

## STATE OF MIGRATORY SPECIES REPORT: A PROPOSED FRAMEWORK

The 13<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CMS (COP13; Gandhinagar, 2020) agreed on a number of decisions to further develop the preliminary review of the conservation status of migratory species ([Decisions 13.24 to 13.26](#)). Building on the previous scoping work completed following an expert workshop ahead of COP12 ([UNEP/CMS/COP12/Inf. 29](#)) and the preliminary review prepared by the CMS Secretariat for COP13 ([UNEP/CMS/COP13/Doc.24](#)), this document, developed by UNEP-WCMC, provides a proposed framework for a review of the conservation status of migratory species that can serve as a basis for the compilation of this report for COP14.

It is anticipated that the report will help provide a baseline understanding of the status of migratory species and include recommendations to the Parties on conservation actions that may be needed to further the aims of the Convention. It is envisioned that this framework would then form the basis of future reports produced in subsequent years in line with the CMS COP cycle to help monitor the conservation status of migratory species over time and to inform decision-making to improve the outcomes for migratory species on an on-going basis.

Section	Overview of content	Key source(s) of content/data
<b>Foreword</b>	Introductory remarks from the CMS Secretariat	CMS Secretariat
<b>Executive summary</b>	Summary of key findings and recommendations	
<b>Chapter 1: Introduction</b>	Highlighting the importance of migratory species and outlining the scope of the report.	
<b>Chapter 2: State - Conservation status of CMS species</b>	Summary of the conservation status and trends for migratory species, with a focus on CMS-listed species.	IUCN Red List Red List Index Living Planet Index
<b>Chapter 3: Pressure - Threats facing CMS species</b>	Summary of the main threats to migratory and CMS-listed species, with a spotlight in this report on the impact of direct use and trade on Appendix I species.	IUCN Red List Red List Index World Database of KBAs
<b>Chapter 4: Responses – Actions to conserve CMS species</b>	Summary of key actions being undertaken, and future actions needed, to conserve migratory species and their habitats.	World Database of PAs World Database of KBAs IUCN Red List CMS website CMS National Reports
<b>Conclusion</b>	Highlighting areas of progress, and areas where more work and collaborative action is needed, to conserve migratory species and their habitats.	

A more detailed proposed framework, including suggested datasets and specific topics that will be covered, is provided below. It is important to note that data availability and coverage will ultimately determine what is used, so the datasets suggested are indicative at this stage.

As the goal is to provide a repeatable framework and as some indices may not show enough advancement between iterations to be informative, we suggest that this framework be used flexibly as a selection of options from which a subset of components could be identified for each report to suit the particular areas of interest of the CMS Parties, the data availability at the time, and the scale of the funding available to produce the report.

## PROPOSED CHAPTER STRUCTURE

The following details the proposed content of each section. Wherever possible, data will be presented graphically to create a report with visual impact where high level statistics and trends can be easily seen and understood by the reader. Throughout the report examples relating to individual species will be drawn out to provide real-world examples.

Decisions adopted at COP13 highlighted the importance of improving the understanding of the threats posed by direct use and trade and the need to review the status of species listed in Appendix I. It is therefore proposed that the first report for COP14 will place a spotlight on **direct use and trade** (under “Pressures”) and **Appendix I eligibility** (under “State”).

### 1. Introduction

- a. Introduction to the scope/main themes of the report.
- b. Short introduction to the Convention and the species covered by the CMS Appendices, and key definitions (e.g., 'what is a migratory species').
- c. Background, aims and reasons for a 'State of migratory species' report and links to broader biodiversity conservation initiatives.
- d. Box outlining the importance of migratory species.

### 2. State - Conservation status of CMS species

- a. Overview of conservation status and population trends:
  - i. Visual overview of the global conservation status and population trends for all CMS species by Appendix listing and/or taxonomic group. Data source: IUCN Red List
  - ii. **Box:** Conservation status in range States for those Appendix I species with population-level listings. Data source: National Red List (where data is available).
- b. Trends in the conservation status and population abundance of migratory species:
  - i. **Box:** Introduction to the Red List Index (RLI) for migratory species and Living Planet Index (LPI) for migratory species
  - ii. Visual representations of the RLI and LPI data to show trends over time in extinction risk and population abundance, respectively, for the following (exact data source for each to be determined):
    1. All migratory species and CMS-listed species globally
    2. Migratory and CMS species by region
    3. Migratory species and CMS species by taxonomic group
- c. **Box** providing a more detailed assessment of a particular taxonomic group and/or geographic region based on the results from the above analyses, for example, if there have been notable changes in conservation status and exploring what may be driving population declines.
- d. **Spotlight:** Summary of the results from the review of the eligibility of current Appendix I listings.

### 3. Pressure - Threats facing CMS species and their habitats

- a. Overview of drivers of decline in migratory species:
  - i. Visual summary of **key threats** faced by **CMS-listed species** (by taxonomic group). Data source: IUCN Red List.
  - ii. Visual summary of **key threats** faced by **all migratory** species (by taxonomic group). Data source: IUCN Red List.
- b. Consideration of threats to **sites** of international importance to migratory species
  - i. Data source: World Database of KBAs.
- c. **Spotlight** on the impact of **direct use and trade** on Appendix I species
  - i. Summary of the results from the rapid assessment of Appendix I taxa identifying those species potentially most at risk from direct use and trade ([see ScC-SC5/Doc.5 Annex 3](#)). Results of a study on wild meat trade/use will also be highlighted.

*Note: Future reports would highlight other priority threats of importance (e.g., habitat loss/degradation or climate change) within the "Spotlight" section.*

### 4. Response – Actions to conserve CMS species and their habitats

- a. **Conservation in Action:**
  - i. Highlighting **conservation success** stories. Data source: case studies based on inputs from CMS Parties and other experts.
  - ii. **Box: Innovations in tracking migratory routes.** Highlighting platforms in development (e.g., the Eurasian African Bird Migration Atlas project, the Global Swimways project and MiCO) that are seeking to inform conservation decisions.
- b. **Actions to conserve species**
  - i. Proportion of threatened, migratory species that are protected through CMS listings (for taxonomic groups where data are available)
  - ii. Proportion of CMS-listed species with additional CMS management measures (e.g. Action plans, MOUs, etc.)
- c. **Actions to conserve key habitats**
  - i. Visual representation of how comprehensively KBAs of importance to migratory and CMS species are covered by protected and conserved areas. Data source: [The World Database on Protected Areas \(WDPA\)](#) and the World Database of KBAs. Considerations around connectivity [and other areas of importance to CMS species](#) will be explored, where possible.
- d. **Future actions needed to conserve species and their habitat**
  - i. Highlighting gaps identified in migratory species and habitat conservation (e.g. species/sites currently under-protected via CMS listings, action plans, and protected areas, etc.).

### 5. Conclusion and recommendations

- a. Summary of the main conclusions from the report and any key areas that need more attention from the CMS Parties in the years to come to ensure positive outcomes for migratory species.