

Title of project: I protect birds and what do you do? Initiative to promote the importance and conservation of birds with children and young people of communities near the protected area of San Miguel de Parada.

Participants:

Principal Investigator:

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Other participants in the project:

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2. Lic. Aliuska Rojas Ocaña (Promotora Ambiental. Refugio de Fauna San Miguel de Parada).
3. Liudmila Neyra. Especialista del Ministerio de Ciencia tecnología y Medio Ambiente.

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PROJECT PROFILE.

In Cuba birds are one of the most diverse groups of land vertebrates. Until today 371 species belonging to 21 orders, 67 families are registered. The endemism is 7.7%. 26 endemic species are recognized (Tocororo; Cartacuba; Gavilán Caguarero; Sinsontillo; Gavilán Colilargo, Zunzuncito, Catey, Carpintero Churroso, Paloma Perdiz and Mayito de Ciénaga), many of them exposed to natural threats such as intense rains and hurricanes, fire, long dry and anthropic periods such as the loss of nesting and feeding sites.

For the conservation of these charismatic species, the Festival of Endemic Birds of the Caribbean is developed every year, it is a regional initiative of the Society for the Study and Conservation of Caribbean Birds, which aims to promote knowledge and promote conservation of the endemic birds of the region and raise the awareness of the population about their protection. This Festival is celebrated every year from April 22 (Earth Day) to May 22 (Biodiversity Day), including in turn May 9 (International Day of Migratory birds).

Linking this initiative to the pedagogical essence of learning by doing and learning by reflecting supported by the tools that Peter Feinsinger's "Teaching of Ecology in the Schoolyard" and Popular Education provide us, we propose this environmental education project. It aims to support, through constructivist pedagogy, the preservation of the endemic birdlife in the region and reduce the effects of an increasing phenomenon such as the illegal hunting of bird species, their commercialization and in many cases the decrease in populations of some bird species from plastic pollution.

The project will be implemented in the San Miguel de Parada protected area, it is a Wildlife Refuge, which has 3 nearby communities Punta de Sal, Caimán Chico and Parada, with a total population of 325 inhabitants, 95 of them among children and youth. The project needs to be carried out here as they are in great need of knowledge about birds, their importance and the urgency of their protection.

General objective:

Encourage in children and young people the love for endemic birds, as well as the need to protect them, through the activities that we propose and the incorporation of this knowledge in their curricular activities in their schools.

DIRECT PROJECT ACTIONS

- Workshops and talks to teachers, children and young people on how to include these aspects in school curricula (importance of birds, their natural history and what we must do to protect them).
- Distribution of folding sheets, bulletins and loose sheets with basic information among parents and the community in general.
- Creation of educational games with recyclable materials obtained from sanitation on the coast.
- Video sessions - debates on the values of Cuban biodiversity and the preservation of endemic birds in protected areas and biodiversity conservation in general.
- Assemblies of exhibitions as a result of competitions and the work of children, youth, teachers, parents linked to schools.
- Development of activities commemorating environmental dates, the festival of endemic birds of the Caribbean festivals, days of environment, campaigns of cleaning of the coast and in the school. Camping and stays for children, youth, parents and teachers in protected areas and at school.
- Creation of nurseries and the planting of native and fruit plants that serve as food for fauna, especially birds.

- Bird observations, in which children and young people can identify them by their shape and song, as well as nest counts and egg measurements.
- Carrying out special morning sessions in which the value of birds is highlighted.
- Presentations will be made on the radio, provincial television, dissemination in the press and on social networks, which will allow the scope of the project to be extended to all the inhabitants of the Santiago de Cuba province, the eastern region and, if possible, to the entire country.

POST PROJECT ACTIONS

DISSEMINATION OF RESULTS.

The results will be published in informative material, specialized biological magazines, such as, **Biodiversidad de Cuba Oriental, Flora and Fauna Magazine**, among others. A part of the results will be published in non-specialized, local and regional literature, including folding, bulletins and loose. In particular, an attempt will be made to include information in the bulletin of the company Pronaturaleza, which is distributed in all the provinces of Eastern Cuba.

HOW WILL THE SUCCESS OF THE PROJECT BE EVALUATED?

Drafting of a report proposing a methodology that will be used by teachers in subjects such as biology and the World in which we live, for the protection and conservation of endemic birds and in general the biodiversity of Cuba.

BUDGET

EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS REQUESTED:

Equipment and materials	UM	Price	Quantity	Amount
Colored pencils	Boxes	1.00	50	50.00
Leaves	Package	4.00	3	12.00
Pencil	U	0.5	100	50.00
Crayons	Boxes	2.00	50	100.00
Colored down	Game	2.00	50	100.00
Digital camera	U	150	1	150.00
Folding printing	U	1.00	100	100.00
Printing newsletters	U	0.50	150	75.00
Loose print	U	0.25	200	50.00
Field Guides Birds.	U	1.50	8	12.00
Making of pullover with images of birds	U	5.00	60	300.00
Gastos Total				\$ 999.00

Equivalent funds or resources:

This project is part of the National Action Plan Program of the Cuban Environmental Training Network (REDFA), which has financing in national currency or CUP from the National Forest Development Fund. This financing covers only the fees of specialists who work directly in communities and schools as environmental promoters.

SCHEDULE

Activities	Months (June 2020 – June 2021)												
	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June
Workshops and talks to teachers, boys, girls and young people.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
Distribution of folding, bulletins and loose			X	X		X		X			X		X
Creation of educational games with recyclable materials				X		X	X	X		X		X	X

Video sessions - discussions		X		X		X		X	X		X		
Exhibition montages as results of the competitions			X		X	X		X	X	X		X	
Environmental activities, bird festival, cleaning campaigns, environmental day.		X			X		X		X	X	X	X	X
Camping			X		X		X			X		X	X
Creation of nurseries and planting of native and fruit plants		X		X	X	X	X	X	X				
Bird observations, nest counts and egg measurements.			X		X	X	X		X		X	X	X
Realization of special morning	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X
Presentations on radio, TV, the dam and social networks.			X		X	X		X			X	X	

Continuity:

Due to the importance of this project, it is our purpose that when we finish, we can replicate it in the other protected areas managed by the Santiago de Cuba Flora and Fauna Company.

Curriculum

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Occupation: Specialist in guarded Areas, Enterprise Flora and Fauna Santiago de Cuba.

Profession: Bachiller in Astronomy a Physics.

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Realized studies: Bachelor's degree in Astronomy a Physics

Vocational experience: Since 1994 I worked to the 2002 like woman teacher of basic secondary school, as from 2003 I am doing like Specialist of Conservation in National Company for the protection of Flora y Fauna Santiago de Cuba to the present.

Courses of after degree

1. Postgrad's course of the Ecology at the School's Patio, sponsored for Wildlife Conservation Society, February 2009
2. Course of environmental interpretation and techniques of driving, 2016
3. Course of Flora, Fauna and Ecology, 2016
4. Workshop of Environmental Education, June 2017
5. Long-distance Training Course of Popular Educators, Martin Luter King Center 2018
6. Course of Basic English, University of Orient 2019.
7. Course on handling integrated Coastally, Integrated Coastal Management 's Center, March 2019.
8. Workshop of Environmental Education, May 2019
9. Workshop on handling of protected areas, January 2019
10. Agro-ecology Management Course of shovels in Sustainable Agriculture, December 2019