



# Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals

*Secretariat provided by the United Nations Environment Programme*



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## **Central Asian Mammals Initiative of UNEP/CMS, Species Focal Points Terms of Reference**

A Species Focal Point (SFP) is a conservation and biology expert assigned to each of the 15 CAMI priority species. The SFP advises the Secretariat on matters relating to the CAMI priority species for which he/she is responsible.

The experts come from a variety of backgrounds: independent scientists, academics, or employees of government institutions. All are expected to have a proven track record of scientific research, field work experience, and a network of contacts in the range country or countries of their species.

SFPs will be closely involved in all matters relevant for the conservation of the species covered by CAMI, such as workshop planning, project brainstorming and public outreach activities.

These terms of reference for SFPs have been drafted and discussed by the SFPs under the lead of CMS Secretariat. They may be amended if mutually agreed by the experts and the Secretariat.

### Responsibilities of the SFPs:

1. SFPs fill out a yearly template that organizes information in a uniform way, including project summaries and links
2. SFPs network among researchers studying the respective species.
3. SFPs provide an overview of projects/activities for each species to the Secretariat
4. SFPs advise the Secretariat on species status, emergencies, action needs
5. SFPs attend expert meetings (once or at most twice a year)
6. SFPs encourage shared methodologies among researchers working on the species and share their own methodologies
7. SFPs inform the Secretariat of latest research and scientific updates on the species, including unpublished reports or findings, if appropriate
8. SFPs liaise with their relevant IUCN specialist groups and other professional networks
9. SFPs, together with NGOs and other experts, offer to provide information to Parties regarding the monitoring and reporting on implementation of the CAMI POW.
10. SFPs network among each other to address common threats
11. SFPs assist with preparation of outreach activities, concerning species by providing advice to the Secretariat, as well as relevant materials and contacts, if applicable
12. In cases where there is more than one SFP per species, the SFPs cooperate to provide coordinated input to CMS

Responsibilities of the Secretariat:

1. The Secretariat will provide the yearly template that organizes information in a uniform way, including project summaries and links
2. The Secretariat will provide more feedback and keep in contact with the SFPs through regular communication
3. The Secretariat will provide political support to the SFPs when/if possible
4. The Secretariat hosts a web page for the SFPs. This web page will contain the latest research and news that the SFPs could contribute to. This website will list all projects related to the current or recent POWs.
5. The Secretariat hosts a list of up to date literature references on the species, provided by SFPs
6. The Secretariat shares information on SFPs with other organizations (EU, CITES, etc.)
7. The Secretariat will finalize the SFP communication platform and assign SFPs to all species, by the end of 2016.
8. Going forward, the Secretariat will conduct a review and revision of the information and feedback collected via templates by the end of each year.