



CMS

2025 CMS National Report

Deadline for submission of the National Reports: : 30 September 2025

Reporting period: from May 2023 to February 2025

Parties are encouraged to respond to all questions and are also requested to provide comprehensive answers, when required.

National Report format is available through the CMS Family Online Reporting System (ORS), which has been successfully implemented and used by CMS, AEWA, IOSEA and Sharks MOU in collaboration with UNEP-WCMC.

Through Resolution 12.5 (Rev. COP14) and Decisions 14.27, 14.25 National Reports and 14.2 Samarkand Strategic Plan for Migratory Species, the Standing Committee and the Secretariat were tasked with developing a new format for National Reports that aligns with the SPMS. However, given that the indicators of the SPMS are not yet in place, and due to the time constraints caused by the exceptionally short intersessional period before COP15, there is insufficient time to substantially amend the National Report format to fully align it with the SPMS.

The Standing Committee therefore agreed to develop a new format for the reporting period after COP15, and to use the previous National Report format for the current reporting period, with only minor adjustments. These adjustments would include a limited number of additional questions on topics that COP14 specifically requested to be reported through National Reports.

Additionally, it was agreed not to attach the full list of species in Appendices I and II for verification by Parties, as this information was collected during previous reporting cycles but could not be fully assessed and reflected in the National Reports format due to a lack of resources. Instead, the Standing Committee agreed to collect information on Range States for species listed in the Annex to Resolution 14.19 during this reporting cycle, in accordance with Decision 14.234.

A proposal of the National Reports format was circulated by the Secretariat to the Standing Committee members on 13 December and it was agreed through communication procedure, in line with Rule 5 of the Rules of Procedure.

This online version of the format strictly follows the one adopted by Standing Committee through communication procedure. In addition, as was also the case for reporting prior to COP14, it incorporates pre-filled information, notably in Sections II and III, based on data available at the Secretariat from the previous reporting cycles.

Please note that guidance is available for a number of questions throughout the national report as both in-text guidance and as tool tips (displayed via the information 'i' icon).

For any question, please contact Mr. Aydin Bahramlouian, Public Information Officer, aydin.bahramlouian@un.org

NOTICE: Before clicking on the hyperlinks in this questionnaire, please keep pressing the **Ctrl button** on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.

RESOURCES FOR THE CMS NATIONAL REPORT FROM OTHER RELEVANT INTERGOVERNMENTAL PROCESSES

Convention/Agreement/Process

Information source

Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

National Reports

Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)

Annual trade reports, Annual illegal trade reports, Implementation reports

Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat

National Reports, Ramsar Information Sheets

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

Country reports

United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)

National Reports

United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF)

National Reports

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

National Communications, Biennial Reports, Update Reports

Various CMS Family Agreements and Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs)

National Reports

2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals

National Reports

Note: These reporting processes of other relevant intergovernmental frameworks are examples of information resources to be used when filling out this national report, which may assist in identification and strengthening of synergies among these processes. This list is **not** exhaustive. There are many other sources of information that may also be of relevance for migratory species, their habitats and migrations systems.

High-level summary of key messages

In your country, during the reporting period, what does this report reveal about:

Guidance:

This section invites you to summarise the most important positive aspects of CMS implementation in your country and the areas of greatest concern. Please limit this specifically to the current reporting period only.

Your answers should be based on the information contained in the body of the report: the intention is for this section to distil the technical information in the report into “high level” messages for decision-makers and wider audiences.

Please try also to be specific or provide specific examples where you can, e.g. “New wildlife legislation enacted in 2024 doubled penalties for poisoning wild birds” rather than “stronger laws”; “50% shortfall in match-funding for GEF project on gazelles” rather than just “lack of funding”.

The most successful aspects of implementation of the Convention? (List up to five items):

>>> a. Italy is active on several initiatives on IKB, both within CMS and Bern Convention. On September 2023, Italy sent its third national scoreboard. Moreover, Italy participated in the MIKT Consultative Group Meeting aimed at preparing the draft agenda for the Joint MIKT and Bern Convention Meetings. Furthermore, Italy contributed to the Workshop on National IKB Action Plans (2–4 September 2024, Podgorica, Montenegro), providing a detailed overview of the national efforts undertaken to combat Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade of Wild Birds (IKB) through the implementation of the National Action Plan.

b. On May 10, 2023, a management plan to promote sustainable hunting and habitat protection for the Common Pochard *Aythya ferina* was formally adopted.

c. The issue of electrocution is being addressed in southern Italy and Sardinia region through Life projects and funds from international foundations. Despite the short scale application, these initiatives represent important steps in the process towards secure powerlines for birds in the country and give the opportunity to raise awareness and involve main stakeholder and the public.

d. As part of the implementation of the monitoring activities foreseen for the implementation of the EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive, monitoring activities have been implemented at a national scale, allowing Italy to have quantitative standardised data for many marine migratory species. Specifically, aerial surveys conducted periodically provide important data for abundance assessments and monitoring of several cetacean species, of the loggerhead turtle *Caretta caretta*, and of several elasmobranch species. Data collection and validation of citizen science sightings of Mediterranean monk seals observed throughout Italian seas has continued at national scale. Monitoring activities formulated specifically for HD implementation have continued throughout the reporting period with in situ monitoring of caves in the Egadi island MPA, the Tuscan Archipelago National Park and the southern Apulia region in collaboration with the respective protected area management bodies and the local environmental protection agency. This has led to improved knowledge of current seal range and minimum population estimate.

e. Italy, together with France, the Principality of Monaco and Spain, promoted the designation of the Particularly Sensitive Sea Area (PSSA) in Western Mediterranean, which encompasses the Pelagos Sanctuary for the protection of marine mammals in the Mediterranean and the Spanish Cetacean Corridor. The Resolution on the designation was adopted on July 2023, at the 80th IMO Marine Environment protection Committee, with the Resolution MEPC.380(80). The PSSA aims at reducing the risk of collisions with maritime traffic, which constitute a significant cause of mortality for cetaceans, in particular sperm whales and fin whales. Protection measures are envisaged in the area such as the voluntary reduction of navigation speed and the respect of a safety distance in the event of reporting the presence of cetacean specimens to avoid disturbances or collisions. Furthermore, a coordinated system will allow to distribute information relating to sightings to all ships present in the area and to collect relevant data in a database of collisions with cetaceans managed by the International Whaling Commission (IWC).

The greatest difficulties in implementing the Convention? (List up to five items):

>>> Major difficulties are:

- coordination with other responsible authorities, such as other Ministries, local administrations and governance of protected areas;
- raising awareness on conservation issues and needs among stakeholders;
- availability of regular and adequate funds to set long term conservation programmes and educational activities. This could lead to short-scale initiatives, in space and time, and could determine an important fallout on the recruitment and training of technical staff.

The main priorities for future implementation of the Convention? (List up to five items):

>>> Main priorities consist in consolidating and expand the initiatives undertaken so far to reconcile energy infrastructures with conservation needs and, in compliance with the EU environmental policy, updating and implementing the conservation measures for N2000 sites.

I. Administrative Information

Name of the Party

>>> Italy

Date of entry into force of the Convention in your country (DDMMYY)

>>> 1 november 1983

Report compiler

Name and title

>>> Officers and researchers from Ministry of the Environment and Energy security (MASE) and Italian National Institute for Environmental Protection and Research (ISPRA)

Full name of institution

>>> General Directorate for biodiversity and sea protection (TBM) of the Ministry of the Environment and Energy Security (MASE) and National Institute for Environmental Protection and Research (ISPRA)

Telephone

>>> +39 0657223402

Email

>>> giardina.silvia@mase.gov.it

Designated CMS National Focal Point

Name and title of designated Focal Point

>>> Ms. Silvia Giardina

Full name of institution

>>> General Directorate for biodiversity and sea protection (TBM) - Ministry of the Environment and Energy Security (MASE)

Mailing address

>>> Via Cristoforo Colombo, 44
00147 Roma
ITALY

Telephone

>>> +390657223402

Email

>>> giardina.silvia@mase.gov.it

Representative on the Scientific Council

Name and title

>>> Mr. Lorenzo Serra

Full name of institution

>>> National Institute for Environmental Protection and Research (ISPRA)

Mailing address

>>> Via Ca' Fornacetta 9
40064 Ozzano Emilia (BO)
ITALY

Telephone

>>> +390650075207

Email

>>> lorenzo.serra@isprambiente.it

II. Accession/Ratification of CMS Agreements/MOUs

Please confirm the status of your country's participation in the following Agreements/MOUs, and indicate any updates or corrections required:

Yes, the lists are correct and up to date

Country participation in Agreements/MOUs:

Please select only one per line

	Range State, but not a Party/Signatory	Not applicable (= not a Range State)	Party/Signatory
Aquatic Warbler	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ACAP	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ACCOBAMS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
AEWA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ASCOBANS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Atlantic Turtles	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Birds of Prey (Raptors)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Bukhara Deer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dugong	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
EUROBATS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Gorilla Agreement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
High Andean Flamingos	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
IOSEA Marine Turtles	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Middle-European Great Bustard	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Monk Seal in the Atlantic	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pacific Islands Cetaceans	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ruddy-headed Goose	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Saiga Antelope	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sharks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Siberian Crane	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Slender-billed Curlew	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
South Andean Huemul	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Southern South American Grassland Birds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wadden Sea Seals	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
West African Elephants	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Western African Aquatic Mammals	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

III. Species on the Convention Appendices

III.1 Please confirm that the Excel file “Res. 14.19 species per Party” linked below correctly identifies the **Appendix II** species listed in Resolution 14.19 Guidance on the treatment of species included within aggregated families listed under Appendix II for which your country is a Range State.

The list of Resolution 14.19 species per Parties is available **here**.

Notice: Before clicking on the above hyperlink, please keep pressing the **Ctrl button** on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.

GUIDANCE TIP:

During the last two reporting cycles, information has been collected on Appendix I and Appendix II species, and the information received still needs to be analyzed. Therefore, this reporting cycle only focuses on bird species identified under Resolution 14.19. This Resolution invites Parties to consider the list of Species in its Annex when preparing National Reports. This question aims at collecting information on Range States of species listed in the Annex to Resolution 14.19. Parties are therefore invited to review the Range State data which are available in the excel spreadsheet “Res. 14.19 species per Party”. Please confirm that the list is correct, or if amendments are needed, create a line for each species for which you wish to indicate different information from that shown in the Excel spreadsheet. Where possible, please also provide supporting evidence, such as a reference to a scientific paper. A more detailed spreadsheet with Data per countries and territories is available here as background information. The data used for these spreadsheets are based on the CMS standard references for non-passerine and passerine species, as determined by Resolution 12.27(Rev.COP14) Taxonomy and Nomenclature, using its online version HBW-BirdLife Version 9.0 (October 2024)..

No, amendments are needed for the following species:

Tawny Eagle / *Aquila rapax*

Select occurrence of Tawny Eagle / *Aquila rapax*

Not present

IV. Legal Prohibition of the Taking of Appendix I Species

IV.1. Is the taking of Appendix I species prohibited by national or territorial legislation in accordance with CMS Article III(5)?

Yes for all Appendix I species

Please identify any change in the legal statute(s) concerned that has been introduced since the last reporting:

Please provide links and clearly identify the relevant statute(s) by providing the title, date, etc.

>>> All species are protected under Article 2 of National Law 157/1992 (and subsequent amendments and additions). Furthermore, they are not included among the huntable species listed in Article 18 of the same law.

IV.2 **Exceptions:** Where the taking of Appendix I species **is** prohibited by national legislation, have any exceptions been granted to the prohibition during the reporting period?

Yes

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

[Section_IV_taking.xlsx](#)

IV.4. Are any vessels flagged to your country engaged in the intentional taking of Appendix I species outside of your country's national jurisdictional limits (consistent with the definition of "Range State" in Article I of the Convention)?

No

V. Awareness

V.1. Please indicate the actions that have been taken by your country during the reporting period to increase people's awareness of the values of migratory species, their habitats and migration systems (note that answers given in section XVIII may also be relevant).
(select all that apply)

GUIDANCE TIP:

Awareness raising may include actions, steps, programmes, initiatives and/or activities described in various CMS documents, such as Resolution, Res. **11.9 (Rev.COP13)** (World Migratory Bird Day), as well as a number of other resolutions and decisions which include specific provisions about awareness raising, including Resolutions Res. **13.6** (Insect Decline), Res. **14.18** (Avian Influenza), Res. **14.17** (Communities and livelihoods), Res. **14.16** (Ecological Connectivity), Res. **14.15** (Action Plan to address aquatic Wild Meat Harvests), Res. **14.14** (CMS Jaguar Initiative), Res. **14.13** (Initiative for Central Asian Flyway), Res. **14.12** (Single Species Action Plan for the Angelshark (*Squatina squatina*) in the Mediterranean Sea), Res. **14.10** (Single Species Action Plan for the Atlantic Humpback Dolphin (*Sousa teuszii*)), Res. **14.8** (Conservation and sustainable management of seagrass ecosystems), Res. **14.5** (Reducing the risk of vessel strikes for marine megafauna), Res. **14.1** (Samarkand Strategic Plan for migratory species 2024 - 2032), Res. **12.6 (Rev.COP14)** (Wildlife health and migratory species), Res. **12.11 (Rev.COP14)** (Flyways), Res. **12.17** (Conservation and Management of Whales and their Habitats in the South Atlantic Region), Res. **12.19 (Rev.COP14)** (Endorsement of the African Elephant Action Plan), Res. **12.20** (Management of Marine Debris), Res. **12.21 (Rev.COP14)** (Climate Change and Migratory Species), Res. **12.25** (Promoting Conservation of Critical Intertidal and Other Coastal Habitats for Migratory Species), Res. **11.16 (Rev.COP14)** (The Prevention of Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade of Migratory Birds), Res. **11.17 (Rev.COP14)** (Action Plan for Migratory Landbirds in the African-Eurasian Region), Res. **11.24 (Rev.COP13)** (Central Asian Mammal Initiative), Res. **11.31 (Rev.COP14)** (Illegal and unsustainable taking of wildlife), Res. **8.12 (Rev.COP12)** (Improving the Conservation Status of Raptors and Owls in the African-Eurasian Region), and Decision 14.194 (Ecological Connectivity), Decision 14.54 (Marine Wildlife Watching) and Decision 14.223 (Impacts of Plastic Pollution on Aquatic, Terrestrial and Avian Species).

- Campaigns on specific topics
- Teaching programmes in schools or colleges
- Press and media coverage

Impact of actions

V.2. Please provide details for the actions selected in the previous question and indicate any specific elements of CMS COP Resolutions which have been particularly taken forward by these actions.

>>> The WMBD have been celebrated in may and October 2023 and 2024 in several protected areas around the Country with guided tours, meetings, citizen-science activity for children, to increase awareness on migratory bird species and major threats to their conservation.

Bat Nights have been conducted throughout the country as part of the 27th and 28th edition of the International Bat Nigh during 2023 and 2024. The bat nights are promoted on the website of the Italian Ministry of the environment and energy security.

In the context of the Pelagos Agreement (FR-IT-MC) for the protection of marine mammals within the Pelagos Sanctuary, Italy has supported the creation of the Pelagos WG on communication that, since 2023, has developed various awareness rising e-tools for different types of audience and supported public awareness, educational and training events (<https://pelagos-sanctuary.org>). In particular, Italy has funded the following activities and events:

- Pelagos-IWC joint disentanglement training (Genova, Italy, 16-17 May 2023)
- 2nd international joint meeting of the municipalities that signed the Pelagos Partnership Charter (Sassari, Italy, 22 June 2023)
- Joint RAMOGE-Pelagos event: a day dedicated to Pelagos Ambassadors and municipalities that signed the Partnership Charter, focused on combating pollution and protecting the marine ecosystem (Menton, France, 15 October 2024)
- In-person meeting on harmonizing management measures in the protected areas of the Sanctuary and the municipalities of the Partnership Charter (Savona, Italy, 6 May 2025)
- Outreach Tools - "Call 5 - Sustainable Ports" Project: development of outreach tools related to the results of the scientific project "Call 5 - Sustainable Ports," aimed at municipalities that signed the Partnership Charter and managers of ports and marinas in the Pelagos Sanctuary area. The communication kit includes: a rigid panel "You are in the Sanctuary"; a brochure on "Best practices for an eco-port"; flyers for boaters on "Best practices at sea and in port"; an emotional 60-second video spot "I live the Pelagos Sanctuary"; a downloadable package for a social media campaign with customizable posts (caption + graphics).
- International Platform of Municipalities: Creation of an international platform for the municipalities that signed the Pelagos Partnership Charter, aimed at enhancing their activities.

Specific efforts were also made by the Pelagos Sanctuary Secretariat to expand its current field of action into the domains of networking, capacity building and awareness activities addressing the Mediterranean monk seal in light of the evidence of the species' dispersal from eastern Mediterranean breeding colonies into neighbouring country coasts hosting former monk seal range areas. Specific working groups dedicated to

monk seal conservation and communication were set up to support the Secretariat and a workshop, directed at protected area management bodies operating in the Sanctuary, was organised in order to foster collaboration and future networking and improved monitoring amongst neighbouring PAs where monk seal sightings and habitat use has been increasingly reported over the last few years.

With a view to the achievement of the objectives of the PELAGOS Agreement, Italy, together with other partners, organized the following events with the aim to raise awareness on cetaceans' conservation issues, opportunities and practices:

- "Get on board with researchers" (Rome, 16 May 2023) - citizen science event organized within the Life Conceptu Maris project for the involvement of citizens in cetacean monitoring using ferries as an observation platform.
- "In defense of giants of the Pelagos Sanctuary" (Genoa, 23 May 2023) - event organized within the Life Conceptu Maris project for the protection of cetaceans in the Pelagos Sanctuary.
- In 2024, the Italian Ministry of Environment and Energy Security issued a call for all Italian Municipalities falling within the area of the Pelagos Sanctuary, for funding projects aimed at supporting the conservation of marine mammal and their habitats. Of the several project proposals received, seven were selected as suitable for being financed and are currently under implementation.

As part of the LIFE Conceptu Maris project, a Citizen Science campaign has been launched to involve citizens in monitoring cetaceans and sea turtles. Participants, having attended training courses, have actively contributed to the data collection and training activities could be continued in the future.

Within the reporting period, the LIFE SEA.NET project has carried out intensive dissemination activities to improve the awareness of the main stakeholders about benefits or constraints that the implementation of the Habitat Directive entail. One of the core actions of the project aimed at raising awareness and knowledge of the importance of marine biodiversity conservation with a multilevel communication campaign, meetings, dissemination activities and direct involvement of different stakeholders (i.e. fishermen, recreational boaters, divers, tourism operators, local communities) to reduce the impact of fishing and other activities on protected species (among which cetaceans, *Caretta caretta* and *Monachus monachus*) and promote monitoring activities with the contribution of citizens.

The LIFE-PROMETHEUS project, with the full title "PROMoting Elasmobranchs conservation THROUGH by-catch reduction, Ecotourism and alternative sUSTainable fisheries," is a Standard Action Project (SAP) under the LIFE-2023-SAP-NAT-NATURE call, designed to run for 60 months. The main objective of LIFE-PROMETHEUS is to improve the conservation of elasmobranchs (sharks and rays) by addressing key threats and promoting sustainable practices across the Mediterranean Sea. The project specifically targets eight priority elasmobranch species classified as Critically Endangered (CR) or Endangered (EN) by IUCN, along with seven accessory species. These species include the Sandbar Shark (*Carcharhinus plumbeus*), Spiny Butterfly Ray (*Gymnura altavela*), Duckbill Eagle Ray (*Aetomylaeus bovinus*), Shortfin Mako (*Isurus oxyrinchus*), Blue Shark (*Prionace glauca*), Blackchin Guitarfish (*Glaucostegus cemiculus*), White Skate (*Rostroraja alba*), and Rough Skate (*Raja radula*).

Within the reporting period, also the LIFE TURTLENEST project, co-financed by the European Union and coordinated by Legambiente, has the main objective of conserving and protecting the *Caretta caretta* sea turtle from threats related to human disturbance at nesting sites in the western Mediterranean basin. LIFE TURTLENEST also aims to assess the impact of climate change on the nesting of this species. Through a multi-disciplinary approach and the establishment of an international network, the Project will improve the conservation status of the priority species *C. caretta*, and to conserve new nesting sites in current and future climate scenarios.

V.3. Overall, how successful have these awareness actions been in achieving their objectives?

Tick one box

GUIDANCE TIP:

If the impact of awareness actions has been assessed by (for example) project evaluation studies or follow-up audience attitude surveys during the reporting period, those provide a basis for answering this question. If the assessment has involved any type of quantitative measure of the impact, please specify. It is recognized that such assessment studies may not always be available, in which case it is acceptable to base your answer on an informed subjective judgement. Alternatively, if there is genuinely no basis for forming such a judgement, please select "Unknown".

Question V.4 gives you the opportunity to explain the basis on which you have answered question V.3.

3. Good impact

V.4. Please identify the main form(s) of evidence that has/have been used to make this assessment.

>>> Impact was assessed according to the attention that the celebrations have received by social media and press releases. Moreover, the events have been generally associated to villages festivals and also foresaw concerts and other initiatives.

VI. Mainstreaming Migratory Species in Other Sectors and Processes

VI.1. Does the conservation of migratory species currently feature in any national or local strategies and/or planning processes in your country relating to development, poverty reduction and/or livelihoods?

No

VI.2. Does your country integrate the 'values of migratory species and their habitats' in any other national reporting processes?

E.g. Agenda 2030, reporting for International Whaling Commission, CBD, EU Nature Directives, etc.

GUIDANCE TIP:

Responses to this question should be focused on the reporting processes of the country rather than on plans and regulations within the country. This question intends to understand if the values of migratory species and habitats are featured in other national reporting that your country participates in, such as reporting to other biodiversity MEAs, the International Whaling Commission, European Commission etc.

Yes

Please provide details:

>>> The reports of the EU Bird and Habitat Directives contain information on status and trends of populations of species listed under the directives, together with information on main pressures and threats. The report also contains information related to the impact of the Natura 2000 network and conservation measures. According to the Directives' prescriptions, next report related to years 2019-2024 on species listed in the Directives, including the migratory ones, will be delivered in 2025.

Italy regularly report on the value of migratory species in the context of the International Whaling Commission, ACCOBAMS, Pelagos Agreement and GFCM reporting.

VI.3. Provide some examples of significant involvements (if any) of non-governmental organizations and/or civil society in the conservation of migratory species in your country.

>>> NGOs are involved in initiatives to protect migratory birds in promoting/supporting projects aimed at improving the conservation of species and their habitats, countering the illegal killing and other threats, and raising awareness among people. A relevant number of volunteers plays an important role in bird monitoring, participating in national and regional programmes. Main initiatives are: IWC (international waterbirds census); ringing projects involving hundreds of volunteers (Small Island project since 1988; Alps project since 1997; MonitRing project since 2005); Farmland bird index (the monitoring program for common breeding birds in Italy) which involves nearly 500 surveyors from various local groups. This program is part of the Pan-European Common Bird Monitoring Scheme, contributing to the assessment of bird population trends on a continental scale; in Italy it is coordinated by LIPU and funded by Ministry of agriculture, food sovereignty and forestry. The GIRC (Italian Chiroptera Research Group), partner of BatLife Europe, is the largest NGO dedicated to bats in Italy. Its website offers guidelines on how to provide first aid to bats and a list of rehabilitators and bat experts that may assist the public when a bat is found. Others NGOs ("Tutela Pipistrelli" and "Bat World Italy") work on bat rehabilitation and awareness campaigns.

Several NGOs work on public awareness campaigns for the conservation on marine mammals and elasmobranchs (e.g., see partners of the previously mentioned EU-funded LIFE projects).

VI.4. Provide some examples of significant involvements (if any) of the private sector in the conservation of migratory species in your country.

>>> E-distribuzione, the main electric power distribution company in Italy, is actively involved in conservation projects aiming at securing medium-voltage power lines in most sensitive areas for migratory birds.

VI.5. Are legislation and regulations in your country concerning Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) and Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEA) considering the possible impediments to migration, transboundary effects on migratory species, and of impacts on migratory patterns and migratory ranges?

GUIDANCE TIP:

Please refer to Resolution **7.2 (Rev.COP14)** (Impact Assessment and Migratory Species).

Yes

Please describe any hindrances and challenges to the application of EIA and SEAs with respect to migratory species, lessons learned, and needs for further capacity development.

>>> Major hindrances for the applications of EIA and SEAs are the lack of data to objectively inform about possible impact caused by infrastructures projects. Data related to flyways area and migration routes used by migratory species would greatly improve the evaluation process.

VI.6. To what extent have biodiversity and migratory species considerations been specifically integrated

into national energy and climate policy and legislation?

GUIDANCE TIP

Please refer to Resolutions **12.21 (Rev.COP14)** (Climate Change and Migratory Species), Res. **11.27 (Rev.COP13)** (Renewable Energy and Migratory Species), Res. **10.11 (Rev.COP13)** (Power Lines and Migratory Birds), and Decision **14.207** (Renewable Energy and Migratory Species) for more information.

>>> The "Decree on Suitable Areas" of the Ministry of the environment and energy security of June 21, 2024 was adopted in implementation of Article 20 of Legislative Decree No. 199/2021, which transposes the European Directive 2018/2001 (commonly referred to as "RED II") on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources. This decree aims to establish uniform criteria for identifying - by the end of 2024 - suitable or unsuitable areas for the installation of renewable energy plants, with particular emphasis on ensuring compliance with the decarbonization targets set by the Integrated National Energy and Climate Plan (PNIEC).

Please provide any examples related to such policy and legislation.

>>> Almost all Italian regions have produced sensitivity maps based upon available data to identify areas which are suitable for installation of renewable energy plants, according to the Ministerial Decree of June 21, 2024.

VII. Governance, Policy and Legislative Coherence

(SPMS Target 3: National, regional and international governance arrangements and agreements affecting migratory species and their migration systems have improved significantly, making relevant policy, legislative and implementation processes more coherent, accountable, transparent, participatory, equitable and inclusive.)

VII.1. Have any governance arrangements and agreements affecting migratory species and their migration systems in your country, or in which your country participates, resulted in improvements during the reporting period?

GUIDANCE TIP:

This question is intended to understand improvements in governance arrangements in your country, which may potentially include improvements in policy, legislation, governance processes, plans etc. Please also consider the guidance below in VII.2.

Yes

Please provide details:

>>> Management plan on the following migratory species of conservation concern have been adopted or drafted: European Turtle Dove *Streptopelia turtur* (Appendix 1), Northern Lapwing *Vanellus vanellus*, Eurasian Skylark *Alauda arvensis* (not listed under CMS appendices), mainly to provide guidance for sustainable hunting. The national management plan for African Sacred Ibis *Threskiornis aethiopicus* was adopted in 2023, to properly managing this alien species towards eradication.

Management plan of *Aythya ferina* ensuring hunting sustainability and habitat management and restoration for the species has been formally adopted in Italy.

Italian experts have contributed to the drafting of the “Single Species Action Plan for the Northeast Atlantic & Mediterranean sub-population of *Tope Galeorhinus galeus*”. The development of this Single Species Action Plan for the Northeast Atlantic and Mediterranean subpopulation of tope shark was led by the Government of The Netherlands on behalf of the EU CMS working group. The tope (*Galeorhinus galeus*) is a slow-growing, migratory shark, listed as Critically Endangered in much of its range due to overfishing, bycatch, habitat loss, and poor management. Despite recent listings under CMS (2020) and the Sharks MOU (2023), protections remain fragmented and weakly enforced. To address this, a Single Species Action Plan (SSAP) has been developed for the Northeast Atlantic and Mediterranean. The plan was created through expert consultation, literature review, and input from Range States, and includes threat analysis, recovery criteria, and priority actions. The SSAP sets out five main objectives:

- Science-based fisheries management.
- Protection of key habitats.
- Strengthening research and monitoring.
- Enhancing international cooperation.
- Securing sustainable funding.

Aligned with CMS and Sharks MOU mandates, the SSAP provides a coordinated, adaptive roadmap to guide conservation, improve collaboration among Range States and bodies like ICES and GFCM, and support long-term recovery of the species.

To what extent have these improvements helped to make relevant policy, legislative and implementation processes more coherent, accountable, transparent, participatory, equitable and inclusive?

2. Partial contribution

Please describe how this assessment was made

>>> A formal assessment of the contribution to achieve Target 3 of the Strategic Plan has not been undertaken, but conservation measures foreseen in the management plans are not yet fully implemented.

VII.2. Has any committee or other arrangement for liaison between different government agencies/ministries, sectors or groups been established at a national and/or subnational level in your country that addresses CMS implementation issues?

GUIDANCE TIP:

There is no fixed model for what these arrangements may involve, and it is for each Contracting Party to decide what best suits its own circumstances. Examples could include a steering group that includes representatives of territorial administration authorities, a coordination committee that involves the lead government department (e.g. environment) working with other departments (e.g. agriculture, industry); a forum that brings together government and NGOs; a liaison group that links with business and private sector interests; a stakeholder forum involving representatives of indigenous and local communities; a coordination team that brings together the National Focal Points for each of the biodiversity-related MEAs to which the country is a Party (see also question VII.3); or any other appropriate mechanism.

These mechanisms may be specifically focused on migratory species issues, or they may address CMS implementation in conjunction with related processes such as NBSAP coordination, a National Ramsar Committee, etc.

The Manual for National Focal Points for CMS and its Instruments may be helpful in giving further context.

Yes

Please provide details:

>>> An arrangement for liaison between different institutions and stakeholders has been established to prevent the illegal killing of birds (IKB) in the framework of the National Action Plan (NAP) to prevent illicit activities against wild birds. The NAP was approved on March 30th, 2017 and a Steering Committee has been established in July 2017 to ensure a coordinated approach in implementing the NAP. The Committee is composed by a technical panel coordinated by Carabinieri Forestali and a political board directed by the Ministry for the Environment and energy security. In each board all relevant institutions and stakeholders are represented (several ministries, regional administrations, ISPRA, ONGs).

Moreover, an agreement was signed in April 2023 between the Ministry of the Environment and Energy Security and the Carabinieri Forestali for the implementation of activities aimed at providing collaboration and technical-operational support in the fight against poaching and in carrying out institutional duties.

VII.3. Does collaboration between the focal points of CMS and other relevant global or regional Conventions take place in your country to develop the coordinated and synergistic approaches described in paragraphs 29, 30 and 32 of **Res. 11.10 (Rev.COP14)** (Synergies and partnerships) and in paragraph 7 of **Res. 14.3** (Engagement in CBD processes including the Global Biodiversity Framework) ?

GUIDANCE TIP:

Relevant Conventions may include other global agreements such as biodiversity-related Conventions and Agreements, UNFCCC, UNCCD, as well as regional agreements, including CMS Agreements. Such collaboration may also be relevant to aligning efforts related to the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021-2030, and NBSAPs as described in **Dec. 14.6**(CMS Engagement in CBD Processes Including Global Biodiversity Framework) and **Res.8.18 (Rev.COP12)** (Integration of Migratory Species into NBSAPs and into On-going and Future Programmes of Work under CBD). Guidance documents for integrating considerations relevant to Migratory Species in NBSAPs are available at CMS website.

Yes

Please provide details:

>>> A synergistic approach has been adopted to implement the provisions of CMS (including all agreements of the CMS family) and the Bern Convention (see, for instance, the strategies to tackle IKB).

Furthermore, in Italy, most of the initiatives to preserve nature and biodiversity are in the framework of the EU environmental policy which is strictly pertinent to the provisions of most relevant MEAs.

Moreover, in Italy, matters relating to the main multilateral agreements on biodiversity are managed by the same office within the Ministry of the Environment.

VII.4. Has your country or any jurisdictional subdivision within your country adopted legislation, policies, initiatives or action plans during the reporting period that promote community involvement in conservation of CMS-listed species?

No

VIII. Incentives

VIII.1. Has there been any elimination, phasing out or reforming of harmful incentives in your country during the reporting period resulting in benefits for migratory species?

No, but there is scope to do so

VIII.2. Has there been development and/or application of positive incentives in your country during the reporting period, resulting in benefits for migratory species?

Yes

Please indicate what measures were implemented and the time-periods concerned.

>>> In the context of UNEP/MAP Barcelona Convention, on November 2nd, 2021, Italy signed a Cooperation Agreement with the Secretariat of the Convention. In 2022-2023, among the activities foreseen in the program of work 2023-2024 of the Agreement, Italy supported actions addressing the conservation needs and priorities of marine species in the Mediterranean, including the migratory ones:

- Regional study, recommendations and guidelines to improve the effectiveness of existing EBSAs in the Mediterranean and to identify new other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs) in the Mediterranean marine and coastal environment.
 - Elaboration of the first Mediterranean distribution maps of Posidonia meadows and coralligenous assemblages, concerning threatened species and key habitats.
 - Support to priority actions for the full and effective implementation of the updated regional Action Plans for the conservation of threatened and endangered species (Cartilaginous fishes AP, Turtles AP, Bird AP).
 - Set up and reinforcement of national stranding networks.
 - Promotion and support to co-ordinated aerial surveillance operations for illicit ship pollution discharges.
- In 2020, Italy signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the ACCOBAMS Secretariat relative to the triennium 2020-2022, aimed at carrying out relevant actions for the conservation of cetaceans in the Mediterranean Sea. Such activities, of which the most significant are hereby presented, focus on many priorities and aspects that are considered and promoted also by the Convention on Migratory Species in the context of conservation of cetaceans and marine mammals as a whole.
- Population structure:
 - Improve data collection on cetacean populations genetic in the ACCOBAMS Area;
 - Encourage better collaboration between tissue banks to facilitate exchanges of samples for joint analysis.
 - Functional stranding networks and responses to emergency situation:
 - Set up /Reinforce official national stranding networks (with all national institutions concerned) as appropriate, and encourage collaborations among national networks of Parties.
 - Interactions with fisheries/aquaculture:
 - Assess/Monitor the impacts of interactions with fisheries/aquaculture (bycatch, depredation and prey depletion) and propose alternative best practices measures and/or techniques.
 - Marine Litter:
 - Monitor the impacts of marine litter (ingested marine litter/microplastics/entanglements in ghost nets) on cetaceans.
 - Chemical & biological pollution:
 - Liaise with relevant other Organizations, such as International Water Conference, to assess the impact of chemical & biological pollution (such as pathogens, invasive species) on cetaceans.
 - Captivity related issue:
 - Identify specimens held in captivity in the ACCOBAMS area, including the case of reintroduction.
 - Information/Communication/Awareness about cetaceans:
 - Facilitate communication among cetacean conservation actors of the ACCOBAMS area, in particular in Southern Mediterranean countries.

IX. Sustainable Production and Consumption

IX.1. During the reporting period, has your country implemented plans or taken other steps concerning sustainable production and consumption which are relevant for conservation of migratory species?

No

X. Threats and Pressures Affecting Migratory Species; Including Obstacles to Migration

Which of the following pressures on migratory species or their habitats are having an adverse impact in your country on migratory species included in the CMS Appendices?

Guidance: This question asks you to identify the important pressures that are reliably known to be having an actual adverse impact on CMS-listed migratory species at present. Please avoid including speculative information about pressures that may be of some potential concern but whose impacts have not yet been demonstrated.

Please note that, consistent with the terms of the Convention, “in your country” may in certain circumstances include areas outside national jurisdictional limits where the activities of any vessels flagged to your country are involved.

Intentional Taking

GUIDANCE TIP:

Please note that as per Article 1(i) of the Convention, “Taking” means taking, hunting, fishing, capturing, harassing, deliberate killing, or attempting to engage in such conduct.

	Species/species groups affected (please provide names and indicate whether Appendix I and/or Appendix II); and any other details	Overall relative severity of impact 1 = severe 2 = moderate 3 = low
Legal hunting	Ferruginous duck <i>Aythya nyroca</i> and Marbled teal <i>Marmaronetta angustirostris</i> (Appendix I) might be affected by legal hunting due to look-alike issue with huntable species	2
Illegal hunting	By definition, hard to quantify as other IKB activities, but data confirm affecting species of conservation concern (e.g., Lanner Falcon <i>Falco biarmicus</i> , Bonelli's Eagle <i>Aquila fasciata</i> , Eurasian Roller <i>Coracias garrulus</i> , Golden eagle <i>Aquila chrysaetos</i> , Egyptian vulture <i>Neophron percnopterus</i>). Illegal trade of live decoys for hunting (thrushes and skylarks) is widespread especially in northern Italy.	1
Other harvesting and take	Trapping and netting of songbirds	2
Illegal trade	Raptors (including species in Appendix I: Egyptian vulture); Waterbirds; Songbirds	1
Deliberate poisoning	Vultures and other raptors (Appendix I: <i>Neophron percnopterus</i> and all the all appendix II raptors species)	1

What are the most significant negative trends since the previous report concerning intentional taking?

GUIDANCE TIP:

Significant advances may include efforts, actions, steps, programmes, initiatives and/or activities described in CMS documentation, such as Resolutions **14.9** (Conservation Priorities for Cetaceans), Res. **14.15** (Action Plan to Address Aquatic Wild Meat Harvests in West Africa), Res. **13.3** (Chondrichthyan Species), Res. **13.4** (African Carnivore initiative), Res. **12.10 (Rev.COP14)** (Conservation of African-Eurasian Vultures), Res. **12.11 (Rev.COP14)** (Flyways), Res. **12.12 (Rev.COP14)** (Action Plans for Birds), Res. **12.15** (Aquatic Wild Meat), Res. **12.17** (Conservation and Management of Whales and their Habitats in the South Atlantic Region), Res. **12.19** (Rev.COP14) (Endorsement of the African Elephant Action Plan), Res. **11.15 (Rev.COP14)** (Preventing Poisoning of Migratory Birds), Res. **11.16 (Rev.COP14)** (The prevention of Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade of Migratory Birds), Res. **11.17 (Rev.COP14)** (Action Plan for Migratory Landbirds in the African-Eurasian Region), Res. **11.18 (Rev.COP14)** (Saker Falcon Global Action Plan), Res. **11.21** (Single Species Action Plan for the Loggerhead Turtle in the South Pacific Ocean), Res. **11.22 (Rev.COP12)** (Live Capture of Cetaceans from the Wild for Commercial Purposes), Res. **11.24 (Rev.COP13)** (Central Asian Mammal Initiative), Res. **11.31** (Rev.COP14) (Illegal and unsustainable taking of wildlife), and Decisions 14.148-14.150 (Conservation of African-Eurasian Vultures), 14.119-14.121 (Task Force on Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade of Migratory Birds in the Mediterranean), 14.125 (Asia Pacific Illegal Taking of Migratory Birds Intergovernmental Task Force), Decision 14.126 (South-West Asia Illegal Taking of Migratory Birds Intergovernmental Task Force).

>>> The level of knowledge on legal and illegal harvesting is still unsatisfactory. Partial hunting bag statistics indicate between 2.5-4.4M birds annually harvested in Italy. Among these, significant numbers for species otherwise very poorly known and with no information as for distribution and numbers (e.g., *Lymnocyptes minimus* Jack Snipe).

As for illegal harvesting, there is no mechanism to monitor the trend at national level.

Unintentional Taking

	Overall relative severity of impact 1 = severe 2 = moderate 3 = low	Species/species groups affected (please provide names and indicate whether Appendix I and/or Appendix II); and any other details
Bycatch	1	Audouin's Gull (<i>Larus audouinii</i> , I/II), Black-throated Diver (<i>Gavia arctica</i> , II), Red-throated Diver (<i>Gavia stellata</i> , II), Velvet Scoter (<i>Melanitta fusca</i> , II), all grebe species <i>Podiceps</i> spp. Balearic shearwater (<i>Puffinus mauretanicus</i> , I). Not listed under CMS appendices: Scopoli's shearwater (<i>Calonectris diomedea</i>), Yelkouan Shearwater (<i>Puffinus yelkouan</i>), Mediterranean Shag (<i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis desmaresti</i>).
Catch in Abandoned, Lost or otherwise Discarded Fishing Gear (ALDFG)	3	Elasmobranch species.
Other forms of unintentional taking		

Collisions and electrocution

	Species/species groups affected (please provide names and indicate whether Appendix I and/or Appendix II); and any other details	Overall relative severity of impact 1 = severe 2 = moderate 3 = low
Wind turbines	Diurnal raptors (e.g., Golden eagle <i>Aquila chrysaetos</i> - II; Bonelli's Eagle <i>Aquila fasciata</i> - II; Griffon Vulture <i>Gyps fulvus</i> - II; Egyptian Vulture <i>Neophron percnopterus</i> - I; Osprey <i>Pandion haliaetus</i> - I), storks (White Stork <i>Ciconia ciconia</i> - II; Black Stork <i>Ciconia nigra</i> - II), nocturnal raptors (Eagle Owl <i>Bubo bubo</i> - II), European Roller <i>Coracias garrulus</i> , I/II. Bats.	1
Other collisions	Waterbirds (notably Greater Flamingo <i>Phoenicopterus roseus</i> -II), Strigiformes (notably Eagle Owl <i>Bubo bubo</i> - II); Accipitridiformes (I/II);	2
Electrocution	Direct mortality of raptors e.g., Egyptian Vulture (<i>Neophron percnopterus</i> , I), Griffon Vulture (<i>Gyps fulvus</i> , II), Red Kite (<i>Milvus milvus</i> , II), Storks (II) and Threskiornithidae (I/II)	1
Vessel strikes	Fin whale <i>Balaenoptera physalus</i> -I/II, Sperm whale <i>Physeter macrocephalus</i> -I/II; loggerhead turtle <i>Caretta caretta</i> -II.	2

What are the most significant advances that have been made since the previous report in addressing collisions and electrocution?

>>> Several projects are under implementation to address electrocution. Within these projects, specific actions will be carried out to raise awareness and involve stakeholder and public, and to draw the attention of some local governments.

See also para. (e) on Particularly Sensitive Sea Area (PSSA) in Western Mediterranean in High Level Summary of key messages.

What are the most significant negative trends since the previous report concerning collisions and electrocution?

GUIDANCE TIP:

Significant advances may include efforts, actions, steps, programmes, initiatives and/or activities described in CMS documentation, such as Resolution **7.4** (Electrocution of Migratory Birds), **7.5 (Rev.COP12)**(Wind Turbines and Migratory Species, **10.11 (Rev. COP13)** (Power Lines and Migratory Birds), **11.17 (Rev.COP14)** (Action Plan for Migratory Landbirds in the African Eurasian Region), **11.27 (Rev.COP13)** (Renewable Energy and Migratory Species), **12.10 (Rev.COP14)** (Conservation of African Eurasian Vultures), Res. **14.5** (Reducing the risk of vessel strikes for marine megafauna), Res. **14.9** (Conservation Priorities for Cetaceans) and Decision 14.48.

>>> Collision and electrocution are hindering reintroduction/restocking projects targeting Bonelli's Eagle *Aquila fasciata*, Griffon Vulture *Gyps fulvus*, Egyptian Vulture *Neophron percnopterus*, Red Kite *Milvus milvus*, Lanner *Falco biarmicus*, northern bald ibis *Geronticus eremita*. Relevant impact also on others raptors and on storks.

Other mortality

	Overall relative severity of impact 1 = severe 2 = moderate 3 = low	Species/species groups affected (please provide names and indicate whether Appendix I and/or Appendix II); and any other details
Disease, including highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI)	1	Waterbirds, Passerine and Raptors
Unexplained stranding events	1	Yelkouan shearwater (<i>Puffinus yelkouan</i> , not listed under CMS appendices) mass mortality events increasing frequency Central Italy
Accidental/indirect poisoning	1	Poisoning related to rodenticides baits used to control rodents and lead ammunition. Heavy impact of lead poisoning on Golden Eagle (<i>Aquila chrysaetus</i> - II), Bearded Vulture (<i>Gypaetus barbatus</i> - II) and Griffon Vulture (<i>Gyps fulvus</i> - II) has been recently ascertained. Rodenticides impact on diurnal and nocturnal raptors and other birds feeding upon small mammals.
Disease	1	Bats

What are the most significant negative trends since the previous report concerning other mortality?

GUIDANCE TIP:

Significant advances may include efforts, actions, steps, programmes, initiatives and/or activities described in CMS documentation, such as Resolutions **11.15 (Rev.COP14)** (Preventing Poisoning of Migratory Species), Res. **12.6 (Rev.COP14)** (Wildlife health and migratory species), Res. **13.4** (African Carnivore initiative), Res. **13.6** (Insect Decline), Res. **14.9** (Conservation Priorities for Cetaceans), Res. 14.18 Avian influenza and Decisions 14.148-14.150 (Conservation of African-Eurasian Vultures).

>>> Avian influenza surveillance system lacks high sensitivity. Moreover, there are not enough data to understand the extent of the problem and its potential impact on the population dynamics of susceptible birds.

Alien and/or invasive species

	Species/species groups affected (please provide names and indicate whether Appendix I and/or Appendix II); and any other details	Overall relative severity of impact 1 = severe 2 = moderate 3 = low
Alien and/or invasive species	Predation from alien species: Black Rat (<i>Rattus rattus</i>) predation on island breeding seabirds, feral cats on island breeding seabirds and diffusely on mainland passerine communities. Competition and predation by alien African sacred ibis (<i>Threskiornis aethiopicus</i>) on waterbirds. Main impact on waterbirds is also linked to nutria <i>Myocastor coypus</i> , alien invasive fishes and plants, causing habitat loss.	2

What are the most significant advances that have been made since the previous report in addressing alien and/or invasive species?

>>> Eradication of alien species (i.e black rat) is being implemented in some islands.

Several management plans have been prepared to eradicate/control alien species (both animal and plants) impacting on birds:

<https://www.mase.gov.it/portale/web/guest/piani-di-gestione-nazionali-approvati>

What are the most significant negative trends since the previous report concerning alien and/or invasive species?

GUIDANCE TIP:

Significant advances may include efforts, actions, steps, programmes, initiatives and/or activities described in CMS documentation, such as Resolution **11.28** (Future CMS Activities related to Invasive Alien Species).

>>> No significant advance has been recorded in combating alien species. General attitude of the public opinion and disinformation are still hampering the success of alien species eradication projects

Disturbance and disruption

	Species/species groups affected (please provide names and indicate whether Appendix I and/or Appendix II); and any other details	Overall relative severity of impact 1 = severe 2 = moderate 3 = low
--	---	---

Disturbance		
-------------	--	--

Pollution

	Species/species groups affected (provide names and indicate whether Appendix I and/or Appendix II); and any other details	Overall relative severity of impact 1 = severe 2 = moderate 3 = low
Marine debris (including plastics)	Procellariiformes (presence close to 100% occurrence has been observed in Puffinus yelkouan samples from mass mortality events); Caretta caretta (ingestion)	from 1 to 3
Light pollution	Bats; Seabirds near breeding colonies; all nocturnal migratory birds; Caretta caretta (in breeding sites)	from 1 to 2
Underwater noise	All marine mammals	1 to 2
Other pollution	Bats (trace elements and pesticide pollution), Seabirds and Waterbirds (pesticides and heavy metals) Glifosate treatments on wheat cultivation and road edges represents an unquantified threat.	1
Fish aggregating devices (FADs)		

What are the most significant advances that have been made since the previous report in addressing pollution?

>>> Italy promoted the designation of the Mediterranean Sea as an area with controlled emissions of sulfur oxides (MED SOx ECA). This management tool was promoted through the MED SOx ECA initiative, adopted by the Conference of the Parties of the Barcelona Convention, and definitively approved by the IMO at the latest Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC 79, London 12-16 December 2022). The SECA represents an essential measure to protect public health and the marine environment through the reduction of the exposure to harmful levels of air pollution resulting from emissions of ships. The SECA has entered into force on May 1st 2025.

Habitat destruction/degradation

	Species/species groups affected (please provide names and indicate whether Appendix I and/or Appendix II); and any other details	Overall relative severity of impact 1 = severe 2 = moderate 3 = low
Landscape fragmentation/loss of ecological connectivity, physical barriers	Passeriformes and raptors: collision with glass surfaces (buildings, acoustic barriers along highways etc.)	1
Habitat degradation	Affecting all the species relying upon open areas (agricultural and traditional land use) for breeding and feeding e.g. Tetrax tetrax (I/II). Sandy beach and dune exploitation for summer tourism is unsustainable to the level of habitat loss for species such as Kentish Plover (Charadrius alexandrinus, II); Bats	from 2 to 1
Mineral exploration/extraction		
Unsustainable land/resource use		
Urbanization	Bats (demolition and renovation of buildings and structures)	1
Mineral exploration/extraction, incl. deep-seabed mineral exploitation		
Fire	Passeriformes, Waterbirds. Bats	from 1 to 3
Physical barriers	Bats	1

What are the most significant negative trends since the previous report concerning habitat destruction/degradation?

GUIDANCE TIP:

Significant advances may include efforts, actions, steps, programmes, initiatives and/or activities described in CMS documentation, such as Resolutions **14.6** (Deep-seabed mineral exploitation activities and migratory species) **14.9** (Conservation Priorities for Cetaceans), Res. **13.3** (Chondrichthyan species), Res. **13.6** (Insect Decline), Res. **12.11 (Rev.COP14)** (Flyways), Res. **12.12 (Rev.COP14)**(Action Plans for Birds), Res. **12.13** (Important Marine Mammal Areas), Res. **12.17** (Conservation and Management of Whales and their Habitats in the South Atlantic Region), Res. **12.19 (Rev.COP14)** (Endorsement of the African Elephant Action Plan), Res. **12.24**(Promoting Marine Protected Areas Networks in the ASEAN Regions), Res. **12.25** (Promoting Conservation of Critical Intertidal and Other Habitats for Migratory species), Res. **11.17 (Rev.COP14)** (Action Plan for Migratory Landbirds in the African-Eurasian Region), Res. **11.18 (Rev.COP14)** (Saker Falcon Global Action Plan), Res. **11.21** (Single Species Action Plan for the Loggerhead Turtle in the South Pacific Ocean), Res. **11.24 (Rev.COP13)** (Central Asian Mammal Initiative), Res. **14.16** (Ecological Connectivity), and Decisions **14.148-14.150** (Conservation of African-Eurasian Vultures).

>>> Urbanization increase was recently assessed in the following report:

[https://www.isprambiente.gov.it/it/attivita/suolo-e-territorio/suolo/il-consumo-di-suolo/il-rapporto-snpa-201cconsumo-di-suolo-dinamiche-territoriali-e-servizi-ecosistemici201d, 2024 edition.](https://www.isprambiente.gov.it/it/attivita/suolo-e-territorio/suolo/il-consumo-di-suolo/il-rapporto-snpa-201cconsumo-di-suolo-dinamiche-territoriali-e-servizi-ecosistemici201d, 2024 edition)

Soil consumption keeps on raising with an average of 20 hectares per day, reaching 72.5 km² of new artificial cover in a single year.

Climate change

	Overall relative severity of impact 1 = severe 2 = moderate 3 = low	Species/species groups affected (please provide names and indicate whether Appendix I and/or Appendix II); and any other details
Climate change	unknown	Bat; Passage spring migrants (e.g., songbirds Sylviidae) show advancement of seasonal crossing of the Mediterranean. A delay of timing of post-breeding migration in some intra-Palearctic migrants (Passeriformes) has been observed in the Alps. In the Alps population decline and breeding range decrease have been reported for Passeriformes species breeding on alpine ecosystems

Levels of knowledge, awareness, legislation, management etc.

	Overall relative severity of impact 1 = severe 2 = moderate 3 = low	Species/species groups affected (please provide names and indicate whether Appendix I and/or Appendix II); and any other details
Inadequate transboundary management		
Inadequate legislation		
Lack of knowledge	2	Bats
Inadequate enforcement of legislation	2	Bird and bat species

What are the most significant negative trends since the previous report concerning levels of knowledge, awareness, legislation, management etc.?

>>> The need to transpose Directive (EU) 2024/1203 on the protection of the environment through criminal law has recently emerged and the technical expertise on wildlife crime at the judiciary level needs to be improved.

The level of controls on poaching should be reinforced.

During the reporting period, has your country adopted new legislation or other domestic measures in response to CMS Article III(4) (b) specifically addressing obstacles to migration?

CMS Article III(4)(b) states 'Parties that are Range States of a migratory species listed in Appendix I shall endeavor...to prevent, remove, compensate for or minimize, as appropriate, the adverse effects of activities or obstacles that seriously impede or prevent the migration of the species.'

GUIDANCE TIP:

This question is intended to specifically report on any new legislation or domestic measures **addressing obstacles to migration**. Relevant information would not include general conservation measures.

No

XI. Conservation Status of Migratory Species

XI.1. What (if any) major changes in the conservation status of migratory species included in the CMS Appendices (e.g. national Red List category changes) have been recorded in your country during the reporting period?

“Conservation status” of migratory species is defined in Article I(1)(b) of the Convention as “the sum of the influences acting on the migratory species that may affect its long-term distribution and abundance”; and four conditions for conservation status to be taken as “favourable” are set out in Article I(1)(c).

If more rows are required, please upload an Excel file detailing a longer list of species. GUIDANCE TIP:

The emphasis of this question is on “major changes” during the reporting period. Information is expected to be provided here only where particularly notable shifts in status have occurred, such as those that might be represented by a re-categorisation of national Red List threat status for a given species (or subspecies, where relevant). Please record if any CMS listed species has become extinct or extirpated from your country - or reintroduced/re-established/established - during the reporting period (or before if not previously reported to CMS).

Please note also that you are only being asked about the situation in your country. Information about global trends, and global Red List reclassifications etc, will be communicated to the CMS via other channels outside the national reporting process.

Terrestrial mammals (not including bats)

	Change in status (including time period concerned)	Comments	Source reference	Species/subspecies (indicate CMS Appendix where applicable)

Aquatic mammals

	Change in status (including time period concerned)	Comments	Source reference	Species/subspecies (indicate CMS Appendix where applicable)
	Unk (2013-18) FV (2019-24)	Change in CS is due to improved knowledge/more accurate data	National Report HD	Delphinus delphis (I)
	Unk (2013-18) FV (2019-24)	Change in CS is due to improved knowledge/more accurate data	National Report HD	Grampus griseus (II)
	Unk (2013-18) FV (2019-24)	Change in CS is due to improved knowledge/more accurate data	National Report HD	Globicephala melas
	Unk (2013-18) FV (2019-24)	Change in CS is due to improved knowledge/more accurate data	National Report HD	Ziphius cavirostris (I)
	Unk (2013-18) FV (2019-24)	Change in CS is due to improved knowledge/more accurate data	National Report HD	Physeter macrocephalus (I)

Bats

	Change in status (including time period concerned)	Comments	Source reference	Species/subspecies (indicate CMS Appendix where applicable)
	NA (2013) DD (2022)		Rondinini, C., Battistoni, A., Teofili, C. (compilatori). 2022 Lista Rossa IUCN dei vertebrati italiani 2022 Comitato Italiano IUCN e Ministero dell''Ambiente e della Sicurezza Energetica, Roma	Vespertilio murinus

	VU (2013) EN (2022)		Rondinini, C., Battistoni, A., Teofili, C. (compilatori). 2022 Lista Rossa IUCN dei vertebrati italiani 2022 Comitato Italiano IUCN e Ministero dell''Ambiente e della Sicurezza Energetica, Roma	Rhinolophus mehelyi

Birds

	Change in status (including time period concerned)	Comments	Source reference	Species/subspecies (indicate CMS Appendix where applicable)

Reptiles

	Change in status (including time period concerned)	Comments	Source reference	Species/subspecies (indicate CMS Appendix where applicable)
	U1 (2013-18) FV (2019-24)	Change in CS is due to improved knowledge/more accurate data	National Report HD	Caretta caretta (I)

Fish

	Change in status (including time period concerned)	Comments	Source reference	Species/subspecies (indicate CMS Appendix where applicable)

XII. Cooperating to Conserve Migration Systems

XII.1 During the reporting period, has your country initiated or participated in the development of any proposals for new CMS Agreements, including Memoranda of Understanding, to address the needs of Appendix II species?

E.g. Developments following the advice in Resolutions **12.8** and **13.7**.

No

XII.2. During the reporting period, have actions been taken by your country to encourage non-Parties to join CMS and its related Agreements?

No

XII.3. During the reporting period, has your country participated in the implementation of Concerted Actions under CMS (as detailed in Resolution **12.28 (Rev.COP14)**) to address the needs of relevant migratory species?

No

XII.4. Have any other steps been taken which have contributed to enhancing cooperation on the conservation of migratory species in ways that fully reflect a migration systems approach?

E.g. steps implementing Resolutions **12.11 (Rev.COP14)** (Flyways) and Res. **12.17** (South Atlantic Whales), and Decisions 14.130 (Action Plan for Migratory Landbirds), 14.137 (Flyways), and 14.207 (Renewable Energy and Migratory Species).

No

XII.5. Has your country mobilized resources and/or taken steps to promote and address ecological connectivity and its functionality in relevant international processes?

E.g., Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021-2030, etc.

GUIDANCE TIP:

Please describe initiatives aimed at implementing Decision 14.194.

No

XIII. Area-Based Conservation Measures

XIII.1. Have critical habitats and sites for migratory species been identified (e.g. by an inventory) in your country?

GUIDANCE TIP:

The CMS does not have a formal definition of what constitutes a “critical” site or habitat for migratory species. It is left to report compilers to work with any interpretations which may be in existing use at national level, or to use informed expert judgement.

Helpful reflections on the issue can be found in the Resolution **Res. 14.16** (Ecological Connectivity) and in “**Strategic Review of Aspects of Ecological Networks relating to Migratory Species**” presented to COP11 and the “**Critical Site Network Tool**” developed under the auspices of AEWA and the Ramsar Convention. For sharks and rays please refer to <https://sharkrayareas.org>. For marine mammals, please refer to <https://www.marinemammalhabitat.org/imma-eatlas/>.

Partially - to a large extent

What are the main gaps and priorities to address, if any, in order to achieve full identification of relevant critical habitats and sites?

>>> Main gaps are especially related to the lack of full protection of relevant migratory bottleneck and stopover sites, still partially identified.

XIII.2. Has any assessment been made of the contribution made by the country’s protected areas network specifically to migratory species conservation?

No

XIII.3. Has your country adopted any new legislation or other domestic measures in the reporting period in response to CMS Article III(4) (a) (“Parties that are Range States of a migratory species listed in Appendix I shall endeavor ... to conserve and, where feasible and appropriate, restore those habitats of the species which are of importance in removing the species from danger of extinction”)?

Yes

Please give the title or other reference (and date) for the measure concerned:

>>> Italy, thanks to the National Resilience Plan, is implementing the Marine Ecosystem Restoration project (Investment 3.5, Mission M2 and Component C4 - Restoration and Protection of Seabed and Marine Habitats), which envisages large-scale interventions for the restoration and protection of seabed and marine habitats in Italian waters. To this end, a series of actions are envisaged that require precise knowledge of the location, extent, state of health and vulnerability of marine habitats, in order to enable subsequent large-scale interventions aimed at their restoration and protection, thus strengthening the national research and observation system of marine and coastal ecosystems. The general objective of the project is the mapping of deep hard-bottom habitats of conservation interest present on seamounts of Italian waters. The reference bathymetric range goes from 200 to 3000 m depth and includes almost all Italian seas, with the exception of the northern and central Adriatic. Surveys will be conducted on approximately 80 seamounts. This project will allow the creation of a network of off-shore marine protected areas, belonging to the European NATURA2000 network which, protecting the majority of the Italian seamounts, will significantly contribute to the protection of many of the marine species of interest to the CMS, such as cetaceans and elasmobranchs.

XIII.4. In respect of protected areas in your country that are important for migratory species, have any assessments of management effectiveness been undertaken in the reporting period?

No

XIII.5. Beyond Protected Areas, are other effective area-based conservation measures implemented in your country in ways which benefit migratory species?

Yes

Please provide details:

>>> See para. (e) on Particularly Sensitive Sea Area (PSSA) in Western Mediterranean in High Level Summary of key messages.

XIV. Ecosystem Services

XIV.1. Has any assessment of ecosystem services associated with migratory species been undertaken in your country since the last reporting?

GUIDANCE TIP:

The phrase “associated with” migratory species allows you to report on any assessments that cover ecosystem services of systems, habitats or species assemblages that include migratory species. The question is therefore not expecting you to limit this to assessments focused solely on one or more migratory species.

For a broader biodiversity assessment to be relevant here, the migratory species involved must be making some identifiable contribution to the ecosystem services concerned.

No

XV. Safeguarding Genetic Diversity

XV.1. Are strategies of relevance to migratory species being developed or implemented to minimize genetic erosion of biodiversity in your country?

GUIDANCE TIP:

Strategies to be considered under this section do not necessarily have to specifically address migratory species but be of sufficient relevance in relation to the objective of safeguarding the genetic diversity of wild populations.

Yes

Please select the relevant strategies (select all that apply):

Captive breeding and release

Gene typing research

Please describe the captive breeding & release strategy:

>>> Captive breeding and release projects are ongoing for the Lanner Falcon *Falco biarmicus* (managed by Regione Lazio with eu funds) , the Egyptian Vulture *Neophron percnopterus* (Captive breeding promoted to support reduced Egyptian Vulture *Neophron percnopterus* population with European Commission funds (LIFE instruments) and ISPRA supervision), Bonelli's Eagle *Aquila fasciata* (captive breeding in Spain and France), Bearded Vulture *Gypaetus barbatus* (captive breeding relies upon an international network) and Marbled teal *Marmaronetta angustirostris* (captive breeding in Spain). Captive breeding techniques vary according to species; most individuals are released through hacking delayed release.

XVI. National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans

XVI.1. Does your country's National Biodiversity Strategy or Action Plan (NBSAP), or other relevant plans or strategies used in your country, explicitly address obligations under CMS, priorities for the conservation and management of migratory species, their habitats and migration systems, and ecological connectivity?

Yes

a. Please provide a link to or attachment of the strategy/action plan

>>> <https://www.mase.gov.it/pagina/strategia-nazionale-la-biodiversita-al-2030>

b. Please identify the elements in the plan/strategy that are particularly relevant to migratory species, and highlight any specific references to the CMS/CMS instruments

GUIDANCE TIP:

Specify page numbers, section/paragraph numbers etc., where possible.

>>> Action. A3 Guarantee the ecological-functional connection of protected areas on a local, national and supranational scale (page 27)

Action B.1 Ensure that at least 30% of species and habitats protected under the Birds and Habitats Directives whose conservation status is currently unfavorable, become favorable by 2030 or show a clear positive trend (page 34)

Action B.2 Guarantee the non-deterioration of all ecosystems and ensure that large surfaces of degraded ecosystems are restored, in particular those potentially most suitable for capturing and storing carbon as well as preventing and reducing the impact of natural disasters (page 34)

Action B.3 Ensure a 50% reduction in the number of national red list species threatened by invasive alien species (page 35)

c. Please add comments on the implementation of the strategy or action plan concerned.

>>> The strategy is aimed at focusing the policies and interventions of the various administrations, also through the funds under their competence, and provides an implementation program aimed at identifying the implementing entities, the sources of financing, as well as monitoring their implementation and effectiveness

XVII. Traditional Knowledge, Innovations and Practices of Indigenous and Local Communities

In the absence of a national definition of 'indigenous and local communities', please refer to the Convention on Biological Diversity document **Compilation of Views Received on Use of the Term "Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities"** for helpful guidance on these terms.

XVII.1. During the reporting period, have actions been taken in your country to foster consideration for the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities that are relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of migratory species, their habitats and migration systems?

Not applicable

XVII.2. During the reporting period, have actions been taken in your country to promote and foster effective participation and involvement of indigenous and local communities in the conservation and sustainable use of migratory species, their habitats and migration systems?

Not applicable

XVIII. Knowledge, Data and Capacity-Building

XVIII.1 During the reporting period, which steps taken in your country have contributed to the achievement of the results defined in the area of knowledge, data and capacity building? (Answers given in Section V may be relevant)

(select all that apply)

- Capacity building
- Knowledge and data-sharing initiatives
- Research by academia, research organizations and other relevant stakeholders

XVIII.2 Please describe the contribution these steps have made towards achieving the results defined in Target 15:

GUIDANCE TIP

Steps taken may include actions, programmes, initiatives and/or activities described in CMS documentation, such as Resolutions **14.9** (Conservation Priorities for Cetaceans), Res. **13.3** (Chondrichthyan Species), Res. **13.4** (African Carnivore initiative), Res. **13.5 (Rev.COP14)** (CMS international light pollution guidelines for migratory species), Res. **13.6** (Insect Decline), and Decisions 14.130/14.131 (AEMLAP), 14.134 (Preventing Poisoning of Migratory Birds), 14.148-14.151 (Conservation of African-Eurasian Vultures), Decisions 14.207-14.208 (Renewable Energy and Migratory Species), and 14.182 (Illegal and Unsustainable Taking of Wildlife).

Capacity building

>>> As part of the CONCEPTU MARIS Life project, training is being carried out for the crews of the passenger and freight ships of Corsica Ferries, GNV, Grimaldi Lines, Minoan and Balearia, both in e-learning mode and in attendance. The training covers both notions of marine ecology of the Mediterranean and conservation of cetaceans and sea turtles, with modules dedicated to the identification of species and the risk of collision with ships. To date, the training has involved some 120 officers.

Knowledge and data-sharing initiatives

>>> See attached files.

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

[Weather, sex and body condition affect post-fledging migration behaviour of the greater flamingo Phoenicopterus roseus](#)

[Modelling the timing of migration of a partial migrant bird using ringing and observation data: a case study with the Song Thrush in Italy](#)

[Tracking data highlight the importance of human-induced mortality for large migratory birds at a flyway scale](#)

[The need for a flyway approach in defining the onset of prenuptial migration of huntable bird species across Europe](#)

Research by academia, research organizations and other relevant stakeholders

>>> See knowledge and data sharing initiatives.

XVIII.3 What assistance (if any) does your country require in order to build sufficient capacity to implement its obligations under the CMS and relevant Resolutions of the COP?

(select all that apply)

- No assistance required

XIX. Resource Mobilization

XIX.1 During the reporting period, has your country made financial or other resources available for conservation activities specifically benefiting migratory species?

GUIDANCE TIP:

The “resources” that are relevant here can be financial, human or technical. In addition to funding, “in-kind” forms of support such as staff time or administrative infrastructure could be relevant, as could the loan of equipment, provision of data processing facilities, technology transfer, training or mentoring schemes and other initiatives for capacity building.

Yes, made available for activities within the country

Please indicate whether the overall levels of resourcing concerned are the same or different from those in the previous reporting period:

Unknown

XIX.2. During the reporting period, has your country received financial or other resources for conservation activities specifically benefiting migratory species?

Yes

Please select the source(s) concerned (select all that apply):

Non-governmental organization(s)

Other

>>> EU LIFE programmes

Please indicate whether the overall levels of resourcing concerned are the same or different from those in the previous reporting period:

Unknown

XIX.3. Which are the most important CMS implementation priorities requiring resources and support in your country during future reporting periods?

GUIDANCE TIP:

Please consider answers provided in HLS.3 when answering this question where appropriate, as they may be of relevance.

>>> An important priority is addressing electrocution (Goal 2 of SPMS)