



Vulture MsAP

**CMS Multi-species Action Plan to
Conserve African-Eurasian Vultures**

African Regional Workshop Report

18 – 21 October 2016

Dakar, Senegal



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Date and venue:

18– 21 October, Dakar, Senegal

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Purpose of the Workshop

Introduction

In November 2014, Parties to the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) adopted [Resolution 11.14 'Programme of Work on Migratory Birds and Flyways'](#), which established the mandate to develop a Multi-species Action Plan to Conserve African-Eurasian Vultures (Vulture MsAP), under the auspices of the Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation of Migratory Birds of Prey in Africa and Eurasia (Raptors MoU). Following consultation with the IUCN SSC Vulture Specialist Group, BirdLife International and other specialists, the Coordinating Unit of the Raptors MoU drafted a [Project Charter for the development of the Vulture MsAP](#).

Conservation actions for such mobile and wide-ranging species as vultures can only be effective if implemented across international political boundaries at the flyway scale, which requires a broad collaborative approach and the engagement of all Range States. From the outset, the Coordinating Unit committed to ensuring that the Vulture MsAP will be developed based on genuine consultations with representatives of Range States, partners, key stakeholders and the general public.

The aim of the Vulture MsAP is to develop a comprehensive strategic Action Plan covering the whole geographic ranges (at least 124 countries) across Africa, Asia, and Europe of 15 species of Old World vultures to promote concerted, collaborative and coordinated international conservation actions.

The objectives of the Vulture MsAP are:

1. To rapidly halt current population declines in all species covered by the Vulture MsAP;
2. To reverse recent population trends to bring the conservation status of each species back to a favourable level; and,
3. To provide conservation management guidelines applicable to all Range States covered by the Vulture MsAP

Aim and Objectives

The aim of the Africa Regional Workshop was to bring together government representatives, vulture specialists and other stakeholders to gather the information necessary to develop the African regional component of the Vulture MsAP, covering all ten old world vulture species that occur on the African continent (See Annex 5). The necessary information includes species status, threats and conservation solutions.

The species included are:

- Bearded Vulture (*Gypaetus barbatus*),
- Egyptian Vulture (*Neophron percnopterus*),
- White-headed Vulture (*Trigonoceps occipitalis*),
- Hooded Vulture (*Necrosyrtes monachus*),
- White-backed Vulture (*Gyps africanus*),
- Cape Vulture (*Gyps coprotheres*),
- Rüppell's Vulture (*Gyps rueppelli*),
- Griffon Vulture (*Gyps fulvus*),
- Cinereous Vulture (*Aegypius monachus*) and
- Lappet-faced Vulture (*Torgos tracheliotos*).

The remaining African vulture species, Palm-nut Vulture (*Gypohierax angolensis*), is excluded because it is a highly atypical vulture, being mainly frugivorous and subject to very different (and less severe) threats compared to the rest of this group of species.

In April 2012, a first Pan-African Vulture Summit (PAVS) was held at Masai Mara, Kenya, to consider the problems facing African vultures and how to solve them. The Workshop described in the present report built on the excellent start made by PAVS, capitalising on the opportunity presented by the Vulture MSAP, broadening participation and coverage, and addressing threats (some having emerged since 2012) more systematically; it was, accordingly, sometimes referred to as PAVS2. Here, however, we continue to refer to it as the African Regional Workshop to develop the CMS Vulture MsAP.

Preparatory work: Questionnaire

Questionnaires were shared with vulture experts and National Contact Points for the Raptors MoU and CMS Focal Points on 25 August 2016 to gather key information about the biology, status and threats for each of the 10 species in their respective Range States. Respondents were initially given one month to respond and those who requested additional time were granted an extra after the Workshop.

By the time the Workshop was held, 62 completed questionnaires had been received and analysed. Questionnaire responses were collated by the African Regional Coordinator and the results presented at the Workshop. Questionnaires received subsequently increased the total to 95 from a total of 27 African countries. The number of Questionnaires received per species and from which countries is

Table 1. Questionnaires received per species and country in Africa. Brackets refer to Questionnaires received after the Workshop.

Species	No of Questionnaires	Countries
Bearded Vulture	6 (1)	Ethiopia, Morocco, Tunisia, South Africa (Egypt)
Egyptian Vulture	11 (10)	Algeria, Cape Verde, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Morocco, Niger, Somalia, South Africa, Tunisia (Burkina Faso, Egypt, Chad, Nigeria, Sudan)
White-headed Vulture	6 (5)	South Africa, Botswana, Swaziland, Tanzania, Kenya (Mozambique, Burkina Faso, Guinea Bissau, Ivory Coast, Guinea).
Hooded Vulture	11 (4)	Botswana, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Guinea Bissau, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, Somalia, Tanzania, Uganda (Ivory Coast, Guinea)
White-backed Vulture	9 (7)	Benin, Botswana, Kenya, Somalia, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zimbabwe (Burkina Faso, Guinea Bissau, Mozambique, Malawi, Ivory Coast, Zambia, Guinea).
Cape Vulture	6	Botswana, Swaziland, South Africa
Rüppell's Vulture	2 (3)	Kenya, Niger (Ethiopia, Burkina Faso, Guinea Bissau).
Griffon Vulture	3 (1)	Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia (Guinea)
Cinereous Vulture	0	(<i>occurrence in Africa highly marginal</i>)
Lappet-faced Vulture	8 (2)	Benin, Botswana, Kenya, Niger, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Tunisia (Burkina Faso, Guinea)
TOTAL	62 (33) = 95	

presented in Table 1. The blank Questionnaire is available at Annex 7. Completed questionnaires are archived with Birdlife International and the Coordinating Unit of the CMS Raptors MoU

Workshop Participants

There were a total of 54 Workshop participants from 28 countries (Annex 1). These included 19 African countries from 4 sub-regions as follows:

East Africa: Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, Tanzania, Djibouti and Ethiopia.

West Africa: Benin, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Niger, Chad and Nigeria.

North Africa: Morocco and Tunisia

Southern Africa: Zimbabwe, Botswana, South Africa, Swaziland, and Angola.

Central Africa was a gap, although fewer vultures occur there compared to other regions. Southern Africa had the highest representation, with South Africa being the country with most representatives. Participants from outside Africa provided additional experience and expertise covering all regions.

Participants were from Government institutions, Universities, research establishments and NGOs. The relatively limited number of Government representatives was to some extent offset by Questionnaire responses received from Government officials.

Facilitators

The Workshop was facilitated by Chris Bowden, Globally Threatened Species Officer & SAVE Programme Manager, RSPB. Support, as co-facilitators or rapporteurs, was provided by Andre Botha, Nick P. Williams, Roger Safford, Darcy Ogada, Sonja Krueger, Mohamed Amezian, Ralph Buij and Campbell Murn.



Figure 1: Participants at African Regional Workshop for the CMS Vulture MsAP

Venue and logistics

The African Regional Workshop was held in Dakar, Senegal, at the Ngor Diarama Hotel from 18 – 21 October, 2016. The Workshop formed a component of the 16th Pan-African Ornithological Congress (PAOC) which was held from 16 – 21 October, 2016; while this may have presented a dilemma to some participants over which component to attend, it also provided additional reasons for some participants to attend in the first place and also allowed additional networking opportunities for delegates of both events.

Due to financial sponsorship received from the Government of Switzerland and Environment Agency – Abu Dhabi, on behalf of the Government of the United Arab Emirates, the workshop costs (venue, catering and translation) were fully met by the Coordinating Unit of the CMS Raptors MoU, under a Small-scale Funding Agreement to BirdLife International. Simultaneous French translation was provided during all four days and was indispensable in ensuring full participation. Fourteen workshop participants representing each of the four African sub-regions were fully funded to attend through a combination of funding from the Coordinating Unit and BirdLife International.

Approach and methodology

The Workshop began with a series of presentations focusing on the state of knowledge, research, monitoring and conservation of African vultures, including a plenary by the Lead Facilitator on lessons to be learned from the Asian vulture crisis. The workshop sessions which took up the rest of the event adopted a participatory approach, with break-out groups alternating with reporting and discussion in plenary, to ensure maximum input and involvement of participants. The Workshop was divided into sections with each day focused on obtaining specific information related to a particular component of the Vulture MsAP. Results were captured electronically in tabular or note form, and collated by the African Regional Coordinator for compilation into the regional component.

Speakers and presenters

A total of 20 presentations were made (see below, and Annex 2), all on the first day. Impromptu presentations were also given by two participants on other days concerning mitigation of the threats from collisions and electrocution with energy generation and transmission infrastructure, and the Pan-African Poisoning Database hosted by the IUCN SSC Vulture Specialist Group.

Workshop Agenda

A brief, day-by-day summary of the proceedings is presented below, followed by more detail on the main topics. See Annexes 2 and 3 for the Workshop Agenda and Annex 6 for a selection of photos.

Summary of the Workshop

Day 1: Presentations. The presentations are listed in full in Annex 2; see also Annex 4 for access to the PDF files. The presentations were open to all PAOC participants and held as a component of the PAOC plenary session on the 18th; for this reason, the formal opening of the African Regional Workshop for the Vulture MsAP took place on Day 2 (see below).

Day 2: Opening Ceremony, Species accounts and Threat identification and categorisation. Brief opening presentations explained the context of the Workshop from the perspective of CMS, the Raptors MoU and the Overarching Coordinator, including progress to date in the development of the Vulture MsAP. A presentation followed summarising the **status and distribution** of each of the ten

species covered by the Vulture MsAP. As a basis for subsequent work, the **main threats to African vultures** were identified, categorised based on their geographical scope, severity and timing, and further analysed in terms of the mechanisms and motivations driving them.

Day 3: Conservation Action. Based on the most serious and prevalent threats, as identified during Day 2, the participants were split up into groups to (1) identify the relevant **actions** that should be taken to address each threat and sub-threat categories, (2) identify key **stakeholders** and their respective **responsibilities** for action, and (3) agree the **urgency** with which action needs to be taken. Results were consolidated to produce Action tables which will contribute to the core section of the Vulture MsAP.

Day 4: Policy and legislation, Research and Monitoring, Gaps and Conclusions. Information on policy and legislation, to supplement the details contained in the Questionnaires, was discussed in sub-regional groups; with national, sub-regional, regional and global components, and covering a wide range of sectors. Monitoring and research gaps were identified during a plenary session. Finally, a wrap-up presentation clarified the conclusions and next steps towards completion of the African regional component of the Vulture MsAP.

Opening Ceremony and Introductory Presentations

Day 2 of the workshop set the scene for the Vulture MsAP. Darcy Ogada provided a succinct and informative overview of the plight facing African vultures and the change in conservation status of several of the African species in 2015, with reference to progress made since the first (2012) Pan-African Vulture Summit, which provided a clear context for the importance and timeliness of the Vulture MsAP. This was followed by a presentation from Nick P. Williams describing the background and mandate for the Vulture MsAP, the events that had led to the African Regional Workshop and how the process was being coordinated. He also highlighted key actions and important dates leading up to the CMS Conference of Parties in October 2017 where Parties to the convention will be asked to adopt the Vulture MsAP. Facilitator Chris Bowden then introduced the Workshop, including summarising the programme for the following three days.

Species Accounts

A preliminary analysis of the 62 completed Questionnaires that had been received prior to the Workshop was presented, species by species, showing results per country. This analysis was supported by the BirdLife International range maps (to which several participants had contributed) showing the past and present distribution and population of each of the species, their biology and their conservation status (IUCN global or national Red List status, whether there were existing national action plans and whether legislation was in place to protect the species). This was used to solicit additional information from participants. Details can be found in Annex 8.

Main Threats to Vultures

In a plenary discussion with all the participants during Day 2, all threats affecting African vultures were discussed and recorded. Also in plenary, high-level threats (such as intentional and unintentional poisoning) were broken down into more precise categories (such as belief-based use and sentinel poisoning where vultures are killed largely by intentional poisoning). These threats were then scrutinised according to whether they affected entire populations or were more localised. The final list was categorised according to overarching threats and drivers, via four sub-regional break-out groups, based on the scope, severity and timing. See Annex 9 for a full list of these threats and drivers.

The results were then consolidated and presented back to plenary the following day, allowing the key threats for the whole continent to be identified.

Conservation Actions

Participants were randomly assigned to four break-out groups to discuss conservation actions, each group tackling an agreed set of threats. Threat-specific presentations were also made to support some of the break-out groups with practical and tested actions. Those with specialist knowledge and experience in tackling specific threats were encouraged to join the relevant threat break-out group. Conservation actions were then assigned to each of specific threat. Key stakeholders and timeframes were also allocated to each action. At the end of each session, one person from each group reported to plenary and discussion followed. The outcomes from these break-out sessions were then consolidated and will be presented in the African regional component of the Vulture MsAP.

Policy and legislation, research and monitoring

To elicit information on policy and legislation, participants were divided into sub-regional groups for North, East, West and Southern Africa. An additional group specific to South Africa was created to reduce the size of the Southern African group and avoid national imbalance. Policy and Legislation relevant to vulture conservation at national, sub-regional, regional and global levels was identified; however, it was also noted that threats to vultures are intimately tied to such major policy areas as agriculture (especially livestock) and energy, as well as more classical environmental policy, and so significant follow-up via correspondence and desk study will be needed to complete this component of the Vulture MsAP.

In a plenary session, monitoring and research gaps were identified by asking participants to share their experiences and ideas of what was still lacking and needed to be addressed urgently. Pertinent topics discussed included 'Is there a need for a SAVE¹ model for Africa?' and 'Should the vulture community consider promoting the up-listing of African Vulture species to Appendix I of CITES'? A follow-up horizon-scanning exercise was launched and the feedback has been consolidated and the detailed information on gaps has been incorporated in the Africa regional component of the Vulture MsAP.

Conclusions

A wrap-up presentation was made to summarise the key outcomes from the Workshop and to clarify follow-up actions. Key steps will be the completion of the African regional component of the Vulture MsAP, followed by the development of a first draft of the Vulture MsAP itself. Finally, in the closing statement of the PAOC, the Congress participants collectively called on the African Union to promote conservation of vultures throughout Africa.

Immediately after the Workshop proceedings closed, a smaller group of participants held a discussion on developing a standardised protocol for surveying vulture populations. A Questionnaire has since been circulated to all the Workshop participants to obtain key methodologies which are used for road transects, with the aim of consolidation into a single recommended protocol. A horizon-scanning exercise is also being carried out to identify key gaps in research and monitoring. This information will

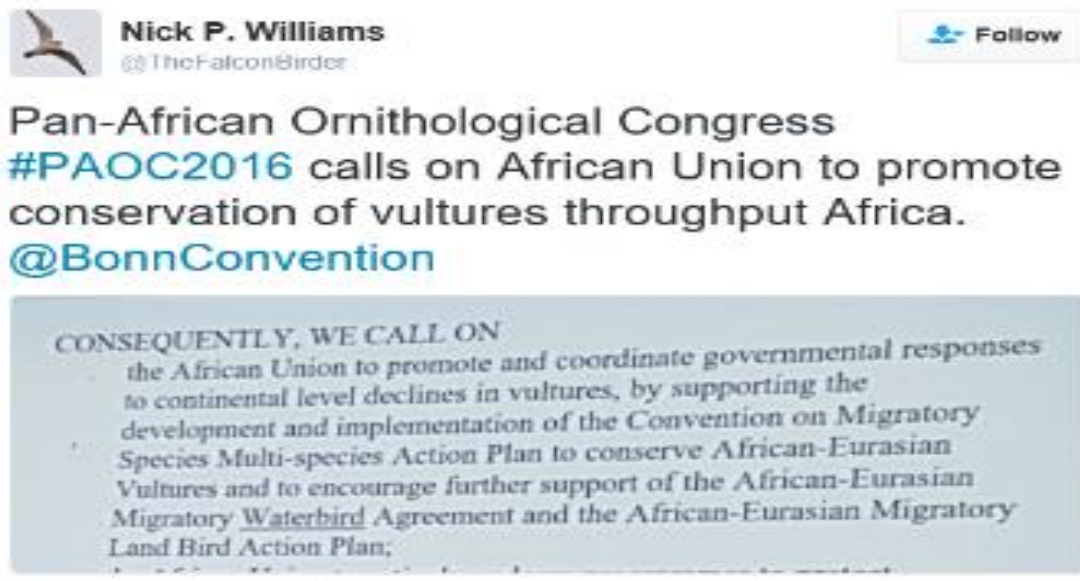
¹ SAVE, Saving Asia's Vultures from Extinction, is the consortium implementing the conservation programme to support the recovery of South and South-East Asia's vulture populations

be fed into the African component of the Vulture MsAP. The successful Workshop ended on 21 October, 2016.

Outcomes and evaluation of results

The Workshop achieved all the desired outcomes, including by generating the information necessary to develop the African regional component of the Vulture MsAP. Engagement of a highly diverse range of participants was strong and constructive, and participation was considerably wider than had been the case at the first Pan-African Vulture Summit held four years previously.

The organisers did not seek media coverage over and above what the PAOC generated. However, several participants were sending Tweets during the event (example below).



An Evaluation Questionnaire was circulated to the Workshop participants and 17 responses were received. Sessions of the Workshop were scored between 1 and 5 (1 = poor, 5 = excellent). The figures presented in Table 2 refer to the percentage of respondents giving each score between 1 and 5. The overall evaluation was positive, although some criticisms were made concerning the organization and logistics, and the working sessions on legislation & policy, coordination and implementation of the Vulture MsAP and knowledge gaps.

Table 2. Evaluation of the Workshop by participants

Score (figures in table are percentages of all respondents)		1	2	3	4	5
		Poor.....Excellent				
GENERAL OVERVIEW						
Overall assessment of the Workshop in achieving its objective		0	0	13	75	13
General assessment						
Organization and logistics		0	6	6	47	41
Working conditions		0	0	18	65	18
Accommodation		0	0	7	53	40
Food		0	0	25	25	50
Overall timeframe of the Workshop:		Too short 8%	Sufficient 83%	Too long 8%	Don't know 0%	
AGENDA						
Presentations or sessions on Day 1:						
Plenary - Lessons from the Asian vulture Crisis (C. Bowden)		0	0	0	44	56
Other presentations delivered to PAOC vulture session (various presenters; too many to evaluate each in turn)		0	0	0	69	31
Presentations or sessions on Day 2:						
Review of progress since PAVS 1, Masai Mara, 2012 (D. Ogada)		0	0	0	50	50
CMS Vulture MsAP: International collaboration to conserve African-Eurasian Vultures (N. P. Williams)		0	0	0	69	31
Overall MsAP framework and introduction to workshop process and methods (C. Bowden and A. Botha)		0	0	15	46	38
Species assessments & mapping and summary of feedback from MsAP questionnaires (R. Buij, D. Ogada & M. Gudka)		0	0	7	57	36
Presentations or sessions on threats and actions (Days 2 and 3):						
Prioritization and categorization of threats (workgroups and plenary discussion)		0	0	31	56	13
Action planning on Threats: intentional vulture poisoning. Workgroups and plenary discussion		0	0	25	56	19
Action planning on Threats: secondary poisoning . Workgroups and plenary discussion		0	8	31	54	8
Action planning on Threats: habitat and food availability. Workgroups and plenary discussion		0	0	33	60	7
Action planning on Threats: collisions and electrocution with energy generation and transmission infrastructure		0	0	33	40	27
Action planning on Threats: other threats		0	0	29	71	0
Presentations or sessions on Day 4:						
Legislation & Policy. Workgroups and plenary discussion		0	20	27	53	0
Coordination and implementation of the MsAP within the African region. Plenary discussion		0	13	40	47	0
Knowledge gaps		0	20	7	60	13
Discussion on monitoring protocols		0	0	33	33	33
Please rate the overall value of the supplementary threat-based presentations: African Wildlife Poisoning database (A. Botha), Impact of electrical infrastructure (A. Hoogstad & L. Leeuwner), Electrocution in Morocco (A. Godino)		0	0	6	50	44

ANNEXES

Annex 1: Workshop Participants

	Name	Affiliation	Email	Country
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Annex 2: List of presentations on Day 1 of the Workshop

	Author(s)	Presentation Title
1	Bowden, C.G.R.	Lessons from the Asian vulture crisis – Identifying the causes of vulture declines and then coordinating a regional response including the creation of a consortium ‘SAVE’.
2	Murn, C., Mundy, P., Virani, M.Z., Borello, W.D., Holloway, G.J. & Thiollay, J.M.	Using Africa’s protected area network to estimate the global population of the White-headed Vulture
3	Bildstein, K. et al.	Hooded Vulture research in West, East and southern Africa
4	Davies, R. et al.	Early Use of the African Raptor Databank to Inform Conservation Actions for African Vultures
5	Murn, C. & Holloway, G.J.	Using areas of known occupancy to identify sources of variation in detection probability of raptors: taking time lowers replication effort for surveys
6	Buij, R.	The impact of trade on West African vulture populations
7	Deikumah, J.P.	Vulture decline trends, threats and conservation: the perception and attitude of the indigenous Ghanaian.
8	Henriques, M., Granadeiro, J.P., Lecoq, M., Monteiro, H., Regalla, A. & Catry, P.	Vultures and other avian scavengers in Guinea-Bissau: first baseline data and insights on conservation status
9	Mullié, W.C., Piot, B., Reynaud, P.A. & Thiollay, J.M.	Exponential decrease of an urban Hooded vulture population in Dakar, Senegal, over 50 years
10	Awoyemi, S.	Vulture declines in West Africa: Investigating the scale and socioeconomic drivers in vulture parts for traditional medicine
11	Dabone, C.	The Vulture Scavenger <i>Necrosyrtes monachus</i> , a species in critical danger of extinction: Population status and causes of decline (BURKINA FASO) Le Vautour charognard <i>Necrosyrtes monachus</i> , une espèce en danger critique d’extinction: Etat de la population et causes du déclin (BURKINA FASO)
12	Buechley, E.R., Daka, A., Dellelegn Abebe, Y. & Sekercioglu, C.H.	An overview of the current status, distributions and ecology of endangered vulture populations in Ethiopia
13	Kendall, C., Bracebridge, C. &	Saving southern Tanzania’s critically endangered vultures

	Mugamba, M.	
14	<u>Kibuule, M.</u> & Pomeroy, D.	Population status of Hooded Vulture outside protected areas in Uganda
15	<u>Wacher, T.</u> , <u>Rabeil, T.</u> , <u>Harouna, A.</u> & <u>Newby, J.</u>	Vulture observations in the Sahelo-Saharan zone of Chad and Niger
16	<u>Krüger, S.C.</u> & <u>Amar, A.</u>	An Investigation into the Decline of the Bearded Vulture <i>Gypaetus barbatus</i> in Southern Africa
17	<u>Maude, G.</u> & <u>Garbett, B.</u>	A multi-disciplinary approach to vulture conservation in Botswana
18	<u>Phipps, W. L.</u> , <u>Diekmann, M.</u> , <u>MacTavish, L.M.</u> , <u>Mendelsohn, J.M.</u> , <u>Naidoo, V.</u> , <u>Wolter, K.</u> & <u>Yarnell, R.W.</u>	Due South: A first assessment of the potential impacts of climate change on Cape vulture occurrence
19	<u>Hirschauer, M.</u> & <u>Wolter, K.</u>	There's no place like home: causes and consequences of reduced ranging in captive bred Cape Vultures
20	<u>Godino, A.</u> , <u>Garrido, J.R.</u> , <u>El Kamlichi, R.</u> , <u>Buron, D.</u> , <u>Machado, C.</u> , <u>Amezian, M.</u> , <u>Numa, C.</u> & <u>Barrios, V.</u>	High raptor mortality by electrocution in south-western Morocco
21	Ogada, D. et al	Another Continental Vulture Crisis: Africa's Vultures Collapsing toward extinction
22	Williams, N. P.	CMS Vulture MsAP: International collaboration to conserve African-Eurasian Vultures
23	Bowden, C.G.R. & Botha, A.J.	Overall MsAP framework and introduction to workshop process and methods
24	Buij, R. & Ogada, D. & Gudka, M.	Species assessments & mapping and summary of feedback from MsAP questionnaires
25	Bowden, C.G.R. & Botha, A.J.	Species assessments & mapping and summary of feedback from MsAP questionnaires
26	Hoogstad, C. & Leeuwner, L.	Impact of electrical infrastructure interactions on South Africa's vulture populations.
27	Botha, A.	The African Wildlife Poisoning database: overview of mortalities and major incidents of vulture poisoning in Africa since 2012.

Annex 3: Workshop Agenda for Days 2, 3, and 4.

Day 2 - 19th of October 2016				
Topic	Time	Author/s	Title	Allotted time
Trends & Threats	8:30 AM	Ogada, D. et al	Another Continental Vulture Crisis: Africa's Vultures Collapsing toward extinction (<i>a review of progress since PAVS1, 2012</i>)	20 mins
Overview	8:50 AM	Williams, N. P.	CMS Vulture MsAP: International collaboration to conserve African-Eurasian Vultures	20 mins
Process	9:10 AM	Bowden, C.G.R. & Botha, A.J.	Overall MsAP framework and introduction to workshop process and methods	20 mins
Species assessments	9:30 AM	Buij, R. & Ogada, D. & Gudka, M.	Species assessments & mapping and summary of feedback from MsAP questionnaires	30 mins
Plenary discussion	10:00 AM	Bowden, C.G.R. & Botha, A.J.	Species assessments & mapping and summary of feedback from MsAP questionnaires	30 mins
	10:30-11:00		<i>TEA BREAK</i>	
Threats	11:00 AM	Prioritization and categorization of threats	Group discussions	60 mins
Threats	12:00 PM	Prioritization and categorization of threats	Plenary discussion and agreement on priority threats	60 mins
	1:00-2:00		<i>LUNCH</i>	
Threats	2:00 PM	Action Planning: Objectives, Actions, Indicators, Time-frames, Responsibilities	Group discussions: Threats 1	120 mins
	4:00-4:30		<i>TEA BREAK</i>	
Threats	4:30 PM	Action Planning: Objectives, Actions, Indicators, Time-frames,	Threats 1 (cont.) Group feedback and plenary discussion and prioritization of suggested objectives, activities, etc.	90 mins

		Responsibilities		
Day 3 - 20th of October 2016				
Topic		Author/s	Title	Allotted time
Threats	8:30 AM	Action Planning: Objectives, Actions, Indicators, Time-frames, Responsibilities	Group discussions: Threats 2	120 mins
Threats	11:00:00 AM	Action Planning: Objectives, Actions, Indicators, Time- frames, Responsibilities	<i>Threats 2 (cont.) Group feedback and plenary discussion and prioritization of suggested objectives, activities, etc.</i>	90 mins
	12:30-1:30		<i>LUNCH</i>	
Threats	1:30:00 PM	Action Planning: Objectives, Actions, Indicators, Time- frames, Responsibilities	<i>Group discussions: Threats 3</i>	120 mins
	3:30-4:00 PM		<i>TEA BREAK</i>	
Threats	4:30:00 PM	Action Planning: Objectives, Actions, Indicators, Time- frames, Responsibilities	<i>Threats 3 (cont.) Group feedback and plenary discussion and prioritization of suggested objectives, activities, etc.</i>	90 mins
Day 4 - 21st of October 2016				
Topic		Author/s	Title	Allotted time
Legislation & Policies	8:30 AM	Regional Group discussion	Legislation & Policies	60 mins
Legislation &	9:30 AM	Plenary	Feedback from group discussions	30 mins

Policies				
Species- or Threat-focused plans & strategies	9:50 AM	Regional Group discussion	Existing international, regional and national plans & strategies focused on species & threats	30 mins
	10:20-10:50		<i>TEA BREAK</i>	
Species- or Threat-focused plans & strategies	10:50 AM	Plenary	Feedback from group discussions	20 mins
Monitoring & Research	11:10 AM	Regional Group discussion	Priorities and Gaps - monitoring and research	60 mins
Monitoring & Research	12:10 PM	Plenary	Feedback from group discussions	20 mins
	12:30-1:30		<i>LUNCH</i>	
Monitoring & Research	1:30 PM	Plenary	Additional feedback from group discussions	40 mins
Actions for immediate implementation	2:10 PM	Plenary	Gap areas to conservation for immediate action	90 mins
Coordination & Implementation	3:40 PM	Plenary	Coordination and implementation of the MsAP within the African region	60 mins
Coordination & Implementation	4:40 PM	Botha, A.	Timeframe and process approaching the CMS CoP, October 2017	15 mins
Closure	4:55 PM	Bowden, C.G.R.	Closure	15 mins

Annex 4: Presentations

To access all presentation PDF's please visit: [here](#).

Annex 5: Briefing Note for Workshop

To access the documents please click [here](#).

Annex 6: Photos from the Workshop

To access photos from the workshop please click [here](#).

Annex 7: Blank Questionnaire

Circulated in advance of the Workshop to Government officials, vulture specialists and other stakeholders in all 50 Range States in the region covered by the Vulture MsAP.



CMS Vulture Multi-species Action Plan (Vulture MsAP) – African Range

Questionnaire

[name of species]

This questionnaire is one of the three questionnaires (Africa, Asia and Europe) being used to gather key information about the biology, status and threats for each of the 15 species covered by the Vulture MsAP – i.e. for all old world vultures.

Here we are gathering information about the 10 African vulture species, and your input is being requested specifically for any of the following species where you have direct knowledge/experience:

1. Bearded Vulture (*Gypaetus barbatus*),
2. Egyptian Vulture (*Neophron percnopterus*),
3. White-headed Vulture (*Trigonoceps occipitalis*),
4. Hooded Vulture (*Necrosyrtes monachus*),
5. White-backed Vulture (*Gyps africanus*),
6. Rüppell's Vulture (*Gyps rueppellii*),
7. Cape Vulture (*Gyps coprotheres*) and
8. Griffon Vulture (*Gyps fulvus*).
9. Cinereous Vulture (*Aegypius monachus*),
10. Lappet-faced Vulture (*Torgos tracheliotus*),

Your inputs will be incorporated into the first draft of the African component of the Vulture MsAP, which will be discussed at the Regional Workshop to be held in Dakar, Senegal from the 18th to the 21st of October, 2016 during the Pan African Ornithological Conference (PAOC).

If you have relevant scientific expertise for any of the above species, or regarding demonstrated threats or conservation actions, we would appreciate you spending some time to fill in the following questionnaire (please do this for each species separately unless you specify that your input applies equally to a group of species) and submit it by **28th of September 2016** to the Regional Coordinator, Ms. Masumi Gudka (Masumi.Gudka@birdlife.org). We encourage liaison with other experts in your country to complete the questionnaire – the Regional Coordinator can put you in touch with relevant experts upon request.

The Vulture MsAP is a tool and an opportunity for more effectively delivering the conservation of all vulture species – many of which face severe and increasing threats to their future survival.

Contact Form:

Country:	
Date:	
Organization:	
Data Compiler:	
Name (<i>Title + first + family</i>):	
Address:	

1 – BIOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

1.1. Population status and trends

NOTES TO AID COMPLETION OF THE TABLES BELOW:

- **Estimated breeding population size / Population Min - Max:** For breeding ('season' column), figures are usually given in pairs; for other seasons (**Observed / estimated numbers during migration / wintering – non-breeding birds**), figures are given in individuals. Specify if pairs or individuals (the same unit will be used for all breeding range countries).
- **Season:** Breeding, Migration, Non breeding visitors (wintering)
- **Data quality:**
 - **Good (G)** = Reliable or representative quantitative data are available through complete counts or comprehensive measurements for the whole period and country.
 - **Medium (M)** = Only incomplete quantitative data are available through sampling or interpolation.
 - **Poor (P)** = Poorly known with no quantitative data are available and with guesses derived from circumstantial evidence.
 - **Unknown (U)** = information on quality not available.
- **Trends in the last 10 years.**
If possible, calculate the actual trend in % (% population decline in last 10 years) or use the following categories:
 - **Large decline** ($\geq 30\%$), **Moderate decline** (10-29%), **Small decline** (0-9%),
 - **Stable** (<10% decline and <10% increase),
 - **Small increase** (0-9%), **Moderate increase** (10-29%), **Large increase** ($\geq 30\%$),
 - **Unknown** (insufficient data).
- **References:** Refer to the number of respective sources listed in Section 5.
- Alternatively, if **data is not available**, please state so.

Table 1.1a Breeding status, population size and trend of the [name of species] in your country.

Breeding	Observed breeding pairs	Data Quality	Estimated breeding population size	Data Quality	Breeding population trend in the last 10 years	References
Yes (regular/occasional)/Extinct as breeder (year)/ No	Number (year of the latest survey)		Number (year of the latest estimate)			

Table 1.1b Migration status (wintering) or movements (non-breeding individuals) of the [name of species] in your country.

**Please complete this table only if there is regular migration of movements of non-breeding individuals detected in your country.*

Migration / movements of non-breeding individuals	Observed numbers during migration/movements per year	Data Quality	Estimated minimum numbers during migration per year	Data Quality	Trend in the numbers of passage individuals in last 10 years	References
Yes (regular/occasional) / No	Individuals (year of the latest survey)		Individuals (year of the latest estimate)			

Table 1.1c Most important areas or sites in your country.

** Please expand table by adding rows as appropriate to numbers of sites*

Area or Site name (in English please)	Season	Area or Site size (km ²)	Location in the country (coordinates)	Estimated population size		Year	Data quality	References
				Min	Max			

1.1d Distribution range

Please send by email any publications that can provide geographical data regarding the distribution (current or/and historical) range of the [name of species] in your country (national or regional data) to the Regional Coordinator, Ms Masumi Gudka (Masumi.Gudka@birdlife.org)

1.2. Habitat use and diet

Table 1.2a Habitat use of the [name of species] in your country

Habitat use	References
<p>Please describe the main habitats occupied by the species and indicate if in your country there is any difference in the habitat use (seasonal choice of habitat):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Breeding sites;• Regions of passage and stopover sites;• Non-breeding sites (wintering);• Sites for significant congregations of roosting individuals or floaters (sub-adult and adult non-breeding individuals). <p>Alternatively, if data is not available, please state so.</p>	

Table 1.1b Diet of the [name of species] in your country

Diet	References
<p>Please describe the main diet of the species in your country.</p> <p>Alternatively, if data is not available, please state so.</p>	

1.3. Productivity and survival

Table 1.3a Productivity of the [name of species] in your country

Productivity	References
<p>Please describe the productivity of the species in your country and refer to the year of study (studies on breeding rates (% of population that breed), hatching success, nesting success, and fledging success, or other relevant parameters).</p> <p>Alternatively, if data is not available, please state so.</p>	

Table 1.3b Survival of the [name of species] in your country

Survival	References
<p>Please describe the survival of the species in your country and refer to the year of study, such as studies of rates of annual survival (or mortality), or numbers of recorded deaths).</p>	

Alternatively, if data is not available, please state so.

2 - THREATS

Table 2a Threats description at population or country level - Please refer to the Notes (below) to aid completion of this Table.

NOTES to aid completion of this Table below:

- ✓ The description of Threats should reflect the actual understanding of the situation regarding the species, according to the latest available knowledge.
- ✓ Threats are not hierarchical, but clustered according to type of effect.
- ✓ Threat score:
 - **Critical:** a factor causing or likely to *cause very rapid declines* (>30% over 10 years);
 - **High:** a factor causing or likely to *cause rapid declines* (20-30% over 10 years);
 - **Medium:** a factor causing or likely to *cause relatively slow, but significant, declines* (10-20% over 10 years);
 - **Low:** a factor causing or likely to *cause fluctuations*;
 - **Local:** a factor causing or likely to *cause negligible declines*;
 - **Unknown:** a factor that is likely to *affect the species but it is unknown to what extent*.

This ranking reflects IUCN extinction risk assessments

Table 2a Overview of top 3 threats - Please follow a descending priority order of threats, starting with the most important.

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What are the 3 most important threats to the <i>[name of species]</i> in your country?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assess the relative impact on the <i>[name of species]</i> population? (% score relative to other threats out of 100%)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• List the main stakeholder groups associated with the threat and their drivers?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• References
			<i>Refer to the number of respective sources listed in Section 4.</i>

3 – MANAGEMENT AND CONSERVATION

3.1 National Conservation and legal status

3.1a What is the current protection status of the *[name of species]* in your country

Protected / not protected

3.1b What is the status of the *[name of species]* in your national Red Data Book?

If there is no National Red Book, please state so

3.1c Is the *[name of species]* legally protected from harvesting or killing in your country?

Yes / no

3.1d Is the *[name of species]* legally protected from intentional/non intentional in your country?

Yes / no

3.1e What is the highest responsible national authority species conservation in your country?

Please write the name of the institution

3.2 Conservation Status

3.2a What is the conservation status of the *[name of species]* in your country?

Options: Not evaluated, Data deficient, Least concern, Near threatened, Vulnerable, Endangered, Critically endangered, Extinct in the wild, Is not a listed species or other (if other, please explain).

3.2b The *[name of species]* and its habitat receive maximum legal coverage in national legislation?

Yes / no / partly

3.2c Do you have a National Species Action Plan for the *[name of species]*?

Yes / no / in development

** If National Species Action Plan is available, could you please send it by email to Ms. Masumi Gudka, the Regional Coordinator (Masumi.Gudka@birdlife.org)*

3.3 Conservation effort

Please include information about targeted projects benefitting the species in your country. These should be projects that directly benefit the species or involve general measures that benefit the species.

If there is no projects implemented in your country please go to the next question.

3.3a Please list projects which have already been implemented in your country

include: project title, amount of funding, project duration, project beneficiaries, real or expected impacts of the projects and other comments)

3.3b Please list (write the name of the action) all the implemented or on-going actions and state the following:

- *Coverage (national, regional, local);*
- *Period (started in X – ended in X or on-going);*
- *Responsible organization or expert;*
- *Implementation score (0, 1, 2, 3 & 4) for the current action”*

***Note: Action Implementation Score**

0: Not needed/not relevant.

1: Little or no work (0-10%) carried out, (only piecemeal actions, but not part of a strategic approach);

2: Some work started (11-50%), but no significant progress yet;

3: Significant progress (51-75%), but target still not reached;

4: Action fully implemented, no further work required except continuation of on-going work (e.g. in case of monitoring).

3.3c Please list the three most effective conservation actions for the species in your country?

Action name and why

3.3d Please list the three most ineffective conservation actions for the species in your country

Action name and why

4. References and Publication

List of key references about the species in your country (cross-refer to Table 2a)

Annex 8: Species Accounts

These are not intended to be complete accounts for any species, rather to summarise the key information collected in advance of the workshop derived from **Questionnaires** and the BirdLife Range Maps.

Bearded Vulture (*Gypaetus barbatus*)

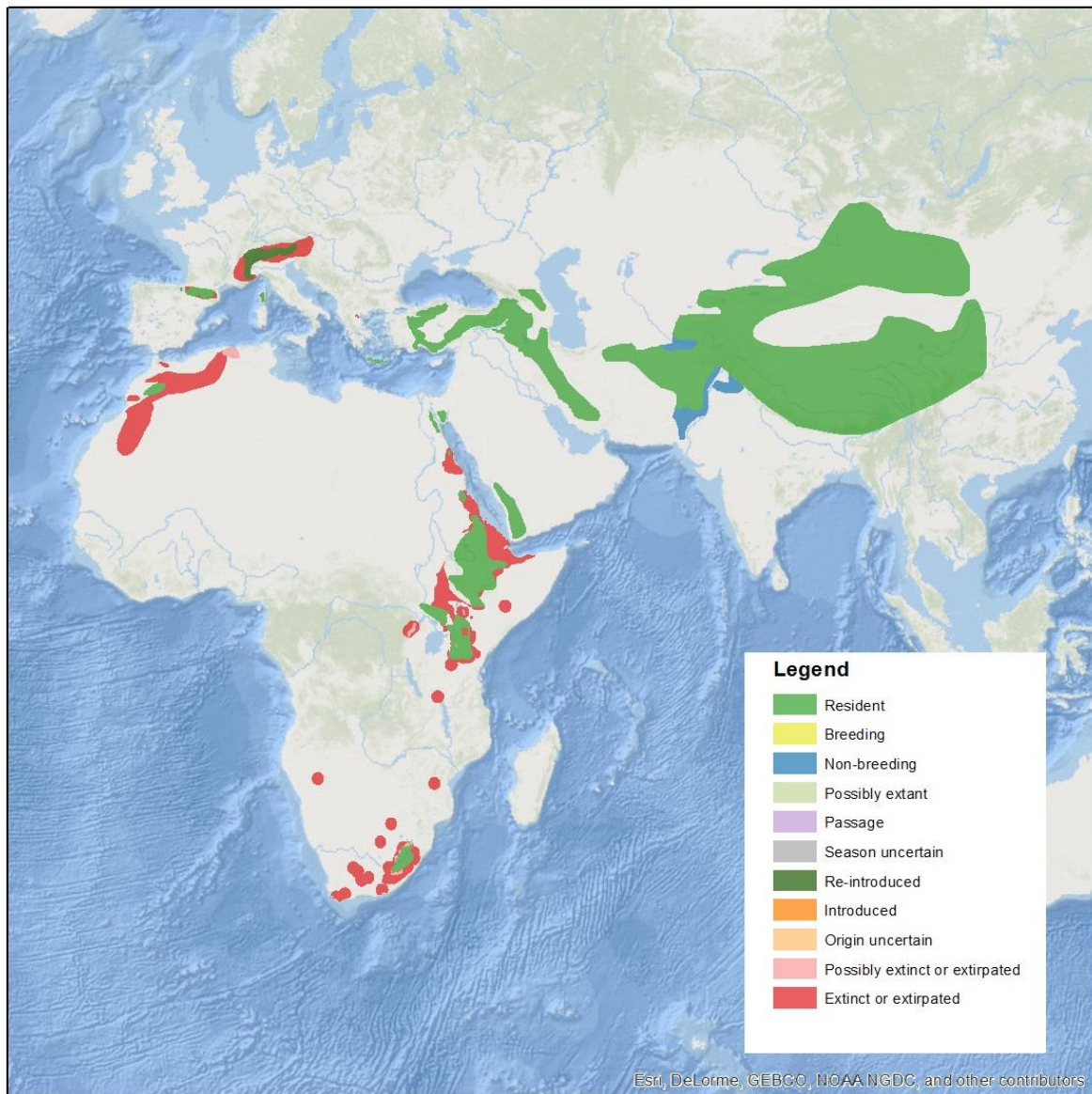


Figure 2: Bearded Vulture Distribution Map

Table 7: Bearded Vulture Biology and Conservation Status information derived from questionnaires

Country	Breeding pairs	Year of Last Estimate	Status	Protected	Conservation status	Action plan	Top Threats
South Africa	109 to 121	2012	breeding	Yes	Critically Endangered	yes	poisoning, collisions and habitat loss
Morocco	1 to 2	2009	breeding	Yes	Critically Endangered	In Dev	Missing policies, low awareness, poisoning
Ethiopia	10	2011	breeding	No	Not Evaluated	No	Low awareness, Missing policies, Electrocutation
Tunisia	Unknown	2005	Extinct	No	No Answer	No	Habitat Loss and Poaching

Egyptian Vulture (*Neophron percnopterus*)

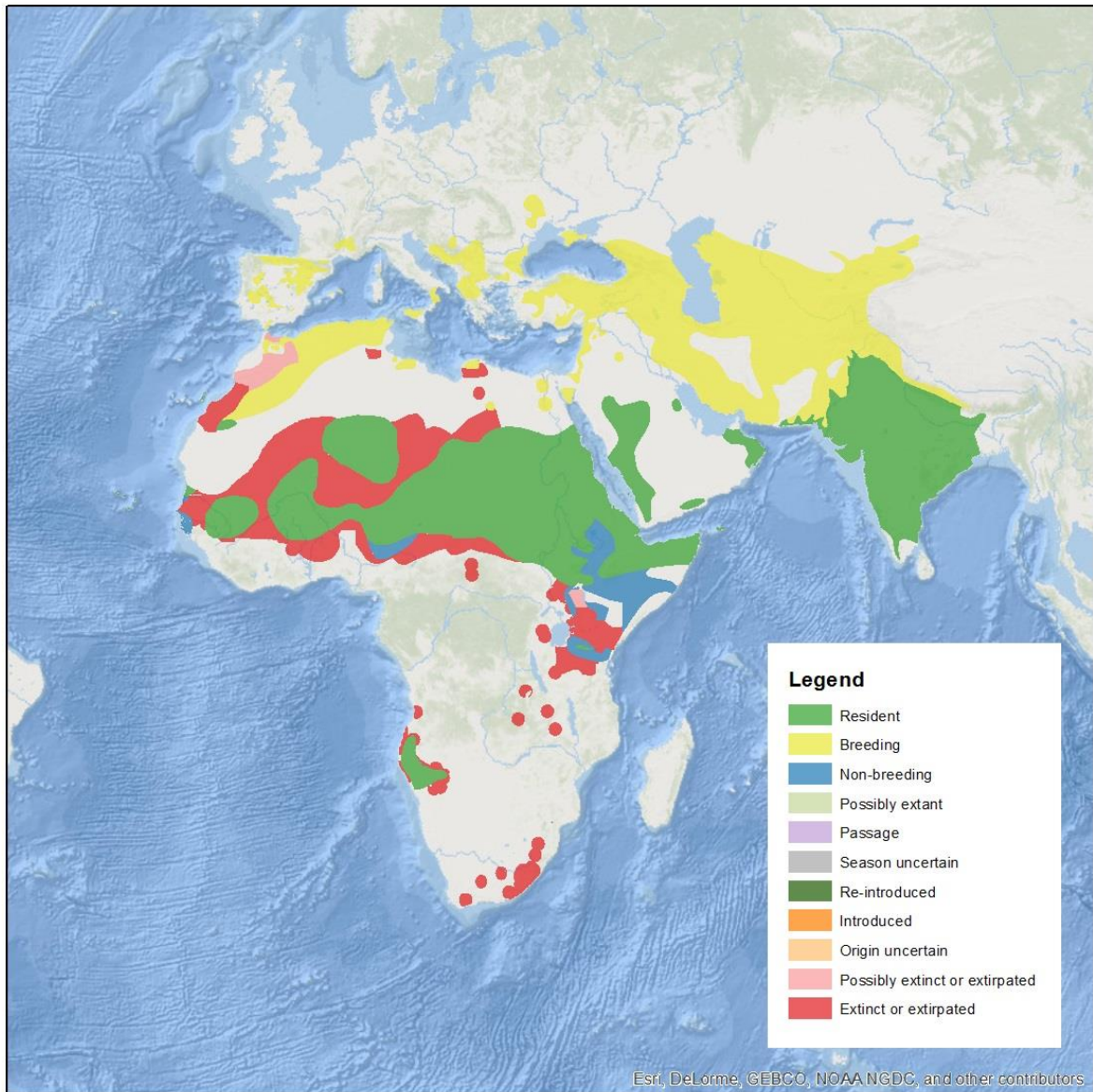


Figure 3: Egyptian Vulture Distribution Map

Table 3. Egyptian Vulture biology and conservation status information derived from Questionnaires

Country	Breeding pairs	Year of Last Estimate	Status	Protected	Conservation status	Action plan	Top Threats
South Africa	0*	2015	Extinct	yes	Extinct in the wild	No	Unknown
Morocco	6 to 9*	2016	breeding	yes	Endangered	No	Poisoning, poaching and lack of policy and laws
Djibouti	Unknown*	2013	breeding	No	Not Evaluated	No	Food shortage and electrocution
Algeria	221*	2015	breeding	yes	Vulnerable	No	Collision, disturbance and poaching
Kenya	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Yes	Endangered	No	Unknown
Niger	4	2016	breeding	yes	Not Evaluated	No	poaching, food shortage and habitat loss
Somalia	Unknown*	1998	breeding	No	Not Evaluated	No	Poisoning, habitat loss and food shortage
Cape Verde	6*	2015 - 2016	breeding	Yes	Critically Endangered	No	Agrochemical poisoning, food shortage, electrocution
Ethiopia	3*	2011	breeding	No	Not Evaluated	No	Electrocution, food shortage and habitat loss
Tunisia	80*	2015	breeding	Yes	Vulnerable	No	Habitat loss, poaching and disturbance
Burkina Faso	Unknown	n/a	Unknown	Yes	Not Evaluated	No	Unknown
Egypt	5	2008 - 2009	breeding	Yes	Endangered	No	poisoning, collisions and electrocutions

White-headed Vulture (*Trigonoceps occipitalis*)

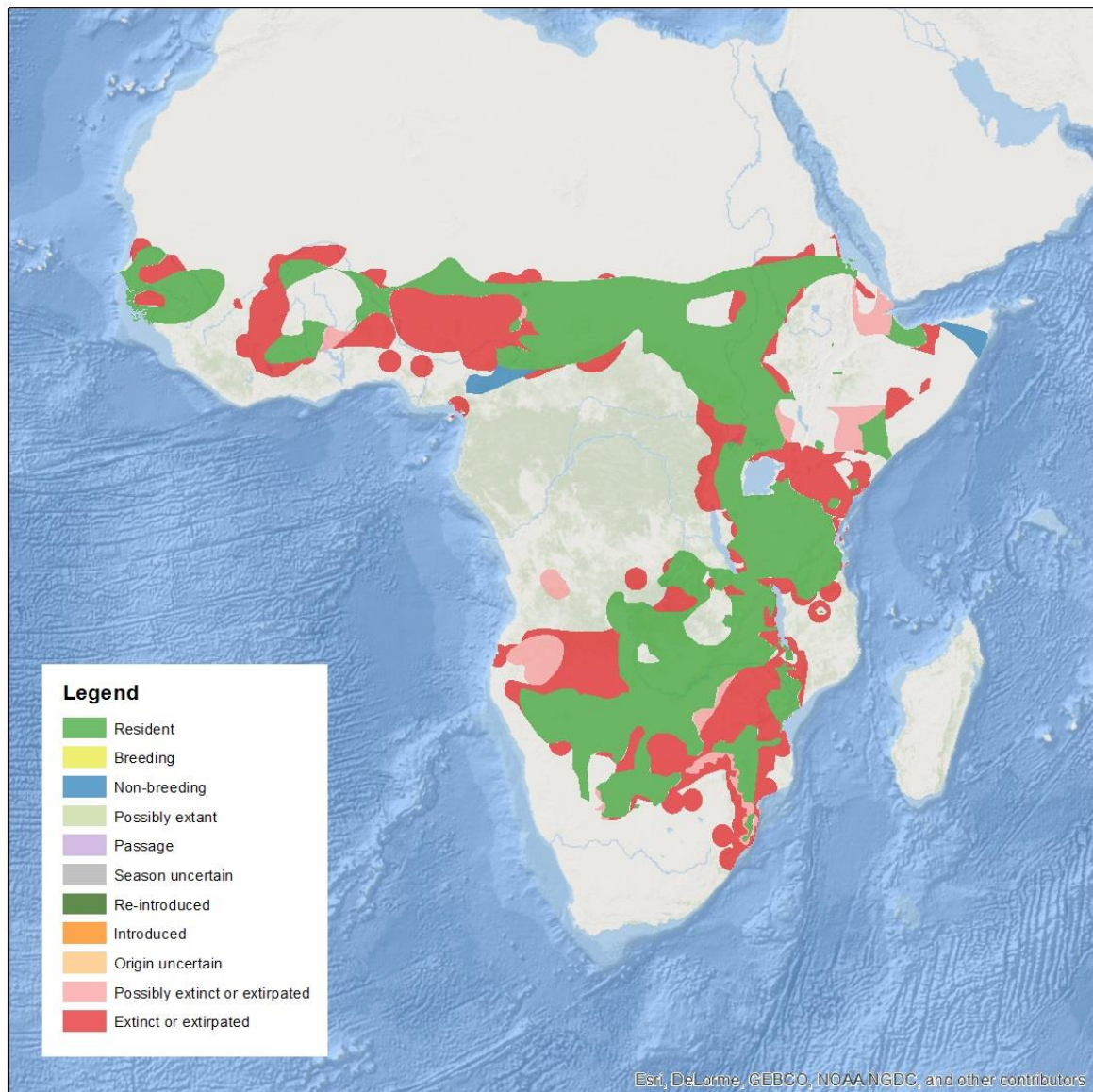


Figure 4: White-headed Vulture Distribution Map

Table 6: White-headed Vulture Biology and Conservation Status information derived from Questionnaires

Country	Breeding pairs	Year of Last Estimate	Status	Protected	Conservation status	Action plan	Top Threats
South Africa	48*	2016	breeding	Yes	CR/EN*	No	Poisoning, Poaching, electrocution
Swaziland	0*	2012	Extinct	Yes	Endangered	No	Unknown
Kenya	Unknown*		breeding	Yes	Critically Endangered	No	Poisoning and disturbance
Botswana	Unknown		breeding	Yes	Critically Endangered	No	Poisoning, Electrocution and collisions
Tanzania	Unknown		breeding	No	Not Evaluated	No	Poisoning
Ivory Coast	Unknown		Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	No	Unknown

Hooded Vulture (*Necrosyrtes monachus*)

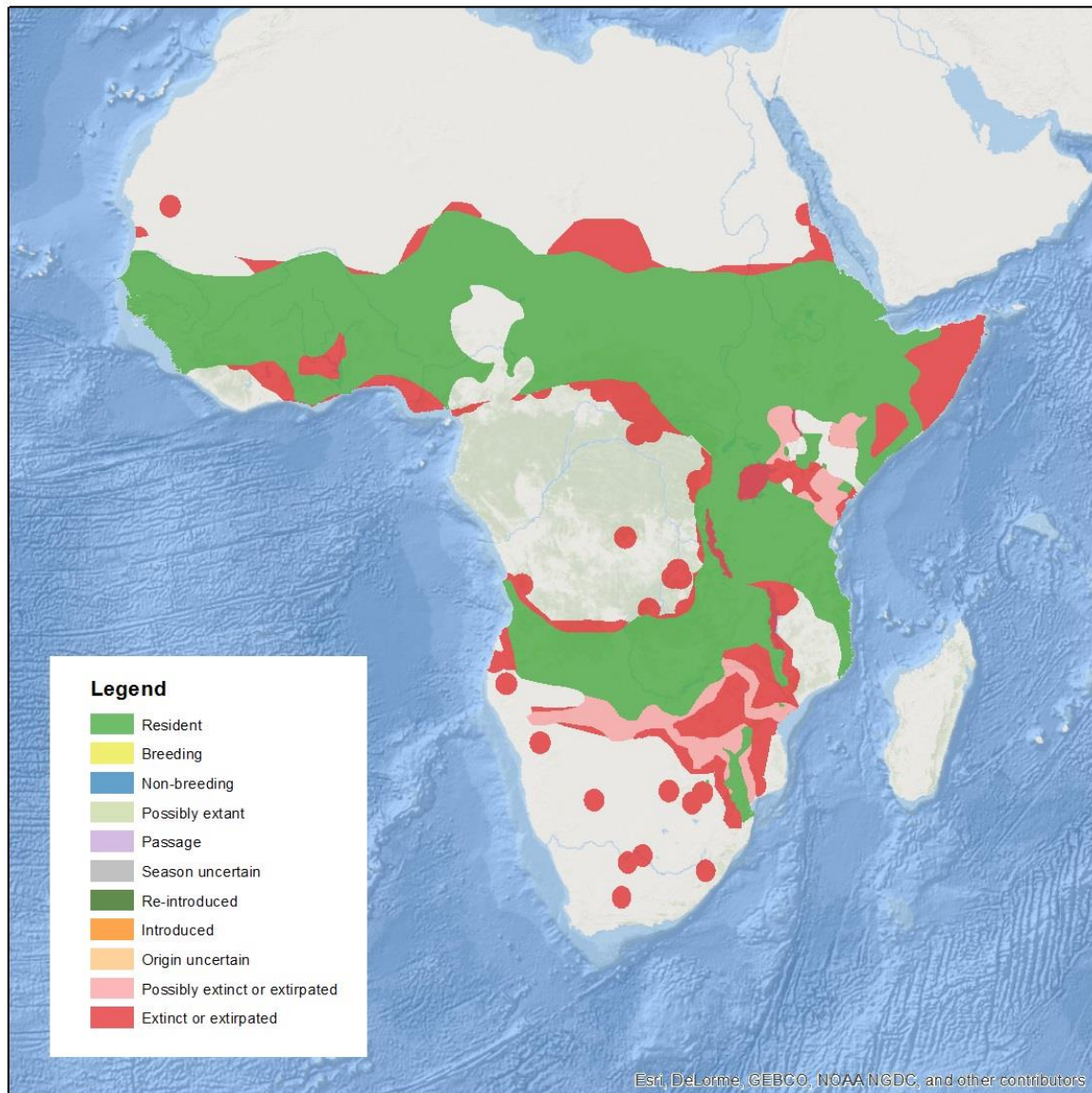


Figure 5: Hooded Vulture Distribution Map

Table 4: Hooded Vulture Biology and Conservation Status information from Questionnaires

Country	Breeding pairs	Year of Last Estimate	Status	Protected	Conservation status	Action plan	Top Threats
South Africa	50 to 100*	2000	breeding	Yes	Critically Endangered	No	Poisoning, electrocution and collisions
Kenya	Unknown		Unknown	yes	Critically Endangered	No	Suspected poisoning and stricter sanitation
Somalia	Unknown*	1998	breeding	No	Not Evaluated	No	Poisoning, habitat loss and food shortage
Ghana	103	2016	breeding	YES	Critically Endangered	No	Habitat loss, poisoning, poaching
Guinea Bissau	Unknown	2016	breeding	No	Not Evaluated	No	Poisoning and poaching
Burkina Faso	> 100*			Yes	Not Evaluated	No	Poisoning, food shortage and habitat loss
Nigeria	Unknown		Unknown	No	Not Evaluated	No	Unknown
Botswana	Unknown		breeding	Yes	Critically Endangered	No	Poisoning
Tanzania	Unknown		breeding	No	Not Evaluated	No	Poisoning
Uganda	2*	2014	breeding	Yes	Critically Endangered	No	Poaching, food shortage and collisions
Ivory Coast	Unknown	2016	breeding	Unknown	Unknown	No	Unknown

White-backed Vulture (*Gyps africanus*)

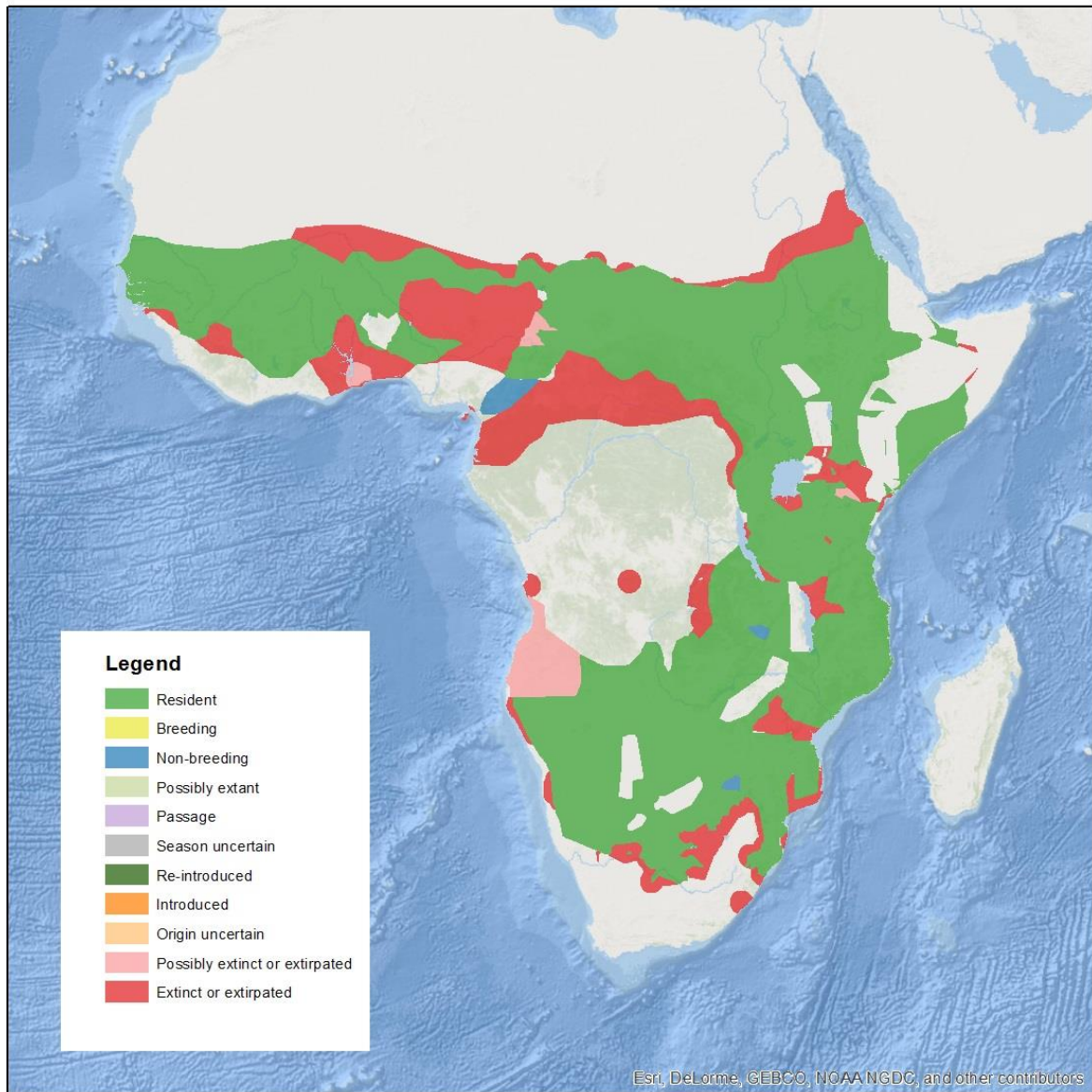


Figure 6: White-backed Vulture Distribution Map

Table 5: White-backed Vulture Biology and Conservation Status information derived from Questionnaires

Country	Breeding pairs	Year of Last Estimate	Status	Protected	Conservation status	Action plan	Top Threats
South Africa	3675	2014	breeding	yes	CR/EN*	No	Poisoning, poaching, habitat loss and electrocutions and collisions
Swaziland	240*	2015	breeding	Yes	Near Threatened	No	Unknown
Kenya	Unknown		breeding	Yes	Critically Endangered	No	Poisoning
Somalia	400 to 500*	1998	breeding	No	Not Evaluated	No	Poisoning, habitat loss and food shortage
Benin	Unknown	2011	breeding	Yes	Endangered	No	Poaching, habitat loss and poisoning
Botswana	Unknown	2013	breeding	Yes	Critically Endangered	No	Poisoning, electrocution and collisions
Tanzania	Unknown		breeding	No	Not Evaluated	No	Poisoning
Zimbabwe	Unknown		breeding	Yes	No Answer	In Dev	Poisoning, habitat loss and lack of policies and laws
Ivory Coast	Unknown		Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	No	Unknown

Rüppell's Vulture (*Gyps rueppelli*)

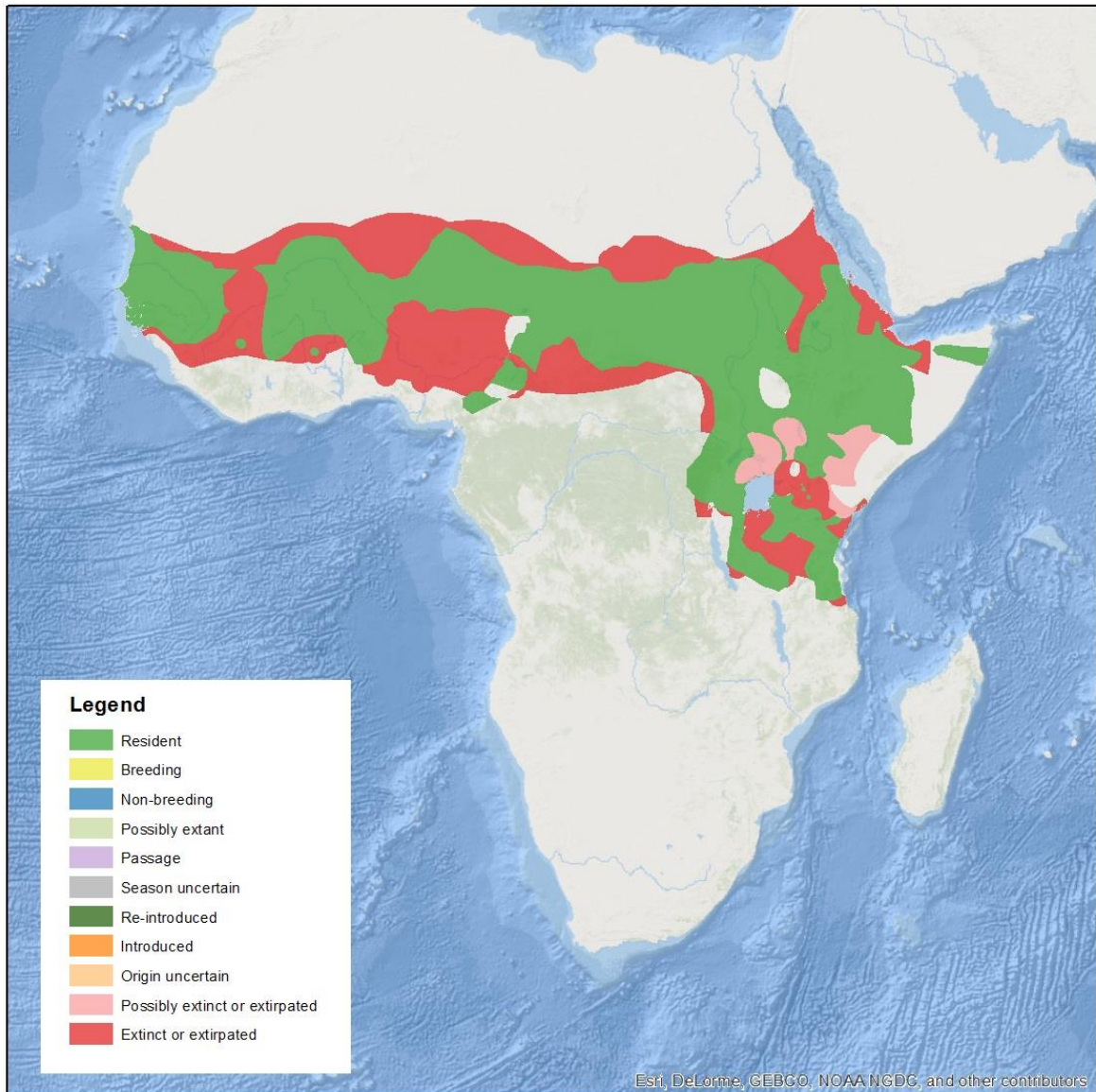


Figure 7: Rüppell's Vulture Distribution Map

Table 8: Rüppell's Vulture Biology and Conservation Status information derived from questionnaires

Country	Breeding pairs	Year of Last Estimate	Status	Protected	Conservation status	Action plan	Top Threats
Kenya	Unknown		breeding	Yes	Critically Endangered	No	Poisoning, disturbance, food shortage
Niger	No Data		breeding	Yes	Not Evaluated	No	poaching, food shortage and habitat loss

Cape Vulture (*Gyps coprotheres*)

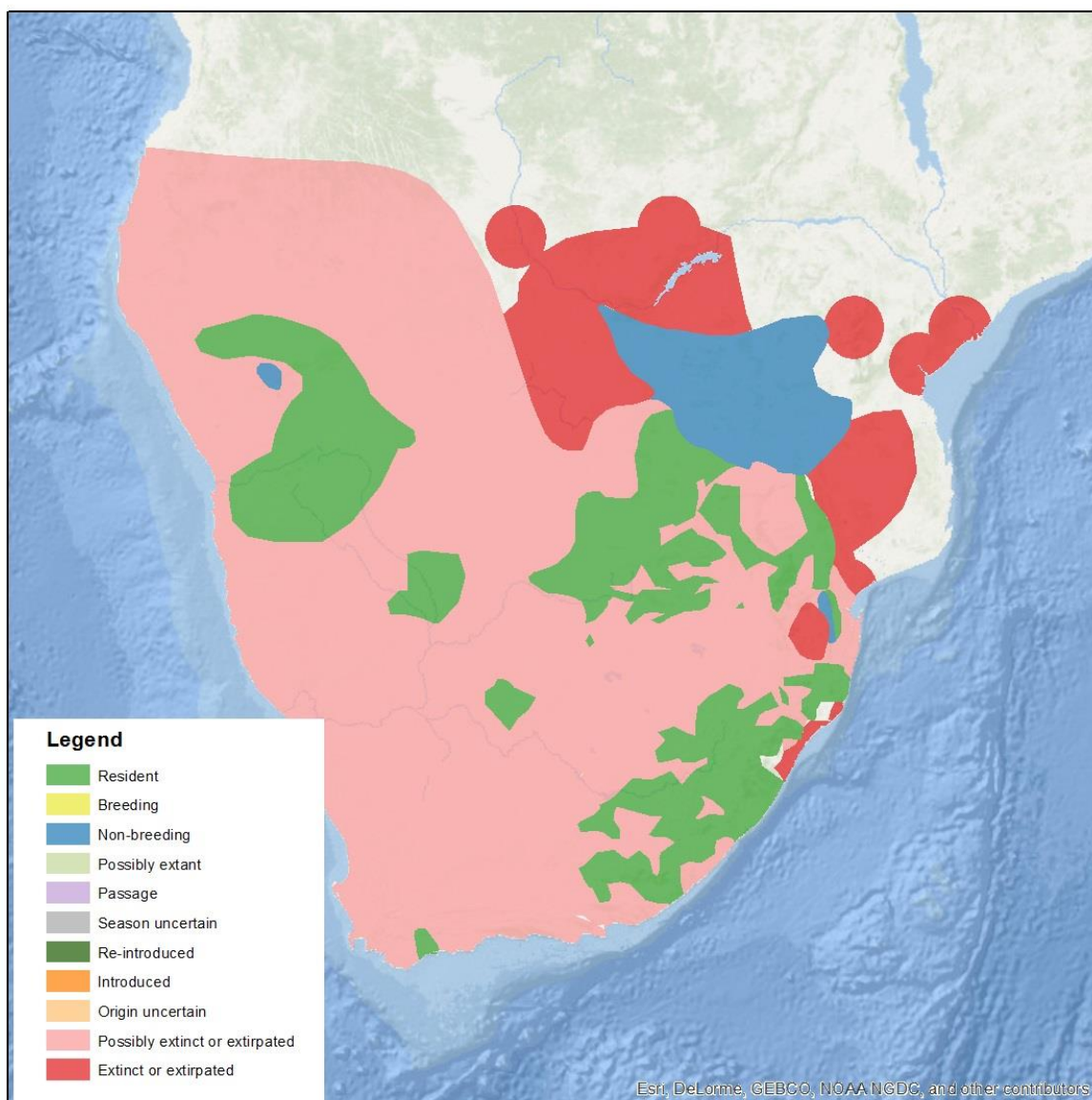


Figure 8: Cape Vulture Distribution Map

Table 9: Cape Vulture Biology and Conservation Status information derived from questionnaires

Country	Breeding pairs	Year of Last Estimate	Status	Protected	Conservation status	Action plan	Top Threats
South Africa	4000 - 4700*	2013	breeding	Yes	Endangered	In Dev	Poisoning, electrocution and collisions and harvesting
Swaziland	0	2003	extinct	yes	Extinct in the wild	No	Anecdotal evidence to suggest threats not within country
Botswana	Unknown		breeding	Yes	Endangered	No	Agrochemical poisoning, disturbance, electrocution

Griffon Vulture (*Gyps fulvus*)

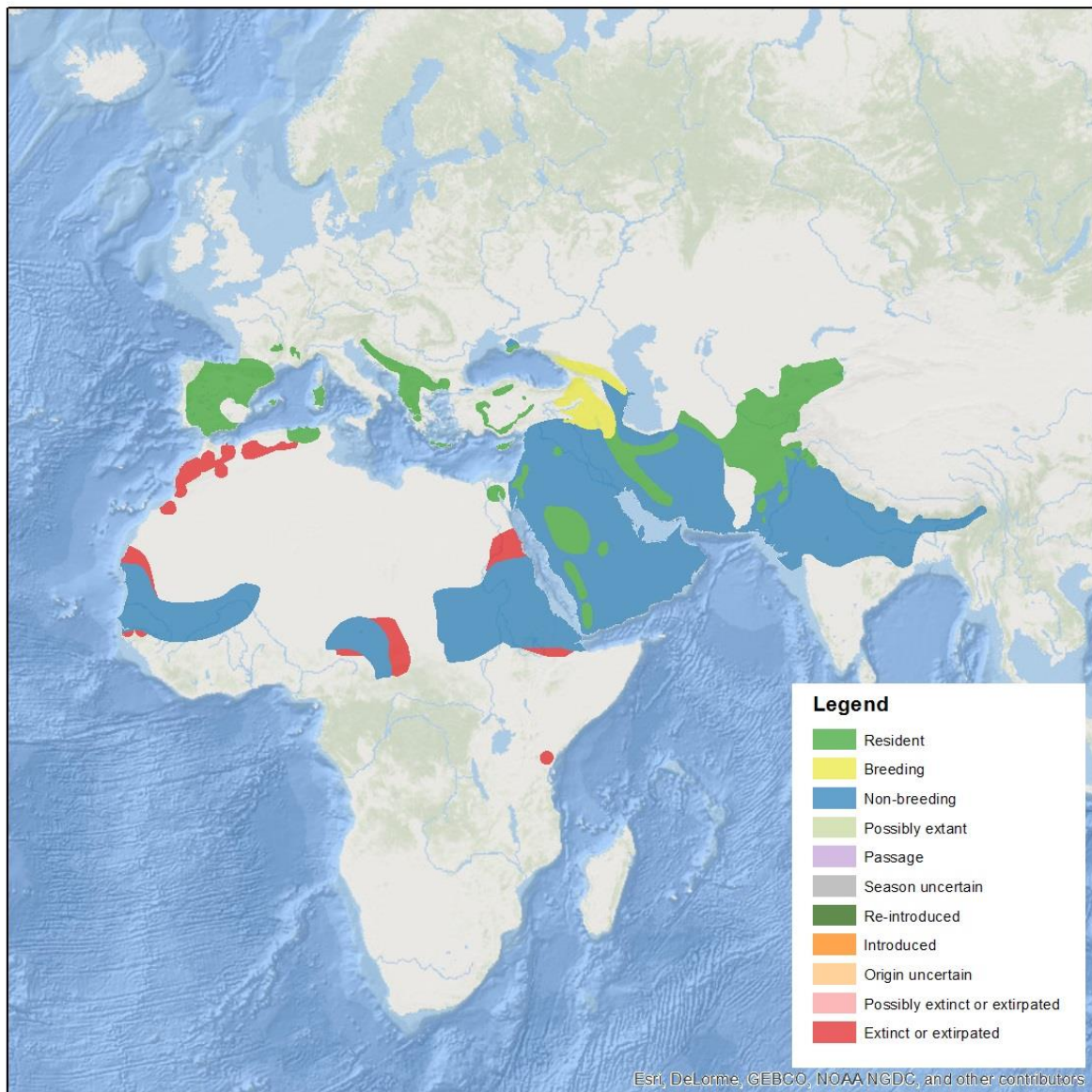


Figure 9: Griffon Vulture Distribution Map

Table 10: Griffon Vulture Biology and Conservation Status information derived from questionnaires

Country	Breeding pairs	Year of Last Estimate	Status	Protected	Conservation status	Action plan	Top Threats
Morocco	Unknown*	2005	breeding	No answer	No Answer	No Answer	Poaching, poisoning and lack of policy and law
Algeria	200	2015	breeding	yes	Not Evaluated	No	Collision, disturbance and poaching
Tunisia	50*	2005	Extinct	Yes	No Answer	yes	Habitat loss, poaching

Cinereous Vulture (*Aegypius monachus*)

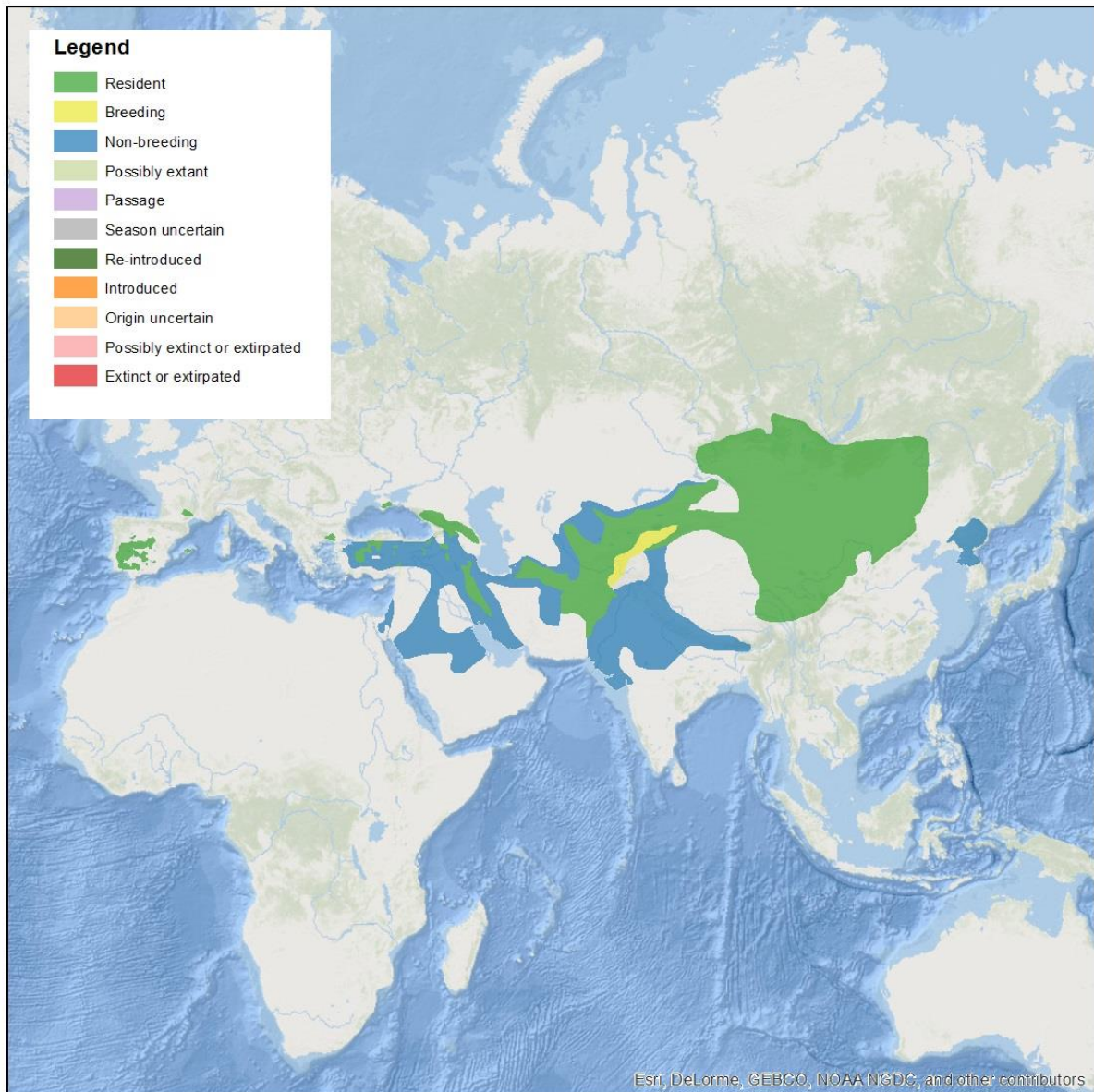


Figure 10: Cinereous Vulture Distribution Map

(No biology or conservation data available from Questionnaires)

Lappet-faced Vulture (*Torgos tracheliotus*)

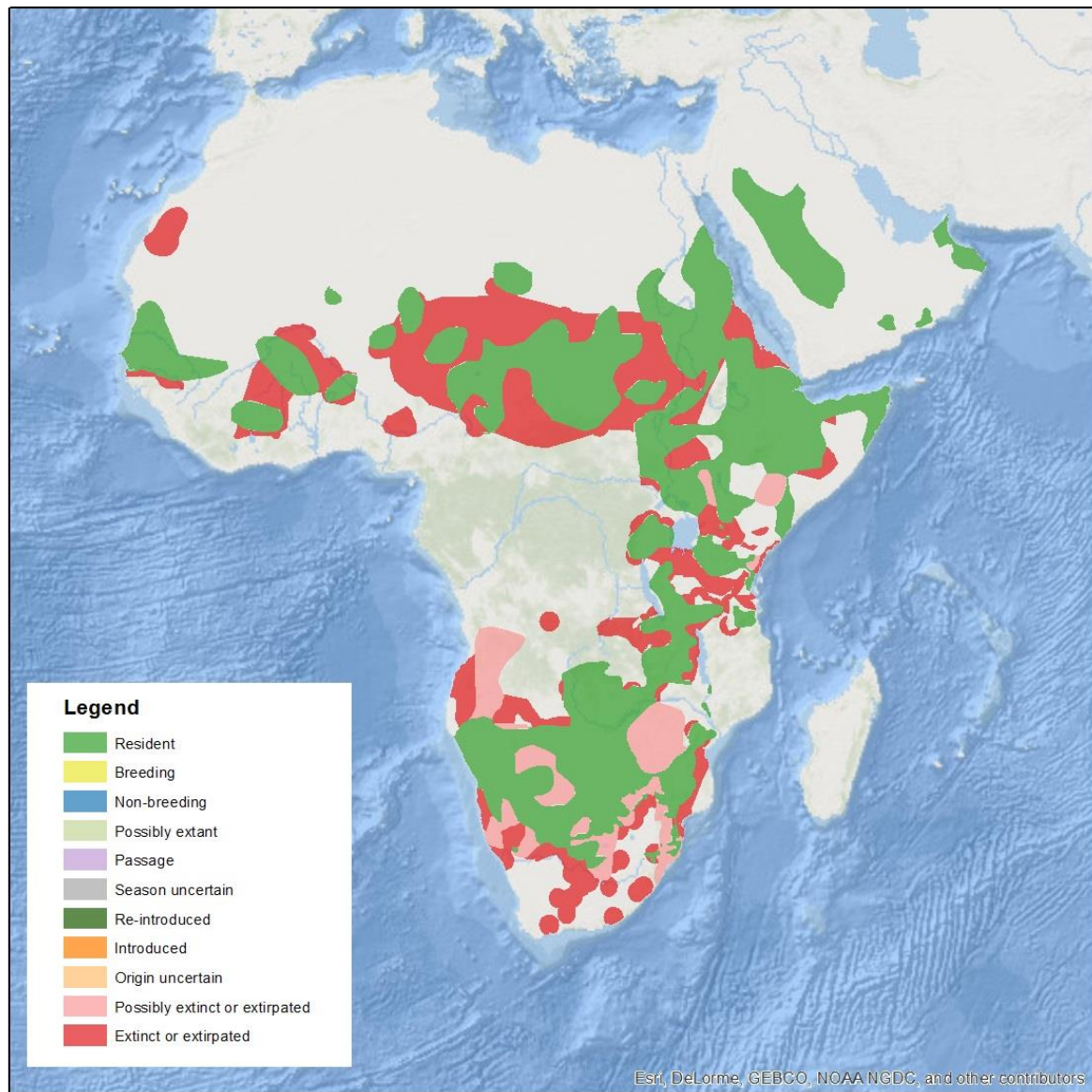


Figure 11: Lappet-faced Vulture Distribution Map

Table 11: Lappet-faced Vulture Biology and Conservation Status information derived from questionnaires

Country	Breeding pairs	Year of Last Estimate	Status	Protected	Conservation status	Action plan	Top Threats
South Africa	169*		breeding	Yes	Endangered	No	Poisoning and poaching
Swaziland	0*	2011	Extinct	Yes	Endangered	No	Not well known
Kenya	Unknown		Unknown	Yes	Endangered	No	Poisoning
Niger	23*	2015	breeding	Yes	Not Evaluated	No	poaching, food shortage and habitat loss
Benin	Unknown*	2011	breeding	yes	Critically Endangered	No	Poaching, poisoning and habitat loss
Botswana	Unknown		breeding	Yes	Endangered	No	Poisoning, ineffective policies and law and low stakeholder engagement
Tunisia	Unknown*	2005	Extinct	No	No Answer	No	Habitat Loss and Poaching
Tanzania	Unknown		Unknown	Yes	Not Evaluated	No	Poisoning

Annex 9: Main Threats to African Vultures

Threats were identified and categorised on Day 2 of the Workshop, as set out below.

Threat	Breakdown and Description (where appropriate)
Targeted Vulture Poisoning	Belief-based use - related to trade for fetish, voodoo, juju markets and cultural beliefs and practices.
	Sentinel Poisoning - related to elephant poaching and deliberate killing of vultures by poachers to prevent being exposed by vulture soaring over carcass.
	Persecution - related to direct targeting of vultures using poison because of a dislike of vultures
	Bush-meat culling - related to the use of poisons to acquire bushmeat
Unintentional (Secondary) Poisoning	Human-animal conflict - related to retaliatory killings where herders use poison baits to poison predators and scavengers.
	Vermin control- related to feral animal control in urban areas and cities such as stray dog and rodent control.
Poisoning (pharmaceutical products)	Use of NSAIDs, Euthanasia & tranquilisation drugs, livestock dips
Poisoning (Heavy metals & industrial pollution)	Lead from ammunition and other sources as well as general pollution from other heavy metals and toxic compounds
Illegal killing, taking and trade	Sport hunting, persecution using non poison-related methods to kill vultures, e.g. ammunition
Decline of food availability	Reduced livestock availability, decline of ungulates, improved carcass disposal, competition with scavengers, change in cultural practices, foraging patterns and spatial food availability, change in feeding quality and quantity.
Habitat loss / Degradation & Fragmentation	Loss of trees and cliffs, degradation of rangelands, human settlement expansion, land and vegetation transformation
Collisions with infrastructure & vehicles	Power-lines, communication towers, wind turbines, vehicle collisions which includes trains and aircraft
Electrocution on power poles	
Disturbance from human activities	Recreation, disturbance from infrastructure construction, agriculture, research, trespassing, aviation, mining and blasting.
Harvesting/nest robbery	Illegal trade
Indirect threats - Missing or ineffective policies, laws and enforcement	Lack of appropriate legislation, lack or limited enforcement
Drowning	Dam reservoirs, geothermal wells
Disease	
Climate change	



Figure 12: Priority regional threats to vultures in Africa