



**CMS**

## **2022 CMS National Report**

**Deadline for submission of the National Reports: 26 April 2023**

**Reporting period: from February 2020 to April 2023**

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

COP Resolution 9.4 called upon the Secretariats and Parties of CMS Agreements to collaborate in the implementation and harmonization of online reporting implementation. The CMS Family Online Reporting System (ORS) has been successfully implemented and used by CMS, AEWA, IOSEA and Sharks MOU in collaboration with UNEP-WCMC.

Decision 13.14 requested the Secretariat to develop a proposal to be submitted for the approval of the 52nd meeting of the Standing Committee (StC52) for a revision of the format for the national reports to be submitted to the 14th meeting of the Conference of the Parties and subsequently. The new format was adopted by StC52 in October 2021 and made available as an offline version downloadable from the CMS website also in October 2021. The format aims inter alia at collecting data and information relevant to eight indicators adopted by COP12 for the purpose of assessing implementation of the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2015-2023.

This online version of the format strictly follows the one adopted by StC52. In addition, as requested by StC52, it incorporates pre-filled information, notably in Sections II and III, based on data available at the Secretariat. This includes customized species lists by Party. Please note that the lists include taxa at the species level originating from the disaggregation of taxa listed on Appendix II at a level higher than species. Please review the information and update or amend it, when necessary.

The Secretariat was also requested to develop and produce several guidance documents to accompany any revised National Report Format. Please note that guidance has been provided for a number of questions throughout the national report as both in-text guidance and as tool tips (displayed via the information 'i' icon). As requested by different COP13 Decisions, additional guidance is also provided in separate documents on how to report on the implementation of actions to address the impact of climate change and infrastructure development on migratory species, actions to address connectivity in the conservation of migratory species, and actions concerning flyways.

For any question, please contact Mr. Aydin Bahramlouian, Public Information Officer, [aydin.bahramlouian@un.org](mailto:aydin.bahramlouian@un.org)

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

### RESOURCES FOR THE CMS NATIONAL REPORT FROM OTHER RELEVANT INTERGOVERNMENTAL PROCESSES

Convention/Agreement/Process

Information source

Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

National Reports

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

Annual trade reports, Annual illegal trade reports, Implementation reports

Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat

National Reports, Ramsar Information Sheets

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

Country reports

United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)

National Reports

United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF)

National Reports

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

National Communications, Biennial Reports, Update Reports

Various CMS Family Agreements and Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs)

National Reports

2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals

National Reports

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

## High-level summary of key messages

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

Guidance:

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

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

Please try also to be specific or provide specific examples where you can, e.g. “New wildlife legislation enacted in 2018 doubled penalties for poisoning wild birds” rather than “stronger laws”; “50% shortfall in match-funding for GEF project on gazelles” rather than just “lack of funding”.

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

- >>> 1. Armenia ratified the Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds and The Republic of Armenia were acceding to AEWA becoming the 81st Party on 1 July 2020.
2. In 2022, appropriate amendments were made to the Code of Administrative Offenses, according to which fines were provided for the following actions:
1. for keeping wild animals, including animals registered in the Red Book of Animals of the Republic of Armenia, in free and semi-free conditions by natural or legal persons without appropriate permission,
  2. For non-compliance with the conditions and requirements for the purchase and sale of wild animals by physical or legal entities, including animals registered in the Red Book of Animals of the Republic of Armenia, their products and parts,
  3. Export of wild animals, their products, zoological collections, and individual specimens from the territory of the Republic of Armenia or import into the territory of the Republic of Armenia by natural or legal persons without the appropriate permits, license.
3. In 2022, in order to regulate the legal relations of keeping and using wild animals, including those registered in the Red Book of the Republic of Armenia, in order to reduce the administration and the process of using the facilities of the animal world of the Republic of Armenia, appropriate amendments and additions were made to the law on the animal world.
- Among other changes, the use of wild animals included in the list approved by the authorized body in circuses was also prohibited.
4. The Ministry of Environment has developed and is currently submitting to the National Assembly for approval in order to discuss the final set of draft laws of the Republic of Armenia "On Amendments and Additions to the RA Law on Specially Protected Natural Areas".
- Changes in the RA Law "On Specially Protected Territories " and the attached laws are due to a number of gaps in the current law:
- The law lacks the goals and foundations for the creation of specially protected natural areas;
  - the principles of management of specially protected natural territories are not clearly stated. there are no problems with categories of specially protected natural territories;
  - there is no classification or criteria for the creation and regime of protection of the natural monument;
  - there is no protection regime of the reserve;
  - there are no principles and regime of protection of the nature protection zone, ecological corridor, and ecological network;
  - there are no issues of the creation and management of a biosphere reserve.

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

- >>> 1. Imperfection of the legislative on bio-resource management and determination of maximum hunting rates.
2. The professional skills and qualification of human resource of the biodiversity conservation and management system need to be enhanced and improved. From this point of view, there are great difficulties in the fields of SPNA management.
3. The lack of necessary financial measures limit provided actions.

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

- >>> 1. Take active steps to join the Agreement on the Conservation of European Bat Populations
2. Carry out inventory and mapping of migratory species of Armenia,
2. Identify direct and indirect causes of habitat loss of migratory species of Armenia,
3. Develop and implement action plans on the conservation of migratory species in Armenia.

## **I. Administrative Information**

Name of Contracting Party

>>> Armenia

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

>>> 01032011

Any territories which are excluded from the application of the Convention

>>> -----

### **Report compiler**

Name and title

>>> ----

Full name of institution

>>> Ministry of Environment of Republic of Armenia

Telephone

>>> +374 11 818 513

Email

>>> minenv@env.am, interdpt@mdp.am

### **Designated CMS National Focal Point**

Name and title of designated Focal Point

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Full name of institution

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### **Representative on the Scientific Council**

Name and title

>>>

Full name of institution

>>>

Mailing address

>>>

Telephone

>>>

Email

>>>

## II. Accession/Ratification of CMS Agreements/MOUs

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

*Please select only one option*

Yes, the lists are correct and up to date

No, updates or corrections are required, as follows:

Updates or corrections:

>>>

Country participation in Agreements/MOUs:

*Please select only one per line*

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

### III. Species on the Convention Appendices

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

Please download the Appendix I species occurrence list for your country **here**.

Guidance:

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

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

A note on the application of the Convention to Overseas Territories/Autonomous Regions of Parties is found **here**. References to “species” should be taken to include subspecies where an Appendix to the Convention so provides, or where the context otherwise requires.

*Please select only one option*

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

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

[Section III Appendix I Armenia-2023.xls](#)

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

Please download the Appendix II species occurrence list for your country **here**.

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

*Please select only one option*

- Yes, the list is correct (please upload the file as your confirmation of this, and include any comments regarding individual species)
- No, amendments are needed and these are specified in the amended version of the Excel file provided (please upload the amended file using the attachment button below).

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

[Section III Appendix II Armenia-2023.xlsx](#)

## IV. Legal Prohibition of the Taking of Appendix I Species

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

*Please select only one option*

- Yes for all Appendix I species  
 Yes for some species  
 Yes for part of the country, or a particular territory or territories  
 No

Please identify the legal statute(s) concerned

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

- >>> 1. 2000 Law on Fauna,  
2. 2006 Law on Especially Protected Natural Areas,  
3. 2010 Red Book of Armenia,  
4. 1986 Code of Administrative Offences,

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

*Please select only one option*

- Yes  
 No

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

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

### **GUIDANCE TIP:**

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

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

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

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

Please indicate in the Excel file linked to below the species for which taking is prohibited.

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

Please identify the legal statute(s) concerned

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

>>>

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

*Please select only one option*

- Yes  
 No

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

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

Guidance: According to Article III(5) of the Convention, exceptions to a legal prohibition against taking of Appendix I species can only be made for one (or more) of the reasons specified in sub-paragraphs (a)-(d) of that Article. For any species you list in this table, therefore, you must identify (in the second column of the table in the Excel file) at least one of the reasons that justify the exception relating to that species. In any case where you identify reason (d) as applying, please explain (in the third column) the nature of the “extraordinary circumstances” involved. According to Article III(5), exceptions granted for any of the four reasons must also be “precise as to content and limited in space and time”. Please therefore state what the specific mandatory space and time limitations are, in each case, using the third column; and indicate the date on which each exception was notified to the Secretariat in accordance with Article III(7).

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

*Please select only one option*

- Yes  
 No

Please indicate which of the following stages of development applies

*Please select only one option*

- Legislation being considered  
 Legislation in draft  
 Legislation fully drafted and being considered for adoption in (specify year)

>>>

Other

>>>

Please provide further information about the circumstances

>>>

Please indicate in the Excel file linked to below the species for which taking is prohibited. Please download the list of species here, select all that apply and upload the amended file using the attachment button below.

Please identify the legal statute(s) concerned

>>>

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

*Please select only one option*

- Yes  
 No

Please indicate which of the following stages of development applies:

*Please select only one option*

- Legislation being considered  
 Legislation in draft  
 Legislation fully drafted and being considered for adoption in (specify year)

>>>

Other

>>>

Please provide further information about the circumstances

>>>

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

*Please select only one option*

- Yes  
 No

Please indicate which of the following stages of development applies:

*Please select only one option*

- Legislation being considered



- Legislation in draft
- Legislation fully drafted and being considered for adoption in (specify year)

>>>

- Other

>>>

Please provide further information about the circumstances

>>>

Are any vessels flagged to your country engaged in the intentional taking of Appendix I species outside of your country's national jurisdictional limits?

*Please select only one option*

- Yes
- No
- Unknown

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

>>>

## V. Awareness

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

Please indicate the actions that have been taken by your country during the reporting period to increase people's awareness of the values of migratory species, their habitats and migration systems (note that answers given in section XVIII on SPMS Target 15 may also be relevant).  
(select all that apply)

### GUIDANCE TIP:

Awareness raising that demonstrates work towards achieving Target 1 may include actions, steps, programmes, initiatives and/or activities described in various CMS documents, such as Resolutions **11.8 (Rev.COP12)** (Communication, information and outreach plan), **11.9 (Rev.COP13)** (World Migratory Bird Day), as well as a number of other resolutions and decisions which include specific provisions about awareness raising, including Resolutions **13.6** (Insect Decline), **12.6** (Wildlife Disease and Migratory Species), **12.11 (Rev.COP13)** (Flyways), **12.17** (Conservation and Management of Whales and their Habitats in the South Atlantic Region), **12.19** (Endorsement of the African Elephant Action Plan), **12.20** (Management of Marine Debris), **12.21** (Climate Change and Migratory Species), **12.25** (Promoting Conservation of Critical Intertidal and Other Coastal Habitats for Migratory Species), **11.16 (Rev.COP13)** (The Prevention of Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade of Migratory Birds), **11.17 (Rev.COP13)** (Action Plan for Migratory Landbirds in the African-Eurasian Region), **11.24 (Rev.COP13)** (Central Asian Mammal Initiative), **11.31** (Fighting Wildlife Crime and Offences within and beyond Borders), **8.12 (Rev.COP12)** (Improving the Conservation Status of Raptors and Owls in the African-Eurasian Region), Decisions **13.95** (Conservation and Management of the Cheetah and African Wild Dog) and Decision **13.113** (Improving Ways of Addressing Connectivity in the Conservation of Migratory Species).

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

>>>

- No actions taken

### Impact of actions

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

>>> 1. In 2021, the Red Book of Armenia mobile application was created and launched. The Red Book of Armenia mobile application has a scientific, ecological goal of increasing awareness.

This makes it possible to get acquainted with the biological classification, number, habitat, and distribution of Red Book species of animals of the Republic of Armenia, morphology, and other information.

An interactive map allows you to see the prevalence of these species.

The interactive feedback tool of the application allows the user to participate in studying red book species and collecting data.

2. Several TV and radio programs about bats have been produced in Armenia during the last two years. Two videos were prepared about bats dwelling in Armenia.

3. International Bat Night events have been organized together with the Armenian association of Mammalogists. Schoolchildren and students of different faculties (not biologists) participated in mist-netting and bat recording during the events.

BioBlitz was organized in Armenia in May 2022. During the event, over 30 people took part in the bat section.

Bats of Armenia were presented in STARMUS events and other expos organized by the Yerevan State University and other organizations.

4. The Bird of the Year-2023 educational campaign was organized by NABU Armenia. Taking into account the results of the vote, the branch of the German Nature Conservation Union (NABU) in the Republic of Armenia in 2023 declares the Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*) as the bird of the year. During 2023, the organization will organize fieldwork on the study of this species, as well as various eco-educational events that increase public awareness of the golden eagle.

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

Tick one box

**GUIDANCE TIP:**

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

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

*Please select only one option*

- 1. Very little impact
- 2. Small impact
- 3. Good impact
- 4. Large positive impact
- Unknown

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

>>> <http://www.env.am/en/news/the-red-book-of-armenia-mobile-application-containing-information-on-the-species-registered-in-the-red-books-of-plants-and-animals-of-the-republic-of-armenia-has-been-run>,  
<https://nabu.am/en/news/4727>,  
EUROBATS.MoP9.Record

## VI. Mainstreaming Migratory Species in Other Sectors and Processes

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

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

*Please select only one option*

- Yes  
 No

Please provide details:

### GUIDANCE TIP:

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

>>> The government of the Republic of Armenia approved "the Strategy and National Action Plan of the Republic of Armenia on Conservation, Protection, Reproduction and Use of Biological Diversity" (BSAP) in 2015 based on the CBD goals and targets arising thereby supporting the following directions of the strategy of the Republic of Armenia on biodiversity conservation and use:

1. Improvement of legislative and institutional frameworks related to biodiversity.
2. Enhancement of biodiversity and ecosystem conservation and restoration of degraded habitats.
3. Reduction of the direct pressures on biodiversity and promotion of sustainable use.
4. Elimination of the main causes of biodiversity loss through regulation of intersectoral relations and public awareness raising.
5. Enhancement of scientific research, knowledge management and capacity building in the field of biodiversity conservation and sustainable use of natural resources.

Taking into account the ongoing international developments and the ecological and nature conservation related issues present in Armenia, RA Government approved "the Strategy and State Program of Conservation and Use of Specially Protected Nature Areas of the Republic of Armenia" (SPNA SAP) in 2014. The document set the following strategic objectives of development of SPNAs of Armenia, including:

1. Ensuring environmental sustainability and healthy and favorable environment for the population of the country through the development and enhancement of the SPNAs system.
2. Protection of ecological, socio-economic, scientific, educational, recreational and spiritual values of SPNAs that must be undertaken through the conservation, restoration and long-term use of ecosystems, genetic resources, biological and landscape diversity.

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

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

### GUIDANCE TIP:

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

*Please select only one option*

- Yes  
 No

Please provide details:

>>> By signing the Comprehensive and Enhanced Partnership Agreement (CEPA) with the European Union, which entered into force in 2021, Armenia agreed to undertake measures geared towards improved protection and sustainable use of biodiversity

in line with European Union standards. Those, in particular, envisage: review and alignment of national legislation; preparing inventory and designation of key sites for biodiversity protection; establishing measures required for the conservation of such sites, including setting priorities for their management; and introducing strict protection for selected species. All wild bird species shall be protected.

Furthermore, the CEPA Implementation Roadmap envisages setting a system to monitor the conservation status of species by 2028, as well as establishing a mechanism to promote education and share general information with the public (by 2027).

The protection and sustainable use of biodiversity in Armenia is regulated primarily by the Law on Flora, Law on Fauna, Hunting Law, Law on Specially Protected Nature Areas, Law on EIA and Expertise, and Forest Code.

Armenia currently has four categories of protected areas defined in the Law on especially Protected Nature Areas.

The Ministry of Environment has implemented steps to introduce a new category – Protected Landscape (IUCN category V) that can be established on community land. Additionally, a new concept has been proposed for valuable natural ecosystems, representing areas of significant environmental value envisaged by international conventions and agreements. This concept would also encompass ecological corridors and enable the establishment of a coherent ecological network.

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

>>> A significant contribution to nature protection in Armenia is provided by various non-governmental organizations. There is a broad range of organizations implementing diverse activities from small local projects to strategic nationwide long-term programs.

These activities give good support to the efforts of the Ministry of Environment, regional state non-commercial organizations (SNCOs) responsible for nature protection in particularly protected areas, and the Mining and Environmental Protection Inspection Body, to prevent biodiversity loss.

The Armenian branch of the Caucasus Nature Fund (CNF) directly supports regional SNCOs by providing funding and equipment for their everyday operations and directly implements nature conservation measures, such as the restoration of the water regime in Khor Virap State Sanctuary.

WWF Armenia implements the long-term strategic Eco-corridor project, which resulted in establishing a set of so-called Community Conservation Areas (CCAs) in Vayots Dzor and Syunik regions, covering a total area of 37,000 hectares

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

>>> -----

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

**GUIDANCE TIP:**

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

*Please select only one option*

- Yes  
 No

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

>>> According to the Law on EIA, any planned activities carried out in specially protected natural areas are subject to the expert review of the Environmental Impact Assessment report conducted by the Environmental Impact Expertise Center at the Ministry of Environment.

EIA expert conclusion granted by the Ministry is the main document responsible for assessing the potential social and environmental impact of a project.

However, there is no secondary legislation, standards, or methodological guidelines for this assessment, resulting in decreased transparency of the process.

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

**GUIDANCE TIP**

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

>>>

Please provide any examples related to such policy and legislation.

>>>

## VII. Governance, Policy and Legislative Coherence

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

Have any governance arrangements affecting migratory species and their migration systems in your country, or in which your country participates, improved during the reporting period?

### GUIDANCE TIP:

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

*Please select only one option*

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

Please provide details:

>>> As early as 2006, the WWF undertook new projects to establish PAs in the south of Armenia with funding from the CEPF, the Norwegian government, and WWF Germany. Owing to those projects, the Arevik National Park (34,401.8 ha) and the Zangezur State Sanctuary (17,369 ha) were established by the governmental decree in 2009. Later in 2013, within the frameworks of the UNDP/GEF and WWF projects, the Khustup State Sanctuary (6,945 ha) was established and the Zangezur State Sanctuary was expanded (25,871ha). Leopard Caretakers' Network was founded in 2016. Within the framework of this initiative, about 20 caretakers have been implementing monitoring of wildlife, including the Leopard and its prey species, field studies, installation of camera traps, and other activities at 5 settlements included in the area of Vayots Dzor and Syunik. Apart from this, measures aimed at increased public awareness and improved education levels have been underway, along with periodically held courses for the youth of the target communities. To ensure the continuity of the measures listed above and to develop the results recorded so far, WWF developed the 2020-2030 Leopard Conservation National Action Plan jointly with partner organizations.

According to the Plan, the following measures are envisaged:

Study and monitoring of the number of Leopards and their prey, and the status of their habitats;

Establishment of the PA Management System (Econet) to provide for the unthreatened existence of Leopards and their prey species;

Provision for efficient work of all stakeholders involved in the activities on conservation of the Leopard and its prey species and their habitats;

Assistance to the Leopard Conservation Projects via local population;

Development and realization of the awareness-raising strategy, and the program of actions and ecological education related to the conservation of the Leopard;

Provision for international cooperation and coordinated efforts in the realm of leopard conservation within transboundary areas.

To what extent have these improvements helped to achieve Target 3 of the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species (see text above)? Tick one box.

*Please select only one option*

- 1. Minimal contribution
- 2. Partial contribution
- 3. Good contribution
- 4. Major contribution
- Not known

Please describe how this assessment was made

>>>

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

### GUIDANCE TIP:

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

biodiversity-related MEAs to which the country is a Party (see also question VII.3); or any other appropriate mechanism.

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

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

*Please select only one option*

- Yes  
 No

Please provide details:

>>>

Does collaboration between the focal points of CMS and other relevant global or regional Conventions take place in your country to develop the coordinated and synergistic approaches described in paragraphs 25-27 of **Resolution 11.10 (Rev. COP13)** (Synergies and partnerships)?

Relevant Conventions may include other global agreements such as biodiversity-related Conventions and Agreements, UNFCCC, UNCCD, as well as regional agreements, including CMS Agreements. Such collaboration may also be relevant to aligning efforts related to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021-2030, and NBSAPs as described in **Resolution 13.1** (Gandhinagar Declaration on CMS and the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework) and **Resolution 8.18 (Rev. COP12)** (Integration of Migratory Species into NBSAPs and into On-going and Future Programmes of Work under CBD).

*Please select only one option*

- Yes  
 No

Please provide details:

>>> By signing CEPA, the Republic of Armenia agreed to undertake measures geared towards improved protection and sustainable use of biodiversity. Those, in particular, envisage review and alignment of the national legislation with the EU standards; preparing inventory of sites, designation of these sites and establishing priorities for their management; establishing measures required for the conservation of such sites; establishing a system to monitor the conservation status of species; and establishing a mechanism to promote education and general information to the public.

After the preparation of the project fiche for the EU Twinning program (European Union instrument for institutional cooperation between Public Administrations of EU Member States and of beneficiary or partner countries) by the Armenian Ministry of Environment, the EU organized an open tender for the project fiche implementation. The project of a consortium formed by the Czech Nature Conservation Agency and the Finnish Environmental Institute was selected and approved for funding.

Project Activities:

- Component 1 - Drafting legislation on biodiversity conservation,
- Component 2 - Capacity building,
- Component 3 - Awareness raising,
- Component 4 - Biodiversity conservation strategy

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

*Please select only one option*

- Yes  
 No

Please identify the legislation, policies, initiatives, or action plans concerned:

>>> In order to protect biodiversity and ecosystems effectively, several changes and improvements in legislation and institutional development are proposed.

Key enhancements to legislation:

- consolidate the Law on Fauna and Law on Flora into the Code on Fauna and Flora
- add a new category of protected areas "Protected Landscape" to the Law on Protected Areas,
- allow designation of specially protected nature areas and valuable natural ecosystems on private and community land
- differentiate the level of protection among the species listed in the Red Book
- implement state-run Species Action Plans as a new tool for effective species conservation
- incorporate the obligation to use protective equipment when building or reconstructing electric distribution and transmission systems in order to prevent injuries to birds due to electrocution and collisions of birds with electric wires
- prohibit the establishment of hunting grounds and game farms on valuable natural ecosystems

- improve the monitoring of hunted species in order to set adequate hunting quotas
- change the official working hours of rangers and inspectors and make it possible to fine/prosecute violators beyond these working hours
- introduce secondary legislation or standards for a transparent EIA process (e.g. authorization system for entities conducting initial EIA)
- establish the obligation to include an assessment of valuable natural ecosystems into the EIA evaluation process



## VIII. Incentives

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

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

*Please select only one option*

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

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

>>>

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

>>> Activities directly or indirectly supporting the preservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, as well as encouragement and compensation mechanisms are applied in Armenia with financial assistance from various international programs:

1. Support to development, preservation, and commercialization of products and services dependent on biodiversity and ecosystems – as per the example of satisfaction of the need for household firewood in 4 communities in the neighborhood of Shikahogh state reserve;
2. Development of sustainable tourism or ecotourism as per the example of a number of SPNAs;
3. Support to the management of community resources: provision of forest debris to communities in the vicinity of forests free of charge.
4. Application of SPNA participation management models as per the example of “Gnishik” preserved landscape;
5. Improvement of the socio-economic situation in target communities located within the borders of eco-corridors connecting protected areas: for 26 target communities of RA Ararat, Vayots Dzor and Syunik marzes.

Please indicate what measures were implemented and the time periods concerned:

>>>

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

*Please select only one option*

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

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

>>>

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

>>> Practical application of positive stimuli for preservation and sustainable use of biodiversity is possible through the introduction of the system of payment for ecosystem services, application of compensation and encouragement mechanisms contributing to the development of the SPNA system, promotion of social participation in the sphere of management and development of capacities for sustainable management of natural resources. ES payments are considered direct and flexible mechanisms of encouragement envisaging monetary compensation directly by the user to the physical entity or community providing ecosystem services, whose decisions precondition the provision of these ecosystem services in the sphere of the use of natural resources. Mechanisms for the promotion of renewable resources are a priority for Armenia, namely in terms of the recovery of forests, which are important as both a habitat for species and a source of ecosystem services.

## IX. Sustainable Production and Consumption

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

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

*Please select only one option*

- Yes  
 In development / planned  
 No

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

>>> This important target involves almost all areas of economic activity and includes activities aimed at transition to a green economy in terms of efficient management of resources and generation of cleaner production.

In 2014, the National Assembly of Armenia passed the "RA Law on Environmental Impact Assessment and Expertise", which clearly sets out the rights and responsibilities of enterprises initiating environmental impact assessment and expertise processes, as well as environmental impact assessment and expertise of "... flora and fauna, species and conditions of their existence, use of the flora and fauna, the use of living modified organisms, animals or plants registered in the Red Book of the Republic of Armenia" while planning and implementing economic activities. Enforcement of the law enables avoiding the risk of non-sustainable use of resources at the initial stage of economic activities, as well as preventing respective forms of activities (mine exploitation, etc.) in certain areas, where valuable biodiversity representatives, landscapes, species registered in the Red Book of Animals and Plants of Armenian are present.

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

>>> Without a positive conclusion on environmental impact provided by the Ministry of Environment, no economic activity can begin.

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

>>>

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

>>>

What is preventing progress?

>>>

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

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

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

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

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

### Intentional Taking

#### GUIDANCE TIP:

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

	Species/species groups affected (please provide names and indicate whether Appendix I and/or Appendix II); and any other details	Overall relative severity of impact 1 = severe 2 = moderate 3 = low
Deliberate poisoning	All Raptors (included in both Appendix I and II), all Waders (Appendix I and II), all Herons and Egrets (Appendix I), Great Bustard (Appendix II), all Storks, Ibises and Spoonbills (Appendix I), Pelicans (Appendix II)	2
Illegal trade	All Songbirds (Appendix I)	3
Other harvesting and take	All Songbirds (Appendix I)	3
Illegal hunting	All Raptors (included in both Appendix I and II), Common Quail (Appendix I), All Ducks and Geese (Appendix I and II), all Waders (Appendix I and II), Turtle Dove (Appendix I), all Herons and Egrets (Appendix I), Great Bustard (Appendix II), all Storks, Ibises and Spoonbills (Appendix I), Pelicans (Appendix II)	2
Legal hunting	Common Quail (Appendix I), All Ducks and Geese (Appendix I and II), all Waders (Appendix I and II), Turtle Dove (Appendix I)	2

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

>>>

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

#### GUIDANCE TIP:

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

>>>

## Unintentional Taking

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

What are the most significant advances that have been made since the previous report in addressing bycatch or catch in ALDFG?

### GUIDANCE TIP:

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

>>>

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

### GUIDANCE TIP:

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

>>>

## Collisions and electrocution

	Species/species groups affected (please provide names and indicate whether Appendix I and/or Appendix II); and any other details	Overall relative severity of impact 1 = severe 2 = moderate 3 = low
Electrocution	All Raptors (included in both Appendix I and II)	2
Other collisions	All Raptors (included in both Appendix I and II), All Ducks and Geese (Appendix I and II), all Waders (Appendix I and II), Turtle Dove (Appendix I), all Herons and Egrets (Appendix I), all Cranes (Appendix I), Great Bustard (Appendix II), all Storks, Ibises and Spoonbills (Appendix I), Pelicans (Appendix II), all Songbirds (Appendix I)	2
Wind turbines	All Raptors (included in both Appendix I and II), all Cranes (Appendix I) all Herons and Egrets (Appendix I), all Storks, Ibises and Spoonbills (Appendix I), Pelicans (Appendix II)	2

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

>>>

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

### GUIDANCE TIP:

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

>>>

## Other mortality

	<b>Overall relative severity of impact</b> 1 = severe 2 = moderate 3 = low	<b>Species/species groups affected (please provide names and indicate whether Appendix I and/or Appendix II); and any other details</b>
Disease	3	All Ducks and Geese (Appendix I and II)
Accidental/indirect poisoning	2	All Raptors (included in both Appendix I and II), All Ducks and Geese (Appendix I and II), all Waders (Appendix I and II), Turtle Dove (Appendix I), all Herons and Egrets (Appendix I), all Cranes (Appendix I), Great Bustard (Appendix II), all Storks, Ibises and Spoonbills (Appendix I), Pelicans (Appendix II), all Songbirds (Appendix I)
Unexplained stranding events	3	Not well documented
Predation	2	All Ducks and Geese (Appendix I and II), all Waders (Appendix I and II), Turtle Dove (Appendix I), all Cranes (Appendix I), Great Bustard (Appendix II), all Storks, Ibises and Spoonbills (Appendix I), all Songbirds (Appendix I)

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

>>>

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

**GUIDANCE TIP:**

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

>>>

**Alien and/or invasive species**

	<b>Species/species groups affected (please provide names and indicate whether Appendix I and/or Appendix II); and any other details</b>	<b>Overall relative severity of impact</b> 1 = severe 2 = moderate 3 = low
Alien and/or invasive species	Not documented	3

What are the most significant advances that have been made since the previous report in addressing alien and/or invasive species?

>>>

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

**GUIDANCE TIP:**

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

>>>

**Disturbance and disruption**

	<b>Species/species groups affected (please provide names and indicate whether Appendix I and/or Appendix II); and any other details</b>	<b>Overall relative severity of impact</b> 1 = severe 2 = moderate 3 = low
Disturbance	All Waders (Appendix I and II), all Songbirds (Appendix I)	2

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

>>>

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

**GUIDANCE TIP:**

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

>>>

**Pollution**

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

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

>>>

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

**GUIDANCE TIP:**

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

>>>

**Habitat destruction/degradation**

	Species/species groups affected (please provide names and indicate whether Appendix I and/or Appendix II); and any other details	Overall relative severity of impact 1 = severe 2 = moderate 3 = low
Physical barriers		
Fire		
Too much/too little water		
Urbanization		
Unsustainable land/resource use		
Mineral exploration/extraction		
Habitat degradation		
Habitat loss/destruction (including deforestation)		

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

>>>

What are the most significant negative trends since the previous report concerning habitat

destruction/degradation?

**GUIDANCE TIP:**

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

>>>

**Climate change**

	Overall relative severity of impact 1 = severe 2 = moderate 3 = low	Species/species groups affected (please provide names and indicate whether Appendix I and/or Appendix II); and any other details
Climate change	2	All Raptors (included in both Appendix I and II), All Ducks and Geese (Appendix I and II), all Waders (Appendix I and II), Turtle Dove (Appendix I), all Herons and Egrets (Appendix I), all Cranes (Appendix I), Great Bustard (Appendix II), all Storks, Ibises and Spoonbills (Appendix I), Pelicans (Appendix II), all Songbirds (Appendix I)

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

>>>

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

**GUIDANCE TIP:**

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

>>>

**Levels of knowledge, awareness, legislation, management etc.**

	Overall relative severity of impact 1 = severe 2 = moderate 3 = low	Species/species groups affected (please provide names and indicate whether Appendix I and/or Appendix II); and any other details
Inadequate enforcement of legislation	1	All Raptors (included in both Appendix I and II), All Ducks and Geese (Appendix I and II), all Waders (Appendix I and II), Turtle Dove (Appendix I), all Herons and Egrets (Appendix I), all Cranes (Appendix I), Great Bustard (Appendix II), all Storks, Ibises and Spoonbills (Appendix I), Pelicans (Appendix II), all Songbirds (Appendix I)
Lack of knowledge	2	All Raptors (included in both Appendix I and II), All Ducks and Geese (Appendix I and II), all Waders (Appendix I and II), Turtle Dove (Appendix I), all Herons and Egrets (Appendix I), all Cranes (Appendix I), Great Bustard (Appendix II), all Storks, Ibises and Spoonbills (Appendix I), Pelicans (Appendix II), all Songbirds (Appendix I)
Inadequate legislation	2	All Raptors (included in both Appendix I and II), All Ducks and Geese (Appendix I and II), all Waders (Appendix I and II), Turtle Dove (Appendix I), all Herons and Egrets (Appendix I), all Cranes (Appendix I), Great Bustard (Appendix II), all Storks, Ibises and Spoonbills (Appendix I), Pelicans (Appendix II), all Songbirds (Appendix I)
Inadequate transboundary management	2	All Raptors (included in both Appendix I and II), All Ducks and Geese (Appendix I and II), all Waders (Appendix I and II), Turtle Dove (Appendix I), all Herons and Egrets (Appendix I), all Cranes (Appendix I), Great Bustard (Appendix II), all Storks, Ibises and Spoonbills (Appendix I), Pelicans (Appendix II), all Songbirds (Appendix I)

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

>>>

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

>>>

**Other (please specify)**

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

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

>>>

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

>>>

During the reporting period, has your country adopted new legislation or other domestic measures in response to CMS Article III(4) (b) specifically addressing obstacles to migration?

CMS Article III(4)(b) states ‘Parties that are Range States of a migratory species listed in Appendix I shall endeavor...to prevent, remove, compensate for or minimize, as appropriate, the adverse effects of activities or obstacles that seriously impede or prevent the migration of the species.’

**GUIDANCE TIP:**

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

*Please select only one option*

Yes

No

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

>>> Karen Aghababyan PhD, <<TSE - Towards Sustainable Ecosystems>> NGO (branch - Armenian Bird Census)



## XI. Conservation Status of Migratory Species

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

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

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

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

### **GUIDANCE TIP:**

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

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

Terrestrial mammals (not including bats)

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

Aquatic mammals

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

Bats

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

Birds

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

	-----	-----	-----	-----

Reptiles

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

Fish

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

Insects

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

## XII. Cooperating to Conserve Migration Systems

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

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

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

*Please select only one option*

- Yes  
 No

Please provide details:

>>> Armenia ratified the Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds and The Republic of Armenia were acceding to AEWA becoming the 81st Party on 1 July 2020.

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

*Please select only one option*

- Yes  
 No

Please specify which countries have been approached:

- Azerbaijan  
 Bahamas  
 Bahrain  
 Barbados  
 Belize  
 Bhutan  
 Botswana  
 Brunei Darussalam  
 Cambodia  
 Canada  
 Central African Republic  
 China  
 Colombia  
 Comoros  
 Democratic People's Republic of Korea  
 Dominica  
 El Salvador  
 Grenada  
 Guatemala  
 Guyana  
 Haiti  
 Iceland  
 Indonesia  
 Jamaica  
 Japan  
 Kiribati  
 Kuwait  
 Lao People's Democratic Republic  
 Andorra  
 Lebanon  
 Lesotho  
 Malawi  
 Malaysia  
 Maldives  
 Marshall Islands  
 Mexico  
 Micronesia  
 Myanmar  
 Namibia  
 Nauru  
 Nepal

- Nicaragua
- Niue
- Oman
- Papua New Guinea
- Qatar
- Republic of Korea
- Russian Federation
- Saint Kitts and Nevis
- Saint Lucia
- Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
- San Marino
- Sierra Leone
- Singapore
- Solomon Islands
- South Sudan
- Sudan
- Suriname
- Thailand
- Timor-Leste
- Tonga
- Turkey
- Turkmenistan
- Tuvalu
- United States of America
- Vanuatu
- Vatican City State
- Venezuela
- Viet Nam
- Zambia

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

*Please select only one option*

- Yes
- No

Please describe the results of these actions achieved so far:

**GUIDANCE TIP:**

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

>>>

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

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

*Please select only one option*

- Yes
- No

Please provide details:

>>>

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

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

**GUIDANCE TIP:**

Please describe initiatives aimed at implementing Decision **13.113 a)**

*Please select only one option*

Yes

No

Please provide details:

>>> EU-Armenia relations are based on the EU-Armenia Comprehensive and Enhanced Partnership Agreement (CEPA), which fully entered into force on 1 March 2021, and on the EU-Armenia Partnership Priorities, agreed in February 2018. CEPA promotes approximation, economic integration and respect for common values, while the Partnership Priorities continue to shape the cooperation agenda and remain a solid programming basis for the period 2021-2027. This document is consistent with the objectives of the Eastern Partnership policy, as presented in the March 2020 Joint Communication “The Eastern Partnership policy beyond 2020: Reinforcing Resilience – an Eastern Partnership that delivers for all”<sup>1</sup> and confirmed by the EU and Eastern Partnership leaders in June 2020. It is fully aligned with the Joint Staff Working Document “Recovery, resilience and reform: post 2020 Eastern Partnership priorities”<sup>2</sup> setting out on the post-2020 Eastern Partnership agenda, published on 2 July 2021, including its Economic Investment Plan and the five flagship initiatives to support socioeconomic recovery and strengthen the country’s resilience.

The EU is one of the leaders of the green agenda through its commitments and investments under the European Green Deal<sup>6</sup>, and it recognises the need for all countries to play an active part in the solution of the global climate crisis. The MIP will therefore help Armenia to successfully reach its mitigation and adaptation goals and to effectively increase investments in environmental protection and climate resilience, not only to minimise the costs of transitioning to more sustainable practices, such as clean energy and energy efficiency, but also to reap the benefits of an expanding green economy – all in line with Armenian commitments under the Paris Agreement including as detailed in Armenia’s Nationally Determined Contribution 2021-2030.<sup>7</sup> Environmentally sound and climate neutral solutions will be promoted and mainstreamed across all areas of EU support to Armenia.

### XIII. Area-Based Conservation Measures

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

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

**GUIDANCE TIP:**

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

Helpful reflections on the issue can be found in the “**Strategic Review of Aspects of Ecological Networks relating to Migratory Species**” presented to COP11 and the “**Critical Site Network Tool**” developed under the auspices of AEWA and the Ramsar Convention.

*Please select only one option*

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

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

>>> Taking into consideration the fact that in RA there are many qualified specialists in this field who can develop necessary projects and drafts, the only problem remains the lack of financial measures.

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

**GUIDANCE TIP:**

The “contribution” may relate to habitat types, and/or geographical coverage/distribution factors, and/or coverage of particular priority species or species groups, and/or factors concerning functional connectivity, and/or any other factor considered relevant to the achievement of SPMS Target 10.

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

*Please select only one option*

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

Please provide details:

>>>

Please provide details:

>>> The establishment and strengthening of the protected area (PA) system is an important aspect of biodiversity conservation in Armenia. With the funding allocated by international donor institutions, large-scale programs, and long-term planning have been implemented to create new PAs.

Over the last 10 years, the total area covered by PAs in Armenia has increased by 85,530 hectares and currently covers 13 % of the country’s territory.

WWF-Armenia actively supports large-scale efforts to further develop the system of protected areas in Armenia and to improve their management performance. An example of this can be seen in Khosrov Forest and Shikahogh State Reserves, and in the protected areas under the Zangezur Biosphere Complex, where WWF-Armenia provides logistical support, equipment (such as off-road vehicles, telescopic devices, camera traps, drones, fencing, billboards, ranger shelters), as well as organizing capacity-building events (training sessions, courses, and practical training).

As a part of the Eco-Corridor Fund (ECF) project, 6 Community Conserved Areas (CCAs) have been established by the relevant municipalities covering in total more than 34,000 hectares. The CCAs provide protection and wildlife corridors for large mammals such as the Caucasian leopard, the Bezoar goat, the Armenian mouflon, the Brown Bear, and the Eurasian lynx among other species. This is an illustrative example of alternative and innovative models of species management WWF uses in Armenia.

The creation of a new protected area, Tatev National Park, is in progress in Armenia, including finalizing the boundary of the park in collaboration with the council of aldermen of local communities and creating regulations and a management plan for the new national park.

Has your country adopted any new legislation or other domestic measures in the reporting period in

response to CMS Article III(4) (a) (“Parties that are Range States of a migratory species listed in Appendix I shall endeavor ... to conserve and, where feasible and appropriate, restore those habitats of the species which are of importance in removing the species from danger of extinction”)?

*Please select only one option*

- Yes  
 No

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

>>>

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

*Please select only one option*

- Yes  
 Partly / for some areas  
 In development  
 No

Please provide a reference and details on what is covered:

>>> Armenia protects the most valuable natural areas in 266 protected areas such as national parks (4), state reserves (3), natural monuments (233), and state sanctuaries (27). In total, protected areas cover more than 13% (3 866 km<sup>2</sup>) of Armenia’s territory. Although this network of protected areas has its limitations and many valuable areas are not included in any of the protected area

categories, it is the backbone for biodiversity conservation in the country. The protected areas are the core areas for distribution of the Persian Leopard (*Panthera pardus tulliana*). Many species of eagles and vultures find their strongholds within protected areas such as Khosrov Forest State Reserve and Zangezur Biosphere Complex.

By signing the Comprehensive and Enhanced Partnership Agreement (CEPA) with the European Union, which entered into force in 2021, Armenia agreed to undertake measures geared towards improved protection and sustainable use of biodiversity

in line with European Union standards. Those, in particular, envisage: review and alignment of national legislation; preparing inventory and designation of key sites for biodiversity protection; establishing measures required for the conservation of such sites,

including setting priorities for their management; and introducing strict protection for selected species. All wild bird species shall be protected.

Furthermore, the CEPA Implementation Roadmap envisages setting a system to monitor conservation status of species by 2028, as well as to establish a mechanism to promote education and sharing general information with the public (by 2027).

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

*Please select only one option*

- Yes  
 No

Please provide details:

>>>

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

**Resolution 12.7 (Rev.COP13)** on Ecological Networks.

**Resolution 12.13** on Important Marine Mammal Areas.

**Resolution 12.24** on Marine Protected Area networks in the ASEAN region.

**Resolution 12.25** on Intertidal and Other Coastal Habitats.

**Resolution 13.3** on Chondrichthyan Species

**Decision 13.116** on Transfrontier Conservation Areas for Migratory Species

>>> According to the practice common globally, protected areas (PA) in Armenia will be also interconnected by ecological corridors to ensure the safe migration of animals from one PA to another. The PAs connected one to another with ecological corridors form the ecological network of a country.

In view of this goal, a regional project entitled Promotion of Eco-Corridors was launched in 2015. It was realized through the efforts of the WWF and the Ministry of Nature Protection of Armenia (presently, the Ministry of Environment) and was funded by the government of Germany through the KfW Development Bank. An enormous scope of work has been completed over five years in thirty rural settlements located in the three regions (Ararat, Syunik, and Vayots Dzor) to focus the attention of the local population on environmental issues. In ten settlements, implementation of long-term conservation efforts to last for 5 to 10 years and to

involve community contribution has been started and will be completed in 2025-2028.

At the initial stage of work, habitats of the Caucasian Leopard, the Armenian Mouflon, the Bezoar Goat, and the Brown Bear were mapped and the inventory of animal numbers was compiled. At the next stage, the target communities of the eco-corridor project established community-level nature conservation areas with a total coverage of about 37 000 ha; 12 caretakers, chosen from the communities, are engaged in animal monitoring and protection. They passed special training and were provided appropriate off-road vehicles, equipment, uniform and other necessary items. In addition, office conditions were arranged for the staff.



## XIV. Ecosystem Services

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

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

### **GUIDANCE TIP:**

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

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

Note also the particular aspects to be taken into account that are specified in the wording of the SPMS target. For the CMS definition of "favourable conservation status", see Article I(1)(c) of the Convention text.

*Please select only one option*

- Yes
- Partly / in progress
- No

Please provide details (including source references where applicable):

>>>

Please provide details (including source references where applicable):

>>> The importance and idea of valuation necessity of ESs has been reflected in a number of strategic programs already approved or endorsed by the Government of the Republic of Armenia envisaging actions related to the introduction of ESs and payments for them. The activities of the documents included the establishment of normative methodological bases for the introduction of valuation of ecosystem services during 2016-2017 and incorporation (during 2018-2019) of the monetary value of biodiversity and ESs in the management plans of SPNAs, forestry enterprises and pastures, as well as socio-economic development programs of the marzes of the Republic of Armenia. It is assumed that payment schemes of ESs can serve for the conservation of the biodiversity through making sustainable land use experiences economically effective. The actions envisaged under strategic documents have remained unfulfilled, which puts the implementation of the given target under risk. As a mitigating factor it should be stated that the ideology of introducing ESs and payments for them, as well as the conceptual approaches still need to be additionally clarified and circumstantiated in terms of in-depth study of the international experience and local peculiarities of the application of ES payments in Armenia.

Nevertheless, the need for economic or value assessment of the services provided as a result of the use of natural ecosystems or natural capital, as well as the methodology/methodological bases of the ESs assessment is not sufficiently or visibly enshrined in the current legislation of the Republic of Armenia. For the solution of such and some other important issues the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Armenia elaborated the Draft Law of the Republic of Armenia "On Ecosystem Services" in 2015 containing provisions and articles regulating legal relations related to the ESs, as well as defining the classification of ESs and methodology of their economic assessment, payments for ESs and payment terms, and financial mechanisms associated with them.

The elaboration of the draft law "on ecosystem services" of the Republic of Armenia derives from the execution of the assignment of the first item of the action plan for implementation of tasks stipulated in the concept of creating innovative financial mechanism in the field of nature protection developed by the RA Ministry of Environment and approved by the Government Protocol decree N 47 dated November 14, 2013.

Despite the importance of the issue, as a result of the discussions on the draft law at different levels it was concluded that the adoption of the draft law was premature at the given stage since it could create additional financial burdens for the users of ecosystems and it was sought appropriate to return to the issue later.

Additionally, the contradiction of interests among resource users of different sectors (forestry, agriculture, mining, tourism) and environmentalists, insufficient cooperation between different governmental and non-governmental circles and society,

low level of awareness, and lack of reliable and easy-to-understand information hinder the adoption of the law. Society, ES users and decision makers are entirely unaware of such functions of ecosystems, or ecosystem services are identified only with the resources available in ecosystems. As a result, ES value is not taken into account during economic evaluations and decision-making and is not reflected in the economic indicators of the country.

## XV. Safeguarding Genetic Diversity

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

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

### **GUIDANCE TIP:**

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

*Please select only one option*

- Yes
- No

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

- Captive breeding
- Captive breeding and release
- Gene typing research
- Reproductive material archives/repositories
- Other

>>>

Please describe the Captive breeding strategy:

>>>

Please describe the captive breeding & release strategy:

>>>

Please describe the gene typing research strategy:

>>>

Please describe the reproductive material archives/repositories strategy:

>>>

## XVI. National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans

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

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

*Please select only one option*

Yes

No

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

>>>

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

[Strategic Plan for MS 2015 2023 E 0.pdf](#)

[SPNA-strategy.pdf](#)

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

### **GUIDANCE TIP:**

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

>>> Armenia has developed and adopted a number of important national strategic documents aimed at conservation of biodiversity, including Protocol Decree of the Government of Armenia No 54 adopted in 2015 "on Approval of the National Strategy and Action Plan for Conservation, Protection, Reproduction, and Utilization of biological diversity of the Republic of Armenia" and the Decree N-1059 of the Government of Armenia adopted in 2014 "on Approval of the National Strategy and Action Program of Conservation and Use of Specially Protected Nature Areas of the Republic of Armenia".

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

>>>

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

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

>>>

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

### **GUIDANCE TIP:**

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

>>>

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

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

Note that progress in achieving Target 13 of the Strategic Plan considers indigenous and local communities.

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

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

*Please select only one option*

- Yes
- Partly / in some areas
- No
- Not applicable

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

*Please select only one option*

- Yes
- Partly / in some areas
- No
- Not applicable

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

(select all that apply)

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

>>>

Please provide details on the implementation of the actions concerned.

### **GUIDANCE TIP**

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

>>> In Armenia, the given Target is related only to the local communities, whose involvement is mainly focused on identification of opportunities for establishing community forests, management of existing SPNAs and development of business plans, and creating prerequisites for establishing community-managed SPNAs. From this perspective, new opportunities are being offered through the introduction of the protected landscape (the 5th category in accordance with the IUCN indicators) in the SPNAs system envisaged by the Strategy and State Program of Conservation and Use of Specially Protected Nature Areas of the Republic of Armenia, which can contribute to the active involvement of communities in environmental processes.

How would you rank progress since the previous report in your country to achieving Target 14 of the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species (see text above)?

*Please select only one option*

- 1. Little or no progress
- 2. Some progress but more work is needed
- 3. Positive advances have been made
- 4. Target substantially achieved (traditional knowledge is fully respected and there is effective participation from

communities)

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

>>> The participation of communities in the strategies and initiatives aimed at conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity is an important factor from the perspective of effectiveness of activities undertaken in the country. One of the most important issues is the daily work with the local community focused on conservation of the community's bioresources and biodiversity, climate change, SPNAs, ecosystem services and awareness and development of skills in terms of sustainable management.

## **XVIII. Knowledge, Data and Capacity-Building**

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

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

(select all that apply)

- Education campaigns in schools
- Public awareness campaigns
- Capacity building
- Knowledge and data-sharing initiatives
- Capacity assessments/gap analyses
- Agreements at policy level on research priorities
- Research by academia, research organizations and other relevant stakeholders
- Other (please specify):

>>>

- No steps have been taken

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

### **GUIDANCE TIP**

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

### **Education campaigns in schools**

>>> International Bat Night events have been organized together with the Armenian Association of Mammalogists. Schoolchildren and students of different faculties (not biologists) participated in mist-netting and bat recording during the events.

BioBlitz was organized in Armenia in May 2022. During the event, over 30 people took part in the bat section.

Bats of Armenia were presented in STARMUS events and other expos organized by the Yerevan State University and other organizations.

### **Public awareness campaigns**

>>> In 2021, the Red Book of Armenia mobile application was created and launched. The Red Book of Armenia mobile application has a scientific, ecological goal of increasing awareness.

This makes it possible to get acquainted with the biological classification, number, habitat, and distribution of Red Book species of animals of the Republic of Armenia, morphology, and other information.

An interactive map allows you to see the prevalence of these species.

The interactive feedback tool of the application allows the user to participate in studying red book species and collecting data.

Several TV and radio programs about bats have been produced in Armenia during the last two years. Two videos were prepared about bats dwelling in Armenia.

### **Capacity building**

>>>

### **Knowledge and data-sharing initiatives**

>>> The Bird of the Year-2023 educational campaign was organized by NABU Armenia. Taking into account the results of the vote, the branch of the German Nature Conservation Union (NABU) in the Republic of Armenia in 2023 declares the Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*) as the bird of the year. During 2023, the organization will organize fieldwork on the study of this species, as well as various eco-educational events that increase public awareness of the golden eagle.

## Capacity assessments/gap analyses

>>>

## Agreements at policy level on research priorities

>>>

## Other

>>>

Research by academia, research organizations and other relevant stakeholders

>>>

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

(select all that apply)

- Funding support
- Technical assistance
- Education/training/mentoring
- Other skills development
- Provision of equipment or materials
- Exchange of information & know-how
- Research & innovation
- Mobilizing volunteer effort (e.g. citizen science)
- Other (please specify):

>>>

- No assistance required

## XIX. Resource Mobilization

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

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

### GUIDANCE TIP:

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

Further comments on resource mobilization issues in the CMS context can be found in the **Strategic Plan for Migratory Species**, Chapter 4.

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

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

To which particular targets in the **Strategic Plan for Migratory Species**, and which initiatives, plans and programmes has this made a contribution? (Identify all those that apply).

>>>

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

*Please select only one option*

- Increased
- The same
- Decreased
- Unknown

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

*Please select only one option*

- Yes
- No

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

- Multilateral investment bank
- The Global Environment Facility (GEF)
- Other intergovernmental programme
- Private sector
- Non-governmental organization(s)
- Individual country governments/government agencies (please specify)

>>>

- Other

>>>

To which particular targets in the **Strategic Plan for Migratory Species**, and which initiatives, plans and programmes has this made a contribution? (Identify all those that apply).

>>>

Which migratory species have benefited as a result of this support?

>>>



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

*Please select only one option*

- Increased
- The same
- Decreased
- Unknown

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

**GUIDANCE TIP:**

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

- >>> 1. Carry out inventory and mapping of migratory species of Armenia,
- 2. Identify direct and indirect causes of habitat loss of migratory species of Armenia,
- 3. Develop and implement action plans on conservation of migratory species of Armenia.