

**53<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Standing Committee**

*Bonn, Germany, 19 – 20 October 2022*

UNEP/CMS/StC53/Doc.10.2

**RESOURCE MOBILIZATION**

*(Prepared by the Secretariat)*

**Summary:**

The present document describes the state of resources mobilized, both financial and in-kind, as of July 2022, since the 52<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the Standing Committee (StC52, 21-29 September 2021).

These resources have contributed to the implementation of the Programme of Work 2020-2023 (POW) (UNEP/CMS/StC53/Doc.15).

The document also indicates efforts being made to continue raise support for the implementation of the POW and funding gaps for the remaining intersessional period until COP14.

## RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

### Background

1. The thirteenth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CMS (COP13, February 2020, Gandhinagar, India), adopted a [Budget](#) and a [Programme of Work \(POW\) for 2020-2023](#) through [Resolution 13.2 Financial and Administrative Matters](#). The triennial budget provides for staff, operational costs and meetings of governing bodies while the POW covers programmatic activities which rely primarily on voluntary funding. The POW includes activities to be carried out by the Secretariat including the development of core products such as the analysis of national reports, and numerous tasks directed to the Standing Committee and/or the Scientific Council which require the Secretariat's support.
2. The Secretariat provided a progress report ([UNEP/CMS/StC52/Doc.15](#)) on the implementation of the POW for the period between COP13 until July 2021 to the 52nd Meeting of the Standing Committee of the CMS (StC52, 21 -29 September 2021) complemented by an overview of the financial and in-kind contributions ([UNEP/CMS/StC52/Doc.9.2](#)).
3. The present document describes the state of resources mobilized, both financial and in-kind, as of July 2022, since StC52 which should be read in conjunction with [UNEP/CMS/StC53/Doc.15 Implementation of the Programme of Work \(2020-2023\)](#).

### Resources mobilized since StC52

4. Following StC52, the Secretariat undertook significant efforts to raise funding for the implementation of the POW through tailored requests to individual donors and grant applications. The Secretariat also issued [Notification 2021/13](#) in December 2021, regarding the pressing needs of CMS for the remaining intersessional period. Significant financial and in-kind resources were obtained in 2021 and 2022 which enabled the implementation of a number of priority activities, although many activities have not received support.

### *Financial contributions received or pledged*

5. The total of voluntary contributions received or pledged since StC52 to implement the POW amounts to approximately €413,500 (including 13 per cent UNEP Programme Support Cost (PSC)). This sum includes funding provided by the German Government for a one-year extension of the Junior Professional Office who is currently supporting the Secretariat with a range of activities under both the Avian and Terrestrial Species Units.
6. These resources were provided by the Governments of Australia, France, Germany, Malta, and United Kingdom. Consultations with these and other Parties are underway to explore additional funding opportunities for priority activities.
7. In addition to the total amount indicated above, a significant pledge was made by the Environment Agency – Abu Dhabi (EAD) on behalf of the Government of the United Arab Emirates to continue to host the CMS Office – Abu Dhabi for the period 2020 to 2023. In February 2020, CMS and EAD extended the partnership agreement that has been in place since 2009. CMS Office – Abu Dhabi coordinates the Raptors and Dugongs Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs). The arrangement provides the Office's core budget, premises and other practical support. For 2022, EAD provided US\$1.4 million under the extended arrangement.
8. In 2022, voluntary contributions towards the activities of Raptors MOU of US\$13,810 and US\$10,952 were received from the governments of Netherland and Luxembourg, respectively.

9. In addition to the total amount indicated above, further resources were raised by the MOUs for Sharks and Marine Turtles and their Habitats of the Indian Ocean and South-East Asia (IOSEA). The contributions obtained in 2021-2022 in support of the Sharks MOU budget and its POW amount to US\$152,000 and those received by the IOSEA MOU amount to US\$162,000.

*Indirect financial contributions and in-kind contributions*

10. Other contributions were provided either through financial support, which was not channelled through the Secretariat but directly contributed to activities, or in-kind support through provision of personnel or services. These are summarized below.

**Activities and services**

11. In addition to hosting the CMS Secretariat as well as other CMS Family Secretariats based in Bonn, and bearing all costs relating to the premises, the German Ministry of the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection (BMUV) provided interpretation services for the present meeting.
12. The Spanish Government, the Region of Valencia and the Municipality of Valencia town jointly hosted the Fourth Joint Meeting of the Bern Convention Network of Special Focal Points on Eradication of Illegal Killing, Trapping and Trade in Wild Birds and the CMS MIKT on 7- 9 June 2022.
13. Partnerships with NGOs have also been critical in supporting a number of initiatives including the coordination of the Energy Task Force and of the Action Plan of the African Eurasian Migratory Landbirds. Details are included in document UNEP/CMS/StC53/Doc.15.
14. Within the CMS Family's co-located Secretariats in Bonn, synergies and mutual support have enhanced both programmatic and administrative matters. A few CMS staff members will be supporting the preparations and running of the 8th Session of the Meeting of the Parties (MOP8) to African Eurasian Waterbird Agreement (AEWA) on 26-30 September 2022.

**Personnel**

15. Through its internship programme, the Secretariat benefitted from the valuable support of university graduates or students, who have assisted CMS staff in their day-to-day work for an average period of three months without remuneration. Since July 2021, 10 interns from various countries have assisted the Secretariat, remotely or in person, in the accomplishment of tasks or projects in the scientific/technical, administrative and information fields.
16. In addition, in-kind support is being provided by the Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) of the UK Government through an intern for the compilation of a report on sustainable tourism, in line with Decision 13.136. JNCC is currently seeking additional interns to assist with carrying out a number of tasks deriving from COP13 Decisions and Resolutions.

*Enabling support from other sources*

17. In line with Resolution 11.10 (Rev.COP13), the Secretariat continues to support conservation work on the ground by informing Parties and partner organizations of funding opportunities and by providing letters of endorsement for grant applications that contribute to the implementation of any plans, actions or initiatives under the CMS Family. In December 2021, the Secretariat circulated a compilation of funding opportunities for jaguar work under CMS that could be accessed by jaguar Range States or their partners. These opportunities encompass different multilateral funds, bilateral governmental cooperation funds, funds from international banks and private enterprises, and funds from non-governmental organizations and philanthropies and are not limited to biodiversity conservation, but also included those

focused on related fields such as climate change or human wellbeing, which could indirectly benefit jaguar conservation. In July 2022, the Secretariat issued a notification ([2022/010](#)) on a special grant competition focused on projects supporting the conservation of the Great Bustard in Central Asia.

#### *Additional grant applications*

18. The CMS Secretariat submitted or contributed to the following grant applications to further the implementation of its mandate and support actions on the ground in cooperation with key implementing partners.
19. In March 2021, the Secretariat participated in an application led by the IUCN Regional Office for Eastern Europe and Central Asia with the project "*Enhancing landscape resilience to zoonosis by consolidating integrated nature conservation systems in Central Asia*". This project would support the implementation of conservation efforts in the context of the CMS Central Asian Mammal Initiative (CAMI). In March 2022, the preliminary concept note passed the initial selection and the Secretariat contributed to the development of a project proposal. The preparation phase of the project was subsequently approved, in July 2022. Further work will be required towards reaching the stage of the final review of the project and funding decision.
20. In November 2021, the Secretariats of CMS and AEWA participated in the submission of the project concept "*Scenarios for protecting European avian redistribution (SPEAR)*" with several research institutes and led by the Norwegian Institute for Nature Research to the Biodiversa+2021 Call for Proposals "*Supporting the protection of biodiversity and ecosystems across land and sea*". In February 2022, the concept passed the first selection, and a fully-fledged proposal was subsequently submitted in April 2022. Final confirmation is being awaited. The project, if approved, will span over 3 years starting in 2023 and will aim at:
  - Identifying priority areas and gaps in the pan-European network of protected areas at land and sea to meet international targets for biodiversity conservation;
  - Managing protected areas for multiple benefits to facilitate avian responses to climate change and ensure sustainable harvest of waterbirds;
  - Increasing biodiversity and developing multifunctional benefits for agricultural wetlands.

#### Global Environment Facility

21. While the Global Environment Facility (GEF) is not a financial mechanism for CMS, advice on national priorities for the implementation of CMS for the GEF eighth replenishment (GEF-8, July 2022 to June 2026) was transmitted by the CMS Standing Committee to the GEF through the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), in accordance with CBD decision XIII/21 and CMS Resolution 10.25 (Rev.COP12).
22. CMS priorities for GEF funding are a key element of the draft consolidated guidance to the GEF that the CBD Secretariat is to develop for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting as requested by the Recommendation of the CBD Subsidiary Body on Implementation ([CBD/SBI/REC/3/7](#)). CMS advice is also summarized in [CBD/SBI/3/6/Add.3](#) and reproduced in full in [CBD/SBI/3/INF/23](#).
23. In addition to these efforts in the context of the CBD process, the Secretariat established a close relation with the GEF Secretariat and actively participated in all the stages of the development of the GEF-8 Programming Directions.

24. GEF-8 commenced on 1 July 2022 following the endorsement by the GEF Assembly of the Report on the Eighth Replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund which includes the [GEF-8 Programming Directions](#) and the Financing Framework.
25. The GEF-8 Programming Directions reflects many key CMS priorities and includes an explicit reference to CMS in a number of areas.
26. For biodiversity, one of the primary objectives of GEF-8 will be to support implementation of the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, and CMS priorities embodied in the framework can therefore benefit from GEF-8 support.
27. GEF-8 Integrated Programs and Focal Areas provide multiple entry points for the implementation of numerous CMS mandates. Of note, GEF8 programming includes:
  - An expanded Wildlife Conservation for Development Integrated Program that includes a focus on overexploitation of wildlife, not only for internationally-traded species but for illegal and unsustainable uses domestically;
  - A focus on the importance of ecological connectivity in the establishment and implementation of area-based conservation measures, integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes;
  - Work on wildlife health, as well as plastic pollution in both riverine and marine systems and sustainable infrastructure;
28. A detailed analysis of GEF-8 areas of work of particular relevance to CMS is contained in the annex of [Notification 2022/005](#) which was issued in April 2022.
29. In the frame of full flexibility for the use of GEF-8 funding under the STAR allocation system, priorities for use of this funding are determined by recipient countries, and discussions are already taking place in many countries to set such priorities. To this end, the Secretariat encouraged CMS National Focal Points to liaise with their CBD and GEF counterparts to ensure that their allocations support projects and initiatives that conserve and sustainably use migratory wildlife and their habitats.
30. The Secretariat is also reaching out to the GEF agencies to establish collaborations in the implementation of the GEF-8 programming directions.

### Funding needs

31. Despite the very positive and generous contributions described above, a significant number of areas of work under the POW are currently unfunded. Document UNEP/CMS/StC53/Doc.15 provides details on the gaps and includes estimates of the resources needed to implement activities for the remaining intersessional period.
32. Standing Committee members are encouraged to consult within their governments, and with other Parties and institutions in their respective regions to explore possibilities for providing financial support for the implementation of the POW.

### Recommended Actions

34. The Standing Committee is recommended to:

- a) take note of the document and make any comments, as appropriate;
- b) provide advice regarding possible sources of funding for areas of the POW that are still unfunded; and
- c) liaise with their GEF counterparts to ensure that their allocations support projects and initiatives that conserve and sustainably use migratory wildlife and their habitats.