

BirdLife International Tokyo

Annual Report 2021

(1 January – 31 December 2021)



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Message from the Representative Director

BirdLife International Tokyo (hereinafter BirdLife Tokyo) was founded in April 2002 and since then, we have advanced conservation projects for birds and all nature. We are expanding our activities to include the conservation of forests and ocean, the improvement of livelihood for local people, the environmental education, and the prevention of global warming.

The impact of the new coronavirus was as great in 2021 as it was last year. A number of grants had to be cancelled and one of our charity dinners had to be held online. Despite the difficulties, we were able to attract new support from SDG-oriented companies. Environmental issues are becoming more and more serious. We at BirdLife Tokyo will continue our work of looking for what necessary actions we can take.



Keiko Suzue
Representative Director
BirdLife International Tokyo

Highlights in 2021

Expanded environmental conservation actions into 15 countries in 2021



CONSERVATION PROJECTS

Conservation of Endangered Species

13% of the world's bird species is globally threatened

◆ **The Crane Rice Production & Conservation of Sarus Crane – Cambodia**

We started the project with our partner in Cambodia. The main project objectives are to improve the local livelihood and to provide a better habitat for the Sarus Crane through crane rice cultivation.

BirdLife Tokyo started the project of the crane rice production and conservation of Sarus Crane with NatureLife Cambodia, a partner in Cambodia, funded by **the Keidanren Nature Conservation Fund (KNCF)**. In 2021, the first year of the project, we conducted the pre-evaluation of the project and started crane rice production with technical support for local farmers. We also visited the Minister of Environment of Cambodia to promote crane rice in June. Monitoring of the Sarus Crane has been also conducted.



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PRISM

BirdLife developed the evaluation tool for environmental project “PRISM toolkit” (Practical methods for evaluating the outcomes & Impacts of Small–Medium sized conservation projects) in 2017.

It aims to improve the future activities and plans by evaluating outcomes and effectiveness of the current conservation activities. In the midst of growing interest in SDGs, we will contribute to the visualization of conservation activities.

◆ **Conservation of Blue-throated Macaw – Bolivia**

Blue-throated Macaw is endemic to Bolivia and there are only 300 individuals left. We conducted a conservation project to prevent extinction of this critically endangered species.

Since 2019 BirdLife Tokyo has proceeded with the conservation project with the Asociacion Armonia, a partner in Bolivia, funded by **the Toyota Environmental Activities Grant Program**. The forest areas that provide roosting and nesting sites for the Blue-throated Macaws are also important resting places for livestock, and coexistence with the livestock industry is essential for promoting macaws conservation. In 2021, we held public awareness events for livestock farmers to promote the coexistence of birds and the livestock industry.



A public awareness events©Asociation Armonia Armonia

◆ **Conservation of Edwards’s Pheasant – Vietnam**

*Since 2018, BirdLife Tokyo and Viet Nature Conservation Centre (a partner in Vietnam) had worked on the project “Reintroduction of the Critically Endangered Edwards’s Pheasant into the Wild” with funds from **the Keidanren Nature Conservation Fund (KNCF)**.*

We continued to breed two pairs of Red Junglefowl, a closely related species to Edwards's pheasant, and eight chicks have been growing well. We also conducted a 3-year assessment. Through the project, we established network with researchers and zoo officers both domestically and abroad. Therefore, we were able to develop the next conservation strategy and could create the foundation of long-term conservation activities.



Edwards’s Pheasant ©Viet Nature

Forest and Wetland Conservation

*100,000 km² of forest lost annually**

*<https://www.fao.org/forest-resources/assessment/2020/en>

◆ Forest conservation utilizing technology-Indonesia

We are implementing efficient forest patrol operations using technology in the tropical rainforest "Harapan" on Sumatra Island, Indonesia. Large-scale deforestation is underway in the region due to the development of oil palm plantations.

BirdLife Tokyo, in collaboration with Brung Indonesia (a partner in Indonesia), has launched the "Harapan Forest" project to protect approximately 100,000 ha of forest. In 2021, with the support of **Fujitsu Limited**, we have conducted capacity development programme for staff to increase their knowledge and skills of Geographical Information System and cyber tracker training for indigenous people.

◆ Mitigation of Global Warming by Utilizing Forest Resources – Indonesia

In Harapan, Sumatra, Indonesia, there is continuing deforestation due to illegal logging and burning. Therefore, we started an agroforestry project to contribute to improving the local livelihood and reforestation.

BirdLife Tokyo started the project of planting trees and also producing of rubber and honey to conserve forests in Harapan, with Burung Indonesia, funded by **the Toyota Environmental Activities Grant Program**. In 2021, we contracted with local farmers of rubber trees and honey, as well as mapping out rubber tree area and tagging honey trees.

◆ Conservation of Waterbird Species in Wetlands – Vietnam

Although the wetlands in Southeast Asia are important habitats for migratory waterbirds species, they are declining and deteriorating due to a lack of proper conservation and management. It is important to establish a system for conservation, such as promoting registration to the Ramsar Convention Site.

Funded by **the Ministry of the Environment Japan (MoEJ)**, BirdLife Tokyo worked with Viet Nature Conservation Centre in waterbird conservation activities for migratory waterbirds in Xuan Thuy national park as a base for wetland conservation in the coastal areas of northern Vietnam. In January 2021, we conducted waterbirds monitoring and recorded many waterbirds species including endangered species. In addition, capacity building was held for local national park rangers in the field to improve the ability to conduct waterbird monitoring.

◆ **Mangrove Restoration – Malaysia, Mexico**

To conserve and restore mangroves, which are important not only for biodiversity but also for local livelihood, we planted mangroves for restoration and promoted sustainable resource use.

Mangrove is one of the fastest disappearing ecosystems in the world. With support from **Ricoh Co., Ltd. (Ricoh)**, we have worked with Pronatura Sur, a partner in Mexico, in mangrove planting and conservation activities from 2015 to 2021. In 2021, we mainly conducted beekeeping activities and promoted the sustainable use of mangrove forests.



Beekeeping ©ProNature

◆ **Tree Planting in Africa – Burkina Faso**

We have collaborated with local residents for 10 years on tree-planting activities and awareness-raising activities in northern Burkina Faso, which is facing severe deforestation and desertification.

Lake Oursi and its surrounding area are of the rapid expansion of desert in the world. With the support of **Ricoh**, we have planted trees with Naturama, a partner in Burkina Faso, from fiscal 2011 to fiscal 2020 to restore forests in the area. In addition to planting more than 93,000 trees over the past 10 years, we have also conducted activities to raise public awareness about natural ecosystems. By cooperating with local residents in planting trees and conducting sufficient management, the recovery of forest vegetation is proceeding as planned in those areas.



Nursing trees©NATURAMA

Conservation of Migratory Birds

Conserving migratory birds through international cooperation

◆ Conservation of Migratory Birds and their Habitat – Japan

To promote the site management of important habitats for migratory waterbirds, “Flyway Site Network”, we promote activities with experts, local governments and relevant NGOs.

To conserve the migratory birds, it is essential to protect the breeding, staging, and wintering areas throughout their migratory pathways. Under the East Asia-Australasian Flyway Partnership (EAAFP), the international framework for migratory birds’ conservation, of which Japan is a member, the site management and conservation of migratory birds is required at each flyway site. In 2021, in the contract with **the Ministry of the Environment Japan**, we held a preparatory workshop for flyway national monitoring with the theme of understanding the trends of waterbirds migration and strengthening the monitoring system using the Flyway Site Network.

◆ Supporting Activities at the Flyway Sites in Hokkaido – Japan

To promote the conservation of migratory waterbirds, we are supporting the activities of the East Asian - Australasian Flyway network sites in Hokkaido. There are nine flyway sites in Hokkaido, which are very important as wintering grounds, stopover, and breeding grounds for migratory waterbirds.

In 2021, with the support of **Pacific Century Premium Developments**, we provide support for three sites for preparing a guidebook introducing the importance of the Notsuke-Peninsula and Notsuke-Bay, conducting a migratory tracking survey of geese in Miyajima-numa, and improving a research environment for migratory waterfowl and conducting a trash classification survey in Sarobetsu Wetland.



©Makoto Hasebe

Marine and Seabird Conservation

Steps towards seabird-safe fisheries

◆ Reducing Seabird Bycatch in High Seas Longline Tuna Fishery - Japan

We held webinars for the seafood supply chain and continued a public outreach programme with an aim to reduce seabird bycatch in longline fishery. We also attended meetings in Japan to discuss sustainable fisheries as well as international tuna commission meetings.

Fisheries bycatch (incidental capture in fishing gears) is a serious threat seabirds are facing. Albatrosses, including many species threatened with extinction, are being bycaught and drown in longline tuna fisheries. Through support provided by **David and Lucile Packard Foundation**, we held webinars tailored towards the seafood supply chain in Japan in 2021. We also continued a public outreach programme, Albatross Stories, through social media platforms with support from **South Georgia Heritage Trust and South Georgia Association**.

◆ Gillnet Seabird Bycatch At-Sea Data Collection and Mitigation Experiments - Japan

In collaboration with a seabird researcher and fishers, we conducted at-sea data collection to better understand the extent of seabird bycatch in gillnet fisheries in northwestern Hokkaido. We also performed bycatch mitigation experiments with the researcher and Tokyo Sea Life Park.

Estimated annual mortality of seabirds globally in gillnet fisheries is 400,000. Through support provided by **Tokyo Zoological Park Society, Kingfisher Foundation, and David and Lucile Packard Foundation**, we initiated at-sea data collection of seabird bycatch in collaboration with fishers in the town of Haboro, Hokkaido, Hokkaido Seabird Center, and the seabird researcher in 2021. We also conducted gillnet bycatch mitigation experiments at Tokyo Sea Life Park where diving seabirds are kept, through support provided by **the Japanese Association of Zoos and Aquariums**.



Improvement of Livelihoods

To protect the environment is to support the human lives

◆ Supporting Sustainable Forest Resource Management and Livelihood Improvement - Indonesia

We are implementing activities to disseminate knowledge and skills for sustainable forest resources management and livelihood improvement in six villages in Gorontalo Province, Sulawesi, Indonesia.

In this area, deforestation, agricultural land expansion and unsustainable use of forest resources and agriculture have caused some problems. This project was selected as a **JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency) Grassroots Technical Cooperation** and has started in November 2021. In 2021, a baseline survey was conducted to understand the knowledge, skills, and livelihoods of the target farmers and instructors prior to the implementation of the project. We have created a project web page in the Tokyo office website (<https://tokyo.birdlife.org/kusanone>) to learn more about our activities.



© Burung Indonesia

Local Recycling Programme

Working for challenges through conservation activities

◆ The Local Recycling Programme - Japan

We have completed the production of trash bags made from recycled plastic wastes collected through local clean-up activities.

Although we conducted less local clean-up activities than planned due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we collected plastic wastes in cooperation with “Group of bird mascot characters of J.League (Japan Professional Football League) clubs” and finally produced the recycled trash bags. The recycled trash bags have been distributed to the organizations which carried out clean-ups. In November, Giran, the mascot of Giravanz Kitakyushu, gave the trash bags to students in Sone Higashi elementary school, Fukuoka prefecture as a thank-you for participating in the clean-up activities. The trash bags will be used for any future local clean-up activities.



© GIRAVANZ

Charity Events

Providing opportunities to contribute to conservation activities.

◆ Hosting Gala Dinners

BirdLife Tokyo organizes two gala dinners each year, one in Tokyo and one in Osaka, in support of conservation. The Osaka Spring Gala was held as an online event. We have also diversified our events, for example, holding an internet auction.

In 2021, due to the spread of the new coronavirus, the Osaka Spring Gala scheduled for March was cancelled after two postponements. Instead, we held a new online event, the 'Gala at Home', which raised 4 million yen. Tokyo Gala Dinner was held with limited participants and infection control measures in place, including longer entertainment and a request to eat in silence. The proceeds raised were 28 million yen.

We also held an internet auction which raised 4 million yen. The proceeds will be used to the BirdLife International Japan Fund for Science and to support the Red List Programme.

◆ BirdLife International Japan Fund for Science

BirdLife Tokyo established a fund “BirdLife International Japan Fund for Science” in 2019 to commemorate the 15th anniversary of H.I.H. Princess Takamado serving as the Honorary President of BirdLife International.

The fund supports the scientific research and analysis for threatened bird species globally and for the foreseeable future. The collected data is published as IUCN Red List. It is a basic data used by governments, international entities, and conservationists reflecting global conservation strategy and implementation. We allocated a portion of profits from Gala Dinner, also we have received some individual donations and supports from Chopard Japan Ltd.



The Honorary President, H.I.H. Princess Takamado
©keyshots.com



Red Data Book

Broadening Circle of Support

Many individuals and organisations support us with friendly sympathy toward our philosophy.

➤ **Arte Salon Holdings, Inc.**

We received donations from Arte Salon Holdings, Inc., which runs over 300 beauty salons both domestically and overseas and held the donation ceremony in October. The donations are according to the number of colour treatments done throughout the year. They have a keen interest in nature conservation due to their concerns about using environmentally unfriendly chemicals for hair dye.



➤ **FELISSIMO CORPORATION**

We made face masks with bird motifs in collaboration with Felissimo, which sells a wide variety of lifestyle products via catalogue and internet. 100 JPY of the proceed from each sale of this product has been donated to nature and bird conservation activities.

➤ **ITO-YA**

ITO-YA, an established stationary store which also produces a wide range of original stationery, has released the ROMEO No.3 Ballpoint Pen with Taka-Makie "Rare Birds of Japan", featuring endangered birds in maki-e lacquer on the ROMEO No.3 Ballpoint Pen. A part of the proceeds from the sale of this product, which was created with the aim of protecting birds and nature, has been donated to nature and bird conservation activities.



➤ **Sorimachi Group**

Founded in 1955, Sorimachi Group has been the leading company in accounting systems in Japan. With a penguin as its company mascot, they fundraised internally for conservation saving penguins and other activities of BirdLife.

➤ **Yahoo! Internet Fund**

We use Yahoo! Online Donation platform so that donors can choose a project for the conservation of a specific species or region in accordance with their personal interests. Through the projects, you can help Spoon-billed Sandpipers, Sarus Cranes, Cape Penguins, wild birds in Brazil and forests in Indonesia.

➤ **Support Members of Organizations and Individuals**

BirdLife have supporter systems for corporations and organizations or for individuals.

We also have a unique supporter system allowing members to support actions to conserve endangered species as foster parents called the RBC (Rare Bird Club).

Below is the list of corporate and individual sponsors of 2021 (in the alphabetical order).

● **Corporate Members**

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| - Alpha Foods Co., Ltd. | - Hokkaido Jingu |
| - Arte Salon Holdings, Inc. | - Komajakko no kai |
| - IMH Holdings Co., Ltd. | - Koma Jinja |
| - Izumo Oyashiro | - Masumida Shrine |
| - Izumo Oyashiro Cultural Foundation | - Samukawa-jinja Shrine |
| - Fushimi Inari Taisha | |

● **Individuals Members (Friends of Birdlife)**

“Friends of BirdLife” is a support system of a donation which is 5,000 JPY per unit.

Donation from individual members are allocated for the projects and our operating expenses. We accept bank transfer and credit card payments. Automatic renewal system is available with a credit card.

● **Other Supports**

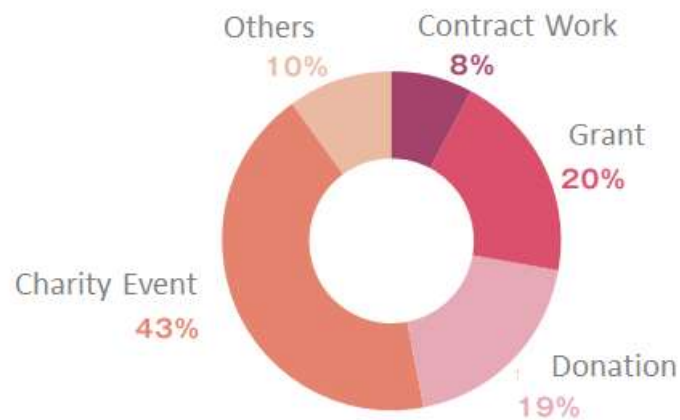
- azbil Honey Bee Club
- BLS (BirdLife Supporters Club)
- Daihonzan Sojiji Temple
- Kaigai Fine Wine Asia (Kaigai shuhan Ltd.)
- Namicos Corporation
- ONE STEP Co., Ltd
- Sphelar Power Corporation
- Ms. Yoko Ogoma

Financial Report

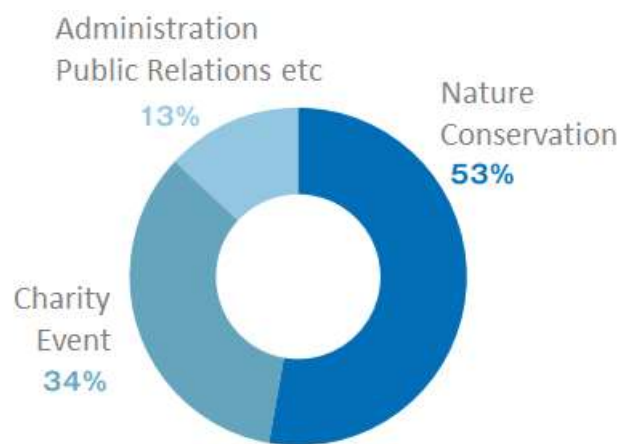
Financial Report for FY 2021 is as follows:

- Income : JPY 166,636,125
- Expenditure : JPY 166,636,125

➤ Income



➤ Expenditure



The forecasted figures at the end of December 2021 (prior to accounting audit)

**General Incorporated Association
BirdLife International Tokyo**

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Founded: April 2002