

**Outline of the Region's Report to
the 41st Meeting of the CMS Standing Committee**

**CEE countries (outside EU) regional activities for the implementation of the Convention on
Migratory Species and its related instruments**

Each Party within the region is to provide data and information related to activities undertaken at national, regional, sub-regional level for the implementation of the Convention and its related instruments as well as relevant governing bodies resolutions and decision in the following non-exhaustive list of areas:

Period from last to present meeting of the CMS Standing Committee

1. CMS and its relevant instruments

Agreements for conservation of specific species

Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (ACAP)

[Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds \(AEWA\)](#)

Ukraine

2nd Regional Meeting of the Eastern European Breeding Countries under the AEWA Black-tailed Godwit International Working Group took place from 23–25 October in Kyiv, Ukraine

The regular winter monitoring of the Red-breasted Goose had been arranged during January-March 2013 by the experts of the Ukrainian Society of the Protection of Birds in the Southern Ukraine (Autonomous Republic of Crimea, Mykoliavska, Khersonska and Odeska oblasts). The monitoring had been conducted in the framework of the Red-breasted Goose International Working Group in coastal wintering areas of RgB in Bulgaria, Romania and Ukraine during its wintering season. The results revealed low number of wintering population of RgB in Ukraine (1453 individuals); possible factors of low population size and its instability are lack of food and hunting; also not all wintering areas were covered by the monitoring. Partial financial support was given by Agrofusion holding.

[Agreement on the Conservation of cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and contiguous Atlantic Area \(ACCOBAMS\)](#)

Albania, Georgia, Ukraine attended the Fifth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to ACCOBAMS held in Tagier, Morocco, 5–8 November 2013.

More information available in relevant national reports available at:

http://www.accobams.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1165%3Amop5-information-and-reference-documents&catid=34&Itemid=65.

Agreement on the Conservation of small cetaceans of the Baltic and North Seas (ASCOBANS)

[Agreement on the Conservation of Population of European Bats \(EUROBATS\)](#)

Ukraine

New web-site on the conservation and study of bats in Kharkiv and Kharkiv oblast has been launched (<http://www.bat-kharkov.in.ua/>).

The 20th Meeting of the Theriological School of Ukraine was held in Mykulichin, Ivano-Frankivsk oblast from 30 September – 5 October 2013 where a specific section was devoted to bat research.

The 2nd International Bat Night was organized in Kharkiv 14 September 2013. Detailed can be found here <http://www.bat-kharkov.in.ua/en/bat-night-kharkiv-2013.html>.

Several interviews were given to by Ukrainian bat-workers to different TV and news-papers. Most reports were devoted to the International Bat Night and to the spring release of bats rehabilitated during the previous winter,

In December 2012, the National Bank of Ukraine put into circulation the 5 hryvnia commemorative coin dedicated to the 'Year of the Bat'. The coin, inscribed with 'International Year of the Bat' was made of German silver, mintage – 20,000 pieces. For more information visit: http://www.bank.gov.ua/control/en/publish/article?art_id=127769.

General Post Office issued an art envelope devoted to the International Year of the Bat.

A number of publicity materials (postcards, leaflets) on bat conservation were printed out and disseminated.

Republic of Serbia

17th International night of Bats, in Ethnographic Museum, Belgrade, organized by Natural History Museum, Belgrade and Mustela, the Wildlife Conservation Society. The main goal of INOB is popularization of these flying mammals, their specific way of life and incorporating the light in supernatural stories of them. This is the 12th time to organize this in Serbia.

Agreement on the Conservation of Gorillas and their habitats (GORILLAS)
Agreement on the Conservation of Seals in the Wadden Sea (WADDEN SEA SEALS)

Memoranda of Understanding for conservation of specific species

Birds

- Aquatic Warbler

There is ongoing study on Aquatic Warbler biology and distribution.

The integral part of the Memorandum is the Action Plan (AP). Ukraine carries out the most part of aims of the AP. In particular, the inspection of key breeding territories is regularly carried out. In 2012 the bird censuses on about 17 % of the total area of Aquatic Warbler habitats had been carried out. The number of the Ukrainian population was estimated in 3450-4050 males (second national number after Belarus). The important aim of the AP is implementation of monitoring programme (priority: high). In Ukraine since 2002 6 key nested areas were monitored annually. Because of lack of funds the overall monitoring has not been carried out in 2011 and 2013. Therefore there is no information on the general situation on the breeding sites conditions these years.

Sporadic monitoring of AW and relevant activities were performed in different regions of Ukraine.

The monitoring of the Desna and the Dnipro rivers (Desnyanska-Dniprovska) breeding population of AW had been made in Kyivska and Chernigivska oblasts by the experts of the Ukrainian Society for the Protection of Birds (A. Poluda, V. Ilyuha, I. Legeida). 8 known breeding spots were examined during the breeding season; population number in 2013 is 508-555 males. This AW population increased in comparison with 2012 (440-500 males) due to the hydrological regime improvement. Monitoring was made possible thanks to the financial support of Arcadia.

In the framework of project “Integrating Climate Change into Vulnerable Ecosystems Management” funded by the European Union, the pilot project for the greenhouse emissions reduction and AW habitats restoration had been implemented. On the pilot spot of 22 ha in the Prypyat Stokhid National Nature Park the willow bushes and reed had been cut and AW monitoring on Birky Hole (which is the part of the Prypyat Stokhid NPP, 86 ha) was conducted. The number of AW population here is 53 males. Next monitoring of AW population will be accomplished in 2014 for the evaluation of the pilot project activities effectiveness.

- Grassland Birds of South America

- Great Bustard

Ukraine and **Moldova** attended the Third Meeting of the Signatories of the Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation and Management of the Middle-European Population of the Great Bustard (*Otis tarda*): 8-12 April 2013, Szarvas, Hungary. National Reports are available at http://www.cms.int/species/otis_tarda/meetings/MoS3/great_bustard_mos3_docs.htm.

In the framework of the project “Enhanced Economic & Legal Tools for Steppe Biodiversity Conservation and Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation (“Steppe Biodiversity”)” financed by the European Union, the Ukrainian Society for the Protection of Birds (USPB) performed a pilot project on Kerch Peninsula in Crimea. The main objectives of the pilot were to show the possibility of restoration of degraded arable lands along with biodiversity conservation. Particularly, the creation of forage reserve for the rare bird species - Great Bustard and Demoiselle Crane was planned. The land of 40 ha leased by USPB on Kerch peninsula was sown with the sorghum in spring 2013. This crop attracted up to 16 individuals of the Great Bustard; some species of Demoiselle Crane were also observed.

- High Andean Flamingos

- Raptors (Birds of Prey)

Republic of Serbia

Concerning development of the Saker Falcon (*Falco cherrug*) Global Action Plan (SakerGAP), SakerGAP Questionnaire compiled by CMS Scientific Focal point Daliborka Stankovic and submitted by National Information Coordinators from each Range State of the species (CMS focal point). It was no possibility to attend the workshop with named topic, Slobodan Puzovic from Province Secretary for Environmental protection who was also fulfilled the Questionnaire participated, hope that there is in report from this workshop.

Ukraine

Ukraine took part in the Saker Falcon Task Force – Stakeholders' Action Planning Workshop held in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, 9–11 September 2013.

- Ruddy-headed Goose
- Siberian Crane
- Slender-billed Curlew

Marine species

- Marine Turtles Africa
- Marine Turtles IOSEA
- Sharks

Terrestrial Mammals

- Bukhara Deer

- Saiga Antelope
- West African Elephants
- South Andean Huemul

Marine Mammals

- Dugong
- Mediterranean Monk Seal
- Pacific Islands Cetaceans
- Western African Aquatic Mammals

2. Activities related to:

- Scientific Research and Monitoring

Republic of Moldova

1. Criteria have been developed for rare species of mammals according to Red List categories and criteria of the Union International Nature Conservation (Version 3.1: IUCN, 2002) and principles for using the IUCN Red List criteria (version 3.0: IUCN, 2003) taking into account regional specificities.

2. Research to develop management plan for RAMSAR wetlands of international importance "Lower River" and "Hungarians Holoşnişa" and drafting the National Strategy on wetlands have been conducted.

Republic of Serbia

There is a project "Monitoring of Migration of Birds and Bats in the way of permanent marking with aluminium and colour marks (rings)", First phase for 2013.year (there are planned phases for 2014 and 2015.), which is coordinated by Natural History Museum, Belgrade, actually Centre for marking of animals inside the Museum. Main goals of the project:

- Monitoring of migration of birds and bats in territory of Serbia
- Continuing the monitoring of migratory species and collecting data of those for latter use in servicing of international conventions and agreements
- Studying the way of migration, staying of birds and bats during the transfer to the places of wintering and reproduction.

There are many researches, concerning the birds and bats also by method of marking with colour marks and wings marks that are represented a specific researching activity and are coordinated by Centre for marking of animals inside the Museum, Belgrade.

Ukraine

Russian version of the report on the project " Fauna of Bats as an Indicator of the Most Valuable Natural Complexes in Chernobyl Exclusion Zone Worthy of Legislative Protection (Ukraine) had been placed at http://kazhan.org.ua/library/reports/Gaschak_2011.pdf.

- Education and Public Awareness

Republic of Moldova

Awareness raising and public awareness on biodiversity conservation:

- Promote biodiversity conservation campaign "Biodiversity Caravan" for (2011-2020) launched under the Convention on Biological Diversity;

- Special events were organized celebrating biodiversity conservation (International Day of Biodiversity, Wetlands Day, Danube Day, International Day of Forests, International Day of Birds, by placing information on special websites of public institutions)

Ukraine

International Migratory Bird Day had been widely celebrated in Ukraine in 2013. Detailed report can be found at <http://menr.gov.ua/index.php/protection/protection6/zberzhennya/470-pidsumky-vidznachennia-vsesvitnoho-dnia-mihruichykh-ptakhiv-v-ukraini-u-2013-rotsi>. (in Ukrainian)

- Capacity Building

[- International Cooperation](#)

Republic of Moldova

1. Signed on 25 January 2012, the Republic of Moldova, the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization to the Convention CBD (according to Presidential Decree no. 394 of 06.12.2011.

2. Signed on 25 January 2012 by the Republic of Moldova to the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (according to Presidential Decree no. 395 of 06.12.2011.

3. Signed on 8 June 2012 agreement between Moldova and Switzerland on secondary legislation under the Water Law no. 272 of 23.12.2011.

4. Signed on November 29, 2012 in Rome, Italy to the Agreement between the Government and the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine on cooperation in protection and sustainable development of the Dniester River basin;

5. Moldova became part of the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity political science and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) in Panama, April 2012;

6. Ratified Agreement between the Government and the Government of Ukraine on cooperation in protection and sustainable development of the basin fl. Nistru.2012.

7. Ratified Agreement between the Government and the Government of Romania on cooperation in the protection and sustainable development of the Prut and Danube waters.

8. Organized the Regional Workshop on the Review of the National Strategy and Action Plans Biological Diversity Conservation (The workshop was organized by the Ministry of Environment with the support of the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Government of Japan, from 10 to 14 September 2012).

9. Initiated the project "Strengthening of protected areas for biodiversity protection and sustainable development in the Danube Delta region of Lower Prut - PAN Nature" under the joint operational procedure development and promotion of the project on the establishment of tripartite Biosphere Reserve "Danube Delta - Prut Jos".

[-. Protection of Migratory Species, conservation measures](#)

Republic of Moldova

Protected areas have recently been expanded from 4.65% to 5.65% of the country by creating Orhei National Park with an area of 33,700 ha, which will contribute significantly to enhancing biodiversity conservation (Parliament Decision no. 201 07.12.2013).

[- Administrative, Institutional & Legislative/Policy measures](#)

Republic of Moldova

1. Developed and published management plan for the Ramsar Wetlands of International Importance "Lower River" and "Hungarians Holoşnişa" (Chisinau, 2011).
2. Developed and published the National Strategy on Wetlands (Moldova 2013).
3. Elaborated draft National Strategy and Action Plan for Biodiversity Conservation 2013-2020. New National Strategy and Action Plan for Biological Diversity Conservation is part of national efforts to implement the Strategic Plan of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and 2011-2020 CBD Strategic Plan 2020 of the European Union.
4. Created Orhei National Park with an area of 33,700 ha, approved by the Parliament Decision no. 201 of 07.12.2013.
5. Approved by Government Decision 762 from 23.09.2013 draft law amending some legislative acts (chase selection). The draft law banning the use of lead shot and smooth-bore weapons to hunt selective. Draft law to be approved by Parliament.
6. Prepared and submitted to Government for approval the draft regulation on regulation herd of wild natural areas protected by state forest state. (The draft Regulation prohibits the use of lead shot and the regulation of smooth-bore weapons herd of wild protected areas.
7. Prepared and submitted to the Government National Plan for expansion of forest vegetation areas for the years 2013-2018. The project provides for the afforestation of degraded areas and water protection strips rivers and water basins to create the National Ecological Network.

Ukraine

A draft law on banning lead shot during hunting on wetlands of international importance has been developed and submitted to Verkhovna Rada for adoption.

New fees (penalties) for illegal taking from the wild species listed in the Red Data Book of Ukraine had been adopted by the Cabinet of Minister of Ukraine by its Decree No 1030 of 7 November 2012.

3. Activities planned for next year

Republic of Moldova

1. Approval by the Moldovan Parliament the draft National Strategy and Action Plan for Biodiversity Conservation for the period 2013-2020 as a part of national efforts to implement the Strategic Plan of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and Strategic Plan 2011-2020 the CBD by 2020 the European Union.
2. Development and publication of the 3rd edition of the Red Data Book of Moldova.

Ukraine

Preparation of the National Reports on implementation of EUROBATS and CMS.

Study, monitoring and conservation of migratory species in accordance with CMS and relevant agreements provisions as well as resolutions/recommendations in effect.