Vulture Multi-species Action Plan
Middle East regional Workshop

Recap Day 2

- Discussed and defined threats

- Ranked threats

- Final threat prioritization sensible, in line with other regions

- Lack of data on populations, trends, mortality factors

- Need awareness – image of vultures bad in the region

Prioritization of threats Middle East

No.	Threats	Scope	Severity	Timing	Ranking
1	Incidental poisoning (against wildlife-pets)	2	3	3	**Critical**
2	Electrocution	2	3	3	**Critical**
3	Collision with wires	2	2	3	**High**
4	Destruction of habitat	2	2	3	**High**
5	Shortage of freely available domestics carcasses	2	1	3	**High**
6	Disturbance from human activities	1	2	3	**High**
7	Decrease in food available in dumps	1	1	3	Medim
8	Poisoning by rodenticides at farms	1	1	3	Medium
9	Direct persecution	1	1	3	Medium
10	Climate change	3	1	1	Medium
11	Collision with wind turbines	1	1	2	Medium
12	Lead poisoning	0			Low
13	Poisoning of pests at dumps	0			Low
14	Collision with aircraft & vehicles	0			Low
15	Harvesting	0			Low
16	Loss of genetic diversity	0			Low
17	Poisoning by Diclofenac & other vet drugs	0			Low

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Critical/High threats Middle East

- Poisoning by poison baits (Critical)

- Electrocution (Critical)

- Collision with wires (High)

- Availability of livestock carcasses (High)

- Disturbance (High)

- Habitat loss (nesting sites) (High)

Framework for action

From threats to realistic solutions

Working process

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Threats analysis

Clear definition of threats

Threats prioritization

Drivers, actors and root causes

Outcome

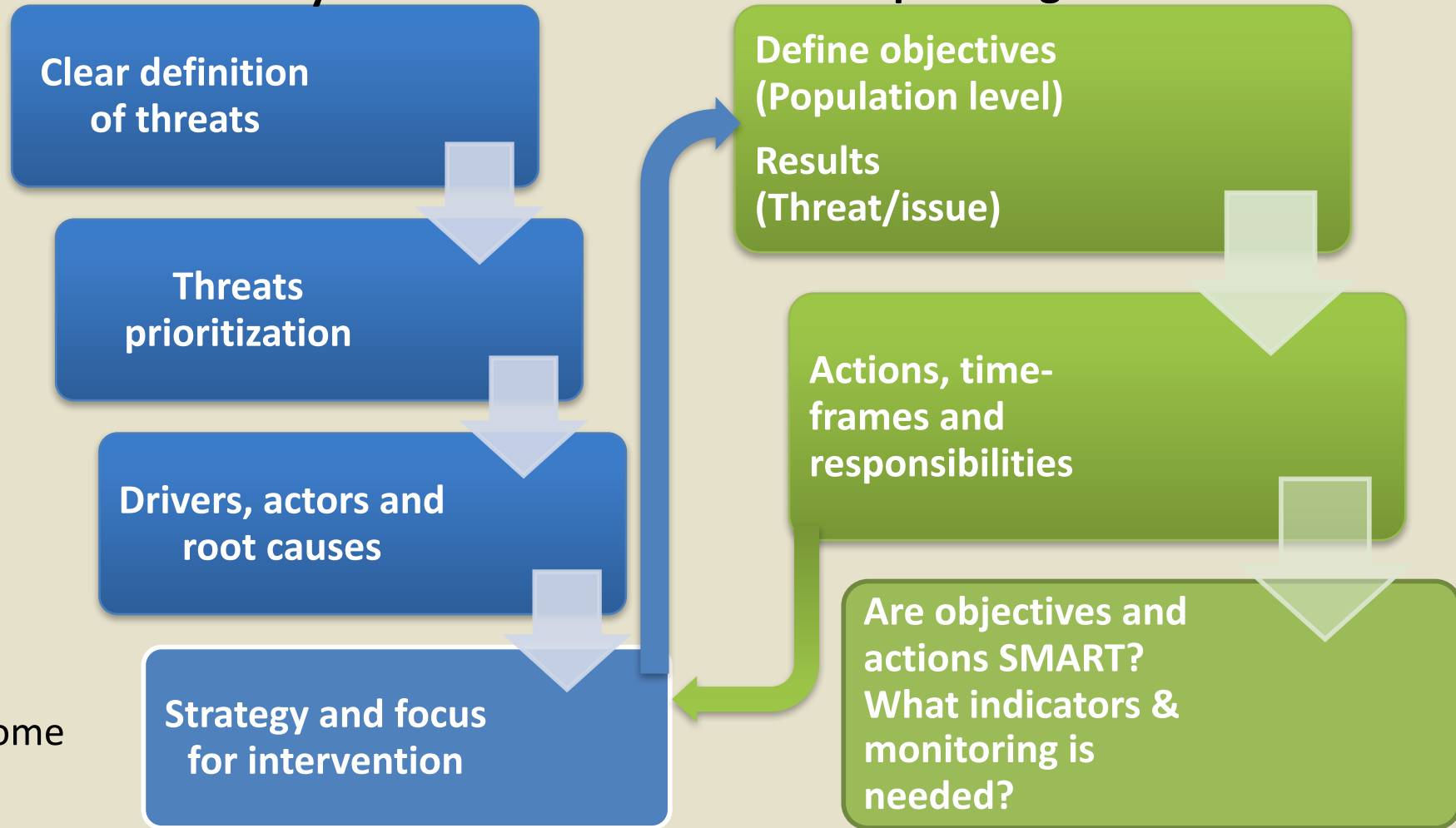**Strategy and focus for intervention**

Action planning

Define objectives (Population level)

Results (Threat/issue)

Actions, time-frames and responsibilities

Are objectives and actions SMART? What indicators & monitoring is needed?

Goals and objectives

General for MsAP

1. To rapidly halt current population declines in all species covered by the Vulture MsAP;

2. To reverse recent population trends to bring the conservation status of each species back to a favorable level; and

3. To provide conservation management guidelines applicable to all Range States covered by the Vulture MsAP

Specific for the region

Per species
- ??: halt
- ??: increase, expand

Per sub-region/country
- Coordination and focus
- Transfer capacity and knowledge
- Life-cycle and flyways

Per management issue
- Threat reduction
- Research
- Gap filling

Action Planning

- What is the result that you want to achieve in terms of each key threat?

- What specific actions are needed to address the threat?

- Within what timeframe should this be achieved?

- Who will be responsible for implementation?

Action Time-frame

- General MsAP time-frame – 10 years

- Adoption at COP12 – October 2017

- Implementation – 2018-2027

- Timescale to use:

    - Short term – 1-3 years
    - Medium term – 4-6 years
    - Long term – 7-10 years

Action prioritization

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No se puede mostrar la imagen en este momento.

- Linked to threat priority

- Categories to use:

  - Essential – impossible without it
  - High importance – wide effect
  - Focused – targets a specific issue/population
  - Generic – applies to all species

- Take into account feasibility

- Integration across countries and species concerned

Action framework

Objectives	Objective 1 (Objectively verifiable indicator)		
Results	Result 1		
Actions	Action 1	Action 2	Action 3
Time-frame	Short term	Medium term	Long term
Scope	Country A, B, C ...	Species A	
Responsible organisation(s)	Local environment authorities	Organisation X	CMS
Inputs	Funding X, XX, XXX? Sources?	Research on Y, Monitoring data annually	Support by member state governments

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Multi-species vs. Single species action plans

- Synergies and complementarity of actions
- Clustering and focus on common issues of great importance
- More efficient use of resources and coordination
- Address common drivers of threats

- Maintain overview
- Keep track of differences and specifics

Work for today

1. Brainstorm on actions
2. Fill in the table
3. Check Actions from the European workshop

Action framework

Objectives	Objective 1 (Objectively verifiable indicator)		
Results	Result 1		
Actions	Action 1	Action 2	Action 3
Time-frame	Short term	Medium term	Long term
Scope	Country A, B, C …	Species A	
Responsible organisation(s)	Local environment authorities	Organisation X	CMS
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Poisoning with baits

Result 1: Significant decrease of poisoning incidence

Review of legislation to make poison substances illegal (some countries)

Review of legislation to create new punitive measures/sanctions

Review of legislation to clarify competences (some countries)

Use conventions (CMS + Bern-Tunis Action Plan) to pressure governments to follow/implement the guidelines

Create anti-poisoning detection units (dogs, etc)

training of law enforcement agencies

Secure adequate toxicological screening (protocols, etc)

Listing of poisons

Training judges, prosecutors

Creating environmental prosecutors

Awareness campaign for hunting managers (poison, sustainable hunting)

Create Hotline (effectiveness?)

Public awareness (general)

Establishing national database (European database?)

National questionnaires (rehabilitation centres)

Monitoring poisoning incidents

Promotion of effective livestock and crop management methods

Improve effective compensation schemes

control trade on illegal substances

Adequate enforcement of hazardous substances (procurement)

Adequate management of feral dogs

Enhance legislation dog management

Positive campaign on role of scavengers

Eco-services

Other poisoning

Result 2: Increase knowledge on the role of agrochemicals

Regular heavy metal/biocide screening in vultures

Monitoring breeding productivity

Census 2017-2018 + census 2026-2027 all the 4 sp. Across our range

Awareness campaign about misuse of biocides

Result 3: Avoid the increase of mortality related to vet drugs

Screening for vet drugs (incl. Diclofenac)

Toxicity tests of vet drugs

Develop rapid-reaction Kit

Develop guidelines for risk assessment

Adoption of good risk assessment

Ban Diclofenac and other eventual toxic substances MsAP range

Awareness raising – veterinarians

Result 4: Lead ammunition used in MsAP Range reduced

Adequate screening of lead ammunition

Awareness raising among hunters - campaign

Ban lead ammunition in the EU

Collision and electrocution

Result: Reduced numbers registered/ reduce number birds at rescue centers

Sensitivity mapping of areas and power lines - high risk areas for bird collision providing protocols/guidelines- existing and new

Capacity building on legislation/regulation implementation public officers

Promotion/review of existing legislation/regulation national and international

Definition and implementation of common, awareness and policy strategy

Correction of existing problematic power lines

Ensure full implementation of mitigation measures in PA and N2000

Improve planning of routing and construction of new power lines (promote underground)

Definition and implementation of standard protocol for data collection

Increase monitoring of PL including assessing effectiveness of mitigation measures

Result: Reduce the number power cuts by birds (power companies)/ reduce number electrocuted birds at rescue centers

Sensitivity mapping of areas and power lines - high risk areas for bird collision providing protocols/guidelines to be used also at urban development planning- existing and new

Capacity building on legislation/regulation implementation public officers, adoption of strategic impact assessments

Promotion/review of existing legislation/regulation national and international

Definition and implementation of common, awareness and policy strategy

Correction of existing problematic power lines

Improve use of safe pylons at new power lines

Ensure full implementation of mitigation measures in PA and N2000

Definition and implementation of standard protocol for data collection

Increase monitoring of PL including assessing effectiveness of mitigation measures

Ensure maintenance of anti-electrocution measures

Promote economic benefits of retro fitting measures

Availability of domestic carcasses

Result 1 - Food resources sufficient to sustain the population (dead animals remain at vulture disposal)

Develop and apply scavenger-friendly vet regulations

Control feral dog populations

Manage scavenger population

Promote vultures as free sanitary services

Improve waste management

Result 2 - Supplementary food base ensured in appropriate amount, quality, location and time

Improve coordination among conservation organizations

Official guideline for supplementary feeding

Ensure investment and operation costs for 5-10 years

Develop clear goals/methods for supplementary feeding programs

Training & capacity building

Monitoring and information exchange

Adopt conservation plans for vulture management

Result 3 - Food resources sufficient to sustain population

Preserve cultural value of pastoralism

Prioritize, conserve and restore pastures and grazing practices

Promote locally adapted grazing practices

Increase value of grazing related productions

Provide ecosystem based benefits for pastoralism

Remove initiatives that lead to grassland/pastoralism loss

Result 3 - Healthy wildlife populations in natural landscapes

Conserve habitat features important for habitat

Promote good hunting management

Reintroduce/restore ungulates populations

Persecution and disturbance

Result 1: Reduced mortality caused by direct persecution

Improvement of legislation, policies and law enforcement regarding killing/shooting

Increase public awareness of the drivers (relevant authorities, hunters and local people)

Improve capacity in law enforcement (relevant authorities)

Result 2: Increase breeding success by reducing disturbance

Improvement of legislation, policies and law enforcement regarding disturbance

Increase public awareness of the drivers (relevant authorities, hunters, tourist agencies, local people)

Improve security around breeding sites

Improve control (EIA's and other relevant studies)

Establish new protective areas and expand existing network of vulture areas networks

Action Planning – Group 2

Electrocution & Collisions with Energy Infrastructure

- COP7 Resolution 7.21
- Monitoring protocols and implementation
- Determine impact across the region
- Sensitivity mapping
- Planning and routing – EIA's
- Retrofitting and use of safe structures
- Making structures more visible
- Involving utilities – monitoring and implementation of measures
- Develop and promote cost-benefit models
- Investigate new technology with less impact on soaring birds – wind-turbines

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Action Planning – Group 2

Disturbance and Loss of Nesting Sites

- Identify and map sensitive sites for protection
- Implement and enforce appropriate legislation to protect sites – sensitive zoning/buffers
- Alternative methods – wood for fuel, shelter
- Create suitable habitat – planting of trees, grazing regimes
- Vultures considered in development planning – permitting in sensitive zones

Vulture Multi-species Action Plan
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6-9th February – Middle East Regional Workshop, Sharjah, UAE