement have contributed significantly to the illegal trade or the legalisation of trade through loopholes found in the law. The lack too of regional harmonisation of laws has led to countries with "weaker" legislation becoming areas of high trade. Awareness of the situation both with the public and with law enforcement officials is sorely lacking and the capacity to identify species at borders contributes significantly to illegal trade. Unfortunately, the two things that this group can do little to address include corruption and the lack of resources to enforce the law, both of which are probably the biggest contributors to illegal trade on the continent.

A review of existing wildlife legislation around the African continent would contribute to an improved understanding of the situation and identify any loopholes. This would provide an opportunity to motivate for improved legislation – although a very slow process. As the bird trade is currently a low priority for most governments and the public, an awareness campaign needs to be developed through the potential production of leaflets / booklets for wide distribution. In addition, key stakeholders and other NGOs should be involved in the process to create even greater and wider-reaching awareness.

Conservation and research projects / responses working group

This group focused on problems and solutions from the perspective of research and the activities of the conservation organisations responding to the issues of trade in cranes. Most of the discussion concerned information needs, and ways to address access, gathering, and analysis of the variety of data needed, and priorities for filling gaps. The group explicitly considered how to involve communities in the design and implementation of research and conservation projects, and outlined a process for developing a comprehensive awareness and education programme for diverse audiences. The group also considered it a priority to expand networks and partnerships so that more expertise and resources can participate in solutions. One very specific challenge that received attention was how to make cranes and wetlands of such significance as a community-wide resource, that the community itself would police the actions of a few individuals who have in the past benefited from crane trade and in some cases have had substantial negative impacts.

The lack of information on the biology and ecology of cranes, especially the Grey Crowned Cranes in East Africa, can be addressed through data collection, monitoring and mapping where gaps have been identified. An education and awareness programme needs to be developed to address the lack of awareness of cranes, their threats and their ecosystems.

Through an effective network, the establishment of an information-sharing mechanism and the development of a database, the response to the crane trade will be improved, and the currently inadequate and fragmented research and conservation efforts will be coordinated more effectively.

The inadequate and limited access to information on attitudes and the needs of communities and other stakeholders can be resolved through involving communities in research programmes and through information sharing. Similarly, the limited access to information on trade can be improved by promoting community responsibility in crane and wetland conservation projects.

International demand working group

There is a demand for African cranes which appears to be unsustainable. Cranes are traded both legally and illegally and the nature of this trade is not fully understood. Exactly where the cranes are traded to and for what purpose requires greater clarification. There is a general lack of awareness of the true status of African cranes in the wild and the impact of the trade on their populations. Although there are large numbers of African cranes held in captivity around the world, most are non-breeding, poorly managed and unable to meet captive demands.

The factors and extent of the factors driving the high demand for cranes around the world are poorly understood. In order to better understand this, the number of cranes and their uses within each use sector, including also the less known uses, if any, of derivatives for traditional use or falconry, needs to be determined. The CITES data also need to be fully assessed, and using current and historical data, the future of the populations modelled.

In order to obtain sustainable captive populations around the world, crane husbandry techniques that encourage breeding and longevity need to be promoted. In addition, existing studbooks should be assessed for viability and the level of regional and international management of the captive populations increased.

In order to create wider awareness of the crane trade and its impact on wild populations, local, regional and international organisations need to be identified and partnerships developed in order to ensure that accurate data on the wild population status and trade information gathered are disseminated widely.

The trade routes, transport chains, loopholes in the legislation used and mortality rates during capture and transit are poorly understood. Information on these needs to be obtained and the chains and routes understood. In addition, current legislation needs to be reviewed for weaknesses and loopholes.

Group discussion

In order to better regulate the legal trade and in the process reduce the illegal trade, a proposal to upgrade at least the Black and Grey Crowned Cranes from Appendix II to Appendix I will be developed and promoted for the CITES Conference of Parties to be held in 2009. Concurrently, and due to the significant decline in crane numbers, particularly Grey Crowned Cranes in East Africa and Black Crowned Cranes in West Africa, a review of the global threat status (IUCN Red Data List) of at least these two species will be undertaken.

Two motions will be developed for the IUCN's World Conservation Congress to be held in Barcelona in 2008. The first will address the crane trade and the second, the lack of reliable data on the CITES database as a result of the various countries different recording styles.

A list serve will be developed for all the workshop participants to ensure that everyone is kept abreast of progress being made.

AFRICAN CRANE TRADE PROJECT

TRADE MITIGATION PLANNING WORKSHOP

8 – 11 October 2007

Kenya Wildlife Services Training Institute, Naivasha, Kenya

WORKSHOP REPORT

Grey Crowned Cranes (*Kevin McCann)*

SECTION 2

PRESENTATIONS

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Dr James G. Njogu, Head of Conventions, Biotechnology & Information Management, Kenya Wildlife Service

- Distinguished Guests
- Zoos' Association Representatives
- International Crane Foundation Representatives
- Endangered Wildlife Trust Representatives
- University and Non-Governmental Organisation Representatives
- Stakeholders in African Cranes, Wetlands and Communities
- Invited Guests
- Ladies and Gentlemen

It is my pleasure and privilege to welcome you all to this auspicious workshop on African Crane Trade Mitigation Planning, and to the African Crane Trade Project Mitigation Workshop, KWSTI, Naivasha (8 – 11 October 2007).

Kenya Wildlife Service Training Institute. The diversity of expertise, knowledge, experience and interests on avifauna, wetlands conservation and general wildlife conservation represented in this meeting is truly awesome. I therefore feel most humbled that I have the opportunity to address this landmark workshop. Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) looks forward to taking the advantage of your thoughts and aspirations in planning the management, conservation and sustainable use of Kenya's unique diversity of wildlife.

Ladies and Gentlemen
The timing of this workshop is opportune as we currently face various conservation challenges that include illegal trade in wildlife, environmental degradation and loss of biodiversity in all regions of the world. The recently concluded CITES CoP provided an opportunity for us as a country to put forward our case on issues pertaining to trade in wildlife resources and products.

As you all realise, majority of our wildlife are still under threats of different levels from illegal trade and unsustainable use. Given these challenges, there is urgent need to develop mitigation strategies to avert the prevailing situations. These can only be achieved through a coherent national and international cooperation and actions. Thus, we all have the challenge of developing and implementing global strategies and approaches to support sustainable management of species threatened by illegal trade such as the African cranes.

Wildlife conservation and management has become a major socioeconomic and cultural phenomenon. Kenya is known for its unique diversity of avifauna, with over 1,080 species – one of the highest in Africa. This makes us a unique destination for avitourism and ornithological research. In particular, we are a range state for two species of African crane – The Grey Crowned Crane *Balearica regulorum gibbericeps* and Black Crowned Crane *Balearica pavonina*. A number of our protected areas provide suitable habitats for these species. Further, we have a suite of 60 sites recognised globally as Important Bird Areas. The unique avifauna calls for concerted efforts to not only guard our reputation as a birdwatching destination but also ensure that appropriate mitigation strategies are developed to address illegal avian trade and unsustainable use practices.

Since its foundation in 1989, KWS has lived up to the public expectations. We have developed wildlife conservation and trade mitigation strategies. Further, we have successfully lobbied for international embargo on wildlife trade for our flagship species. However, we cannot relax our efforts. Our conservation mandate extends far beyond core-

protected areas – the National Parks. We realize that close to 70% of our wildlife occur outside core protected areas, and appreciate that wildlife have no boundaries. This calls for closer collaboration with the local communities and developing appropriate corporate social responsibility measures to enhance the general appreciation of Kenya's wildlife. KWS has been in the forefront in promoting this aspect in recent years. These we hope would enable local communities appreciate wildlife and engage in wildlife conservation-friendly initiatives.

Further, we encourage international collaboration with different organisations involved in wildlife conservation and research. The partnership between the National Museums of Kenya and the International Crane Foundation / Endangered Wildlife Trust Partnership on African Crane Trade Mitigation Project is thus, very relevant in achieving this objective.

Our efforts experience drawbacks of different magnitudes in certain circumstances. The greatest drawback perhaps has had to do with meeting the increasing challenges under the existing Wildlife Conservation and Management Act and Policy formulated in the 1970s. Our penal codes have been weak on issues pertaining to misuse of wildlife resources and illegal trade on wildlife resources and products, and Wildlife Act has over the last three decades remained exclusive and out of tune with the present realities and challenges.

I am happy to report that a review of Wildlife Act and Policy has successfully been undertaken and revised documents are awaiting approval. The revised Act and Policy are very explicit on issues pertaining to illegal trade on wildlife resources. This would enable us meet the current challenges on issues touching on wildlife trade and unsustainable use. Further, Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) have been adequately domesticated in the revised Act and Policy. This puts us in favourable position in meeting our obligations at international levels. However, my attention continues to be drawn to depressing information on illegal trade on avifauna especially on African crane particularly from eastern and southern Africa. This requires strengthening of our illegal trade monitoring in the region, and developing long-term strategies in collaboration with the Custom Departments in our airports and borders. Further, there is need to strengthen our detection, licensing procedures and apprehension of wildlife trade crimes in our region.

From the diversity of representation in this workshop, I see an opportunity and a forum capable of making critical analysis of wildlife trade with special focus on Kenya's avifauna especially for the African crane species. We have all waited anxiously for this moment. It is a great opportunity for our concerns, fears and hopes to be heard and acted upon. KWS would remain a key partner to initiatives developed from this workshop.

We shall provide the necessary support to ensure that the deliberations and Action Plans developed from this workshop are implemented accordingly, and to the required local and international standards.

I must, however, raise some fundamental issues for consideration during your deliberations:

(i) Wildlife particularly our avifauna is a natural resource that must be managed to benefit the present generation without compromising the needs and aspirations of future generations. The issue of intra and inter-generational equity must be observed in our decisions;

(ii) Our wildlife needs to be managed *in situ* in local areas and sites. We also need to be conscious that our national, regional and global obligations and aspirations are met. Decisions on wildlife trade must take cognizance of impacts at national, regional and global levels;

(iii) As a country, we need to utilise our wildlife resources within the principles of sustainable development together with our commitments under the Global Millennium Development Goals (MDGs);

(iv) KWS as the national lead agency on wildlife conservation has a firm commitment, and would continue to collaborate and work with stakeholders in the best overall national interest to sustain the wildlife resources for posterity. The existing standards, regulatory measures and licensing measures would be enhanced accordingly. In doing this, we shall follow participatory processes enforced by all the practitioners in the wildlife conservation and research sectors;

(v) Community Conservation Programmes need to be encouraged. Initiatives as shown by Kipsaina Crane and Wetland Conservation Initiative and Kaisagat Environmental Conservation Youth Group in western Kenya need to be encouraged and replicated elsewhere. KWS recognizes the efforts made by these groups on African cranes conservation and wetlands conservation. There is need to evaluate and communicate the successes of these existing programmes, expand and adopt them in our African crane conservation efforts. Further, KWS recognises the contribution of the International Crane Foundation and Endangered Wildlife Trust Partnership on African Cranes, Wetlands and Communities;

(vi) Surveys, censuses, monitoring and research on our avifauna need to be enhanced accordingly. In particular, there is a need to know how African crane species distribution and ecology are impacted upon in dynamic landscapes and particularly the impacts of climate change on ecology of African cranes. Further, there is need to update and promote the implementation of Conservation Action Plans. So far, I am aware that Black Crowned Crane has been developed through collaborative efforts of International Crane Foundation and Wetlands International. I look forward to development of other Conservation Action Plans especially Grey Crowned Crane whose fate I feel hangs in the balance in Kenya;

(vii) There is need to integrate public education efforts in all research and conservation programmes focusing on African crane, and provide increased training opportunities for in country African crane researchers and wetland conservationists;

(viii) The needs for elaborate networks and practices cannot be over-emphasized. Development of global, regional and national conservation strategies and measures touching on African cranes – The focus for this workshop should be fast tracked accordingly;

(ix) Finally, we need to secure the implementation of the CITES, CMS and Ramsar Conventions among the range states of African Cranes, and advocate the transfer of the African crane species from the present Appendix II to Appendix I of CITES.

In conclusion, I wish re-affirm KWS' commitment to African Crane Trade Mitigation strategies and wise use principles for our avifauna. We shall continue with our undivided efforts to overcome the challenges of illegal trade in wildlife resources and products. Further, KWS will do everything within its legal mandate in collaboration with the stakeholders and interest groups on all issues pertaining to mitigation strategies on wildlife trade locally, regionally and internationally.

I wish you successful workshop and look forward to the results of you deliberations.

Thank you.

SOUTH AFRICAN CRANE TRADE CASE STUDY

Mr Samson Phakathi, Endangered Wildlife Trust's Conservation Leadership Group

1. Introduction

The South African Case Study was one of four *in situ* case studies conducted as part of the African Crane Trade Project to determine whether cranes were being removed from the wild and if so, for what purposes. During four visits to the area between February and May 2007, it became evident that cranes were being removed from the wild for a variety of reasons.

2. Study area

The case study was conducted in and around the village of Franklin which is situated in East Griqualand in southern KwaZulu-Natal, close to the town of Kokstad.

3. Study objectives

- Understand broadly the supply, movement and demand for cranes.
- Education and awareness.
- Develop a broad understanding of the impact that the removal of cranes from the wild is having on wild populations.
- Gather information on the captive situation in the area.

4. Methods that were used to gather information

- Community engagement facilitation
- Discussions
- Guided questionnaires (interviews etc)
- Observations

5. Groups that were targeted

- Franklin community members
- Traditional Healers
- Traditional authority
- Muti shops
- Farm workers
- School children

6. Findings

	Findings
▪ School mini research (research information about the interaction of rural communities and cranes).	• Crane meat was used for stew as the meat itself reportedly contains a lot of sinew. • Dogs were used to point out hidden chicks. • Crane brain was used in traditional medicinal practices. • Cranes were occasionally kept as pets. • Seven out of 24 learners noted that they had eaten crane with their families, and of these, four noted that they had eaten crane at least once a year. • Caught chicks were sometimes raised with chickens. It was predominantly men between the ages of 13 and 45 who were involved in catching chicks.
▪ Franklin community, pension areas and traditional healers	• Crane body parts were used to enhance luck and bring back long lost family members. • Cranes were domesticated when they were not seen as

	good enough for food and muti. • Crane parts, like feathers, were supposedly used for decorating some of the items that people used in rural areas. • Cranes still had cultural significance with the older generation. • Some crane derivatives and other animal derivatives were sold during pension days. • The value of cranes for medicinal practices was higher than for captivity. This make cranes more vulnerable to medicinal practices. • Three people were identified as having bought cranes from school children and farm workers.

7. The uses of crane parts and derivatives

- Grey Crowned Crane brain was used in love potions.
- The mixture of crane brain and head feathers was used for the purpose of bringing back long lost family members.
- The mixture of crane brain, crane intestines and the red knob of the coot was used for maintaining stability in family members.
- One crane brain and head feathers were used for an extended period of time and seem to be dependant on the demand and need from customers.
- Crane parts, particularly feathers and brain were used in a wide range of traditional muti practices

8. Conclusion

Crane trade was clearly taking place in the Franklin area, but perhaps not to the same extent as in other countries. There are some people who were implicated in both buying and selling cranes, but the extent of this will only be established through a longer study.

UGANDA CRANE TRADE CASE STUDY 2007 – EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Mr Jimmy Muheebwa, *Nature*Uganda

The Uganda Crane Trade Case Study was one of the four *in situ* case studies conducted as part of the African Crane Trade Project to determine whether cranes were being removed from the wild and if so, for what purposes. The study in Uganda was conducted in the districts of Isingiro and Lyantonde which form the southern Uganda border with Tanzania and Masaka and Rakai; the majority of the western border with Lake Victoria.

Over a period of 6 months (February to July 2007), 10 local community members in these districts gathered information on any cranes removed from the wild and through questionnaires and interviews, gained broad understanding of the crane trade in the area.

Cranes were predominantly used for traditional purposes especially to encourage monogamous relationships and increase affection and love between couples. Cranes were often captured and sold to traditional healers / witch doctors that made concoctions out of their body parts (feathers, beaks, and claws), eggs and flesh. These concoctions were later sold secretly and locally to individuals yearning for stronger affection from their lovers. Other cranes were caught for sale, disguised as chicken meat, on important refreshment stops along the Kampala to western Uganda highways.

A large number of cranes were caught and sold illegally; most often through Tanzania but sometimes through the Ugandan capital of Kampala. Some cranes were domesticated especially in the south western districts of Bushenyi, Kabale, Mbarara and Rakai. Domestication was also linked to the traditional aspect where witch doctors proposed that captive cranes were kingly creatures capable of bringing fortunes to the family. Often, the domesticated cranes were found in appalling unhygienic conditions and unable to breed. Others disappeared mysteriously in the hands of their domesticating owners, raising fears that they ended up in trade.

During the survey, the following market chains were identified:

- Captor - trader
- Captor who doubled as trader
- Captor - domesticator
- Captor – traditional healer
- Captor – trader – traditional healer

It was found out that crane handling during capture and transit posed great dangers to the birds, which were maimed, suffocated or poorly fed and sometimes resulted in death or the birds having to be euthanised. Moreover, evidence from some of those people involved in crane trade/ removal from the wild indicated that most were unwilling to abandon the practice because the high prices offered for the birds were stimulating and worth the effort. Crane trade across the border with Tanzania was found to be enhanced by poor policing and law enforcement at the borders.

With over 70 reported cases of crane removal from the wild over a period of 3 years, and given that the population of the species is steadily decreasing, it is unlikely that this removal is sustainable. Hence there is need for immediate mitigation before the bird runs into extinction.

KENYA CRANE TRADE CASE STUDY

Ms Zipporah Musyimi, University of Nairobi

Trade in wild animal species has become a major threat to biodiversity in many parts of the world today. Removal from the wild and exportation of birds has been a serious problem in Africa, particularly because the trade in wild animal species has been most serious in areas with high poverty level and political conflict. The African Crane Trade Study aimed at determining the extent of the trade in Grey Crowned Cranes in Kenya and its impact on the wild population. The study also wished to determine the extent to which the economic and cultural beliefs of the local community helped to sustain the capture and trade.

The study was conducted between January 2007 and August 2007 by a team of 14 people in five study sites along the Kenya-Uganda and Kenya-Tanzania borders. The study sites were selected on the basis of past records of birds in transit across the borders. 407 people comprising 161 community members, 80 teachers, 55 business people, and 37 community leaders were interviewed. The rest of the respondents consisted of customs officers, police officers, local administrators, wildlife officer, tour guides and development officers working for non-governmental organisations.

The results of the survey indicated that cranes were captured from the wild as adults, juveniles and eggs collected for trade and traditional uses, such as witch craft and body decorations. A moderate number of cranes were trapped annually from the wild for the purpose of trade and cultural purposes. The greatest threat to Grey Crowned Cranes in Kenya appeared to be poisoning by the farmers.

The local communities had valuable ecological knowledge of cranes and their biology. This knowledge was used in different ways, such as marking time and season, and emulating the monogamous life of cranes. The people also had diverse attitudes and perceptions about cranes and this was translated into different beliefs and superstitions about cranes and their products.

There is potential for using traditional beliefs and cranes as flagship species to promote community participation in conservation in East Africa. This study could not with certainty determine the number of birds removed from the wild annually, but it was clear that large numbers were being removed and the chance that these removals were sustainable was low. We recommend that a population census of cranes be carried out in each range state, and numbers of birds exported across the borders be monitored closely. In addition, a comprehensive study needs to be conducted to determine the extent of the threat from poisoning of cranes by farmers. We also recommend an aggressive public awareness campaign targeting communities sharing their land with cranes.

MALI CRANE TRADE CASE STUDY

Mr Bakary Kone, Wetlands International

Bakary reported on the results of the study he presented at the Pan African Ornithological Congress (PAOC) in Tunisia in 2004. The abstract is outlined below.

The inland delta of the Niger, a vast floodplain, is the only refuge of Black Crowned Cranes in Mali. This study, centred on the regions of Mopti, Tenenkou and Youwarou, aimed to: (1) census the number of cranes in the delta and in captivity in the towns of Mopti and Bamako; (2) examine exploitation at different levels (local and national) to estimate the number of birds captured and traded, and the sums of money involved; and (3) to set up a plan for the conservation of the species. From April to August 2001 a survey was conducted amongst the hunters, buyers, sellers and those holding cranes in the towns of Mopti and Bamako. In these towns 55 people, most of whom had kept and raised cranes for more than 15 years, had 129 Black Crowned Cranes in captivity. Dealing in cranes is an activity restricted to men (farmers, aviculturalists, fishermen and traders). Over the period 1998–2000, 165 birds were bought and sold, while 70 had been exported to other countries. The average purchase price from a hunter was €24. In the delta the selling price was on average 36 278FCFA (francs of the African Financial Community) (€55), whereas in the towns the price was 104 778FCFA (€159) over the same time period. All trophies from the hunt were also sold. Clearly, the survival of this species is threatened both by habitat destruction and by hunting. Under captive conditions the birds do not breed and continued captures could lead to the extinction of cranes in Mali. A plan for the protection of the species has been drawn up and financial support is now being sought

The full article can be found at, and the abstract has been taken from: Kone, B., Fofana, B., Beilfuss, R. and Dodman, T. 2007. The impact of capture, domestication and trade on Black Crowned Cranes in the Inner Niger Delta, Mali. *Ostrich* 78 (2): 195-203.

THE BLACK CROWNED CRANE *Balearica pavonina pavonina* IN NIGERIA

Dr Shiiuwa A. Manu, AP Leventis Ornithological Research Institute Laminga, Nigeria

Introduction

The Black Crowned Crane *Balearica pavonina pavonina*, is a resident of the Sahel and Sudan Savannah regions of Africa. Black Crowned Cranes range from the Senegal basin and Guinea Bissau drainage in West Africa to the western Ethiopian Highlands and Southwest Rift Valley in East Africa. There are two sub-species. The West African Crowned Crane (*Balearica pavonina pavonina*) occupies the western part of this range, from Senegal to Chad.

Status

Historically, the Black Crowned Crane was abundant and widely distributed across its range. The species has decreased across much of its range in the last thirty years and the population is now fragmented. In Nigeria, the population has drastically dropped from more than 15,000 birds in the early 1970s to no more than a few individuals today.

Distribution

The cranes were commonly found in the Hadejia-Nguru wetlands as well as the wetlands of the Lake Chad basin in north eastern Nigeria. Black Crowned Cranes cherish a mixture of shallow seasonally flooded habitats within the wetlands as well as grasslands. Although resident in the area, the birds flock when not breeding and make local movements between the large and small wetlands.

THREATS:

Habitat loss

In the north across the Sahel there is gradual deforestation. Sahelian woodland is at best low density forest and so the gradual removal of trees for browse and fuelwood is harder to notice. Yet when you compare vegetation measures over even a relatively short time period, you find substantial deforestation. Data from a forest reserve in the Hadejia-Nguru shows that almost all of the trees have gone over the last decade with profound effects on the number of cranes and other bird species present and the density of the remaining species.

The damming of the rivers that feed the wetlands for irrigation agriculture has resulted in irregular release of water into the wetlands and at wrong times of the year. This has created favourable environment for the growth of typha grass that has taken up the habitats of the cranes and other birds.

And of course there is the spectre of climate change: there are predicted winners and losers into the end of this century and it seems likely that West Africa will end up as a loser. Recent climate models predict a much dryer climate in the coming decades. And as we know from the whitethroat this means lower populations of birds and other animals and plants, and increased pressure from the human population on existing natural habitats.

Persecution

The birds were hunted for food in the past. Hunters and cattle herdsmen would kill adult birds and collect the eggs as well. Today hunting expeditions for cranes always return unsuccessful.

Trade

Trade in the Black Crowned Crane is more profitable today than hunting the birds for food. It is common to visit houses of influential people today within the major cities in the north and

see a few cranes wandering in the compound. Some cranes are sold at high prices for export to the Middle East.

Conservation effort

In theory the cranes are legally protected in Nigeria by Decree 85, the Endangered Species Decree. Also, the International Conference on the Black Crowned Crane and its Wetland Habitats, was held in Nigeria in 1992. One fall out from this workshop was the Black Crowned Crane Working Group. However, we still lack any range-wide information on the population size or distribution of the species on this species. No ecological studies have been carried out on this bird.

The A P Leventis Ornithological Research Institute has now received the funding for a study: "Towards Conservation of the Black Crowned Crane *Balearica pavonina* in Nigeria: A Survey and Participatory Rural Appraisal in Selected Communities in the Species' Range." The project will identify communities in and around the current range areas of the species in Nigeria, with a view to assess the potentials for participatory community-based conservation initiatives, using the Black Crowned Crane as a flagship species.

Recommendations

Community-based conservation programs may halt and reverse the species' dramatic decline. This can be realised by raising awareness among local communities about the critical issues affecting the survival of Black Crowned Cranes, and providing meaningful alternatives to those activities that most seriously threaten the cranes and their habitats. It is hoped that a clear understanding of the local socio-economic and cultural forces affecting cranes and their habitats, will be gained through local partnerships and case study activities.

TANZANIA CRANE TRADE CASE STUDY, PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENTS OF CITES DATA AND STUDBOOKS

Ms Kerryn Morrison, African Cranes, Wetlands and Communities
An International Crane Foundation / Endangered Wildlife Trust Partnership

Tanzania Crane Trade Case Study

TRAFFIC East / Southern Africa conducted a rapid assessment of the large waterbird trade in north-west Tanzania over a six week period between January and August 2007. This preliminary study included Wattled Cranes, Grey Crowned Cranes, Shoebill Storks (*Balaniceps rex)* and Saddlebilled Storks *(Ephippiorhynchus senegalensis)*.

Although this was a short preliminary study with no ground truthing, the ongoing capture and trade of all four species was evident. Findings, however, suggest that the numbers captured recently were lower than four years ago even though prices seemed to be higher. The mortality rates during capture and transit although poorly understood, were reportedly relatively low due to the efforts involved in capturing the birds.

Encouragingly, the demand seemed to have decreased and local villagers felt that the wild population numbers had increased, although ground truthing is required to verify this. Governance systems also seemed stronger since the establishment of the Ramsar Site and SIMMORS (Sustainable Integrated Management of Malagarasi-Muyovozi Ramsar Site) activities. Local community members were aware of the fact that the trade was illegal and noted clearly that very few people benefited from it.

Preliminary assessment of CITES data

All four of the resident cranes in Africa – i.e. Black Crowned, Blue, Grey Crowned and Wattled Cranes are on the Appendix II list for CITES. Wild caught trade in cranes was not legal in any country that the case studies were conducted in.

A preliminary assessment of CITES data was conducted using the CITES trade statistics derived from the *CITES Trade Database*, UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre, Cambridge, UK. Caution however, should be taken when interpreting these data as the data in the database are approximately two years in arrears and importing and exporting countries have recorded different information on source and numbers traded. Data were assessed for the five years encompassing 1996 – 2000 and 2001 -2005 for comparison.

Blue Cranes

South Africa was the biggest exporter of Blue Cranes for both five year periods. This was to be expected as this crane is a near endemic to the country. The number of cranes exported from South Africa during the second five year period though dropped by almost 50%. China and the Netherlands were the primary importing countries between 1996 and 2000, and although Netherlands remained a large importer between 2001 and 2005, Latvia, Belgium and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) all became importers in the second five year period. The UAE was the largest importer during the second five year period. The United States of America (USA) was the only other country, besides the Netherlands that imported cranes in both time periods.

Wattled Cranes

Tanzania was the biggest exporter of Wattled Cranes in the 1996-2000 period, and although the numbers exported were reduced by around 85% during the 2001-2005 time period, they still exported Wattled Cranes during that time. The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) though became the biggest exporter (although only 10 individuals) in the 2001-2005 period - a new exporter of the species to the database in the time frames assessed. Singapore and

China respectively were the two biggest importing countries between 1996 and 2000, and besides a few imported into China between 2001 and 2005, they imported only low numbers during this time period. Austria became the biggest importer between 2001 and 2005 with the USA and Czech Republic becoming importers during this time as well. 27 Wattled Cranes were reported as wild caught by the importing country for the full ten year period whereas exporting countries recorded a total of 74 wild caught Wattled Cranes during the same period. The vast majority of wild caught cranes were from Tanzania.

Grey Crowned Cranes
Tanzania was by far the greatest exporter of Grey Crowned Cranes between 1996 and 2000 (more that 500 cranes exported), and although the numbers exported was significantly lower in the 2001 to 2005 period (less than 150 individuals exported), Tanzania was still the biggest exporter during that time. The Netherlands imported the greatest number of cranes in the 1996 to 2000 period, followed by China. In the period between 2001 and 2005, a number of countries imported cranes that did not import cranes in the previous 5 years. This included the UAE, who imported the most cranes during that time. All wild caught Grey Crowned Cranes were exported from Tanzania during the 10 year period assessed. A total of 567 wild caught cranes were reported from importing countries, whereas 557 wild caught cranes were reported from Tanzania as the exporting country.

Black Crowned Cranes
Mali, followed by Guinea, were the countries exporting the greatest number of Black Crowned Cranes between 1996 and 2000. In the period between 2001 and 2005 though, Sudan became the greatest exporter, exceeding numbers exported by Mali in the previous time period. Cote d'Ivoire, Nigeria and Benin also exported Black Crowned Cranes during the 2001-2005 period and not in the 1996-2000 period. Between 1996 and 2000, Belgium and France were the two biggest importers of Black Crowned Cranes. France remained a large importer in the 2001-2005 period, and was joined by the UAE and Qatar as significant importers, neither of which imported cranes during the previous five years. 976 wild caught cranes were reported by the importing country over the 10 year period, whereas 1104 cranes were reported by the country of export.

A preliminary assessment of crane studbooks
A preliminary assessment of the African crane studbooks for the regional zoo associations was conducted. It should however be noted that only around 1 000 of the world's approximately 10 000 zoos and captive facilities belong to such associations. These associations usually have a list of criteria and code of ethics for any facility / organisation belonging to them and hence it was assumed that they would provide the best case scenario for the situation of cranes in captivity.

The following studbooks existed and were either active or were vacant (no longer active):
- Blue Cranes
  - AZA (Association of Zoos and Aquariums) / EAZA (European Association of Zoos and Aquariums) / JAZA (Japanese Association of Zoos and Aquariums) / PAAZAB (African Association of Zoos and Aquariums) – all active
- Black Crowned Crane
  - EAZA / JAZA – all vacant
  - AZA - active
- Grey Crowned Crane
  - PAAZAB – vacant
- Wattled Crane
  - AZA / JAZA / PAAZAB / International – active

The initial assessment indicated that none of the captive populations within these studbooks were viable. Of particular concern though was the crowned crane situation where they were

reportedly used primarily as decoration on savannah exhibits and hence seldom bred due to the lack of suitable breeding areas, and if breeding did occur, hybridisation often resulted. They were also often predated on due to the enclosure design. The origin of the birds was poorly understood and often unknown.

International movements

The international movements, both legal and illegal, of cranes and other species in trade are influenced by a number of factors. Avian influenza (Bird flu) has resulted in a moratorium on the movement of wild caught birds through the European Union (EU), which has limited legal trade through this route significantly. This however excludes those countries that are not a part of the EU, both in Europe and across the world.

A number of scenarios and trends are also evident around trade. Loopholes in policy and legislation are used by traders, new markets are constantly being sought (especially when one market, such as the EU now, closes), eggs are transported to escape detection, more birds are traded than is outlined on the permits, the cranes are shipped with other more numerous species and hence often escape detection, and legal birds are used as a front for the illegal trade.

Advocacy

To date, the African Crane Trade Project has been presented at the PAAZAB (2006 and 2007) and to WAZA (2006) conferences, and has been outlined in the newsletters for these two associations as well. Discussions have been held with local communities, captive facilities and people trading in cranes and law enforcement officials around Africa and internationally.

Conclusion

Our knowledge of the crane trade depended on circumstantial evidence with minimal data. Phase one of the project included short term investigations to assess the potential extent of the threat to wild populations. Findings showed that cranes were being removed from the wild in all countries that were involved in this preliminary investigation, for food, domestication, traditional use and the illegal trade market. CITES data show that wild caught cranes are still involved in trade although no quotas in any country have been allowed. Frighteningly, the captive populations in formal zoo associations are unsustainable and relatively unmonitored and not managed – besides Wattled Cranes. The removal of cranes from the wild for the purpose of trade for a number of reasons is therefore a threat to wild populations and requires immediate and urgent attention.

THE STATUS OF GREY CROWNED CRANE *Balearica regulorum* AND WATTLED CRANE *Bugeranus carunculatus* IN TANZANIA

Mr Neil Baker, Tanzania Bird Atlas

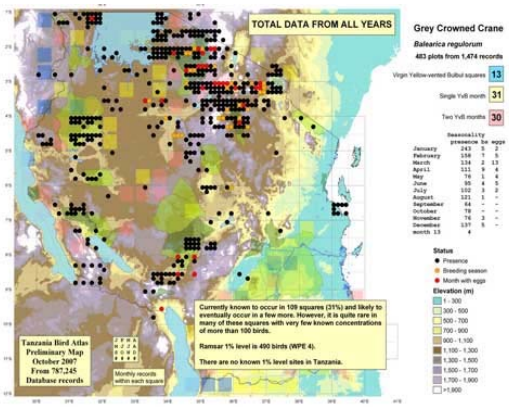


Figure 1
Grey Crowned Crane data - all years

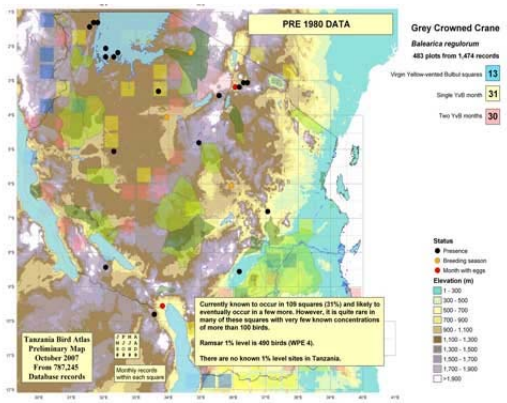


Figure 2
Grey Crowned Crane data – pre 1980

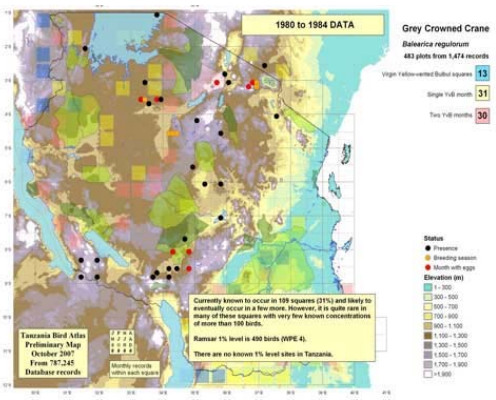


Figure 3
Grey Crowned Crane data:1980-1984

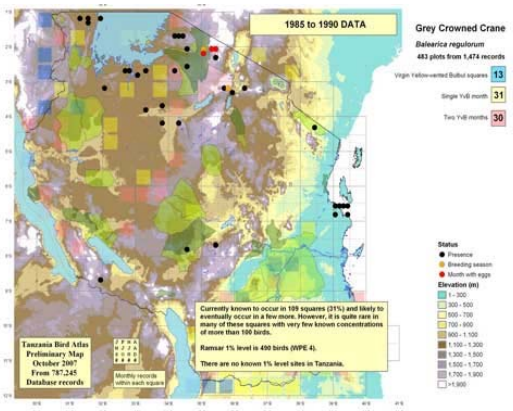


Figure 4
Grey Crowned Crane data: 1985-1990

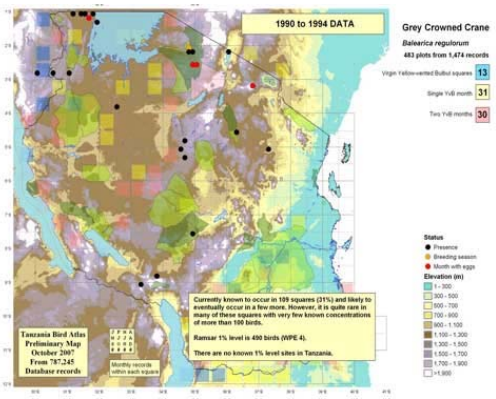


Figure 5
Grey Crowned Crane data: 1990-1994

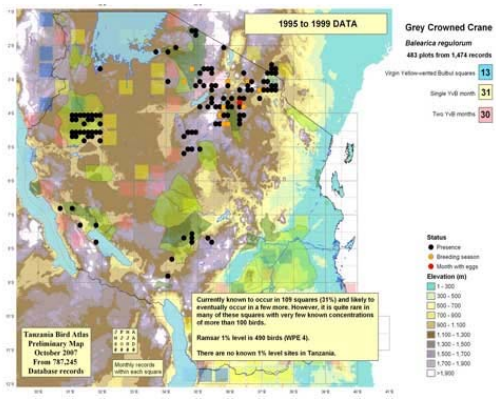


Figure 6
Grey Crowned Crane data: 1995-1999

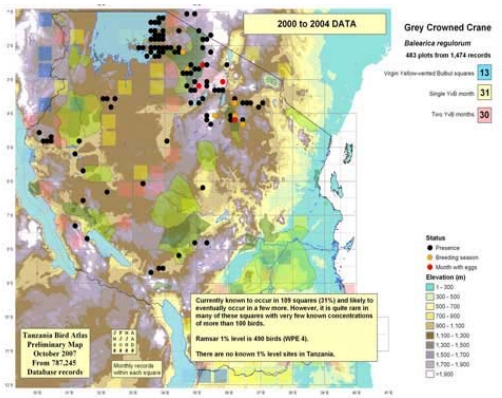


Figure 7
Grey Crowned Crane data: 2000-2004

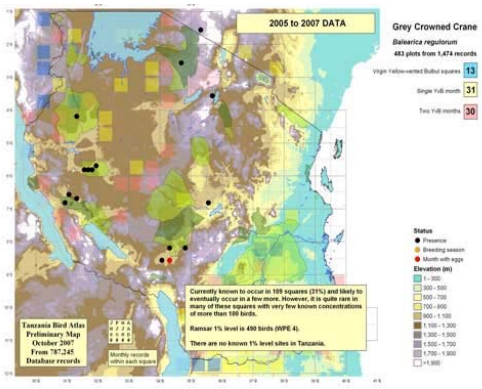
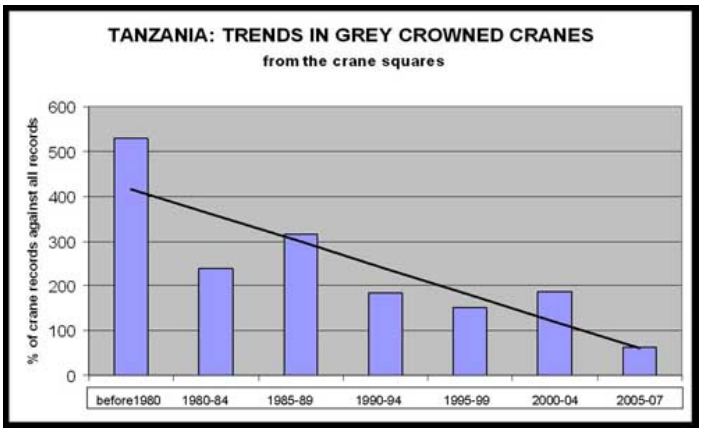
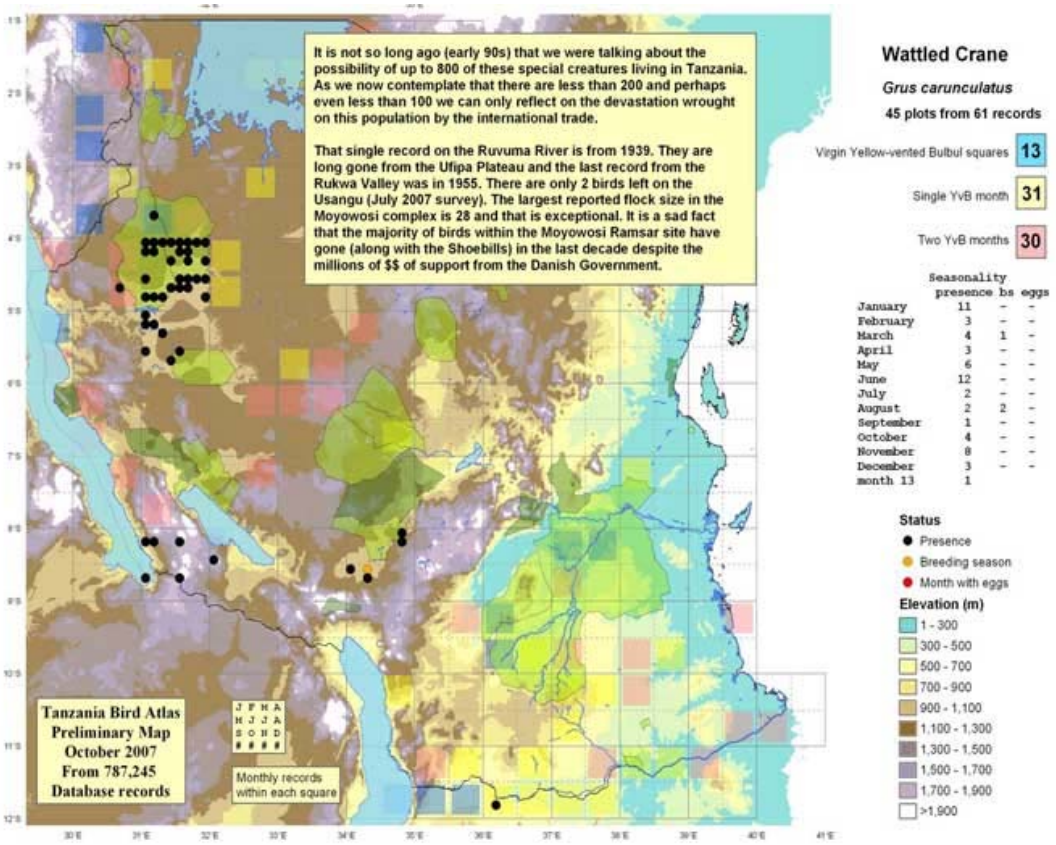


Figure 8
Grey Crowned Crane data: 2005-2007

Grey Crowned Crane. Tanzania Waterbird Count 1995 (Baker 1997)
Total recorded: 647 by 9 (19) teams. The final total of fewer than 1,000 birds was a surprise as flocks of thousands are known from some localities. Team 11a counted 524 birds from the rice schemes on the edge of Usangu Flats but an estimated 10,000 have occurred there in the recent past and many hundreds are seasonally present in Ngorongoro. Numbers in the west in the Moyowosi / Ugalla complex were far fewer than expected. In the north, non-breeding aggregations were expected as this species breeds in July and August. Many thousands have been exported from Tanzania during the last decade or more for the international bird trade and it is feared that this may have made a significant impact on population levels. While the evidence is not yet unequivocal there is growing concern that the population is decreasing and this is confirmed by the survey.

Tanzania population estimate.
The provisional data from the Tanzania Atlas records this species in 45 (41%) of the 109 primary Atlas squares analysed for this report. It is therefore a widespread species but some records no doubt refer to escapes from bird collection centres as these are many km from suitable habitat. This species is essentially western and northern with very few records from the coastal lowlands or the dry central plateau. The estimated 10,000 birds on the Usangu rice schemes in the late 80s may well have represented the majority of the population in southern and south-western Tanzania at the time the count took place. In the north and west it is rarely found in flocks of more than a few hundred but even so this population in the mid 80s could have been in excess of 5,000 birds giving a country maximum of around 20,000. This seems very high when compared to data collected more recently including this survey. There are now probably fewer than 5,000 birds in Tanzania with the rather alarming prospect of the figure being considerably lower than this.





Wattled Crane data

The Bird Atlas of Uganda 2005

Up to the end of the 1970s it was estimated that the Uganda population was in the tens of thousands and perhaps increasing (Pomeroy 1980)

But recent work has shown that numbers are now declining MARKEDLY with an estimated population of about 35,000 birds perhaps owing to the loss of breeding sites (Muhebwa-Muhoozi 2002)

WORKSHOP CLOSING REMARKS

Dr. Omar Farah, Director General, National Museums of Kenya

Ladies and gentlemen

I am pleased to have been invited to the closing ceremony of this workshop. Firstly, I wish to thank the Endangered Wildlife Trust and International Crane Foundation for choosing to hold the workshop in Kenya and to involve the National Museums of Kenya as the host institution.

National Museums of Kenya (NMK) is mandated by the government of Kenya to conserve the nation's cultural and natural heritage, including the rich diversity of birds. NMK hosts 25000 specimens of Kenya's fauna and flora. This national collection is a valuable resource for research, education and public awareness. We have vibrant public programmes and permanent exhibits whose primary aim is to promote better understanding, appreciation and conservation of the country's rich cultural and biological diversity. In this regard, we have a network of 29 regional museums throughout the country.

As part of our mandate, NMK monitors trade in wild species of animals and plants. Indeed we play an advisory role to Kenya Wildlife Service, which is the national focal point for CITES. We also provide an identification service and advice to individuals who seek permits to export or import plant and animal species.

We have been undertaking research and monitoring of Grey Crowned Cranes in Kenya since 1985. We have also been involved in monitoring movement of cranes for the purpose of export trade and domestication. However, our efforts in monitoring the crane population in Kenya have been fragmented, largely because of financial constraints.

During the last two years, however, the NMK has implemented two projects connected with cranes. The first one entailed training of community groups on how to monitor the numbers of cranes and changes in wetlands. The second project involved an investigation of the extent of trade in Grey Crowned Cranes. I believe that results of these projects have been highlighted during this workshop.

I trust that you have had fruitful deliberations during the last four days. By involving many organisations in Africa and partners abroad, this workshop has generated interest and concern about the impacts of trade on African cranes. I believe you have identified the key problems and solutions that are practical and affordable in Africa. Please communicate the decisions of this workshop to your governments and organisations so that they can be acted on as soon as possible.

I wish you a safe journey to your respective destinations and keep on the dialogue started here and strengthen the bonds of friendship and partnership for the benefit of cranes and peoples of Africa. Thank you and God bless you.

I now declare this workshop officially closed.

AFRICAN CRANE TRADE PROJECT

TRADE MITIGATION PLANNING WORKSHOP

8 – 11 October 2007

Kenya Wildlife Services Training Institute, Naivasha, Kenya

WORKSHOP REPORT

Blue Cranes (*Warwick Tarboton)*

SECTION 3

WORKING GROUP REPORTS

ACRONYMS

ACWAC	African Cranes, Wetlands and Communities (the ICF/EWT Partnership)
APLORI	AP Leventis Ornithological Research Institute
AZA	Association of Zoos and Aquaria
BCC	Black Crowned Crane
CBO	Community Based Organisations
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species
CMS	Convention on Migratory Species
EAWLS	East African Wildlife Society
EAZA	European Association of Zoos and Aquaria
EWT	Endangered Wildlife Trust
GCC	Grey Crowned Crane
ICF	International Crane Foundation
ISIS	International Species Information System
IUCN	World Conservation Union
Kipsaina	Kipsaina Crane and Wetland Conservation Initiative
KWS	Kenya Wildlife Service
MEA	Multilateral Environmental Agreements
NGO	Non Governmental Organisation
NMK	National Museums of Kenya
PAAZAB	African Association of Zoos and Aquaria
SSC	Species Survival Commission
TANAPA	Tanzania National Parks
TAWIRI	Tanzania Wildlife Research Institute
Tz	Tanzania
UAE	United Arab Emirates
UDSM	University of Dar es Salaam
UN	United Nations
UWA	Uganda Wildlife Authority
WC	Wattled Crane
WCST	Wildlife Conservation Society of Tanzania
WI	Wetlands International
WWF	World Wildlife Fund

CRANE SUPPLY AND LOCAL *IN SITU* ISSUES WORKING GROUP

WORKING GROUP PARTICIPANTS

Name	Organization	Country
Kone Bakary	Wetlands International	Mali
Joy Kariuki	National Museums of Kenya	Kenya
Inyasi Lejora	Tanzania National Parks	Tanzania
Peter Mpua	Community representative	Kenya
Jimmy Muheebwa	*Nature*Uganda	Uganda
Zipporah Musyimi	University of Nairobi	Kenya
Samson Phakathi	Endangered Wildlife Trust's Conservation Leadership Group	South Africa
Ruth Turugurwa	Community representative	Uganda
Maurice Wanjala	Kipsaina Crane and Wetlands Conservation Initiative	Kenya

INTRODUCTION / SITUATION OVERVIEW

Various crane trade studies conducted in Africa as part of Phase 1 of the African Crane Trade Project, and some projects previous to this, have confirmed that cranes are being removed from the wild for a variety of reasons. Most of these removals are being conducted by members of the local community for food, domestication, traditional purposes and illegal trade. The following reasons outline the rationale behind these removals:

- **Poverty levels in the communities and selling cranes for food**. Communities living in poverty have either taken to wetland modification for food production, which leaves cranes with limited breeding grounds, or resorted to catching and selling cranes for income generation.
- **Crop raiding behaviours of the cranes**. As a result of their feeding behaviour, cranes have become problem animals when raiding maize, peas and ground nut crops. Certain communities feel that such cranes are "better done away with" through direct persecution, e.g. poisoning, than through trapping and harvesting for trade.
- **Ownership problem**. Cranes and crane areas are not owned by any one individual and hence are deemed to have no direct benefits to the local communities. This results in the capture and selling of cranes or traditional use thereof. However, it was highlighted that very few people benefit from trade in cranes.
- **Cultural beliefs result in cranes being used by traditional witch doctors**. Cranes are captured and sold or given to traditional healers / witch doctors who use them for a variety of reasons, the most prominent of which is the enhancement of love within the family.
- **Prestige** (as is the case in Nigeria) and prison settings in Uganda which leads to domestication. With the quest to appearing "big" and maintaining the status quo, rich men have kept cranes (domestication). This has not stopped with individuals but extends also to institutions like prisons that have captured and kept cranes under domesticated conditions.
- **Low awareness levels and environmental education**. These programmes, where present, are either inadequate or sometimes aimed at the wrong target audience. People are not adequately, or sometimes not at all, sensitised about legislation on biodiversity use and where sensitisation does occur, the legislation implementation is left wanting.
- **Natural disasters,** which when they strike (as has been the case in Mali - Inner Niger Delta), leave crane trade as the one remaining viable alternative income available to local communities.

- **Rarity / scarcity of the commodity** (cranes) which has raised the demand and increased prices.

The issues driving crane removal from the wild outlined above were prioritised in the group as follows:

1. Poverty
2. Cultural beliefs
3. Awareness – low awareness and environmental education levels
4. Grey Crowned Cranes as a common good owned by nobody
5. Rarity and scarcity of the cranes
6. Natural disasters leaving crane trade as the only viable alternative

PROBLEM STATEMENT 1
INCREASED POVERTY PROMOTES TRADE IN CRANES

Solution 1:
Encourage income generating activities

Action step 1: Identify social groups that are involved in crane trade	
Responsibility	▪ EWT ▪ *Nature*Uganda ▪ Wetlands International ▪ Tanzania Wildlife Division ▪ KWS ▪ Kipsaina ▪ NMK
Timeline	6 months
Resources	Finance, human resources, transport
Collaborators	▪ Universities ▪ Other NGOs ▪ Government ▪ UWA
Measurable outcomes	Number of groups identified
Obstacles	▪ Time ▪ The willingness of the people to identify and name the groups ▪ Resource availability

Action step 2: Identify alternative income generating projects	
Responsibility	Lead organisations outlined in action 1 above and target communities
Timeline	6 months
Resources	Finance, human resource, Transport
Collaborators	▪ Government Institutions ▪ Other NGOs
Measurable outcomes	Number of identified / approved Income Generating Projects
Obstacles	None

Action step 3: Establish and strengthen capacity building	
Responsibility	The lead organisations outlined in action 1 above
Timeline	Ongoing

Resources	Training service providers
Collaborators	Local communities and government institutions
Measurable outcomes	▪ Level of skill development ▪ Number of training courses held / participants
Obstacles	▪ Local community/target group availability

Action step 4: Implement income generating activities project	
Responsibility	The lead organisations outlined in action 1 above and communities
Timeline	1 year
Resources	▪ Funds ▪ Extension services
Collaborators	▪ Lead institution and governments ▪ Sister programmes
Measurable outcomes	▪ The number of income generating projects implemented ▪ The increase in local community income/ welfare
Obstacles	▪ Climate/ weather changes ▪ Lack of funding

Action step 5: Establish monitoring and evaluation schemes	
Responsibility	Lead organisations outlined in action 1 above
Timeline	1 year
Resources	Finances and human resources
Collaborators	Local communities and government
Measurable outcomes	Number of meetings held and reports produced
Obstacles	Funds

Solution 2:
Effective and focussed awareness and education (improved skills, informed decisions)

Action step 1: Identify target groups (key stakeholders)	
Responsibility	Lead organisations e.g. ▪ *Nature*Uganda ▪ NMK ▪ Tanzania Wildlife Division ▪ EWT
Timeline	6 months
Resources	Education materials
Collaborators	Government
Measurable outcomes	Number of groups identified
Obstacles	None

Action step 2: Implement awareness programmes for the groups	
Responsibility	Lead organisations e.g. ▪ *Nature*Uganda ▪ NMK ▪ Tanzania Wildlife Division ▪ EWT

Timeline	12 months
Resources	Education materials
Collaborators	Government
Measurable outcomes	Number of groups positively affected by awareness programmes implemented
Obstacles	Some groups turning uncooperative

Solution 3:
Need for micro credit schemes

Action step 1: Identify relevant micro credit schemes	
Responsibility	Same as the lead organisations outlines in Solution 1 Action 1 above
Timeline	6 months
Resources	Human resources
Collaborators	Government, sister organisations, interested parties
Measurable outcomes	Number of micro credit schemes identified
Obstacles	None

Action step 2: Establish a crane revolving funds system	
Responsibility	Same as the lead organisations outlined in Solution 1 Action 1
Timeline	6 months
Resources	Funding
Collaborators	Government, sister organisations, interested parties
Measurable outcomes	Revolving fund in place
Obstacles	Fund availability

Action step 3: Facilitate and motivate access to the micro credit schemes	
Responsibility	Same as the lead organisations outlined in Solution 1 Action 1
Timeline	6 -12 months
Resources	Human resources
Collaborators	Government, sister organisations, interested parties
Measurable outcomes	Number of micro credit schemes accessed
Obstacles	Security and surety for loan acquisition from micro credit institutions

Note:
It was noted that pilot projects to test the viability of micro-credit schemes should be considered

Solution 4:
Provision of extension services

Action step 1: Identify the relevant extension services	
Responsibility	Same as the lead organisations outlined in Solution 1 Action 1 and beneficiaries
Timeline	3 -6 months
Resources	

Collaborators	Government, sister organisations and interested parties
Measurable outcomes	Number of extension services provided (local community)
Obstacles	

Action step 2: Facilitate the provision of the extension services	
Responsibility	Same as the lead organisations outlined above in Solution 1 Action 1
Timeline	6 months
Resources	Funds
Collaborators	Government, sister organisations and interested parties
Measurable outcomes	Viable projects in place
Obstacles	Transport

Solution 5:
Encourage habitat restoration

Action step 1: Identify key habitats to be restored **Action step 2:** Develop, identify and implement the restoration plan **Action step 3:** Monitor and evaluate the progress (ongoing)	
Responsibility	Same as the lead organisations outlined in Solution 1 Action 1
Timeline	6 months to 1 year
Resources	Human resources and funds
Collaborators	Government and the local institutions
Measurable outcomes	Number and size of restored habitat
Obstacles	Political will and poverty levels driving locals into more degradation

PROBLEM STATEMENT 2
MOST CULTURAL BELIEFS HAVE LED TO THE REMOVAL OF CRANES FROM THE WILD

Solution 1:
Understand the evolution of cultural beliefs that are related to the traditional use of cranes

Action step 1: Conduct a study about the cultural beliefs related to cranes **Action step 2:** Disseminate the study to the relevant key stakeholders	
Responsibility	Same as the lead organisations outlined in Solution 1 Action 1 and local leaders
Timeline	1 – 2 years
Resources	Human resources and media
Collaborators	Government and NGOs
Measurable outcomes	Report
Obstacles	Language barrier and misleading information from the local people

Solution 2:
Advocate for change of attitudes towards crane conservation

Action 1: We need to translate the results of the study into simple terms in order to

accommodate the target group's learning needs. **Action 2:** Prepare and conduct awareness programmes. (meetings, radio,etc)	
Responsibility	Same as the lead organisations outlined in Solution 1 Action 1 above and NGOs
Timeline	1 year
Resources	Print media, billboards and advertisements
Collaborators	Local community
Measurable outcomes	Increased awareness and change of perceptions (questionnaires)
Obstacles	None

Solution 3:
Investigate and demystify the notion of traditional healing/ practices

Action 1: Identify the positive and negative traditional beliefs on cranes. **Action 2:** Conduct awareness about and against the negative beliefs about cranes. **Action 3:** Promote the positive beliefs about cranes.	
Responsibility	Same as the lead organisations outlined in Solution 1 Action 1 above and local communities
Timeline	2 years
Resources	Human resources
Collaborators	Local community
Measurable outcomes	Report in place, attitude survey result (questionnaires)
Obstacles	Lack of cooperation by local communities

Solution 4:
Substitute use of live cranes with locally available alternatives or equivalents

Action 1: Identify the target group (domesticators) **Action 2:** Encourage them to use substitute to live cranes **Action 3:** Provide incentives to those people who subscribe to an idea of using statures. (Board, flags etc.)	
Responsibility	Same as the lead organisations outlined in Solution 1 Action 1 above and governments
Timeline	2 – 3 years
Resources	Human resources and finances
Collaborators	NGOs and the crane domesticators and company managers
Measurable outcomes	Increased use of statutes and logos bearing the crane symbol
Obstacles	Lack of cooperation

PROBLEM STATEMENT 3
INADEQUATE AWARENESS AND EDUCATION ON RELEVANCE OF CRANE ECOLOGY/BIOLOGY

Solution 1:
Mainstreaming crane conservation in local management plan

Action 1: Integrate crane conservation in the existing and future local management plan. **Action 2:** Monitor and evaluate the implementation of the crane component in the local management plan.	
Responsibility	Same as the lead organisations outlined in Solution 1 Action 1

	above, local communities and local governments
Timeline	1 – 2 years
Resources	
Collaborators	Conservation NGOs
Measurable outcomes	Reviewed, prepared management plans
Obstacles	Will of the local governments to accommodate crane conservation and integrate it in management planning

Solution 2:
Develop and implement effective awareness programmes

Action 1: Identify target groups (key stakeholders) **Action 2:** Review, adapt/adopt and implement the existing crane conservation action plans. (ICF, Wetland International) **Action 3:** Conduct awareness campaigns (schools, print, audio and visual media etc)	
Responsibility	Same as the lead organisations outlined in Solution 1 Action 1 above
Timeline	2 years
Resources	Funds and human resources
Collaborators	Government
Measurable outcomes	Awareness programme in place and attitude change
Obstacles	Fund availability

Solution 3:
Create a sense of crane appreciation

Action 1: Promote the branding of products and items using crane logos. **Action 2:** Promote the positive perspectives about the cultural significant of cranes. **Action 3:** Promote cranes as the eco-tourism attraction.	
Responsibility	Same as the lead organisations outlined in Solution 1 Action 1 above and local communities
Timeline	3 – 4 years
Resources	Funds and technology
Collaborators	Government
Measurable outcomes	Eco-tourism projects
Obstacles	Lack of cooperation from the local communities

PROBLEM STATEMENT 4
THE TRAGEDY OF THE COMMONS

Solution 1:
Empower local communities into self management of local/natural resources

Action 1: Build the capacity for the local community to manage their local resources. **Action 2:** Facilitate the enactment and implementation of environmental related bi-laws.	
Responsibility	Same as the lead organisations outlined in Solution 1 Action 1 above and government
Timeline	2 – 3 years
Resources	Funds and expertise

Collaborators	Politicians and the local leaders
Measurable outcomes	Bylaws in place
Obstacles	Political interference

Solution 2:
Encourage protection of cranes outside protected areas

Action 1: Facilitate the formation of crane Site Support Groups. **Action 2:** Facilitate the establishment of community protected areas which can promote crane conservation.	
Responsibility	Same as the lead organisations outlined in Solution 1 Action 1 above, local organisations and the government
Timeline	3 years
Resources	Funds and expertise
Collaborators	Conservation NGOs
Measurable outcomes	Having community protected areas in place and Site Support Groups
Obstacles	Political will and land tenure systems prevailing

Solution 3:
Encourage active systematic monitoring of cranes and their habitats

Action 1: Establish baseline (habitat, range, ecology, biology etc) **Action 2:** Design and implement a monitoring programme	
Responsibility	Same as the lead organisations outlined in Solution 1 Action 1 above
Timeline	1 – 2 years
Resources	Human resources and expertise
Collaborators	Conservation specialists
Measurable outcomes	Baseline reports and an effective monitoring programme in place
Obstacles	Lack of willingness from experts / High costing of expertise provision

PROBLEM STATEMENT 5
RARITY/ SCARCITY OF CRANES

Solution 1:
Conserve the remaining habitats (wetlands)

Action 1: Identify and promote the conservation of the remaining potential crane habitat areas	
Responsibility	Same as the lead organisations outlined in Solution 1 Action 1 above
Timeline	2 years
Resources	Conservation specialists
Collaborators	Local community and leaders
Measurable outcomes	Increased breeding of cranes
Obstacles	None

Solution 2:
Rehabilitate and restore the degraded crane habitat areas

Action 1: Identify key habitat to be restored **Action 2:** Develop/ identify and implement the restoration plan **Action 3:** Monitor and evaluate the progress	
Responsibility	Same as the lead organisations outlined in Solution 1 Action 1 above
Timeline	1-3 year
Resources	Funds for travel and holding meetings, habitat specialists
Collaborators	Local communities and sister NGOs
Measurable outcomes	Number and size of wetland habitat identified and undergoing restoration
Obstacles	Land tenure system and baseline information

Solution 3:
Release the illegally domesticated birds (cranes) back into the wild

Action 1: Identify where domesticated cranes are **Action 2:** Identify potential release areas **Action 3:** Conduct a feasibility study of the release of cranes into the wild	
Responsibility	Same as the lead organisations outlined in Solution 1 Action 1 above and the government
Timeline	2 -3 years
Resources	Funds and human resources
Collaborators	Conservation and research institutions
Measurable outcomes	Reports in place
Obstacles	Resistance from concerned parties

Solution 4:
Re-introduce the crane species to areas where they have been depleted.

Action 1: Identify potential origins and sources of supply cranes **Action 2:** Identify potential re-introduction sites **Action 3:** Conduct a feasibility study on the re-introduction of cranes into the wild.	
Responsibility	Same as the lead organisations outlined in Solution 1 Action 1 above and the government
Timeline	3 years
Resources	Human resources
Collaborators	Conservation specialists
Measurable outcomes	A report in place
Obstacles	Relevant scientific knowledge on re-introduction

Note:
The IUCN/SSC Guidelines for Reintroductions for both Solutions 3 and 4.

PROBLEM STATEMENT 6
NATURAL DISASTERS AND OVER-EXPLOITATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES ESPECIALLY IN CRANE OCCURRING AREAS

Solution 1:
Disaster preparedness

Action 1: Identify potential disasters and their trends **Action 2:** Facilitate the preparation of contingency plans to mitigate the impacts of identified disasters	
Responsibility	Same as the lead organisations outlined in Solution 1 Action 1 above, local communities and meteorologists
Timeline	1 years
Resources	Funds and expertise
Collaborators	Government
Measurable outcomes	Contingency plan in place
Obstacles	Limited technology and lack of commitment

Solution 2:
Encourage micro-projects in the communities aimed at balancing the use of natural resources

Action 1: Identify potential micro-projects which are relevant to the local context **Action 2:** Facilitate the implementation of the micro-projects **Action 3:** Assist local people to identify/access markets for the products from their micro-projects	
Responsibility	Same as the lead organisations outlined in Solution 1 Action 1 above and local communities
Timeline	3 years
Resources	Funds and expertise
Collaborators	Government and local leaders
Measurable outcomes	Having viable projects in place
Obstacles	Existent microfinance regulations and discouraging market prices for products

LAW ENFORCEMENT WORKING GROUP

WORKING GROUP PARTICIPANTS

Name	Organisation	Country
Neil Baker	Tanzania Bird Atlas	Tanzania
Eric Enyel	Uganda Wildlife Authority	Uganda
Cecilia Gichuki	National Museums of Kenya	Kenya
Mzamilu Kaita	Wildlife Division	Tanzania

INTRODUCTION / SITUATION OVERVIEW

1. Outdated wildlife laws (Problem Statement 2a below)
   Uganda, Wildlife Act 2000, many amendments in the pipeline, some old laws still exist which date back to the 1950s
   Tanzania, Wildlife Act 1974 has many amendments and a new wildlife act is in the government process now
   Kenya, Wildlife Act 1995, new wildlife Policy in preparation
   A common problem is that most legislation is non species specific in all countries
2. Identification of species, (body parts, DNA).
   Most law officers, custom officials, etc. cannot identify birds and therefore equate names on permits with birds in the hand.
3. Weak laws (Problem Statement 2b below)
   Uganda: poor deterrence, low fines (plus high inflation issues), low values attached to birds
   Kenya: low values attached to mammals, birds etc, low fines, inflation issues
   Tanzania: because we trade, Government attaches a higher value to mammals and birds. BUT the regulations are often circumvented
4. Low awareness of laws among public (Problem Statement 3a below)
   Ignorance of the law among the public
5. Low awareness of laws among law officers (police, customs, magistrates) (Problem Statement 3b below)
   Sufficient awareness for large mammals but poor for birds and cranes in particular.
6. Corruption (Problem Statement 4 below)
   Petty corruption at village, district level, higher levels among politicians, wildlife officers, airline staff, customs, fuelled by overseas demand. These USD (dollars) originate from traders in Europe and the USA.
7. No regional harmonisation of laws
8. Interpol (International Police)
9. Political interference (Problem Statement 5 below)
10. Interpretation of the law
    Some law enforcement officers at all levels do not see the value.
11. Porous borders
    Even if law enforcement was effective at all border points these would be easy to circumvent. It is quite easy to simply walk across all these borders.
12. Insufficient resources (Problem Statement 1 below)
    Few officers, poor funding, lack of equipment, training, poor infrastructure, etc.

PROBLEM STATEMENT 1
TRADE IN CRANES IS A LOW PRIORITY ISSUE AMONG AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS AND INSUFFICIENT RESOURCES ARE ALLOCATED TO LAW ENFORCEMENT

Solution 1:
Increase resources to the level where the trade can be effectively policed

The working group did not have any answers to this issue. Mr Kaita suggested an increase in existing budgets of 20% over 5 years but no figures were available for existing budgets or for the amounts required or what this would do to inflation. A suggestion was also made that incentives could be provided to existing staff, and could include, amongst others salary payment on time, housing, field equipment, transport, bonus, training, official support – many of which are lacking in most countries. It was agreed that it was beyond this group's expertise and also beyond the area of influence of the workshop participants.

PROBLEM STATEMENT 2
WILDLIFE LAWS ARE A LOW PRIORITY AMONG AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS. UPDATING AND RATIONALISING THEM IS A SLOW EXPENSIVE PROCESS.

Solution 1:
Review existing laws

Action step:
This requires a continent wide review of wildlife laws pertaining to birds in general and cranes in particular. We recommend that a consultant be employed for a "length of time" who would liaise with the relevant partners in each range state, identify current gaps and make recommendations for improvements specific to cranes and other large waterbirds.

This is to be a joint effort between the EWT and the ICF with the involvement of all in country partners. These partners are to be identified as a matter of priority - they already exists in most range states.

This would involve a 12 month project of $150,000 from mid 2008 to mid 2009, with the following objectives:

1. To propose new laws
2. To create species specific regulations within the new laws
3. To create local (District, Village) by-laws specifically for sensitive crane sites

PROBLEM STATEMENT 3
BIRD TRADE IS A LOW PRIORITY AND LITTLE EFFORT IS MADE TO CREATE AWARENESS AMONG OFFICIALS AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC.

Solution 1:
Create awareness at national and local levels

Action step 1
Design and produce a booklet in the 35 main languages, each to have a summary of national laws as well as information on the continental and national status of each crane species. In full colour this would cost less than $0.50 per copy. Some countries would need 10,000 copies, others 5,000. These would be distributed to target groups, local villagers,

village leaders, local law enforcement officials and teachers within crane range and key national officials. This would also require translation from the four main continental languages into tribal languages. We need to consider including the Shoebill and Saddle-billed Storks.

Producing this booklet would go a long way to involving other stakeholders. The booklet could be summarised in a poster.

Other points to consider:

A. Use existing NGOs, BirdLife Partners exist in most range states. Wetlands International has offices and some countries have wildlife clubs. Each country would have different requirements to create awareness.
B. A newspaper campaign to introduce the issue, the booklet and poster.
C. A song competition (use examples from West Africa, Mali).
D. A play / dance who could we work with on this, but this needs greater clarification and investigation

Action step 2
Bring more stakeholders on board.

PROBLEM STATEMENT 4
CORRUPTION IS A FACT OF LIFE THROUGHOUT AFRICA, AFFECTING ALL LEVELS OF SOCIETY

Any actions are beyond the scope of this workshop, but the following solutions were suggested.

Solution 1:
Increase salaries of all law enforcement personnel to allow them and their families to live without stealing

Solution 2:
Strengthen anti-corruption departments

Solution 3:
Create awareness of this problem with respect to crane trade

Solution 4:
Have corruption issues included in the national curriculum to improve morality

PROBLEM STATEMENT 5
DESPITE EXISTING LAWS AND REGULATIONS DIRECT POLITICAL INTERFERENCE CREATES PROBLEMS

Any actions are beyond the scope of this workshop, but the following solutions were suggested

Solution 1:
Strengthen democracy among the range states

Solution 2:
Sensitise the general public

IN SUMMARY
This working group was given an "impossible task", law enforcement in Africa faces enormous challenges, all of them on a level well above anything this or any other wildlife specialist interest group can effectively address.

While it is relatively easy to identify the problems it is far from easy to even begin to address them. We therefore chose not to concentrate on the "impossible" issues, rather to focus on where we thought we might actually achieve something.

The "impossible" issues were grouped into 3 headings.

1. Lack of resources, both human and financial. What is required to effectively police the international trade is far more than any financial benefits that may accrue from such trade and therefore totally unattainable given the current constraints faced by most, if not all, African countries.
2. Corruption at the local and national level is so ingrained and is such a problem for all Africans that it is well beyond the scope of this meeting.
3. Political interference in legal issues is a major constraint to development and democracy throughout Africa. This is well beyond our mandate.

This left us with only two subjects that we felt competent to address and where we felt we might actually achieve a measurable action that would benefit cranes.

1. A review of the wildlife laws throughout the range states with a view to having birds in general and cranes in particular given specific status as merited by their current and projected future status.

We envisaged that this requires a full time consultant based out of the EWT who would collect and collate all range state wildlife laws using in-country partners such as those used by Wetlands International as well as the numerous Government agencies that the ICF and the EWT are already working with. Identifying these partners is a necessary first step. In discussion we felt that this is achievable within a 12 month time frame beginning mid 2008.

As the review progresses it is essential that recommendations are made to each range state Government that all cranes are specifically mentioned by name, that their current status is recognised and that suitable penalties are introduced as incentives not to harm them.

Ideally this would go beyond this to actually encourage people to protect them but this might not be workable in a legal document. It is recognised that the regulations and by-laws within any Act would become the working documents and the wording of these is most important.

The measurable outcome of this review would be twofold. The review itself would be circulated to all partners for comment and feedback. The recommendations from this feedback would be incorporated into advice given to Government and circulated as widely as possible.

Action 1: Identify potential micro-projects which are relevant to the local context **Action 2:** Facilitate the implementation of the micro-projects **Action 3:** Extensive review of wildlife laws	
Responsibility	ICF/EWT
Timeline	12 months : mid 2008 – mid 2009
Resources	$150,000
Collaborators	Wetland International, Other NGOs, Governments, UN agencies, BirdLife partners
Measurable outcomes	1.Published review circulated to all members. 2. Feedback from members also published. 3. National laws include greater protection to cranes.
Obstacles	1. funding 2. consultant 3. government collaboration

2. Bird trade is a low priority and little effort is made to create awareness among officials and the general public.

The production of a A5, 15 page booklet costing less than $0.50 would go a long way to creating awareness at local and national levels. Easily translatable into the 30+ languages within the range states. With information on, laws, international and national status, life histories, tribal stories, etc. Such a booklet could also include other flagship waterbirds such as Shoebill and Saddle-billed Stork. 22 countries, 10,000 copies per country.

Distribution is an issue, postage within Africa is no longer cheap. However, we feel that the multitude of NGOs provide the vehicle for free and relatively easy distribution at all levels. When these booklets are available a media campaign will be launched in each range state by members of the crane forum. Posters will be produced for permanent display at police stations, immigration offices, village centres near crane habitat and other suitable locations.

Specifically for West Africa a song will be written and attempts will be made to translate this for a wider audience throughout the range states.

Action 1: Production of booklets and posters	
Responsibility	ICF/EWT
Timeline	24 months mid 2008-2010 again in year 5 !!
Resources	$300,000
Collaborators	Wetland International contacts, Other NGOs, Governments, UN agencies, BirdLife partners.
Measurable outcomes	Publication and distribution of 200,000 booklet backed by media campaigns. Ultimately less trade and a population increase..
Obstacles	1. funding 2. 35 languages 3. 22 (?) Countries 4. collaboration 5. distribution

Action 2: Media campaign	
Responsibility	Crane Forum members
Timeline	on going from mid 08 to end 2012

Resources	$22,000 ($1,000 per range state)
Collaborators	Wetland International contacts, Other NGOs, Governments, UN agencies, BirdLife partners..
Measurable outcomes	Newspaper articles, radio programs, TV interviews.
Obstacles	1. funding 2. local expertise

Action 3 : Create a song	
Responsibility	Wetlands International - Mali
Timeline	Next 6 months
Resources	$1,000
Collaborators	Crane forum members
Measurable outcomes	Crane forum members
Obstacles	Translation in other languages

CONSERVATION AND RESEARCH PROJECTS/RESPONSES WORKING GROUP

WORKING GROUP PARTICIPANTS

Name	Organisation	Country
Nathan Gichuki	University of Nairobi	Kenya
Jim Harris	International Crane Foundation	USA
Aron Kecha	National Museums of Kenya	Kenya
Shiiwua Manu	AP Leventis Institute	Nigeria
Angela Mwakatobe	Tanzania Wildlife Research Institute (TAWIRI)	Tanzania
Oliver Nasirwa	Wetlands International	Kenya
Paul Ndang'ang'a	BirdLife Africa Secretariat	Kenya
Griffins Ochieng	National Museums of Kenya	Kenya

INTRODUCTION / SITUATION OVERVIEW

This group focused on problems and solutions from the point of view of research and the activities of the conservation organisations responding to the issues of trade in cranes. The group consisted of active researchers and practising conservationists from a variety of public and private institutions located in Kenya, Nigeria, Tanzania and the United States.

Most of the discussion concerned information needs, and ways to address access, gathering, and analysis of the variety of data needed, and priorities for filling gaps. The group explicitly considered how to involve communities in the design and implementation of research and conservation projects, and outlined a process for developing a comprehensive awareness and education programme for diverse audiences. The group also considered it a priority to expand networks and partnerships so that more expertise and resources could participate in solutions. One very specific challenge received attention: how to make cranes and wetlands of such significance as a community-wide resource, that the community itself would police the actions of a few individuals who have in the past benefited from crane trade and in some cases have had substantial negative impacts.

Our solutions tended to focus on processes needed to address each problem, and continuous monitoring and evaluation of results so that research and conservation projects could be improved and best practices replicated.

This summary begins with the first small group session.

We lack information on status and trends for cranes in East Africa (including Sudan); we have better information for West Africa.

We brainstormed and identified issues relevant to our topic, then consolidated 28 items into the following list of common issues:

1. Lack of public awareness and education
2. Lack of information, or access to that information from communities and other key stakeholders
3. Lack of information on trade
4. Lack of research data on the birds
5. Lack of coordination on research and conservation action
6. Lack of funds for research and conservation
7. Small number of people cause severe impact (collectors, traders)

Next we worked on problem statements.(in order of priority)

1. There is insufficient information about the biology and ecology of the cranes, including their breeding success, population trends, habitat requirements and status, and distribution. We especially lack information on Grey Crowned Cranes in East Africa, and cranes in Sudan and Ethiopia.
2. There is lack of awareness and education amongst the communities, law enforcers, crane traders, and general public on the impact of crane trade.
3. Inadequate and fragmented research and conservation efforts hamper effective response to crane trade
4. There is inadequate or limited access to information about and attitudes and needs of communities and other stakeholders involved in crane trade.
5. There is lack or limited access to information about the trade in cranes and crane products, including method for capture, market chain, numbers of birds involved, mortality, prices, and destination. (THIS WAS LOOKED AT BY THE FOURTH WORKING GOUP LOOKING AT DEMAND)
6. Small numbers of people involved in crane trade cause severe impacts.
7. Lack of appropriate partners hampers research and effective conservation response to crane trade.

PROBLEM STATEMENT 1
THERE IS INSUFFICIENT INFORMATION ABOUT THE BIOLOGY AND ECOLOGY OF THE CRANES, INCLUDING THEIR BREEDING SUCCESS, POPULATION TRENDS, HABITAT REQUIREMENTS AND STATUS, AND DISTRIBUTION. WE ESPECIALLY LACK INFORMATION ON GREY CROWNED CRANES IN EAST AFRICA, AND CRANES IN SUDAN AND ETHIOPIA.

1. Comprehensive literature review (formal and informal sources).
   Establish a team of 2-3 people to undertake a desk study for each African crane species. The team should prepare a status report based on available information and a list of bibliography and circulate it among the stakeholders. (Two months).
2. Identification of gaps and knowledge in the information and in conservation measures. Based on the reports, the team should identify the gaps and knowledge on conservation measures, Gather comments and revise the report. (One month).
3. Collect data/information to fill gaps. A similar team should design and develop a plan for data collection, to fill the identified gaps for the sake of monitoring and mapping. This should be achieved in three months.
4. Initiate a network of relevant organisations/individuals in East Africa, Ethiopia and Sudan.

Solution 1:
Collect data/information to fill gaps

Action 1: Develop a plan for data collection, monitoring and mapping	
Short term goal	Grey Crowned Cranes (East Africa, Sudan), Black Crowned Cranes (Sudan, Ethiopia, West Africa, Wattled Cranes (Tanzania and Ethiopia)
Long term goal	All species and all range states
Responsibility	Short-term – WC Kerryn and Kaita (ICF/EWT and Tanzania Wildlife Division); GCC – Nathan and Kerryn (University of Nairobi and ICF/EWT) BCC – Manu and Bakary (APLORI and WI) Long-term - Kerryn and Jim (EWT and ICF)
Timeline	1 – 3 months

Resources	Personnel time, communications costs, office consumables
Collaborators	Nigerian Conservation Foundation, WCST, TAWIRI, TANAPA, Nigeria Ministry of Environment and National Parks, Kenya Wildlife Service, Nature Kenya, EAWLS, UDSM, Sudanese Wildlife Society, other NGOs, Crane Working Group of Germany, IUCN, BirdLife International, Crane Specialist Group (SSC)
Measurable outcomes	Three short-term and one long-term plans
Obstacles	Resource persons are isolated geographically and busy Communication challenges in region Non-cooperation from some quarters

Action 2: Implement data collection plan	
Responsibility	Same as Solution 1 Action 1
Timeline	Short-term: 12 months Long-term: 3 years
Resources	Field transport, equipment, personnel, communication
Collaborators	BirdLife partners, relevant government institutions, ICF, WI, EWT etc.
Measurable outcomes	Population status reports Re-assessment of IUCN Red list status Information available for CITES assessment
Obstacles	Limited funding Insecurity and inaccessibility of crane sites

Solution 2:
Initiate a network of relevant organizations/individuals in East Africa, Ethiopia, and Sudan

Action 1: Identify the relevant organisations / individuals	
Responsibility	Kerryn and Nathan (ICF/EWT, University of Nairobi)
Timeline	1 month
Resources	Communication costs, personnel costs
Collaborators	IUCN SSC, BirdLife International, Wetlands International
Measurable outcomes	Comprehensive inventory of contacts
Obstacles	Inaccessibility of some of those contacts

Action 2: Establish an email list-serve and invite all contacts	
Responsibility	Kerryn (ICF/EWT)
Timeline	1 month
Resources	Communication and personnel costs
Collaborators	All contact persons and organisations
Measurable outcomes	An operational list-serve
Obstacles	Communication challenges Email communication problems (wrong addresses, etc.)

Solutions 3 and 4:
Comprehensive literature review (formal and informal sources). Identification of gaps in knowledge and in conservation measures

Action 1: Establish a team of 3-5 people per species to undertake desk study and assemble literature and other available information	
Responsibility	Kerryn (ICF/EWT) and team members
Timeline	3 months total (for steps 1-3)
Resources	Personnel time, communication costs, office overhead
Collaborators	ICF, IUCN SSC, BirdLife International, Wetlands International, Crane Working Group of Germany
Measurable outcomes	Status report
Obstacles	Resource persons isolated Communications challenges Reduced cooperation

Action 2: Identify gaps	
Responsibility	Team
Timeline	3 months total for steps 1-3
Resources	Personnel time, communication costs, office overhead
Collaborators	ICF, IUCN SSC, BirdLife International, Wetlands International, Crane Working Group of Germany
Measurable outcomes	Status report
Obstacles	Resource persons isolated Communications challenges Reduced cooperation

Action 3: Provide feedback to solution 1	
Responsibility	Kerryn (ICF/EWT) and team members
Timeline	3 months total for steps 1-3
Resources	Personnel time, communication costs, office overhead
Collaborators	ICF, IUCN SSC, BirdLife International, Wetlands International, Crane Working Group of Germany
Measurable outcomes	Status report
Obstacles	Resource persons isolated Communications challenges Reduced cooperation

PROBLEM STATEMENT 2
THERE IS LACK OF AWARENESS AND EDUCATION AMONGST THE COMMUNITIES, LAW ENFORCERS, CRANE TRADERS, AND GENERAL PUBLIC ON THE IMPACT OF CRANE TRADE.

1. Develop appropriate awareness and education programme for the targeting communities, bird keepers, traders and the general public on cranes, crane trade and impacts of crane trade.
2. Design appropriate implementation strategies for the different audiences.
3. Implement the strategies.
4. Monitor and evaluate the progress of the programmes.

Solution 1:
Develop appropriate awareness education programme

Action 1: Identify lead / local organisation and partners in range states	
Responsibility	Kerryn and Jim (EWT and ICF)
Timeline	Month
Resources	Personnel time, office overheads, communication and travel costs
Collaborators	Government agencies, community groups, NGOs, media partners
Measurable outcomes	Awareness and education program, awareness and education materials, target groups
Obstacles	Power failures (electricity), lack of cooperation, insecurity

Action 2: Identify target groups (e.g. communities, traders law enforcers, etc.)	
Responsibility	Lead organizations identified in step 1
Timeline	3-6 months for steps 2-4
Resources	Personnel time, office overheads, communication and travel costs
Collaborators	Government agencies, community groups, NGOs, media partners
Measurable outcomes	Awareness and education programme, awareness and education materials, target groups
Obstacles	Power failures (electricity), lack of cooperation, insecurity

Action 3: Identify the awareness and education needs for respective target groups **Action 4:** Design an awareness and education programme for each target group	
Responsibility	Lead organizations identified in step 1
Timeline	3-6 months for steps 2-4
Resources	Personnel time, office overheads, communication and travel costs
Collaborators	Government agencies, community groups, NGOs, media partners
Measurable outcomes	Awareness and education programme, awareness and education materials, target groups
Obstacles	Power failures (electricity), lack of cooperation, insecurity

Solution 2:
Design implementation strategy for awareness and education programme

Action 1: Identify location and characteristics of each target group **Action 2:** Identify most effective means of delivery of programme (media), e.g., brochures, posters, radio, television, barazas, websites **Action 3:** Implement actions 1 and 2 **Action 4**: Monitor and evaluate awareness and education programme	
Responsibility	Lead organization and partners
Timeline	3 years and continuous after initiation of project
Resources	Personnel time, printing cost, office overhead, consultants, travel costs
Collaborators	Media companies, CBOs, NGOs, government agencies, zoos, and bird keepers, corporations
Measurable outcomes	Documentaries, media releases, awareness materials (e.g.,

	posters, brochures) Action 4: Evaluation report
Obstacles	Attitudes of target groups, inaccessibility of some places

PROBLEM STATEMENT 3
INADEQUATE AND FRAGMENTED RESEARCH AND CONSERVATION EFFORTS HAMPERS EFFECTIVE RESPONSE TO CRANE TRADE

1. Establishing a network and a coordination team of crane researchers and conservation bodies.
2. Establish an information sharing mechanism among African crane range states and international partners, focused at stopping crane trade.
3. Disseminate workshop outputs.
4. Establish a database on African cranes.

Solution 1:
Establish a Network and Coordination Team of Crane Researchers and Conservationists.

Action 1: Identify crane researchers and conservationists	
Responsibility	EWT, ICF, BirdLife International
Timeline	1-3 months
Resources	Personnel time, communication costs, office overheads
Collaborators	Crane researchers and conservationists, research institutions, conservation institutions
Measurable outcomes	Operational network
Obstacles	Technological challenges

Action 2: Establish a network of researchers and conservationists	
Responsibility	Lead organisations
Timeline	3 - 6 months
Resources	Communication costs, personnel time and office overheads
Collaborators	Crane researchers and conservationists, research institutions, conservation institutions
Measurable outcomes	Operational network
Obstacles	Technological challenges

Action 3: identify an enthusiastic coordinator / moderator of the network	
Responsibility	Lead organisations
Timeline	1-3 months
Resources	Personnel time, communication costs, office overheads
Collaborators	Crane researchers and conservationists, research institutions, conservation institutions
Measurable outcomes	Operational network
Obstacles	Technological challenges

Solution 2:
Establish an information sharing mechanism within African range states and international partners

Action 1: Identify potential consumers of information in range states e.g. CITES focal points, CMS, Ramsar focal points, conservation agencies, lobby groups etc	
Responsibility	EWT, ICF and BirdLife International
Timeline	1 – 2 months
Resources	Personnel time, communication costs, office overheads
Collaborators	Crane researchers and conservationists, research institutions, conservation institutions
Measurable outcomes	Operational information sharing mechanism
Obstacles	Technological challenges, government bureaucracy

Action 2: Identify an effective mechanism for sharing information to reach all focal points for network member	
Responsibility	Lead organisations
Timeline	1 months
Resources	
Collaborators	Crane researchers and conservationists, research institutions, conservation institutions
Measurable outcomes	Operational information sharing mechanism
Obstacles	Technological challenges, government bureaucracy

Action 3: Implementation of the information sharing mechanism	
Responsibility	Lead organisations
Timeline	3-6 months
Resources	
Collaborators	Crane researchers and conservationists, research institutions, conservation institutions
Measurable outcomes	Operational information sharing mechanism
Obstacles	Technological challenges, government bureaucracy

Solution 3:
Establish database of African crane information

Action 1: Collate existing crane data information	
Responsibility	EWT, ICF, WI
Timeline	8 months
Resources	Consultants, equipment (IT), office overheads, and communication costs
Collaborators	Zoos, bird keepers and crane researchers and conservationists, research institutions, conservation institutions
Measurable outcomes	Functional database
Obstacles	Technological challenges, lack of cooperation from contributors

Action 2 : Design database and input information / data	
Responsibility	EWT, ICF, WI
Timeline	6 months

Resources	Consultants, equipment (I.T), office overheads, and communication costs
Collaborators	Zoos, bird keepers and crane researchers and conservationists, research institutions, conservation institutions
Measurable outcomes	Functional database
Obstacles	Technological challenges, lack of cooperation from contributors

Action 3 : Create awareness among stakeholders about the database	
Responsibility	EWT, ICF, WI
Timeline	3 months
Resources	Consultants, equipment (I.T), office overheads, and communication costs
Collaborators	Zoos, bird keepers and crane researchers and conservationists, research institutions, conservation institutions
Measurable outcomes	Functional database
Obstacles	Technological challenges, lack of cooperation from contributors

PROBLEM STATEMENT 4:
THERE IS INADEQUATE OR LIMITED ACCESS TO INFORMATION ABOUT AND ATTITITUDES AND NEEDS OF COMMUNITIES AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED IN CRANE TRADE

1. Involve communities in research activities.
2. Involve communities in formulation of awareness and education programmes and in their implementation.
3. Establish information sharing mechanism between communities, researchers and conservationists.

Solution 1:
Involve communities in research and conservation programmes

Action 1: Identification of entry points in the community **Action 2:** Inform community leaders about your research/conservation programme **Action 3**: Involve community members in design of research or conservation activity as appropriate **Action 4:** Provide on-the-job training for field assistants	
Responsibility	Researchers, conservationists, NGOs, CBOs, and local authorities
Timeline	Continuous
Resources	Personnel time, transport and logistics
Collaborators	ICF, EWT, community representatives, BirdLife partners
Measurable outcomes	Community attitudes, as measured under Problem 2.
Obstacles	Language barrier, culture differences, hostility/unfriendly communities, politics, and research egos.

Solution 2:
Establish information sharing mechanism among researchers, conservationists and communities.

Action 1: Develop simplified reports targeting communities **Action 2:** Hold regular meetings to update community members about research/conservation **Action 3**: Encourage field assistants in Solution 1 to disseminate information about research project **Action 4:** Provide information to teachers and schools, and other media like barazas (village meetings) and groups	
Responsibility	Researchers, conservationists, NGOs, CBOs, and local authorities
Timeline	Continuous
Resources	Personnel time, transport and logistics, design and printing costs
Collaborators	ICF, EWT, community representatives, BirdLife partners
Measurable outcomes	Information disseminated through simplified reports
Obstacles	Community time limited, school curriculum do not allow for additional instruction, lack of interest and commitment

PROBLEM STATEMENT 5
THERE IS LACK OR LIMITED ACCESS TO INFORMATION ABOUT THE TRADE IN CRANES AND CRANE PRODUCTS, INCLUDING METHOD FOR CAPTURE, MARKET CHAIN, NUMBERS OF BIRDS INVOLVED, MORTALITY, PRICES, AND DESTINATION. (THIS PROBLEM STATEMENT WAS TACKLED BY THE GOUP LOOKING AT DEMAND)

PROBLEM STATEMENT 6
ONLY A SMALL NUMBER OF PEOPLE ARE INVOLVED IN THE CRANE TRADE

1. Promote community responsibility in the conservation of the African crane.
2. Lobby and advocate for change of policies to encourage common ownership of resources and equitable sharing of benefits from crane conservation.
3. Establish one or two pilot projects by creating community-wide incentives for safeguarding cranes.

Solution 1:
Promote community responsibility in the conservation of the African crane

Action 1: Identify income generating projects (IGPs) that will instil sense of community responsibility for cranes and wetlands. **Action 2:** Implement IGPs **Action 3:** Evaluate the pilot IGP projects and disseminate results and best practices.	
Responsibility	EWT/ICF to identify lead organization within country, to implement projects
Timeline	Step 1 (3 months), step 2 (2-3 years), step 3 (1 year)
Resources	Personnel time, travel costs, office overhead; for step 2, depends on IGP
Collaborators	Governments in countries, conservation agencies, donor agencies, micro-finance agencies
Measurable outcomes	Operational IGPs, improved livelihoods, better appreciation for cranes, and increased crane population; reduced trade, evaluation reports
Obstacles	Limited finances for IGPs; limited donor agencies, time limited

Solution 2:
Lobby and advocate for change of policies to encourage common ownership of resources and equitable sharing of benefits from crane conservation

Action 1: Identify policies that may need review **Action 2:** Propose the review and the changes necessary **Action 3:** Lobby for policy change and adoption	
Responsibility	Lead organization (consultant) (and partners for step 3)
Timeline	step 1 (4 months), step 2 (6 months), step 3 (1 year or longer)
Resources	Consultancy costs, personnel time, communications (petitions and memoranda), logistical costs (meetings and consultancies)
Collaborators	IUCN, government agencies, line ministries, CBOs
Measurable outcomes	Policies that favour conservation of cranes, community participation, equitable sharing of benefits from cranes/wetlands conservation, policies that discourage trade in cranes
Obstacles	Government bureaucracy, lack of cooperation, lack of money, opposing interest groups

Solution 3:
Establish one or two pilot projects by creating community-wide incentives for safeguarding cranes.

Covered by Solution 1.
Examples of IGPs: ecotourism, micro-credit in Mali and Uganda

PROBLEM STATEMENT 7
LACK OF APPROPRIATE PARTNERS HAMPERS RESEARCH AND EFFECTIVE CONSERVATION RESPONSE TO CRANE TRADE

1. Identify potential partners in crane conservation, both local and international.
2. Establish partnerships with appropriate local and international partners.
3. Promotion of crane conservation within the multilateral environmental agreements (MEA's).

Solution 1:
Identify potential partners in crane conservation, both local and international, that are needed to achieve our crane conservation objectives.

Action 1: Identify potential partners **Action 2:** Establish contact with the partners **Action 3:** Establish partnerships with these organizations **Action 4:** Establish network with the partnership	
Responsibility	EWT, ICF, BirdLife International, Wetlands International
Timeline	step 1 (1 month), step 2 (2 months), step 3 (2 months), step 4 (3 months)
Resources	Personnel time, communication costs, overhead
Collaborators	Conservation organizations, NGOs, line agencies
Measurable outcomes	Contact lists, list serve for partnerships

Obstacles	Lack of cooperation from some potential partners

Solution 2:
Promotion of crane conservation within the multilateral environmental agreements (MEA's)

Action 1: Identify MEAs **Action 2:** Prepare information crane trade related issues **Action 3:** Disseminate information developed in Action 2 of this solution to MEAs identified in Action 1 in this solution	
Responsibility	EWT, ICF
Timeline	step 1 (1 month), step 2 (3-6 months), step 3 (1 months from 2, continuous thereafter
Resources	Personnel time, communication cost, overheads, travel cost
Collaborators	Country focal points for the MEAs, secretariats for the MEAs
Measurable outcomes	List of relevant MEAs, list of focal points, crane trade related documents and reports
Obstacles	Lack of cooperation from some MEAs focal points and secretariats

Developing Strategies and Action Plans
Discussion of Red List Classification
Provide information to BirdLife International to review Red List status of Black Crowned and Grey Crowned Cranes. They are currently listed as Near Threatened (Black Crowned Crane) and Least Concern (Grey Crowned Crown), and probably should be adjusted to at least Vulnerable.

Bakary Kone will inquire among colleagues in West African countries about current information on Black Crowned Cranes. Shiiwua Manu will go to northern Nigeria to look for Black Crowned Cranes. Kerryn will work with Nathan Gichuki on this.

INTERNATIONAL DEMAND WORKING GROUP

WORKING GROUP PARTICIPANTS

Name	Organisation	Country
Fred Beall	Zoo New England	USA
Mike Jordan	Chester Zoo	UK
Kerryn Morrison	ICF/EWT Partnership	South Africa
Stephen van der Spuy	Johannesburg Zoo	South Africa

INTRODUCTION / SITUATION OVERVIEW

There is a demand for African cranes which appears to be unsustainable. Cranes are traded both legally and illegally and the nature of this trade is not fully understood. Exactly where the cranes are traded to and for what purpose requires greater clarification. There is a general lack of awareness of the true status of African cranes in the wild and the impact of the trade on their populations, however all four species are known to be in decline. There are large numbers of African cranes held in captivity around the world however most are non-breeding, poorly managed and unable to meet captive demands.

The following issues were outlined and grouped during the brainstorming session to identify issues around demand:

Issue 1:
Private sector needs
Zoos
Entertainment Parks
Derivatives / parts
Domestication (not local community)
Research samples
Hunting / falconry
Changing trends / facts
Financial gain
"stamp book" collections – all species
Decoration
Lack of information on demand
Differences in use / demand (private collections, zoos, middle east)
New founder birds for managed breeding programmes
Lack of information on wild status (possibly addressed by research group also but dealt with on perhaps how to get information out there to zoos)

Issue 2:
Avian diseases
Lack of captive breeding
Non sustainable captive population
Lack of nutritional knowledge
Inappropriate housing
Inappropriate housing mixed species
Lack of information on wild status (possibly addressed by research group also but dealt with on perhaps how to get information out there to zoos)
Lack of inter-regional communication
Mixing taxa/interbreeding
Lack of husbandry knowledge / experience

Lack of exchange / cooperation between collections of different types
New founder birds for managed breeding programmes

Issue 3:
Avian diseases
Changing trades methods
Loopholes in policy / legislation
Changing trade routes
Illegal trade routes
Dealers / brokers
Poor transport conditions
Mortality in transit
Lack of awareness of cranes trade and sources and collections
Lack of information on wild status (possibly addressed by research group also but dealt with on perhaps how to get information out there to zoos)

Issue 4
Lack of willingness to tackle problems
CITES Status (PARKED for group discussion)
Vortex modelling on future trends
Poor legal awareness
Lack of awareness of cranes trade and sources and collections
Loopholes in policy / legislation

PROBLEM STATEMENT 1
THERE IS A HIGH DEMAND FOR AFRICAN CRANES. THE EXTENT AND FACTORS DRIVING THIS ARE NOT FULLY UNDERSTOOD.

Solution 1:
Determine current numbers and values of live cranes in each user sectors

List of potential sectors using cranes
Zoos belonging to national and regional associations
Non-affiliated zoos
Private collectors
Entertainment parks
Dealers/traders
Domesticators
Others not yet identified

Minimum goal
Get number from ISIS and four regional zoo associations within six months of the report

Maximum goal
Extrapolated estimates on all user sectors

Action 1: Access and summarise ISIS and Zoo Association data	
Responsibility	Stephen van der Spuy, Fred Beall and Mike Jordan
Timeline	6 months from report
Outcome	Outcome data forwarded to ACWAC

Action 2: Obtain estimates of all other user sectors via a combination of questionnaires, interviews, and existing published data	
Responsibility	Stephen van der Spuy, Mike Jordan and Kerryn Morrison
Timeline	2 years from published report
Outcome	Outcome data forwarded to ACWAC

Solution 2:
Find out if there is an international use of crane derivatives and if so determine extent of and use of thereof

Minimum goal
Are crane derivatives being used

Maximum goal
Fully understand use and extent of use

Action 1: Collect existing data from groups / organisations working on cranes or traditional medicine	
Responsibility	ICF / student
Timeline	1 year from published report
Outcome	Report

Action 2: Literature review on the use of derivatives of cranes	
Responsibility	ICF / student
Timeline	1 year from published report
Outcome	Report

Solution 3:
Determine extent, value, use, and origin of cranes in hunting/falconry industry in the Middle East

Minimum goal
Survey individuals to find historical use data

Maximum goal
Know current use and future demand including origin of cranes

Action 1: Obtain estimates of the use of cranes for hunting by falconry in the Middle East	
Responsibility	Mike Jordan
Timeline	1 year from published report
Outcome	Information forwarded to ACWAC

Solution 4:
Fully asses CITES data reveal legal recorded trade and changing trends within nine months of the report

Action 1: Carry out the analysis of the CITES data	
Responsibility	Kerryn Morrison
Timeline	9 months from published report
Outcome	Report

Solution 5:
Using current and historical data model the impact of potential future changes in crane trade on the wild populations (Vortex)

Minimum goal
Use current data to model potential population trends (South Africa, Tanzania)

Maximum goal
Model population trends for all four species at subpopulations level within three years

Action 1: Workshop to model crane trade population data and potential future impacts	
Responsibility	Kerryn Morrison
Timeline	3 years from published report
Outcome	Report

PROBLEM STATEMENT 2
CAPTIVE POPULATIONS OF AFRICAN CRANES ARE CURRENTLY UNSUSTAINABLE

Solution 1:
Promote crane health and husbandry techniques that encourage crane breeding and longevity

Minimum goal
AZA, PAAZAB, EAZA as a minimum should be sharing crane husbandry standards

Maximum goal
All contactable crane holders should receive these health and husbandry standards

Action 1: Determine all availability and access to all existing crane husbandry and health guidelines	
Responsibility	Kerryn Morrison (Ann Burke at ICF)
Timeline	6 months from published report
Outcome	Web-based access to guideline

Action 2: Inform all crane holders of the availability of guideline and encourage their use	
Responsibility	Fred Beall, Mike Jordan, Stephen an der Spuy, Kerryn Morrison (cascade via existing networks)
Timeline	9 months from published report
Outcome	Information distributed

Action 3: Translation of key husbandry documents into appropriate languages for main crane holding nations	
Responsibility	ACWAC
Timeline	Commence 1 year from published report
Outcome	Translated guidelines

Solution 2:
Assessment of existing studbooks to determine viability of the captive population under current management to inform future management of cranes

Minimum goal
Assessment of Wattled and Blue Cranes to be completed by the end of 2008

Maximum goal
Full assessment of all studbooks by end of 2009

Action 1: Obtain and analyse current studbooks	
Responsibility	Fred Beall, Mike Jordan
Timeline	1 year from published report
Outcome	Analyses published

Solution 3:
Increase the level of regional and international management of population of African cranes

Minimum goal
Level of management increased on two populations (AZA levels DERP (Display, Education, Research, Program) PMP (Population Management Plan), SSP (Species Survival Plan) EAZA PAAZAB

Maximum goal
All populations managed (Four African crane species)

Action 1: Petition regional zoo associations to increase the population management of African cranes	
Responsibility	Fred Beall, Mike Jordan, Stephen van der Spuy
Timeline	1 year from published report
Outcome	Population management increased

PROBLEM STATEMENT 3
THERE IS A LACK OF AWARENESS OF THE IMPACT OF TRADE IN AFRICAN CRANES ON THE WILD POPULATIONS

Solution 1:
Creating awareness and facilitating action amongst local and international NGO's to address the African crane trade crisis

Action 1: Identify the key local and International NGO's of significance to the African crane trade crisis	
Responsibility	ACWAC
Timeline	6 months from published report
Outcome	Partners identified

Action 2: Provide information to encourage action by the partners to address the African Crane Trade crisis	
Responsibility	ACWAC

Timeline	9 months from published report
Outcome	Greater awareness and advocacy towards action

Solution 2:
Provide accurate data on the wild population status of African cranes and the sources and nature of trade to:

- Zoos
- Funding agencies/NGO's /IUCN, WWF, BirdLife
- Traders/Dealer
- General public
- Private collectors
- Domesticators
- Entertainment parks
- Others not yet identified
- Crane holder
- Researchers
- Media

Minimum goal
Electronically dissemination of updated information

Action 1: Collate and summarise up to date on the status and trade in African cranes	
Responsibility	ACWAC
Timeline	1 year from published report
Outcome	Summary report
Source	CITES report (Problem statement 1 Solution 4 action 1), zoo data

Action 2: Disseminate summary report to stakeholders	
Responsibility	ACWAC
Timeline	1 year from published report
Outcome	Stakeholders contacted
Source	CITES report (Problem statement 1 Solution 4 action 1), zoo data

PROBLEM STATEMENT 4
TRADE AND TRANSPORT; CHAINS, ROUTES AND LOOPHOLES USED ARE NOT UNDERSTOOD. MORTALITY IN TRADE AND TRANSIT IS UNKNOWN AND COULD INCREASE DEMAND.

Solution 1:
Obtain information on transport condition methods and their impact on morbidity and mortality of cranes

Minimum goal
Acquire official customs and quarantine data

Action 1: Request and collate data from official customs and quarantine premises	
Responsibility	ACWAC with ICF vet
Timeline	1 year from published report
Outcome	Morbidity and mortality rates determined

Solution 2:
Identify and understand the trade routes and chains used in the international trade of African Cranes

Minimum goal
Obtain information on current legal trade through CITES within nine months of workshop report.

Action 1: Carry out analysis of CITES data	
Responsibility	Kerryn Morrison
Timeline	9 months from published report
Outcome	Report produced

Action 2: Obtain information on trade and transport via questionnaires interviews and existing published data	
Responsibility	Kerryn Morrison coordinated as a team effort
Timeline	Commencing after the workshop
Outcome	Regular flow of information to Kerryn Morrison

Action 3: Provide information regularly to relevant authorities	
Responsibility	ACWAC
Timeline	Ongoing

Solution 3:
Review current legislation with a view to identify weaknesses and loopholes in the African crane trade legislation

Minimum goal
Review the top three exporting countries

Maximum goal
Review all exporting countries

Action 1: Review the legislation affecting the crane trade in the top 10 importing and exporting countries	
Responsibility	Kerryn Morrison (with EWT's Law and Policy Working Group
Timeline	2 years from published report
Outcome	Report produced

Action 2: Disseminate recommendations to relevant authorities and partners PLUS action identified in CITES discussion in plenary	
Responsibility	ACWAC
Timeline	3 years from published report
Outcome	Report produced

AFRICAN CRANE TRADE PROJECT

TRADE MITIGATION PLANNING WORKSHOP

8 – 11 October 2007

Kenya Wildlife Services Training Institute, Naivasha, Kenya

WORKSHOP REPORT

Wattled Cranes (*Günther Nowald*)

SECTION 4

FINAL PLENARY : THE WAY FORWARD

Final Plenary : The Way Forward

A number of topics were discussed during the final plenary which had participation from all the workshop participants. A summary and conclusion of the discussion around each of the points discussed are outlined below.

CITES

The discussion was based around the decision to promote an uplisting of at least crowned cranes to Appendix I from Appendix II or not. Kerryn outlined the reasons why this route had not been followed for the 2007 CITES Conference of Parties.

CITES is the only international regulatory body that can regulate international trade. Although Appendix I status makes it more difficult to trade or move birds, it is still possible for conservation or research purposes. The shift in demand from the western countries, where trade could not always be controlled, to the Middle and Far East, with even less control, was of grave concern. Although legal trade could be regulated under CITES in CITES signatory countries, such as China, the UAE and India, it was highlighted that a different approach would be needed in those countries that were not signatories to CITES, e.g. Saudi Arabia. CITES would not affect in-country trade for domestication and would not halt illegal trade. However, and very importantly, it would make cross border illegal trade more difficult due to the increased awareness and regulatory control around legal trade. It was also noted that a down listing to Appendix II at a later stage could be promoted if reasonable.

It was noted that uplisting to Appendix I was not always a viable option. The debate around the Arabian Oryx was given as an example and the fact that uplisting was not considered as it would probably have increased the demand and value of the species, and also due to the fact it was likely to increase the unmonitored illegal trade.

The need to work with airlines, such as Emirates and Qatar, which fly between Tanzania and the Middle East was stressed as an important action moving forward.

Process

The process was outlined briefly and the need to start immediately was emphasised. It was agreed that a change in the IUCN threatened status to Vulnerable for both the Black and Grey Crowned Cranes, as it should be, would assist in the process. It was noted that data were required, even if only pertaining to population and trade trends. Participants emphasised the fact that proposals to CITES were stronger if proposed by African range states and hence the need to start promoting this immediately. The Tanzanian participants felt that Tanzania would support the proposal if reliable data were given. It was suggested that the profile of cranes needed to be raised within the range state government structures, and once again the uplisting to Vulnerable for Grey and Black Crowned Cranes would assist with this. Government buy-in was agreed as essential, although concerns around the time needed for this were expressed.

Conclusion

Agreement was reached that an uplisting of at least Grey and Black Crowned Cranes to Appendix I and potentially Blue and Wattled Cranes too would be proposed and promoted for the CITES Conference of the Parties in 2009. The length of time required for this proposal was stressed and importance therefore to start immediately highlighted. A need for more people in the discussion was highlighted, and Kerryn agreed to set up a committee to take this forward. This process will run concurrently with a review of the IUCN Red Listing status of the cranes.

IUCN RED LISTING

The participants highlighted that the current status of Near Threatened for the Black Crowned Crane and Least Concern status for the Grey Crowned Crane under the IUCN Red Data lists were inaccurate as both of these species had undergone serious declines over the past few decades. It was therefore agreed that these needed to be reviewed immediately, and if possible, under BirdLife's current threatened status review process currently underway. It was noted though that BirdLife did not separate or list separately, the sub-species. To address this issue, it was therefore emphasised that threatened status of the species in each country needs to be determined and communicated with government – even if no formal structures are in place to do this in any particular country. A suggestion that these in-country reviews be sent to the IUCN Crane Specialist Group for support was made. This would lend more weight to such reviews. Overall, it was agreed that both national and international processes needed to run concurrently.

Conclusion:

It was agreed that the process to review the threatened status of Grey and Black Crowned Cranes should begin immediately. A forum of 5 – 6 people will coordinate the review and determine which listing to move for and to identify gaps which needed work. Neil Baker agreed to head up the forum and it was agreed that information will be placed on the BirdLife website for comment and public review as a start. A timeline of one year was given for the successful uplisting.

Neil agreed to send out an email to a list of potential participants and would see who responded. Those at the workshop or key people to be involved, included:
*Nature*Uganda (Jimmy Muheebwa), Regional (Oliver Nasirwa), Kenya (Nathan Gichuki) Nigeria (Manu Shiiuwa), Tanzania – TAWIRI (Angela Mwakatobe), Mali (Bakary Kone), Tanzania - TANAPA – Tanzania National Parks (Lejora Inyasi), Wanjaro (Tanzania), Wetlands International have good links in Sudan (Tim Dodman), Oliver will follow up Sudan, Kerryn and Stephen for southern Africa, Manawisa / Brouwer in Niger, Chad – Commando, Paul Ndang'ang'a (BirdLife Africa Partnership).

WORLD CONSERVATION CONGRESS (IUCN)

The IUCN holds a World Conservation Congress every four years, with the next one planned for Barcelona in 2008. The Congress provides a platform for membership to put forward motions or policy statements which could be incorporated into work plans. These are all entered on their website and hence are made publicly available. Motions need to be submitted to all members at least six months in advance after which they are then approved for discussion and voting at the congress, based on an IUCN filter prior to the Congress. Any member can draft a motion whether government or an NGO, but support is required by more than one member, and a collective motion is a lot stronger. However, government support for the motion is beneficial. If approved for discussion, an active advocacy campaign around the motion is required to gain support for it.

Two possible resolutions were proposed by the participants at the workshop:

1. The need to improve CITES data, access to data and reporting on CITES data, as well as to improve the governance structures within signatory countries.
2. Highlight the concern around trade in cranes.

It was agreed that Kerryn would draft these two motions as soon as possible and that Yolan would gather IUCN member support at least from Southern Africa. It would be good though to have international support as well. It was noted that these resolutions could assist with CITES uplisting and it will immediately highlight countries that support such a motion with whom we can work.

FORUM TO UPDATE PEOPLE ON PROGRESS BEING MADE

Kerryn suggested that a forum be started that would be kept abreast of activities outlined in this report to ensure that mitigation measures were implemented. It was agreed that all of the participants at the workshop would be added to such a list serve.

ACCESS AND AVAILABILITY OF CASE STUDY REPORTS COMPLETED

It was agreed that some of the information contained within the reports were sensitive, especially considering the localised areas covered (and lack of national perspective), short time frame and lack of ground truthing. However it was stressed that it was vital that the findings be made known to key stakeholders within the country. It was also highlighted that we needed to get the message out there and that stories were therefore needed, and that these should be weighed up against the impacts from both the public awareness and local community sides. There were certain countries though, e.g. Eric and Jimmy from Uganda, that felt that the report could be distributed as it was.

Kerryn agreed to develop a summary of the investigative studies now completed which would exclude any sensitive information and would be made available to the public and to the governments of each country concerned. She also agreed to ensure that the relevant government departments within each country would be given a copy of the in-country report and in future to ensure that the governments were informed of such studies from the start.

AFRICAN CRANE TRADE PROJECT

TRADE MITIGATION PLANNING WORKSHOP

8 – 11 October 2007

Kenya Wildlife Services Training Institute, Naivasha, Kenya

WORKSHOP REPORT

Workshop group (*Kerryn Morrison)*

SECTION 5

APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Mitigation Planning Workshop Participant list

Name	Organisation	Department	Address	Telephone No	Mobile No	Email
Kone Bakary	Wetlands International - Mali		BP97, Sevare, Mali	+223 2420122	+233 6064639	malipin@afribone.net.ml
Neil Baker	Tanzania Bird Atlas		Box 1605, Iringa, Tanzania	-	+255 786404792	tzbirdatlas@yahoo.co.uk
Fred Beall	Zoo New England, USA	General Curator	1 Franklin Park Road, Boston, MA 02121, USA	+1 6179892052	+1 6178287044	FBeall@zoonewengland.com
Enyel Eric	Uganda Wildlife Authority	Research and Monitoring	Box 3530, Kampala, Uganda	+256 41355000	+256 782476117	ericenyel@yahoo.com
Yolan Friedmann	CBSG Southern Africa / Endangered Wildlife Trust		P. Bag X11, Parkview, 2122, South Africa	+27 114861102	+27 829903534	yolanf@ewt.org.za
Cecilia Gichuki	National Museums of Kenya	Wetlands and Marine Section	Box 40658, Nairobi, 00100, Kenya	+254 3742164	+254 722926030	ceciliagichuki@yahoo.com
Nathan Gichuki	University of Nairobi	School of Biological Sciences	Box 30197, 00100, Nairobi, Kenya	+254 204442316	+254 721680664	ngichuki@uonbi.ac.ke
Jim Harris	International Crane Foundation		Box 447, Baraboo, WI53913, USA	+1 6083569462	-	harris@savingcranes.org
Mike Jordan	Chester Zoo, UK	Head Birds, Mammals and Conservation Training	Chester Zoo, Chester, UK, CH2 1LH	+44 1244389401	+44 7881827504	m.jordan@chesterzoo.org
Mzamilu Kaita	Ministry of Natural Resources & Tourism, Tanzania	Wildlife Division	Box 1994, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania	+255 222866375	+255 754852233	kaitamza@yahoo.co.uk Wildlife Division - director@wildlife.go.tz
Aron Kecha	National Museums of Kenya	Wetlands	Box 24464, 00100, Nairobi, Kenya	-	+254 720571339	mcketcher@yahoo.com

Inyasi A. Lejora	Tanzania National Parks	Ecological Monitoring	Box 3134, Arusha, Tanzania	+255 27 2503471 and/or +255 27 250 8040	+255 754838700	ilejora@hotmail.com ilejora@yahoo.com
Shiiwua A. Manu	AP Leventis Ornithological Research Institute		Box 13404, Jos, Nigeria	-	+234 803679801	sm104@st-andrews.ac.uk
Kerryn Morrison	International Crane Foundation / Endangered Wildlife Trust Partnership	African Cranes, Wetlands and Communities	P. Bag X11, Parkview, 2122, South Africa	+27 11 4861102	+27 828775126	Kerrynm@ewt.org.za Kerryn@savingcranes.org
Peter Ole Mpua	Loitoktok Isimet Community, Kenya		Box 269, Loitoktok, Kenya	-	+254 727799475	As for Cecilia Gichuki
Jimmy Muheebwa	Nature Uganda	Crane & Wetland Conservation	Box 27034, Kampala, Uganda	+256 414540719	+256 772550177	jimmy_muheebwa@yahoo.com
Zipporah Musyimi	University of Nairobi	Student	Box 40658, Nairobi, Kenya	-	+254 720298422	zzmusyimi@yahoo.com
Angela Mwakatobe	Tanzania Wildlife Research Institute	Njiro Wildlife Research Centre	Box 661, Arusha, Tanzania	+255 272509871	+255 754817657	tawiri@habari.co.tz a_mwakatobe_99@yahoo.com
Oliver Nasirwa	Wetlands International		c/o BirdLife Africa Partnership Secretariat, Box 3502, 00100, Nairobi, Kenya	+254 208562246	+254 721576519	Oliver.nasirwa@birdlife.or.ke
Paul Ndang'ang'a	BirdLife Africa Partnership Secretariat		Box 3502, 00100, Nairobi, Kenya	+254 208562246	+254 722473851	paul.ndanganga@birdlife.or.ke
Griffins Ochieng	National Museums of Kenya		Box 24464, 00100, Nairobi, Kenya	-	+254 726931318	ogriffins@yahoo.com
Samson Phakathi	Endangered Wildlife Trust	Conservation Leadership Group	P.Bag X11, Parkview, 2122, South Africa	+27 114861102	+27 828054806	samsonp@ewt.org.za

Ruth Turugurwa	Rakai Community, Uganda		As for Jimmy Muheebwa		+256 752859762	As for Jimmy Muheebwa
Stephen van der Spuy	Johannesburg Zoo, South Africa	Executive Manager, Animal Department	18 Erlswold Way, Saxonwold, 2196, South Africa	+27 116462000	+27 828530199	stephen@jhbzoo.org.za
Maurice Wanjala	Kipsaina Crane & Wetlands Conservation Initiative	Community based conservation project	Box 18, Kipsaina, Kenya	-	+254 722287063	Maurice_wanjala@yahoo.com

Appendix 2: Workshop programme

SUNDAY 7 OCTOBER 2007

All day:	Delegates arrive at the Hotel Boulevard
19:00 – 21:00	DINNER

MONDAY 8 OCTOBER 2007

06:30 – 08:00	BREAKFAST
08:00	Leave for Naivasha from Hotel Boulevard, Nairobi
11:00 – 12:00	Arrive in Naivasha and book in
12:00 – 13:00	LUNCH
13:00 – 13:15	Welcome by Ms Kerryn Morrison, Manager of African Cranes, Wetlands and Communities of the ICF/EWT Partnership
13:15 – 13:45	Opening address : Director : Kenya Wildlife Services
13:45 – 14:15	Background to the African Crane Trade Project (Kerryn Morrison)
14:15 – 14:45	TEA
14:45 – 18:00	Presentations • South African case study (Samson Phakathi, EWT's Conservation Leadership Group) • Uganda case study (Jimmy Muheebwa, Nature Uganda) • Kenya case study (Zipporah Musyimi, University of Nairobi) ▪ Mali Case Study (Bakary Kone, Wetlands International) • Nigerian Case Study (Dr Shiiwa Manu, A P Leventis Ornithological Research Institute Laminga • Tanzania case study / CITES data assessment / stud book assessment (Kerryn Morrison, ICF/EWT Partnership)
19:00 – 20:00	DINNER

TUESDAY 9 OCTOBER 2007

07:00 – 08:00	BREAKFAST
08:00 – 08:30	Introduction to CBSG Southern Africa and the workshop process (Yolan Friedmann)
08:30 – 09:00	Formation of working groups and overview of Task 1 (Development of Problem Statements)
09:00 – 10:30	Working Group sessions

10:30 – 11:00	TEA
11:00 – 13:00	Plenary – First Working Group reports
13:00 – 14:00	LUNCH
14:00 – 14:30	Plenary on overview of Task 2 (Development of Solutions)
14:30 – 18:00	Working Group sessions TEA (self regulated)
19:00 – 20:00	DINNER

WEDNESDAY 10 OCTOBER 2007

07:00 – 08:00	BREAKFAST
08:00 – 09:30	Plenary – Second Working Group reports
09:30 – 10:00	Plenary on overview of Task 3 (Development of Strategies and Action Plans)
10:00 – 10:30	TEA
10:30 – 13:00	Working Group sessions
13:00 – 14:00	LUNCH
14:00 – 15:30	Working Group sessions
15:30 – 16:00	TEA
16:00 – 18:00	Plenary – Third Working Group reports
19:00 – 20:00	DINNER

THURSDAY 11 OCTOBER 2007

07:00 – 08:00	BREAKFAST
08:00 – 10:00	Workshop completion
10:00 – 10:30	TEA
10:30 – 11:00	Workshop closure
11:00 – 12:00	Closing address : Director National Museums of Kenya
12:00 – 13:00	LUNCH
13:00	Bus leaves for Nairobi for those who need to get back
13:00	Outing leaves for National Park in the area

Appendix 3: Participants goals and hopes

I wish to accomplish	I wish to contribute
Crane trade mitigation measures will be discussed and recorded and an action plan formulated.	Knowledge about community's contribution to Grey Crowned Crane and wetland conservation in Uganda.
The root cause of trade in the represented African countries where trade is carried out and mitigations found. Cranes are indicators of wetland quality and for this should be saved to continue serving this role for the common good of all and coming generations.	Mitigation of crane trade in my country, Kenya, through community education will be achieved, as my contribution.
A plan going forward which has identified key partners and action steps which are implementable. Shared plan with buy-in from partners.	The information I have gathered over the past few years on cranes and trade.
Coming up with an action plan on mitigation of crane trade in Africa and the world as a whole. An achievable work plan.	Wish to contribute my ideas on how I feel the trade in cranes can be mitigated in Kenya, in particular, and how it can be replicated in the whole world. If the ideas I have given can also be applied to other parts of the world.
Workable strategies for African crane conservation. Implementable strategies for enhanced in-situ management of African cranes.	Workable mitigation measures that will sustain African crane populations in situ.
Stop trading in cranes. Effective laws on crane trade. Alternative sources of income to decrease need to cultivate in wetlands. Awareness and education	Tell about our country's problems and potential relevant solutions to some specific problems about crane conservation in our country.
I hope we will come out with a shared vision and a practical, effective action plan that will guide our actions and those of many others not here.	Attentive listening and perspectives from crane conservation in other regions.
That the workshop acknowledges that: ▪ African cranes are in terminal decline. ▪ Trade is currently the most significant factor. Over population is the ultimate problem. ▪ That all previous and ongoing efforts to control and monitor trade have failed. ▪ That an international total ban is the only way to create a breathing space. ▪ That unfortunately this can only be achieved through CITES.	25 years of working and writing about bird trade issues.
People understanding each others views on crane trade issues so that a common goal and solutions can be reached to save cranes.	Hope to contribute ideas and knowledge towards solving problems especially roles of captive community.
Meet new people and share experiences. Come up with a plan to mitigate threats resulting from the impact of trade on African	Contribute ecological information on African cranes.

cranes.	
Create awareness of the problems related to crane population declines.	Understanding of how captive population management might help global awareness.
Get diverse ideas / way forward on how to achieve the vision. Get Crowned Crane birds back into the wild / natural habitat. Educate communities effectively to carry out conservation in the long term.	Relevant ideas to address the problem at hand :crane trade and its conservation.
At the end of the workshop we will have an action plan for conserving African cranes. To come out with mitigation measures for identified threats.	To share information which I have on African crane trade from my country.
Develop a workable strategy to halt the trade in cranes. Trade alone will not drive cranes to extinction.	Ideas about how the crane trade can be reduced.
Identification and actions which will ban crane trade. Clear ideas put into a project proposal for protecting cranes from trade.	Bring expertise learned about crane trade in Mali and how to ban it.
To understand how the African crane trade functions and to prevent the extinction of African cranes through the trading of cranes. Ensure better management of captive cranes to ensure there is an assurance population.	Providing information regarding the functioning of zoos with regard to African crane trade.