

Terms of Reference for the Avian Wild Meat Report

Objective of the Project

The objective of the project is to assess, to the extent possible, the direct and indirect impacts of wild meat taking, trade and consumption of all bird species covered by [CMS Appendices I and / or II](#).

For this purpose, the broad definition of ‘taking’ given by CMS (Article I (1)(j)) is used: ‘taking, hunting, fishing capturing, harassing, deliberate killing, or attempting to engage in any such conduct’. In this study, any taking of CMS avian species (both land and seabirds) for the delivery of meat or other wildlife parts (nests, eggs, etc.) for human consumption (food or non-food, including for “medicinal use”), legal or illegal by law is relevant.

Understanding that many CMS Appendix II avian species are currently legally taken, and that these are not always for human consumption or trade, it is proposed that this report focuses on Appendix II species hunted for human consumption/trade that are found to be declining/with an unfavourable conservation and/or for which established quotas (if available) could be having a negative impact on their populations. Take of seabirds in fisheries (bycatch), if for human consumption/trade, should be considered for this report.

This work is based on CMS Decision [13.109 \(a\)](#) Addressing Unsustainable Use of Terrestrial and Avian Wild Meat of Migratory Species of Wild Animals, which directs that the CMS Secretariat shall, subject to the availability of external resources, and working within the Convention’s remit, prepare an analysis on the direct and indirect impacts of wild meat taking, trade and consumption of terrestrial and avian species listed on CMS Appendices I and II.

Activities

Draft a report and presentation slides containing the following items to the extent possible with available data:

- a) Identification of the **magnitude** of wild meat taking, trade and consumption for all CMS listed Avian species (see caveat explained above). This magnitude assessment should seek to provide information on wild meat taking for different purposes, including national and international trade, and direct consumption.
- b) Identification of the **direct impacts** of wild meat taking, trade and consumption for all CMS listed Avian species related to population sizes, trends, viability, and conservation and legal status of the avian species listed in CMS Appendices I and II across their range, by reviewing:
 - Literature related to taking, trade and consumption for consumption purposes, for each species;
 - Evidence for take, trade and consumption for each species, incl. amounts taken/consumed, locations, prices and trends;
 - IUCN Red List information to see which species are registered as being threatened by regulated, unregulated, legal and illegal taking for the delivery of meat or other wildlife parts for consumption;
 - Legal protection status (MEAs and national legislation); and
 - Available assessments on the likely sustainability of taking, trade and consumption.

- c) Identification, to the extent possible, of **indirect impacts** (e.g., effects on the availability of prey species, cascading effects on other species, food webs, ecosystem functioning and services, and human societies such as regarding food security) of wild meat taking, trade and consumption of the avian species specified above. Compile and summarize information and **case studies on these indirect impacts**, including areas for potential additional research to address gaps.
- d) **Case studies on the impact** of wild meat taking, trade and consumption on a selection of globally threatened avian species, and its relative importance with respect to other drivers of decline.
- e) Compile evidence, to the extent possible, of the linkages between taking, trade and consumption of the species taken for human consumption/trade and **zoonotic disease** transmission risk
- f) Identification, to the extent possible, of **motivations** for the taking, trade and consumption, e.g.,
- Is the use related to unintentional take (if possible, identify whether dead or alive) or is the take intentional?
 - Is the use traditional, rural, urban, commercial, other?
 - Is there a difference between primary and secondary reasons for the use?
 - How much of it is subsistence use of wild meat?
 - Are there any alternative protein sources available?
- g) **Knowledge gaps** related to:
- Take, trade and consumption of CMS listed species, given the challenges of monitoring these activities.
 - Policy recommendations based on potential legislation gaps identified
 - Areas for potential **future analyses** regarding the impacts of taking of the CMS listed species e.g., cascading effects on other species, food webs, ecosystem functioning and services, and human societies such as regarding food security.
- h) A spreadsheet of the above information (with linked Mendeley-compatible electronic library) and compile a full **bibliography** of the relevant sources used.
- i) A Microsoft Power Point **presentation** of max 20 slides with powerful images and graphs, summarising the main findings of such report.