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FORMAT AND GUIDANCE FOR 2023 CMS NATIONAL REPORT

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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

*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.*

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

HLS.1. The most successful aspects of implementation of the Convention? (List up to five items):

- 1) Regional cooperation within the Coral Triangle Initiative framework which calls for the implementation of a concerted action plan to conserve the biodiversity of the ecoregion encompassing six countries, i.e., Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippine, Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste and Papua New Guinea, including the implementation of a regional action plan for the conservation of threatened migratory species (marine turtles, marine mammals, sharks and rays) and management of marine protected area networks. A species-specific transboundary management initiative which involves the Philippines along with Malaysia, is on the management of the Turtle Islands Heritage Protected Area (TIHPA).
- 2) Promoting the objectives of the CMS in the strategies and work program of other multilateral conventions and regional organizations e.g. CITES and Ramsar and intergovernmental regional initiatives such as the Coral Triangle Initiative, ASEAN Center for Biodiversity and the East Asian-Australasian Flyway Partnership, the 2nd Research and Development Congress: East Asian-Australasian Flyway for Wetlands and Migratory Birds in the Course of Climate Change; and participation to the Project “Regional Situational analysis on the hunting and take of migratory birds in Southeast Asia” and the Meeting of the Parties of the EAFFP held in Brisbane Australia in March 2023;
- 3) Strengthening collaboration with key conservation organizations specializing on migratory species i.e., Marine Wildlife Watch of the Philippines, Large Marine Vertebrate, Inc., Philippine Biodiversity Conservation Foundation, Mindoro Biodiversity Foundation Inc., Coastal Conservation Education Foundation, and Save Philippines Seas, which paved several national advocacy activities such as the 4th Shark Summit held on March 2023 themed “Partnerships for Shark Conservation,” which showcase the progress of key players and stakeholders in shark conservation and management, identify challenges hindering progress .of the Sharks and Rays National Plan of Action 2017-2022, and identification of internationally important site for migratory birds.
- 4) Increased national consciousness for the conservation of migratory species which lead to series of approved policy interventions (guidelines for marine protected area establishment, passage of the Expanded National Integrated Protected Areas System of 2018 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations, legislating 99 Protected Areas which include marine and inland wetland protected areas important for migratory species conservation), Joint Administrative Order on Marine Wildlife Interaction, Establishment of new critical habitats for migratory birds (Sasmuan wetlands along Manila Bay and Lawak Island Critical Habitats; development of the national Marine Turtle Conservation Action Plan, and national Dugong Conservation Action Plan and proposed policy interventions (Bill on the Shark Conservation Act), and field level interventions addressing issues on marine pollution i.e., Manila Bay clean up drive and Boracay Island;

Rehabilitation; institutionalized national activities such as the Asian Waterbird Count being conducted in over 190 migratory bird sites; disease surveillance on waterbirds in pursuit of the implementation of the Philippine Avian Influenza Protection Program .

- 5) Integrating the conservation of migratory species in the on-going updating process of the Philippine Biodiversity Action Plan (PBSAP) 2016-2028 to consider the ambitious targets under the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. Among the proposed targets of the updated PBSAP is the increased coverage of the country’s protected area system through the national legislation of terrestrial and marine protected areas and the institutionalization of the OECM which would subsume conservation of habitats for migratory species

HLS.2. The greatest difficulties in implementing the Convention? (List up to five items):

- 1) Implementing interventions to address by-catch on marine turtles and marine mammals;
- 2) Enforcement of wildlife laws to abate illegal killing and taking of migratory species in general, including transboundary wildlife crimes mostly directed to marine turtles, and enforcement of policies on easement on coastal and inland waterbodies;
- 3) Unregulated tourism directed to marine turtles, whale sharks and marine mammals;
- 4) Policy measures to abate the conversion of inland wetlands critical for the survival of migratory waterbirds;
- 5) Addressing perverse incentives around policies on reclamation and rehabilitation approaches and the implementation of sustainable coastal engineered measures for climate adaptation, coastal defense and risk reduction, in line with innovative nature-based solutions including “Building with Nature” principles;

HLS.3. The main priorities for future implementation of the Convention? (List up to five items):

- 1) Establishment as conservation areas of internationally important habitats for migratory birds, habitats of marine turtle, dugongs and their recognition under the OECM mechanism;
- 2) Policy interventions on offshore mining and reclamation activities to include measures to reduce risk to migratory species;
- 3) Updating of the BFAR-BMB Convergence Manual of Operations which would benefit interagency collaboration for aquatic species conservation;
- 4) Adoption and implementation of the proposed Action Plans for Marine turtle and dugong;
- 5) Cascading CMS objectives and the PBSAP in the newly created Bangsamoro Administrative Region in Mindanao (BARM); and
- 6) Continue to cascade into regional action plans under the Coral Triangle Initiative, the CMS objectives and its Strategic Action Plan.

GUIDANCE TIP:

Be as specific as possible. For example, specify which species, areas, threats, or CMS implementation mechanisms will be addressed by the priorities you mention.

I. ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION	
I.1 Name of Contracting Party	Philippines
I.2 Date of entry into force of the Convention in your country	01 February 1994

I.3 Any territories which are excluded from the application of the Convention	None
I.4 Report compiler	<p>Name and title: Mr. Anson M. Tagtag Full name of institution: Department of Environment and Natural Resources – Biodiversity Management Bureau Telephone: (632) 8925 8946 Email: mirasol.ocampo@bmb.gov.ph</p>
I.5 Designated CMS National Focal Point	<p>Name and title of designated Focal Point: Marcial C. Amaro, Jr. Director, Biodiversity Management Bureau, In concurrent capacity as Assistant Secretary for Policy, Planning and Foreign-Assisted and Special Projects</p> <p>Full name of institution: Department of Environment and Natural Resources – Biodiversity Management Bureau</p> <p>Mailing address : Ninoy Aquino Parks and Wildlife Center, North Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City, 1100 Philippines</p> <p>Telephone: (632) 89246031 to 35 local 203 & 204 Email: director@bmb.gov.ph</p>
I.6 Representative on Scientific Council	<p>Name and title: Vincent Hilomen, PhD- Full name of institution: Project Manager, mKBA Project, BMB Mailing address:..... Telephone: Email: vhilomen@up.edu.ph</p>

II. ACCESSION/RATIFICATION OF CMS AGREEMENTS/MOUs

II.1 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
- No, updates or corrections are required, as follows:

CMS Instrument

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

III. SPECIES ON THE CONVENTION APPENDICES

III.1 Please confirm that the Excel file linked below correctly identifies the **Appendix I** species for which your country is a Range State.

GUIDANCE TIP:

Article I(1)(h) of the Convention defines when a country is a Range State for a species, by reference also to the definition of “range” in Article I(1)(f). The latter refers to all the areas that a migratory species inhabits, stays in temporarily, crosses or overflies at any time on its normal migration route.

There are cases where it may be difficult to determine what a “normal” migration route is, and for example to distinguish this from aberrant or vagrant occurrences. As per [Decision 13.140](#), the Scientific Council has been requested to develop a practical guidance and interpretations of the terms ‘Range State’ and ‘vagrant’. In the meantime, if in doubt, please make the interpretation that you think will best serve the wider aims of the Convention. Feel free to consult the Secretariat in this regard.

A note on the application of the Convention to Overseas Territories/Autonomous Regions of Parties is found [here](#).

GUIDANCE TIP:

References to “species” should be taken to include subspecies where an Appendix to the Convention so provides, or where the context otherwise requires.

Please download the Appendix I species occurrence list for your country [here](#).

- Yes, the list is correct (please upload the file as your confirmation of this, and include any comments regarding individual species)
- No, amendments are needed, and these are specified in the amended version of the Excel file provided (in the file, please select all the species that apply, including the source of information supporting the change, and upload the amended file using the attachment button):

GUIDANCE TIP:

This question asks you to confirm whether the list of *existing* Appendix I-listed species occurring in your country is correct, and if not, to detail the amendments that are needed, including the source of information supporting the change.

Providing this information is a requirement under Article VI(2) of the Convention.

The question of whether further species may qualify for addition to the Appendices themselves is addressed by other processes outside the framework of national reporting.

III.2 Please confirm that the Excel file linked below correctly identifies the **Appendix II** species for which the country is a Range State.

GUIDANCE TIP:

Please consider the guidance tip in question III.1 concerning the interpretation of “Range State”.

Please download the Appendix II species occurrence list for your country [here](#).

- Yes, the list is correct (please upload the file as your confirmation of this, and include any comments regarding individual species)
- No, amendments are needed (in the file, please select all the species that apply and upload the amended file using the attachment button below):

GUIDANCE TIP:

Please confirm whether the list of *existing* Appendix II-listed species occurring in your country is correct, and if not, then detail any amendments that are needed, including the source of information supporting the change. Providing this information is a requirement under Article VI(2) of the Convention.

Please note that the taxa listed in Appendix II at a level higher than the species have been disaggregated to the species level, in line with the standard taxonomic references (see [Resolution 12.27](#)). Further consideration of the species to be considered covered by higher taxa in Appendix II is being given by the Scientific Council in the intersessional period between COP13 and COP14.

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
 Yes, for some species
 Yes, for part of the country, or a particular territory or territories
 No

Please identify the legal statute(s) concerned:

- Republic Act 9147 (Wildlife Conservation and Protection Act) of 2021; DAO 2019-09 (Updated List of Threatened Species);
- RA 8550 as amended by RA 10654 (Fisheries Code) and its implementing rules of the Fisheries Code of 2005 ;
- Fisheries Administrative Order (FAO) 208 Series of 2001 on the conservation of rare, threatened, and endangered fishery species;
- Fisheries Administrative Order (FAO) No. 193, series of 1998, on the protection of sharks and rays, primarily whale sharks and the giant manta ray; and
- Administrative Order 282 of 2010 on the protection of Whale shark

GUIDANCE TIP:

Where your answers in any section of this report refer to separate key documents (such as here), please use the “upload” button to provide a copy of the document(s) concerned, and/or provide a website link.

[If ‘yes for some’ is selected, this question appears]

Please indicate in the Excel file linked below, the species for which taking is prohibited:

Please download the list of species [here](#), select all that apply and upload the amended file using the attachment button below.

Please identify the legal statute(s) concerned:

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

[free text box] [add link(s) and / or upload document(s)]

[If yes for ‘part of the country’ is selected, this question appears]

Please indicate in the Excel file linked below, the species for which taking is prohibited:

Please download the list of species [here](#), select all that apply and upload the amended file using the attachment button below.

Please identify the legal statute(s) concerned:

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

[free text box]

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?

[only appears if the user selects ‘Yes for all Appendix I species’, or ‘Yes for some’ in previous question]

- Yes
 No

If **yes**, please indicate individual cases and provide details of the circumstances in the Excel file linked below, which species, which reasons (among those in CMS Article III(5) (a)-(d)) justify the exception, any temporal or spatial limitations applying to the exception, and the nature of the “extraordinary circumstances” that make the exception necessary.

Please download the list of species [here](#), select all that apply and upload the amended file using the attachment button below.

GUIDANCE TIP:

Parties are requested to provide specific information on cases wherein an exception has been granted during the reporting period. This would not include information on what exceptions might be theoretically possible or exceptions that occurred before the reporting period. According to Article III(5) of the Convention, exceptions to a legal prohibition against taking of Appendix I species can only be made for one (or more) of the reasons specified in sub-paragraphs (a)-(d) of that Article.

For any species you list in the table, you must identify (in the second column of the table in the Excel file) at least one of the reasons that justify the exception relating to that species. In any case where you identify reason (d) as applying, please explain (in the third column) the nature of the “extraordinary circumstances” involved.

According to Article III(5), exceptions granted for any of the four reasons must also be “precise as to content and limited in space and time”. Therefore, please state what the specific mandatory space and time limitations are, in each case, using the third column; and indicate the date on which each exception was notified to the Secretariat in accordance with Article III(7).

Please consider consulting reports submitted to CITES that may be relevant when answering this question.

IV.3 Where the taking of **all** Appendix I species is **not** prohibited and the reasons for exceptions in Article III(5) do not apply, are steps being taken to update existing legislation or develop new legislation to prohibit the taking of all relevant species?

[only appears if ‘Yes for some species’ or ‘Yes for part of the country’ or ‘No’ was selected in ‘Is the taking of Appendix I species prohibited by national legislation in accordance with CMS Article III(5)?’]

- Yes
 No

If **yes**, please indicate which of the following stages of development applies:

- Legislation being considered
 Legislation in draft

- Legislation fully drafted and being considered for adoption in [insert year]
- Other (please specify) [free text]

If no, please provide further information about the circumstances [free text]

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?

- Yes
- No
- Unknown

If yes, please provide information on the circumstances of the taking(s), including where possible any future plans in respect of such taking(s)

[free text box]

GUIDANCE TIP:

Providing this information (including where possible the information about future plans) is a requirement under Article VI(2) of the Convention. The circumstances of the taking should normally include the species taken, amount taken and the method and frequency of taking.

V. AWARENESS

(SPMS Target 1: People are aware of the multiple values of migratory species and their habitats and migration systems, and the steps they can take to conserve them and ensure the sustainability of any use.)

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 on SPMS Target 15 may also be relevant).

(select all that apply)

- Campaigns on specific topics
- Teaching programmes in schools or colleges
- Press and media publicity, including social media
- Community-based celebrations, exhibitions and other events
- Engagement of specific stakeholder groups
- Special publications
- Interpretation at nature reserves and other sites
- Other (please specify)

Celebration of festivals on certain migratory species: Marine Turtle Festival, National Bird Festival, Whale Shark Festival, Month of the Ocean, World Wildlife Day, World Wetlands Day, International Day of Biological Diversity, World Migratory Bird Day, Shark Conservation Week (biennial), World Sea Turtle Day,

- No actions taken

GUIDANCE TIP:

Awareness raising that demonstrates work towards achieving Target 1 may include actions, steps, programmes, initiatives and/or activities described in various CMS documents, such as Resolutions [11.8 \(Rev.COP12\)](#) (Communication, information and outreach plan), [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 [13.6](#) (Insect Decline), [12.6](#) (Wildlife Disease and Migratory Species), [12.11 \(Rev.COP13\)](#) (Flyways), [12.17](#) (Conservation and Management of Whales and their Habitats in the South Atlantic Region), [12.19](#) (Endorsement of the African Elephant Action Plan), [12.20](#) (Management of Marine Debris), [12.21](#) (Climate Change and Migratory Species), [12.25](#) (Promoting Conservation of Critical Intertidal and Other Coastal Habitats for Migratory Species), [11.16 \(Rev.COP13\)](#) (The Prevention of Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade of Migratory Birds), [11.17 \(Rev.COP.13\)](#)(Action Plan for Migratory Landbirds in the African-Eurasian Region), [11.24 \(Rev.COP13\)](#) (Central Asian Mammal Initiative), [11.31](#) (Fighting Wildlife Crime and Offenses within and beyond Borders), [8.12 \(Rev.COP12\)](#)(Improving the Conservation Status of Raptors and Owls in the African-Eurasian Region), Decisions [13.95](#) (Conservation and Management of the Cheetah and African Wild Dog) and Decision [13.113](#) (Improving Ways of Addressing Connectivity in the Conservation of Migratory Species).

[The following questions only appear if an action was selected in 'During the reporting period, please indicate the actions that have been taken by your country to increase people's awareness of the values of migratory species, their habitats and migration systems']

V.2 Please indicate any specific elements of CMS COP Resolutions [11.8 \(Rev. COP12\)](#) (Communication, Information and Outreach Plan) and [11.9 \(Rev.COP13\)](#) (World Migratory Bird Day) which have been particularly taken forward by these actions.

For the reporting period, the annual World Migratory Bird Day was observed in various parts of the country every 2nd week of October. The celebration coincides with the bird migration season with government and civil society organizations leading the celebrations. The celebrations served as venue to communicate the importance of migratory birds through radio programs, lectures caravans, community parades/festival, bird watching activities, workshops and symposia, and school campaigns. As part of

communication strategy, the national focal point releases national advisory during the onset of bird migration to alert communities of the migration season. Awareness raising on the protection of migratory species was also communicated through websites of government and conservation partner organizations. At the onset of bird migration in the Philippines, a public advisory is being disseminated by the DENR calling the citizens to support the protection of the birds emphasizing their ecological importance and the role of protection in preventing possible transmission of avian influenza associated with birds.

The annual national bird festival organized by the Wild Bird Club of the Philippines, the Department of Tourism, DENR and host Local Government Unit were consistently undertaken during the reporting period.

A Seabird Identification Training-Workshop was conducted to capacitate field implementors. Seabirds Communication, Education and Public Awareness (CEPA) Plan was developed and stakeholders' engagement workshop was undertaken.

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

- 1 very little impact
- 2 small impact
- 3 good impact
- 4 large positive impact
- Unknown

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.

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

- Field reports on CEPA activities undertaken;
- Local regulations supporting/reiterating the implementation of national policies on the conservation of migratory species e.g., regulation on whale shark tourism;
- Asian waterbird count reports showing increase number of volunteers and support groups;
- Field reports on marine turtle and marine mammals rescue operations;
- Citizen reports on illegal activities on migratory species/wildlife and law enforcement data in response to citizen reports;
- Projects proposals/reports directed to conservation of migratory species: migratory birds, marine turtle and crocodile, marine mammals by various organizations supported through UNEP/GEF, USAID, etc. and local private donors;
- Synthesis on marine mammal strandings using data generated through citizen science;
- Consolidated annual report on marine turtles and dugongs.

VI. MAINSTREAMING MIGRATORY SPECIES IN OTHER SECTORS AND PROCESSES

(SPMS Target 2: Multiple values of migratory species and their habitats have been integrated into international, national and local development and poverty reduction strategies and planning processes, including on livelihoods, and are being incorporated into national accounting, as appropriate, and reporting systems.)

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
 No

If yes, please provide details:

Continued cascading of the Philippine Biodiversity strategy and Action Plan (PBSAP) formally adopted by the DENR (DENR Administrative Order 2016-12) was undertaken during the reporting period to mainstream biodiversity strategies in the plans and programs of local government units, including the conservation of migratory species. Localizing the PBSAP is a strategy to broaden community engagement and financing mechanism for biodiversity conservation. Preliminary works are being done for the updating of the PBSAP.

With the adoption of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework during the 15th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP 15), the Philippines has undertaken preliminary preparations to update the PBSAP in order to align it with the targets set in the GBF and the other decisions adopted during the COP15.

The Coastal and Marine Ecosystem Management Program and the Wetland Conservation Program are programs designed for greater engagement of local governments and communities on wetland and marine ecosystems. Both programs primarily aims to facilitate the management of networks of locally managed coastal marine and inland wetland habitats to augment the efforts on the management of protected areas by the national government. To date, 1,620 locally managed marine protected areas had been established. Marine Protected Area Network management applying the concept of ecological connectivity is also being advocated.

A support program for community livelihood called the Biodiversity Friendly Enterprise is being implemented as a component of the aforementioned strategy and programs.

Fisheries Administrative Order No. 263 of 2019 – establishment of Philippine Fisheries Management areas where Ecosystem Approach in Fisheries for targeted species is to be enforced. To date, 12 FMA sites were established where the BFAR is assisting in the development and implementation of fisheries management plans by local government units.

GUIDANCE TIP:

Note that these strategies/planning processes may be relevant for objectives, actions, steps, programmes, initiatives and/or activities described in various CMS documents, such as Decisions [13.95](#) (Conservation and Management of the Cheetah and African Wild Dog), and [13.116](#) (Transfrontier Conservation Areas for Migratory Species). Please make reference to any relevant CMS documents in your response as appropriate.

VI.2 Does your country integrate the ‘values of migratory species and their habitats’ referred to in SPMS Target 2 in any other national reporting processes?

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

- Yes
 No

If yes, please provide details:

The Philippine Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan includes targets on maintaining population of migratory birds and their habitats, including activities to achieve such targets such as the promotion of biodiversity-friendly enterprise around conservation areas, wild-based (migratory species) tourism, increasing coverage of established terrestrial and marine protected areas to include migratory species, increasing biodiversity conservation related jobs, which shall contribute to the “Philippine Development Plan” sub-sector outcome on maintenance of "Ecological Integrity and Improving Socio-economic Conditions of Resource- based Communities Through Sustainable Integrated Area Development". The Department of Environment and Natural Resources reports progress annually to the National Economic Development Authority (NEDA) which accounts achievements of all sectors contributing to the Philippine Development Plan.

The values of migratory species and conservation of their habitats and its contribution to climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction is also included in the reporting process for the National Climate Change Action Plan and to other MEAs.

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.

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

Non-government and civil society organizations, through their voluntary action or formal partnership with the DENR and the BFAR and other concerned government agencies, are crucial support groups and driving force to facilitate the mobilization of technical and financial resources needed to implement government biodiversity plans and programs at the national and community level, including programs in pursuit of the strategies of CMS. They are actively engaged in CEPA towards influencing societal behavior and mindset on migratory species and the environment in general, capacity building of local stakeholders, scientific studies, field interventions to address threats to migratory species e.g., promoting code of conduct and best practices in wildlife tourism, community organization and livelihood assistance. They are key stakeholders in the consultative process of biodiversity policy development.

VI.4 Describe the main involvements (if any) of the private sector in the conservation of migratory species in your country.

The private sector is also a key support group in the mobilization of resources for biodiversity conservation programs mainly as part of their corporate social responsibility or awareness advocacy. They provide financial support in advocacy programs of the government and conservation projects of organizations. Resort companies, in particular, are key players in the protection of marine nesting beaches adjacent to their properties by providing incentives to communities for conservation action. Private sector are beneficiaries of the “Adopt-a-Wildlife Program” of the DENR which provides avenue for the business sector to participate in the in-situ conservation of threatened species while providing them tax incentives

for their financial contribution to wildlife conservation. The Biodiversity Financing Project of the DENR aims to establish the mechanism to increase and sustain the engagement of the private sector in financing biodiversity conservation.

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?

- Yes
 No

Please describe any hindrances and challenges to the application of EIA and SEAs with respect to migratory species, lessons learned, and needs for further capacity development.

The DENR issued a Memorandum Circular (DMC 745 of 2016) which mandates the consideration of biodiversity in the evaluation and processing of tenurial instruments on environment and natural resources. However, conflicting of mandates and priorities and inadequate coordination among national agencies may sometimes undermine the EIA process e.g project design pre-approval at the national level may tend to compromise the conduct of SEA and EIA.

GUIDANCE TIP:

Please refer to Resolution [7.2 \(Rev.COP12\)](#) (Impact Assessment and Migratory Species) and Decision [13.130](#) (Infrastructure Development and Migratory Species) for more information on Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA).

VI.6 To what extent have biodiversity and migratory species considerations been specifically integrated into national energy and climate policy and legislation?

[free text] ----

Biodiversity has already been integrated in the National Climate Change Action Plan and Disaster Risk Reduction Action Plan. Mainstreaming biodiversity in the energy sector was initiated by the Biodiversity Management Bureau of the DENR to integrate biodiversity considerations in project planning in the energy sector. This initiative is underway and a new set of guidelines that shall address the impacts of energy projects to biodiversity will be developed. National laws on this regards has been proposed e.g. a **Bill** Establishing Framework for Blue Economy, Promoting Stewardship and Sustainable Development of Coastal and Marine Ecosystems and Resources. In the meantime, the DENR has formalized an agreement on biodiversity and climate change with a major renewable energy firm (i.e Energy Development Corporation) to drive private investment in nature-based solutions.

Please provide any examples related to such policy and legislation.

GUIDANCE TIP

Please refer to Resolutions [12.21](#) (Climate Change and Migratory Species), [11.27 \(Rev.COP13\)](#)(Renewable Energy and Migratory Species), [10.11 \(Rev.COP13\)](#)(Power Lines and Migratory Birds), and Decision [13.108](#) (Support to the Energy Taskforce) for more information.

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 [there been any changes to] any governance arrangements and agreements affecting migratory species and their migration systems in your country, or in which your country participates, [resulting in improvements] improved during the reporting period?

- Yes
 No, but there is scope to do so
 No, because existing arrangements already satisfy all the points in Target 3

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.

If yes, please provide details:

- 1) Convergence initiatives between BMB-BFAR MOA adopting the "Operational Plan for Sustainable Fisheries and Aquatic Biodiversity Conservation" to address overlapping management concerns on marine wildlife and habitat, by-catch of marine turtles, dugongs, marine mammals and seabirds, management of invasive alien species, marine debris/pollution, enforcement of wildlife laws, among others.
- 2) Cooperation with the Bangsamoro Administrative Region of Muslim Mindanao on cascading national biodiversity laws and programs to assist the region in aligning their biodiversity regional plans and programs with the national biodiversity targets;
- 3) Special policy issuance on the convergence of national government agencies, local government units, academe, civil society and business sector on the urgent rehabilitation of marine ecosystems:
 - Continuing implementation of the Administrative Order No. 16 expediting the rehabilitation and restoration of the coastal and marine ecosystems of the Manila Bay and creating a Task Force thereof. This policy resulted to convergence of efforts among national and concerned local governments surrounding the bay, business entities, and citizens to improved the ecological character of the Bay which is an internationally important site for migratory birds, as well as host to marine turtles and marine mammals .
 - Joint Management Circular 01, Series 2020, among the DENR, DA-BFAR and Dept. of Tourism on the guidelines on Marine Wildlife Interaction Guidelines;
 - Continuing implementation of the DENR Administrative Order 2016-26 on the implementation of Coastal Ecosystems Management Program on the establishment of Marine Protected Area Network (MPAN) in which LGUs and local stakeholders works towards the development and implementation of management plan for coastal ecosystems to promote ecological connectivity.
 - Issuance on the guidelines on the Seal of Local Good Governance by the Department of Interior and Local Governments (since 2022) which include among the indicator on environmental governance the management of wetlands and water bodies as conservation areas, and local plans for emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases which should be integrated in their

local plans for implementation.

- 4) At the regional level, the governments of Malaysia and the Philippines reconvened virtually for the 14th Meeting of the Joint Management Committee of the Turtle Island Heritage Protected Area (TIHPA) on July, 2023 hosted by the government of Malaysia to revitalize the cooperation and determine courses of action for the effective management of the TIHPA. The meeting reviewed the 2020-2025 Action Plan of Malaysia and Philippines for the TIHPA. The meeting also affirmed the intent to have the TIHPA recognized as ASEAN Heritage Park to highlight the significance of the TIHPA in the ASEAN region and to leverage the mission of the bilateral cooperation to generate support of the range state of marine turtle population in the TIHPA within the ASEAN Region. This time, The Philippines is represented by the Environment Department of the BARM Region with management jurisdiction over the Turtle Islands Marine Wildlife Sanctuary.
- 5) The Philippines finally acceded to the Ballast Water Convention in 2018. The Marine Industry Authority issued Memorandum Circular -SR No. 2020-05 on the implementing rules and regulations on ballast water management in compliance with the Convention.

[if answered yes for previous question]

To what extent have these improvements helped to achieve Target 3 of the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species?

- 1 minimal contribution
- 2 partial contribution
- 3 good contribution
- 4 major contribution
- not known

Please describe how this assessment was made:

- 1) The initiative on mainstreaming biodiversity in the energy sector provided a better understanding of the energy sector on their role in biodiversity conservation and the risks associated with energy projects. The mainstreaming process is a work in progress and is expected to generate response from the energy sector in terms of standards and protocols for energy projects in the country. As initial accomplishment on this regards, the DENR has formalized an agreement on biodiversity and climate change with a major renewable energy firm (i.e Energy Development Corporation) to drive private investment in nature-based solutions.
- 2) The convergence with BFAR clarified the roles of each agency in addressing issues on by-catch on marine turtles, dugong, and marine mammals, invasive species management, delineation and areas of collaborative work on aquatic ecosystems and species were identified. With this, the agencies are better guided in the delivery of their mandates. In pursuit of the convergence of the BMB-BFAR, three marine pilot sites were selected to demonstrate the operational plan.
- 3) Executive Order 53 of 2018 resulted to the implementation of easement regulations in the Island protecting marine turtle nesting beach, rehabilitation of the inland wetlands critical for migratory waterbirds. This unprecedented government action also triggered the review of implementation of existing national policies pertaining to the protection of coastal and marine ecosystems and inland wetlands and ushered management interventions (e.g., implementation for easement regulations for inland wetlands and coastal marine areas, management of marine debris) elsewhere in the country especially in islands promoted for tourism. Local ordinances banning single use plastic had been issued and are being enforced by local governments;
- 4) Administrative Order No. 16 expediting the rehabilitation and restoration of the coastal and marine

ecosystems of the Manila Bay resulted to convergence of efforts among national and concerned local governments surrounding the bay, business entities, and citizens to improve the ecological character of the Bay. Core waterbird congregation sites were established as a national protected area (Las Pinas-Paranaque Critical Habitat) and local conservation areas (i.e., Balanga City Wetland Park and Sasmuan Wetland Critical Habitat). Manila Bay is the most important migratory waterbird staging site supporting over 100,000 population of waterbirds annually. It's is also a nesting site for marine turtles, as well as a feeding habitat for cetaceans. The issuance also pushed for the finalization of the Manila Bay Development and Sustainability Plan, which among other stipulations included as strict protection zone existing wildlife habitats (mudflats, tidal flats and mangrove areas) in the Bay. Though formal adoption of the Plan by Congress is meet by impediments from other sectors, the plan having been endorsed by the focal agency remains a crucial document in evaluating reclamation projects in Manila Bay. In 2023 the government suspended all reclamation projects in Manila Bay pending review of their environment impacts;

- 5) DENR Administrative Order Nos. 2012-08 and 2016-02 establishing some coastal barangays of the Municipality of Carmen in Agusan del Norte, and the Municipalities of Magsaysay in Misamis Oriental as Critical Habitat for Marine Turtles, respectively.
 - 5) The Bilateral cooperation between the Philippines and Malaysia which has watered down was revitalized after the 13th JMC meeting. With the courses of action identified during the meeting, the two countries were reassured of each other's support especially in transboundary management of illegal trade on marine turtles in the Turtles Islands. The Action Plan for 2020-2025 has also been finalized in the meeting for adoption. The 14rth JMC meeting successfully provided opportunity for the BARM to get on board and be the focal agency of the Philippines to the bilateral agreement considering their management jurisdiction over the Turtle islands Heritage Protected Area. Improved management of the area is expected as management of the site has been relegated to the local government;
 - 6) There has been increased in the number of proposals from local governments for designation of conservation areas and critical habitats that included habitats for migratory species ;

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?

- Yes
 No

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.

If yes, please provide details:

The Biodiversity Management Bureau serves as the national coordinating agency for biodiversity-related MEAs, including the IOSEA and the Dugong MoU. Each MEA strategic program is considered in the Philippine Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan. The Bureau, as the national coordinating agency for biodiversity-related MEAs, facilitates the mainstreaming of the PBSAP into the regular work program of the Department, and the BFAR and the PCSD, and in the engagement of the private sector. Under national arrangement, the BFAR primarily implements conservation activities for marine wildlife (except for marine turtles and dugongs which remains with the DENR) and provide updates on their activities to the BMB. The BMB consolidates information relevant to migratory species conservation from all these agencies, including from non-government organizations.

The BMB counterpart at the regional and field level, the Conservation and Development Division of the DENR Regional Offices, serves as the field level coordinating and implementation arm for the PBSAP/MEA program. The regional offices reports to the BMB on accomplishments on the PBSAP/MEA targets.

The Bureau is also the focal unit for the East Asian-Australasian Flyway Partnership (EAAFP) and the Coral Triangle Initiative (CTI).

There are other coordinating mechanism initiated by conservation groups in which the government also receive support primarily in terms of data and information sharing, awareness campaign and wildlife rescue and rehabilitation. These includes 1) Philippine Marine Mammal Stranding Network composed of a network of professionals and volunteers committed to the rescue and rehabilitation, capacity building and awareness campaign on marine mammals; 2) Wildbird Club of the Philippines composed of professionals and bird enthusiast providing support in terms of bird monitoring and recording especially during the annual Asian Waterbird Census.

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 25-27 of [Resolution 11.10 \(Rev. COP13\)](#) (*Synergies and partnerships*)?

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 post-2020 global biodiversity framework, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021-2030, and NBSAPs as described in [Resolution 13.1](#) (*Gandhinagar Declaration on CMS and the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework*) and [Resolution 8.18 \(Rev.COP12\)](#) (*Integration of Migratory Species into NBSAPs and*

into On-going and Future Programmes of Work under CBD).

- Yes
 No

If yes, please provide details:

The BMB serves as the national coordinating agency for all biodiversity-related MEAs. The Philippine Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (PBSAP) developed by the Bureau serves as the integrating document in which all MEA strategies and other relevant national plans, programs and strategies e.g. climate action, disaster risk reduction, one health, urban and human settlement, tourism plans, agriculture converge in the national biodiversity action plan. The PBSAP development is a multisectoral and expert driven in which the role, contribution and commitment of each stakeholder is inked in the PBSAP. The PBSAP once approved by the DENR is cascaded to other relevant national agencies and their regional offices, to the regional and provincial levels for adoption in local plans and eventual implementation.

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?

- Yes
 No

If yes, please identify the legislation, policies, initiatives, or action plans concerned:

- 1) The Joint DENR-DA-DOT-DILG Memo Circular 2020-01 on the regulations governing the conduct of marine wildlife interaction in the Philippines provides the participation or involvement at the community level in the conduct, and regulation of marine wildlife tourism in designated marine wildlife interaction sites. Members of community such a tour operators, site managers, and guides are to be trained on proper marine wildlife interaction. Local officers and volunteers will also be involved in the monitoring and enforcement of the guidelines in wildlife interaction sites;
- 2) The Project: Agricultural wetlands as showcase for wetlands conservation was initiated by the Society for the Conservation of Wetlands in the Philippines to maintain a 132 hectare farmland owned and managed by a farmer's organization called Macagatal Irrigators Association in Candaba, Pampanga. The Project intends to work with the farmers to promote agricultural practices that are compatible with migratory bird conservation;
- 3) Passage of Republic Act 11365 of 2019 "An Act Declaring the Balanga Wetland and Nature Park Located in Barangay Tortugas, City of Balanga, Province of Bataan as a Responsible, Community-Based Ecotourism Zone and Appropriating Funds Therefore". The Implementing rules and regulations of the law was finalized in 2023 for adoption;
- 4) The "Malinis at Masaganang Karagatang Program" or "Clean and Bountiful Ocean" of the DA-BFAR aims to promote fisheries protection and conservation through community/stakeholder participation. The annual search for Malinis at Masaganang Karagatan aims to recognize outstanding initiatives and contributions of coastal municipalities/cities to sustainable fisheries development. The program recognizes establishment of locally managed marine protected areas which benefits habitats of waterbirds and marine turtles and dugongs.
- 5) The Adoption of the DENR-DA Administrative Order 2021-01 on the guidelines on mainstreaming Biodiversity Friendly Agricultural Practices (BDFAP) in Protected Areas and wider agricultural landscapes that involves minimizing the use of harmful agricultural inputs, promoting local and native species and employing sustainable management practices in both terrestrial and coastal

marine. The policy is focused in working with communities to promote such practices to reduce the risk of agriculture land and marine habitats

VIII. INCENTIVES

(SPMS Target 4: Incentives, including subsidies, harmful to migratory species, and/or their habitats are eliminated, phased out or reformed in order to minimize or avoid negative impacts, and positive incentives for the conservation of migratory species and their habitats are developed and applied, consistent with engagements under the CMS and other relevant international and regional obligations and commitments.)

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?

- Yes
- Partly / in some areas
No, but there is scope to do so
- No, because no such incentives have existed

If Yes or Partly or No, but there is scope to do so, please indicate what measures were implemented and the time periods concerned:

Adoption of the DENR-DA Administrative Order 2021-01 (BDFAP) promotes reduction or repurposing of subsidies for certain agriculture programs to sustainable agriculture. A Committee has been created under the Order to develop activities/projects on sustainable agriculture and aquaculture which could be funded by the government.

Land reclamation applications is currently under suspension pending review of the regulatory process especially in terms of environmental impact assessment. Land reclamation is regulated by the Phil Reclamation Authority, an agency mandated to disposed reclaimed lands to generate funds for the government.

GUIDANCE TIP:

Harmful incentives, as described by the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), ‘emanate from policies or practices that induce unsustainable behaviour that is harmful to biodiversity, often as unanticipated (and unintended) side effects of policies designed to attain other objectives.’ These could possibly include ‘government subsidies or other measures which fail to take into account the existence of environmental externalities, as well as laws or customary practice governing resource use.’

This question asks you to give facts about the steps taken to adjust harmful incentives. E.g. a reduction in funding for such incentives, a change to the law to withdraw a particular incentive, or safeguards added to an incentive to minimise harm. While Parties are in principle expected to report on developments having taken place in the time period concerned by the report, considering the complexity of the issue of incentives steps being reported may well include initiatives initiated before the specific reporting period.

Where the first part of the question refers to “benefits for migratory species” resulting from this, you should have good reason to believe that such benefits will have resulted (or will do so in future); but this question is not expecting an assessment of the conservation results of the steps taken; just some facts about the steps themselves.

(Please include any information on attributable conservation outcomes)

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?

- Yes
 Partly / in some areas
 No, but there is scope to do so
 No, because there is no scope to do so

If Yes or Partly, please indicate what measures were implemented and the time-periods concerned:

- 1) City or municipal ordinances banning single-use utensils and plastic bags;
- 2) Guidelines for the issuance of clearance for reclamation projects requiring the conduct of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and prohibits reclamation in protected areas;
- 3) Implementation of the guidelines on best practices for bird watching (BMB Technical Bulletin 2017-02);
- 4) Continuing implementation of the code of conduct on whale shark tourism in Donsol, Sorsogon;
- 5) RA 11038 (Expanded National Integrated Protected Areas System) prohibits the establishment of renewable energy project in Strict Protection Zone (SPZ) within protected areas. Renewable energy projects may be allowed outside SPZ but requires the conduct of EIA;
- 6) Republic Act 11038 legislated 94 protected areas setting aside these aside from other types of land use. These include 29 freshwater and coastal marine areas important for migratory birds, marine mammals, sharks and rays, and marine turtles.
- 7) Presidential Proclamation 489 in May 2019 , declaring the 350,000 hectares of the Philippine Rise as a marine resource reserve and almost 50,000 hectares as SPZ. This declaration helps protect marine life, including mesophotic coral reefs, whales, dolphins, sharks, rays and sea turtles. The area is also a spawning ground for the highly migratory Pacific blue fin tuna.

GUIDANCE TIP:

This question asks you to provide facts about the steps taken to develop or apply positive incentives. For example, an increase in the funding for such incentives, or a change to the law to introduce a new incentive. Please take into account the guidance provided in the box above relating to harmful incentives when considering timeframes for reporting. You should have good reason to believe that benefits for migratory species will have resulted (or will do so in future); but this question is not expecting an assessment of the conservation results of the steps taken; just some facts about the steps themselves.

(Please include information on attributable conservation outcomes)

IX. SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION

(SPMS Target 5: Governments, key sectors and stakeholders at all levels have taken steps to achieve or have implemented plans for sustainable production and consumption, keeping the impacts of use of natural resources, including habitats, on migratory species well within safe ecological limits to promote the favourable conservation status of migratory species and maintain the quality, integrity, resilience, and ecological connectivity of their habitats and migration routes.)

IX.1 During the reporting period, has your country implemented plans or taken other steps concerning sustainable production and consumption which are contributing to the achievement of the results defined in SPMS Target 5?

- Yes
 In development / planned
 No

GUIDANCE TIP:

Please review Target 5 and answer "yes" to this question if any implementation of the kind described has taken place, even if it has not yet been fully completed.

[if answered 'yes' or 'in development/planned' for previous question]

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

- 1) As part of the country's wetlands and coastal marine conservation program, the Biodiversity Friendly and Social Enterprise (BDFE) project was piloted in local communities that covers sustainable enterprises in the agriculture and forestry/marine resources sector, including eco-tourism. The BDFE intends to harness the sustainable use of biodiversity to reduce pressures to biodiversity, including illegal hunting of wildlife;
- 2) The support of the national government (i.e. DENR and the Department of Tourism) on the development of eco-tourism in protected areas with engagement of local communities;
- 3) Issuance of the Joint DENR-DA-DOT-DILG Memo Circular 2020-01 on the national guidelines for marine wildlife interaction.

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

- 1) Recipients of the BDFE program of the Department;
- 2) Results of management assessments using the Management Effective Tracking Tool (in Protected Areas) and the Management Effective Assessment Tool in locally established marine protected areas;

[if answered 'no' for first question above]

What is preventing progress?

X. THREATS AND PRESSURES AFFECTING MIGRATORY SPECIES; INCLUDING OBSTACLES TO MIGRATION

(SPMS Targets 6+7: Fisheries and hunting have no significant direct or indirect adverse impacts on migratory species, their habitats or their migration routes, and impacts of fisheries and hunting are within safe ecological limits; Multiple anthropogenic pressures have been reduced to levels that are not detrimental to the conservation of migratory species or to the functioning, integrity, ecological connectivity and resilience of their habitats.)

X.1 Which of the following pressures are having an adverse impact in your country on migratory species included in the CMS Appendices or their habitats?

GUIDANCE TIP:

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.

GUIDANCE TIP:

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.

Pressure	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
Illegal hunting <div data-bbox="231 562 507 775" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> GUIDANCE TIP: <i>Please see guidance under "Legal hunting" below for a clarification of the distinction between illegal and legal hunting.</i> </div>	marine turtles- Appendix I migratory birds (ducks) – Appendix II rays, and mobula- Appendix I	2
Legal hunting <div data-bbox="231 824 507 1205" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> GUIDANCE TIP: <i>Hunting is considered illegal in this context if it is undertaken in ways that breach any provision of applicable laws at local, national or international level. Legal hunting is hunting that complies with any such provision and/or is explicitly permitted by such applicable laws.</i> </div>	N/A	
Other harvesting and take <div data-bbox="231 1339 507 1877" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> GUIDANCE TIP: <i>The 'Other harvesting and take' category includes types of harvesting and take that would not be regarded as "hunting", as per the definition of taking provided by Art. I, para. 1.i of the Convention. Examples might include collection of eggs, or taking of animal parts or derivatives, whenever any of these is considered to be having an adverse effect on a CMS-listed migratory species.</i> </div>	marine turtle eggs - Appendix I	2
Illegal trade	marine turtles (eggs) – Appendix I	2
Deliberate poisoning	N/A	

What are the most significant advances that have been made since the previous report in addressing intentional taking?

- Strengthening law enforcement through establishment of wildlife law enforcement networks and deputation of local enforcers and sea patrols, including lobbying for the creation of enforcement bureau of DENR to strengthen environmental law enforcement in the country;
- Creation of Environmental Law Enforcement and Protection Service under the DENR;
- Crafting of House Bill No. 1684 entitled “An Act Regulating the Catching, Sale, Purchase, Possession, Transportation, Importation, and Exportation of all Sharks, Rays, and Chimaera in any part thereof in the Country" is under review by the House of Representatives;
- Creation of Fisheries Protection and Law Enforcement Group or sea patrols;

What are the most significant negative trends since the previous report concerning intentional taking?

- In southern Philippines, marine turtle nesting sites in off shore islands remain vulnerable to poaching of turtle eggs.
- Declining wild population of sharks, cetaceans, and their relatives in known habitats

GUIDANCE TIP:
 Significant advances may include efforts, actions, steps, programmes, initiatives and/or activities described in CMS documentation, such as Resolutions [13.3](#) (Chondrichthyan Species), [13.4](#) (African Carnivore initiative), [12.10](#) (Conservation of African-Eurasian Vultures), [12.11 \(Rev.COP13\)](#) (Flyways), [12.12 \(Rev.COP13\)](#) (Action Plans for Birds), [12.15](#) (Aquatic Wild Meat), [12.17](#) (Conservation and Management of Whales and their Habitats in the South Atlantic Region), [12.19](#) (Endorsement of the African Elephant Action Plan), [11.15 \(Rev.COP13\)](#) (Preventing Poisoning of Migratory Birds), [11.16 \(Rev.COP13\)](#)(The prevention of Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade of Migratory Birds), [11.17 \(Rev.COP13\)](#)(Action Plan for Migratory Landbirds in the African-Eurasian Region), [11.18 \(Rev.COP12\)](#)(Saker Falcon Global Action Plan), [11.21](#) (Single Species Action Plan for the Loggerhead Turtle in the South Pacific Ocean), [11.22 \(Rev.COP12\)](#) (Live Capture of Cetaceans from the Wild for Commercial Purposes),[11.24 \(Rev.COP13\)](#) (Central Asian Mammal Initiative), [11.31](#) (Fighting Wildlife Crime and Offenses within and beyond Borders), and Decisions [13.50](#) (Conservation of African-Eurasian Vultures), [13.27-28](#) (Task Force on Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade of Migratory Birds in the Mediterranean), [13.74](#) ((Live Capture of Cetaceans from the Wild for Commercial Purposes) and [13.94](#) (Conservation and Management of the Cheetah and African Wild Dog).

Unintentional Taking

Pressure	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
Bycatch	marine turtles- Appendix I dugong- Appendix II sharks- Appendix I	3
Catch in Abandoned, Lost or otherwise Discarded Fishing Gear (ALDFG)	No record	
Other forms of unintentional taking	Sharks- (<i>Carcharinidae spp</i> look alike)	3

GUIDANCE TIP:
 These would include forms of taking other than bycatch or catch in ALDFG, in which the species is not the target of the taking. Examples may include the accidental shooting of

<p><i>CMS-listed species that look alike legitimate target species and/or mix with them, for example at feeding areas or during migration; accidental trapping by non-discriminatory trapping methods; entanglement of terrestrial animals in structures such as fences and wires; etc.</i></p>		
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What are the most significant advances that have been made since the previous report in addressing bycatch or catch in ALDFG?

- Establishment of Marine Turtle Protected Area Network to manage the most important marine turtle habitats in the country (Turtle Islands Wildlife Sanctuary, El Nido Marine Resources Reserve, and Tubbataha Reefs Natural Park).
- Establishment of 1,620 locally managed marine protected areas and promotion of marine protected area network among local governments.
- Draft FAO Rules and Regulations for the Protection of Cetaceans and Whale Shark from Purse Sein and Ring Net Fishing Operations – Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC).

What are the most significant negative trends since the previous report concerning bycatch?

N/A

GUIDANCE TIP:
 Significant advances may include efforts, actions, steps, programmes, initiatives and/or activities described in CMS documentation, such as Resolutions [12.22](#) (Bycatch), [12.20](#) (Management of Marine Debris), [11.21](#) (Single Species Action Plan for the Loggerhead Turtle in the South Pacific Ocean), [10.15 \(Rev.COP12\)](#) (Global Programme of Work for the Cetaceans) and [13.3](#) (Chondrichthyan species).

GUIDANCE TIP:
 Please provide information on any significant trend in bycatch of CMS-listed species, notably those listed on App. I. Related to the guidance given on the overarching part of Question X.1, this is a key example where you are encouraged to think about activities outside national jurisdictional limits of any vessels flagged to your country (in addition to any other circumstances in which bycatch is a noteworthy pressure on relevant species).

Collisions and electrocution

Pressure	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
Power lines (collision and electrocution)	No reports	
Wind turbines	Received informal report on one incident	3
Other collisions	Migratory birds (bird strike) marine turtles (boat propeller strikes)	3

<p>GUIDANCE TIP: <i>Examples include collisions with buildings and infrastructure other than power lines and wind turbines; ship strikes; strikes with other vehicles such as cars, trains and planes; etc.</i></p>		
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What are the most significant advances that have been made since the previous report in addressing collisions and electrocution?

-Development of management plan by airports to address bird hazard to aviation.

What are the most significant negative trends since the previous report concerning collisions and electrocution?

N/A

<p>GUIDANCE TIP: <i>Significant advances may include efforts, actions, steps, programmes, initiatives and/or activities described in CMS documentation, such as Resolution 7.4 (Electrocution of Migratory Birds), 7.5 (Rev.COP12)(Wind Turbines and Migratory Species, 10.11 (Rev. COP13) (Power Lines and Migratory Birds, 11.17 (Rev.COP13) (Action Plan for Migratory Landbirds in the African Eurasian Region), 11.27 (Rev.COP13) (Renewable Energy and Migratory Species), 12.10 (Conservation of African Eurasian Vultures).</i></p>

Other mortality

Pressure	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
<p>Predation</p> <p>GUIDANCE TIP: <i>Predation to be reported here includes all predator species having an appreciable effect, whether they are native or non-native, including those considered to be alien invasive species</i></p>	<p>Marine turtle (eggs)- by monitor lizards and dogs</p>	3
<p>Disease</p>	<p>Migratory birds (Avian Flu) Marine Turtles - Fibropapillomatosis</p>	3
<p>Accidental/indirect poisoning</p> <p>GUIDANCE TIP: <i>This may include for example mortality resulting from use of toxic substances in agriculture (pesticides, fungicides, algicides), for control of predators in game management, veterinary pharmaceutical treatments and use of</i></p>		

<i>lead for hunting and fishing.</i>		
Unexplained stranding events	marine turtles dugongs whales dolphins sharks	2

What are the most significant advances that have been made since the previous report in countering other mortality?

Mobilization of the Marine Mammal Stranding Network at the national and regional levels to respond to stranding incidents.

What are the most significant negative trends since the previous report concerning other mortality?

The Philippine Marine Mammals Stranding Network reported a total of 952 marine mammal stranding events from 2005 to 2018. A total of 229 strandings were recorded from 2017-2018 comprised 24.08% of the total stranding events. In a moving average of the annual stranding frequencies from 2005 to 2018, the first four years (2005-2008) was 30, followed by the next five (2009-2013), 61, and the last 5 years (2014-2018) was 105.

The trend in the results for the annual stranding frequency was still apparently on the increase. The total annual stranding frequencies for 2017-2018 included the highest (n= 121, 2017) and third highest (n=108, 2018). The 5 most frequent species to strand in recent years (2017-2018) were spinner dolphin (n=30), dugong (n=26), pygmy sperm whale (n=22), Risso’s dolphin (n=17), pantropical spotted dolphin (n=17) and Fraser’s dolphin (n=16). The number of stranding records is most alarming for the dugong (Dugong dugon) (26 stranding records in 2017-2018) as it is a critically endangered species in the Philippines (Aragones, L.V., & Laggui, H.L.M. 2019).

GUIDANCE TIP:

Significant advances may include efforts, actions, steps, programmes, initiatives and/or activities described in CMS documentation, such as Resolutions [11.15 \(Rev.COP13\)](#) (Preventing Poisoning of Migratory Species), [12.6](#) (Wildlife Disease and Migratory Species), [13.4](#) (African Carnivore initiative), [13.6](#) (Insect Decline), and Decisions [13.50](#) (Conservation of African-Eurasian Vultures) and [13.94](#) (Conservation and Management of the Cheetah and African Wild Dog).

Alien and/or invasive species

Pressure	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
Alien and/or invasive species	inland wetland waterbirds- modification of habitat by water hyacinth marine turtles- crown of thorns infestation	1 3

GUIDANCE TIP:

Impacts other than predation should be considered here. Relevant impacts may include for example habitat change (reduced suitability for

<p><i>affected migratory species), interspecific competition (reduced population productivity), and interbreeding/hybridisation (genetic erosion). While similar impacts can be associated to native species as well, impacts caused by alien/invasive species should be the focus of responses in this section.</i></p>		
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What are the most significant advances that have been made since the previous report in addressing alien and/or invasive species?

- Removal/management of invasive species (water hyacinth) in protected areas. Adoption of the National Invasive Species Strategy and Action Plan (NISSAP) for the Philippines 2020-2030 through a Joint Administrative Order No. 2020-02 of DENR and the Department of Agriculture is in the process of approval.
- Removal of crown of thorns through the coordinated efforts of DENR, DA-BFAR, LGU concerned, and volunteers

What are the most significant negative trends since the previous report concerning alien and/or invasive species?

The invasive water hyacinth (*Eichhornia crassipes*) and water lettuce (*Pistia stratiotes*) in inland wetlands, especially those outside protected areas are not being managed. These invasive species covers extensive areas of inland wetlands affecting habitats of waterbirds.

GUIDANCE TIP:
Significant advances may include efforts, actions, steps, programmes, initiatives and/or activities described in CMS documentation, such as Resolution [11.28](#) (Future CMS Activities related to Invasive Alien Species).

Disturbance & disruption

Pressure	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
<p>Disturbance</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #f9f9f9; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>GUIDANCE TIP: <i>Disturbance in this context could include any human intrusion or activity that is additional to normal background levels and risks significantly disrupting the feeding, breeding, roosting or other behaviour of migratory</i></p> </div>	<p>marine turtles waterbirds sharks</p>	<p>2</p>

animals, or appreciably increasing their stress levels, in ways that may negatively affect their nutrition levels, breeding productivity or life expectancy. (Disturbance from light or underwater noise should be reported separately under "pollution" below).

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

- Issuance of inter-agency Joint Memo Circular on Marine Wildlife Interaction Guidelines
- Designation of docking zones for tourism areas to avoid collision with aquatic wildlife
-

What are the most significant negative trends since the previous report concerning disturbance and disruption?

[free text]

GUIDANCE TIP:

Significant advances may include efforts, actions, steps, programmes, initiatives and/or activities described in CMS documentation, such as Resolutions [12.16](#) (Recreational In-Water Interaction with Aquatic Mammals), [11.29 \(Rev.COP12\)](#) (Sustainable Boat-based Wildlife Watching), [13.4](#) (African Carnivore initiative) and Decision [13.66](#) (Marine Wildlife Watching).

Pollution

Pressure	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)	marine turtles, dugong, whales and dolphins	2
Light pollution	marine turtles	3
Underwater noise	Sharks, dolphins, whales	3
Other pollution	Seabirds, waterbirds (oil spill)	3

GUIDANCE TIP:

Pollution may be physical, chemical, or biological. In considering what may be relevant to report, attention should be given to the potential effects of multiple pollutants in combination in a given environment, and not only their individual risks in isolation.

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

- Advocacy on the ban of single use plastics, including a bill tackling the issue; Local ordinances of certain local governments are being enforced.
- Scaled up management of the Manila Bay, the most important migratory bird site in the country, which include marine debris clean up and securing congregation sites of migratory birds.
- Issuance of BMB Technical Bulletin No. 2020-05, Guidelines on the Management of Marine Turtle Nesting Habitats
- Issuance of JMC on Marine Wildlife Interaction Guidelines which includes provisions on reduction of noise pollution

What are the most significant negative trends since the previous report concerning pollution?

GUIDANCE TIP:

Significant advances may include efforts, actions, steps, programmes, initiatives and/or activities described in CMS documentation, such as Resolutions [13.5](#) (Light Pollution Guidelines for Wildlife), [12.14](#) (Adverse Impacts of Anthropogenic Noise on Cetaceans and Other Migratory species), [12.17](#) (Action Plan for the Protection and Conservation of south Atlantic Whales), [12.20](#) (Management of Marine Debris), [7.3 \(Rev.COP12\)](#) (Oil Pollution and Migratory species), and Decision [13.122](#) (Impacts of Plastic Pollution on Aquatic, Terrestrial and Avian Species).

Habitat destruction/degradation

Pressure	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
Habitat loss/destruction (including deforestation)	marine turtles (nesting beaches); waterbirds reef sharks	1
Habitat degradation	marine turtles, waterbirds sharks	1
Mineral exploration/extraction	Migratory forest birds	3
Unsustainable land/resource use	Waterbirds (feeding grounds) Marine turtles (nesting sites) Dugong	1
Urbanization	marine turtles and waterbirds	2
Too much/too little water		
Fire		
Physical barriers	marine turtles (break waters and buoys)	2

What are the most significant advances that have been made since the previous report in addressing habitat destruction/degradation?

- Strengthened enforcement of laws on easements to free inland wetlands and coastal habitats from structures;

- Continued implementation of Republic Act No. 11038 or the Expanded National Integrated Protected Areas System (E-NIPAS). Passed in June 2018, the law paved the way for the legislation of 94 protected areas (terrestrial and marine), including sites important for migratory species conservation.
- Continued implementation of the National Wetland Action Plan which identified wetlands of biological importance for conservation in partnership with local governments (102 wetlands with biological importance as habitat of migratory species are covered by the National Protected Areas System).

What are the most significant negative trends since the previous report concerning habitat destruction/degradation?

Reduced/Declining marine turtle nesting incidence in relation to the destruction and conversion of their habitats, and reduction/disturbance of feeding grounds of waterbirds.

GUIDANCE TIP:

Significant advances may include efforts, actions, steps, programmes, initiatives and/or activities described in CMS documentation, such as Resolutions [13.3](#) (Chondrichthyan species), [13.6](#) (Insect Decline), [12.7 \(Rev.COP13\)](#) (The Role of Ecological Networks in the Conservation of Migratory Species), [12.11 \(Rev.COP13\)](#) (Flyways), [12.12 \(Rev.COP13\)](#) (Action Plans for Birds), [12.13](#) (Important Marine Mammal Areas), [12.17](#) (Conservation and Management of Whales and their Habitats in the South Atlantic Region), [12.19](#) (Endorsement of the African Elephant Action Plan), [12.24](#) (Promoting Marine Protected Areas Networks in the ASEAN Regions), [12.25](#) (Promoting Conservation of Critical Intertidal and Other Habitats for Migratory species), [12.26 \(Rev.COP13\)](#) (Improving Ways of Addressing Connectivity in the Conservation of Migratory Species), [11.17 \(Rev.COP13\)](#) (Action Plan for Migratory Landbirds in the African-Eurasian Region), [11.18 \(Rev.COP12\)](#) (Saker Falcon Global Action Plan), [11.21](#) (Single Species Action Plan for the Loggerhead Turtle in the South Pacific Ocean), [11.24 \(Rev.COP13\)](#) (Central Asian Mammal Initiative), and Decisions [13.50](#) (Conservation of African-Eurasian Vultures), [13.94](#) (Conservation and Management of the Cheetah and African Wild Dog).

Climate Change

Pressure	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
Climate change	marine turtles (due to nesting beach inundation and erosion)	2

What are the most significant advances that have been made since the previous report concerning climate change?

- Reef building activities
- Mangrove rehabilitation as part of nature-based solution to coastal stabilization and rebuilding blue carbon ecosystems;
- Several artificial marine turtle hatcheries in operation to rescue marine turtle eggs which are laid below high tide mark or deemed affected by strong waves;
- reversion by the DA to DENR of abandoned, underutilized fishponds for rehabilitation into mangrove community

What are the most significant negative trends since the previous report concerning climate change?

[free text]

GUIDANCE TIP:

Significant advances may include efforts, actions, steps, programmes, initiatives and/or activities described in CMS documentation, such as Decision [13.126](#) (Climate change and Migratory Species).

Levels of knowledge, awareness, legislation, management etc.

Pressure	Species/species groups affected (provide names and indicate whether Appendix I and/or Appendix II); and any other details	Overall relative severity of impact <i>1 = severe</i> <i>2 = moderate</i> <i>3 = low</i>
Lack of knowledge	marine turtles waterbirds seabirds sharks	2
Inadequate legislation	sharks and rays	2
Inadequate enforcement of legislation	marine turtles waterbirds seabirds sharks	2
Inadequate transboundary management	marine turtles	3 2

What are the most significant advances that have been made since the previous report in levels of knowledge, awareness, legislation, management etc?

Inadequate transboundary management

- Revitalizing the bilateral cooperation with the Government of Malaysia to manage the world's first marine transboundary marine protected area (Turtle Islands Heritage Protected Area) and address marine turtle egg poaching.
- Continued implementation of the Coral Triangle Action Plan, spanning six countries (Indonesia, Malaysia, Timor Leste, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, and Solomon Islands). These includes priority actions that address threats to marine mammals, marine turtles and sharks, including the strategy on the management of marine turtle protected area networks.

Lack of knowledge

- Education and information campaigns during observation of World Wildlife Day, World Migratory Bird Day, National and Local Bird Festivals (Tacurong Bird Festival, Ibon-Ebon Festival), Whale shark festivals, Marine Turtle Festival (Adlaw sin payukan in Zamboanga, Pawikan festival in Morong, Bataan and Zambales), Shark Week Celebration through various media.
- encouraged reporting of marine wildlife encounters through citizen science e.g Philippine Marine Mammal Stranding Network
- House Bill 5500, Marine Turtle Awareness Day (every June 16)

What are the most significant negative trends since the previous report concerning levels of knowledge, awareness, legislation, management etc.?

[free text]

Other

Pressure	Species/species groups affected (provide names and indicate whether Appendix I and/or Appendix II); and any other details	Overall relative severity of impact <i>1 = severe</i> <i>2 = moderate</i> <i>3 = low</i>

What are the most significant advances that have been made since the previous report in other pressures?
[free text]

What are the most significant negative trends since the previous report concerning other pressures?
[free text]

X.2 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.'

- Yes
 No

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.*

If yes, please give the title or other reference (and date) for the legislation or measure concerned:

- 1) Guidelines on Marine Wildlife Interaction (2020);
- 2) Guidelines for whale shark tourism in Bohol, Philippines;
- 3) Republic Act No. 11038 or the Expanded National Integrated Protected Areas System Act (E-NIPAS) dated June 2018, legislating 94 protected areas (terrestrial and marine) that includes areas important for migratory species conservation;
- 4) Administrative Order No. 16 on the rehabilitation and restoration of Manila Bay;
- 5) Reversion to the DENR of abandoned and underutilized aquaculture areas covered by Fisheries Lease Agreement for mangrove restoration or coastal habitat;
- 6) DENR-BMB Technical Bulletin No. 2020-05: Guidelines on the Protection of Marine Turtle Nesting Habitats;
- 7) DENR-BMB Technical Bulletin No. 2020-04: Adopting the Philippine Wildlife Rescue and Response Manual Series for Marine Turtles and Dugongs;
- 8) DENR-BMB Technical Bulletin No. 2022-02: Guide in Mainstreaming Integrated Coastal Management (ICM) Approach to the Local Government Units Comprehensive Land Use Plan;
- 9) Palawan Council Sustainable Development (PCSD) Resolution 2022-827: Declaring Lawak Island in the Municipality of Kalayaan, Province of Palawan as a Critical Habitat for the protection of threatened seabirds i.e. sooty tern (*Onychoprion fuscatus*), greater crested tern (*Thalasseus beraii*), and brown noddy (*Anous stolidus*);
- 10) DENR Administrative Order No. 2021-36: Declaring Sasmuan Bangkung Malapad Coastal Wetland Situated at Bangkung Malapad, Brgy. Batang 2nd in the Municipality of Sasmuan, Province of Pampanga as Critical Habitat and Ecotourism Area. The wetland is a Ramsar site and host to a number of migratory bird species;
- 11) Developed the Marine Turtle National Conservation Action Plan
- 12) Developed the Dugong national Conservation Action Plan
- 13) Drafting of the Shark Conservation Framework – Phil. Fisheries: Conservation and Management of Sharks and their Relatives

XI. CONSERVATION STATUS OF MIGRATORY SPECIES

(SPMS Target 8: The conservation status of all migratory species, especially threatened species, has considerably improved throughout their range.)

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)

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

Aquatic mammals

Species/subspecies (indicate CMS Appendix where applicable)	Change in status (including time period concerned)	Source reference	Comments
<i>Tursiops truncatus</i> (App I)	Insufficiently known to data deficient (1997 - 2012 to present)	Philippine Red Data (WCSP, 1997); Red list status (BFAR-NFRDI, 2012)	2012 is the latest assessment currently used
<i>Stenella attenuata</i> (App II)	Insufficiently known to data deficient (1997 - 2012 to present)	-do-	
<i>Stenella longirostris</i> (App II)	Insufficiently known to vulnerable (1997 - 2012 to present)	- do -	
<i>Lagenoselphus hosei</i> (App II)	Insufficiently known to vulnerable (1997 - 2012 to present)	- do -	
<i>Orcaella brevirostris</i>	not evaluated to Critically endangered (1997 - 2012 to present)	- do -	

Bats

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

Birds

Species/subspecies (indicate CMS Appendix where applicable)	Change in status (including time period concerned)	Source reference	Comments
<i>Acrocephalus sorghophilus</i>	From vulnerable to CR (App 1)	DAO 2019-09	
<i>Numenius madagascariensis</i>	En (App I)	DAO 2019-09	newly added to the Red list
<i>Tringa erythropus</i>	En (App II)	DAO 2019-09	newly added to the Red list
<i>Calidris tenuirostris</i>	En (App 1)	DAO 2019-09	newly added to the Red list
<i>Platalea minor</i>	En	DAO 2019-09	newly added to the Red list

Reptiles

Species/subspecies (indicate CMS Appendix where applicable)	Change in status (including time period concerned)	Source reference	Comments
<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i> Leatherback turtle – Appendix I	EN to CR	DAO 2019-09	

Fish

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

Insects

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

XII. COOPERATING TO CONSERVE MIGRATION SYSTEMS

(SPMS Target 9: International and regional action and cooperation between States for the conservation and effective management of migratory species fully reflects a migration systems approach, in which all States sharing responsibility for the species concerned engage in such actions in a concerted way.)

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](#).

- Yes
 No

If yes, please provide details:

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

- Yes

 No

If yes, please specify which countries have been approached.

XII.3 During the reporting period, has your country participated in the implementation of Concerted Actions under CMS (as detailed in Resolutions [12.28 \(Rev.COP13\)](#) to address the needs of relevant migratory species?

- Yes
 No

If yes, please describe the results of these actions achieved so far:

Far eastern curlew, Bar-tailed godwit, Great knot, Red knot

- Far eastern curlew and Great knot are included in the national list of threatened species and thus are strictly protected. In general, migratory birds are protected under the Philippine Wildlife Act as there is no hunting permit issuance in the country.
- The most important staging wetland sites of these species are within protected areas (Olango Island Wildlife Sanctuary, Las Pinas-Paranaque Wetland Park), critical habitats (Sasmuan wetland- Manila Bay, Cabusao wetlands) and Local Conservation Areas (Balanga City Wetland Park in Manila Bay, Negros Occidental Wetland and Conservation Area, Sibugay Bay).
- Annual population monitoring through participation in the Asian Waterbird Census.

Marine turtles

- Implementation of the marine turtle conservation program as among the priority species for conservation by the DENR with main core activities such as a) habitat protection through management of protected areas, critical habitats and local conservation areas with local government, b) management of turtle hatcheries for areas vulnerable to inundation/erosion

and storm surges, c) partnership with private resort owners for nesting beach protection, d) tagging, rescue and rehabilitation and, e) transboundary management.

- Establishment of Marine Turtle Protected Area Network (MTPAN) among country members of the Coral Triangle Initiative. In the Philippines, MTPAN were designated (Turtle Islands Wildlife Sanctuary, El Nido Marine Resource Reserve, Tubbataha Reef National Park).
- Participated in regional research on population dynamics and ecology of marine turtles in the Sulu-sulawesi Seascape encompassing Indonesia, Malaysia and Philippines. Led by the Marine Research Foundation, Malaysia, the study which was completed in 2017 as component of the Sulu-Sulawesi Seascape project confirmed that the three countries share population of marine turtles supporting the transboundary approach to conservation.
- Implementation of Fisheries Administrative Order No. 237 on the Regulations requiring the installment of Juvenile and Trash Fish Excluder Device in Trawls to reduce bycatch of marine turtles.

Mobullid Rays

Enforcement of the ban on catching and selling of Mobula rays nationally. This is also in response to CITES listing of the rays on Appendix II. The Philippine (through LAMAVE, Inc.) continues to work with the community and the local government of Bohol, Philippines where mobullid ray fishing has been thriving for years, to find alternative livelihoods for those affected by the ban.

Whale shark

- Monitoring of 5 major whale shark aggregations in the Philippines (by LAMAVE, Inc). A new global hotspot in Palawan, where connectivity was established with Malaysia and Indonesia using satellite telemetry and photographic identification is currently in review for publication. From this site, collaborations for global genetics, genomics and kinship mark-recapture are currently being pursued.
- In 2019, the Philippines became the second world's largest known population of whale sharks as investigated through photo-ID, with 1,750 individuals identified to date, second only to Mexico (Pacific + Caribbean).
- Microplastic study in the central Visayas region of the Philippines (by LAMAVE, Inc). Preliminary results highlight a high abundance of different plastics (polypropelene, polyethelene, polymethylmethacrylat and polyethylenterephthalat) present in whale shark foraging grounds;
- Conducted study on the effect of whale shark tourism in Oslob in Cebu, Philippines, the largest non-captive whale shark watching industry in the world, receiving >500,000 tourists in 2018. Study results revealing high incidence of injuries and changes to the whale sharks habitat use and metabolic rate, shall provide scientific justification for needed adjustments whale shark Tourism in the area.
- The 3rd Shark Summit was conducted in November 2018, Panglao, Bohol which served as a platform to review and advocate for the proposed Shark Conservation Act which was filed in the congress. The 2018-2022 Conservation Roadmap for Sharks and Rays in the Philippines was also disseminated, as well as provided stakeholders on the global context of shark conservation. The 4th Shark Summit was held on March 2023 themed "Partnerships for Shark Conservation," which showcase the progress of key players and stakeholders in shark conservation and management, identify challenges hindering progress .of the Sharks and Rays National Plan of Action 2017-2022.

Irrawaddy Dolphin; Pantropical spotted dolphin, Spinner dolphin, Frazer's dolphin

- Monitoring resulted to sightings of Irrawaddy dolphin in 2018 (2 calves and 1 pregnant Irrawaddy) in the waters of Bago and Palupandan, Negros Occidental. An estimated number of 9-19 individuals was reported in the area (Mark La Paz, 2018).
- Marine mammal rescue and rehabilitation, and monitoring of strandings . Marine mammal stranding records for 2017-2018 were analyzed. A total of 229 marine mammal strandings were recorded for the period. Of these, 129 were live stranders of which 49 were released after a few hours. 6 were rehabilitated where in 2 were successfully released (a Pantropical spotted dolphin and a rough-toothed dolphin). The 5 most frequent species to strand were: Spinner dolphin (n=30); Pygmy dolphin (n=17); Risso's dolphin (n=17) Pantropical dolphin (n=17) ; and Frazer's dolphin (n=16). The report also identified the provinces (i.e. Palawan, Cagayan, Quezon, Sarangani, Zamboanga del sur, Misamis Oriental, Sarangani) with high frequency of strandings to direct future interventions (Aragones, et.al 2019).

GUIDANCE TIP:

If any progress report on implementation of Concerted Actions has been submitted to the COP and/or the Scientific Council in the period under consideration, Parties can refer to that report rather than restating the same information in replying to this question (please indicate the document number)

XII.4 Have any other steps been taken which have contributed to the achievement of the results defined in Target 9 of the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species (*all relevant States engaging in cooperation on the conservation of migratory species in ways that fully reflect a migration systems approach*)?

E.g., steps implementing Resolutions [12.11 \(Rev.COP13\)](#) (Flyways) and [12.17](#) (South Atlantic Whales), and Decisions [13.36](#) (Action Plan for Migratory Landbirds), [13.41](#) (Flyways), [13.95](#) (Conservation and Management of the Cheetah and African Wild Dog) and [13.108](#) (Support to the Energy Task Force).

- Yes
 No

If yes, please provide details:

- 1) Pursue activities within the framework of the EastAsian-Australasian Flyway Partnership as follows:
 - a) Participated in the ASEAN Flyway Network Project on the identification and management of flyway network sites across the ASEAN member states;
 - b) The Philippine convened the “2nd Research and Development Conference: East Asian Australasian Flyway for Wetlands and Migratory Waterbirds in the course of Climate Change held on October 7-11, 2019, Bacolod City, Philippines. The regional congress provided an avenue for information exchange among research scientists, natural resources managers and academe to address identified emerging issues and concerns on migratory waterbirds and wetlands focusing on thematic areas : i) effects of climate change to wetlands and migratory waterbirds; ii) appropriate management strategies on wetland habitats of waterbirds; iii) adaptable innovation and breakthroughs for sustainable urban future for people, wetlands and waterbirds. The Conference was participated in by 11 countries of the Eastasian Australasian Flyway.
- 2) In response to Resolution 12.29 to address illegal killing of birds in Southeast Asia, the East Asian-Australasian Flyway Partnership 10th Meeting of Partners (MoP) with BirdLife International has developed a collaborative project “Regional situation analysis on the hunting and taking of migratory birds in Southeast Asia” to determine and address the threat of illegal killing of birds in countries of Southeast Asia. The Philippines through its conservation partner (Haribon foundation) conducted a national situational analysis on illegal killing of birds through field surveys.
- 3) In line with resolution UNEP/CMS 24.4.9 on promoting marine protected area networks in the ASEAN Region, and related CMS resolutions on the management of ecological networks, the Philippines continued to exercise its role in advancing the objectives of the CMS under the Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reef, Fisheries and Food Security (CTI-CFF), a regional cooperation of six-member countries (Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Timor-Leste). The Sulu-Sulawesi Seascape spanning three countries- Indonesia, Malaysia and Philippines, serves as a geographic focus for investments, actions, conservation and climate change related results under the CTI-CFF Regional Plan of Action (RPOA). The Philippine initiatives to advance the implementation of the marine protected area network within the Sulu-Sulawesi seascape are as follows:
 - a) Convened on 3-6 July 2018 the Sulu-Sulawesi Seascape Convergence Meeting to pursue the vision of a Transboundary Marine Protected Area Network to protect marine turtles among other charismatic marine wildlife in interconnected critical habitats across Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines. The meeting successfully agreed on a) transboundary seascape coordination mechanisms for MPA Networks for marine turtles

and whale sharks base on scientific data on the critical range of these species within the Sulu-Sulawesi with the vision that the network may expand outside the Sulu-Sulawesi region) b) updated draft “Sub-Regional Plan for Managing Transboundary Fisheries in the Sulu-Sulawesi Seas”; and c) developed the road map for the establishment of Marine turtle and Whale shark Marine Protected Area network. The meeting also identified opportunities for potential regional synergies in managing Illegal Unregulated, Unreported Fishing, Bycatch mitigation for sea turtles and sharks, addressing illegal trade; Blue carbon, Whale shark studies, management of marine debris, resource mobilization, among others;

b) Convened the 14th Senior Official’s Meeting on 9-15 December 2018 which highlighted the Regional Conservation Action Plan for Marine turtles, Sharks, rays and marine mammals. The Action Plan was approved during the 15th Senior Official’s Meeting on November 2019.

4) The DENR- Philippines convened on July 11-12, 2018, the 13th Joint Management Committee Meeting of the Philippines – Malaysia Bilateral Cooperation for the management of the Turtle Island Heritage Protected Area (TIPHA), a transboundary protected area recognized to be the largest rookery of green turtles in Southeast-Asia. The Turtle Island within the Philippine Territory (nationally designated as Turtle Islands Wildlife Sanctuary) is a Marine Turtle Network Site under the IOSEA MoU. The meeting agreed on resolutions to address the illegal trade in marine turtle eggs which include inter alia, enhancing border controls to monitor illegal trade, biodiversity-friendly livelihoods, and promotion of eco-tourism (Philippine side). Malaysia reported developments in their efforts on the reduction of marine turtle by-catch in fisheries through the adoption of marine turtle excluder device and adjustments in line fishing using circular hooks instead of “J” hooks. The meeting also agreed to conduct further investigation on impact of light pollution to marine turtles (adult and hatchlings) from stationary gill net using light.

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., Post-2020 framework, 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021-2030, etc.

- Yes
 No

GUIDANCE TIP:

Please describe initiatives aimed at implementing Decision [13.113 a\)](#)

If yes, please provide details:

The DENR under the implementation of the PBSAP continues to address the issue on ecological connectivity and functionality with vigorous targets on marine Protected area Network managements and on the management of network of wetlands especially as habitat of migratory waterbirds and their designation as Flyway Network Sites. Upscaled targets on this regard will also be pursued as envisioned in the updated PBSAP (ongoing development) to align with the targets under the KMGBF.

XIII. AREA-BASED CONSERVATION MEASURES

(SPMS Target 10 : All critical habitats and sites for migratory species are identified and included in area-based conservation measures so as to maintain their quality, integrity, resilience and functioning in accordance with the implementation of Aichi Target 11, supported where necessary by environmentally sensitive land-use planning and landscape management on a wider scale.)

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

- Yes, fully
- Partially – to a large extent
- Partially – to a small or moderate extent
- No

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 “[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.

What are the main gaps and priorities to address, if any, in order to achieve full identification of relevant critical habitats and sites as required to achieve SPMS target 10?

- 1) Assessment of offshore islands important for seabirds and marine turtles;
- 2) Studies on the routes/stopovers, spatial and temporal distribution and use of habitats, including enhancing citizen science to identify and manage critical sites for migratory species, especially for whale sharks and marine mammals;
- 3) Identify seasonally cultivated wetlands important for waterbirds for adaptive management;
- 4) Identify remaining habitats of CMS listed migratory waterbirds e.g. Streaked-red warbler, Yellow bunting, Spoonbilled sandpiper, Chinese crested tern, Black-faced spoonbill for management.
- 5) Availability of funding for continuous programs intended for identifying critical habitats in general

GUIDANCE TIP:

You may wish to consider this in terms of habitat types, and/or geographical coverage/distribution factors, and/or coverage of particular priority species or species groups, and/or factors concerning functional connectivity.

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

- Yes
- Partly / for some areas
- In development
- No

If yes or partly, please provide details:

- 1) About 35% of KBAs (129 Protected Areas) important for migratory species are covered by Protected Areas established under the National Integrated Protected Areas System.
- 2) Important Marine Mammal Areas are partly covered by marine Protected Areas as follows:

- a) Babuyan IMMA= Palau Island Protected Landscape and Seascape, and Penablanca Protected landscape and Seascape; Philippine Rise Marine Reserve;
- b) Bohol Sea = Panglao Island Protected seascape
- c) Tanon Strait = Tanon Strait Protected Seascape, Sagay Marine Reserve
- d) Malampaya Sound= Malampaya Sound Protected landscape and Seascape
- e) Mayo Bay to Pujada Bay = Pujada Bay Protected Landscape/Seascape
- f) Sarangani Bay - Sarangani Bay Protected Seascape

3) International important site for migratory birds are covered by Protected areas:

- a) Naujan Lake National Park = tufted ducks (15,000+)
- b) Las Pinas-Paranaque Critical Habitat (previously designated as Critical habitat but declared recently as a Protected Area) = Chinese egret and other shorebirds
- c) Tubbataha Reef National Park = marine turtles, sharks, marine mammals, seabirds
- d) Olango Island Wildlife Sanctuary = Great Knot, Far eastern Curlew, Chinese egret and other shorebirds
- e) Agusan Marsh Wildlife Sanctuary
- f) Lake Buluan Game Refuge and Bird Sanctuary

4) Protected Areas important for marine turtles:

- a) Turtle Island Wildlife sanctuary (IOSEA Network Site)
- b) Tubbataha Reef Natural Park
- c) Apo Reef Natural Park
- d) El Nido Marine Resource Reserve
- e) Sarangani Bay Protected Seascape
- f) Pujada Bay Protected Landscape
- g) Siargao Island Protected landscape/seascape
- h) Talibon Group of Islands
- i) Cuatros Islas Protected Landscape/Seascape
- j) Guiuan Protected Landscape/Seascape
- k) Palau Island Protected Landscape/Seascape
- l) Ticao Burias Pass Protected Seascape
- m) Batanes Protected landscape and seascape
- n) Palawan Island Wildlife and Bird Sanctuary
- o) Tanon Strait Protected landscape and seascape
- p) Island of Bantayan
- q) Philippine Rise Marine Resource reserve

Critical habitat/Local conservation areas (OECMs) for migratory birds and marine turtles

- a) Manila Bay (Sasmuan Critical habitat and Ramsar site; Balanga City wetland Park) for several species of waterbirds;
- b) Malasi Lake Critical Habitat for ducks
- c) Cabusao wetlands critical habitat for several species of waterbirds
- d) Lake Mainit for tufted ducks
- e) Sibugay Bay local conservation area for several species of waterbirds
- f) Carmen, Agusan del Norte critical habitat for marine turtles
- g) Magsaysay Critical habitat for hawksbill turtles
- h) Lawak Islands critical habitat for seabirds

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 achievement of SPMS Target 10.

(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).

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
 No

If yes, please give the title or other reference (and date) for the legislation or measure concerned:

- 1) Administrative Order No. 16, 2019 (Manila Bay Restoration and Rehabilitation) for several appendix I waterbird species and marine turtles;
- 2) Executive Order No. 53 , 2019 (Boracay Island Rehabilitation) for marine turtles;
- 3) R.A 11038, 2018 (Expanded National Integrated Protected Areas legislating 94 Protected Areas, including 31 coastal and marine and inland wetland important for migratory species) for waterbirds, marine turtles, dugong and sharks and rays and mammals;
- 4) Presidential Proclamation 489 of May 2019 , declaring the 350,000 hectares of the Philippine Rise as a marine resource reserve and almost 50,000 hectares as a strict-protection zone for marine turtles, marine mammals, sharks and Rays.

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?

- Yes
 Partly / for some areas
 In development
 No

If yes, please provide a reference and details on what is covered:

-METT for protected areas

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

- Yes
 No

If yes, please provide details:

- Critical Habitats for threatened species in pursuit of the Wildlife Act.
Of the 11 Critical Habitats established, 6 (70%) were intended to protect migratory waterbirds and marine turtle nesting sites (i.e., Malasi Lake, Cabusao wetlands, Magsaysay Critical Habitat, and Carmen Critical Habitat, Sasmuan, Lawak Island).
- Locally managed marine protected areas (E.O. 533 and DAO 2016-26);
There are 1,620 locally managed marine protected areas with a total area of 394,000 hectares.
- Local Conservation Areas (R.A. 7160 or the Local Government Code)
These includes areas mostly coastal and inland wetlands and marine turtle nesting sites which are co- managed by the DENR with the local governments through Memorandum of Agreements.

- Establishment of Fisheries Management Areas (FMA) for the conservation and management of marine wildlife through issuance of FAO 263, s. 2019

XIII.6 Please add any particular information about key steps taken to implement specific provisions in relevant CMS COP Resolutions and Decisions, including for example:

- [Resolution 12.7 \(Rev.COP13\)](#) on Ecological Networks.
- [Resolution 12.13](#) on Important Marine Mammal Areas.
- [Resolution 12.24](#) on Marine Protected Area networks in the ASEAN region.
- [Resolution 12.25](#) on Intertidal and Other Coastal Habitats.
- [Resolution 13.3](#) on Chondrichthyan Species
- [Decision 13.116](#) on Transfrontier Conservation Areas for Migratory Species

Resolution 12.7 on ecological networks:

- Implementation of the Coastal Marine Ecosystems Management Program which advocates the establishment of Marine Protected Area Networks (MPAN). A technical guideline (Technical Bulletin 2017-16) has been issued for this purpose. One MPAN has been established in the Bicol region.
- In the Philippines, a Marine Turtle Protected Area Network (MTPAN) encompassing Turtle Islands, Tubbataha Reef National Park, and El Nido Marine Resource Reserve had been established. Expansion of the MTPAN at the Regional level, involving Malaysia and Indonesia under the CTI Framework has been initiated. The areas covered by the MTPAN outside the Philippines are: Berau Conservation Area, and Bunaken National Park in Indonesia, and Tun Sakaron Wildlife Sanctuary, Sipadan Islands, Turtle Islands Park, Sugud Island Marine Conservation Area, and Tun Mustapha Park in Malaysia.

Resolution 12.13 on IMMAs:

- As described above, some IMMAs in the Philippines are covered by Protected Areas.
- Annual population monitoring of humpback whales in Babuyan IMMA.
- Mobilizing of the Cebu Marine Animal Rescue Network and the Bohol Rescue Unit for Marine Wildlife (BRUMW) to rescue marine animals in the Bohol Sea IMMA.
- Response Teams in Sarangani and Palawan for marine wildlife.

Resolution 12.24 Marine Protected Area Networks in the ASEAN Region:

Marine Turtle Marine Protected Area Network under the Coral Triangle Framework as described above (under ecological Networks).

Resolution 12.25 on Intertidal and other coastal habitats: Implementation of the Coastal Marine Ecosystems Management Program promoting the management of coastal marine protected areas under local governance. Over 1,600 locally managed marine protected areas had been established.

- Implementation of rehabilitation programs for selected coastal areas: Boracay Island, Manila Bay, El Nido-Taytay Managed Resource Protected Area, Siargao Island Protected Landscape and Seascapes, Panglao Island Protected Seascape.
- Implemented the Biodiversity Friendly Enterprise for coastal communities through partner Peoples Organization to ensure that resource-based livelihoods are sustainable and contributes to conservation. So far, 22 organizations had been provided with financial assistance.
- As part of the long-term capacity-building, DENR partnered with UP Marine Science Institute in sending DENR personnel to Professional Masters in Tropical Marine Ecosystems

Management (PM-TMEM) program. Also, a total of 686 from the DENR, other relevant government agencies, local governments and civil society organizations were trained for the last 3 years on coastal marine resource management.

- Formation of strong values among stakeholders through social marketing, Month of the Ocean celebrations and organization of coastal clean-up events, outreaches to link science to community and create champions for marine environment protection and conservation, and the roll out of DENR "AGOS Awareness Campaign."
- Sponsored Ramsar Resolution XIII-20 "Promoting the conservation and wise use of intertidal wetlands and ecologically-associated habitats" adopted during the Ramsar COP14 held on 21-29 October 2018, Dubai, United Arab Emirates. Negotiations are underway on the hosting of the Global Coastal Forum envisaged in the resolution.

Resolution 13.3 on Chondrichthyan Species

- National Plan of Action (NPOA) for Sharks 2017-2022
- Proposed NPOA for sharks 2023-2033
- On-going consultation of the Shark Conservation Framework (2023)
- Proposed projects for the population assessment of all cartilaginous species present in the Philippines and identification of possible critical habitats

XIV. ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

(SPMS Target 11 : Migratory species and their habitats which provide important ecosystem services are maintained at or restored to favourable conservation status, taking into account the needs of women, indigenous and local communities and the poor and vulnerable.)

XIV.1 Has any assessment of ecosystem services associated with migratory species (contributing to the achievement of SPMS Target 11) been undertaken in your country since the adoption of the SPMS in 2014?

- Yes
 Partly / in progress
 No

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.

E.g., contributions to food security, pollination, tourism, cultural values, or other forms of ecosystem service.

Note also the particular aspects to be taken into account that are specified in the wording of the SPMS target.

For the CMS definition of "favourable conservation status", see Article I(1)(c) of the Convention text.

If 'yes' or 'partly / in progress', please provide details (including source references where applicable):

The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity Study completed in 2018 informs the cost and benefits of land reclamation and coastal development plans for Manila Bay, where there is a planned reclamation covering 685 hectares. One of the areas that could be affected by this reclamation project is the Las Piñas- Paranaque Wetland Park, a 175-hectare area declared as protected area for the protection and conservation of migratory birds as well as indigenous and

endemic species of waterbirds.

Draft Shark Conservation Framework – Phil. Fisheries: Conservation and Management of Sharks and their Relatives

XV. SAFEGUARDING GENETIC DIVERSITY

(SPMS Target 12 : The genetic diversity of wild populations of migratory species is safeguarded, and strategies have been developed and implemented for minimizing genetic erosion.)

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

- Yes
 No

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.

If yes, please select the relevant strategies:
(select all that apply)

- Captive breeding
 Captive breeding & release
 Gene typing research
 Reproductive material archives/repositories
Other (please specify) [\[free text\]](#)

XV.2 Please describe these strategies:
[\[question will only appear for those actions selected above\]](#)

E.g.

Captive breeding
[\[free text\]](#)

Gene typing research
[\[free text\]](#)

XVI. NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY STRATEGIES AND ACTION PLANS

(SPMS Target 13 : Priorities for effective conservation and management of migratory species, their habitats and migration systems have been included in the development and implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans, with reference where relevant to CMS agreements and action plans and their implementation bodies.)

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
 No

If yes:

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

- <https://www.bmb.gov.ph/index.php/resources/downloadables/publications/action-plans>

<https://faolex.fao.org/docs/pdf/phi208143.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:

- Among other multilateral agreements, the plan is in compliance with the country's commitment to the CMS.
- Target 5 of the Plan states that *"By 2028, the population of migratory bird species identified in selected inland and coastal wetlands along the East Asian-Australasian Flyway will be maintained."*
- Migratory species are included in the interventions under the thematic areas of the plan e.g., research on seabirds and marine turtles under coastal and marine thematic area, monitoring of migratory birds under the inland wetland thematic area.
- The "Preventing Species Extinction Plan" (supplement to the PBSAP) outlines priority actions for ecosystems and species/group of species, *i.e.*, migratory birds, marine mammals, marine turtles, and sharks and rays.
- The NPOA- sharks ensure the conservation and management of sharks and their long-term sustainable use. It aims to contribute to IPOA Shark Action Plan by targeting minimum requirements of a National Shark Plan: i. Ensure that shark catches from directed and non-directed fisheries are sustainable. ii. Assess threats to shark populations, determine and protect critical habitats and implement harvesting strategies consistent with the principles of biological sustainability and rational long-term economic use.

GUIDANCE TIP:

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

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

The PBSAP was adopted by the DENR through Department Administrative Order 2016-12 as a policy

and as such, is being enforced nationwide. Among the major activities and support programs relevant to migratory species are:

- 1) Mainstreaming the PBSAP in local governance, other government agencies and the business sector e.g. energy and infrastructure sector. The DENR is continuously rolling out workshops and round table discussions for this purpose;
- 2) Support programs and plans were developed and being implemented: Wildlife Law Enforcement Action Plan, Coastal and Marine Ecosystems Management Program, Inland Wetland Conservation Program, and the Protected Area Master Plan, Updated Plan of Action for Sharks (including Mobullids and Rays);
- 3) Implementation of the Regional Action Plan for the Coral Triangle Initiative, e.g., establishment of transboundary marine protected area network, action plan for threatened and charismatic species (marine turtles, marine mammals, sharks and rays).

XVI.2 Please provide information on the progress of implementation of other relevant action plans (single species, species group, etc.), initiatives, task forces, and programmes of work in your country that have not been addressed in previous questions.

E.g. AEM LAP, Great Green Wall, Bonn Challenge, Action Plans for Birds, Action Plan for the Protection and Conservation of South Atlantic Whales, Energy Task Force, Programme of Work on Climate Change and Migratory Species, etc.

[\[free text\]](#)

Please describe the monitoring and efficacy of measures taken in regard to these relevant action plans, initiatives, task forces, and programmes of work and their integration into delivery against other relevant international agreements.

[\[free text\]](#)

GUIDANCE TIP:

In answering this question, compilers can provide link to relevant reports under other agreements.

XVII. TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE, INNOVATIONS AND PRACTICES OF INDIGENOUS AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES

(SPMS Target 14 : The traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of migratory species, their habitats and migration systems, and their customary sustainable use of biological resources, are respected, subject to national legislation and relevant international obligations, with the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities, thereby contributing to the favourable conservation status of migratory species and the ecological connectivity and resilience of their habitats.)

Note that progress in achieving Target 13 of the Strategic Plan considers indigenous and local communities. In the absence of a national definition of 'indigenous and local communities', please refer to the Convention of Biodiversity 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?

Yes

- Partly / in some areas
- No
- Not applicable

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
- Partly / in some areas
- No
- Not applicable

If 'yes' or 'partly/in some areas' to either of the previous two questions, please select which actions have been taken:
(select all that apply)

- Research & documentation
- Engagement initiatives (e.g., as part of development projects)
- Formal recognition of rights
- Inclusion in governance mechanisms (legislation, policies, etc.)
- Management strategies, programmes and action plans that integrate traditional & indigenous interests
- Other (please specify) [\[free text\]](#)

Please provide details on the implementation of the actions concerned.

As an initiative to recognize the sustainable practices of indigenous peoples in biodiversity conservation, the DENR has been piloting the establishment of Indigenous Cultural Conservation Areas (ICCA) as a new conservation model to strengthen the conservation, protection and management of key biodiversity sites. The initiative covering terrestrial and coastal marine areas should expand and strengthen the Protected Area system in the Philippines. Critical habitats established as such should be managed with local communities.

GUIDANCE TIP

Responses to these questions may involve actions, steps, programmes, initiatives and/or activities described in CMS documentation, such as those described in Decisions [13.95](#) (Conservation and Management of the Cheetah and African Wild Dog), and [13.116](#) (Transfrontier Conservation Areas for Migratory Species).

XVII.3 How would you rank progress since the previous report in your country to achieving Target 14 of the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species?

- 1 little or no progress
- 2 some progress but more work is needed
- 3 positive advances have been made
- 4 target substantially achieved (traditional knowledge is fully respected and there is effective participation from communities)
- Not applicable

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

- Promulgation of IPRA Law which provides for the requirement of Free and Prior Informed Consent for projects within ancestral lands/domains, and participation of IPs in public consultations, among others;
- Fourteen (14) ICCAs had already been registered by the DENR in the global ICCA registry covering terrestrial and coastal marine areas since 2016 following two ICCA projects. The first ICCA project started in 2015 and was completed in 2017. Thereafter, a policy on the national registration of ICCA is being developed. (Check with NPD)

XVIII. KNOWLEDGE, DATA AND CAPACITY-BUILDING

(SPMS Target 15: The science base, information, training, awareness, understanding and technologies relating to migratory species, their habitats and migration systems, their value, functioning, status and trends, and the consequences of their loss, are improved, widely shared and transferred, and effectively applied.)

XVIII.1 During the reporting period, which steps taken in your country have contributed to the achievement of the results defined in Target 15 of the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species? (Answers given in Section V may be relevant)

(select all that apply)

- Education campaigns in schools
- Public awareness campaigns
- Research by academia, research organizations and other relevant stakeholders
- Capacity building
- Knowledge and data-sharing initiatives
- Capacity assessments/gap analyses
- Agreements at policy level on research priorities
- Other (please specify): Public awareness campaigns (via online platforms, government websites, social media)
- No steps have been taken

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

Education campaigns in schools

- School campaigns, including film showing, interactive activities (essay, quiz bee, photo contest, virtual webinars) are being undertaken during celebration of international events *i.e.*, World Distribution of CEPA materials in sea ports, airports (*i.e.*, posters, flyers, brochures, etc.);
- Trimedia advertisements (Facebook ads, e-billboards).
- Migratory Bird Day, World Wildlife Day, World Wetlands day, Month of the Ocean, International Year of the Reef, etc.;
- Increased participation of schools/youth during coastal clean-up events.

Public awareness campaigns

- Participation in citizen science (*i.e.*, reporting of strandings and sightings of marine mammals, and turtles);
- Increase reports from concern citizens on illegal activities against aquatic and terrestrial wildlife;
- High turnout of public participation during coastal clean-up events;

Capacity building

- Increased number of Local governments, protected area staff and local People's Organization engaged in the conservation and protection of habitats of marine turtles and migratory birds, management of marine turtle hatcheries;
- Management of local marine protected areas and/or marine sanctuaries by local governments in partnership with peoples organizations;
- Management of Critical habitats and Local Conservation Areas by local government units through Memorandum of Agreements with the DENR;

- Mobilization of local marine mammal stranding networks;
- Mobilization of Provincial Wildlife Quick Response Team (PWQRTs);
- Deputation and Mobilization of Wildlife Enforcement Officers (WEOs);
- Conduct of Training-Workshop on Philippine Shark Species Identification and other listed endangered species;
- Conduct of capability training on Seabird Species Identification.

Knowledge and data-sharing initiatives

Information/campaign materials; documents on policies, programs, plans, research activities; and manuals and field guidelines on or relevant to migratory species, *e.g.*, Bird Watching in the Philippines, Asian Waterbird Field Guide, Manuals on the Rescue and Rehabilitation of Marine turtles, Sharks, Marine Mammals, and Dugongs, Shark Identification Guide (Pating k aba?v1, Anak ka ng Pating v2) and Shark National Plan of Action were distributed in print copies and are accessible at the websites of BMB, BFAR and primary NGO partners, *i.e.*, Marine Wildlife Watch of the Philippines (mwwphilippines.org), LAMAVE (lamave.org), Balyena at Lumba-lumba (Balyena.org), Philippine Biodiversity Conservation Foundation (pbcfi.org), WWF- Philippines.

Capacity assessments/gap analyses

Capacity assessment/gap analyses had been undertaken which helped identify the priority activities for sharks and rays, marine turtles and dugongs. Identified priority activities as an output of capacity assessment can be gleaned on the following:

- Shark and Rays Philippine Status Report and Updated National Plan of Action 2017-2022;
- Marine Turtle Conservation Action Plan (for adoption);
- Dugong Conservation Action Plan (for adoption); and,
- Capacity assessment and gap analyses relevant to migratory birds had been identified in the National Wetland Action Plan.

Agreements at policy level on research priorities

Research priorities on migratory species are included in the following action plans which were already adopted for implementation:

- Climate Change Action Plan 2011-2028 (included priority research on biodiversity);
- Shark and Rays: Status and Updated Action Plan 2017-2022;
- The agreed research priorities for marine turtles and dugongs are integrated in the forthcoming respective conservation action plan for both species.

GUIDANCE TIP

Steps taken may include actions, programmes, initiatives and/or activities described in CMS documentation, such as Resolutions [13.3](#) (Chondrichthyan Species), [13.4](#) (African Carnivore initiative), [13.35](#) (Light Pollution), [13.6](#) (Insect Decline), and Decisions [13.37](#) (AEMLAP), [13.39](#) (Preventing Poisoning of Migratory Birds), [13.50](#) (Conservation of African-Eurasian Vultures), [13.90](#) (Conservation and Management of the African Lion), [13.95](#) (Conservation and Management of the Cheetah and African Wild Dog), [13.106](#) (Support to the Energy Task Force), [13.110](#) (Addressing Unsustainable Use of Terrestrial and Avian Wild Meat), and [13.113](#) (Improving Ways of Addressing Connectivity in the Conservation of Migratory Species).

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
- Education/training/mentoring
- Other skills development
- Provision of equipment or materials
- Exchange of information & know-how
- Research & innovation
- Mobilizing volunteer effort (e.g. citizen science)
- Other (please specify): [\[free text\]](#)
- No assistance required

XIX. RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

(SPMS Target 16: The mobilization of adequate resources from all sources to implement the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species effectively has increased substantially.)

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

- Yes, made available for activities within the country
- Yes, made available for activities in one or more other countries
- No

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.

Further comments on resource mobilization issues in the CMS context can be found in the [Strategic Plan for Migratory Species](#), Chapter 4.

Further examples could include providing resources to actions, steps, programmes, initiatives and/or activities described in CMS documentation, such as Resolution [13.4](#) (Joint CMS-CITES African Carnivore Initiative, and Decisions [13.23](#) (Review Mechanism and National Legislation Programme, [13.25](#) (Conservation Status of Migratory Species, [13.32](#) (Illegal Hunting, Taking and Trade of Migratory Birds in the EAAF), [13.36](#) and [13.37](#) (AEMLAP), [13.39](#) (Preventing Poisoning of Migratory Birds), [13.41](#) (Flyways), [13.50](#) (Conservation of African-Eurasian Vultures), [13.69](#) (Marine Turtles), [13.76](#) (European Eel), [13.80](#) (Global Programme of Work for Cetaceans), [13.90](#) (Conservation and Management of the African Lion), [13.95](#) (Conservation and Management of the Cheetah and African Wild Dog), [13.102](#) (Conservation Implications of Animal Culture and Social Complexity), [13.106](#) (Support to the Energy Task Force), [13.113](#) (Improving Ways of Addressing Connectivity in the Conservation of Migratory Species), [13.120](#) (Community Participation and Livelihoods), [13.122](#) (Impacts of Plastic Pollution), and [13.134](#) (Infrastructure Development).

If yes, to which particular targets in the [Strategic Plan for Migratory Species](#), and which initiatives, plans and programmes has this made a contribution? (Identify all those that apply).

[free text]

Regular government funding for the conservation of threatened species national program (including marine turtles, dugong, seabirds, waterbirds) is provided and supplemented by conservation projects of conservation support groups mostly accessed from foreign donors.

If yes, please indicate whether the overall levels of resourcing concerned are the same or different from those in the previous reporting period:

- Increased
- The same
- Decreased
- Unknown

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

- Yes
 No

If yes, please select the source(s) concerned:
(select all that apply)

- Multilateral investment bank
 The Global Environment Facility (GEF)
 Other intergovernmental programme
 Private sector
 Non-governmental organization(s)
 Individual country governments/government agencies: Government appropriations of BFAR and BMB
 Other (please specify): [\[free text\]](#)

If yes, to which particular targets in the [Strategic Plan for Migratory Species](#), and which initiatives, plans and programmes has this made a contribution? (Identify all those that apply).

[\[free text\]](#)

- [Target 1](#)
- [Target 3](#)
- [Target 4, partly yes](#)
- [Target 5](#)
- [Target 6](#)
- [Target 9](#)
- [Target 10](#)
- [Target 11](#)
- [Target 13](#)
- [Target 14](#)
- [Target 15](#)

If yes, which migratory species have benefited as a result of this support?

- Whales and dolphins
 Migratory birds
 Marine turtles
 Dugongs
 Sharks and rays

If yes, please indicate whether the overall levels of resourcing concerned are the same or different from those in the previous reporting period:

- Increased
 The same
 Decreased
 Unknown

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

- Support for improving capacities for area-based conservation especially for in-land wetland;
- Support for sustainable livelihood to reduce anthropogenic activities harmful to migratory species; and,
- Support for demonstration of nature-based solution projects to rehabilitate wetland habitat.

GUIDANCE TIP:

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