



CMS

2025 CMS National Report

Deadline for submission of the National Reports: : 30 September 2025

Reporting period: from May 2023 to February 2025

Parties are encouraged to respond to all questions and are also requested to provide comprehensive answers, when required.

National Report format is available through the CMS Family Online Reporting System (ORS), which has been successfully implemented and used by CMS, AEWA, IOSEA and Sharks MOU in collaboration with UNEP-WCMC.

Through Resolution 12.5 (Rev. COP14) and Decisions 14.27, 14.25 National Reports and 14.2 Samarkand Strategic Plan for Migratory Species, the Standing Committee and the Secretariat were tasked with developing a new format for National Reports that aligns with the SPMS. However, given that the indicators of the SPMS are not yet in place, and due to the time constraints caused by the exceptionally short intersessional period before COP15, there is insufficient time to substantially amend the National Report format to fully align it with the SPMS.

The Standing Committee therefore agreed to develop a new format for the reporting period after COP15, and to use the previous National Report format for the current reporting period, with only minor adjustments. These adjustments would include a limited number of additional questions on topics that COP14 specifically requested to be reported through National Reports.

Additionally, it was agreed not to attach the full list of species in Appendices I and II for verification by Parties, as this information was collected during previous reporting cycles but could not be fully assessed and reflected in the National Reports format due to a lack of resources. Instead, the Standing Committee agreed to collect information on Range States for species listed in the Annex to Resolution 14.19 during this reporting cycle, in accordance with Decision 14.234.

A proposal of the National Reports format was circulated by the Secretariat to the Standing Committee members on 13 December and it was agreed through communication procedure, in line with Rule 5 of the Rules of Procedure.

This online version of the format strictly follows the one adopted by Standing Committee through communication procedure. In addition, as was also the case for reporting prior to COP14, it incorporates pre-filled information, notably in Sections II and III, based on data available at the Secretariat from the previous reporting cycles.

Please note that guidance is available for a number of questions throughout the national report as both in-text guidance and as tool tips (displayed via the information 'i' icon).

For any question, please contact Mr. Aydin Bahramlouian, Public Information Officer, aydin.bahramlouian@un.org

NOTICE: Before clicking on the hyperlinks in this questionnaire, please keep pressing the **Ctrl button** on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.

RESOURCES FOR THE CMS NATIONAL REPORT FROM OTHER RELEVANT INTERGOVERNMENTAL PROCESSES

Convention/Agreement/Process

Information source

Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

National Reports

Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)

Annual trade reports, Annual illegal trade reports, Implementation reports

Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat

National Reports, Ramsar Information Sheets

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

Country reports

United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)

National Reports

United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF)

National Reports

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

National Communications, Biennial Reports, Update Reports

Various CMS Family Agreements and Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs)

National Reports

2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals

National Reports

Note: These reporting processes of other relevant intergovernmental frameworks are examples of information resources to be used when filling out this national report, which may assist in identification and strengthening of synergies among these processes. This list is **not** exhaustive. There are many other sources of information that may also be of relevance for migratory species, their habitats and migrations systems.

High-level summary of key messages

In your country, during the reporting period, what does this report reveal about:

Guidance:

This section invites you to summarise the most important positive aspects of CMS implementation in your country and the areas of greatest concern. Please limit this specifically to the current reporting period only.

Your answers should be based on the information contained in the body of the report: the intention is for this section to distil the technical information in the report into “high level” messages for decision-makers and wider audiences.

Please try also to be specific or provide specific examples where you can, e.g. “New wildlife legislation enacted in 2024 doubled penalties for poisoning wild birds” rather than “stronger laws”; “50% shortfall in match-funding for GEF project on gazelles” rather than just “lack of funding”.

The most successful aspects of implementation of the Convention? (List up to five items):

>>> Designation of new protected areas as Seychelles strives to protect 30% of its EEZ. 50% of its land already protected.

Increased research on species populations, distributions, threats etc by local experts/organizations eg. Turtles (Dr Jeanne Mortimer, MCSS,SIF,ICS,SOSF,Nature Seychelles, SNPA, GVI, GIF, ICS etc) , sharks (Dr John Nevill, all NGOs above) Dugong (SIF) , seabirds (All NGOs above), Dr Andrian Skerette, Dr Gerard Rocamora, Dr Chris Feare etc.

Education and awareness campaigns to the public conducted throughout the year

Capacity building for Ministry staff, NGOs, CBOs etc in areas of marine mammals, sea birds, sea turtles, CMS,CITES implementation and enforcement nationally, regionally and internationally.

Increased political commitment towards especially marine species protection as Seychelles is highly dependent on the health of its marine ecosystem.

The greatest difficulties in implementing the Convention? (List up to five items):

>>> Human resources still remains a big barrier towards fulfilling periodic reviews of the conservation status of migratory species and reporting which is often delayed.

Climate change impacts pose a big threat to habitat restoration efforts i.e. coral reef restoration, mangrove habitat restoration

Enforcement in Seychelles very large EEZ (1.37 million km²) is a big challenge. Illegal fishing from both foreign and Seychelles vessels occurs.

Although resource mobilization for biodiversity conservation has greatly improved for the past years, so much more is needed to effectively implement projects/programs.

The main priorities for future implementation of the Convention? (List up to five items):

>>> Continuous update of best scientific data on endangered species i.e CMS, CITES

Minimize adverse impacts/activities that threaten species migration, degrade their habitats and affect their population and distribution.

Signing of the sharks MoU following extensive discussions with stakeholders in seychelles

Identify and upgrade list/status of CMS species found in Seychelles

Ensure better coordination and reporting between focal persons/ organizations involved in the implementation of actions of different international conventions such as CMS,CITES,IUCN,CBD, Ramsar etc.

I. Administrative Information

Name of the Party

>>> Seychelles

Date of entry into force of the Convention in your country (DDMMYY)

>>> 01.08.2005

Any territories which are excluded from the application of the Convention

>>> N/A

Report compiler

Name and title

>>> Kevin Moumou, Senior Conservation Officer, Biodiversity Conservation Management Division

Full name of institution

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Designated CMS National Focal Point

Name and title of designated Focal Point

>>> Dr. Frauke Fleischer-Dogley, Chief Executive Officer

Full name of institution

>>> Seychelles Islands Foundation

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Representative on the Scientific Council

Name and title

>>> Need new nomination

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II. Accession/Ratification of CMS Agreements/MOUs

Please confirm the status of your country's participation in the following Agreements/MOUs, and indicate any updates or corrections required:

Yes, the lists are correct and up to date

Country participation in Agreements/MOUs:

Please select only one per line

	Range State, but not a Party/Signatory	Not applicable (= not a Range State)	Party/Signatory
Aquatic Warbler	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ACAP	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ACCOBAMS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
AEWA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ASCOBANS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Atlantic Turtles	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Birds of Prey (Raptors)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bukhara Deer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dugong	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
EUROBATS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gorilla Agreement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
High Andean Flamingos	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
IOSEA Marine Turtles	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Middle-European Great Bustard	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Monk Seal in the Atlantic	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pacific Islands Cetaceans	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ruddy-headed Goose	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Saiga Antelope	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sharks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Siberian Crane	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Slender-billed Curlew	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
South Andean Huemul	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Southern South American Grassland Birds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wadden Sea Seals	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
West African Elephants	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Western African Aquatic Mammals	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

III. Species on the Convention Appendices

III.1 Please confirm that the Excel file “Res. 14.19 species per Party” linked below correctly identifies the **Appendix II** species listed in Resolution 14.19 Guidance on the treatment of species included within aggregated families listed under Appendix II for which your country is a Range State.

The list of Resolution 14.19 species per Parties is available **here**.

Notice: Before clicking on the above hyperlink, please keep pressing the **Ctrl button** on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.

GUIDANCE TIP:

During the last two reporting cycles, information has been collected on Appendix I and Appendix II species, and the information received still needs to be analyzed. Therefore, this reporting cycle only focuses on bird species identified under Resolution 14.19. This Resolution invites Parties to consider the list of Species in its Annex when preparing National Reports. This question aims at collecting information on Range States of species listed in the Annex to Resolution 14.19. Parties are therefore invited to review the Range State data which are available in the excel spreadsheet “Res. 14.19 species per Party”. Please confirm that the list is correct, or if amendments are needed, create a line for each species for which you wish to indicate different information from that shown in the Excel spreadsheet. Where possible, please also provide supporting evidence, such as a reference to a scientific paper. A more detailed spreadsheet with Data per countries and territories is available here as background information. The data used for these spreadsheets are based on the CMS standard references for non-passerine and passerine species, as determined by Resolution 12.27(Rev.COP14) Taxonomy and Nomenclature, using its online version HBW-BirdLife Version 9.0 (October 2024)..

No, amendments are needed for the following species:

IV. Legal Prohibition of the Taking of Appendix I Species

IV.1. Is the taking of Appendix I species prohibited by national or territorial legislation in accordance with CMS Article III(5)?

Yes for all Appendix I species

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

[Section IV prohibition of take Seychelles.xlsx](#)

Please identify any change in the legal statute(s) concerned that has been introduced since the last reporting:

Please provide links and clearly identify the relevant statute(s) by providing the title, date, etc.

>>> Fisheries Act

Wild Animals and Birds Protection Act

Nature Reserves and Conservancy Act

IV.2 **Exceptions:** Where the taking of Appendix I species **is** prohibited by national legislation, have any exceptions been granted to the prohibition during the reporting period?

No

IV.4. Are any vessels flagged to your country engaged in the intentional taking of Appendix I species outside of your country's national jurisdictional limits (consistent with the definition of "Range State" in Article I of the Convention)?

Unknown

V. Awareness

V.1. Please indicate the actions that have been taken by your country during the reporting period to increase people's awareness of the values of migratory species, their habitats and migration systems (note that answers given in section XVIII may also be relevant).
(select all that apply)

GUIDANCE TIP:

Awareness raising may include actions, steps, programmes, initiatives and/or activities described in various CMS documents, such as Resolution, Res. **11.9 (Rev.COP13)** (World Migratory Bird Day), as well as a number of other resolutions and decisions which include specific provisions about awareness raising, including Resolutions Res. **13.6** (Insect Decline), Res. **14.18** (Avian Influenza), Res. **14.17** (Communities and livelihoods), Res. **14.16** (Ecological Connectivity), Res. **14.15** (Action Plan to address aquatic Wild Meat Harvests), Res. **14.14** (CMS Jaguar Initiative), Res. **14.13** (Initiative for Central Asian Flyway), Res. **14.12** (Single Species Action Plan for the Angelshark (*Squatina squatina*) in the Mediterranean Sea), Res. **14.10** (Single Species Action Plan for the Atlantic Humpback Dolphin (*Sousa teuszii*)), Res. **14.8** (Conservation and sustainable management of seagrass ecosystems), Res. **14.5** (Reducing the risk of vessel strikes for marine megafauna), Res. **14.1** (Samarkand Strategic Plan for migratory species 2024 - 2032), Res. **12.6 (Rev.COP14)** (Wildlife health and migratory species), Res. **12.11 (Rev.COP14)** (Flyways), Res. **12.17** (Conservation and Management of Whales and their Habitats in the South Atlantic Region), Res. **12.19 (Rev.COP14)** (Endorsement of the African Elephant Action Plan), Res. **12.20** (Management of Marine Debris), Res. **12.21 (Rev.COP14)** (Climate Change and Migratory Species), Res. **12.25** (Promoting Conservation of Critical Intertidal and Other Coastal Habitats for Migratory Species), Res. **11.16 (Rev.COP14)** (The Prevention of Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade of Migratory Birds), Res. **11.17 (Rev.COP14)** (Action Plan for Migratory Landbirds in the African-Eurasian Region), Res. **11.24 (Rev.COP13)** (Central Asian Mammal Initiative), Res. **11.31 (Rev.COP14)** (Illegal and unsustainable taking of wildlife), Res. **8.12 (Rev.COP12)** (Improving the Conservation Status of Raptors and Owls in the African-Eurasian Region), and Decision 14.194 (Ecological Connectivity), Decision 14.54 (Marine Wildlife Watching) and Decision 14.223 (Impacts of Plastic Pollution on Aquatic, Terrestrial and Avian Species).

- Campaigns on specific topics
- Teaching programmes in schools or colleges
- Press and media coverage
- Community-based celebrations, exhibitions and other events
- Engagement of specific stakeholder groups
- Special publications
- Interpretation at nature reserves and other sites

Impact of actions

V.2. Please provide details for the actions selected in the previous question and indicate any specific elements of CMS COP Resolutions which have been particularly taken forward by these actions.

>>> The Department of Environment's education and awareness campaigns remains key in our Department's workplans. Specific duties have been added to staffs yearly duties to do presentations in schools twice every quarter of the year. We make our presence known in every exhibitions hosted by our partners to continue to underline the importance of biodiversity conservation.

Ministry has an Education and Outreach section which works closely with Ministry of Education as well as other government and non government organizations.

Biodiversity related issues have been incorporated in school curriculum.

V.3. Overall, how successful have these awareness actions been in achieving their objectives?

Tick one box

GUIDANCE TIP:

If the impact of awareness actions has been assessed by (for example) project evaluation studies or follow-up audience attitude surveys during the reporting period, those provide a basis for answering this question. If the assessment has involved any type of quantitative measure of the impact, please specify. It is recognized that such assessment studies may not always be available, in which case it is acceptable to base your answer on an informed subjective judgement. Alternatively, if there is genuinely no basis for forming such a judgement, please select "Unknown".

Question V.4 gives you the opportunity to explain the basis on which you have answered question V.3.

- 3. Good impact

V.4. Please identify the main form(s) of evidence that has/have been used to make this assessment.

>>> Number of people attending events

Feedback from lectures, talks are mostly positive.

Request to conduct more activities by participants

MOUs signed between organizations

VI. Mainstreaming Migratory Species in Other Sectors and Processes

VI.1. Does the conservation of migratory species currently feature in any national or local strategies and/or planning processes in your country relating to development, poverty reduction and/or livelihoods?

Yes

Please provide details:

GUIDANCE TIP:

Please describe how CMS objectives are incorporated in other sectoral strategies such as transport, construction, agriculture, tourism, education, spatial planning, Sustainable Development Goals and other strategies.

>>> Stakeholder engagement process i.e. public meetings organized for Environment Impact Assessments, creation and expansion of protected areas etc.

Marine spatial planning process Seychelles has had great input from the fisheries community, see

<https://seymssp.com/>

Seychelles coastal management plan 2019-2024

<https://www.gfdrr.org/sites/default/files/publication/seychelles-coastal-management-plan.pdf>

Seychelles tourism master plan

VI.2. Does your country integrate the 'values of migratory species and their habitats' in any other national reporting processes?

E.g. Agenda 2030, reporting for International Whaling Commission, CBD, EU Nature Directives, etc.

GUIDANCE TIP:

Responses to this question should be focused on the reporting processes of the country rather than on plans and regulations within the country. This question intends to understand if the values of migratory species and habitats are featured in other national reporting that your country participates in, such as reporting to other biodiversity MEAs, the International Whaling Commission, European Commission etc.

Yes

Please provide details:

>>> National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) reporting by MACCE

Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) reporting by MACCE

Convention of Biological Diversity (CBD) reporting by MACCE

Environment Impact Assessments/Biodiversity Assessments

MACCE annual plans and targets, Quarterly and Annual reports

Management plans for protected areas

NGO annual reports, such NGOs include SIF (Seychelles Islands Foundation), SNPA (Seychelles National Parks

Authority), ICS (Island Conservation Society Seychelles), GIF (Green Islands Foundations Seychelles), SOSF (

Save our Seas Foundation Seychelles), MCSS (Marine Conservation Society Seychelles), Nature Seychelles

Seychelles Fisheries Authority (Annual reports)

VI.3. Provide some examples of significant involvements (if any) of non-governmental organizations and/or civil society in the conservation of migratory species in your country.

>>> Island Conservation Society projects such as : crown of thorn eradication, migratory birds

Seychelles Islands Foundation has been monitoring many CMS species around Aldabra such as sea turtles, use of drones to monitor dugong population , sharks, coral reef monitoring etc. |

Marine Conservation Society Seychelles sharks and sea turtle projects, coral reef monitoring, whale sharks

PARLEY (NGO) have conducted clean up activities on various beaches ensuring a safe conducive habitat for nesting turtle.

VI.4. Provide some examples of significant involvements (if any) of the private sector in the conservation of migratory species in your country.

>>> Mostly in terms of financial assistance

Volunteer work i.e clean up activities on the beach, in communities etc

Some species feature on promotional/marketing materials

VI.5. Are legislation and regulations in your country concerning Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) and Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEA) considering the possible impediments to migration, transboundary effects on migratory species, and of impacts on migratory patterns and migratory ranges?

GUIDANCE TIP:

Please refer to Resolution **7.2 (Rev.COP14)** (Impact Assessment and Migratory Species).

Yes

VII. Governance, Policy and Legislative Coherence

(SPMS Target 3: National, regional and international governance arrangements and agreements affecting migratory species and their migration systems have improved significantly, making relevant policy, legislative and implementation processes more coherent, accountable, transparent, participatory, equitable and inclusive.)

VII.1. Have any governance arrangements and agreements affecting migratory species and their migration systems in your country, or in which your country participates, resulted in improvements during the reporting period?

GUIDANCE TIP:

This question is intended to understand improvements in governance arrangements in your country, which may potentially include improvements in policy, legislation, governance processes, plans etc. Please also consider the guidance below in VII.2.

Yes

Please provide details:

>>> National: improved reporting and communication between National Focal Points for CMS species
Increased political momentum for marine species/habitat conservation
Development of new legislations or review and amendments of existing ones

Regional:

Increased training and workshop opportunities
Information exchanges and best practices shared
Regional projects such as SwioFish3, SAPPHIRE

International:

Increased training and workshop opportunities
Increased funding from international donors

To what extent have these improvements helped to make relevant policy, legislative and implementation processes more coherent, accountable, transparent, participatory, equitable and inclusive?

3. Good contribution

Please describe how this assessment was made

>>> Mission reports from staff who attend training/overseas mission sent to relevant sections/departments
knowledge sharing with other relevant sections and departments after overseas mission
Quarterly/Annual progress reports
Financial reports of projects
Cabinet of Ministers support
Follow up meetings/workshops organized

VII.2. Has any committee or other arrangement for liaison between different government agencies/ministries, sectors or groups been established at a national and/or subnational level in your country that addresses CMS implementation issues?

GUIDANCE TIP:

There is no fixed model for what these arrangements may involve, and it is for each Contracting Party to decide what best suits its own circumstances. Examples could include a steering group that includes representatives of territorial administration authorities, a coordination committee that involves the lead government department (e.g. environment) working with other departments (e.g. agriculture, industry); a forum that brings together government and NGOs; a liaison group that links with business and private sector interests; a stakeholder forum involving representatives of indigenous and local communities; a coordination team that brings together the National Focal Points for each of the biodiversity-related MEAs to which the country is a Party (see also question VII.3); or any other appropriate mechanism.

These mechanisms may be specifically focused on migratory species issues, or they may address CMS implementation in conjunction with related processes such as NBSAP coordination, a National Ramsar Committee, etc.

The Manual for National Focal Points for CMS and its Instruments may be helpful in giving further context.

Yes

Please provide details:

>>> Turtle Action Group Seychelles (TAGS)

Seychelles Islands Foundation Board

Seabirds group

Environment Trust Fund - Funding for projects. Support has previously been provided to many organizations involved in marine as well as terrestrial conservation

Island Development Company Board

Marine Spatial Planning Committee

VII.3. Does collaboration between the focal points of CMS and other relevant global or regional Conventions take place in your country to develop the coordinated and synergistic approaches described in paragraphs 29, 30 and 32 of **Res. 11.10 (Rev.COP14)** (Synergies and partnerships) and in paragraph 7 of **Res. 14.3** (Engagement in CBD processes including the Global Biodiversity Framework) ?

GUIDANCE TIP:

Relevant Conventions may include other global agreements such as biodiversity-related Conventions and Agreements, UNFCCC, UNCCD, as well as regional agreements, including CMS Agreements. Such collaboration may also be relevant to aligning efforts related to the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021-2030, and NBSAPs as described in **Dec. 14.6**(CMS Engagement in CBD Processes Including Global Biodiversity Framework) and **Res.8.18 (Rev.COP12)** (Integration of Migratory Species into NBSAPs and into On-going and Future Programmes of Work under CBD). Guidance documents for integrating considerations relevant to Migratory Species in NBSAPs are available at CMS website.

Yes

Please provide details:

>>> Regular meetings organized with other CMS focal person from SIF
CMS/CITES are interconnected in our national decision making bodies
Both reported to CBD National Focal Point

VII.4. Has your country or any jurisdictional subdivision within your country adopted legislation, policies, initiatives or action plans during the reporting period that promote community involvement in conservation of CMS-listed species?

No

VIII. Incentives

VIII.1. Has there been any elimination, phasing out or reforming of harmful incentives in your country during the reporting period resulting in benefits for migratory species?

No, because no such incentives have existed

VIII.2. Has there been development and/or application of positive incentives in your country during the reporting period, resulting in benefits for migratory species?

Partly / in some areas

Please indicate what measures were implemented and the time-periods concerned.

>>> Members of the public who contact the Ministry of Environment's greenline are issued small tokens of appreciation for example, calling to report poaching of sea turtles, nesting sea turtles etc.

IX. Sustainable Production and Consumption

IX.1. During the reporting period, has your country implemented plans or taken other steps concerning sustainable production and consumption which are relevant for conservation of migratory species?

Yes

Please describe the measures that have been planned, developed or implemented

>>> Co-management in the fisheries sector strengthened so that effective dialogue can occur between the public and private sector.

Marine Spatial Planning process promotes participatory inputs and discussions from all parties involved.

Development of management plans for sustainable use areas

Development of further legislation or amendment of existing ones to include more habitats

Please describe what evidence exists to show that the intended results of these measures are being achieved.

>>> <https://seymsp.com>- Marine Spatial Planning documents including minutes of meeting, meeting agenda etc.

<https://seyliv.org/>- All Seychelles laws can be found and downloaded from this website

<http://www.sfa.sc/> - Seychelles Fisheries Authority Website

<http://www.macce.gov.sc/> - Ministry of Agriculture Climate Change & Environment

X. Threats and Pressures Affecting Migratory Species; Including Obstacles to Migration

Which of the following pressures on migratory species or their habitats are having an adverse impact in your country on migratory species included in the CMS Appendices?

Guidance: This question asks you to identify the important pressures that are reliably known to be having an actual adverse impact on CMS-listed migratory species at present. Please avoid including speculative information about pressures that may be of some potential concern but whose impacts have not yet been demonstrated.

Please note that, consistent with the terms of the Convention, “in your country” may in certain circumstances include areas outside national jurisdictional limits where the activities of any vessels flagged to your country are involved.

Intentional Taking

GUIDANCE TIP:

Please note that as per Article 1(i) of the Convention, “Taking” means taking, hunting, fishing, capturing, harassing, deliberate killing, or attempting to engage in such conduct.

	Species/species groups affected (please provide names and indicate whether Appendix I and/or Appendix II); and any other details	Overall relative severity of impact 1 = severe 2 = moderate 3 = low
Legal hunting	N/A	N/A
Illegal hunting	sharks Appendix II	3
Other harvesting and take	N/A	N/A
Illegal trade	Hawksbill/Green Turtles Appendix I/sharks Appendix II	2
Deliberate poisoning	Sharks Appendix II	2

Unintentional Taking

	Overall relative severity of impact 1 = severe 2 = moderate 3 = low	Species/species groups affected (please provide names and indicate whether Appendix I and/or Appendix II); and any other details
Bycatch		
Catch in Abandoned, Lost or otherwise Discarded Fishing Gear (ALDFG)		
Other forms of unintentional taking	1	sharks (I and II), turtles (I)

Collisions and electrocution

	Species/species groups affected (please provide names and indicate whether Appendix I and/or Appendix II); and any other details	Overall relative severity of impact 1 = severe 2 = moderate 3 = low
Wind turbines	N/A	N/A
Other collisions	Turtles Appendix I	3
Electrocution	N/A	N/A
Vessel strikes		

Other mortality

	Overall relative severity of impact 1 = severe 2 = moderate 3 = low	Species/species groups affected (please provide names and indicate whether Appendix I and/or Appendix II); and any other details
Disease, including highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI)	3	Sea turtles (Hawksbill and Green turtle)
Unexplained stranding events	N/A	N/A
Accidental/indirect poisoning	N/A	N/A
Disease	2	Sea turtles (Hawksbill and Green) Appendix I

Alien and/or invasive species

	Species/species groups affected (please provide names and indicate whether Appendix I and/or Appendix II); and any other details	Overall relative severity of impact 1 = severe 2 = moderate 3 = low
Alien and/or invasive species	Hawksbill/green turtles II Dugong II	2

Disturbance and disruption

	Species/species groups affected (please provide names and indicate whether Appendix I and/or Appendix II); and any other details	Overall relative severity of impact 1 = severe 2 = moderate 3 = low
Disturbance	Hawksbill/green turtle II	2

What are the most significant advances that have been made since the previous report in addressing disturbance & disruption?

>>> Education and Awareness Campaigns
Sensitization initiatives through media platforms

Pollution

	Species/species groups affected (provide names and indicate whether Appendix I and/or Appendix II); and any other details	Overall relative severity of impact 1 = severe 2 = moderate 3 = low
Marine debris (including plastics)		
Light pollution		
Underwater noise		
Other pollution		
Fish aggregating devices (FADs)		

Climate change

	Overall relative severity of impact 1 = severe 2 = moderate 3 = low	Species/species groups affected (please provide names and indicate whether Appendix I and/or Appendix II); and any other details
Climate change	1	Hawksbill/green II, sharks II, Dugong II

Levels of knowledge, awareness, legislation, management etc.

	Overall relative severity of impact 1 = severe 2 = moderate 3 = low	Species/species groups affected (please provide names and indicate whether Appendix I and/or Appendix II); and any other details
Inadequate transboundary management	1	Hawksbill/green II, sharks II, Dugong II
Inadequate legislation	3	Hawksbill/green II, sharks II, Dugong II
Lack of knowledge	2	sharks II
Inadequate enforcement of legislation	1	Hawksbill/green II, sharks II, Dugong II

During the reporting period, has your country adopted new legislation or other domestic measures in response to CMS Article III(4) (b) specifically addressing obstacles to migration? CMS Article III(4)(b) states 'Parties that are Range States of a migratory species listed in Appendix I shall endeavor...to prevent, remove, compensate for or minimize, as appropriate, the adverse effects of activities or obstacles that seriously impede or prevent the migration of the species.'

GUIDANCE TIP:

This question is intended to specifically report on any new legislation or domestic measures **addressing obstacles to migration**. Relevant information would not include general conservation measures.

No

XI. Conservation Status of Migratory Species

XI.1. What (if any) major changes in the conservation status of migratory species included in the CMS Appendices (e.g. national Red List category changes) have been recorded in your country during the reporting period?

“Conservation status” of migratory species is defined in Article I(1)(b) of the Convention as “the sum of the influences acting on the migratory species that may affect its long-term distribution and abundance”; and four conditions for conservation status to be taken as “favourable” are set out in Article I(1)(c).

If more rows are required, please upload an Excel file detailing a longer list of species.

GUIDANCE TIP:

The emphasis of this question is on “major changes” during the reporting period. Information is expected to be provided here only where particularly notable shifts in status have occurred, such as those that might be represented by a re-categorisation of national Red List threat status for a given species (or subspecies, where relevant). Please record if any CMS listed species has become extinct or extirpated from your country - or reintroduced/re-established/established - during the reporting period (or before if not previously reported to CMS).

Please note also that you are only being asked about the situation in your country. Information about global trends, and global Red List reclassifications etc, will be communicated to the CMS via other channels outside the national reporting process.

Terrestrial mammals (not including bats)

	Change in status (including time period concerned)	Comments	Source reference	Species/subspecies (indicate CMS Appendix where applicable)

XII. Cooperating to Conserve Migration Systems

XII.1 During the reporting period, has your country initiated or participated in the development of any proposals for new CMS Agreements, including Memoranda of Understanding, to address the needs of Appendix II species?

E.g. Developments following the advice in Resolutions **12.8** and **13.7**.

No

XII.2. During the reporting period, have actions been taken by your country to encourage non-Parties to join CMS and its related Agreements?

No

XII.3. During the reporting period, has your country participated in the implementation of Concerted Actions under CMS (as detailed in Resolution **12.28 (Rev.COP14)**) to address the needs of relevant migratory species?

No

XII.4. Have any other steps been taken which have contributed to enhancing cooperation on the conservation of migratory species in ways that fully reflect a migration systems approach?

E.g. steps implementing Resolutions **12.11 (Rev.COP14)** (Flyways) and Res. **12.17** (South Atlantic Whales), and Decisions 14.130 (Action Plan for Migratory Landbirds), 14.137 (Flyways), and 14.207 (Renewable Energy and Migratory Species).

No

XII.5. Has your country mobilized resources and/or taken steps to promote and address ecological connectivity and its functionality in relevant international processes?

E.g., Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021-2030, etc.

GUIDANCE TIP:

Please describe initiatives aimed at implementing Decision 14.194.

Yes

XIII. Area-Based Conservation Measures

XIII.1. Have critical habitats and sites for migratory species been identified (e.g. by an inventory) in your country?

GUIDANCE TIP:

The CMS does not have a formal definition of what constitutes a “critical” site or habitat for migratory species. It is left to report compilers to work with any interpretations which may be in existing use at national level, or to use informed expert judgement.

Helpful reflections on the issue can be found in the Resolution **Res. 14.16** (Ecological Connectivity) and in “**Strategic Review of Aspects of Ecological Networks relating to Migratory Species**” presented to COP11 and the “**Critical Site Network Tool**” developed under the auspices of AEWA and the Ramsar Convention. For sharks and rays please refer to <https://sharkrayareas.org>. For marine mammals, please refer to <https://www.marinemammalhabitat.org/imma-eatlas/>.

Partially - to a large extent

XIII.2. Has any assessment been made of the contribution made by the country’s protected areas network specifically to migratory species conservation?

Partly / for some areas

Please provide details:

GUIDANCE TIP:

The “contribution” may relate to habitat types, and/or geographical coverage/distribution factors, and/or coverage of particular priority species or species groups, and/or factors concerning functional connectivity, and/or any other factor considered relevant to the conservation of migratory species.

The “contribution” may relate to the use of the identified **Important Marine Mammal Areas (IMMAs)** (www.marinemammalhabitat.org) and support to identification of new **Important Shark and Ray areas (ISRAs)** (<https://sharkrayareas.org>).

Regarding Birds of Prey, the “contribution” may relate to the Internationally Important Raptors Sites (relevant to the range of the Raptors MOU, as sites listed in table 3 of Annex 3 of the Raptors MOU).

(If you have information on assessments of management effectiveness, please do not include that here, but provide it instead in your response to question XIII.4).

>>> CBD reporting

IUCN assessment for some species

CITES species monitoring and enforcement measures

Annual reports by MACCE, NGOs ect

XIII.3. Has your country adopted any new legislation or other domestic measures in the reporting period in response to CMS Article III(4) (a) (“Parties that are Range States of a migratory species listed in Appendix I shall endeavor ... to conserve and, where feasible and appropriate, restore those habitats of the species which are of importance in removing the species from danger of extinction”)?

Yes

Please give the title or other reference (and date) for the measure concerned:

>>> Improved legislation enforcement

Management plans for marine sustainable use areas (ongoing)

Management plans for protected areas

Marine Spatial planning process (ongoing)

Educational campaigns throughout the year

Habitat restoration i.e coral reef, mangroves etc

XIII.4. In respect of protected areas in your country that are important for migratory species, have any assessments of management effectiveness been undertaken in the reporting period?

Partly / for some areas

XIII.5. Beyond Protected Areas, are other effective area-based conservation measures implemented in your country in ways which benefit migratory species?

Yes

Please provide details:

>>> Under the Cap 82 Fisheries act, anyone who in Seychelles waters, kills, chases or takes a dugong, alive or dead shall

be guilty of an offence and liable on conviction to a fine of SCR 50,000.

Turtles protected throughout seychelles under the Wild Animals and Birds Protection Act (Wild Animals

(Turtles) Protection Regulations

No person shall possess, disturb, sell, purchase, receive, take, remove or cause to be taken or removed any turtle egg either while it is being laid, or after it has been laid, by a female turtle.

No person shall disturb, catch, injure, fish for, kill, sell, relating to purchase, receive or possess any turtle.

Nesting beaches for sea turtles declared as seasonal protected areas

whale sharks

The whale shark (*Rhincodon typus*) is declared to be protected throughout Seychelles at all times under the Wild Animals (Whale Shark) Protection Regulations

Management plans for marine sustainable use zones (ongoing) Marine Spatial planning process (ongoing)

Habitat restoration: mangroves, beach, coral reefs

Invasive species eradication such as crown of thorns

XIV. Ecosystem Services

XIV.1. Has any assessment of ecosystem services associated with migratory species been undertaken in your country since the last reporting?

GUIDANCE TIP:

The phrase “associated with” migratory species allows you to report on any assessments that cover ecosystem services of systems, habitats or species assemblages that include migratory species. The question is therefore not expecting you to limit this to assessments focused solely on one or more migratory species.

For a broader biodiversity assessment to be relevant here, the migratory species involved must be making some identifiable contribution to the ecosystem services concerned.

Partly / in progress

Please provide details (including source references where applicable):

>>> Seagrass Management Plan for Baie St Anne Praslin

XV. Safeguarding Genetic Diversity

XV.1. Are strategies of relevance to migratory species being developed or implemented to minimize genetic erosion of biodiversity in your country?

GUIDANCE TIP:

Strategies to be considered under this section do not necessarily have to specifically address migratory species but be of sufficient relevance in relation to the objective of safeguarding the genetic diversity of wild populations.

Yes

Please select the relevant strategies (select all that apply):

Other

>>> Access and Benefit Sharing Policy for Seychelles

Proper protocols in place for research application both from local and foreign researchers

Research permit must be sought prior to collection of genetic resources

Inspection of all samples/genetic resources conducted by MACCE staff prior to exportation and Material Transfer Agreement (MTA)/ Mutually Agreed Terms (MAT) must be established

XVI. National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans

XVI.1. Does your country's National Biodiversity Strategy or Action Plan (NBSAP), or other relevant plans or strategies used in your country, explicitly address obligations under CMS, priorities for the conservation and management of migratory species, their habitats and migration systems, and ecological connectivity?

Yes

a. Please provide a link to or attachment of the strategy/action plan

>>> <https://www.cbd.int/doc/world/sc/sc-nbsap-v2-en.pdf>

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

[sc-nbsap-v2-en.pdf](#)

b. Please identify the elements in the plan/strategy that are particularly relevant to migratory species, and highlight any specific references to the CMS/CMS instruments

GUIDANCE TIP:

Specify page numbers, section/paragraph numbers etc., where possible.

>>> Section 2.2 Marine Biodiversity

Table 6: Marine Biodiversity Overview

Table 7: Description and status of marine and coastal biodiversity

Section iv) sea grass beds

Section v) reef flats

section vi) coral reefs

section vii) marine plateau

2.3 Key threats to Biodiversity

Table 12: Protected Area Summary

c. Please add comments on the implementation of the strategy or action plan concerned.

>>> Weaknesses

Lack of administrative capacity remains a big challenge for MACCE

Impact of tourism on biodiversity i.e. rising threats from hotel development

Insufficient finances

Strengths

Great community based initiatives

Good coordination among Government Departments for different components of the strategy

Participatory integrated planning

Awareness on biodiversity conservation

Political concerns for biodiversity.

Reviews of existing biodiversity and development policies and strategic plan.

XVII. Traditional Knowledge, Innovations and Practices of Indigenous and Local Communities

In the absence of a national definition of 'indigenous and local communities', please refer to the Convention on Biological Diversity document **Compilation of Views Received on Use of the Term "Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities"** for helpful guidance on these terms.

XVII.1. During the reporting period, have actions been taken in your country to foster consideration for the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities that are relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of migratory species, their habitats and migration systems?

Partly / in some areas

XVII.2. During the reporting period, have actions been taken in your country to promote and foster effective participation and involvement of indigenous and local communities in the conservation and sustainable use of migratory species, their habitats and migration systems?

Yes

If 'yes' or 'partly/in some areas' to either of the preceding two questions, please select which actions have been taken:

(select all that apply)

Research & documentation

Engagement initiatives (e.g. as part of development projects)

Management strategies, programmes and action plans that integrate traditional & indigenous interests

Please provide details on the implementation of the actions concerned.

GUIDANCE TIP

Responses to these questions may involve actions, steps, programmes, initiatives and/or activities described in CMS documentation, such as Resolution **14.9** (Conservation Priorities for Cetaceans).

>>> Stakeholder engagement and participation in public meetings i.e. protected area designations, fisheries, development projects and so on

Communities involved in surveys and research - socio-economic assessments

Mangrove restoration projects is largely conducted by community groups

Access and benefit sharing policy- Addresses protection of traditional knowledge and makes provisions for benefit sharing for the communities/country providing access to genetic resources.

XVII.3. How would you rank progress since the previous report in your country in the area of traditional knowledge innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of migratory species?

2. Some progress but more work is needed

Please provide details on the progress made (where applicable).

>>> Improved coordination at national level

legal protection status of many species has greatly improved especially through creation of more PAs

Significant efforts by CITES scientific and management authority to prevent unsustainable and illegal trade of many species.

Increased community participation in decision making

Identification made on areas in need of increased capacity building

XVIII. Knowledge, Data and Capacity-Building

XVIII.1 During the reporting period, which steps taken in your country have contributed to the achievement of the results defined in the area of knowledge, data and capacity building? (Answers given in Section V may be relevant)

(select all that apply)

- Education campaigns in schools
- Public awareness campaigns
- Capacity building
- Knowledge and data-sharing initiatives
- Capacity assessments/gap analyses
- Agreements at policy level on research priorities

XVIII.2 Please describe the contribution these steps have made towards achieving the results defined in Target 15:

GUIDANCE TIP

Steps taken may include actions, programmes, initiatives and/or activities described in CMS documentation, such as Resolutions **14.9** (Conservation Priorities for Cetaceans), Res. **13.3** (Chondrichthyan Species), Res. **13.4** (African Carnivore initiative), Res. **13.5 (Rev.COP14)** (CMS international light pollution guidelines for migratory species), Res. **13.6** (Insect Decline), and Decisions 14.130/14.131 (AEM LAP), 14.134 (Preventing Poisoning of Migratory Birds), 14.148-14.151 (Conservation of African-Eurasian Vultures), Decisions 14.207-14.208 (Renewable Energy and Migratory Species), and 14.182 (Illegal and Unsustainable Taking of Wildlife).

Education campaigns in schools

>>> Marine subjects incorporated in school curriculums. ENGOs such as Wise Ocean have an education and outreach program i.e Blue Economy Youth Programme
The Biodiversity Conservation Section at Ministry of Environment conducted talks at schools raising awareness on issues such as CITES and CMS and how they interlink.
Promotion and integration of biodiversity conservation issues including International Convention/Laws taught at A levels, University of Seychelles and Maritime Academy
Annual eco school program implemented by MACCE focuses on school activities/program targeting sustainable development, climate change, biodiversity conservation etc.
Educational visits to outer islands such as Aldabra by school students

Public awareness campaigns

>>> Exhibitions/events organized on environment theme days such as Environment Day, International Biodiversity Day, Clean up the World, Ocean Day etc.
Educational beach clean ups
A series of public and schools screenings of international and local films to educate and raise awareness about the extent of the problem of marine debris globally and locally.
Research symposiums (SIF)

Capacity building

>>> Seychelles participants include various trainings, workshop, meetings, research expeditions pertaining to issues such as CITES/CMS, coastal management, IAS, plastic pollution, blue economy, law enforcement, education, BBNJ, ABNJ, sustainable fisheries etc.

Knowledge and data-sharing initiatives

>>> MACCE annual report submitted to President's office
Annual report of NGOS sent to MACCE
Email sharing and appraisals for research involving biodiversity in the country
MACCE meets with stakeholders on a regular basis and visit the PAs/islands they are managing
Use of websites, social media platforms to keep public and stakeholders informed (All NGOs, MACCE, CBOs, individual consultants)

Capacity assessments/gap analyses

>>> SWOT Analysis
Internal audits end of year

Agreements at policy level on research priorities

>>> Stakeholder workshops on Access and Benefit Sharing to genetic resources
Annual plans and targets

Research symposiums

XVIII.3 What assistance (if any) does your country require in order to build sufficient capacity to implement its obligations under the CMS and relevant Resolutions of the COP?

(select all that apply)

- Funding support
- Technical assistance
- Other skills development
- Exchange of information & know-how
- Research & innovation

XIX. Resource Mobilization

XIX.1 During the reporting period, has your country made financial or other resources available for conservation activities specifically benefiting migratory species?

GUIDANCE TIP:

The “resources” that are relevant here can be financial, human or technical. In addition to funding, “in-kind” forms of support such as staff time or administrative infrastructure could be relevant, as could the loan of equipment, provision of data processing facilities, technology transfer, training or mentoring schemes and other initiatives for capacity building.

Yes, made available for activities within the country

Please indicate whether the overall levels of resourcing concerned are the same or different from those in the previous reporting period:

Increased

XIX.2. During the reporting period, has your country received financial or other resources for conservation activities specifically benefiting migratory species?

Yes

Please select the source(s) concerned (select all that apply):

The Global Environment Facility (GEF)

Other intergovernmental programme

Private sector

Non-governmental organization(s)

Individual country governments/government agencies (please specify)

Please indicate whether the overall levels of resourcing concerned are the same or different from those in the previous reporting period:

Increased

XIX.3. Which are the most important CMS implementation priorities requiring resources and support in your country during future reporting periods?

GUIDANCE TIP:

Please consider answers provided in HLS.3 when answering this question where appropriate, as they may be of relevance.

>>> Capacity building i.e training, workshops at National, regional and international level.

Financial assistance to purchase new technology equipment for monitoring and enforcement i.e drones,