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Central Asian Mammals Initiative (CAMI)

CMS COP12 Regional Preparatory Workshop for Asia

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Many different bio-geographical zones
Rich biodiversity of plant & animal species
Global importance for biodiversity!



Open plains and grasslands still support mass migrations
→ Global “migrations hotspot”
→ Priority region for CMS (Recommendation 9.1)



Central Asian Mammals Initiative

- Several mandates and instruments for the conservation of migratory mammals in (Central) Asia
 - Saiga MOU, Bukhara Deer MOU, Argali Action Plan
 - Recommendation 9.1
- Activities to address major threats (barriers to migration/infrastructure development, poaching, etc.)

→ Opportunity to develop a joint framework to strengthen the collaborative, transboundary conservation of migratory mammals on the region





Single species activities/MOUs

Threats & Conservation Needs



Species designated for Concerted & Cooperative Action



Coherent framework for coordinated conservation action on migratory mammals in Central Asia

Objective / Approach

- Participatory assessment of conservation gaps and needs of migratory mammals, conservation measures, stakeholder analysis (stakeholder survey, interviews, questionnaires in 2014)
- Development of a programme of work guiding implementation of CMS and its instruments on migratory mammals in central Asia (national and regional stakeholder consultation meetings in 2014)
- ***Goal: Improve the conservation status of large migratory mammals and their habitats by strengthening trans-boundary cooperation***



Resolution 11.24

“Adopts the Programme of Work contained in the Annex to this Resolution and endorses the concept of CAMI as an **innovative and integrative approach building on a regional programme**, that identifies synergies based on common or shared work programmes, geography, species and interests in line with Future Shape decisions, to **enhance cooperation and coordination** at the local, regional and international level, to minimize institutional overlap and to **improve efficient implementation of CMS and its instruments on large mammals in the region**”



15 species

Appendix I: Bukhara/Yarkand deer (*Cervus elaphus yarkandensis*), Wild camel (*Camelus bactrianus*), Wild yak (*Bos grunniens*), Snow leopard (*Uncia uncia*), Cheetah (*Acinonyx jubatus*)

Appendix II: Saiga (*Saiga spp.*), Argali (*Ovis ammon*), Mongolian gazelle (*Procapra gutturosa*), Goitered gazelle (*Gazella subgutturosa*), Kulan (*Equus hemionus*), Kiang (*Equus kiang*)

Not listed: Chiru (*Pantholops hodgsonii*), Przewalski's horse (*Equus caballus przewalskii*), Tibetan gazelle (*Procapra picticaudata*), chinkara/jebeer gazelle (*Gazella bennettii*)

14 Range States

AFGHANISTAN, Bhutan, China, INDIA, the ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN, KAZAKHSTAN, KYRGYZSTAN, MONGOLIA, Nepal, PAKISTAN, the Russian Federation, TAJIKISTAN, Turkmenistan and UZBEKISTAN



Programme of Work

Vision:

Secured and viable populations of migratory mammals that range across the landscapes of Central Asia in healthy ecosystems, are valued by, and bring benefits to, local communities and all stakeholders.

Goal:

To improve the conservation of migratory large mammals and their habitats in the Central Asian region by strengthening coordination and cross-border cooperation.

Objectives:

1. To address main threats/issues (illegal hunting/trade; overgrazing/livestock competition; infrastructure; governance/policy; community engagement; science; TB cooperation)
2. To guide planning and implementation of conservation actions on a regional scale
3. To facilitate knowledge exchange, communication and the promotion of synergies
4. To support implementation, coordination and resourcing of the CAMI



Implementation: What has happened since then?

Strategic cooperation with the International Academy for Nature Conservation (INA/BfN, funding from Germany, Switzerland):

- June 2015: Workshop to address linear infrastructure in Mongolia (Ulaanbataar)
- August 2016: Workshop to identify priorities for implementation of CAMI (Isle of Vilm, Germany)
- April 2017: Workshop to develop atlas on species distribution and linear infrastructure (Isle of Vilm, Germany)
- Conservation projects (funded by Switzerland):
 - Removal of fences along the trans-Mongolian railroad(2017)
 - Atlas mapping species distribution and infrastructure (2017)
 - Support to the coordination of the Saiga MOU / Saiga Conservation Alliance (SCA) and Association for the Conservation of Biodiversity in Kazakhstan (ACBK) (2015/2016)



Future Implementation

- Mid-term Review Range States Meeting envisioned for spring 2018 (Isle of Vilm, Germany)
- Large-scale project submitted to the International Climate Initiative (IKI) for funding (focus on mountain ecosystems and flagship species such as snow leopard, argali)
- Technical workshop on poaching and community-based conservation planned for autumn 2018 (Isle of Vilm, Germany)
- Expand and improve network, cooperation and knowledge sharing among countries and all stakeholders
- Strengthen cooperation and participation in international fora and with industry and companies
- Continue raising awareness and attention about the importance of this region for migratory species on the global level



Thank you! Questions?

