



Centro de Informação, Observação  
e Monitorização de Aves – Lobito

Lobito Birdwatching, Information and Monitoring Centre



# Celebration of World Migratory Bird Day with Teachers and Children from the Lobito Community, Angola

## Activities Report



2024

Funded by:  THE  
WADDEN SEA  
FLYWAY INITIATIVE

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## I. INTRODUCTION

World Migratory Bird Day (WMBD) celebration dates are always a magnificent opportunity to intensify campaigns on raising general awareness on migratory birds and their habitats conservation, as well as increase global awareness of the threats faced by these birds. CIOMA partner schools in Lobito continue to be the large target population taking into account the local context and above all the geographical location of the main habitat of migratory water birds in this region. Within the scope of management of the recently created wetland center called CIOMA, ADAMA decided to promote a series of activities that were funded by The Wadden Sea Flyway Initiative (WSFI) and implemented on the basis of the contact K 185\_WP2 signed between ADAMA and the Common Wadden Sea Secretariat.

It is important to remember that CIOMA is a project that was born as a result of the partnership between WSFI and ADAMA and nowadays it is already considered a successful project in Angola and has been contributing significantly for the conservation of migratory water birds and coastal wetlands in the Lobito region, which is an important migratory stopover along the East Atlantic flyway.

## II. DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT

All the activities were carried out successfully, complying with objectives mentioned in the contract signed between the parties. Below we present a detailed description of each of the activities, following the chronological order in which they were carried out:

### 2.1. CIOMA – EVOA Teachers/Volunteers Virtual Exchange

A virtual exchange session between teachers/volunteers from CIOMA in Lobito and EVOA Portugal took place to exchange experiences in environmental education matters for the conservation of migratory water birds. The event took place on the 9<sup>th</sup> May, between 1 and 3 pm Angola time, following the work agenda in annex number 1. Ten teachers/volunteers from the Angolan side and five from the Portuguese side participated in the event.



Image 1: Teachers/volunteers and ADAMA members pose for photography after the exchange session.

The virtual exchange was very beneficial for both parties and served as a precursor activity to the WMBD joint celebration between a group of children from Angola and another from Portugal.



*Table of results number 1: CIOMA – EVOA teachers/volunteers virtual exchange participants by group*

Country	Gender		Total
	Male	Female	
Angola	5	5	10
Portugal	2	3	5
Total	7	8	15

With these results the first objective which consisted of promoting a virtual exchange between 15 teachers/volunteers from CIOMA and EVOA partner schools was successfully achieved.

## **2.2. Angola – Portugal WMBD joint celebration**

To celebrate the WMBD 2024 a joint activity between CIOMA (Angola) and EVOA (Portugal) was carried out on the 10<sup>th</sup> May with the participation of 90 school boys from Angola and 30 from Portugal.

The two groups, that is one based in a CIOMA partner school and another in EVOA centre interacted remotely via Stream Yard app. On one hand the Angolan group was composed of 2 grade 6 classes from a CIOMA partner school named Santa Doroteia Missionary School in Lobito town, on the other hand the Portuguese group was formed by a grade 5 and a grade 6 class from an EVOA partner school.



Image 2: Children interacting remotely via stream Yard. On the left side of the screen the Portuguese group and in the right side the Angolan one.

For preparation purposes, selected children from the Angolan side benefited from an informative and training session for the main event with the distribution of leaflets in that can be seen in annex 2. The program began with the presentation of the objectives to each of the parties, followed by the presentation of the centres as well as the ecosystem around them, while the final part of the interaction consisted of interaction between the groups, giving participants the opportunity to learn about migratory bird conservation from each other.

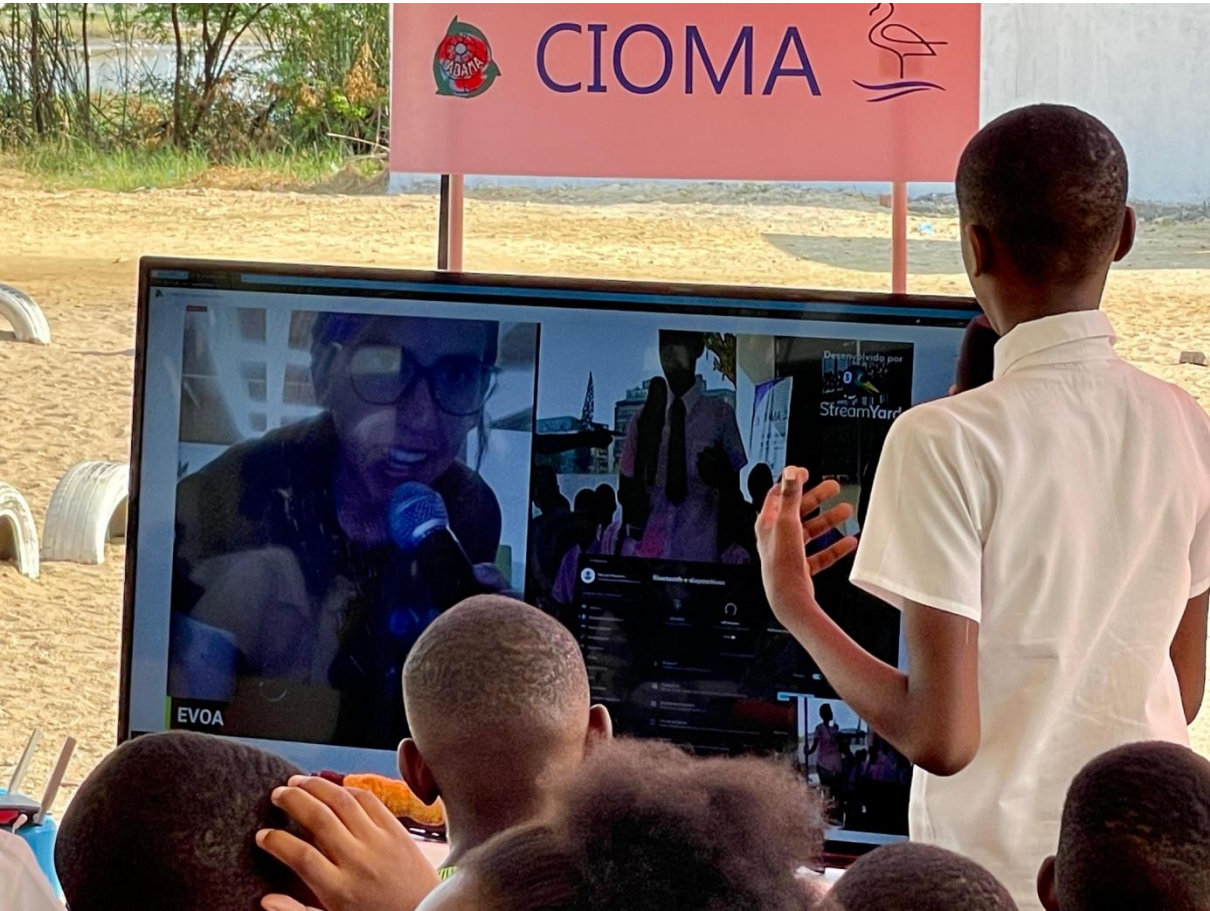


Image 3: A Portuguese teacher in EVOA responding to an Angolan child question.

Table of results number 2: Angola – Portugal WMBD joint celebration participants by group

Country	Gender		Total
	Male	Female	
Angola	42	46	88
Portugal	13	17	35
Total	55	65	123



With these results the second objective which consisted of engaging 120 children from Angola and Portugal in a WMBD joint celebration, remotely, was clearly achieved.

### 2.3. Bird watching excursion with street boys

As part of the WMBD celebrations in May 2024 in Lobito, a special activity was carried out with a segment of the population that until then was neglected; That is a large group of street boys who as part of their struggle for survival, operate on the outskirts of the Lobito and Luongo wetland sites, collecting eggs, trapping and disturbing birds.



Image 4: street boys getting off the bus after being picked up from the streets.

For the success of the awareness raising activity of this group, CIOMA counted on the intervention of the Angolan National Institute of children, which during the week in that the activity took place, helped to identify and sensitize the boys.



Image 5: CIOMA volunteers carrying out an environmental education session with the group of street boys.

Bird watching excursion and environmental education session activity with Lobito street boys took place on the 18th May, starting at 1 pm and lasted four hours. Finding and collecting the boys with the bus was the first challenge, after that all of them were concentrated at a school facility where conditions were created for an orientation session, distribution of t-shirts and snack. The information printed on the front of the t-shirt is "I protect migratory birds" and on the back "we celebrate migratory birds", also mentioning the organization funding the project as well as the implementing organization. Other steps followed as the agenda in annex 3.



Image 6: Street boys performing bird watching.

Table of results number 3: Birdwatching excursion with street boys participants by community

Community	Gender		Total
	Male	Female	
Kilamba	12	8	20
Feira do Compão	6	6	12
Kamatondo	6	2	8
Total	24	16	40



### III. CONCLUSIONS

“Celebration of World Migratory Bird Day with teachers and children from the Lobito Community” project with funding from the Wadden Sea Flyway Initiative was a unique experience that certainly had a very positive impact on the Lobito community, mainly due to the fact that it contained a series of innovative activities that captivated the target groups.

All of the activities had results above expectations; mainly due to the fact that we rented audiovisual equipment and hired a team of professionals whose mission was to carry out live stream with good audiovisual quality of the events, meaning that in addition to the participants in the field, other interested people had the opportunity to watch the events via social media.

The activity with the street boys was extraordinary because due to the conversations that CIOMA volunteers and the employees of the Angolan National Children's Institute had with them, it was possible to identify the community of origin of each of them and, after the activity, they were taken back to their homes. Another important element that resulted from this project is the fact that CIOMA gained more visibility and it is noticed by the number of people visiting the centre that has grown significantly and slowly it is becoming a reference in matters of conservation of coastal wetlands and migratory water birds in the region.

In general terms, the success of each of the activities contributed for achieving the project's goals and so we can say that the project was a great success

## IV. ANNEXES

### Annex 1 – CIOMA – EVOA teachers/volunteers virtual exchange agenda



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### Sessão de Intercâmbio Virtual entre Professores/Voluntários do CIOMA (Angola) e do EVOA (Portugal)

**Local: Sala de Reuniões da Escola Santa Doroteia - Lobito**

**Dia: 9 de Maio de 2024**

**Horário: 13:00 – 15:00**

Agenda de Trabalho			
Ordem	Hora	Actividade	Responsável
1	13:00	Concentração e acomodação (Angola)	Protocolo
2	13:10	Sessão de orientação (Angola)	Moderador
3	13:20	Conexão com Portugal	Moderador
4	13:30	Abertura e apresentação dos objectivos	Moderador
5	13:35	Auto apresentação dos participantes	Partcipantes
6	13:50	Breve visita virtual ao EVOA	Representante do EVOA
7	14:00	Breve apresentação do CIOMA	Representate do CIOMA
8	14:10	Momento de interação entre as partes	Partcipantes
9	14:50	Agendamento da sessão de intercâmbio entre alunos	Partcipantes
10	14:55	Apresentação de conclusões e encerramento da sessão	Moderador
11	15:00	Café (Angola)	Protocolo

## Annex 2 – Information leaflet sample



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### CELEBRAÇÃO DO DIA MUNDIAL DAS AVES MIGRATÓRIAS 2024

O Dia Mundial das Aves Migratórias celebra-se, anualmente no segundo fim-de-semana de Maio e visa a sensibilização geral para a necessidade de protecção e conservação das aves migratórias e dos seus habitats, e aumentar a consciência global para as ameaças que estas aves enfrentam. A próxima campanha do Dia Mundial das Aves Migratórias em 2024 visa a importância dos insectos para as aves migratórias e destaca as preocupações relacionadas com a diminuição das populações de insectos.

Em 2024, o Dia Mundial das Aves Migratórias comemora-se em dois dias, 11 de Maio e 12 de Outubro, alinhando-se com a natureza cíclica da migração das aves em diferentes hemisférios.

As aves desempenham papéis cruciais na polinização e no controlo de pragas, e a falta de insectos perturba estas funções do ecossistema. A superpopulação de certos insectos, sem predadores naturais como as aves, também pode causar surtos que prejudicam a saúde das plantas e a agricultura.

A campanha do Dia Mundial das Aves Migratórias em 2024 sublinha a necessidade de medidas pró-activas de conservação, que incluem a redução da utilização de pesticidas e fertilizantes e, sempre que possível, a mudança para a agricultura biológica. Outras medidas incluem a manutenção e ligação de áreas de vegetação natural que fornecem alimento e abrigo para aves e outras espécies, em paisagens agrícolas.

Os insectos são fontes essenciais de energia para muitas espécies de aves migratórias, não apenas durante as épocas de reprodução, mas também durante as suas extensas viagens e afectam largamente o momento, a duração e o sucesso geral das migrações das aves.

Ao longo das suas rotas de migração, as aves procuram activamente insectos em campos, florestas, zonas húmidas e vários habitats durante as escalas. O momento da migração das aves coincide frequentemente com o pico de abundância de insectos nos locais de escala, fornecendo alimento às aves para reabastecerem as suas reservas de energia antes de continuarem as suas viagens.

A perda e a perturbação das populações de insectos nos locais de reprodução e ao longo das rotas de migração das aves ameaçam a sobrevivência e o bem-estar das aves. Espaços naturais como florestas e pastagens que foram transformados ou ameaçados pela agricultura intensiva e pelo desenvolvimento urbano e os seus efeitos, como a poluição luminosa, podem resultar num declínio nas populações de insectos. Pesticidas e herbicidas destinados a proteger as plantações prejudicam os insectos dos quais as aves dependem para se alimentar. A escassez de insectos ricos em energia e proteínas pode dificultar a migração e a reprodução das aves, levando ao enfraquecimento do sistema imunitário, à redução do sucesso reprodutivo e ao aumento das taxas de mortalidade tanto das aves adultas como das suas crias.

Estes dias foram proclamados em 2006 pelo Secretariado do Acordo sobre Conservação de Aves Aquáticas Migradoras da África-Eurásia, em colaboração com o Secretariado da Convenção sobre Conservação de Espécies Migratórias de Animais Silvestres.

Lobito representa uma importante zona húmida ao longo da rota oriental do Atlântico que ao longo do ano recebe várias espécies com destaque no flamingo grande e pequeno, pelicanos, colhereiros, garças, pernilongos, alfaíates, cegonhas e diferentes espécies de patos e andorinhas.

As lagoas do Mangal da Caponte são o principal habitat das espécies ora mencionadas, sendo necessário a protecção deste ecossistema para a sobrevivência das espécies.

1 <https://www.facebook.com/ciomalobito> | Email: [adama\\_angolo@outlook.com](mailto:adama_angolo@outlook.com)

### IMAGENS DE ALGUMAS ESPÉCIES FREQUENTES NO MANGAL DA CAPONTE - LOBITO

ALFAIATE



CEGONHA BRANCA



COLHEREIRO



FLAMINGO



GARÇA AZUL



GARÇA BRANCA



PELICANO



PERNILONGO



2 <https://www.facebook.com/ciomalobito> | Email: [adama\\_angolo@outlook.com](mailto:adama_angolo@outlook.com)



**Annex 3 – Birdwatching excursion with street boys agenda.**



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**Excursão e Observação de Aves com Meninos de Rua**

**Local: Lagunas do Lobito e Luongo**

**Dia: 18 de Maio de 2024**

**Horário: 13:00 – 17:00**

<b>Guião da Excursão</b>			
<b>Ordem</b>	<b>Hora</b>	<b>Actividade</b>	<b>Local</b>
1	12:30	Recolha dos meninos nos pontos de concentração	Pontos de concentração
2	13:00	Sessão de abertura, orientação e distribuição de t-shirts	Escola Ebenezer
3	13:30	Lanche	Escola Ebenezer
	14:00	Deslocação as lagunas do Luongo	Lagunas do Luongo
4	15:00	Visita ao CIOMA e as lagunas do Lobito	Lagunas do Lobito
5	15:30	Sessão de conscientização e educação ambiental	CIOMA
6	16:00	Sessão de observação e identificação de aves usando binóculos	CIOMA
7	16:30	Lanche	CIOMA
8	17:00	Distribuição das crianças nas comunidades de origem	Comunidades de origem

**Annex 4 – Sample of the t-shirts distributed to the street boys**



Annex 5 – Additional activities photos















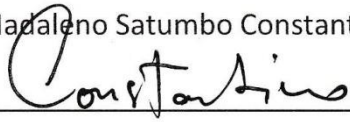




Lobito, 14<sup>th</sup> May, 2024

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General-secretary

