## Feedback to the European Regional Workshop on the African Regional Workshop - 18-21 October 2016



African Regional Workshop, Dakar, Senegal


Maasai Mara Game Reserve Aprl 2012

## Conservation Letters

## LETTER

## Another Continental Vulture Crisis: Africa's Vultures Collapsing toward Extinction

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Vulture

## October 2015

## IUCN uplisted 6 species of African Vulture



7 out of 11 species are endangered or critically endangered one species is likely extinct

## IUCN Red list status of the Africa's vultures

$\left.\begin{array}{|l|l|l|l|l|l|l|l|}\hline & 1979 & 1985 & 1994 & 2000 & 2011 & 2012 & 2015 \\ \hline \text { Cape Griffon } & \text { VU } & \text { Rare }^{1} & \text { Rare } & \text { VU } & \text { VU } & \text { VU } & \text { EN } \\ \hline \text { Ruppell's Griffon } & & & & & \text { NT } & \text { EN } & \text { CR } \\ \hline \text { Eurasian Griffon } & & & & & & & \\ \hline \begin{array}{l}\text { African W-b } \\ \text { Vulture }\end{array} & & & & & \text { NT } & \text { EN } & \text { CR } \\ \hline \text { Hooded Vulture } & & & & & \text { EN } & \text { EN } & \text { CR } \\ \hline \begin{array}{l}\text { Lappet-faced } \\ \text { Vulture }\end{array} & & & & \text { VU } & \text { VU } & \text { VU } & \text { EN } \\ \hline \begin{array}{l}\text { White-headed } \\ \text { Vulture }\end{array} & & & & & \text { VU } & \text { VU } & \text { CR } \\ \hline \text { Cinereous Vulture } & & & \text { VU } & \text { NT } & \text { NT } & \text { NT } & \\ \hline \text { Bearded Vulture } & & & & & & \text { LC } \\ \text { (Africa?) }\end{array}\right]$ VU











## African Regional Workshop

- 48 range states
- Representation from 21 states
- 65 delegates



## Agenda

- Day 1-20 Presentations - African

Vultures \& Threats

- Day 2 - Background, Aim \& Overall objectives
- Day 2 - Ranking \& categorization of threats
- Day 3 - Results, Actions, Timescale \& Responsibilities
- Day 4
- Policies, Legislation
- Action plans \& Strategies
- Gap areas - monitoring, research \& conservation action
- African regional coordination


Poisoning, poaching, collisions, Habitat loss and disturbance

## Main Threats Affecting All Species by Region -

 Questionnaires
## Unintentional poisoning, Illegal KTT,

 Decline in food availabilityTargeted poisoning, Unintentional poisoning, Illegal KTT, Decline in food availability, Habitat loss, Policy

## Main Threats Affecting All Species by Region -

 Group discussions> Unintentional poisoning, Electrocution, Collisions with infrastructure, Habitat loss

Targeted poisoning, Unintentional poisoning, Electrocutions, Collisions with infrastructure

## Ranking of threats based on discussions

- Unintentional (Secondary) Poisoning
- Targeted Vulture Poisoning
- Electrocution on power poles
- Habitat loss / Degradation \& Fragmentation
- Decline of food availability
- Collisions with infrastructure \& vehicles


## Targeted vulture poisoning

- Belief-based use
- Sentinel poaching
- Persecution
- Bush-meat/Culling


## Unintentional (secondary) poisoning

- Human-animal conflict
- Damage-causing animal control
- Rodent control
- Retaliatory killing


## Electrocution on power poles

- Electrocution


## Collisions with infrastructure \& vehicles

- Power-lines
- Communication towers
- Wind turbines
- Vehicle collisions
- Aircraft
- Habitat loss / Degradation \& Fragmentation
- Loss of trees and cliffs
- Degredation of rangelands
- Human settlement expansion within historical foraging range
- Bush encroachment/afforestation
- Decline of food availability
- Reduced availability of livestock carcasses for vultures, commercial vs communal farming
- Decline of wild ungulates
- Improved carcass disposal, e.g. better regulations
- Competition with other scavengers
- Change in cultural practices
- Change in foraging patterns due to different spatial availability of food
- Changes in the use of feeding sites




## Poaching-related Incidents \& Losses (Southern Africa)

Recent incidents in southern Africa:

- Mozambique - 76 birds (June 2011)
- Zimbabwe - 174 birds (August 2012)
- Mkhuze, South Africa - 41 birds (Nov 2012)
- Mozambique - 84 birds (May 2013)
- Namibia - 400-500 birds June 2013
- Zambia - 302 birds (Oct 2013)
- Zimbabwe - 219 birds (Oct 2013)
- Imfolozi, South Africa - 37 birds (Nov 2013)
- Hoedspruit, Limpopo - 65 birds (May 2015)
- Botswana - 40 birds (June 2015)
- Mozambique - 42 birds (July 2015)
- Kruger National Park, South Africa - 44 birds (September 2015)
- Letaba Ranch, South Africa - 22 birds (November 2015)
- Kruger National Park, South Africa - 110 birds (February 2016)
- Zambia - 106 birds (May 2016)
- Kruger National Park - 22 birds (May 2016)
- Botswana (August 2016) - 150 birds


## Priorities and gaps - monitoring and research

Plenary discussion

- Suggested focal areas for further research and monitoring
- Gap areas for surveying and monitoring
- Threat assessment and intervention
- Data capture and sharing



## Coordination and implementation in Africa

- Group discussion


Vulture MsAP - timelines

## Lessons learnt from the Week

- First day - 20 presentations that provided good background and set the scene - open to all PAOC delegates
- Preparation and proper briefing of key role-players
- Important to encourage delegates to look at matters from an overall perspective
- Good contact established with a substantial group of delegates from West Africa - gap in Kenya, 2012
- Ditto for North Africa, but to a lesser degree
- Good to see at least some government representation
- Still massive gaps in knowledge and geographical cover
- Challenge is bigger than ever and requires immediate action in terms of most pertinent threats

Thank you for your continued input and enthusiasm!
Vulture


