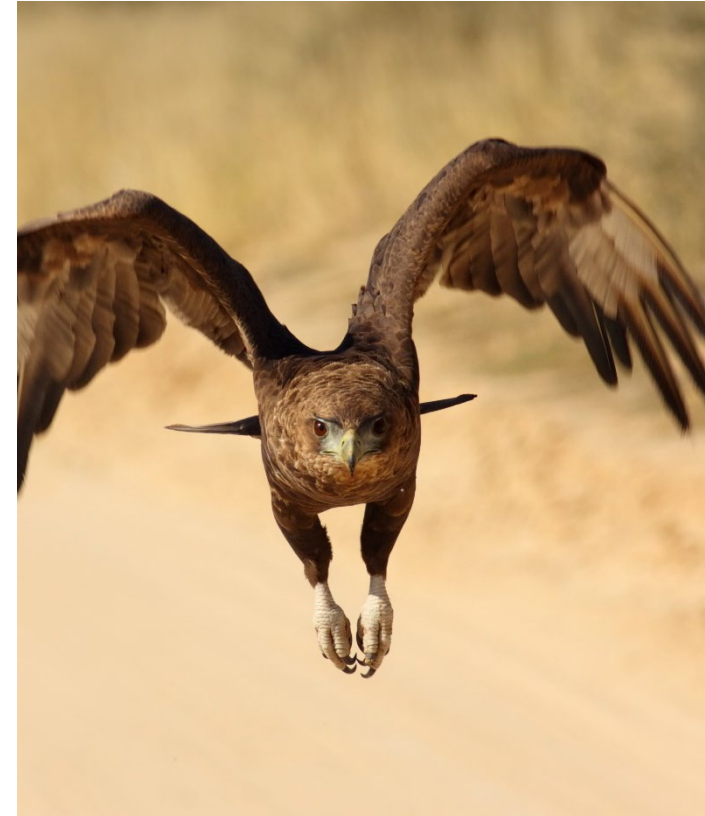




Meeting of the Range States of the Central Asian Flyway

2-4 May 2023, New Delhi, India





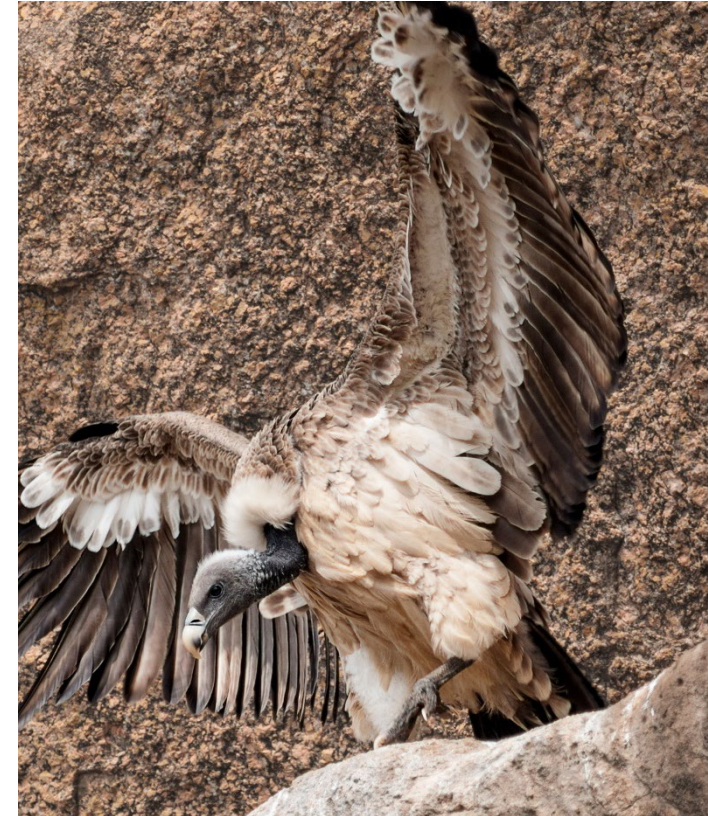
AFRICAN EURASIAN
MIGRATORY LANDBIRDS



CMS

Updated program of work of the African Eurasian Landbirds Action Plan AEMLAP

Dr Reto Spaar, Swiss Ornithological Institute





AFRICAN EURASIAN MIGRATORY LANDBIRDS

**PROGRAMME OF WORK (POW) FOR THE WORKING GROUP (WG)
OF THE AFRICAN-EURASIAN MIGRATORY LANDBIRDS ACTION
PLAN (AEMLAP)
2021-2026**



Short history of AEMLAP

- Adopted in 2011 (COP11, RES 11.17)
- Coordinated 2011-15 by BirdLife International
- Revision adopted in 2020 at COP13 (i.e. updated species accounts)
- Coordination re-launched in 2021 by Swiss Ornithological Institut
- Update of the Program Of Work 2021-2026 (Lead Coordination Unit, with AEML-Steering group and CMS Secretariat)

Organisation of AEMLAP

- AEML working group (actually about 90 members); Chair Dr Olivier Biber
- AEML steering group
- Coordination Unit

The AEMLAP aims

The AEMALP is an **overarching strategic framework to conserve, restore and sustainably manage populations of migratory landbird species and their habitats.**

It complements the other CMS-Instruments (AEWA, MOU Raptors, CAF) toward restoring the status of all African-Eurasian migratory bird species.

Goals

- 1) **Improving the conservation status** of migratory landbird species along the African-Eurasian region
- 2) **Coordinating actions at the international scale** and through catalysing actions at national level

AEMLAP-Vision

- **adequately monitor landbird species** migrating along the African-Eurasian flyways
- **identify and mitigate threats**
- **improve their conservation and**
- **preserve and/or sustainably manage their habitats.**

The program of work 2021-2026

A **logical framework approach** was used to set out the objectives and actions of each previously defined strategic field:

Monitoring and Research

Species conservation

Habitat conservation

Communication, Education and Public Awareness (CEPA)

(Details of the logistic framework in the appendix of this presentation!)

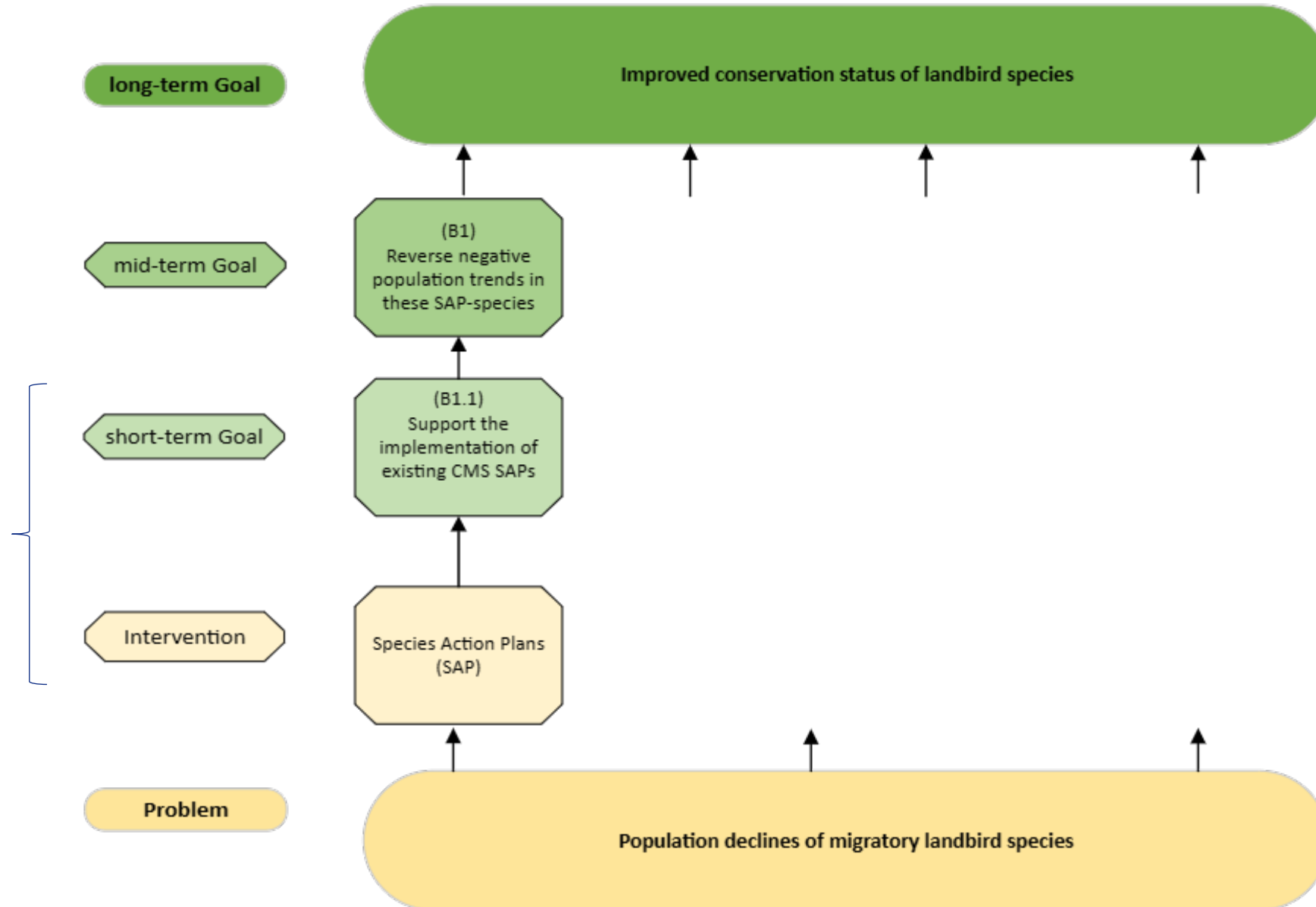
For each of the four strategic fields we defined:

Goals: long-term, mid-term and short-term goals were defined

Interventions: activities and actions are highlighted

Short-term goals are for up to 5 years (until CMS COP₁₅), mid-term goals for up to 10 years; interventions are to be started and implemented within the next 5 years (until CMS COP₁₅)

Species conservation



Actions Monitoring and Research

Goal: (1) Understanding distribution patterns in time and space (monitoring projects)

- Action: Support bird ringing stations & bird observatories
- Action: Supporting monitoring activities: African Bird Atlas Project (ABAP), European Bird Census Council (EBCC)
- Action: Regular update of priority species list



Goal: (2) Identify species-specific migratory patterns, delineating single- and multi-species core areas in time and space

- Action: Individual tracking studies of selected species
- Action: Multi-species analyses delineating core areas and ecological networks



Goal: (3) Identify critical resources related to habitat and land-use changes

- Action: Engage in projects identifying critical food resources

Goal: (4) Close collaboration between AEMLAP and MLSG

- Action: Organize common AEMLAP and Migratory landbirds Study Group meetings
- Action: Co-organize contributions (e.g., talks, symposia, ...) at conferences



Migrant Landbird Study Group

Promoting collaborative research for migratory landbirds across flyways

Interventions: Species conservation

Goal: (1) Identification of priority actions for selected migratory landbird species

- Action: Analysis of landbird species list as basis for species prioritization (CAF, AEMLAP)
- Develop further SAPs

Goal: (2a) Support the implementation of existing CMS SAPs

- Action: International Single Species Action Plans (i.e. European Turtle Dove, European Roller, Yellow-breasted Bunting)

Goal: (2b) Definition of guilds of migratory landbird species with similar needs for actions

- Action: Support the processes for International Action Plan for migratory buntings
- Action: Evaluate multi-species APs for further guilds (species with similar threats)

Goal: (3) Mitigate threats: e.g., unsustainable hunting, window collisions, light pollution

- Action: Engage in CMS Light Pollution Project
- Action: Engage in CMS MIKT (Intergovernmental Task Force on Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade of Migratory Birds in the Mediterranean)
- Action: Engage in the CMS Energy Task Force



Interventions Habitat conservation

Goal: (1) Demonstrate the importance of measures to improve habitat quality for migratory birds and sustainable livelihood (multifunctional landscapes)

- **Action:** Engage in projects about the effects of sustainable resource use on palearctic migrants and African bird communities
- **Action:** Engage in projects to combine business activities with conservation/restoration of biodiversity

Goal: (2) Support the development of habitat action plans (lead: AEWA)

- **Action:** Support of the 'Action plans for priority principal bird habitats in the African-Eurasian flyway'



Goal: (3) Search for synergies to improve habitat conditions for migratory landbirds with ongoing large-scale projects (synergies with different stakeholders: BirdLife partners, NGOs, ...)

- **Action:** For ex. Increase collaboration with the Great Green Wall Initiative



Interventions Communication, Education and Public Awareness

Goal: (1) Re-activation of FLAP (Friends of the Landbirds Action Plan)

- Action: Create and/or maintain social media channels (e.g., Facebook, Twitter, ...) to enhance visibility



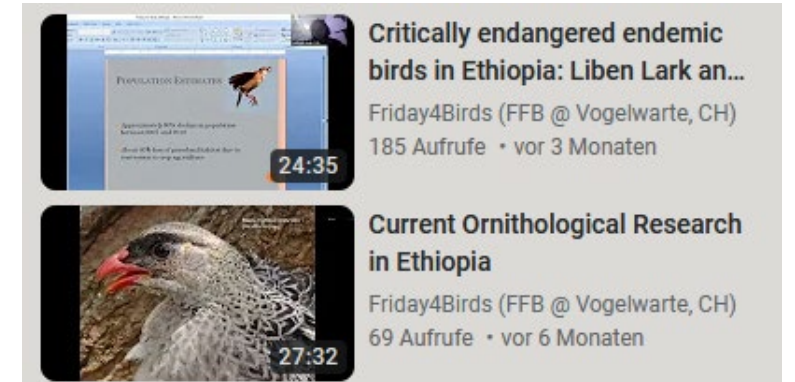
Goal: (2) Increase of visibility of AEMLAP in scientific community

- Action: Organize symposia with AEMLAP focus at international conferences and workshops
- Action: Increase articles on how to save African-Eurasian migratory landbirds



Goal: (3) Capacity development along the flyway

- Action: Webinar series "friday4birds" <https://www.youtube.com/@Friday4Birds/featured>



Synergies between AEMLAP and CAF

Monitoring and Research

- Knowledge transfer between AEMLAP and CAF
- Standardized national monitoring schemes (method and database)
- Support for studies on individual migratory strategies (SOI)

Species and habitat conservation

- Conclude on common actions (i.e. Yellow-breasted bunting, Great bustard, ...)

CEPA

- Synergies in social media channels
- Common Round tables at international conferences and meetings (for ex. at COP1,)
- Strengthen visibility: Webinars

Conclusion

A big overlap of themes and tasks between CAF and AEMLAP!

The majority of migratory species are landbirds!

Strengthen the common landbirds perspective.

➤ Regular exchanges between AEMLAP and CAF

(Idea: CAF-Collaboration in AEML-steering and working group, and vice versa)

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Chair of the AEMLAP

Dr Olivier Bibier o.biber@bluewin.ch






CMS

Thank you!

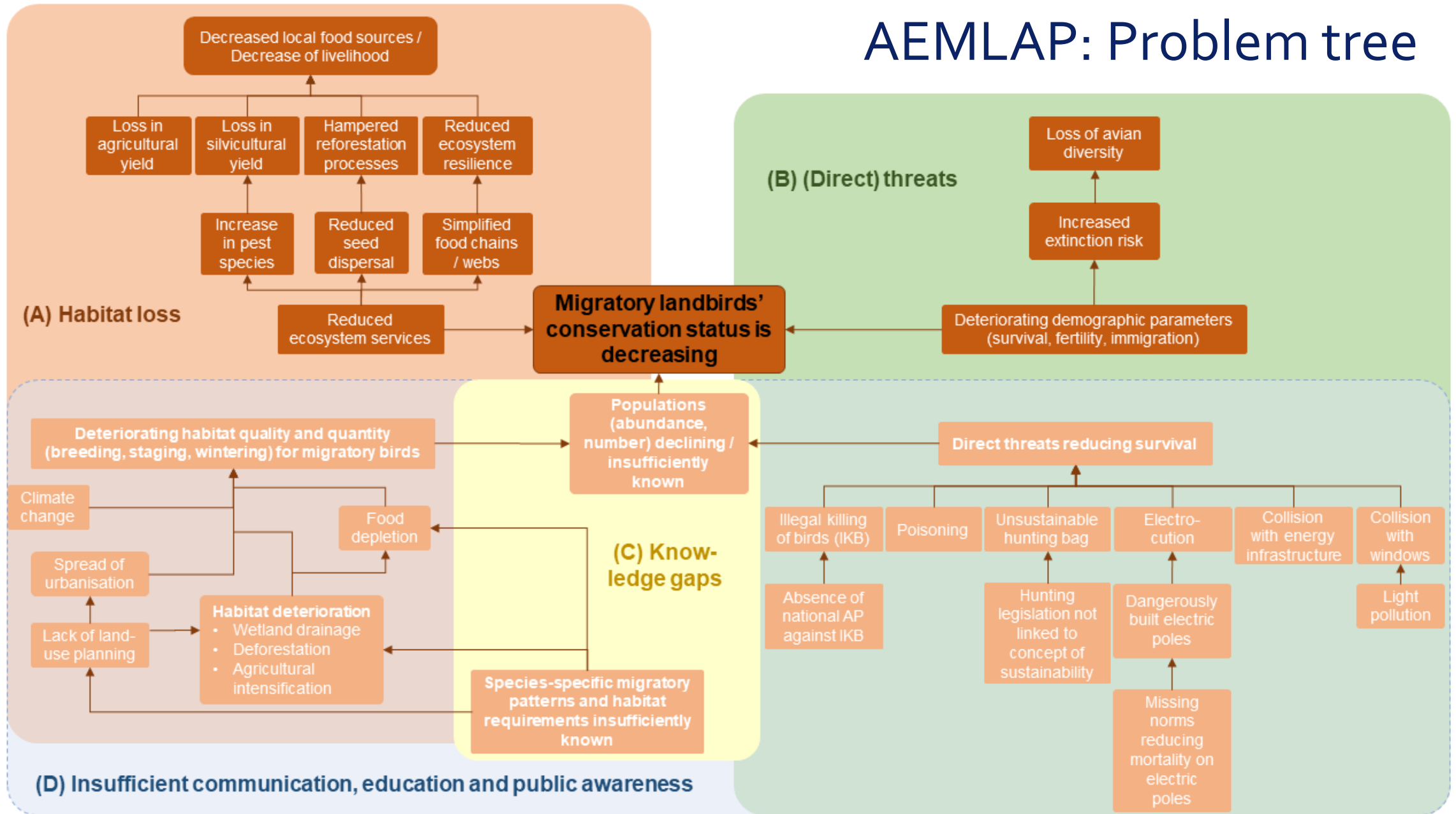




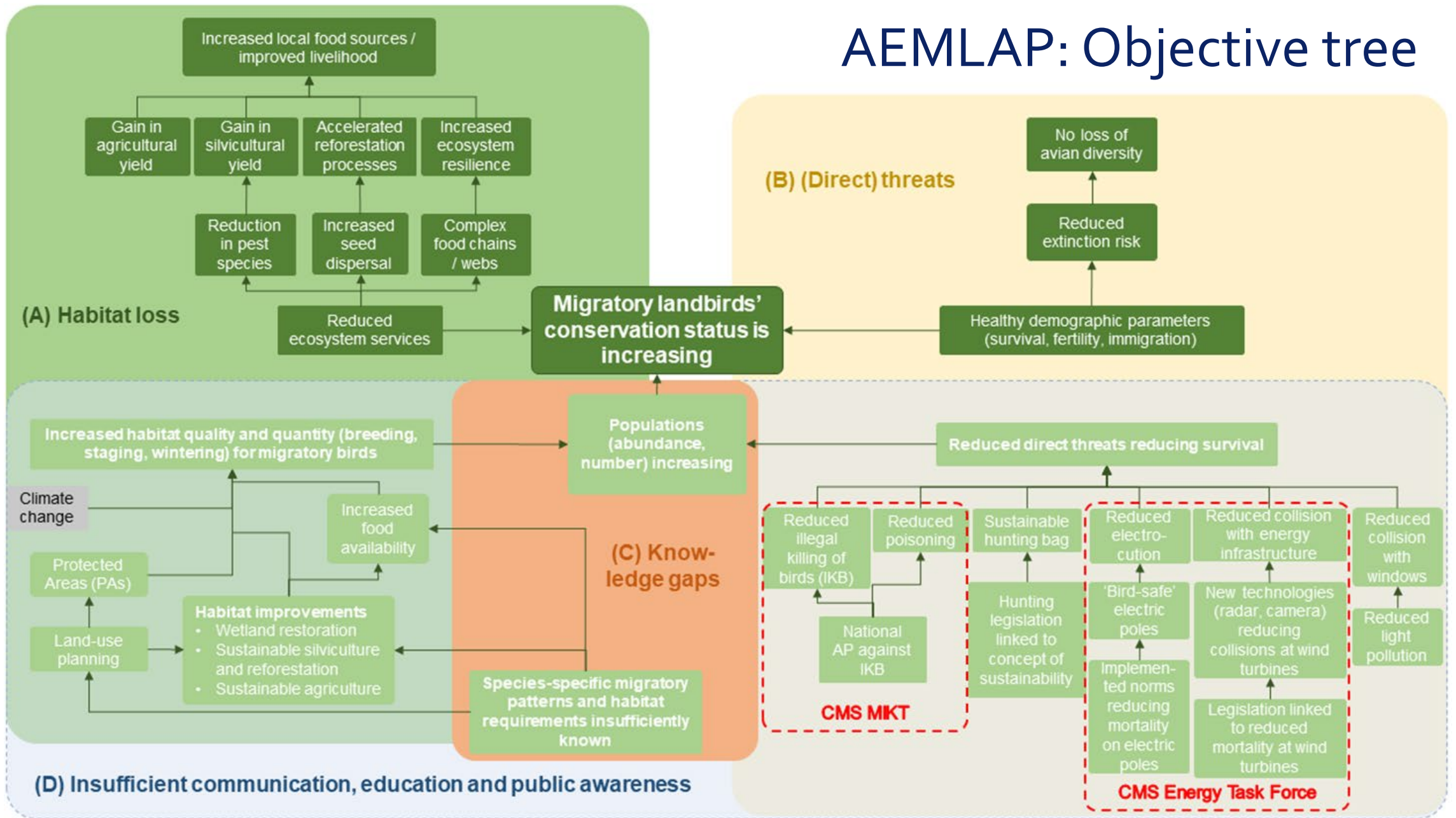
Appendix



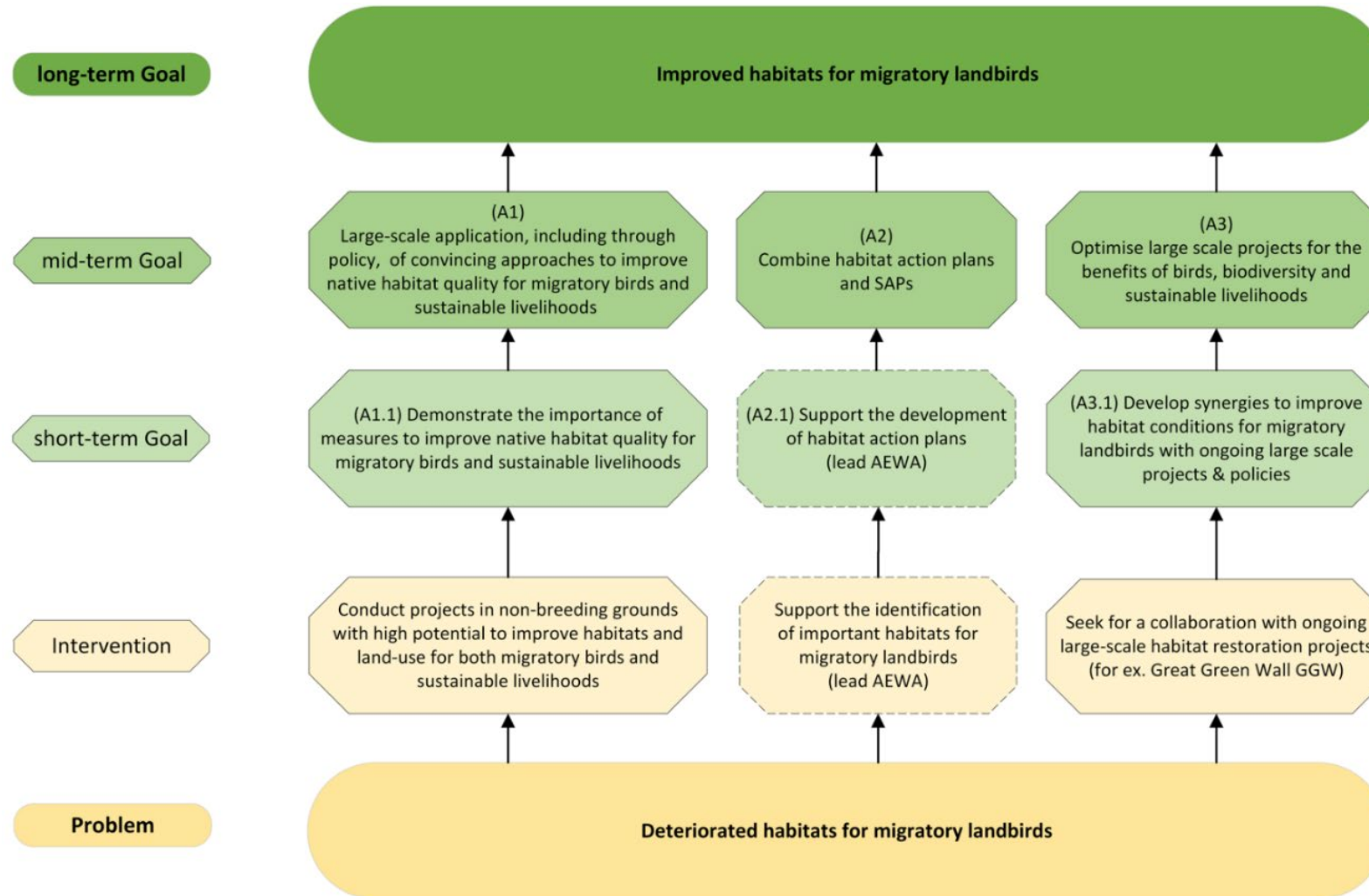
AEMLAP: Problem tree



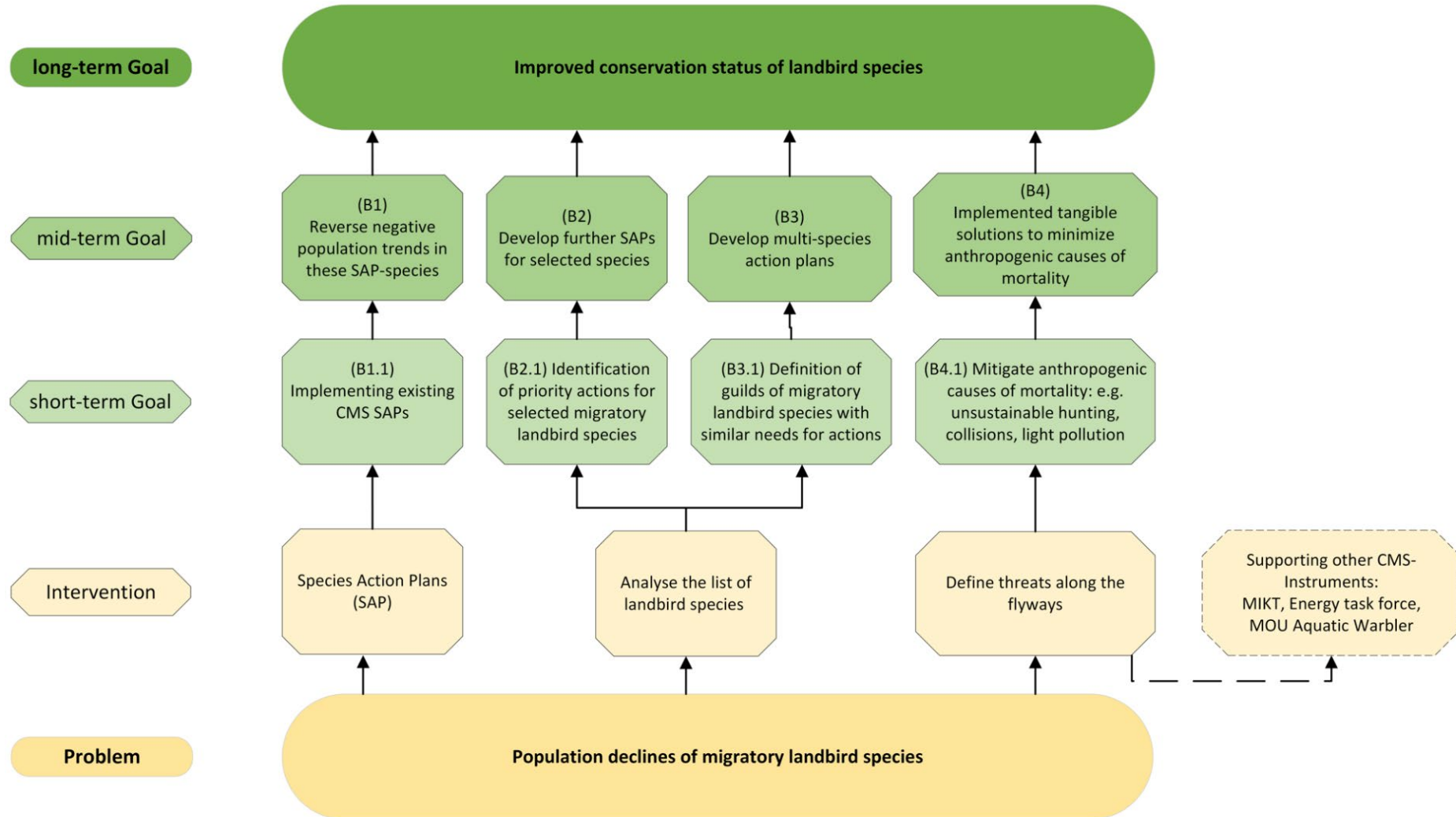
AEMLAP: Objective tree



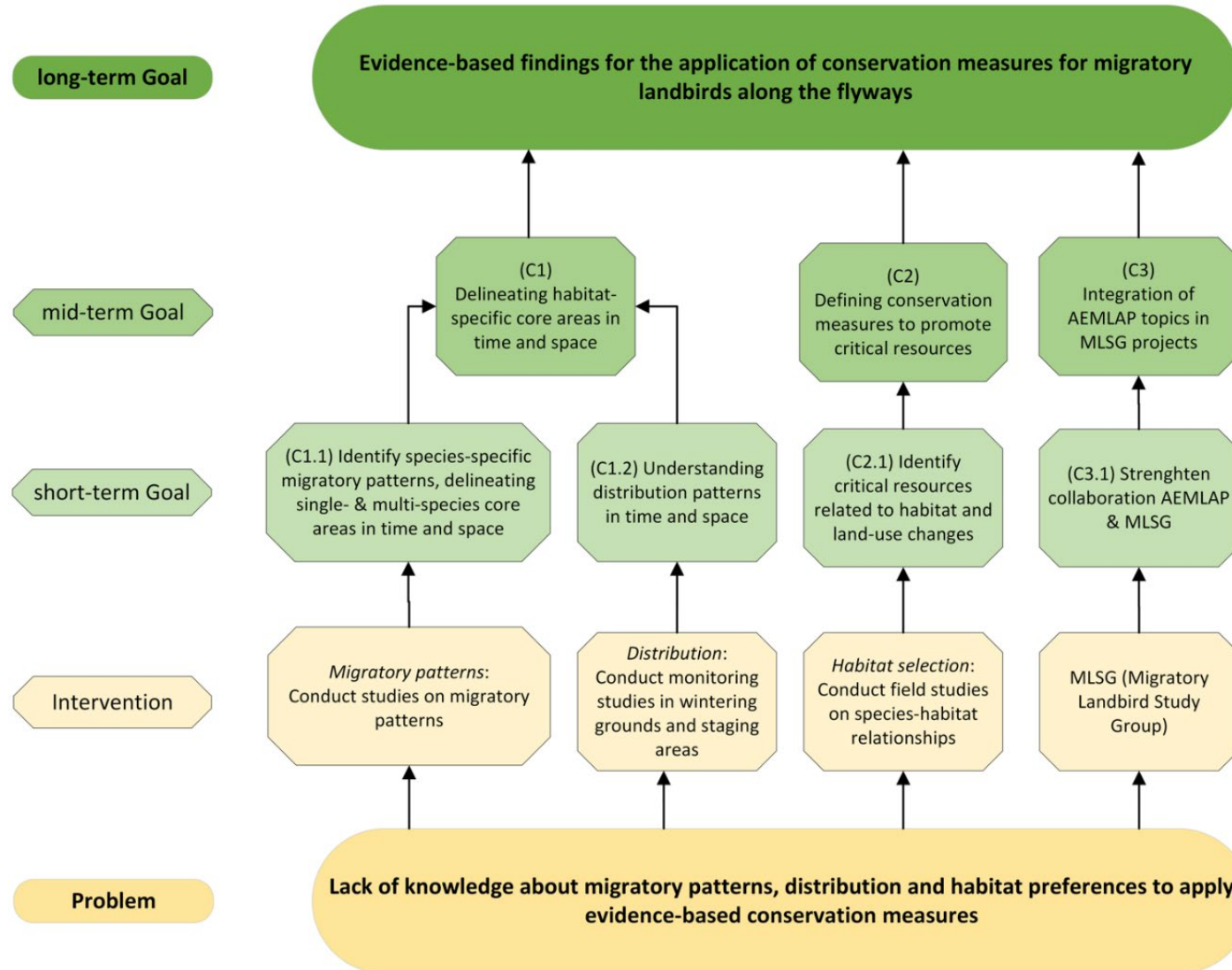
Habitat conservation



Species conservation



Research and monitoring



Communication, Education and Public Awareness

