

48th Meeting of the Standing Committee

Bonn, Germany, 23 – 24 October 2018

UNEP/CMS/StC48/Doc.14

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF WORK 2018-2020

(as at 13 September 2018/Prepared by the Secretariat)

Summary:

The present document provides the status of implementation of the Programme of Work (POW) for 2018-2020, as at September 2018, following its adoption by the Twelfth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (October 2017, Manila, the Philippines).

The progress report is presented both as comprehensive narratives highlighting achievements, challenges and next steps, and in tabular form.

Background

1. The Programme of Work (POW) for 2018-2020, as it was adopted by the Twelfth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP12) in 2017, contains all mandates falling under the responsibility of the Secretariat as well as those that fall under the Standing Committee and Scientific Council and their Working Groups that require the Secretariat's support.
2. These mandates relate to existing instruments being all CMS Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) including those serviced by dedicated personnel, such as those on Dugongs, Birds of Prey, Sharks and IOSEA, as well as Action Plans; Programmes of Work; Initiatives; Concerted Actions and provisions of Resolutions and Decisions which were adopted by COP12 as well as those which were retained in full.
3. The detailed list of activities is grouped into programme areas as follows:
 - Executive Direction and Management;
 - Implementation Support;
 - Resource Mobilization and Interagency Affairs;
 - Information Management, Communication and Outreach;
 - Capacity-building;
 - Servicing of Governing Bodies
4. Following the adoption of the POW, a correlation was made for each activity to the Targets of the Strategic Plan Migratory Species and to those related to the Sustainable Development Goals with a view to determining and monitoring the contributions of the Secretariat to the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species and the Sustainable Development Goals.

Report on implementation

5. The current POW has proven to be an important tool guiding the work of the Secretariat and its fundraising efforts.
6. The present document consists of two sections, these being (i) a narrative report on the status of implementation, including the challenges the Secretariat has been facing and planned steps to carry out each activity and (ii) the POW in tabular form which provides a brief overview through a traffic-light rating system.
7. For each activity, the funding source was indicated as funds provided through the Budget 2018-2020 and/ or through voluntary contribution. Where no funding source has been indicated (blanks) it means that the activity could be carried out by staff at the Secretariat.

Action requested:

The Standing Committee is invited to:

Take note of the document and to give comments and guidance, as necessary, to the Secretariat.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTION AND MANAGEMENT

OVERALL MANAGEMENT

Management of the Secretariat

1. The CMS Management provides overall direction to the Secretariat. This is done through regular meetings with the staff. Management meetings take place every month with the whole CMS Family including the AEWA Executive Secretary, the Executive Secretary of EUROBATS, the Coordinator of the CMS Office in Abu Dhabi and the Heads of the different CMS Teams. Improving the planning of activities and organization of work is a priority of the CMS Management. To increase the cooperation within the CMS Secretariat as well as among the different entities of the CMS Family, a staff retreat was held on 11-13 June 2018. This retreat was attended by staff of CMS including the CMS Abu Dhabi Office, AEWA, EUROBATS and ASCOBANS.

Supervising the administrative and financial management of the Secretariat

2. The CMS Management is closely involved in all administrative and financial operations. Once a month the CMS Management, the AEWA Executive Secretary, the Executive Secretary of EUROBATS and the Head of the Administrative and Finance Unit meet to discuss related issues of common interest.

Representing CMS and/ or CMS Family; raising awareness, visibility, etc.

3. The CMS Management has represented CMS and/ or CMS Family at different meetings, including the High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (9 - 18 July 2018, New York), to raise awareness, increase the visibility of CMS and the CMS Family and to stimulate accession to and increase support for the implementation of CMS and its instruments. Other Staff of CMS and/ or members of the CMS Family have also attended several international meetings to represent CMS and/ or one or more of its instruments.

NATIONAL REPORTING - including Decision 12.4

Status and Achievements

4. Decision 12.4 directs the Secretariat to develop a proposal to be submitted to the Standing Committee at its 48th meeting (StC48) for a revision of the format for the national reports, taking account of advice of an informal advisory group composed of Parties to the Convention on the basis of the same regions as the Standing Committee, with a maximum of two representatives per region.
5. Thanks to savings on the 2015-2017 budget and additional resources from UN Environment, the Secretariat was able to contract the UN Environment World Conservation Monitoring Centre to assist with the development of a proposal for the revision of the National Report Format. Additional resources to support the activities of the advisory group and additional consultancy services for the development of the format have been pledged by the Government of Switzerland.
6. A request to appoint members of the advisory group was sent to the regional representatives of the Standing Committee in July 2018. A meeting of the advisory group has been convened on 22 October 2018, back-to-back to StC48. A first draft of a proposal for the revision of the National Report Format was sent by the Secretariat to the members of the advisory group

appointed thus far for comments and advice. Based on the comments received, a new proposal for the revision of the format was produced, which is submitted to StC48 as document UNEP/CMS/StC48/Doc.12.

Challenges

7. The revision of the National Report Format is a complex undertaking, also considering that national reporting is linked to several other processes of the Convention, including the assessment of progress towards the achievement of the target of the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species, the CMS Review Mechanism and the National Legislation Programme.
8. The exigency to improve the value of data and information gathered through national reports while at the same time not increasing and desirably reducing the reporting burden on Parties is proving challenging to achieve at times.
9. Also considering the timing of COP13, the timeframe for finalizing the revision and adopting a new format is very tight and should be completed by StC48 or shortly after.

Next steps

10. It is expected that consultation with the advisory group will continue in the time until its meeting in October, by electronic means and, if possible, a remote meeting.
11. The meeting of the advisory group on 22 October is expected to make recommendations to the Standing Committee on any adjustment to the Secretariat's proposal included in document UNEP/CMS/StC48/Doc.12.
12. StC48 is expected to review the proposal submitted by the Secretariat and the recommendations of the advisory group and finalize a revised format to be used in the reporting cycle to COP13.

REVIEW MECHANISM AND NATIONAL LEGISLATION PROGRAMME - Resolution 12.9 and Decision 12.6

Status and Achievements

13. With regard to the implementation of the Review Mechanism and in accordance with Decision 12.6 a), the Secretariat has developed a draft template for communicating initial information on possible implementation matters to the Secretariat, as a basis for initiating the review process. The draft template proposed is called "Case-information Template" and is entirely based on the admissibility criteria of Section I.C of Resolution 12.9. The draft template is included in UNEP/CMS/StC48/Doc.15 as Annex 1 and is subject to the review and decision of the Standing Committee.
14. With regard to the implementation of the National Legislation Programme and as requested by Decision 12.6 b), the Secretariat has undertaken an inventory of the information which is currently available to the Secretariat relating to Parties' legislation through reviewing National Reports and country accession documents. The Secretariat is mindful that Decision 12.6 request to focus the inventory on Parties' legislation on Article III paragraph 5 of the Convention. However, in order to provide a more comprehensive overview, the Secretariat has also taken into account Parties' legislation in relation to Article III, paragraph 4 (a) and (b).

15. Following Decision 12.6 c), the Secretariat has prepared a draft questionnaire for Parties to provide additional information on their legislation and complement the inventory. The draft questionnaire is included in UNEP/CMS/StC48/Doc.15 as Annex 2 and is subject to the review and decision of the Standing Committee. Although Decision 12.6 c) requested the Secretariat to develop a questionnaire pre-filled with existing information, the Secretariat considered the information provided through the inventory adequate for pre-filling the questionnaires.
16. In order to facilitate the implementation of the Review Mechanism and the National Legislation Programme, the Secretariat has created [a dedicated page](#) on its website where it is possible to access all the documents.
17. Decision 12.6 e) also requests the Secretariat to i) prepare legislative guidance materials and model laws as well as conduct capacity building workshops, ii) provide technical support to assist Parties in drafting adequate national legislation and iii) prepare technical guidance on best practices relating to the implementation of Article III para. 4 (a) and (b) and para. 5. Initially, those documents were envisaged to be made available to the Standing Committee at its 48th meeting. However, it became clear that they can only be carried out after the decision of the Standing Committee on the UNEP/CMS/StC48/Doc.15 and after receiving the responses to the questionnaire from Parties.

Challenges

18. The implementation of the Review Mechanism and the National Legislation Programme is subject to the decision of StC48 on the draft Case-Information Template and the draft template included in UNEP/CMS/StC48/Doc.15. Furthermore, the implementation of the two processes relies on the engagement of Parties and other stakeholders.

Next steps

19. The Secretariat will continue implementing Resolution 12.09 and Decision 12.6 following decisions of StC48 on the above-mentioned issues and following Parties responses on the questionnaires.

STRATEGIC PLAN - Resolution 11.2 (Rev.COP12)

Status and Achievements

20. The Secretariat has been updating the online version of the Companion Volume, to include relevant elements of CMS COP12 outcomes, and remove or replace outdated elements. This is still ongoing at the time this report is being produced.
21. Strategic Plan targets have been integrated in the Programme of Work 2018-2020.

Challenges

22. The post-COP12 update of the Companion Volume turned out to be a time-consuming exercise, considering the significant work undertaken by COP12 in terms of repeal and consolidation of past COP resolutions and recommendations.

Next steps

23. The Secretariat will:

- Continue to update the Companion Volume, taking into account the outcomes of relevant meetings of CMS Family instruments.
- Establish a register of sub-targets that support the achievement of the targets in the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species, as a “living” document able to be supplemented and updated by contributions from the CMS Family of instruments and from other partners and stakeholders wishing to contribute
- Undertake a preliminary assessment of progress towards the achievement of the targets in the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND MIGRATORY SPECIES – Decision 12.105

Status and Achievements

24. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) targets have been integrated in the Programme of Work 2018-2020. Furthermore, the Secretariat is currently undertaking a preliminary compilation of CMS contributions to the attainment of SDGs on the basis of National reports and other sources.
25. The Secretariat has engaged in the preparations for the post-2020 agenda. It attended two dialogues, organized by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity and other partners. The first one was on the need for a transformative change for biodiversity conservation towards 2020 and beyond while the second one mainly aimed at aligning biodiversity-related communication activities and developing common messaging in the lead up to 2020.
26. During the Third Meeting of the Sessional Committee of the Scientific Council (ScC-SC3 - 29 May - 1 June 2018), a Working Group focusing on the CMS contribution towards the post-2020 agenda was established with members of the Scientific Council, representatives of Parties and organizations. The Standing Committee members were also invited to take part in this Working Group which is planned to meet on 25 October 2018. Preliminary ideas and timelines of milestones for the consideration of the Working Group and StC48 are included in document UNEP/CMS/StC48/Doc.11.

Challenges

27. Due to lack of funding, the preparations of the report on the linkages between sustainable development and migratory species could not be carried out.

Next steps

28. The Secretariat will further discuss on the CMS involvement in the preparations post-2020 agenda and will continue to seek funding for the compilation of linkages between sustainable development and migratory species.

IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT - SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY SERVICES

SCIENTIFIC ADVICE

Coordinate the work of the Scientific Council and its Sessional Committee

Status and Achievements

29. The Executive Secretary and the Scientific Adviser have been in regular contact with the chair of the Scientific Council, in relation to the organization of the 3rd meeting of the Sessional Committee of the Scientific Council (reported in the section Servicing Governing Bodies) and other initiatives. Secretariat staff have been in contact with relevant members of the Scientific Council and its Sessional Committee in relation to implementation activities requiring Scientific Council input. These are reported as appropriate under the relevant activities.

Challenges

30. The convening of COP13 in early 2020 is reducing the time available to the Scientific Council and its Sessional Committee to implement the mandates received from COP12.

Next steps

31. The Secretariat will maintain contacts with the chair, vice-chair and other members of the Scientific Council and its Sessional Committee.

Prepare review report on the conservation status of migratory species

Status and Achievements

32. During the triennium 2015-2017, a scoping paper for the establishment of a “*State of the World’s Migratory Species*” report: Options for a flagship report to inform CMS decision-making, was developed with input from the Scientific Council and various partner organizations. The scoping paper, which provides for costed alternative options for the report, was endorsed by the 2nd meeting of the Sessional Committee of the Scientific Council (ScC-SC2) and was made available to COP12 as document UNEP/CMS/COP12/Inf.29. Since COP12, the Secretariat has been actively fundraising for the production of the report on the basis of the concept note. Fundraising efforts so far undertaken have not produced any actual pledge, though interest in supporting the initiative has been expressed by some potential donors. In addition to fundraising efforts, the Secretariat has been liaising with various organizations that could provide input to this initiative, including UNEP-WCMC, IUCN Species Survival Commission, BirdLife International.

Challenges

33. The report is principally intended as an input to COP13. Also considering that COP13 dates have been advanced with respect to the usual periodicity, preparation of the report will have to start very soon for it to materialize in time for COP consideration. In order to launch the process, a minimum of resources to support it needs to become available within a short time frame. More ambitious options foreseen by the scoping paper might no longer be feasible already at this stage.

Next steps

34. The Secretariat will continue fundraising efforts in support of the activity and will explore additional options for the production of the report, that could be compatible with the constrained time frame and resources, in consultation with the Scientific Council and potential partners for the initiative.

Atlas on Animal Migration - Decision 12.91

Status and Achievements

35. This is an ambitious initiative, which is expected to be continued also in future triennia. For the current triennium, the POW foresees to start with a module on migratory birds in the African Eurasian region. Building on contacts already initiated in the triennium 2015-2017, and facilitated by the Chair of the Scientific Council, the Secretariat signed in March 2018 an Agreement with the Ministry of the Environment and Protection of Land and Sea of the Government of Italy, through which Italy is supporting the development of the African-Eurasian Bird Migration Atlas to the extent of 1 million EUR, under the Migratory Species Champion Programme. The Secretariat has identified the European Union for Bird Ringing (EURING) as the main technical partner for the development of the Atlas. An inception meeting between EURING representatives and representatives of the Secretariats of relevant CMS Family instruments was held in May 2018 in Bonn. Since then, a detailed work plan has been agreed, and the CMS Secretariat has signed a Project Cooperation Agreement (PCA) with the Institute of Avian Research acting on behalf of EURING. With the signing of the PCA the project is entering in its operative phase. Its completion is expected in early 2021. An Advisory Committee including representatives of relevant MEAs, NGOs, Institutions, Initiatives and other Stakeholders with a capacity to advise on the development of the project thanks to their technical expertise is being established.

Challenges

36. This is an ambitious initiative for which the Convention is expected to play a catalytic role. A main challenge will be to generate support to, and participation in the initiative from the research and conservation practitioner communities across a broad range of taxa. In this regard, the ScC is expected to play a crucial role in reaching out to these communities.
37. Even assuming an implementation of the initiative by modules, resources needed are expected to be very significant, probably beyond the possibilities of the Convention's traditional donors. Fundraising for the African-Eurasian Bird Migration module was remarkably successful, however the need to approach other types of donors and funding programmes is anticipated.

Next steps

38. The Secretariat will:
 - Establish the African-Eurasian Bird Migration Atlas Advisory Committee and convening of its first meeting;
 - Develop a concept for the Global Atlas of Animal Migration, building on the experience gained, and the analytical tools developed within the African-Eurasian Bird Migration Atlas project;
 - Continue efforts to generate support for the initiative within the research and conservation practitioners' communities;
 - Approach further potential donors for fundraising.

IMPLEMENTATION OF RELEVANT RESOLUTIONS AND DECISIONS

Energy Task Force - Resolution 11.27 (Rev.COP12)

Status and Achievements

39. [Resolution 11.27 \(Rev. COP12\)](#) reaffirms the instruction by COP to the Secretariat to convene a multi-stakeholder Task Force on Reconciling Selected Energy Sector Developments with Migratory Species Conservation (the Energy Task Force, ETF). The Government of Germany has renewed their contribution for the coordination and basic functioning of the ETF for the triennium 2018-2020 under the Migratory Species Champion Programme.
40. As major outputs, the [Work Plan](#) for the period 2018-2020 was developed and revised, an Information Package on relevant tools and guidelines for integrating conservation considerations into energy developments was prepared and will be reviewed and disseminated. A related side event was held at the UNFCCC COP23 in Bonn in November 2017.
41. With the beginning of the year 2018, the responsibility for the ETF was transferred within the Secretariat from the Scientific Advisory Services to the Avian Species Team. A new Coordinator, Dr Ashton Berry, was recruited in June 2018. He is based at BirdLife International, Cambridge, UK and coordinates and supports the implementation of the majority of activities contained in the Work Plan. Main activities since then include the recruitment of new members and observers to the ETF, the preparations for its 3rd Meetings, which is intended to be held back to back with the CBD COP14 in November 2018, organizations of side events at Ramsar COP13 in October 2018, and at CBD COP14, and the creation of partnerships with interested organizations and enterprises.

Challenges

42. In a multi-stakeholder Task Force, in which multiple and potentially conflicting interests are expected to be represented, a key element for the success of the initiative is expected to be the careful selection of its initial membership. Hence the decision of the Secretariat to engage in consultations and seek advice from key partners and stakeholders for this crucial step. While this delayed to some extent the establishment of the Task Force, the Task Force is now fully operational.

Next steps

43. The Secretariat will organize the 3rd Meeting of the Energy Task Force in November 2018, and the side events at Ramsar COP13 and CBD COP14. It will closely cooperate with the Coordinator in the process of implementing the activities according to the Work Plan and building up new partnerships with organizations and the private sector.

Climate Change and Migratory Species - Resolution 12.21

Status and Achievements

44. Progress has been made on the development of a project proposal for the development of a Climate Resilient Site Network in the East Asian – Australasian Flyway. Building on the presentations and discussions held at a side event at CMS COP12 on opportunities for

climate change adaptation and mitigation measures, a concept note on the Development of a Climate Resilient Site Network in the East Asian – Australasian Flyway was developed by Wetlands International and the Secretariat, as a precursor to the development of a project proposal to be submitted to the International Climate Initiative (IKI) of the Federal Ministry of the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety of Germany. At the time of writing, the dates for the issuance of the call for proposals have not been defined yet by the IKI Secretariat.

45. Following a recommendation of the meeting of the Climate Change Working Group of the Scientific Council held in 2017, the Secretariat, mainly through the input of interns, has been working on the development of a series of fact sheets aimed at illustrating actual and projected climate change impacts on selected migratory species and some of their critical habitats. 11 fact sheets have been developed and are being factchecked by external experts. Progress on this initiative is being supervised by the chair of the Climate Change Working Group and COP-appointed councillor for climate Change, Prof. Colin Galbraith, with support from Dr. Mark Simmonds.

Challenges

46. The development of the project proposal for the development of climate-resilient site network has been temporarily put on hold waiting for the publication of the guidelines for the submission of project proposal to IKI.
47. All activities concerning implementation of Resolution 12.21 included in the Programme of Work require some level of external funding, that has not been possible to secure till now.

Next steps

48. The Secretariat will:
 - Further develop project proposal to IKI based on guidelines once published and submit it as appropriate;
 - Finalize and publish the fact sheets on climate change impacts on migratory species and their habitats;
 - Continue fundraising efforts;
 - Continue contacts with potential partners to identify synergies and collaborations.

Concerted Actions - Decisions 12.103 and 12.104

Status and Achievements

49. COP12 mandate included in Decisions 12.103 were considered by the 3rd meeting of the Sessional Committee of the Scientific Council (ScC-SC3). One question to be resolved was which species designated for Concerted Action for the triennium 2018-2020 were to be recommended for the subsequent triennium. After significant debate, the Sessional Committee recommended to support a process of development and submission of proposals for Concerted Actions for any species currently in the list, in line with the guidelines included in Res. 12.28: only those species for which a proposal will have been developed and then endorsed by the Sessional Committee and the COP will be retained in the list. Further details about the discussion can be found in the Report of the Meeting (UNEP/CMS/StC48/Inf.5) and the report of the Chair of the Scientific Council (UNEP/CMS/StC48/Doc.6).

50. A draft template for reporting on progress in the implementation of Concerted Actions was developed by the Secretariat and submitted to ScC-SC3 for consideration and was finalized thereafter based on ScC-SC3 comments.

Challenges

51. The fact that, with the exception of COP12 designations, most designations of species for Concerted Actions were not accompanied by a definition of intended conservation initiatives and outcomes makes it very difficult to assess progress in the implementation of Concerted Actions. The approach proposed by the Sessional Committee concerning the maintenance of species in the list of Concerted Action Species aims at rectifying this situation.

Next steps

52. The Secretariat will notify Parties and other stakeholders of the agreed approach for the revision of the list of species designated for Concerted Action at COP13.

IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT – AQUATIC SPECIES

MOUS, STANDALONE ACTION PLANS AND PROGRAMMES OF WORK

Dugong MOU

Status and Achievements

53. The Dugong MOU Secretariat is hosted by Environment Agency – Abu Dhabi (EAD), on behalf of the Government of the United Arab Emirates, and is part of CMS Office – Abu Dhabi. The hosting arrangement with EAD provides the core budget of the Dugong MOU Secretariat, as well as its premises and other practical support. EAD has hosted the Dugong MOU Secretariat since 2009. The current arrangement is for the period 2016 to 2019. The Third Meeting of Signatories (MOS3) (March 2017) agreed a Programme of Work (2017-2019) to support the MOU's implementation.
54. In 2018, the Secretariat undertook the following activities:
- Promoted Dugong and Seagrass Research Toolkit at the World Seagrass Conference and 13th International Seagrass Biology Workshop (Singapore, 11-17 June) and the fifth International Marine Conservation Congress (Malaysia, 24-29 June);
 - Revised IKI Seagrass Ecosystem Services Project covering five countries based on feedback and resubmitted to IKI on two occasions (January and July 2018).

Challenges

55. Mobilizing resources for technical support and capacity-building to implement conservation actions remains a challenge and a major priority for the Dugong MOU Secretariat.
56. Contributions are needed from Signatories to complement EAD's long-standing support to the Dugong MOU. At MOS3 Signatories endorsed a target of a minimum of US\$ 120,000 per annum in voluntary contributions. No additional contributions have been received. However, as the MOU is non-legally binding and over 90 per cent of Range States are developing or least-developed countries, it may be difficult to mobilize these funds.

Next steps

57. The Secretariat will:
- Continue to seek final approval of the IKI Seagrass Ecosystem Services proposal.
 - Continue to promote the Dugong and Seagrass Research Toolkit at conferences and workshops.
 - Identify resources for conservation incentive projects, capacity building and the review of the MOU's Conservation and Management Plan including through seeking US\$ 120,000 per annum in voluntary contributions.

IOSEA Marine Turtle MOU

Status and Achievements

58. Two sub-regional meetings were held in the reporting period: the Western Indian Ocean Marine Turtle Task Force (WIO-MTTF) held its 7th meeting in Dar es Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania, on 2 November 2017, and the Northern Indian Ocean Marine Turtle

Taskforce (NIO-MTTF) met for the second time from 29 to 30 January 2018 in Colombo, Sri Lanka.

59. In October 2017, a new website for the IOSEA Marine Turtle MOU was launched preliminarily at the URL www.cms.int/iosea-turtles. A questionnaire was sent to the IOSEA constituency on the use and priority of a number of applications embedded in the old website to help prioritize the complex transfer of these tools.
60. The IOSEA national reporting format was recreated in the CMS Family Online Reporting System. Pending some minor technical improvements, this has now been completed and Focal Points will shortly receive their log-in details.
61. The CITES project on assessing the status, scope and trends of the legal and illegal international trade in marine turtles, its conservation impacts, management options and mitigation priorities, as mandated by CITES Decisions 17.222 and 17.223, and in line with CMS Decision 12.17, was supported with a voluntary contribution from Australia to CMS and is taking place in close consultation with the Secretariat.

Challenges

62. Following multiple handovers since 2014 and the retirement of the long-time Coordinator for the MOU, based in Bangkok, towards the end of 2016, the office was moved to Bonn in January 2017. The Secretariat is still being coordinated by a CMS staff member on a temporary assignment to this function. IOSEA Signatories confirmed in early 2018 the level at which recruitment of a permanent Coordinator is to take place, and the vacancy announcement is expected to come online shortly. In the meantime, the CMS Secretariat is making arrangements to ensure continuous service to Signatories through temporary assignments.
63. Despite the introduction of a scale of assessed contributions, which are payable voluntarily, the support of Signatories in implementing the MOU through the Secretariat has always been very insecure. Besides issues related to post security, this also means that implementation of the work programme, such as organization of meetings, cannot be adequately planned, resulting in delays and postponement of activities due to lack of funding. Currently the preparations for the 8th Meeting of Signatories (MOS8) are affected.
64. Transferring the various online applications provided on the old IOSEA website to a modern standard and platform remains a technical and financial challenge.

Next steps

65. Securing the MOU financially remains a priority. Invoices for the 2018 contributions were sent to all Signatories, and contributions are strongly encouraged.
66. Due to lack of funding and since no host could be found for 2018, MOS8 is now planned for the second half of 2019. Since no firm commitment was made by any country, expressions of interest to host are still being sought. Content preparations are ongoing.
67. Three meetings are foreseen for 2018 and 2019, subject to availability of funds: NWIO sub-regional meeting, SEA+ sub-regional meeting, and 8th Meeting of the Signatories. If desired, the MTTFs in the WIO and NIO sub-regions may also meet again.

68. Implementation of the actions for the Secretariat identified by MOS7, in consultation and collaboration with the Advisory Committee and Signatories, remains a priority. This includes support to the simplification of criteria and process and operationalization of the IOSEA Marine Turtle Site Network. In addition, work on the website and content preparations for MOS8 are high priorities.

Sharks MOU

Status and Achievements

69. The 2nd Meeting of the Advisory Committee to the Sharks MOU was held in November/December 2017 in Bonaire, Netherlands. The outcome of the meeting, including recommendations to Sharks MOS3 can be found at https://www.cms.int/sharks/en/AC2_CWG2.
70. The Committee continues to work intersessionally to support with preparations of MOS3 and to provide guidance on the implementation of the MOU and its Conservation Plan.
71. Preparations for the 3rd Meeting of the Signatories are underway. The Government of Monaco has kindly offered to host the meeting at the Museum of Oceanography in Monaco-Ville from 10 to 14 December 2018. Around 180 participants are expected to attend from Signatory States, Range States and Observers. The agenda will include the following:
- Review of implementation of the MOU and the Conservation Plan;
 - Proposed amendments to the list of species;
 - Proposed conservation measures
 - Review of the budget
 - Cooperation with relevant organizations
72. Since CMS COP12, the MOU has gained five additional Signatories (Benin, Brazil, Cote d'Ivoire, Madagascar and Sri Lanka), which brings the overall number of Signatories to 48. In addition, two Cooperating Partners have signed (the World Wildlife Fund and the Dutch Elasmobranch Society). A third organization, Divers4Sharks, has been admitted as Cooperating Partner by the Signatories and is preparing to sign the MOU at Sharks MOS3 bringing the overall number of Cooperating Partners to twelve.

Challenges

73. The financial situation of the MOU remains difficult, with only a few donors providing regular voluntary contributions. The Secretariat remains understaffed when viewed against the volume of work that could be achieved. However, the G5 team assistant is currently under recruitment.

Next steps

74. The Secretariat will:
- Finalize the recruitment process to fill the G5 position; and
 - Continue to work with Signatories, the Advisory Committee and the host government to prepare MOS3.

South Pacific Loggerhead Turtle Single-species Action Plan (SSAP)

Status and Achievements

75. A project entitled *Loggerhead bycatch reduction training and tag deployment in the Peru small-scale longline fleet*, is being implemented by the NGO ProDelphinus, and funded through a voluntary contribution from Australia. Its objectives are to:
- Assess Loggerhead bycatch rates in the Peru small-scale longline fishery.
 - Reduce sea turtle injuries and mortalities resulting from longline fishery interactions.
 - Involve longline fishers in tagging and data collection through a ‘fisher science’ initiative.
76. In August 2018, Range States began a review of the implementation of the SSAP, by correspondence.

Challenges

77. Not all Range States are actively participating in the steering group that supports the SSAP.

Next steps

78. The Secretariat will complete the review of implementation of the SSAP and assess next steps.

IMPLEMENTATION OF RELEVANT RESOLUTIONS, DECISIONS AND CONCERTED ACTIONS

Angelshark Concerted Action

Status and Achievements

79. The implementation of the Concerted Action foresees the organization a regional workshop for Ranges States in Northeast Atlantic; Mediterranean and West Africa. Funding for the organization of these workshops have been secured thanks to the contribution of the Principality of Monaco under the Migratory Species Champion Programme.
80. The Secretariat is liaising with The Sharks Trust and Monaco for the planning of these workshops.

Challenges

81. Due to numerous conflicting priorities, the preparations of these workshops had to be postponed to 2019.

Next steps

82. The Secretariat will continue liaising with The Sharks Trust and Monaco on the preparation of the workshops.

Atlantic Humpback Dolphin Concerted Action

Status and Achievements

83. Preliminary consultations with the co-proponents of the Concerted Action regarding potential hosts for the Range State meeting and preparation of a draft action plan are ongoing. The Principality of Monaco under the Migratory Species Champion Programme has agreed to support the development of the action plan with the assistance of an expert and the organization of the meeting.
84. Sea Shepherd Legal has offered assistance specifically with respect to identifying inconsistencies in the level of protection ensured by different Range States, as well as follow-up to the meeting in support of Range States' efforts to implement any decisions.

Challenges

85. Due to numerous conflicting priorities, the preparations of the Range State meeting and draft action plan had to be postponed to 2019.

Next steps

86. The Secretariat will:
 - Liaise with potential hosts to decide on dates and venue for the meeting;
 - Liaise with experts and partners regarding content preparations; and
 - Make logistical arrangements for the meeting.

European Eel Concerted Action

Status and Achievements

87. The 2nd Meeting of the Range States to the European Eel was convened in Malmö, Sweden from 15 to 16 May 2018, in cooperation with the Sargasso Sea Commission and co-financed by the Principality of Monaco under the Migratory Species Champion Programme 2018-2020. The meeting was hosted by the Government of Sweden and brought together Range States from Europe and North Africa, CITES, GFCM, IUCN and other experts on the European Eel. The main goal of the meeting was to decide a way forward for the species under CMS. Participants emphasized the need to reinforce action as soon as possible given the species' critical conservation status. The meeting decided that there would be potential for international cooperation to address gaps and challenges in European Eel conservation and that CMS as a global mechanism could address many of these issues. It was agreed that CMS should begin consultations on setting up such a mechanism for more coordinated and comprehensive European Eel conservation, taking into consideration ongoing reviews of European Eel policies, including those taking place in the EU, the GFCM, CITES, IUCN and ICES.
88. At CITES AC30, 16-21 July 2018, the CMS and CITES Secretariats held a joint side event on the European Eel. Participants agreed that many synergies could be achieved through close cooperation between the two Conventions.
89. CMS also participated in the CITES technical workshop on eels (*Anguilla* spp.) held in London, 18-20 April 2018.

Challenges

90. A dedicated mechanism, such as an MOU, for the European Eel would require considerable financial resources.

Next steps

91. The Secretariat will follow up on the recommendations of the 2nd Range States meeting.

Polar Bear Concerted Action**Status and Achievements**

92. The CMS Secretariat and the Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna Secretariat (CAFF) were invited by the Parties to the Polar Bear Agreement to submit an offer to provide Secretariat services to the Agreement. CMS attended the Agreement Meeting in Alaska, 2-4 February 2018, where we presented our offer. At the time of writing, we are waiting for the decision by the Range States.
93. Norway has provided €33,000 for a planning meeting, for a later symposium on Polar Bear conservation issues.

Next steps

94. The Secretariat will follow up with Norway and other Range States on both the proposed Secretariat, and the planning meeting.

Arabian Sea Humpback Whale Concerted Action**Status and Achievements**

95. The Arabian Sea Humpback Whale (ASHW) Concerted Action is defined by a list of priority activities that over an initial three-year period. With active participation and contributions from nearly 50 individuals representing intergovernmental organizations, including CMS; international and national NGOs; grassroots conservation organizations; independent consultants; private sector corporations and industry and academic institutes, the Arab Sea Whale Network (ASWN) provides the current mechanism to coordinate the Concerted Action's implementation across the ASHW range. To date, the following activities have taken place:
- “Luban”, the first Arabian Sea Humpback Whale (ASHW) to have been documented crossing from Oman to India, completed a return journey to Oman's Masirah Island where she was originally tagged (November 2017 – March 2018);
 - The Government of Pakistan declared the Indus River Canyon (Exclusive Economic Zone) as a Marine Protected Area (MPA). The MPA overlaps with recent ASHW sightings reported by WWF-Pakistan's crew-based observer programme and Soviet whale catches from the 1960s (January 2018);
 - A Workshop focusing on the final stages of development and capacity-building of the Arabian Sea Whale Network (ASWN) online regional data platform to promote collaboration between researchers working on whale conservation issues in the Arabian Sea was held in Muscat in January 2018;
 - A First-ever marine mammal training symposium and survey took place in India (December 2017);

- Arabian Sea Humpback Whales listed under India's Recovery Programme for Critically Endangered Species (June 2018);
- ASWN participated in the 2018 International Whaling Commission (IWC) Scientific Committee meeting and presented papers related to the whale research and conservation efforts in the Arabian Sea for ASHW and other whales and dolphins (April-May 2018).

Challenges

96. Over a three-year period, close to US\$1 million would be required to implement the Concerted Action's work plan in full.
97. The effectiveness of the Concerted Action could be significantly enhanced with better-coordinated government collaboration and support.

Next steps

98. The Secretariat will explore options to initiate development of an ASHW Conservation Management Plan with the Range States, IWC and the research and conservation community.

Conservation and Management of Whales and Their Habitats in the South Atlantic Region – Resolution 12.17 and Decision 12.53

Status and Achievements

99. The Secretariat and Brazil have had discussions on the holding a workshop or Range State meeting to progress implementation of the Action Plan.

Challenges

100. No funding has been identified to hold the joint CMS-IWC workshop called for in Resolution 12.17 to increase understanding of cetaceans' contribution to the functioning of marine ecosystems. Furthermore, CMS is not able to attend the IWC Meeting in Brazil in September 2018. However, Scientific Council members attending IWC were encouraged to raise the issues, as appropriate.

Next steps

101. The Secretariat will pursue fundraising efforts in conjunction with Brazil.

Marine Turtles - Decision 12.17

Status and Achievements

102. Activities have so far focused on supporting the CITES project on assessing the status, scope and trends of the legal and illegal international trade in marine turtles, its conservation impacts, management options and mitigation priorities. For details, please refer to the IOSEA Marine Turtle MOU progress report above.

Challenges

103. Funds for further implementation of the Decision are so far lacking.

Next steps

104. The Secretariat will:

- Encourage Parties to provide voluntary contributions for implementation of the activities foreseen;
- Liaise with COP-appointed Councillor for Marine Turtles and IOSEA Marine Turtle Advisory Committee on best approach to develop the review and the Single Species Action Plan for Hawksbill Turtles.

Recreational In-water Interaction with Aquatic Mammals - Decisions 12.50-52

Status and Achievements

105. The Scientific Council Workspace has been prepared to bring together work streams on this issue and boat-based wildlife watching, in line with the decision of the 3rd Meeting of the Sessional Committee (ScC-SC3).

106. The Principality of Monaco has kindly agreed that part of the voluntary contribution made under the Migratory Species Champion Programme 2018-2020 may be used to facilitate the review of evidence and existing guidance and development of draft international guidelines for consideration by COP13.

Next steps

107. The Secretariat will request Parties to submit copies of relevant guidelines or codes of conduct. In consultation with the COP-appointed Councillor for Aquatic Mammals, terms of reference for a consultancy will be developed. Work will commence in 2019 to ensure draft guidelines are ready in time for ScC-SC4 and COP13.

Aquatic Wild Meat - Resolution 12.15 and Decisions 12.44-46

Status and Achievements

108. Councillors and nominated external experts were invited to join the working group established by COP12. Over thirty are now members and discussions on the Scientific Council Workspace have commenced in a dedicated section placed under crosscutting issues, given the mandate to include seabird harvests in the scope of the work. At the suggestion of the COP-appointed Councillor for Aquatic Mammals, who is serving as chair of the group, Dr. Margi Prideaux was made vice-chair.

109. The Working Group contributed to an IWC Wild Meat Workshop held in Brazil in March 2018. Further, the Working Group was also represented and made a presentation at the Abidjan Aquatic Wildlife Partnership workshop held in Côte d'Ivoire in July 2018.

Next steps

110. The Secretariat will support the Aquatic Wild Meat Working Group with the implementation of the following two activities for the remainder of 2018:

- Formalize COP12/Inf.12 Report of the Aquatic Mammals Working Group on Aquatic Wild Meat into a journal article ready for publication; and
- Establish a web presence for an online knowledge base on aquatic wild meat to support CMS Parties.

Bycatch - Resolution 12.22

Status and Achievements

111. During the 33rd Session of the FAO Committee on Fisheries (COFI33) in July 2018, management solutions for ghost gear, also known as abandoned, lost, or otherwise discarded fishing gear (ALDFG), and bycatch were discussed in a side event. FAO Member States Belgium, Fiji, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Palau, Panama, Samoa and Vanuatu served as hosts for the event, organized in collaboration with FAO, the IWC, World Animal Protection, WWF and CMS.
112. CMS Technical Series No.38: Review of Methods Used to Reduce Risks of Cetacean Bycatch and Entanglements was published in May 2018.
113. CMS is collaborating closely with the IWC as part of the IWC Bycatch Mitigation Initiative (IWC-BMI). The CMS COP-appointed Councillor for Bycatch, Barry Baker, serves on the BMI Expert Panel, and the Secretariat is part of the Standing Working Group (SWG) on Bycatch under the IWC Conservation Committee.

Challenges

114. No requests for support received from Parties. Funds for implementation of the Decision are so far lacking.

Next steps

115. The Secretariat will support the Bycatch Working Group and the Sessional Committee of the Scientific Council with the implementation of the following activities:
 - Continue collaboration with IWC;
 - Continue to review mitigation measures for each bycatch situation; in particular for other marine mammals, seabirds, sharks and turtles, and draft guidance to Parties as necessary; and
 - Prepare further Technical Series issues and/or journal articles.

Conservation Implications of Animal Culture and Social Complexity - Decisions 12.75-77

Status and Achievements

116. The CMS Workshop on the Conservation Implications of Animal Culture and Social Complexity took place in Parma, Italy from 12 to 14 April. It was kindly hosted by the Appennino Tosco-Emiliano National Park and the Fondazione Monteparma, and financially supported by the Principality of Monaco under the Migratory Species Champion Programme. The report of the workshop was made available as ScC-SC3/Inf.8 Report of the CMS Workshop on Conservation Implications of Animal Culture and Social Complexity.

Next steps

117. Based on the outcomes of the workshop, the Secretariat will continue support the Culture Expert Group in its deliberations to fulfil the mandates given, in particular to develop a list of priority species on the Appendices for a comprehensive investigation of culture and social structure with a view to achieving more effective conservation outcomes, and to make recommendations to ScC-SC4.

IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT – AVIAN SPECIES

MOUS AND STANDALONE ACTION PLANS

Aquatic Warbler MOU

Status and Achievements

118. After various consultations and at the invitation by the Spanish Aquatic Warbler LIFE project run by Fundación Global Nature, it was agreed to hold the Fourth Meeting of Signatories to the Aquatic Warbler MOU (MOS4) in Spain in September 2020. The meeting will combine the MOS with the final conference of the LIFE project, which is foreseen to be cost-effective. At MOS4, based on national reporting, implementation of the Aquatic Warbler Species Action Plan will be reviewed. The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) has provided coordination services to the MOU through OTOP, the BirdLife partner in Poland until end of May 2018. Such arrangement will be taken over by NABU, provided that CMS will contribute financially. Potential new Signatories will be invited to sign the MOU.
119. Cooperation with the BirdLife International Aquatic Warbler Conservation Team (AWCT), a think-tank group of experts provides useful scientific advice and facilitates surveys, projects and research activities important for the MOU. New data, especially from research with geolocators has revealed a number of new range states, such as Italy and Greece, and further emphasized the importance of Mauritania that is not a Signatory yet.
120. The Aquatic Warbler Conservation Handbook was published in 2018.

Challenges

121. Sustainable funding for the coordination mechanism that is currently in place needs to be ensured. For the extension of the coordination, NABU (the BirdLife partner in Germany, replacing RSPB) is ready to take up that role, if CMS is in a position to share costs (10,000 EUR per year).

Next steps

122. The Secretariat will continue to try to raise funds for continuation of the coordination. In addition, Signatory States will be approached regarding the possibility of voluntary contributions for small projects related to the MOU. In particular, project descriptions are awaited for two small projects in Africa to ensure African involvement in the implementation of the MOU: 1) Identification of key stopover sites in Morocco including a threat assessment for such sites; 2) Hydrological measures in the vicinity of Djoudj National Park, Senegal to ensure sufficient water reaches the key Aquatic Warbler wintering sites at this location.

Raptors MOU

Status and Achievements

123. The Coordinating Unit (CU) of the Raptors MOU is hosted by Environment Agency – Abu Dhabi (EAD), on behalf of the Government of the United Arab Emirates (UAE). The arrangement with EAD provides the core budget, premises and other practical support to the CU. EAD has hosted the CU since 2009 and the current arrangement extends until the end of 2019.

124. Translation of the Action Plan (Annex 3 to the MOU) into National or Regional Raptor Conservation Strategies, or equivalent documents, is enshrined in the text of the MOU as a fundamental step to promote its effective implementation. In February 2018, as no strategies had been submitted by any Signatory, and considering no firm offer had been received to host the 3rd Meeting of Signatories, the CU proposed the meeting be postponed for two years and for Signatories to use the interim period to make a concerted effort, with assistance from the CU, to develop their conservation strategies. This proposal received support from Signatories.

125. In 2018, the Coordinating Unit made the following achievements:

- Secured two day-long sessions (Old World vultures and Saker Falcon) at the Global Summit for the Flyways, convened in Abu Dhabi, UAE in April 2018;
- Good progress made to implement the WorkPlan of the Technical Advisory Group (TAG), including commencing the review of the MOU Action Plan;
- Voluntary contribution generously granted by Switzerland, including a firm offer to host the Third Meeting of the Technical Advisory Group (TAG3) in December 2018;
- Contributed to two Outline Proposals (Egyptian Vulture & Saker Falcon) for Projects totalling EUR 7.5 million, submitted by partners seeking EU LIFE Programme Funds.

Challenges

126. Contributions are needed from Signatories to complement EAD's long-standing support. At MOS2 Signatories endorsed a minimum target of USD 150,000 per annum in voluntary contributions. This has not yet been achieved.

Next steps

127. The Coordinating Unit will:

- Plan, promote and support a suite of strategic planning workshops, to be hosted by Signatories during 2019;
- Work closely with Switzerland to organise and host TAG3 in December 2018;
- Support further development of the EU LIFE Funding Proposals as needed, subject to acceptance by the European Commission (decision expected September 2018);
- Remain alert for opportunities to secure resources for raptor conservation projects.

High Andean Flamingos MOU

Status and Achievements

128. Peru is currently coordinating the MOU until the end of 2018 and thereafter Bolivia will undertake this role until 2020.

Challenges

129. The main challenge for this MOU is now to implement the Action Plan and find financial resources to carry out the coordinated surveys and other conservation measures.

Next steps

130. For the Second Meeting of Signatories, intended to be held in 2020, the Secretariat will assist Signatories in raising funds and identifying time and venue.

Middle-European Population of the Great Bustard MOU**Status and Achievements**

131. The Fourth Meeting of Signatories (MOS4) took place from 14 to 15 March 2018 in Bad Belzig, Brandenburg, Germany, back to back with the Scientific Symposium “Advances in the Research and Conservation of the Great Bustard in Europe” (12-13 March 2018). The meeting was organized in cooperation with the Brandenburg State Office for Environment (LfU) with support from the Society for the Protection of Great Bustard e.V. (Förderverein Großtrappenschutz) and was funded through voluntary contributions from the Government of Germany and support from the State of Brandenburg. At MOS4, *inter alia*, a new [Action Plan](#) for the MOU and the [Medium-term International Work Programme 2018-2023](#) were adopted. It was agreed to hold the next MOS in 2023.

Challenges

132. The lack of financial resources to hire a Coordinator is the main challenge.

Next steps

133. The Secretariat is liaising with Range States to become Signatories of the MOU and will further assist the countries in the implementation. The Secretariat will stay in contact with potential host countries for MOS5.

Siberian Crane MOU**Status and Achievements**

134. The Secretariat provided support to the activities of the International Crane Foundation (ICF), the implementing partner of the MOU. The activities of the ICF have been further supported by the Disney Conservation Fund Reverse the Decline initiative. The ICF has met with experts and managers from China and the Russian Federation and shared reports and discussions on challenges and lessons learned. A recommendation letter was sent from the Secretariat to support the application of the ICF to the Trust for Mutual Understanding for funding the travel of delegates to the Russian-Chinese-American workshop and exchange for conservation of the Critically Endangered Siberian Crane. The meeting brought together more ICF staff and practitioners than earlier meetings and enabled an in-depth review of existing plans and strategies, linking to an overall ICF East Asia Flyway Program. Conceptual models, results chains and monitoring plans have been adjusted. Other activities have included an agreement between ICF and Ocean Outcomes to promote sustainable fisheries and improved wetland and crane conservation to link local livelihoods with effective conservation at Poyang Lake National Nature Reserve and Wucheng Town, China, continued flyway tracking of cranes, and monitoring of best management practices in China.

Challenges

135. The main challenge is to ensure sustainable funding to support the existing coordination arrangement with the International Crane Foundation, which amounts to €10,000 yearly; to ensure funding for the Eighth Meeting of Signatories (MOS8), intended to be held in 2019.

Next steps

136. The Secretariat will fundraise for the continuation of the coordination through ICF, and to fundraise for MOS8.

Southern South American Migratory Grassland Birds MOU

Status and Achievements

137. The Second Meeting of Signatories (MOS2) took place from 24 to 25 July 2018 in the city of Florianópolis, at the kind invitation of the Government of Brazil. At MOS2, the existing action plan was revised, priority activities for the period 2019-2023 agreed, new species to be considered under the MOU identified and future possibilities for cooperation and coordination discussed.

Challenges

138. The main challenge is the raising of funds to support the implementation of the MOU.

Next steps

139. The Secretariat will assist the Range States in the implementation of the actions agreed at MOS2.

Saker Falcon Global Action Plan – CMS Res.11.18 Rev.COP12

Status and Achievements

140. The Coordinating Unit (CU) of the Raptors MOU has been tasked by CMS Parties to support the Saker Falcon Task Force (STF) and to promote and oversee the implementation of the Saker Falcon Global Action Plan (SakerGAP). A Coordinator and a Specialist Technical Advisor (both part-time consultants) have been in place since November 2017. In December 2017, the CU circulated a concise Questionnaire to all 85 Range States of the Saker Falcon, and other stakeholders, seeking summary information concerning implementation of the SakerGAP at the national level.

141. In 2018, the Coordinating Unit made the following achievements:

- Convened the Task Force via 4th STF Telecom (March 2018), including presenting a SakerGAP implementation progress report based on the Questionnaire responses received from Range States and stakeholders;
- Key partners and stakeholders reported significant progress in implementing the five Flagship Projects established in the SakerGAP;
- Developed a draft Summary Implementation Plan for the SakerGAP (March 2018);
- Convened a full-day session dedicated to SakerGAP at the Global Summit for the Flyways in Abu Dhabi, UAE in April 2018, including a facilitated discussion on sustainable use;
- Contributed to an Outline Proposal seeking EU LIFE Funding for a EUR 2.5 million Project on Saker Falcon conservation in Eastern Europe, submitted by the lead partner (BSPB/BirdLife Bulgaria) to the European Commission in June 2018.

Challenges

142. The main challenge identified is the pressing need to mobilise resources from Parties and Range States to establish the regional coordination structures and activities envisaged in the SakerGAP, and to promote and support specific implementation projects.

Next steps

143. The Coordinating Unit will:

- Finalise the SakerGAP Implementation Plan for adoption by STF, and for circulation to Range States and stakeholders;
- Organise and host 5th STF Telecom before the end of 2018;
- Support development of a USD 1 million project to tackle the threat of electrocution to falcons, announced by the UAE at the Global Summit for the Flyways;
- Support further development of the EU LIFE Funding Proposal as needed, subject to acceptance by the European Commission (decision expected September 2018);
- Continue to seek opportunities to secure additional resources to support coordination and implementation of the SakerGAP.

African-Eurasian Migratory Landbirds Action Plan - including Resolution 11.17 (Rev.COP12) and Decision 12.23

Status and Achievements

144. [Resolution 11.17 \(Rev.COP12\)](#) on the Action Plan for Migratory Landbirds in the African-Eurasian Region (AEMLAP) and the related [Decisions 12.22-12.25](#) were adopted by COP 12. As requested, the species list of the Landbirds Action Plan has been updated according to the standard taxonomic references for birds adopted at COP11 and COP12, and changes to the IUCN Red List. The new list is to be approved at the next meeting of the Landbirds Working Group, and the changes will be incorporated into the AEMLAP for adoption. A teleconference of the AEML-SG was held on 2 March 2018 to provide advice on future steps with regard to the implementation of the Resolution. Possibilities for intensification of seeking synergies were discussed with various stakeholders and initiatives. The AEMLAP will be promoted by Professor Franz Bairlein, Director of the Institute of Avian Research, Wilhelmshaven, Germany, and member of the AEML-SG, at the International Ornithological Congress in Vancouver, Canada, in August 2018. Implementation has been supported by bird monitoring trainings in Western African UNESCO Biosphere Reserves (initially in Côte d'Ivoire and Nigeria) through 'AfriBiRds'. With regard to the action plans prepared for species listed under the AEMLAP, including the European Roller (*Coracias garrulus*), the European Turtle Dove (*Streptopelia turtur*) and the Yellow-breasted Bunting (*Emberiza aureola*), the Secretariat participated at the 'Eyes on the Flyways Conference' on 24 May 2018, at the kind invitation of BirdLife International. The conference discussed the action plans developed in the framework of the EuroSAP (LIFE14 PRE/UK/000002) LIFE preparatory project co-financed by the European Commission Directorate General for the Environment, the African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbird Agreement (AEWA), MAVA Foundation and by each of the project partners. The project included a consultation process conducted by the European Commission and directed to all EU member states.

Challenges

145. The greatest challenge is to secure funds for the coordination of the Landbirds Working Group and the AEMLAP, for a consultation meeting of Range States to agree on whether the Action Plan should remain as a stand-alone document or whether a new CMS instrument should be developed or an existing CMS instrument should be used as institutional framework (as requested by [Decision 12.22 a\)](#)), for an intersessional meeting of the Landbirds Working Group between COP12 and COP13 (cf. [Decision 12.25](#)) and for the organization of regional workshops to promote the implementation of the AEMLAP, including a workshop on the integration of biodiversity requirements into the land degradation neutrality delivery at appropriate scale (cf. [Decision 12.24 b\)](#)).

Next steps

146. Related to the implementation of this Resolution, the Secretariat and the Landbirds Working Group will support the “AfriBiRds” project, and further seek synergies with the initiatives listed above, inter alia, the MLSG, which is planning to hold a symposium in December 2018 on the issue of land use. Activities will include further seek for funding for implementation. The platform FLAP – Friends of Landbirds Action Plan, the online public engagement platform on AEMLAP will be further promoted. They will be designed to feed into the post-2020 agenda under the CBD.

African Eurasian Vultures Multi-species Action Plan (Vulture MsAP) - Resolution 12.10 and Decisions 12.37-39

Status and Achievements

147. CMS Parties have requested the Coordinating Unit (CU) of the Raptors MOU to facilitate continuation of the Vulture Working Group and associated coordination structures (Vulture Steering Group, proposed Regional Implementation Committees and a small team of coordinators) to promote effective implementation of the Vulture MsAP.

148. The CU has identified the need for a Strategic Implementation Plan, to translate the Vulture MsAP into a form that would assist Range States in taking forward the priority actions at a national level. In February 2018, a Questionnaire was circulated to all Range States and stakeholders to gather information about their priorities and plans to implement the Vulture MsAP. The results will inform the development of the Strategic Implementation Plan.

149. In 2018, the Coordinating Unit made the following achievements:

- Implementation of the Vulture MsAP was the main topic considered during a day-long session at the Global Summit for the Flyways, held in Abu Dhabi, UAE in April 2018;
- A suite of Flagship Project Proposals was developed and presented at the Summit, which will be integrated into the draft Vulture MsAP Strategic Implementation Plan;
- A consultant has been recruited to lead the development of a Strategic Implementation Plan for the Vulture MsAP;
- Voluntary contribution generously granted by Switzerland to meet a significant proportion of consultancy costs required to develop the Strategic Implementation Plan;
- Contributed to an Outline Proposal seeking EU LIFE Funding for EUR 5 million Project on Egyptian Vulture (Western flyway) conservation, submitted by the lead partner (Vulture Conservation Foundation) to European Commission in June 2018.

Challenges

150. No funding has yet been contributed to meet the costs needed to establish and maintain the structures and activities envisaged in the Vulture MsAP. The coordinators, who have been engaged to develop the Vulture MsAP, have agreed to continue voluntarily acting in their positions as a temporary solution, but with significantly reduced capacity. Funding is urgently needed to allow continuation of these functions, if implementation is to be effectively coordinated across the 128 Range States.

Next steps

151. The Coordinating Unit will:

- Develop a draft Strategic Implementation Plan for the Vulture MsAP, including incorporating information from the Questionnaire responses from Range States;
- Organize an online teleconference of the Vulture Steering Group by end of 2018;
- Support further development of the EU LIFE Funding Proposal as needed, subject to acceptance by the European Commission (decision expected September 2018);
- Continue to seek opportunities to secure additional resources to support coordination and implementation of the Vulture MsAP.

Birds International Single Species Action Plans - including Resolution 12.12 and Decision 12.20

Baer's Pochard Action Plan

Status and Achievements

152. The Action Plan for Baer's Pochard was prepared by the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust. It was subsequently adopted by the 8th Meeting of Partners of the EAAFP in January 2015, and by CMS COP12 through [Resolution 12.12](#). The action plan for this species, which lives only in Asia and is considered Critically Endangered by IUCN, is under implementation.

Challenges

153. The main challenges are obtaining funds for the implementation of the action plan, and raise the awareness of its importance, particularly in the Range States that are not Parties to the Convention.

Next steps

154. In line with [Decision 12.20](#), the Secretariat will continue to invite those Range States that are not yet Parties to ratify or accede to the Convention (or at least support the action plan), will coordinate with the Secretariat of the EAAFP and will monitor the implementation of the action plan during the intersessional period up to COP13.

Far-Eastern Curlew Action Plan

Status and Achievements

155. The Action Plan for the Far Eastern Curlew was prepared by Australia supported by a Task Force under the EAAFP. The Action Plan was adopted at the 9th Meeting of Partners of the EAAFP in Singapore in January 2017, and by CMS COP12 through [Resolution 12.12](#). The species is considered as Endangered by IUCN. The Government of Australia has

provided two voluntary contributions for the implementation of the Action Plan, in 2016 and 2018.

Next steps

156. In line with [Decision 12.20](#), the Secretariat will continue to invite those Range States that are not yet Parties to ratify or accede to the Convention (or at least support the action plan), will coordinate with the Secretariat of the EAAFP and will monitor the implementation of the action plan during the intersessional period up to COP13. Research undertaken by Australia through satellite tagging will help identify key stopover sites and timing of migration

European Roller Action Plan

Status and Achievements

157. The Action Plan for the European Roller was adopted by [Resolution 12.12](#). The species shows a decreasing global population trend. It is considered Least Concern by IUCN. As requested by [Resolution 11.17 \(Rev.COP12\)](#), the Secretariat supports the activities of the Landbirds Working Group and the CMS Scientific Council, in liaison with the MLSG and the Friends of the Landbirds Action Plan in supporting the implementation of the European Roller Action Plan. It was discussed with the AEMLAP Steering Group that the European Roller will be included in the monitoring under the 'AfriBiRds' project, and that cooperation between the BirdLife partners in Hungary and South Africa will be supported.

Challenges

158. The main challenge will be to secure funding for the implementation of this action plan.

Next steps

159. The Secretariat will continue its support to the implementation of this action plan and its monitoring in liaison with the relevant groups and partners.

European Turtle Dove Action Plan

Status and Achievements

160. The development of the Action Plan for the European Turtle Dove has continued under the LIFE EuroSAP process (LIFE14 PRE/UK/000002; see above, section on Resolution 11.17 (Rev.COP12)), as requested by [Resolution 11.17 \(Rev.COP12\)](#) on the Action Plan for Migratory Landbirds in the African-Eurasian Region (AEMLAP). The final draft Action Plan was approved at the Meeting of the EU Expert Group on the Birds and Habitats Directives (NADEG), Brussels, Belgium, on 22-23 May 2018, with the caveat of a disclaimer reflecting the reservations of some Range States within the EU on a proposed temporary hunting moratorium on the European Turtle Dove. CMS attended the recent discussions on this Action Plan at the 'Eyes on the Flyways Conference' in Brussels, Belgium, on 24 May 2018. It is submitted to the 48th Meeting of the CMS Standing Committee for adoption, in accordance with [Decision 12.21](#).

Challenges

161. The main challenge will be the implementation of this action plan under the conditions of an EU-wide temporary hunting moratorium and the acceptance of an adaptive harvesting model by all Range States, and the availability of necessary financial resources.

Next steps

162. The Secretariat will support to the implementation of this action plan and its monitoring in liaison with the relevant partners.

Dalmatian Pelican Action Plan**Status and Achievements**

163. The draft Action Plan for the Dalmatian Pelican was prepared by the Society for the Protection of Prespa and the Hellenic Ornithological Society in the framework of the EuroSAP (LIFE14 PRE/UK/000002; see above). It has been under consultation of experts and Ranges States and approved by the NADEG Meeting in May 2018. A final consultation directed to China and Mongolia with regard to the East Asian population of the species will last until 2 September 2018. It is submitted to the 48th Meeting of the CMS Standing Committee for adoption, in accordance with [Decision 12.21](#).

Challenges

164. The main challenge will be to raise sufficient funds for supporting the implementation of this plan. The population in East Asia, which breeds in Mongolia and migrates into China is in a critical situation.

Next steps

165. The final draft of the Action will be also submitted by the Secretariats of AEWA and of the EAAFP to AEWA MOP7 taking place in Durban, South Africa in December 2018, and to the 10th EAAFP Meeting of Partners. The Secretariat will liaise with the partners to support the implementation of this Action Plan to the extent possible.

White-headed Duck Action Plan**Status and Achievements**

166. The draft Action Plan for the White-headed Duck was prepared by SEO/BirdLife in the framework of the EuroSAP (LIFE14 PRE/UK/000002; see above) and has been under consultation of experts and Ranges States and approved by the NADEG Meeting in May 2018. In line with [Decision 12.21](#), the final draft of the Action Plan is contained in Document UNEP/CMS/StC48/Doc.18 for the Standing Committee consideration.

Challenges

167. The main challenge for supporting the implementation will be raising funds. The critical threat of over-hunting/illegal killing of this species can be considered as the most sensitive issue when it comes to implementation.

Next steps

168. The Secretariats of AEWA and of the EAAFP will also submit this version of the Action Plan to AEWA MOP7 in December 2018, and to the 10th EAAFP Meeting of Partners. The Secretariat will liaise with the partners to support the implementation of this Action Plan to the extent possible.

Yellow-breasted Bunting Action Plan

Status and Achievements

169. Following the catastrophic decline of this species' population, an international Action Plan is under development, and is intended to be submitted to COP13. An action planning workshop took place in November 2016 in China. It is expected that the species will soon be granted a higher level of protection in China. Another workshop is planned to be held in 2019.

Challenges

170. The main challenges will concern the support of the implementation of the plan in Eastern Asia, with many important Range States not being Parties to the Convention, especially considering the importance of China for the migration and wintering of this species.

Next steps

171. The Secretariat will continue to liaise with the BirdLife partners regarding the finalization of the Action Plan and its submission to COP13.

IMPLEMENTATION OF RELEVANT RESOLUTIONS, DECISIONS AND CONCERTED ACTIONS

Asian Population of the Great Bustard Concerted Action

Status and Achievements

172. A proposal submitted by Mongolia in cooperation with the Eurasian Bustard Alliance and the Wildlife Research and Conservation Center of Mongolia for Concerted Action on the Asian population of the Great Bustard under CMS was adopted by COP12 as [Concerted Action 12.8](#).

173. An international workshop is intended to be held in China in November 2018, organized by the Chinese Biodiversity Conservation and Green Development Foundation (CBCGDF). It will review the progress and the existing action plan (from 1998), which will be updated, and the revised version submitted to COP13 for adoption.

Challenges

174. The main challenge is to identify sufficient resources for supporting Range States in the implementation of this Concerted Action.

Next steps

175. The Secretariat is supporting CBCGDF in the organization of the workshop.

Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade of Migratory Birds - Resolution 11.16 (Rev.COP12) and Decisions 12.28 and 12.30

Status and Achievements

176. Based on the provisions of [Resolution 11.16 \(Rev.COP12\)](#), the Intergovernmental Task Force to address illegal killing, taking and trade of migratory birds in the Mediterranean (MIKT) has continued its activities. The new Coordinator of the MIKT, Ms. Laura Aguado, entered on duty as in April 2018 and is based at the CMS Secretariat in Bonn.
177. Major progress has been achieved with the funding contributions granted by the EU under the Migratory Species Champion Programme and through the Global Public Goods and Challenges Cooperation Agreements with UN Environment. Firstly, a training workshop for countries prosecutors and investigators on illegal killing, taking and trade of migratory birds (IKB) was jointly organized by the LIFE-ENPE (European Network of Prosecutors for the Environment) Wildlife Crimes Working Group and the CMS Secretariat, and took place in Segovia, Spain, on 9- 11 May 2018. The workshop brought together representatives from 17 countries, mostly from the Mediterranean region, including North Africa and Middle East, as well as legal experts from ENPE. The report of the workshop was published on the MIKT webpage and a training package is under development and will enable the participants to replicate investigative methodologies and legal measures in their own countries to better tackle IKB.
178. Secondly, in line with [Decision 12.26](#), the Scoreboard on IKB, a tool for self-assessment of CMS Parties that are Members to MIKT to measure their national progress in combating IKB, was launched in June 2018. The Secretariat made it available in an online-friendly format. MIKT Member States and Observers as well as Bern Convention Focal Points and members of its Convention Network of Special Focal Points have been invited to provide inputs until 15 October 2018. The scoreboard covers a total of 56 countries. In accordance with [Decision 12.28](#), the information received will be analyzed in cooperation with the Bern Convention's Secretariat and shared with the MIKT. This first assessment will establish the baseline which will enable States to benchmark national and regional IKB status and efforts. Subsequent assessments will take place in 2020 and in intervals of three years from then on.
179. Thirdly, preparations for the production of a documentary and outreach film on the enforcement against IKB at international level within the MIKT region are being made, including identification of potential production partners, collection of audiovisual material and agreements with specialized national enforcement authorities of particular MIKT members to participate in the film.
180. In line with the Resolution and [Decision 12.30](#), the Secretariat has started the establishment of a similar Task Force in the East Asian-Australasian Flyway (ITTEA). In cooperation with EAAFP and with the support of Birdlife Singapore, invitations have been drafted requesting the nomination of focal points by the countries in the region. The Task Force will include government representatives of all CMS Parties, countries members of EAAFP and stakeholders such as the Arctic Migratory Birds Initiative (under CAFF), BirdLife International, and hunting associations.
181. The Task Force has presented its work at relevant meetings such as the Technical Meeting of Experts on the IUCN World Conservation Congress Resolution 70 on "Crimes against the Environment" and the meeting of the EU Roadmap towards eliminating IKB, and

has been active on the CMS website and social media channels, raising awareness about IKB.

Challenges

182. The main challenge of this initiative is to catalyze action and political will by engaging the governments of the Mediterranean countries in the work of the Task Force towards the overall goal of eradicating IKB. Funding from the EU is secure until 2020, thereafter additional funds will be necessary thereafter.

Next steps

183. Based on collaborative work with INTERPOL, the Secretariat is planning further law enforcement training workshops under MIKT from end of 2018 on. The Secretariat will further strengthen cross-border cooperation, together with partner organizations such as IMPEL (European Union Network for the Implementation and Enforcement of Environmental Law), and to raise awareness by organizing side events together with international partners (MIKT Steering Group members, BirdLife International, and the European Federation for Hunting and Conservation), being present at various meeting, e.g. Ramsar COP13 (October 2018), ENPE Annual Conference (October 2018), CBD COP14 (November 2018), AEWI MOP7 (December 2018) and EAAFP MOP10 (December 2018). The Third Meeting of the MIKT is intended to be held jointly with the Bern Convention Special Focal Points Network on Eradication of Illegal Killing, Trapping and Trade of Wild Birds in April/May 2019. It will aim at discussing the results of the Scoreboard, the post-2020 strategic priorities after the implementation of the Tunis Action Plan and the revised actions and targets under the post-2020 MIKT POW. The First Meeting of the ITTEA is intended to be held in the course of 2019. The work of the Mediterranean Task Force is a model to be replicated. First discussions on a Task Force for IKB in the Americas have taken place at the First Meeting of the America's Flyways Task Force in July 2018 and will be further developed.

Preventing Bird Poisoning - Resolution 11.15 (Rev.COP12) and Decision 12.19

Status and Achievements

184. [Resolution 11.15 \(Rev.COP12\)](#) reaffirmed the adoption of the Guidelines to Prevent the Risk of Poisoning to Migratory Birds. The Resolution also endorsed the PPWG's [Programme of Work 2017-2020](#) and proposed the continuation of the open-ended Preventing Poisoning Working Group (PPWG) until COP13. As adopted, the Terms of Reference (TOR) of the PPWG have now included a new Task Group focusing on poisoning from lead ammunition, fishing weights and other sources of lead. The Secretariat has identified relevant stakeholders and experts to be nominated for the Task Group on Lead, in accordance with the TOR, and has sent invitation letters in early July 2018.
185. The Secretariat and Wildlife Toxicology Interest Group of the Society for Environmental Toxicology and Chemicals (SETAC) co-organized the Symposium "Migratory Species at Risk, the Role of Pesticides and other Chemicals", which took place on 15 May 2018 in the margins of the 28th meeting of the SETAC in Rome, Italy. The symposium showcased the work under the PPWG and the Guidelines to Prevent Poisoning. Presentations and poster-sessions were given on the impact of pesticides, rodenticides, lead ammunition, poison-baits and veterinary drugs. Views on the need of regulation were expressed by representatives of the European Food and Safety Authority (EFSA) and the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA), describing the extent to which regulation takes into account neighbouring countries and regional use of compounds, accounts for how local use might affect migratory birds, and

how field data might feed into regulatory processes. The recent establishment of the Task Group on Lead by COP12 was portrayed as an example of cooperation in the efforts to minimize the impact of some of the worst contaminants.

Challenges

186. The main challenge of this Resolution and related [Decisions 12.18-12.19](#) is the lack of financial resources to hire a Coordinator, to organize regional workshops to implement the actions identified in the POW of the PPWG, and to organize an inter-sessional meeting of the working group itself.

Next steps

187. In the absence of funding for a Coordinator, SEO/BirdLife Spain, which had coordinated the PPWG on an interim basis before COP12, agreed to continue its efforts in seeking funds to organize the 1st Meeting of the Task Group on Lead back to back with the 3rd Meeting of the PPWG, envisaged to be held in early 2019. However, resources for a Coordinator of the PPWG still need to be identified in order to facilitate the implementation of the POW of the PPWG.

Flyways - Resolution 12.11 and Decisions 12.31-33

Status and Achievements

188. [Resolution 12.11](#) re-endorsed the global “[Programme of Work on Migratory Birds and Flyways 2014-2023](#)”. The Resolution also reaffirmed the “[America’s Flyways Framework](#)” and adopted the [Action Plan for the Americas Flyways](#). In line with [Decision 12.31](#), the Secretariat organized the 1st Meeting of the Americas Flyways Framework (AFF) Task Force, which took place at the kind invitation of the Government of Brazil in the city of Florianópolis from 26 to 27 July 2018. The implementation of the Americas Flyways Action Plan was reviewed. A workplan until 2020 was adopted and the need to hire a Coordinator was highlighted. Initiatives already ongoing in the Western Hemisphere, such as AMBI, WHSRN, Atlantic Shorebird Flyway Plan or Pacific Shorebird Flyway Strategy will be supported and strengthened. The next meeting is planned to be held in October 2019 in Panama, back to back with an Americas shorebirds meeting.

189. The Secretariat has steadily supported the activities of the Flyways Working Group according to its Programme of Work, regarding the extension of its membership and facilitating the coordination with other CMS Working Groups and Task Forces such as MIKT, PPWG, Landbirds Working Group and the Energy Task Force.

Next steps

190. Coordination between the Secretariat, the two COP-appointed Scientific Councillors for birds, Rob Clay and Stephen Garnett, and the Chair of the Flyways Working Group, Taej Mundkur, will continue as usual and Skype conferences will be held regularly. The Secretariat will continue its support to the Flyways Working Group.

Taxonomy and nomenclature - Decision 12.102

Status and Achievements

191. As requested by [Decision 12.102](#), an analysis for the adaptation of the CMS Appendices according to the new bird reference adopted (Del Hoyo, J. & Collar, N.J. (2016)) and of the rules outlined in [Resolution 12.27](#) on Taxonomy and Nomenclature is under way, under the lead of Professor Stephen Garnett, COP-appointed Councillor for Birds. The analysis includes the disaggregation of bird families in Appendix II, as recommended by the Scientific Council, in order to show which species are in each family and identify which of them meet the CMS criteria for migration.

Challenges

192. The main challenge for this project is accuracy of the definitions related to the CMS criteria in the case of each single species.

Next steps

193. A report on the results of the taxonomic analysis will be prepared and submitted to the Scientific Council at ScC-SC4. The Scientific Council will be requested to make recommendations to COP regarding the listing of the species which were previously included in the now disaggregated bird families.

Wildlife Diseases and Migratory Species - Resolution 12.6

Status and Achievements

194. Regarding the activities related to the Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI), including the viruses H5N1 and H5N8, and its potential consequences for the conservation of migratory birds and potential risks for human health, the Secretariat has been on standby and ready to convene, coordinate and support the Scientific Task Force on Avian Influenza and Wild Birds, in cooperation with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).

Challenges

195. The engagement of Parties and other organizations and institutions is crucial to provide a reliable basis of knowledge on this issue, as the Secretariat itself has not the epidemiological scientific expertise for identifying and evaluating the definite role of migratory birds in the spread of HPAI viruses and all potential consequences for both human health and the conservation of migratory birds.

Next steps

196. The Secretariat will continue to support the provisions under this Resolution in liaison with the Scientific Council, the Scientific Task Force on Avian Influenza and Wild Birds and in cooperation with the FAO, the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) and the World Health Organization (WHO), and will be ready to take the role of leadership of the Scientific Task Force on Avian Influenza and Wild Birds, particularly in the case of outbreaks of HPAI.

IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT- TERRESTRIAL SPECIES

MOUS, STANDALONE ACTION PLANS AND INITIATIVES

Gorilla Agreement

Status and Achievements

197. The Secretariat has been liaising with the Great Apes Survival Partnership (GRASP) as well as with potential donors to revise the work under the agreement.

Challenges

198. Due to numerous conflicting priorities, the preparations of the Meeting of the Parties (MOP) had to be postponed to 2019.

Next steps

199. The Secretariat will organize the MOP in 2019 and will continue working with GRASP to arrange for future coordination of the Agreement.

Sahelo-Saharan Antelopes Action Plan

Status and Achievements

200. The implementation of the Sahelo-Saharan Action Plan has been dormant, though some updates come from the field and compiled by the focal point Scientific Councillor.

Challenges

201. No donors have been identified to support the organization of the 2nd Range State meeting or the updating the 20-year old Action Plan. The Action Plan Species Status updates have been slow to come and have not been published as one document yet.

202. The conservation of the Addax has been precarious for years, and reasons include regional instability and poaching activity by armed insurgents.

Next steps

203. The Secretariat will pursue its fundraising efforts for the implementation of these activities

Central Asian Mammals Initiative (CAMI)

Status and Achievements

204. The Range State Meeting for mid-term review of implementation of CAMI Programme of Work 2014-2020 (POW) was conducted in cooperation with the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN) in April 2018. Participants produced an overview of the implementation of CAMI POW and decided that the main priority for CAMI until 2020 should be strengthening trans-boundary conservation efforts, including those to counteract poaching and reduce barriers to migration. An overview of the implementation of CAMI POW 2014-2018 was prepared and concrete steps to be taken to prepare for CMS COP13 agreed.

205. The first draft of the static CAMI Migration and Infrastructure Atlas was sent out for comments to contributing experts. The revised version is to be finalized in the last quarter of 2018. This project was generously supported by voluntary contributions of Germany and Switzerland. Development of the online atlas will commence as soon as additional funding has been identified.
206. The Secretariat, with the support of Government of Switzerland, initialized two projects:
- first pilot study of the Wild Camel population near the border between Mongolia and China in Spring 2019 with the Wild Camel Protection Foundation;
 - analysis of new patterns in illegal trade in saiga, argali and snow leopard derivatives and to inform enforcement agencies and to enhance cross-border information exchange in 5 countries in Central Asia with TRAFFIC and the Association for the Conservation of Biodiversity of Kazakhstan (ACBK).
207. The Secretariat is awaiting approval of a grant application submitted to the International Climate Initiative (IKI) by the UN Environment Vienna Office to enhance the adaptive capacity of Central Asian migratory flagship species. Proposed activities include meetings to update the **Bukhara Deer MOU Action Plan and the Argali Action Plan**.
208. The Secretariat with the support of the German Government has financed the production of the 23 issue of the Saiga News and the upgrade of the Saiga Resource Centre Website, a tool for information sharing and coordinated action of the **Saiga MOU** Signatories and experts.
209. The Secretariat assisted the CITES Secretariat in preparing the species-specific questionnaire for the Range States of Saiga and contributed to the development of the new Saiga Decisions drafts in the run up to the CITES Standing Committee.

Challenges

210. Additional resources need to be identified to organize the Saiga MOU Meeting of the Signatories, Range State Meetings for the Bukhara Deer MOU and Argali ISSAP.

Next steps

211. The Secretariat will:
- Continue to seek final approval of the IKI proposal;
 - Release shortly the meeting report for the mid-term review of implementation of CAMI Programme of Work 2014-2020;
 - Finalize the overview of CAMI POW implementation and updated species information sheets containing information on the status of the populations of CAMI species by COP13;
 - Agree with implementing partners and contributing authors on further steps to finalize the CAMI Migration and Infrastructure Atlas and identify implementing time frame and production of the online version;
 - Seek funding sources for completion of outstanding activities related to the Saiga MOU.

IMPLEMENTATION OF RELEVANT RESOLUTIONS, DECISIONS AND CONCERTED ACTIONS

Joint CMS-CITES African Carnivore Initiative - Decision 12.60

212. The following Decisions are also considered under the umbrella of the African Carnivores Initiative (ACI):

- Cheetah and Wild Dog Conservation - Decisions 12.61-63
- Lions Conservation - Decision 12.67

Status and Achievements

213. The planning the 1st CMS/CITES Range State Meeting of the ACI which is planned to take place in 5-8 November 2018 in Bonn is under way. The meeting seeks to bring together representatives of the 47 African countries that are Range States to the four iconic species covered by the ACI, i.e. African Lion, Cheetah, Leopard, and African Wild and set priorities and mapping a way forward for implementing relevant decisions and measures which were adopted by both Conventions. The meeting is made possible through the generous support provided by the Governments of Belgium, Germany and Switzerland.

214. A Lion Conservation framework is being drafted and will be presented and discussed at the 1st Range State Meeting of the ACI.

215. Furthermore, in fulfilment of the Decisions on Lion Conservation, a Notification was published by CITES to announce different funding mechanisms that can be used for lion conservation, and a web portal is being constructed to collect lion management information in one place online.

Next steps

216. The Secretariat will continue cooperate with CITES on the preparations of the meeting and on shaping the future implementation of the initiative.

Transfrontier Conservation Areas for Migratory Species 12.94-97

Status and Achievements

217. The Secretariat started implementing the EU-funded project Cross-Regional Wildlife Conservation in Eastern and Southern Africa and the Indian Ocean. In partnership with CITES and UNODC, CMS is the lead implementing agency, responsible for the establishment of Transfrontier Conservation Areas in the regions.

218. The establishment of Transfrontier Conservation Areas (TFCAs) according to the wildlife and natural resource Protocols and Agreements of the Regional Economic Commissions (RECs) requires high-level commitment of countries and close collaboration between countries and the RECs.

219. The activities outlined in the project are as follows:

- Identify specific governance challenges of the TFCAs;
- Liaise with Governments to address the governance challenges of the TFCAs

- Support Governments of these TFCAs in the drafting, revision and approval of bi- / multilateral instruments
- Organise joint high-level study tours and site missions to the TFCAs to stimulate buy-in at ministerial level as well as signing ceremonies.

220. To begin these activities, the Secretariat has hired a consultant to solicit guidance from the RECs, IGOs, national governments and NGOs to determine the TFCAs on which this project should focus and then prepare a report that identifies the opportunities and challenges for project implementation and makes recommendations for implementation activities and next steps.

Next steps

221. The Secretariat will pursue the establishment of the post dedicated to the long-term coordination of this project.

RESOURCE MOBILIZATION AND INTERAGENCY AFFAIRS

Status and Achievements

222. Significant progress has been made both on raising funding for the implementation of priority activities for the triennium and on strengthening collaboration with UN Environment, MEAs, IGOs and Civil Society. Details are included in the separate reports being UNEP/CMS/StC48/Doc.9.2 “Resource Mobilization”; and UNEP/CMS/StC48/Doc.17 “Synergies and Partnerships” and UNEP/CMS/StC48/Doc.17.1 “Cooperation with IPBES”.

Challenges

223. Unfortunately, no progress has been made on the CMS Ambassadorship due to lack of capacity.

Next Steps

224. The Secretariat will:

- Continue identifying funding opportunities and approaching potential donors;
- Continue strengthening existing collaborations and engaging in strategic ones;
- Revamp and expand the CMS Ambassadors programme to support CMS implementation.

INFORMATION, COMMUNICATION AND OUTREACH

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT – Resolution 11.8 (Rev. COP12)

Status and Achievements

225. The official CMS website and workspace as well as those of other CMS Family entities have been relocated to a faster and more powerful server to improve loading and handling of the websites for both users and editors. Workspaces have been integrated and aligned with the overall maintenance of the official websites, improving both their security and backup procedures. Cost-sharing is implemented for the rent of the server (and minimal maintenance) and spread across the CMS Family.
226. The Secretariat continues to use the Online National Reporting System (ORS) developed by UNEP-WCMC. The tool is now being used by several MEAs, including Ramsar, the Bern Convention, the International Plant Treaty and a number of CMS Agreements and MoUs. The fact that all these entities are using the same reporting tool is an achievement.
227. Both the existing contacts database and meeting registration tool are being regularly used and maintained by the Secretariat. The meeting registration tool has been improved and upgraded and has evolved into a tool being used by several CMS Family entities.
228. The Joint Communications Unit is embarking on a project to implement a Digital Assets Management System for use by the Secretariat. This will improve the use and management of photos and videos by the Secretariat.

Challenges

229. The Joint Communication Unit is maintaining a large number of websites across the CMS Family, which sometimes leads to capacity shortages. Lack of funding affects any further development project.
230. National respondents have encountered some technical issues related to the functionality of the ORS, which have been communicated to UNEP-WCMC by the Secretariat. The tool needs regular maintenance (currently kindly provided by WCMC free of charge) as well further development. In order to ensure sustainability of the tool, all entities using the ORS will need to contribute regular funding.
231. The existing Contacts Database is web-based and therefore difficult for the Secretariat to maintain. Therefore, the Secretariat is embarking on a project to find an alternative solution for a unified system that will allow the Secretariat to better maintain its contacts both online and offline.

Next steps

232. The Secretariat will continue its fundraising efforts in support of the operations and improvement of all information management systems and will procure a photo management and mass-mailing software and implement their use within the Secretariat.

COMMUNICATIONS – Resolution 11.8 (Rev. COP12)

Status and Achievements

233. The Joint Communications Unit develops annual programmes of work which determine priorities for CMS and AEWA in terms information management, communication and outreach.
234. Press releases were distributed to mark CMS achievements or to announce important events. Op eds by the CMS Executive Secretary are being prepared and placed in media outlets in different countries. Examples are op eds on *Predators under Threat*, featured in print and online news as well as on *Renewable Energy* published in The Gulf News.
235. The op ed dedicated to World Environment Day 2018 hosted by India this year, emphasized CMS's contribution to address plastic pollution. About 10 news agencies and major media outlets in India featured the article. Media requests are being dealt with and interviews are being arranged. Video statements by the Executive Secretary are regularly produced in-house by the Joint Communications Unit.
236. Since early 2018, professional media monitoring of selected campaigns has been made possible through a monitoring tool being kindly provided by UN Environment.
237. The CMS Inflight Magazine developed for CMS COP12 has won silver awards in the Best of Content Marketing (BCM) Awards 2018 in the categories of "Cover of the Year" and "Specials and Annuals".
238. The Secretariat has started developing fact sheets on species groups and various conservation challenges with an overview of activities and the CMS mandate. They are available on the CMS website. Website *Thematic Pages* on topics such as lead poisoning, climate change and energy are being developed by the Joint Communications Unit for the AEWA Secretariat, which will also be of relevance to CMS.
239. Banners are being produced to feature species at international events or meetings.
240. Facebook and Twitter are the main social media channels used by CMS to engage with a large community interested in wildlife issues. Twitter followership has grown to over 13,000, with an increase of 200 % in a period of 5 months around CMS COP12, while the number of Facebook fans has grown to almost 8000. The Secretariat has conducted small social media campaigns around major events such as CMS COPs, MOPs and World Migratory Bird Day and uses social media to draw attention to upcoming meetings and other CMS related news and events.

Challenges

241. Securing the funds to commence a number of projects is crucial to the work of the Unit.
242. The global increase in the use of social media over the past years has led to a growth in the need for more professional and creative content and specialized knowledge in this area. Another challenge lies in catering to the three languages of the Convention and in the sheer number of social media channels the Joint Communications Unit is responsible for maintaining (Twitter, Facebook for CMS, AEWA and for the WMBD campaign).

Next steps

243. The Secretariat will continue its fundraising efforts in support of its communication tools and activities.
244. Furthermore, the Secretariat will continue to reinforce links with the Communications Division of UN Environment (DCPI) to gain better access to global media networks. Additional resources will continue to be sought to support communication activities, for example to produce professional multi-media products and dedicated social media campaigns.
245. The production of a new publication (CMS brochure) is currently underway considering new initiatives and other developments. The Secretariat will continue to make good use of the in-house capacity for design work within the Joint Communications Unit.
246. The Joint Communications Unit will continue to maintain the various social media channels and will continue to keep abreast with new developments in the area of social media management.

OUTREACH CAMPAIGNS – Resolution 11.8 (Rev. COP12)

Status and Achievements

247. Over 600 events were registered in close to 60 countries throughout the world for the global World Migratory Bird Day (WMBD) peak day celebrations in May 2018. Of these events almost two thirds took place in the Western Hemisphere, which underlines the importance of the recent partnership signed with Environment for the Americas (EFTA).
248. About 2000 posters plus postcards and stickers in English, French and Spanish were distributed to event organizers globally.
249. On social media, the hashtag #WorldMigratoryBirdDay received nearly 13 million impressions and #WMBD2018 around another 4 million.
250. Media coverage around WMBD exceeded 1000 articles according to a professional media tracking and clipping service provided by UN Environment.
251. COP13 is already being promoted on social media. Major news agencies in particular in India, host of COP13, are being made aware of the conference. Preparations for COP13 will step up in early 2019.

Challenges

252. Although growing in importance, the flagship CMS and AEWA-run World Migratory Bird Day campaign is suffering from a lack of voluntary contributions.

Next steps

253. AEWA, CMS and EFTA are working on developing the partnership further to integrate and strengthen WMBD along all the key flyways of the world and to win additional partners and sponsors to support the global campaign to celebrate and raise awareness on the need to conserve migratory birds. At the same time, preparations for the October events and the development of materials to support the theme of 2019 on the topic of plastic pollution will continue.

CAPACITY-BUILDING

RECRUITMENT OF PARTIES

Status and Achievements

254. CMS is continuously growing. In the last triennium, the Secretariat welcomed four new Members to the Convention thus reaching 126 Parties. Moreover, several other countries have started the accession process and will join the Convention in the near future. However, the Party map of CMS is unbalanced: while regions such as Europe, Africa and South America are well represented, large gaps can still be found in North and Central America, the Caribbean, Asia and the Pacific.
255. For this purpose, CMS has organized meetings with high-level Embassy officials from countries in the Latin American and South-East Asian regions in Berlin to promote accession to the Convention. At these meetings, the Secretariat was supported by representatives from the German Foreign Office, which serves as Depositary to the Convention. Over the years, the German Foreign Office has provided invaluable help in encouraging countries to accede to CMS and highlighting the role it can play in conserving the world's biodiversity.
256. These events were possible thanks to the contribution granted by the European Commission under the Migratory Species Champion Programme and through the Global Public Goods and Challenges (GPGC Programme) Cooperation Agreements with UN Environment.
257. In addition, the Executive Secretary has undertaken several missions in connection with international events with a view to promote the accession of country especially in the Middle East and in South East Asia.

Next Steps

258. The Secretariat will continue promoting country accession through, whenever possible, the organization of dedicated workshops and dialogues at regional level and through bilateral approaches.

STRENGTHENING INSTITUTIONAL AND NATIONAL CAPACITY

Status and Achievements

259. In parallel to the active fundraising in support of the capacity building portfolio, the Secretariat has been liaising with national focal points with a view to assist them in the implementation of Parties' commitments. To this end, the Secretariat continues promoting the CMS Family Manual, a comprehensive tool developed to guide implementation at national level. Currently it is available in English, French, Spanish, Russian and Portuguese, with Portuguese being the latest edition kindly provided by the Government of Brazil. The latter is being finalized and will be published shortly. In order to make it even more accessible, translation into Arabic should be considered.

Challenges

260. Resources for the implementation of capacity-building activities including the implementation of the decision related to community participation and livelihoods have yet to be secured.

Next Steps

261. The Secretariat will continue seeking funding and opportunities to implement the above-mentioned activities.

SERVICING OF GOVERNING BODIES

Organize COP13

Status and Achievements

262. The Secretariat is in contact with the Indian Government which generously offered to host COP13.

263. Date and venue for COP13 have been identified – the Conference will take place on 15-22 February in Gandhinagar, Gujarat. The Indian Government will provide an update on their COP13 preparations during StC48.

Next steps

264. The Secretariat will continue liaising with the Government of India for the preparations of COP13. Furthermore, based on the experience gained, the Secretariat recommends some adjustments to the process of handling documents in the lead-up to COP13, which are submitted to StC48 for advice (UNEP/CMS/StC48/Doc.10.1).

Organize Standing Committee Meetings

Status and Achievements

265. Since COP12 the Executive Secretary has had regular contact with the Chair of the StC to keep him abreast of important developments. As usual all staff have been involved to varying degrees in drafting of the substantive documents for StC48 while the Conference Service Team has taken care of the logistical arrangements and document production.

Next steps

266. With the convening of COP13 in early 2020, the Secretariat proposes a suitable date for StC49, and agenda items to be discussed, for the consideration of StC48 (UNEP/CMS/StC48/Doc.10.1).

Organize Meetings of the Sessional Committee of the Scientific Council

Status and Achievements

267. The 3rd Meeting of the Sessional Committee of the CMS Scientific Council (ScC-SC3) was convened from 29 May – 1 June 2018 at the Secretariat's premises in Bonn. The main purposes of the meeting were to (i) develop a Programme of Work for the Sessional Committee for the intersessional period between COP12 and COP13, and (ii) to develop and establish a revision of the Rules of Procedure of the Scientific Council, to take into account relevant provision of Resolution 12.4 on the Scientific Council (pursuant to Decision 12.2). Both purposes were achieved. Revised Rules of Procedure of the Scientific Council and its Sessional Committee, as finalized by ScC-SC3, are submitted to StC48 for approval (UNEP/CMS/StC48/Doc.13), pursuant to Decision 12.3. Further information on the outcomes of ScC-SC3 can be obtained from the report of the meeting (UNEP/CMS/StC48/Inf.5) and the report of the Chair of the Scientific Council (UNEP/CMS/StC48/Doc.6).

Challenges

268. The convening of COP13 in early 2020 is reducing the time available to the Scientific Council to implement the mandates received from COP12.

Next steps

- ScC-SC4 is scheduled to be convened during the first half of November 2019.
- The main purpose of ScC-SC4 will be to review documents with a scientific component submitted to COP13 (including proposals for the amendment of the Appendices and draft resolutions and decisions). Based on the experience gained in the lead-up to COP12, the Secretariat recommends some adjustments to the process of handling documents in relation to Scientific Council revision, which are submitted to StC48 for advice (UNEP/CMS/StC48/Doc.10.1).

EXECUTIVE DIRECTION AND MANAGEMENT

SDGs*	SPMS Targets *	Activities	Priority ranking	2018				Status	
				Total Budget (€)	Funding Secured				Budget Gap
					TF	VC	Donor		
OVERALL MANAGEMENT									
All	All	Provide overall management of the Secretariat, including regular Management meetings	Core						
		Supervise the administrative and financial management of the Secretariat	Core						
		Represent CMS and/or CMS Family; raising awareness, visibility, etc.	Core						
NATIONAL REPORTING - including Decision 12.4									
All	All	Develop revised Format for the national reports to be submitted to COP13 in three languages	Core	15,000	0	13,300	Switzerland UN Environment	0	
		Convene informal advisory group to provide feedback on the proposal(s) for revision of the National Report Format	High	20,000	0	11,300	Switzerland	0	
		Undertake Analysis of National Reports	High	0	0	0		0	
REVIEW MECHANISM AND NATIONAL LEGISLATION PROGRAMME - Resolution 12.9 and Decision 12.6									
All	All	Develop a template for submitting initial information	High						
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake an inventory of the Secretariat's present information on Parties' current legislation; Develop a questionnaire pre-filled with existing information to complement the inventory to identify Parties; Prepare legislative guidance materials and model laws as well as conduct capacity building workshops, Provide technical support to assist Parties in drafting adequate national legislation, and Prepare technical guidance on best practices. 	High	150,000	0	23,730	Switzerland Finland	0	
		Convene additional day to Standing Committee meetings	High	3,500	0	5,000		0	not needed
STRATEGIC PLAN - Resolution 11.2 (Rev.COP12)									
All	All	Maintain a register of sub-targets as a "living" document and continue to complete and update the Indicator Factsheets and Companion Volume	Medium	10,000	0	0		10,000	
		Undertake assessment of implementation of the Strategic Plan	Medium	0	0	0		0	
		Integrate goals and targets of the Strategic Plan into work programmes under the Convention, and raise awareness of the Plan	Medium						
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND MIGRATORY SPECIES - Decision 12.105									
All	All	Compile information and data on the interlinkages between migratory species and sustainable development;	High	10,000	0	0		10,000	
		Compile report on the contributions of the CMS Family to achieving SDGs, using information from national reports and other sources;	Medium	0	0	0		0	
		Engage in the preparations for the post-2020 follow-up to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity Biodiversity Summit in 2020	Medium	0	0	0		0	
		Total		208,500	0	53,330		20,000	
		Staff costs: D1 (30%), P5 (30%); G6 (70%); and G4 (20%)		184,722	184,722	0		0	
		Programme Support Costs (13%)		51,119	24,014	6,933		20,172	
		Grand Total		444,341	208,736	60,263		40,172	

TF: Trust Fund, VC: Voluntary Contributions

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completed
ongoing
not yet started/not progressed- lack of funding and/or capacity

IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT - SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY SERVICES

SDGs**	SPMS Targets **	Activities	Priority ranking	2018				Status	
				Total Budget (€)	Funding Secured				Budget Gap
					TF	VC	Donor		
SCIENTIFIC ADVICE									
		Provide scientific advice to the Secretariat and Subsidiary bodies of the Convention	Core						
		Coordinate the work of the Scientific Council and its Sessional Committee	Core						
		Organize Meetings of the Sessional Committee of the Scientific Council - <i>see section on Servicing Governing Bodies</i>	Core	*	*	*	*	ScC-SC3	
4, 7, 9, 12, 14, 17	15	Prepare review report on the conservation status of migratory species	High	100,000	0	0	100,000		
All	All	Coordinate implementation of the Small Grant Programme	Medium	100,000	0	0	100,000		
4, 7, 9, 12, 14, 17	15	Atlas on Animal Migration - Decision 12.91		400,000	0	400,000	0		
		Develop Atlas for Central Asian Mammals as an interactive online mapping tool - <i>see section on Terrestrial Species</i>	High	*	*	*	*		
		Develop African-Eurasian Bird Migration Atlas	High	400,000	0	400,000	Italy	0	
IMPLEMENTATION OF RELEVANT RESOLUTIONS AND DECISIONS									
All	1, 3-5, 7-11, 15, 16	Energy Task Force - Resolution 11.27 (Rev.COP12)		170,000	0	60,000	110,000		
		Support coordination and operation of Energy Task Force	High	60,000	0	60,000	Germany	0	
		Develop and deliver webinar series for CMS Parties, financial institutions and energy sector stakeholders, with presentations by Energy Task Force members and other experts.	Medium	40,000	0	0		40,000	
		Assessment of effectiveness of management to mitigate negative impacts of renewable energy upon biodiversity	Medium	30,000	0	0		30,000	
		Organize meetings of the Task Force	High	40,000	0	0		40,000	
All	1, 2, 4, 5, 7-10, 12, 13, 15	Climate Change and Migratory Species - Resolution 12.21		315,000	0	0	315,000		
		Support the Climate Change Working Group and organize its meetings	High	25,000	0	0		25,000	
		Develop a baseline curriculum for webinars and e-learning courses to build capacity on climate change and migratory species among natural resource professionals and decision makers	Medium	40,000	0	0		40,000	
		Review evidence for climate change impacts on migratory species; vulnerability assessment and develop guidelines for adaptation measures	Medium	200,000	0	0		200,000	
		Build climate-resilient site networks for migratory species (development of project proposal and matching funds)	Medium	50,000	0	0		50,000	
1-3, 5-15	3, 7-9, 11	Concerted Actions - Decisions 12.103 and 12.104							
		Review list of species designated for Cooperative Actions as well as projects and initiatives identified as Cooperative Actions	High						
		Develop a template for reporting by the Scientific Council	High						
6, 7, 11-15	9, 10	Addressing Connectivity in the Conservation of Migratory Species - Resolution 12.26 and Decision 12.92		15,000	0	0	15,000		
		Conduct analysis on the linkages between migratory species connectivity and ecosystem resilience	Medium	0	0	0		0	
		Assess needs and develop focused objectives for new research on key connectivity issues	Medium	15,000	0	0		15,000	
		Other activities		tbd	0	0		tbd	
1-3, 5-16	2, 5, 6, 11, 13, 14	Sustainable Tourism - Decisions 12.89 and 12.90		20,000	0	0	20,000		
		Collate existing information on best practices and impacts of tourism on wildlife as basis to develop guidelines for sustainable tourism on wildlife interactions.	Medium	20,000	0	0		20,000	
		Total		1,120,000	0	460,000		660,000	
		Staff Costs: D1(10%); P5(10%); P4(100%); G5(30%)		215,967	215,967	0		0	
		Programme Support Costs (13%)		173,676	28,076	59,800		85,800	
		Grand Total		1,509,642	244,042	519,800		745,800	

TF: Trust Fund, VC: Voluntary Contributions

* Funding is reflected in the sections indicated

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	completed
	ongoing
	not yet started/not progressed- lack of funding and/or capacity

IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT - AQUATIC SPECIES

SDGs*	SPMS Targets *	Activities	Priority ranking	2018				Budget Gap	Status
				Total Budget (€)	Funding Secured				
					TF	VC	Donor		
MOUS, STANDALONE ACTION PLANS AND PROGRAMMES OF WORK - COORDINATION, ORGANIZATION OF MEETINGS OF DECISION-MAKING BODIES AND IMPLEMENTATION OF KEY PRIORITIES									
All	1, 3, 4, 6, 8-11, 13, 15	Marine Turtles of the Atlantic Coast of Africa MOU Organize brainstorming meeting to revitalize the MOU and the Third Meeting of Signatories	Core	35,000 35,000	0 0	0 0		35,000 35,000	
All	1, 3, 4, 6-11, 13-16	Dugong MOU Coordination (P4 Coordinator; P2 support 50%; P5 support 33%) Organize the Fourth Meeting of Signatories Revise the Conservation and Management Plan of the Dugong MOU Develop concepts and implementation support of Pilot Incentive Projects Outreach for Dugong and Seagrass Research Toolkit Implement IKI Seagrass Ecosystem Services Project	Core	761,675 286,000 0 0 17,000 5,000 453,675	0 0 0 0 0 0 0	761,675 286,000 0 0 17,000 5,000 453,675	UAE and IKI project UAE and other Signatories UAE and other Signatories IKI Project	0 0 0 0 0 0 0	 awaiting approval
All	1, 3, 4, 6-11, 13-16	IOSEA Marine Turtles MOU Coordination (P3 Coordinator; Assistant G5 50%) Organize the Eighth Meetings of Signatories and of the Advisory Committee Advise RFMOs, in particular IOTC, on data collection requirements Increase the visibility of illegal take/trade issues and establish a working group Revise the templates and process for the IOSEA site network Initiate the next species assessment, for hawksbill turtles Organize sub-regional meetings for SEA+ and NWIO, and meetings of the Marine Turtle Task Forces (MTTF) for WIO and NIO.	Core	398,875 162,235 101,640 0 15,000 0 20,000 100,000	22,768 22,768 0 0 0 0 0 0	145,038 126,000 21,000 0 15,000 0 0 5,000	Signatories USFWS Australia Signatories	231,069 13,467 80,640 0 0 0 20,000 95,000	
1-15, 17	1, 3, 4, 6-11, 14, 15, 16	Sharks MOU Coordination (P2 Coordinator; Assistant G5 50%) Organize the Third Meeting of Signatories and Meetings of the Advisory Committee and Conservation Working Group Develop a communication and awareness-raising strategy Identify and review gaps in capacity and training needs, compile or develop training materials, and organize training workshops on data collection, species identification, and safe handling and release protocols. Conduct a survey on domestic legislation to address implementation gaps Provide guidance on species specific conservation needs, bycatch mitigation measures and best practice regarding MPA management in cooperation Engage with RFMOs and RSCs on the implementation of Conservation Plan Other activities for 2019-2020 tbd by the Third Meeting to the Parties	Core	522,753 141,503 247,250 40,000 50,000 7,000 7,000 30,000 0	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	457,753 141,503 247,250 40,000 0 7,000 7,000 15,000 0	Germany and Signatories Signatories Monaco EC Signatories EU Signatories	65,000 0 0 0 50,000 0 0 15,000 0	
All	1-3, 6-10, 13-15	Pacific Islands Cetaceans MOU Coordination Organize the Fourth Meeting of Signatories	Core	35,000 15,000 20,000	0 0 0	0 0 0		35,000 15,000 20,000	
All	1, 3, 4, 6-10, 13-15	Western African Aquatic Mammal MOU Organize brainstorming meeting to revitalize the MOU and the First Meeting of Signatories	Core	35,000 35,000	0 0	0 0		35,000 35,000	

IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT - AQUATIC SPECIES

SDGs*	SPMS Targets *	Activities	Priority ranking	2018				Status	
				Total Budget (€)	Funding Secured				Budget Gap
					TF	VC	Donor		
1-15, 17	1-11, 14, 15	South Pacific Loggerhead Turtle Action Plan Implement selected projects (at least two)	Core	20,000 20,000	0 0	20,000 20,000	Australia	0 0	
2, 3, 6, 9-15	3, 7, 8, 9	Cetaceans Programme of Work - Decision 12.16 Conduct review of regional threats and priorities for remaining CMS aquatic mammals	Medium	40,000 40,000	0 0	0 0		40,000 0	
IMPLEMENTATION OF RELEVANT RESOLUTIONS, DECISIONS AND CONCERTED ACTIONS									
2, 12, 14, 15	3, 8, 9	Angelshark Concerted Action Organize workshops to develop a regional Action Plans Other activities	High Medium	30,000 30,000	0 0	0 30,000	Monaco	30,000 0	
2, 12, 14, 15	3, 8, 9	Atlantic Humpback Dolphin Concerted Action Support Range States to develop an Action Plan and convene meeting to refine it	Medium	50,000 50,000	0 0	0 50,000	Monaco	50,000 0	
2, 4, 7, 9, 12, 14, 15, 17	3, 8, 9, 15	European Eel Concerted Action Convene meeting of Range States to discuss potential CMS instrument Undertake a survey of Range States to identify gaps in conservation and management	High High	30,000 30,000	0 0	0 30,000	Monaco Sargasso Sea Commission	30,000	
2, 12, 14, 15	3, 8, 9	Polar Bear Concerted Action Organize an expert brainstorming workshop and a symposium	High	33,000 33,000	0 0	33,000 33,000	Norway	0 0	
2, 12, 14, 15	3, 8, 9	Arabian Sea Humpback Whales Concerted Action Organize a Range State meeting		0 0	0 0	0 0		0 0	
1-4, 6, 8-15, 17	1-3, 6-10, 15	Conservation and management of Whales and their habitats in the South Atlantic Region - Resolution 12.17 and Decision 12.53 Organize regional workshop to improve implementation of the Action Plan Other activities	High Medium	60,000 tbd	0 0	0 0		tbd 0 tbd	
14, 15	8	Marine Turtles - Decision 12.17 Review status and threats including climate change and sky glow; develop recommendations for the conservation of all species; and develop Action Plan for hawksbill turtle	High	0 0	0 0	0 0		0 0	
1-3, 6-15	5, 7, 10	Recreational in-water interaction with aquatic mammals - Decisions 12.50-52 Review existing evidence and develop guidelines on recreational in-water interactions with CMS-listed species	Medium	0 0	0 0	0 0		0 0	
1-3, 5-17	2, 5, 6, 11, 13, 14	Aquatic Wild Meat - Resolution 12.15 and Decisions 12.44-46 Support Scientific Council in establishing and assisting dedicated Working Group	Medium						
14, 15	8	Freshwater Migratory Fish - Resolution 10.12 Organize regional workshops to assess conservation status and priority measures	High	60,000 60,000	0 0	0 0		60,000 60,000	
1-3, 6-15	5-7	By-catch - Resolution 12.22 Undertake studies to assist interested developing countries to determine bycatch in their commercial and artisanal fisheries - upon request by interested Parties Organize specialist bycatch mitigation workshops in countries with substantial commercial fisheries - upon request by interested Parties Other activities	Medium Medium	tbd 0	0 0	0 0		tbd 0	

IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT - AQUATIC SPECIES

SDGs*	SPMS Targets *	Activities	Priority ranking	2018				Status	
				Total Budget (€)	Funding Secured				Budget Gap
					TF	VC	Donor		
4, 7, 9, 12, 14, 17	15	Conservation Implications of Animal Culture and Social Complexity - Decisions 12.75-77		40,000	0	40,000			
		Convene a workshop of Expert Working Group on Culture and Social Complexity	High	40,000	0	40,000	Appennino Tosco-Emiliano National	0	
		Support Working Group in developing work plan and list of priority species listed on the CMS Appendices for a comprehensive investigation of culture	Medium						
1-4, 6-15, 17	1, 4, 5-7, 10, 15, 16	Other Resolutions and Decisions (Marine Noise, Marine Debris, Important Marine Mammal Areas (IMMAs) and Live capture of cetaceans from the wild for commercial purposes and Taxonomy and nomenclature) - Decisions 12.40-43, 12.47-49,							
		Various activities	Medium						
		Total		2,151,303.4	22,768	1,457,466		671,069	
		Staff Costs: P4(85%); P2 (25%); G5(10%); G4(50%)		196,115	196,115	0		0	
		Programme Support Costs (13%)		305,164	28,455	189,471		87,239	
		Grand Total		2,652,582	247,337	1,646,937		758,308	

TF: Trust Fund, VC: Voluntary Contributions

UN Exchange rate as at August 2017 = 0.847

NB: the Monk Seal in the Atlantic MOU is entirely managed by the Range States

NB: Staff associated to individual MOUs also contribute to the implementation of other activities

* The linkages to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and to the Targets of the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2015-2023 (SPMS) as well as appropriate references to Resolutions and Decisions have been added after the adoption of the Programme of Work by COP12

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IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT - AVIAN SPECIES

SDGs**	SPMS Targets **	Activities	Priority ranking	2018					Status
				Total Budget (€)	Funding Secured			Budget Gap	
					TF	VC	Donor		
MOUS AND STANDALONE ACTION PLANS - COORDINATION, ORGANIZATION OF MEETINGS OF DECISION-MAKING BODIES AND IMPLEMENTATION OF KEY PRIORITIES									
1-4, 6-13, 15, 17	1-4, 7-10, 15, 16	Aquatic Warbler MOU		14,000	0	7,000		7,000	
		Coordination	Low	14,000	0	7,000	NABU	7,000	
		Organize the Fourth Meeting of Signatories	Low	0	0	0		0	
1-4, 6-13, 15, 17	1,3, 7-9, 10, 12, 15	Birds of Prey MOU		461,000	0	413,000		48,000	
		Coordination (P4 Coordinator, P2 support 50% and P5 support 33%)		303,000	0	303,000	UAE	0	
		Organization of the Third Meeting of Signatories	High	119,000	0	59,500	UAE and other Signatories	59,500	
		Organization of the Third Meeting of the Technical Advisory Group	High	26,000	0	37,500	UAE and other Signatories Switzerland	0	
		Delivery of TAG WorkPlan	High	13,000	0	13,000	UAE Signatories	0	
1-4, 6-13, 15, 17	1-3, 5, 7-10, 15, 16	High Andean Flamingos MOU		0	0	0		0	
		Organize the Second Meeting of Signatories	Low	0	0	0		0	
1-13, 15, 17	1-4, 6, 8-10, 14	Middle-European Great Bustard MOU		25,000	0	25,000		0	
		Organize the Fourth Meeting of Signatories	High	25,000	0	25,000	Branderburg and Germany	0	
1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 9-13, 15, 17	1, 3, 8-10, 15, 16	Siberian Crane MOU		10,000	0	0		10,000	
		Coordination	High	10,000	0	0		10,000	
		Organize the Eighth Meeting of Signatories	Medium	0	0	0		0	
1-3, 4, 6-13, 15, 17	1-4, 7-9, 15, 16	Southern South American Grassland Birds MOU		15,000	0	15,000		0	
		Organize the Second Meeting of Signatories	High	15,000	0	15,000	Brazil Sponsored Delegate Fund	0	
1-3, 5, 7-13, 15-17	3-5, 8, 9, 13, 14	Saker Falcon Global Action Plan		129,000	0	32,000		97,000	
		Coordination (consultancies - technical and coordination)	High	64,000	0	32,000	UAE and other Signatories	32,000	
		Organize Third Meeting of Task Force and Regional meetings (RIGs)	High	43,000	0	0		43,000	
		Support implementation of Flagship Projects	Medium	22,000	0	0		22,000	
2, 12, 15	3, 8, 9	Sooty Falcon International Single Species Action Plan		0	0	0		0	
		Coordination (consultancy)	Medium	0	0	0		0	
		Organize Action Planning Workshop	Medium	0	0	0		0	
		Support implementation of projects	Medium	0	0	0		0	
1-13, 15-17	1-3, 5, 7-11, 14-16	African-Eurasian Migratory Landbirds Action Plan - including Resolution 11.17 (Rev.COP12) and Decision 12.23		100,000	0	0		100,000	
		Coordination of Landbirds Working Group and Action Plan	High	100,000	0	0		100,000	
		Update the species list of the Landbirds Action Plan	High						
		Organize regional workshops to promote the implementation of the Plan	Medium	0	0	0		0	
		Organize consultation meeting to agree on institutional framework of the Plan	Low	0	0	0		0	

IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT - AVIAN SPECIES

SDGs**	SPMS Targets **	Activities	Priority ranking	2018					Status
				Total Budget (€)	Funding Secured			Budget Gap	
					TF	VC	Donor		
1-13, 15-17	1, 3, 4, 7-16	African Eurasian Vultures Multi-species Action Plan (Vulture MsAP) - Resolution 12.10 and Decisions 12.37-39		176,000	0	8,500		176,000	
		Coordination (consultancies - overarching + regional)	High	128,000	0	8,500	Switzerland	128,000	
		Organize Meetings of the Regional Vulture Committees	Medium	26,000	0	0		26,000	
		Implement the Egyptian Vulture Flyway Action Plan	High	0	0	0		0	
		Support implementation of projects	Medium	22,000	0	0		22,000	
2, 6, 7, 11-13, 15	3, 8-10	Birds International Single Species Action Plans* including Resolution 12.12 and Decision 12.20		15,000	0	25,000		0	
		Support implementation of Action Plans	Medium						
		Promote implementation of projects for the Far Eastern Curlew Action Plan	Medium	15,000	0	25,000	Australia		
IMPLEMENTATION OF RELEVANT RESOLUTIONS, DECISIONS AND CONCERTED ACTIONS									
1-13, 15, 17	1-10, 14, 15	Asian Great Bustard Concerted Action							
		Support Range States in organizing conference to review progress and updating existing Action Plan	Medium						
1, 2, 7-12, 15	3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 16	Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade of Migratory Birds - Resolution 11.16 (Rev.COP12) and Decisions 12.28 and 12.30		395,000	0	210,000		185,000	
		Coordination of the Intergovernmental Task Force in the Mediterranean (MIKT)	High	50,000	0	50,000	EC	0	
		Organize the MIKT meeting	High	40,000	0	0		40,000	
		Assess Illegal Killing, taking and trade of migratory birds for South and Central America and the Caribbean	High	30,000	0	0		30,000	
		Development of MIKT multi-media toolkit including a documentary	High	70,000	0	70,000	EC	0	
		Organize law enforcement training activities in the Mediterranean	High	75,000	0	75,000	EC	0	
		Organize training activities for prosecutors in the Mediterranean	High	50,000	0	15,000	EC	0	
		Support implementation of MIKT Scoreboard	High	30,000	0	0		30,000	
		Conduct research on legal and illegal trade of migratory birds in the Mediterranean	Medium	50,000	0	0		50,000	
		Establish Task Force in Asia in cooperation with EAAFP and undertake analysis	Medium	0	0	0		0	
1-13, 15, 17	1-11, 13, 15, 16	Preventing Bird Poisoning - Resolution 11.15 (Rev.COP12) and Decision 12.19		140,000	0	0		140,000	
		Coordination of Working Group	High	100,000	0	0		100,000	
		Organize Working Group meetings	Medium	0	0	0		0	
		Establish a Lead Task Group within the Bird Poisoning Working Group	High						
		Organize regional workshops in high risk areas/flyways for the implementation of the Guidelines	Medium	40,000	0	0		40,000	
1, 2, 5-8, 10-13, 15-17	3, 4, 6, 8-10, 13, 16	Flyways - Resolution 12.11 and Decisions 12.31-33		20,000	0	0		0	
		Support the Flyways Working Group	Medium						
		Organize regional workshop on the Americas Flyway Action Plan	High	20,000	0	25,000	Sponsored Delegate Fund Brazil Manomet Bird Observatory	0	
		Support Scientific Council in producing guidelines on site network conservation	Low	tbd	0	0		tbd	
		Other activities	Low						

IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT - AVIAN SPECIES

SDGs**	SPMS Targets **	Activities	Priority ranking	2018				Status	
				Total Budget (€)	Funding Secured				Budget Gap
					TF	VC	Donor		
		Taxonomy and nomenclature - Decision 12.102 Adapt the CMS Appendices according to the new bird reference adopted	High						
2, 4, 7, 9, 10, 12, 15, 17	1, 3, 8, 9, 15, 16	Other Resolutions and Decisions (Wildlife Diseases and Migratory Species - Resolution 12.6) Various activities	Low						
		Total		1,500,000	0	735,500		764,500	
		Staff Costs: P4(100%); G5(10%); G4(50%)		192,844	192,844	0		0	
		Staff Costs covered by VC: P2/JPO(1)		106,642	0	106,642		0	
		Programme Support Costs (13%)		233,933	25,070	109,478		99,385	
		Grand Total		2,033,418	217,913	951,620		863,885	

TF: Trust Fund, VC: Voluntary Contributions

NB: Ruddy-headed Goose MOU is entirely managed by the Range States. Central Asian Flyway and Slender-billed Curlew MOU are currently inactive

NB: Staff associated to individual MOUs also contribute to the implementation of other activities

* International Single Species Action Plans for the Chinese Crested Tern; Blacked-faced Spoonbill; Spoon-billed Sandpiper; Lesser Flamingo; White-winged Flufftail; Madagascar Pond-heron; Yellow-breasted Bunting; European Turtle Dove; Baer's Pochard; European Roller; Dalmatian pelican; White-headed Duck; Sociable Lapwing, Ferruginous Duck; Corncrake

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	ongoing
	not yet started/not progressed- lack of funding and/or capacity

IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT - TERRESTRIAL SPECIES

SDGs *	SPMS Targets *	Activities	Priority ranking	2018				Status	
				Total Budget (€)	Funding Secured				Budget Gap
					TF	VC	Donor		
MOUS, STANDALONE ACTION PLANS AND INITIATIVES - COORDINATION, ORGANIZATION OF MEETINGS OF DECISION-MAKING BODIES AND IMPLEMENTATION OF KEY PRIORITIES									
1-13, 15-17	All	Gorilla Agreement Coordination Organize the Meeting of Parties Organize Regional Meeting of GRASP	Core High High	45,000 25,000 20,000	30,000 30,000 0	0 0 0	15,000 20,000		
1-13, 15, 17	1, 3, 6-10, 14-16	Sahelo-Saharan Antelopes Action Plan Coordination Organize a Range State meeting on the 20th anniversary of the 1998 Sahelo-Saharan Antelopes Action Plan Translate and produce publication of Action Plan Organize a Range State Meeting for Addax	Core Medium Medium Medium	100,000 0 60,000 10,000 30,000	0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0	100,000 60,000 10,000 30,000		
1-4, 6-13, 15, 17	1, 3, 4, 6-9, 15, 16	Central Asian Mammal Initiative (CAMI) Coordination (P2 Coordinator; G5 Assistant 30%; Consultant for development of Programme of Work 2021-2027) Organize Range State Meeting for mid-term review of implementation of Programme of Work 2014-2020 Develop and maintain online CAMI Atlas Develop community-based wildlife management in Tajikistan (argali, snow leopard) Detect Trade in Argali, Snow Leopard and Saiga Produce and market a short video clip on CAMI Assess Wild Camel population between Great Gobi A Special Protected Area and Mazong Shan Wild Camel Nature Reserve to develop a framework for transboundary conservation between China and Mongolia Integrate CMS linear infrastructure guidelines into safeguards policies of the International Financial Institutions Organize Technical workshops to address Key issues (e.g. poaching and infrastructure, others tbd)	High High High High High Medium High Medium	240,252 86,252 30,000 30,000 19,000 10,000 10,000 20,000 5,000 30,000	53,321 53,321 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	162,931 32,931 30,000 40,000 0 10,000 0 20,000 0 30,000	IKI project BfN Switzerland IKI project Switzerland Switzerland BfN	24,000 0 0 0 19,000 0 10,000 0 5,000 0	awaiting approval of IKI project
1-4, 8-13, 15	1, 3, 6-9	Saiga MOU Coordination Organize the Fourth Meeting of Signatories and Technical workshop to review and update Medium Term Programme 2021-2025	High Medium	10,000 0	0 0	0 0	10,000 0		
1, 2, 4, 7-10, 12, 15, 17	1, 3, 6, 8, 9, 15, 16	Bukhara Deer MOU Coordination Organize the Second Meeting of Signatories and Technical workshop to review and update Action Plan	Medium Medium	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0		
1-13, 15-17	1, 3, 6-10, 13, 14, 16	Argali International Single Species Action Plan Coordination Organize Technical workshop to review and update Action Plan	Medium Medium	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0		
1-13, 15-17	1, 3, 6-16	African Elephant Action Plan (Resolution 12.19) and Western African Elephant MOU Coordination Engage in African Elephant Fund Steering Committee as ex officio member Support the implementation of the African Elephant Action Plan through collaboration with African elephant range State	High Medium	10,000 10,000	0 0	0 0	10,000 10,000		

IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT - TERRESTRIAL SPECIES

SDGs *	SPMS Targets *	Activities	Priority ranking	2018				Status	
				Total Budget (€)	Funding Secured				Budget Gap
					TF	VC	Donor		
IMPLEMENTATION OF RELEVANT RESOLUTIONS, DECISIONS AND CONCERTED ACTIONS									
2, 4, 12, 15	1, 3, 8, 9	Lions Conservation - Decision 12.67 Support the implementation, and regular revision of existing joint plans and strategies, both regional and national Support capacity building for lions conservation and management Other activities	High Medium	423,500 tbd tbd tbd	0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0	423,500 tbd tbd tbd		
2, 4, 12, 15	1, 3, 8, 9	Cheetah and Wild Dog Conservation - Decisions 12.61-63 Assist Parties to share information on Wild Dog with Burkina Faso on measures to prevent illegal, existing trade and collaboration Support the implementation, and regular revision of existing joint plans and strategies, both regional and national Support capacity building for Cheetah and African Wild Dog conservation and management Other activities	High Medium	338,800 tbd tbd tbd	0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0	338,800 tbd tbd tbd		
2, 4, 12, 15	1, 3, 8, 9	Joint CMS-CITES African Carnivore Initiative - Decision 12.60 Coordination (P3) Establish an African Large Carnivores Task Force Promote coexistence, sustainable land management and maintaining connectivity for all carnivores Promote conservation measures for the Leopard	High High High Medium	15,272,048 130,048 15,000,000 142,000	0 0 0 0	120,000 0 120,000 0	15,152,048 130,048 14,880,000 142,000	Germany Belgium	
1, 2, 4, 8, 9, 11-13, 15, 17	1-3, 6	Unsustainable use of Wild Meat - Decision 12.83 Prepare analysis on direct and indirect impacts of wild meat consumption on CMS terrestrial and avian Cooperate with relevant organizations	High Medium	5,000 0 5,000	0 0 0	0 0 0	5,000 0 5,000		
2, 15	3, 8	Other Resolutions (Fighting wildlife crime and offences within and beyond borders - Resolution 11.31 and Tigers and Other Asian Big Cats - Resolution 9.22 (Rev.COP12)) Various activities	Low						
Total				16,504,600	83,321	282,931	16,138,348		
Staff Costs: P2 (100%); G5 (10%); G4(50%)				143,560	143,560	0	0		
Programme Support Costs (13%)				2,164,261	29,494	36,781	2,097,985		
Grand Total				18,812,421	256,375	319,712	18,236,333		

TF: Trust Fund, VC: Voluntary Contributions

UN Exchange rate as at August 2017 = 0.847

NB: the Huemul MOU is entirely managed by the Range States. In the case of the Gorilla Agreement, the Trust Fund refers to the one of the agreement

NB: Staff associated to CAMI also contribute to the implementation of other activities

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NB: Activities related "Community participation and livelihoods" have been deleted from this section as they were already included under section "Capacity Building"

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RESOURCE MOBILIZATION AND INTERAGENCY AFFAIRS

SDGs *	SPMS Targets *	Activities	Priority ranking	2018				Status	
				Total Budget (€)	Funding Secured				Budget Gap
					TF	VC	Donor		
RESOURCE MOBILIZATION									
10, 15, 17	16	Promote the Migratory Species Champion Programme	Core						
		Develop project proposals	Core						
		Identify and approach potential donors	Core						
1, 8-15, 17	2, 9, 16	Pursue partnerships with the Private Sector	High						
PROMOTE CMS ISSUES IN UN SYSTEM - Resolution 11.10 (Rev.COP12)									
		<i>Engage with and/or participating in meetings of</i>							
		Biodiversity Liaison Group (BLG)	High						
		Environment Management Group (EMG)	Low						
		Post 2015 process of Sustainable Development Goals	Medium						
		UN Environment processes including UNEA meetings; MEA Management Team meetings; IKM Initiative; development of portfolio of projects to deliver on both its Medium-Term Strategy 2018-2021 and related Programmes of Work	High						
5, 12-17	9, 13	NBSAPs Forum to provide information on behalf of the CMS Family	High						
12	9	Global Programme on Oceans (GPO)	Medium						
STRENGTHEN EXISTING COLLABORATION WITH MEAs - Resolution 11.10 (Rev.COP12)									
		Coordinate and oversee the implementation of the Joint Work Plans with CBD, Ramsar and CITES	High						
		Strengthen the collaboration with UNESCO-WHC, UNFCCC, UNCCD and IWC	Medium						
		Maintain collaboration with other MEAs e.g. Bern Convention, Cartagena Convention	Medium						
STRENGTHEN EXISTING COLLABORATION WITH IGOs AND CIVIL SOCIETY - Resolution 11.10 (Rev.COP12)									
12	9	Strengthen the relationship with e.g. SPREP, IUCN and Civil Society	High						
ENGAGEMENT IN NEW STRATEGIC COOPERATIONS									
1, 2, 8, 12, 14, 15	6, 9	Explore possible engagement of FAO, UNDP, World Bank, Regional fisheries management organizations (RFMOs) and others - Resolution 11.10 (Rev.COP12)	Medium						
10, 12, 15, 17	9, 16	Support the Standing Committee in providing elements of advice for CMS priorities at national level to be transmitted to the Global Environment Facility through CBD COP - Resolution 10.25 (Rev.COP12)	High						
4, 7, 9, 12, 14, 17	9, 15	Continue engage in IPBES processes; participate in its meetings to ensure that migratory species needs for research and policy guidance are addressed - Decision 12.13	High	5,000	0	0		5,000	
STRENGTHENING REGIONAL PRESENCE - Resolution 11.10 (Rev.COP12)									
12	9	Continue to foster relationships with various UN Environment Regional Offices and other institutions	High						
CMS AMBASSADORS									
4, 10, 12, 15, 17	1, 16	Continue CMS Ambassadorship programme and expand as appropriate	Medium	10,000	0	0		10,000	
		Total		15,000	0	0		15,000	
		Staff Costs: D1 (10%); P5 (10%); P2 (100%)		146,251	146,251	0		0	
		Staff Costs covered by VC for Abu Dhabi Office: P5 (33%)		76,000	0	76,000		0	
		Programme Support Costs (13%)		30,843	19,013	9,880		1,950	
		Grand Total		268,093	165,263	85,880		16,950	

TF: Trust Fund, VC: Voluntary Contributions

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INFORMATION, COMMUNICATION AND OUTREACH

SDGs *	SPMS Targets *	Activities	Priority ranking	2018				Status	
				Total Budget (€)	Funding Secured				Budget Gap
					TF	VC	Donor		
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT - Resolution 11.8 (Rev. COP12)									
4, 12	1	CMS Website & Workspaces		30,000	6,630	0		23,370	
		Develop and Maintain Content (Web pages, News, Articles)	Core						
		Implement IT Developments and Improvements	High	20,000	0	0		20,000	
		Manage Hosting & Technical Maintenance (Domain names, hosting, system administration and maintenance)	Core	10,000	6,630	0		3,370	
All	All	Online National Reporting System (ORS)		55,000	0	0		55,000	
		Manage Hosting and Administration (UNEP-WCMC)	Core	5,000	0	0		5,000	
		Implement System Improvements (Benefitting all MEAs using the ORS, such as Offline Version, Analysis Tool, Website integration via API etc.)	Medium	50,000	0	0		50,000	
		Contact Database		20,000	0	0		20,000	
		Improve and Maintain System	High	20,000	0	0		20,000	
		Meeting Registration Tool		2,000	0	0		2,000	
		Improve and Maintain System	Core	2,000		0		2,000	
		ICT Equipment, Licenses & Services		1,500	0	0		1,500	
		Software licenses, third party mass mailing, design & team management tools	Core	1,500	0	0		1,500	
COMMUNICATIONS - Resolution 11.8 (Rev. COP12)									
1, 2, 4, 7-15, 17	1-4, 8, 9, 15, 16	Communication Strategy		0	0	0		0	
		Finalize Strategy - Decision 12.15	Core						
		Organize Communication Strategy & Planning Workshop (Stakeholder Engagement Workshop)	Medium	0	0	0		0	
4, 12	1	CMS Branding Project		0	0	0		0	
		Develop new branding for CMS for possible use by the wider CMS Family	Medium	0	0	0		0	
		Implement new branding across web and print products	Core	0	0	0		0	
4, 12	1	Communication, Education and Public Awareness (CEPA) Programme		230,000	0	0		230,000	
		Develop CEPA Programme	Medium	80,000	0	0		80,000	
		Organize CEPA Workshop(s)	Medium	50,000	0	0		50,000	
		Develop a CEPA Toolkit	Medium	100,000	0	0		100,000	
4, 12	1	Press and Media		15,000	0	0		15,000	
		Draft Press Releases, Op-Eds, Articles and respond to media inquiries	Core						
		Improve Targeted Media Engagement (Consultant)	Medium	10,000	0	0		10,000	
		Implement Media Monitoring (Global / External Service)	High	5,000				5,000	
4, 12	1	Publications & Other Info Materials		20,000	12,750	0		7,250	
		Develop and produce publications and information materials (design, printing)	Core	20,000	12,750	0		7,250	
4, 12	1	Social Media (SM)		12,500	0	0		12,500	
		Manage Social Media	Core						
		Implement Targeted Social Media Campaign(s)	High	10,000	0	0		10,000	
		Promote SM and Third Party Management Tools	High	2,500	0	0		2,500	
OUTREACH CAMPAIGNS - Resolution 11.8 (Rev. COP12)									
4, 12	1	World Migratory Bird Day (WMBD)		35,000	0	0		35,000	
		Organise annual global campaign	Core						
		Develop website, poster and other print materials	High	25,000	0	0		25,000	
		Support events (Global)	Medium	10,000	0	0		10,000	

INFORMATION, COMMUNICATION AND OUTREACH

SDGs *	SPMS Targets *	Activities	Priority ranking	2018				Status	
				Total Budget (€)	Funding Secured				Budget Gap
					TF	VC	Donor		
4, 12	1	International shipping / mailing of materials		20,000	0	0		20,000	
		Promotion of CMS (Globally)	High						
		Outreach activities and events in context of Int. Days, Decade of Biodiversity, UNEA, SDGs, etc.	Core	20,000	0	0		20,000	
		Targeted PR Campaign (External Agency)	Medium	0	0	0		0	
4, 12	1	COP13 Promotion		0	0	0		0	
		Implement promotional activities in the run-up to COP	Core						
		Produce COP communication materials such as trailer, publications and banners etc.	High	0	0	0		0	
		Total		441,000	19,380	0		421,620	
		Staff Costs: D1(17%); P5(10%); P2 (100%), G7 (100%), G4 (100%)		308,275	308,275	0		0	
		Staff Costs - AEWA Trust Fund: P2 (100%), G5 (50%)							
		Programme Support Costs (13%)		97,406	42,595	0		54,811	
		Grand Total		846,680	370,250	0		476,431	

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CAPACITY BUILDING

SDGs *	SPMS Targets *	Activities	Priority ranking	2018					Status
				Total Budget (€)	Funding Secured			Budget Gap	
					TF	VC	Donor		
RECRUITMENT OF PARTIES									
2, 12, 14, 15, 17	1, 2, 3, 9	Organize activities and workshops for promoting country accession in regions of low CMS membership (Oceania, South East Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean)	High	100,000	0	10,000	EC	0	
		Develop tools for promoting country accession	Medium	80,000	0	0		80,000	
STRENGTHEN INSTITUTIONAL AND NATIONAL CAPACITY									
1, 2, 5, 7-17	2, 3, 5, 13	Promote implementation of CMS commitments at national level in all regions	High	50,000	0	0		50,000	
2, 5, 12-17	1, 3, 13	Revise and update the CMS Family Manual in all available languages	Low	40,000	0	0		40,000	
4, 12-17	1-8, 10-15	Organize training workshops on effective national reporting and use of the online tool - Decision 12.5	Medium	0	0	0		0	
All	1-8, 11, 14	Community participation and livelihoods - Decision 12.98		30,000	0	0		30,000	
		Prepare study of best-practice cases of community involvement in CMS species conservation and management	Medium	0	0	0		0	
		Facilitate organization of workshops and side-events	Medium	30,000	0	0		30,000	
COP PREPARATION									
1,10-17	3, 9	Organize regional workshops in Preparation of COP13 for Africa, Asia, Oceania and Latin America and the Caribbean	High	0	0	0			
		Total		300,000	0	10,000		290,000	
		Staff Costs: D1(10%); P5(10%); P4 (100%), G4 (50%)		225,641	225,641	0		0	
		Programme Support Costs (13%)		68,333	29,333	1,300		37,700	
		Grand Total		593,974	254,974	11,300		327,700	

TF: Trust Fund, VC: Voluntary Contributions

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NB: Activities related to "National Legislation to Implement CMS" have been deleted from this section as they were integrated in "Review Mechanism and National Legislation Programme" under section "Executive Direction and Management"

	completed
	ongoing
	not yet started/not progressed- lack of funding and/or capacity

SERVICING OF GOVERNING BODIES

SDGs *	SPMS Targets *	Activities	Priority ranking	2018				Status	
				Total Budget (€)	Funding Secured				Budget Gap
					TF	VC	Donor		
2, 14	3	Organize COP13 including arranging interpretation, reporting writing, staff travel and support to funded delegates, contracting ENB and organization of High Level Segment	Core	0	0	0	0		
		Organize Standing Committee Meetings and maintain regular contact with its members	Core	22,965	22,965	0	0	StC48	
		Organize Meetings of the Sessional Committee of the Scientific Council	Core	52,424	52,424	0	0	ScC-SC3	
		Total		75,389	75,389	0	0		
		Staff costs: D1 (20%), P5 (30%); G6 (30%); G5 (40%); G4(50%) and G4 (30%)		195,926	195,926	0	0		
		Programme Support Costs (13%)		35,271	35,271	0	0		
		Grand Total		306,585	306,585	0	0		

TF: Trust Fund, VC: Voluntary Contributions

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