

EAAFP Foundation 2021-2022 Small Grant Programme Final Report Summary



■ Reporting Period

October 2021 ~ March 2022 (Approximately 6 months)

■ Organizer

EAAFP Foundation

■ Sponsors

EAAFP Secretariat, KOEN Yeongheung Power Division, Hanns Seidel Foundation

■ Grantee Organizations (Reporting Order)

- 1) Ganghwa Citizen Network
- 2) Cheorwon DMZ Crane Eco-tourism group
- 3) KFEM Incheon
- 4) Tidalf flat Ecological Education Hub Moolseal
- 5) Wetlands and Birds Korea
- 6) DMZ Ecology Research Institute
- 7) Global Future Environment Association
- 8) Yeoncheon Geological Ecology Network



Grantee 1.

Organization Name: Ganghwa Citizen Network

Project Title: 2021 Crane School–Let’s go on a Crane Trip

Project Period: 2021. 10. 15. ~ 2022. 3. 31. (5 months)

1. Background

- Noting the lack of public awareness of cranes, the project aims to achieve the following.
 - Raise awareness of cranes among the general public
 - Through education programmes, involving families, youth, and citizens the participants can have a shared awareness of the importance of migratory waterbirds such as cranes of the current and future generations.
 - Recognize how the geographical characteristics of the crane’s staging site impact the arrival of the crane and recognize the importance of the staging site and conduct conservation activities on the crane’s migratory route.

2. Implementation

- Beneficiaries: Elementary school students and parents, citizens in Ganghwa
- Project Location: Crane habitats in Ganghwa, Sanctuaries in RO Korea (Cheorwon, Yeoncheon)
- Project Contents: Crane School, Explore Crane Sanctuaries, Ganghwa Crane Monitoring

3. Results

1. Crane School

- Location: Crane Green Village
- Activities: Awareness raising (Change lyrics and sing a song, Crane dance, Make a Crane Cake, A Crane Game, Challenge! Crane Gold Bell)

2. Study tour in the crane staging sites

- Location: Yeoncheon, Chulwon. 1 Night 2 Days
- Activities: Visit the crane’s staging sites and study tour

3. Ganghwa Crane Monitoring

- Location: Tidal flat at Dong-gum Island at the Southern Ganghwa island,

Incheon, Republic of Korea

- Activities: monitoring of cranes
- The number of monitoring sessions: 21 sessions including 6 sessions of self-arranged monitoring activities
- Monitoring results
 - Migration season: Arrived in the mid November, migrate to the wintering site in the mid March
 - The maximum population was identified as 58 individuals, that is an increase by 67% from 39 individuals observed between 2020 and 2021.
 - As the population increases, the habitats expanded to the tidal flats of Yeongjong Island
 - It's hard to assume that the site is a roosting area. Continuous monitoring is required.
 - A stable roosting site is needed by using paddy field as an example.



Grantee 2.

Organization Name: Cheorwon DMZ Crane Ecological Tourism Cooperative

Project Title: Crane Feeding and Population Survey

Project Period: 2021. 12. 1. ~ 2022. 2. 28. (3 months)

1. Background

- Conservation of stable habitats by feeding cranes
- Necessity of habitat conservation through population survey of cranes
- Encourage voluntary participation of local community to promote the importance of protecting cranes

2. Implementation and Results

- Contribute to raising visitors' awareness of the need for protecting cranes through crane feeding (two sessions with 47 participants)
- Securing data for monitoring the habitat environment of cranes through continuous population verification (three times of surveys, 72 participants)
- Contribute to increasing the income of local residents and enhancing the shared responsibility to protect the environment by strengthening eco-tourism



Grantee 3.

Organization Name: Korea Federation for Environmental Movement (KFEM) Incheon

Project Title: Birdwatching of the Wintering Site of Cranes

Project Period: 2021. 10. 1. ~ 2022. 3. 31. (6 months)

1. Background

- To explore crane, the bird of Incheon city, and learn about the ecology and beauty of cranes, which are winter migratory birds.
- To raise citizens' awareness of habitat preservation through monitoring training with experts in Cheorwon-gun and Ganghwa-gun, the staging sites of cranes

2. Implementation and Results

- A total of 3 visits were planned in staging sites of Cranes: 1 visit in Cheorwon-gun and 2 visits in Ganghwa-gun.
- Targeted 20 citizens, and 71 people participated in total.
- The success of the project was that participants were able to learn that crane is an endangered species, the remaining habitats are gradually disappearing, and of the various ecosystems around cranes.
- The limitation of the project was that it was difficult to make a schedule according to the general participants' expectation because they had to visit the sites per the high and low tide of Ganghwa Island, and there were many problems in progress due to COVID-19. A lesson from the project is to expand citizen field monitoring.



Grantee 4.

Organization Name: Tidalflat Ecological Education Hub Moolseal

Project Title: Wintering with Crane

Project Period: 2021. 11. 1 ~ 2022. 3. 10 (5 months)

1. Background

- A civic movement is needed to protect and preserve cranes.
- Promote crane, the bird of Incheon, through welcoming events and citizen monitoring
- Conserve the habitat of cranes and prepare the foundation for an environmental monitoring campaign led by citizens

2. Implementation & Results

1. Welcoming Event of Crane, the Bird of Incheon City

- A. Location: Ganghwa Freshia Hotel
- B. Participants: 110 people/year
- C. Date: January 22, 2022
- D. Main Contents
- E. 1st Session / Crane Workshop (10:00~12:30)
 - i. Kiseop Lee (Korea Waterbirds Network): Wintering status of cranes in Korea (30mins)
 - ii. Inki Kwon (Endangered Species Restoration Center , National Institute of Ecology): National Research Project Plan (Including the monitoring plan of Ganghwa Island) (20mins)
 - iii. Hyun-a Choi(Hanns Seidel Foundation): Status of crane inhabitation at DPRK(20mins)
 - iv. Sullae Kim(Ganghwa Citizen Network): Status of Incheon crane and conservation activity(10mins)
 - v. Q&A and Discussion: Resolutions to reinforce the cooperation for the crane conservation

- F. 2nd Session / Crane Welcoming Event and the Inauguration Ceremony of Incheon Crane Network (13:30~14:30)
 - vi. Opening video / Introduce participants / Remarks / Congratulations remarks
 - vii. Conservation activity of crane, the bird of Incheon, and report the network process
 - viii. Introduce participating organizations
 - ix. Inauguration statement recitation
- G. 3rd Session / Monitoring Crane (14:30~16:30)
 - x. At 4 areas including Dong-gum Island (2 areas), Seondu-ri, and Choji tidal flat
 - xi. 3 families and 43 individuals of cranes were observed

2. Roosting site maintenance project

- H. Date: 2022. 3. 2. (Wed)
- I. Number of participants: 6 (Including the Endangered Species Restoration Center, NIE)
- J. Investigation Route: Departing from Hwangsan Island ~ Daehangsan Island ~ Sohangan Island (Investigation at the entrance of the Island) (09:30 ~ 13:30).
- K. Investigation Result
 - According to two sessions of monitoring on the surroundings of habitats and the monitoring video footages (5 cameras set up at Daehangsan Island by the Endangered Species Restoration Center)
 - As a result of the analysis, it is estimated that Daehangsan Island is not used as a roosting site but is used only for surveillance purpose while they move to the habitat in Sohangan Island.
 - The main roosting place of Sohangan Island seems to be Donggum Island and the southern point of the Sohangan Island, which is concavely located and invisible from or coastal roads. Most of the footprints and feathers were concentrated in the tidal flats around there. No footprints or feathers have been identified in other directions.
 - Installed 4 monitoring cameras at Sohangan Island, 3 cameras (S1, S2, S3) near the Southern habitat, 1 camera at the Northern habitat.

- Feather and excreta collection for DNA analysis.
- No threat like cats, such as footprints or excreta has been found during the field survey. However, since it is not far from the land, regular and close monitoring is required through video analysis. (Decided to share the video footages with the Endangered Species Restoration Center.)
- If a drinking water fountain is installed in the future, the lower part (W1) of the left slope of the main habitat will be appropriate.

3. Monitoring Project on Boundaries of Roosting Sites

A. 1st investigation

- ① Date: 2021. 1. 18 (Tue)
- ② Number of participants: 3
- ③ Monitoring route: Departing from Boonopo port ~ Donggum Island ~ Sohansan Island ~ Investigate surrounding Daehangsan Island (15:00 ~ 18:00).

④ Monitoring results

-16:05: Observed 32 individuals

(Donggum Island Westsouthern part 2+5, Donggum Island field of reeds 4, Donggum fishing place 2, Donggum Island stonework 1, Daehangsan Island 4, Sohansan Island 15, etc)

-16:45 Daehangsan Island individuals move to Sohansan Island

-16:55 2 individuals from Seo Island

-17:10 3 individuals from Hwangsan Island

-17:15 2 individuals from Donggum Island

-17:20 Total 37 individuals at Sohansan Island

-17:40 4 individuals from Donggum Island moved next to the remote Donggum fishing place - Depending on the situation, some individuals use it as their habitat.

B. 2nd Monitoring

- ① Date: 2022. 2. 17 (Thu)
- ② Number of participants: 5 (Including the EBS filming team)

③ Monitoring route: Departing from Boonopo port ~ Donggum Island ~ Sohangsan Island ~ Investigate surrounding Daehangsan Island (14:30 ~ 17:40).

④ Monitoring results

- 4 individuals of 1 family from Choji tidal flat+A pair of male and female individual observed

- Total 39 individuals including 33 individuals from Sohangsan Island observe



Grantee 5.

Organization Name: Friends of Wetlands and Birds

Project Title: A Round-table Conference with Local Organizations from Migratory Waterbirds Flyway

Project Period: 2021. 10. ~ 2022. 3. (5 months)

1. Background

- Recognizing the insufficient policy dialogues and policy recommendations from civil society organizations due to the lack of information exchanging and sharing among the local NGOs around the EAAFP FNS and provisional FNS regions
- The round table conference can be held through the exchange of information between domestic EAAFP FNS in RO Korea and provisional FNS regions and based on the results of the survey on the ecosystem centered on migratory birds in the EAAFP FNS and provisional FNS regions in Korea. The outcomes of the round table can be reflected in national policies.
- Efforts will be made to preserve and expand the EAAFP FNS through sharing cases and policy supplementations in domestic EAAFP FNS and provisional FNS regions with international organizations such as the Ramsar Conference of Parties (COP).

2. Implementation and Results

1. Preliminary Consultation to prepare for the Round-table Conference (1 time)
 - A. Topic: Expansion of Wetland Protection Areas, Reporting on the PA Management Status, and Future Cooperation Plan
2. Wetland Round-table Conference (Korea-Japan Wetland Forum). 1 night and 2 days
 - A. Topic: Sharing the Status of Wetland Conservation and Future Cooperation
 - B. Results
 - i. Presentation of the current status and field activities in Korea (6 people) and Japan (5 people)
 - ii. Participation in the Multilateral International Environment Convention related to wetlands (COP 14, etc) and Cooperation Plan

3. Meeting to implement the results of the round-table (4 times)

- A. Announcement of Korea-Japan Joint Statement during the 2022 Wetland Day
- B. Discussion on the role of the organization to register entire Korean tidal flats to UNESCO
- C. Decide the theme of the side event to be organized at Ramsar COP14 in Wuhan: 'Natural Flow of Water (based on IUCN-WCC Resolution 017)
- D. Invite presenters related to "Natural Flow of Water" from Europe, the United States, RO Korea that are able to share the cases related to dissolution of dams.
- E. Identification of good and bad cases by different types (groundwater, river, tidal flats, etc.) in Korea and Japan
- F. Prepare to present the current status of Korean wetlands and the results of the survey on the current status of wetlands at COP14.



Grantee 6.

Organization Name: DMZ Ecological Research Institution

Project Title: Capacity building program for residents to conserve winter migratory birds

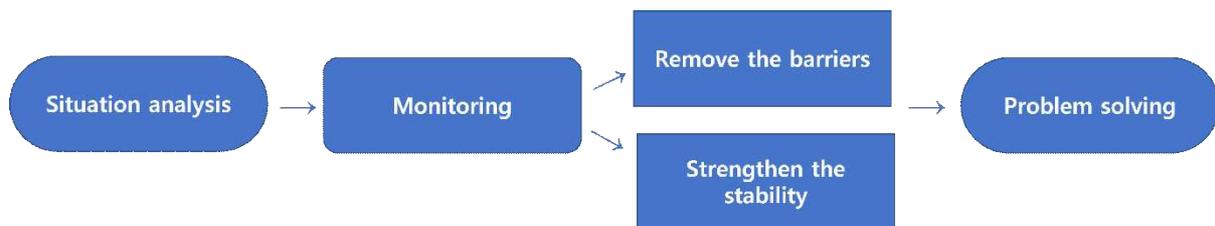
Project Period: 2021. 10. 30. ~ 2022. 3. (5 months)

1. Background



- Provide education and enhance public awareness of migratory waterbirds and the values of their habitats
- Continuous migratory bird monitoring and survey of habitats with local residents
- Help the participants to understand the behavioral patterns of the migratory waterbirds and their habitation and seek ways to conserve their habitats
- Ultimately, understand migratory waterbirds and establish an environment to coexist with them

2. Implementation



- Prepare educational materials for monitoring & proceed the education programme for residents by the second week of November 2022
- Identify and remove factors that interrupt feeding activities when migratory waterbirds sit in rice paddies
- Identify stable space for migratory waterbirds and strengthen conservation activities
- Based on the monitoring results, systemize the plan to keep rice straw and rice paddies at points where migratory waterbirds can spend the winter stably
- Stabilize the destination of migratory waterbirds through continuous execution and feedback

- Project Location

- ✓ Project Period: 2021-Ocotber-31 ~ 2022-March-31
- ✓ Beneficiary: General citizens



Region: A million of plain area at the town in Ogeum-ri, Paju City, RO Korea

- First activity in November

- ✓ One time monitoring in November
- ✓ Observe migratory waterbirds for 2 hours during morning, afternoon, and evening and record it
- ✓ Time and date: 24th November: 07:00~18:00
- ✓ Location: Restoration area for White-naped crane's wintering site at Ogeum-ri
- ✓ Photos





✓ Monitoring records



- Second activity in December

- ✓ One time monitoring in December
- ✓ Observe migratory waterbirds for 2 hours during morning, afternoon, and evening and record it
- ✓ Time and date: 8th December: 07:00~18:00
- ✓ Time and date: 24th November: 07:00~18:00
- ✓ Location: Restoration area for White-naped crane's wintering site at Ogeum-ri
- ✓ Photos



✓ Monitoring records



- Expected effect
 - ✓ Understanding and mutual coexistence between the local residents the migratory waterbirds
 - ✓ Secure the sustainable ecosystem service at local level
 - ✓ Expand the information exchange on the importance of migratory waterbirds and their habitats through monitoring activities
 - ✓ Strengthen the conservation level for winter migratory waterbird's habitats nearby the Civilian Control Line through the awareness raising education programmes among residents
 - ✓ Five sessions of education with more than 20 residents participated.
 - ✓ Train civil scientists who can work with the town residents



Grantee 7.

Organization Name: Global Future Environment Association

Project Title: A Study on the Ecosystem Service and Habitat of Migratory Birds in Incheon Free Economic Zone (IFEZ)

Project Period: 2021. 10. 1. ~ 2022. 3. 31. (6 months)

1. Background

- To analyze the ecological value of Incheon Free Economic Zone, that is one of the main destinations of winter migratory birds in East Asia (Analyzed species: Far Eastern Curlew and Common Shelduck), and to provide scientific evidence for developing policies for the conservation of migratory birds in the region.
- The appearance ratio of endangered species in Yeonsu-gu, Seo-gu, and Jung-gu in Incheon IFEZ, which is the target of this study, is 70.4%. Despite the high appearance ratio, a research on the value and conservation of the areas is insufficient.
- The project aims to quantify the function of the areas as a migratory destination by mapping the distribution of migratory birds in the region, analyzing ecosystem services (fixed amount of carbon) of the destination, and predicting changes in migratory routes due to climate change
- The target sites in the study are the last remained tidal flat and coastal ecosystem along the west coast of Republic of Korea. The number of migratory birds found here is 2,046 species, but since it is a development zone and there is no legal restriction on the migratory birds habitats, the population is decreasing. Therefore, the project aims to come up with results that are visually easy to understand by legislators and citizens.

2. Implementation and Results

- The project visualized a time series changes in the habitat of Far Eastern Curlew in Incheon Free Economic Zone and developed grades to provide an objective perspective and quantitative data on its role as a stopover site.
- The project analyzed a change in ecosystem services (carbon fixed amount) of Incheon Free Economic Zone caused by changes in land use. The project also quantified its monetary value and analyzed the possibility of temperature changes and loss of function as a migratory birds habitat.
- The project quantified and visualized the actual functionality of the IFEZ areas as migration route in the East Asian–Australasian Flyway through presenting the actual

distribution map of migratory birds within the sites and the analysis of habitat quality (based on ecosystem services)

- Conducted analysis on changes in domestic migratory routes in the East Asian–Australasian Flyway caused by climate change
- The results of this study are expected to contribute to the increase of the population of Far Eastern Curlew by identifying and preserving hot spots in the Ramsar Convention region through the development project near Incheon Free Economic Zone and Songdo tidal flat.



Grantee 8.

Organization Name: Yeoncheon Geological Ecology Network

Project Title: Monitoring Winter Migratory Waterbirds and training for citizen scientists in Chatancheon stream, Yeoncheon-gun, Republic of Korea

Project Period: 2021. 10. 1. ~ 2022. 3. 31. (6 months)

1. Background

- A monitoring of birds in Chatancheon Stream in the biosphere reserve of Imjin-river in Yeoncheon-gun
- Spread knowledge and information on birds and biodiversity and strengthen a willingness to protection
- Recognize the value of the biosphere reserve of Imjin-river in Yeoncheon and develop citizen scientists
- Recognize the importance of rivers as habitats and establish a foundation for ecological conservation

2. Implementation

- Proceed 20 bird monitoring sessions
 - i. Field trip to Cheorwon DMZ Crane Peace Town (2021.12.11.)
 - ii. 3 training sessions for citizen scientists

3. Results

- Identified the status of winter birds in Chatancheon stream
 - i. Re-recognition of Chatancheon stream as a wintering site for birds
 - ii. Cultivate citizen scientists by ongoing birdwatching activities and systematized monitoring
 - iii. Enhance the awareness of the importance of rivers and wetlands and civil willingness for conserving biodiversity