

52nd Meeting of the Standing Committee

Online, 21 – 29 September 2021

UNEP/CMS/StC52/Doc.9.2

RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

(As of July 2021 / Prepared by the Secretariat)

Summary:

The present document describes the state of resources mobilized, both financial and in-kind, as of July 2021, since the thirteenth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CMS (COP13, February 2020, Gandhinagar, India).

These resources have contributed to the implementation of the Programme of Work 2020-2023 (POW) (UNEP/CMS/StC52/Doc.15).

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

RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

Background

1. The thirteenth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CMS (COP13, February 2020, Gandhinagar, India), adopted a [Budget](#) and a [Programme of Work \(POW\) for 2020-2023](#) through [Resolution 13.2 Financial and Administrative Matters](#). The triennial budget provides for staff, operational costs and meetings of governing bodies while the POW covers programmatic activities which rely entirely on voluntary funding. The POW includes activities to be carried out by the Secretariat including the development of core products such as the analysis of national reports, and numerous tasks directed to the Standing Committee and/or the Scientific Council which require the Secretariat's support. This document should be read in conjunction with UNEP/CMS/StC52/Doc.15 *Implementation of the Programme of Work (2020-2023)*.

Resources mobilized since COP13

2. In the run-up to COP13, Parties and stakeholders were invited, through [Notification 2019/024](#), to consider making a pledge to support the implementation of the Convention under the Migratory Species Champion Programme. Several Parties announced generous pledges under the programme and received recognition at the *Champion Night* ceremony award which took place in the margins of COP13. The following donors became *Champion Plus* for their support:
 - The Indian Government for its commitments towards the Small Grant Programme and for supporting the Energy Task Force in promoting wildlife-friendly energy for the period 2020-2023;
 - The German Government for its support to Furthering Migratory Species Conservation in Africa for the period 2020-2022 through the provision of a Junior Professional Officer to strengthen the implementation of CMS in the region;
 - The Italian Government for the Development of the Global Animal Migration Atlas for the period 2018-2020;
 - The Government of the Principality of Monaco for its commitment towards shark conservation for the period 2019-2021 and for marine species conservation for the period 2021-2023;
 - The Norwegian Government for its support to Sustainable Development and Migratory Species Conservation for the period 2020-2022;
 - The Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi on behalf of the UAE for its renewed commitment towards the conservation of birds of prey in Africa and Eurasia for 2020-2023 and for the conservation of Dugongs and their habitats over the same period; and
 - The European Union for its support to Strengthening National Legislation for Migratory Species for the period 2020-2023.
3. Following COP13, the Secretariat undertook significant efforts to raise funding for the implementation of the POW through tailored requests to individual donors and grant applications. The Secretariat also issued [Notification 2021/002](#) in February 2021, regarding a list of priorities for funding for 2021 under the POW.
4. The Secretariat received financial and in-kind resources in 2020 and 2021 which enabled the implementation of a number of priority activities, although many activities have not received support. The following paragraphs provide an overview of the financial and in-kind contributions obtained since COP13 as well as their sources. Details are provided in document UNEP/CMS/StC52/Doc.15.

Financial contributions received or pledged

5. The total of voluntary contributions received or pledged in 2020 and 2021 to implement the POW amounts to approximately €4,057,000 (including 13 per cent UNEP's Programme Support Cost (PSC)). More than half of these resources is allocated to activities whose implementation will continue in 2022 or 2023.
6. These resources were provided by the Governments of Australia, Germany (including its International Climate Initiative), India, Japan, Monaco, Sweden and Switzerland, and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Mava Foundation.
7. A portion (€ 950,000) of the total was obtained from the project "*Enhance the adaptive capacity of Central Asian migratory flagship species (e.g. Argali Sheep, Snow Leopard, Saiga Antelope and Goitered Gazelle) and associated ecosystems to climate change*" funded by the International Climate Initiative (IKI) of the German Government. This contribution is part of a grant application submitted by the UNEP Vienna Office in 2016. The final approval of the project was received in 2021.
8. Another portion (€ 205,228) of the total was obtained as part of the second phase of the MAVA-funded multi-partner project "*Alcyon Programme: Minimising bycatch of seabirds and sea turtles in West African industrial fisheries*" of which BirdLife International is the lead implementing organization. This second phase of the project started in 2020 and will end in October 2022.
9. The total amount includes € 230,000 supporting the CMS COP13 mandate on plastic pollution specifically to bridge the knowledge gap on the impact of plastic on migratory species in freshwater and terrestrial ecosystems, with a focus on the Asia and Pacific region. This contribution is part of a larger intervention in the context of the second phase of the CounterMEASURE project which is managed by the UNEP's Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific. The project is funded by the Government of Japan.
10. The total budget also includes €1,466,273 in support of the project "*Addressing Illegal Killing And Disturbance Of Sahelo-Saharan Megafauna*". The project, which is currently being negotiated, would be fully funded by the German Government and cover a four-year period to strengthen regional conservation efforts for the Sahelo-Saharan Megafauna, with national activities to save the Addax in Niger.
11. In addition to the total amount indicated above, a significant pledge was made by Environment Agency – Abu Dhabi (EAD) on behalf of the Government of the United Arab Emirates to continue to host the CMS Office – Abu Dhabi for the period 2020 to 2023. In February 2020, CMS and EAD extended the partnership agreement that has been in place since 2009. CMS Office – Abu Dhabi coordinates the Raptors and Dugongs Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs). The arrangement provides the Office's core budget, premises and other practical support. For 2020 and 2021, EAD provided US\$ 1.33 million and US\$ 1.35 million under the extended arrangement.
12. In 2020, US\$ 5,832 was provided by the Governments of Hungary, the Slovak Republic and Sweden as voluntary contributions towards activities of the Raptors MOU.
13. In addition to the total amount indicated above, further resources were raised by the MOUs for Sharks and Marine Turtles and their Habitats of the Indian Ocean and South-East Asia (IOSEA). The contributions obtained in 2020-2021 in support of the Sharks MOU budget and its POW amount to €255,676 and those received by the IOSEA MOU amount to US\$284,252.

Indirect financial contributions and in-kind contributions

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

Activities and services

15. In addition to hosting the CMS Secretariat as well as other CMS Family Secretariats based in Bonn, and bearing all costs relating to the premises, the German Ministry of the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) offered interpretation services for the following meetings, which took place online:
- 5th Meeting of the Sessional Committee of the CMS Scientific Council, on 28 June-9 July 2021;
 - 52nd Meeting of the Standing Committee, 21-29 September 2021.
16. The Secretariat renewed its Joint Work Programme 2020-2023 with the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation of Germany (BfN), funded by BMU, through which support is provided for the convening of various workshops.
17. Partnerships with NGOs have also been critical in supporting a number of activities. Details are included in document UNEP/CMS/StC52/Doc.14.
18. Within the CMS Family's co-located (Bonn) Secretariats, synergies and mutual support have enhanced both programmatic and administrative matters.

Personnel

19. Through its internship programme, the Secretariat has benefitted from the valuable support of university graduates or students, who have assisted CMS staff in their day-to-day work for an average period of three months without remuneration. While, due to the pandemic, the internship programme was suspended in 2020, it was resumed in 2021 and since then, 9 interns from various countries have assisted the Secretariat, remotely, in the accomplishment of tasks or projects in the scientific/technical, administrative and information fields.

Enabling support from other sources

20. In line with Resolution 11.10 (Rev.COP13), the Secretariat continues to support conservation work on the ground by informing Parties and partner organizations of funding opportunities and by providing letters of endorsement for grant applications that contribute to the implementation of any plans, actions or initiatives under the CMS Family. In September 2020, the Secretariat issued a notification ([2020/013](#)) on various prospects of funding for the conservation of migratory species including in response to the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2020, the Dugong MOU Secretariat supported a grant application to Fondation Segré which generated €300,000 towards dugong and seagrass conservation activities in the Bazaruto Archipelago, Mozambique.

Additional Grant applications

21. The CMS Secretariat submitted or contributed to the following grant applications to further the implementation of its mandate and support actions on the ground in cooperation with key implementing partners.

Mava Foundation

22. In response to the call for project “*Keeping nature at the heart of post-COVID recovery*” issued by the Mava Foundation in October 2020, the Secretariat prepared and submitted concept notes for (i) supporting animal-migration-friendly infrastructure through the development of a dedicated portal and (ii) ensuring coordinated approaches and interventions within COVID-19 recovery efforts for the protection of Atlantic Humpback Dolphins and associated ecosystems. Unfortunately both proposals were rejected.

International Climate Initiative (IKI)

23. In August 2020, the Secretariat participated in a consortium led by BirdLife International which submitted an application for the IKI Country procedure focusing on South Africa with a project proposal on “*Restoring ecosystems in South Africa to capture carbon, enhance people’s resilience to climate change and safeguard biodiversity*”. The project also aimed at supporting the coordination and implementation of CMS Energy Task Force and the African-Eurasian Migratory Landbirds Action Plan. Unfortunately the project proposal was not accepted.
24. In March 2021, the Secretariat applied for the annual IKI Thematic procedure through the submission of a concept note on “*Protecting vulnerable communities and migratory species in West Africa against zoonotic diseases through building connected landscapes and habitats*”. The large scale project aims at conserving the largest remnant populations of western chimpanzee, forest elephants and vultures in West Africa which also has high level of vulnerability to zoonotic diseases as evidenced by the current Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) outbreak in Guinea. The Secretariat also participated in another application led by the IUCN Regional Office for Eastern Europe and Central Asia with the project “*Enhancing landscape resilience to zoonosis by consolidating integrated nature conservation systems in Central Asia*”. This project would support the implementation of conservation effort in the context of the CMS Central Asian Mammal Initiative (CAMI). The Secretariat is awaiting feedback on both proposals.

Global Environment Facility

25. While the Global Environment Facility (GEF) is not a financial mechanism for CMS, advice on national priorities for the implementation of CMS in GEF replenishments can be provided through the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). CMS COP, through Resolution 10.25 (Rev.COP12), delegated to its Standing Committee the authority to develop such advice and requested the CMS Secretariat to convey it on its behalf to CBD.
26. Accordingly, in 2020, the Chair of the CMS Standing Committee initiated a process to invite inputs from Parties on their national priorities through the respective regional representatives of the Standing Committee for the development of strategic guidance for the eighth replenishment period of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund (GEF-8, 2022-2026). The Secretariat issued a notification ([2020/009](#)) to all Parties to support this process.
27. CMS advice was formulated at a strategic level, mindful of the GEF’s mandate, the common objectives of CMS and CBD, as well as the leading role of CMS in addressing the conservation and sustainable use of migratory species of wild animals and their habitat.
28. The advice was transmitted to the CBD Secretariat to be included in the pre-session documentation for consideration at the third meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation (SBI-3, 3 May -13 June 2021): in addition to being contained almost in full in addendum 3: “*The Financial mechanism: Elements of advice from other Biodiversity-related Conventions*” ([CBD/SBI/3/6/Add.3](#)), it is also referred to in section V of the main document of agenda item 6 on “*The Financial mechanism*” ([CBD/SBI/3/6](#)).

29. SBI-3 did not address the GEF8 four-year programmatic framework and requested the CBD Secretariat to further work on it for consideration by CBD COP15 in 2022.
30. The current draft GEF8 programming strategy already contains a number of areas of great relevance to CMS including a Wildlife Programme. Certain elements of the strategy could however be strengthened to better reflect CMS priorities, including non-trade aspects of wildlife use, transboundary and regional approaches to migratory species conservation, including the need for conservation aimed at ecological connectivity.
31. As the process for the development and negotiation of the GEF8 programming strategy continues until its adoption planned for May 2022, CMS Parties and Standing Committee members may wish to liaise with their GEF and CBD counterparts with a view to ensuring that CMS priorities are reflected during the forthcoming GEF-8 Second Meeting on September 29-October 1, 2021.

Funding needs

32. Despite the very positive and generous contributions described above, a significant number of areas of work under the POW are currently unfunded. Document UNEP/CMS/StC52/Doc.15 provides details on the gaps and includes estimates of the resources needed to implement activities for the remaining intersessional period.
33. Standing Committee members are encouraged to consult within their governments, and with other Parties and institutions in their respective regions to explore possibilities for providing financial support for the implementation of the POW.

Recommended Actions

34. The Standing Committee is recommended to:
 - a) take note of the document and make any comments, as appropriate;
 - b) provide advice regarding possible sources of funding for areas of the POW that are still unfunded; and
 - c) liaise with their GEF and CBD counterparts with a view to ensuring that CMS priorities are reflected in GEF8 programme priorities.