

## Senegal 22-29 October 2004

**Participants:** Bengt Andersson, Leif Dehlin, Alf Petersson and Johan Stenlund

### **Itinerary**

Flight with Air Portugal Copenhagen-Lisbon, Lisbon-Dakar. 7259 SEK.

Accommodation Club le Calao bungalows. 21 Euro/night in double room.

Seabird watching from terrace at Club le Calao, Isle N'Gor and one pelagic trip 4 h.  
28.10. Birdwatching at Technopol area 24 & 27 and in the Somone delta about 2 h  
drive south of Dakar at the coast 25.10. Birdwatching in the surroundings of Club de  
Calao and the hotel Mirador.

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Guiding: Diamil Diallo, BP 3923, Dakar, Senegal. Telephone 8549870

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### **General Information**

We had great expectations for the sea bird watching after the successful trip of the Swedish team in 2003. We were a little disappointed regarding some species, specially the storm petrel's but this was well compensated by a lot of birds seen on the excursions to Technopol and Somone. An perhaps more ideal Senegal trip would be extended to 10-14 days and include visiting at least one of the national parks combined with sea bird watching at Calao.

The storm-petrel species were seen only in small numbers from land. At the pelagic trip they begun to show up after 30 min but disappeared again further out on the sea. In absence of the smaller species there was not very much difference to watch for seabirds from the terrace of Club de Calao or from Isle de N'Gor.

Technopol area is definitely worth at least one day birding and offers a good complement to seabird watching. The science centre with gardens is not accessible but the golf course and restaurant is open can offer a cold drink. The Technopol area is reached with taxi 15 min drive from Calao along the main road leading out of Dakar. It is a well-known place. Ask the taxidriver or the hotel reception. Start birding from the golf course parking place and check out the surroundings of the lake and the mudflat west of the lake. It is not a place for scenic views but there are lots of birds. There was a guard at the golf centre (with a machete!) but there was no problems to enter the area for birding including the pathways on the course.

We met our guide Diamil Diallo by accident at the Technopol area and he offered good help in showing us this area and also the Somone delta. Since no one of us could speak any french Diamil was very valuable for arranging taxis, bying fruit and food, keeping disturbing people on a distance (otherwise there is quickly a croud of people around you trying to sell things or just looking).

The Somone area was reached with a 2 h taxidrive south from the centre of Dakar. It is a delta area surrounded with mangrove vegetation next to the sea south west of

N'Guekokh with pelicans, shorebirds and lots of terns and gulls. The village next to the delta is very fashionable, a place for rich people including the president! The gardens offers a lot of birds. We met accidentally with the "Reserve Commendante" but he could not offer much help.

We were guided to this place by our guide Diamil. It was a compromise to go to Somone instead for one of the national parks but it would have required at least two days.

On our way south we saw possible good birding areas with muddy sadflats and bush vegetation next to the sea along the coast less than 1 h south of Dakar. Also the area around the lighthouse west of Calao seemed to be a promising birding area but was never checked.

### **Wheater**

We had very stable weather with winds coming from N-NV most days. NV should be ideal for sea birds but we did not notice much difference compared to days with wind from N.

Temperature was constantly high (above 30 C) and especially inland excursions required lots of water. The humidity was also high and the telescopes was covered with moist the first minutes every morning. We followed the good advice to keep al photo equipment in the bathrooms over night and had no problems.

## Senegal 22-29.10 2004

**Vithuvad visseland**-White-faced Whistling duck *Dendrocygna viduata*  
5 Technopol 24.10

**Årta**-Garganey *Anas querquedula*  
2 Technopol 27.10

**Skedand**-Northern-Shoveler  
*Anas clypeata*  
At least 50 Technopol 24 & 27.10

**Smådopping**-Little Grebe *Tachybaptus ruficollis*  
At least 300 Technopol 24 & 27.10

**Gulnäbbad lira**-Cory's/Cape Verde/Scopoli's Sherwater  
*Calonectris diomedea*  
686 counted on migration south.



**Grålira**-Sooty Sherwater  
*Puffinus griseus*  
284 counted.

**Mindre lira**-Manx Sherwater *Puffinus puffinus*  
22 counted.

**Havslöpare**-Wilson's Storm-petrel  
*Oceanites oceanicus*  
61 counted. Just few seen from land.

**Klykstjärtad stormsvala**-Leach's storm-petrel *Oceanodroma leucorhoa*  
At least 2 on the pelagic trip 28.10.

**Stormsvala**-Storm Petrel  
*Hydrobates pelagicus*  
About 10 on the pelagic trip 28.10.

**Havssula**-Northern Gannet  
*Morus bassanus*  
4 juvenile counted migrating south.

**Storskarv**-Great /White-breasted Cormorant  
*Phalacrocorax carbo lucidus*  
5-10 passing daily at Calao and 30 in a group 29.10. Some also at Somone.

**Långstjärtad skarv**-Long-tailed cormorant  
*Phalacrocorax africanus*  
At least 50 at Technopol 24 & 17.10 and 1 passing Calao 29.10.



**Rosaryggad pelikan** Pink-backed pelican  
*Pelecanus rufescens*  
At least 200 at Somone 25.10

**Great White Pelikan**  
*Pelecanus onocrotalus*  
5-10 at Somone 25.10.

**Grönhäger/Mangrovehäger-Striated Heron**  
*Butorides striata*  
 5 at Technopol 27.10 and 10 at Somone 25.10.



**Kohäger Cattle Egret** *Bubulcus ibis*  
 >50 at Technopol and Somone.

**Rallhäger-Squaco Heron**  
*Ardeola ralloides*  
 5 at Technopol 27.10



**Revhäger Western-Reef heron**  
*Egretta gularis*  
 Daily up to 10 fishing at the beach at Calao.  
 Also seen at Technopol and Somone.



**Silkeshäger-Little egret**  
*Egretta garzetta*  
 Common at Technopol and Somone. 1 at  
 Calao 23.10.



**Ägretthäger-Great Egret**  
*Egretta alba*  
 >100 Technopol 24 & 27.10.

**Obestämd mörk häger-Heron**  
*Ardea sp*  
 A larger very dark heron could not be  
 identified. Maybe a melanistic form. Possible  
 goliath heron?

**Purpurhäger-Purpel Heron**  
*Ardea purpurea*  
 1-2 juv at Technopol 27.10.

**Svarthuvad häger-Black-headed heron** *Ardea  
 melanocephala*  
 1 adult, 1 juv Technopol 24.10.

**Gråhäger-Grey Heron** *Ardea cinerea*  
 A few passing by at Club le Calao. About 10-  
 20 at Technopol and 20 at Somone 25.10.

**Helig ibis-Sacred Ibis**  
*Threskiornis aethiopicus*  
 2 at Technopol 27.10



**Karibisk flamingo-Greater Flamingo**  
*Phoenicopterus ruber*  
 10-20 in the Somone area.

**Fiskgjuse**-Osprey *Pandioa haliaetus*  
Seen daily at the coast, in Technopol and Somone.

**Brun glada**-Yellow-billed (Black) Kite *Milvus Migrans parasiticus*  
Very common specially in urban regions. Seen daily.



**Munkgam**-Hooded Vulture *Necrosyrtes moachus*  
Common in urban areas. Seen daily.



**Shrika** *Accipiter badius*  
1 at the Mirador hotel 23.10.



**Pilgrimsfalk**-Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus*  
1 adult, probably female, resting daily at the hotel Diarama building and hunting over the sea. One prey identified as black tern.



**Svart sumphöna**-Black Crake *Amaurornis flavirostris*  
5-7 in Technopol area 24 & 27.10.

**Purpurhöna** Purple Swampphen *Porphyrio porphyrio*  
1 at Technopol 24.10.

**African jacana** *Actophilornis africanus*  
10-15 in Technopol area 24 & 27.10.



**Strandskata**-Eurasian Oystercather *Haematopus ostralegus*  
10-20 Somone 25.10.

**Stytlöpare**-Black-winged Stilt  
*Himantopus palliatus*  
Common Tecnopol area.

**Senegaltjockfot/Flodtjockfot**-Senegal Thick-knee *Burhinus senegalensis*  
Common, about 100 in Technopol area 24 & 27.10. One resting Isle de N'Gor 26.10 probably also of the senegal species. 2 at Somone 2.10.



**Större strandpipare**-Common Ringed plover  
*Charadrius hiaticula*  
Common at Technopol 24 & 27.10. 20 at Somone 25.10.

**Mindre strandpipare**-Little Ringed Plover  
*Charadrius dubius*  
At least one at Technopol 24.10.

**Kitlitzstrandpipare**-Kittlitz's Plover  
*Charadrius pecuarius*  
10-12 at Technopol 27.10



**Kustpipare**-Grey Plover  
*Pluvialis squatarola*  
5 at Somone 25.10

**Sporrvipa**-Spur-winged Lapwing *Vanellus spinosus*  
300 at Technopol and several also at Somone.

**Storspov**-Eurasian Curlew *Numenius arquata*  
1 at Somone 25.10.

**Rödspov-Black-tailed Godwit** *Limosa limosa*  
At least 200 at Technopol 24.10 and a few 27.10. A few also at Somone 25.10.

**Myrspov**-Bar-tailed Godwit  
*Limosa lapponica*  
A few passing by Club le Calao. 1 at Somone 25.10.

**Småspov**-Wimbrel  
*Numenius phaeopus*  
Daily some passing at N'Gore. 50 at Somone 25.10.

**Rödbena**-Common Redshank  
*Tringa totanus*  
Seen at Technopol and Somone.

**Gluttsnäppa**-Common Greenshank  
*Tringa nebularia*  
Seen in low numbers at Technopol and Somone. A few individuals passing by at Club le Calao.

**Dammsnäppa**-Marsh Sandpiper *Tringa stagnatilis*  
5 at Somone 25.10, 1 at Technopol 27.10.

**Skogssnäppa**-Green Sandpiper  
*Tringa ochropus*  
A few at Technopol.

**Brushane**-Ruff *Philomachus pugnax*  
>100 at Technopol 24 & 27.10. Several all white headed.

**Småsnäppa**-Little Stint  
*Calidris minuta*  
5-10 at Somone 25.10.

**Mosnäppa**-Temminick's stint  
*Calidris temminickii*  
At least 10 resting Technopol area 24 & 27.10

**Sandlöpare**-Sanderling *Calidris alba*  
A few, less than 20, seen migrating along the coast. 15 resting at Technopol 24.10 and 20 in the Somone area 25.10.

**Kärnsnäppa**-Dunlin *Calidris alpina*  
At least 3 at Technopol 27.10

**Drillsnäppa**-Common Sandpiper  
*Actitis hypoleucos*  
Daily a few on the shore at Club le Calao.

**Roskarl** Ruddy-Turnstone  
*Arenaria interpres*  
Seen daily in small numbers up to 10 migrating and resting along the coast.

**Brednäbbad simsnäppa**

Red Phalarope *Phalaropus fulicarius*  
67 counted on migration. Most of them seen the last day 29.10.

**Storlabb-”Great Skua”**

*Catharacta sp.*  
198 counted.

**Bredstjärtad labb-Pomarine Skua**

*Stercorarius pomarinus*  
Impressive numbers of 3235 total counted.  
Adult dominating. About 15% with elongated tail feathers left unmoulted.



**Kustlabb** Arctic skua *Stercorarius parasiticus*  
191 counted.

**Fjälllabb**-Long-tailed Skua *Stercorarius longicaudus*  
53 counted.

**Tärnmås**-Sabine's Gull *Larus sabini*  
543 counted migrating south. Often in small groups 10-20 birds. Mostly adults.

**Smalnäbbad mås**-Slender-billed Gull *Larus cirrocephalus*  
3 at Somone 25.10. 2 passing at Calao 27.10.

**Skrattmås**-Black-headed Gull *Larus ridibundus*  
2 at Somone 25.10

**Rödnäbbad mås**-Audouin's Gull *Larus Audouinii*  
1 adult Calao 28.10.

**Gråhuvad mås** *Larus cirrocephalus*  
>10 at Somone 25.10

**Medelhavstrut**-Yellow-legged Gull *Larus michahelli*  
A few at Somone.

**Silltrut** Lesser-Black-backed Gull *Larus fuscus intermedius/graelsii*  
25 at Somone 25.10.

**Dominikanertrut**-Kelp Gull *Larus dominicanus*  
57 counted migrating south.  
5-10 at Somone 25.10.



**Skräntärna**-Caspian Tern *Sterna caspia*  
Probably more than 500 at Somone 25.10.

**Afrikansk kungstärna**-African Royal tern *Sterna maxima albididorsialis*  
Daily 2-20 passing the coast at Calao.

**Itärna**-Lesser Crested Tern *Sterna benegalensis emigrata*  
Daily 15-50 passing at Club le Calao. Several 100 at Somone 25.10



**Kentsk tärna**-Sandwich tern *Sterna sandvicensis*  
Large numbers (100-200) passing Club le Calao every day. Not counted.

**Fisk/Silvertärna**-Common/Arctic tern *Sterna hirundo/paradisaea*  
Large numbers (200-1000) passing Club le Calao every day. Not counted.  
A few at Somone 25.10.

**Svarttärna**-Black tern *Chlidonias niger*  
Large numbers (100-1000) passing Calao every day. Not counted. >250 at Technopol.

**Tygeltärna**-Bridle tern  
*Sterna anaethetus*  
1 passing Club le Calao 28.10.

**Sandtärna**-Gull-billed tern  
*Sterna nilotica*  
At least 10 at Somone 25.10

**Långstjärtduva**-Namaqua dove  
*Oena capensis*  
10-15 in the Somone gardens 25.10.

**Klippduva**-Feral pigeon *Columba livia*  
5 flying passing by at the coast Calao 28.10

Speckled-Pigeon *Columba guinea*  
1 Calao 23.10 and 10 at Technopol 24.10.



**Palmduva**-Laughing Dove  
*Streptopelia senegalensis*  
Common in urban areas.

**Skrattduva**/**Afrikansk turkduva** African  
Collared Dove  
*Streptopelia rosogrisea*  
A few around the hotel Calao.

**Senegalsporrgök**-Senegal coucal  
*Centropus senegalensis*  
2 at Technopol 24.10 and 1 at Hotel Mirador  
28.10.



**Blåhjässad musfågel**-Blue-naped Mousebird  
*Urocolius macrourus*  
Up to 5 seen around Club le Calao several  
days.



Striped kingsfisher *Halycon chelicuti*  
1 at Somone in a garden 25.10.

**Gråhuvad kungsfiskare**-Grey-headed  
kingsfisher  
*Halycon leucocephala*  
2-3 at Technopol area 24 & 27.10.



**Malakitkungsfiskare**-Malachite/Shining-blue  
Kingsfisher  
*Alcedo cristata/quadribachys*  
1 passing by quickly Technopol 24.10.



**Gråfiskare**-Pied kingfisher  
*Ceryle rudis*  
 Common in the Technopol area. At least 25.



African pygmy kingfisher *Ceyx pictus*  
 1-2 at eastern part of Technopol lake 27.10.  
 Very small and rapid action like an insect.

**Savannblåkråka**-Abyssinian Roller  
*Coracias abyssiniica*  
 Just 1 seen near the reception at Calao 23.10.

**Liten biätare**-Little bee-eater  
*Merops pusillus*  
 Seen daily in low numbers at Calao, Technopol and Somone.



Senegal Parrot  
*Phicephalus senegalus*  
 4 Calao 28.10.



Beared barbet *Tricholaema hirsuta*  
 3 unshaved in Samone gardens 25.10.

**Afrikansk grå hornskata**-African Grey  
 Hornbill *Tockus nasutus*  
 2-3 Technopol 24.10.

**Rödnäbbad nashornsfågel**-Red-billed  
 Hornbill *Tockus erythrorhynchus*  
 Seen almost daily in the hotel area.



**Blek tornseglare**-Pallid Swift  
*Apus pallidus*  
 A few migrating at the coast.

**Stubbstjärtseglare**-Little Swift  
*Apus affinis*  
 30 stationary in connection to the hotel building Mirador.

**Toflärka**-Crested Lark  
*Galerida cristata*  
 Common singing on many locations specially at the Technopol area. Great variation in colouring. Some dark rusty



**Kortttälärka**-Short-toed Lark  
*Calendrella brachydactyla*  
1 very pale coloured at Technopol 27.10.



**Trädpiplärka**-Tree pipit  
*Anthus trivialis*  
1 resting short time outside the Calao reception.

**Ladusvala**-Barn swallow  
*Hirundo rustica*  
15-20 few seen flying in from the sea.

Mosque Swallow  
*Hirundo Senegalensis*  
2 seen from a gasstation on the road to Somone.

**Gulärta**-Yellow Wagtail  
*Motacilla flava*  
Extremely common (at least 250) resting at Technopol 24.10 and less numbers 17.10.  
Flava dominating

**Sädesärta**-White wagtail  
*Motacilla alba*  
2-5 Technopol 24.10

**Forsärta**-Grey Wagtail  
*Motacilla cinerea*  
At least 1-2 Technopol 24.10.

**Trädgårdsbulbyl**-Common bulbul  
*Pycnotos barbatus*  
Seen daily at different locations. Common.

**Stenskvätta**-Northern Wheater  
*Oenanthe oenanthe*  
Obviously migrating birds resting at Isle de N'Gor. Seen also in the hotel park and in the Technopol area.

**Buskskvätta**-Whinchat  
*Saxicola rubetra*  
1 in Mirador hotel garden 28.10.

**Rödstart**-Common redstart  
*Phoenicurus phoenicurus*  
1 in Mirador hotel garden evening 28.10 and 2-3 29.10.

**Trastsångare** Great-Reed Warbler  
1 in reed vegetation in Technopol 24.10.

**Rörsångare**-Reed warbler-  
*Acrocephalus sciripaeus*  
1-3 in reed vegetation in Technopol 24 & 27.10

**Törnsångare**-Common whitethroat  
*Sylvia communis*  
1 in the bungalow area Calao 24.10

**Rödstrupig sångare**-Subalpine warbler *Sylvia cantillans*  
1 at Technopol 24.10 and 1 in the hotel garden 28.10

**Gransångare**-Chiffchaff  
*Phylloscopus collybita*  
2-3 in the hotel Mirador garden 28 & 29.10.

**Grässångare**-Zitting Cisticola  
*Cisticola juncidis*  
Seen and heard at Technopol and Somone.



**Svartvit flugsnappare**-Pied Flycatcher  
*Ficedula hypoleuca*  
1-3 on several occasions around Clu le Calao and hotel Mirador. One female/first winter with extensive white wingmarking reminding of collared flycatcher was probably of subspecies *speculigera*?



**Varfågel**-Southern Grey Shrike

*Lanius meridionalis*

1 adult (in extreme moult specially secondaries) at Technopol 27.10. Propably subspecies algeriensis.

**Long-tailed** Glossy Starling

*Lamprotornis caudatus*

Seen almost daily up to 20.

Greater blue-eared glossy starling

*Lamprotornis chalybaeus*

Less common than long-tailed but seen most days.

**Grå flugsnappare**-Spotted Flycatcher

*Muscicapa striata*

2 individuals seen in the gardens of hotel Mirador. Both with heavy streaking on breast.



**Svartvit kråka**-Pied crow

*Corvus albus*

Seen daily.



Tawny-flanked Prinia

*Prinia subflava*

Seen at Technopol and Somone. A bird collecting insects at Somone probably breeding.



**Gråsparv**-House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*

5-20 daily in the Calao bungalow area.

**Gråhuvad sparv**-Grey-headed Sparrow *Passer griseus*

5-20 daily in the Calao bungalow area.



Splendid sunbird

*Cinnyris coccinigaster*

1 adult male, 1 female and 1 immature male in the hotel surroundings.

**Sudanesisk guldsparv-Sudan Golden Sparrow**  
*Passer luteus*

2-20 seen on several occasions at Calao.



**Red-billed Quelea** *Quelea quelea*  
Large groups flying by and resting for short time on several occasions at Club le calao and technopol.



**Northern Red Bishop** *Euplectes franciscanus*  
One male singing and displaying at Isle N'Gor 23.10.



**Afrikansk silvernäbb-African Silverbill**  
*Lonchura cantans*

About 25 daily in the surroundings of Club le Calao.

**Cordon Bleu** *Iraeginthus bengalus*  
About 10 daily in the surroundings of Club le Calao.

**White-rumped Seedeater**  
*Serinius leucopygius*  
5-20 daily in the surroundings of Club le Calao.

**Rödnäbbad amarant-Red-billed Firefinch**  
*Lagonosticta senegala*

About 30 daily in the surroundings of Club le Calao.



**Liten skatfink-Bronze Mannikin** *Lonchura cucullata*

10-20 10 daily Club le Calao.

**Cut-throat Finch** *Amadina fasciata*

A pair in Mirador hotel garden 23.10 and female 24.10



**Pin-tailed Whydah** *Vidua macroura*

A spectacular pair in breeding plumage at Club le Calao 24.10.

**Atlasfink**-Village Indigobird  
*Vidua chalybeata*  
 About 10 daily in the surroundings of Club le Calao.

**Afrikansk kanariefågel** Yellow-fronted  
 Canary *Serinus mozambicus*  
 2-3 seen on two occasions at Isle N'Gor and Club le Calao.

**Observations during landbased seawatching from Isle N'Gor and Club le Calao  
 22-29.10 2004 and one 4 h pelagig trip 28.10.**

Date	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Observation time	7,5 h	6 h	2 h	6 h	6 h	6 h	10 h
Cory's/Cape Verde/Scopoli's Sherwater	1		25	24	16	90/30	500
Grålira Sooty Sherwater	50	60	10	40	20	64	40
Mindre lira Manx Sherwater		10	1	6	2	2	1
Havslöpare Wilson's Storm-petrel				3	2	5/50	1
Havssula Northern Gannet	1				3		
Brednäbbad simsnäppa		8					59
Storlabb "Great Skua"	60	10	7	30	13	51/2	25
Bredstjärtad labb Pomarine Skua	600	200	75	1200	280	550/30	300
Kustlabb	42	25	10	37	7	50	20
Fjälllabb Long-tailed Skua	10	6		22		5	10
Tärnmås Sabine's Gull	175	25	1	12		180	150
Långäbbad mås Slender-billed gull		3	3		2	2	
Dominikanertrut Kelp Gull	5	3	5	9	5	10	20

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