



**CONVENTION ON  
MIGRATORY  
SPECIES**

UNEP/CMS/COP15/Inf.25.4.2a

24 November 2025

Original: English

15<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES  
Campo Grande, Brazil, 23 to 29 March 2026  
Agenda Item 25.4.2

**SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS OF IMPLEMENTATION REPORTS  
FOR THE ACTION PLAN FOR THE PROTECTION  
AND CONSERVATION OF SOUTH ATLANTIC WHALES**

*(Prepared by the Secretariat)*

Summary:

This document contains a summary and analysis of the Implementation Reports for the Action Plan for the Protection and Conservation of South Atlantic Whales submitted by Parties in accordance with Decision 14.79.

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## Introduction

1. The Action Plan for the Protection and Conservation of South Atlantic Whales was adopted by CMS Parties in 2017 ([CMS Resolution 12.17](#)).
2. The Secretariat lacked the resources to convene a workshop for all the Range States, as outlined in Decision 14.80 (a), given that it would involve three countries in South America and six in Africa, speaking four languages. Instead, the Secretariat reached out to Range States in July 2025, disseminating a simple reporting template and calling for Parties to report on the implementation of the Action Plan, as requested in Decision 14.79. No responses were received by the set deadline.
3. The COP-appointed Councillor for Aquatic Mammals was able to organize an online meeting of the South American Range States – Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay – on 5 August 2025. The meeting was conducted in Spanish and Portuguese, without interpretation. The sub-regional group completed their national reports. The COP-appointed Councillor prepared a summary and analysis of the implementation of the Single Species Action Plan (SSAP).
4. This document provides a summary of reports on the implementation of the Action Plan in the South American sub-region. Reports are based on a template that was developed by the Secretariat for that purpose. The format requests information on each of the actions that are included in the Action Plan: activities undertaken, obstacles to implementation, and progress toward implementation. The reports gathered from Range States can be used to inform recommendations for further implementation of the Action Plan.

## Key Findings

5. All three Range States reported completing Action 4, *Zero deliberate whale catches in the South Atlantic area*.
6. Every other action was reported as ‘work in progress’, except for *Increasing awareness about the action plan* (Action 9), for which Brazil indicated no action.
7. The fact that the majority of actions were reported as work in progress indicates that initial steps towards the implementation of the Action Plan have been taken, but the lack of response from the other Range States demonstrates a need for stronger engagement and targeted support to ensure full implementation.
8. Though a limited in number, the high quality of the reports received demonstrates meaningful efforts at implementation, which offers a promising base to continue the implementation of the Action Plan, and safeguard whales in the South Atlantic.
9. The reporting showed a need to increase awareness of the Action Plan by developing and implementing targeted outreach and communication strategies to ensure broader understanding and engagement among all Range States as well as various governmental and external stakeholders.

**Table 1:** Overview of the progress reported on implementation of the Action Plan for the Protection and Conservation of the South Atlantic Whales (green = completed; yellow = work in progress; red = no action taken).

No action
  Work in Progress
  Completed

Action	Range State		
	Argentina	Brazil	Uruguay
A1: Define and refine whale stock identity	Work in Progress	Work in Progress	Work in Progress
A2: Determine habitat use patterns and critical areas	Work in Progress	Work in Progress	Work in Progress
A3: Produce abundance estimates and trends	Work in Progress	Work in Progress	Work in Progress
A4: Zero deliberate whale catches in the South Atlantic area	Completed	Completed	Completed
A5: Reduce mortality due to entanglements in fishing gear	Work in Progress	Work in Progress	Work in Progress
A6: Reduce whale-vessel collision rates in breeding grounds	Work in Progress	Work in Progress	Work in Progress
A7: Coordinate research on whales in the South Atlantic Ocean	Work in Progress	Work in Progress	Work in Progress
A8: Promote data sharing	Work in Progress	Work in Progress	Work in Progress
A9: Increase awareness about the Action Plan	Work in Progress	No action	Work in Progress
A10: Maintain and improve the quality of existing whale watching activities	Work in Progress	Work in Progress	Work in Progress
A11: Contribute to education of the general public about whales and their ecosystems in the South Atlantic area	Work in Progress	Work in Progress	Work in Progress

**Detailed Summary of Reports**

*Goal 1: Assess the distribution, status and trends of whale populations*

Action 1: Define and refine whale stock identity

Argentina	Brazil	Uruguay

**All three reporting Range States (Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay) noted work in progress for this action.**

**Argentina** reported aerial surveys to keep up with whale stock identity. Southern right whales (*Eubalaena australis*) in Península Valdés have been identified since 1971 by Instituto de Conservación de Ballenas (ICB) and Ocean Alliance (OA), with 4,320 individuals catalogued (International Whaling Commission (IWC) Secretariat, 2024). Since 2023, drone-based surveys have replaced aerial monitoring as the main method to define southern right whale stock identity, with 686 whales identified in 2024, including 260 mother–calf pairs (M. Sironi, pers. comm.). For humpback whales (*Megaptera novaeangliae*), Centro Austral de Investigaciones Científicas del Consejo Nacional de Investigaciones Científicas y Técnicas 1 (CADIC-CONICET) and partners have conducted photo-identification in the Beagle Channel since 2013, cataloguing 208 individuals. For sei whales, Centro Nacional Patagónico 2 (CENPAT) and CADIC-CONICET are maintaining photo-identification catalogues in Golfo San Jorge and the Beagle Channel (N. Dellabianca, Pers. Comm.). Progress has also been made regarding stock identity work for Lahille’s bottlenose dolphins in Bahía San Antonio Management Unit (Fruet et al., 2014; Vermeulen et al. 2017), and Franciscana Dolphins (*Pontoporia blainvillei*) within Franciscana Management Area IV (IVa–IVe). In addition, genetic studies are being conducted to correlate the stocks and maintaining a sample bank between Brazil and Argentina, showcasing connectivity between both countries.

**Brazil** noted the use of photo-identification methods to define and refine whale stock identity. The complete humpback whale photo-identification catalogue from the Humpback Whale Institute (approximately 8,500 individuals) has been uploaded to the Happywhale platform and compared with photographs from around the world. In addition, the (Projeto Franca Austral/Instituto Australis 3 conducts annual aerial surveys for photo-identification purposes and catalogues individuals using mark–recapture methods to determine the reproductive stocks of right whales along the southern coast of Brazil. In parallel, comparative studies are being carried out between catalogues from areas with the highest probability of interaction, such as Península Valdés, Argentina. The most recent comparison indicates that 121 of the 4,674 individuals catalogued in Argentina have been observed in both areas. Brazil also reported that genetic studies, similar to those being undertaken in Argentina, are in progress.

**Uruguay** reported using photo-identification methods to catalogue South Atlantic whales Stock identity. The national photo-identification catalogue of the southern right whale (*Eubalaena australis*), initially developed by Proyecto Franca Austral (PFA) for the period 2001–2009, has been expanded since 2018 through continued photographic records, including drone footage, with support from civil society and BallenasUY. A recent initiative, Identidad Franca (Yaqu Pacha Uruguay, BallenasUY, Fauna Marina Uruguay, PFA, and Vida Silvestre Uruguay), was established to study the distribution and movements of southern right whales along the Uruguayan coast by updating the catalogue (2025) and organizing drone footage dating back to 2012. Uruguay also noted that in 2023, the process to establish a Working Group on Cetacean Strandings was initiated, involving government agencies,

1 Southern Scientific Research Center of the National Council for Scientific and Technical Research  
 2 Patagonian National Center  
 3 Southern Right Project/Austral Institute

academia, museums, and civil society organizations, and has already enabled the documentation of strandings and the collection of samples for public scientific collections. Uruguay added that scientific research groups focused on large cetaceans in Uruguay remain limited, primarily due to the high logistical and financial costs associated with the study of marine mammals.

Action 2: Determine habitat use patterns and critical areas

Argentina	Brazil	Uruguay

**All three reporting Range States (Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay) noted work in progress for this action.**

**Argentina** reported that southern right whales are expanding distribution beyond Península Valdés, with CENPAT modelling showing earlier arrivals ( $\approx 25$  days) and earlier departures ( $\approx 14$  days) at breeding grounds compared to 25 years ago. Hotspots were identified in Puerto Lobos and between Bahía San Antonio–Caleta de los Loros, with differences in group composition across gulfs: mother–calf pairs dominant in Península Valdés and solitary and mating groups more common in Golfo San Matías. Long-term data (1966–2016) from Mar del Plata highlight increased southern right whale presence during migration (Mandiola et al., 2019). Seasonal records in Miramar correlate with copepod and chlorophyll availability, underscoring the importance of coastal habitats for conservation and management (Zuazquita et al., 2024).

**Brazil** documented having created humpback whale density maps off the Brazilian coast with data collected from estimates made by line transect. Acoustic recordings were made of Omura’s Whale (*Balaenoptera omurai*) near the São Pedro and São Paulo Archipelago. Regarding the southern right whales, Brazil noted that in Santa Catarina, the habitat range of right whales have been studied and estimated based on data from aerial surveys. These studies indicate changes in distribution patterns associated with estimated population growth. Since this population is growing, continued studies are necessary. In addition, the species’ potential ranges were estimated, focusing on future planning along the entire southern coast of Brazil.

**Uruguay** reported that PFA analyzed the distribution of southern right whales between 2001 and 2009. Since 2022, BallenasUY has been using a Telegram group with over 7,000 members to facilitate real-time citizen-science reporting of whale and dolphin sightings. The Dirección Nacional de Recursos Acuáticos (DINARA) has also collected data from fishing fleet and research vessel surveys, with recent analyses of 505 transects in Uruguayan and Argentine waters. This allows for new insights into southern right whale distribution and habitat use. In addition, isotopic analyses have been conducted on odontocete species to assess trophic resource and habitat use. Uruguay further noted that a ministerial Working Group is leading spatial analyses of biodiversity and human activities to inform marine spatial planning, marine protected areas, and conservation strategies. Uruguay added that scientific research groups focused on large cetaceans in Uruguay remain limited. Moreover, funding is still needed to maintain and analyse the long-term Southern Right Whale photo-id dataset.

Action 3: Produce abundance estimates and trends

Argentina	Brazil	Uruguay

**All three reporting Range States (Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay) noted work in progress for this action.**

**Argentina** reported that a CENPAT aerial surveys along a 620 km coastal strip since 1999 indicate that southern right whales around Península Valdés are stable, with an overall growth rate of 5% per year, though recent estimates suggest near stability (0.08% per year). In the same region, calf population increased at 2.99% per year, while solitary and breeding groups showed declines. To obtain estimates of abundance of Sei Whales the Distance method was used and transects were made on board a two-engine aircraft. This survey showed an estimated 796 individuals in December 2021 and 2,777 in May 2022 in Golfo San Jorge, identifying a previously unreported feeding ground. Regarding Lahille’s bottlenose dolphins, Argentina noted a very small, likely declining subpopulation of less than 200 individuals. Franciscana Dolphins in Argentina are part of Franciscana Management Area IV, subdivided into IVa–IVe.

**Brazil** noted that for their Humpback Whale population (Breeding Stock A) an estimate was made by distance sampling in 2001-2005, 2008, 2011, 2015, 2019 and 2022. The population in 2022 showed 34,446 Humpback Whales. The Southern Right whale demographic was analysed, revealing patterns that estimate a population of approximately 400 reproductive females and a population growth rate of approximately 4.8% per year. An update of these data incorporating other classes of individuals was conducted in 2025 (data not yet published), estimating approximately 800 whales, including females and solitary adults.

**Uruguay** reported that the national photo-identification catalogue of the southern right whale, first developed between 2001 and 2009, has been expanded since 2018. It is currently being updated through the Identidad Franca project, which integrates drone footage and citizen-science contributions. DINARA has also analyzed 505 transects conducted between 2015 and 2019 in Uruguayan waters and the Argentine–Uruguayan Common Fishing Zone, providing new insights into southern right whale distribution and habitat use. (Conti et al., unpublished). In addition, Uruguay reported the first abundance estimate for Franciscana Dolphins across the full range of the FMA III management unit, with an estimated population of 43,148 individuals, of which approximately 30,000 occur in Uruguayan waters. Finally, Uruguay noted that the Gephyreus Project estimated the abundance of the southern Brazil–Uruguay subpopulation of Lahille’s Bottlenose Dolphin (*Tursiops gephyreus*) at around 341 individuals, with annual survival rates varying among management units. Uruguay added that the high logistical and financial cost as an obstacle to the full implementation of new research on marine mammals. Despite these constraints, efforts continue to be made to support and strengthen national research capacities in this field.

Goal 2: Maintain or increase current whale populations

Action 4: Zero deliberate whale catches in the South Atlantic Area

Argentina	Brazil	Uruguay

Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay reported this action as complete.

**Uruguay** detailed that there have been no deliberate whale catches. The country maintains its commitment to upholding existing international and national legal protections as well as conservation measures for whales. The protection of marine mammals in Uruguay is guaranteed through Presidential Decree No. 238/998, which was drafted and promoted by the Instituto Nacional de Pesca (INAPE). This decree prohibits the pursuit, hunting, fishing, or any other form of appropriation of marine mammal specimens.

Action 5: Reduce mortality due to entanglement in fishing gear

Argentina	Brazil	Uruguay

**All three reporting Range States (Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay) noted work in progress for this action.**

**Argentina** reported that the National Action Plan to reduce marine mammal interaction with fisheries (Marine Mammals PAN) was adopted in 2015 through Resolution 11/2015 of the Consejo Federal Pesquero<sup>4</sup>, which was developed with specific recommendations to reduce franciscana bycatch. Since 2018, the Marine Mammal Group of the Institute of Marine and Coastal Research (consisting of the National University of Mar del Plata – CONICET; IIMyC) has worked with the On-board Observer Programme and INIDEP’s Benthic Crustacean Fisheries Programme to assess interactions between Marine Mammals and the king crab fishery. 30 whale entanglements were recorded (including 12 minke, 7 humpback, and 1 southern right whale), as well as 16 sea lion drownings. Possible mitigation measures have been explored since 2020.

**Brazil** noted that diagnoses of humpback whale entanglements in fishing gear have been conducted with fishermen in several municipalities of Bahia since 2008, with cases recorded in a database maintained by the Humpback Whale Institute. Disentanglement trainings following IWC protocols have been carried out in São Sebastião, in the Protected Area of da Baleia Franca, and Búzios. To reduce potential right whale entanglements in southern Brazil, fishing activities have been mapped and overlapped with areas of high whale density, and awareness-raising activities are conducted with artisanal fishermen. The Southern Right Whale Project/Australis Institute monitors entanglements, most of which involve nets that detach naturally from callosities, with no recorded deaths. Moreover, Brazilian authorities established a new legislation for whale disentanglement in accordance with IWC procedures, *Portaria Conjunta MMA/IBAMA/ICMBIO n° 3, de 8 de Janeiro de 2024*, which establishes guidelines and procedures for the disentanglement of large cetaceans in Brazilian jurisdictional waters.

<sup>4</sup> Federal Fisheries Council

**Uruguay** reported that the Cetacean Strandings Working Group (WG) and the BallenasUY group have documented entanglement incidents involving both live and dead animals in Uruguayan waters. Though the country does not yet have a trained response team, an issue is currently under discussion within the IWC. Uruguay also noted that marine conservation priorities are being identified through spatial analyses of biodiversity and human activities. The objective of these analyses are supporting marine spatial planning, designing protected areas, conducting environmental impact assessments (EIA), and creating species-specific conservation plans. This initiative, led by a ministerial Working Group with participation from government agencies, academia, and the National Museum of Natural History, has compiled a spatial biodiversity database and developed expert-reviewed distribution maps for fish, marine mammals, and seabirds. In parallel, spatial data on human activities have been updated. Uruguay added that the lack of national response in capacity is mainly due to the absence of specific training.

Action 6: Reduce whale-vessel collision rates in breeding grounds

Argentina	Brazil	Uruguay

**All three reporting Range States (Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay) noted work in progress for this action.**

**Argentina** reported that the Coast Guard has adopted speed reduction measures and approach routes to mitigate vessel collisions with whales. A permanent provision (*DI-2019-250-APN-MADR-PNA*) applies annually from June to December in Golfo Nuevo, Chubut. Temporary provisions are also implemented in the ports of Mar del Plata and Quequén in response to the presence of southern right whales.

**Brazil** informed that following proposals by the Humpback Whale Institute, The Great Whale Conservancy, and Projeto Baleia a Vistam, speed reduction measures and approach routes to avoid whales have been proposed and approved by the Almirante Barroso Terminal in São Sebastião, and the Port of Vitória. In Santa Catarina, the Southern Right Whale Project/Australis Institute monitors injuries from vessel strikes and right whale mortality through the Santos Basin Beach Monitoring Project, assessing causes of death and reporting confirmed collisions to the IWC. Santa Catarina’s nautical charts also include warnings about the risk of striking right whales in the Southern Right Whale Environmental Protection Area.

**Uruguay** reported that marine conservation priorities are being identified through spatial analyses of biodiversity and human activities to support marine spatial planning, the design of protected areas, environmental impact assessments, and conservation plans. This initiative is led by a ministerial Working Group with representatives from the Ministry of Environment, DINARA, the Navy, the University of the Republic, and the National Museum of Natural History. A biodiversity database has been compiled using seismic vessel observers, fisheries research surveys, and geo-referenced scientific data, which was used to produce expert-reviewed species distribution maps for fish, marine mammals, and seabirds. In parallel, spatial data on human activities were updated from government and other sources, and the results were presented to the IWC (*SC/69B/REP/03*).

Goal 3: Foster coordinated research in the region

Action 7: Coordinate research on whales in the South Atlantic Ocean

Argentina	Brazil	Uruguay

All three reporting Range States (Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay) noted work in progress for this action.

**Argentina** documented its continued participation in the Conservation Management Plan (CMP) for the South Atlantic right whale population since its adoption in 2012. The CMP includes priority actions in research, monitoring, mitigation, and public awareness. In this context, Argentine researchers have participated in coordination workshops held in Brazil. In addition, Argentine researchers participated in the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) regional workshop on Important Marine Mammal Areas (IMMA), held in December 2022 in Praia do Forte, Brazil.

**Brazil** reported that they hosted workshops for IWC CMPs, including southern right whales, in 2024 and 2025, with the goal of promoting research cooperation. Brazil also noted that they held the 2022 IUCN IMMA Regional Workshop in Praia do Forte, Bahia, to identify important marine mammal habitat areas in the South West Atlantic Ocean Region, providing strategic guidance and conservation priorities through an expert-based process. Moreover, the Australis Institute coordinates the Southern Right Whale Project (ProFRANCA), launched in 2019 in collaboration with the Federal Government and Petrobras. The project has developed 23 initiatives across research, artisanal fisheries, student training, environmental education, social programs, tourism, and public policy. The second edition is now being finalized.

**Uruguay** noted that as a member of the IWC, it actively participates in regional meetings and in three CMPs for cetaceans in Latin America, with the Ministry of Environment serving since 2024 as coordinator of the Southern Right Whale CMP. Uruguayan researchers are also members of the Sociedad Latinoamericana de Especialistas en Mamíferos Acuáticos (SOLAMAC)<sup>5</sup>, the Southern Right Whale Consortium, and the Franciscana Consortium. Yagu Pacha Uruguay participates in the Gephyreus Project, a regional initiative to study the population of Lahille’s Bottlenose Dolphin (*Tursiops gephyreus*). This is conducted through standardized and coordinated photo-identification, and collaboration on right whale photo-identification with Farol das Baleias (Brazil) and Right Identity Project, as well as on Franciscana bycatch studies. In 2023, Uruguay also hosted a postgraduate course on cetacean research in Antarctic and South Atlantic waters.

Action 8: Promote data sharing

Argentina	Brazil	Uruguay

All three reporting Range States (Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay) noted work in progress for this action.

**Argentina** noted that photo-identification catalogues of southern right whales from Argentina, Brazil, and Uruguay continue to be compared. Argentina also reported ongoing analyses of movement rates between Argentina and Brazil, and highlighted collaboration with these

<sup>5</sup> Latin American Society of Aquatic Mammal Specialists

countries in the development of a common population model for the southern right whale in the southern hemisphere.

**Brazil** reporting hosting workshops for IWC Conservation Management Plans of cetaceans in 2024 and 2025, including that of southern right whales, with the goal of promoting cooperation in research and data sharing among institutions. The entire humpback whale photo-identification catalogue from the Humpback Whale Institute (approximately 8,500 individuals) was uploaded to the Happywhale platform. Data on cetaceans stranded in Brazil are included in the Sistema de Apoio ao Monitoramento de Mamíferos Marinhos (SIMMAM)<sup>6</sup>.

**Uruguay** reported that the Ministry of Environment adheres to a national open data policy aligned with the Open Government strategy, publishing biodiversity and information on protected areas through the national Open Data Portal. Uruguay also contributes to global data integration via the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF), providing environmental datasets from hydrocarbon exploration projects conducted between 2007 and 2017. In 2025, a Uruguayan researcher from the National Museum of Natural History participated in the IWC Southern Ocean Research Partnership cruise, supporting regional collaboration and data sharing. Uruguay further noted that photo-identification catalogues from the Gephyreus and Identidad Franca projects are being shared for joint analyses.

*Goal 4: Raise awareness and engagement*

Action 9: Increase awareness about the Action Plan

Argentina	Brazil	Uruguay

**Argentina and Uruguay reported work in progress for this Action.**

**Argentina** reported that they have held internal coordination meetings on the Action Plan.

**Brazil** indicated no action taken without providing any further information.

**Uruguay** reported that Yaqu Pacha Uruguay has published educational books for children to promote marine conservation, particularly for the endangered Lahille’s bottlenose dolphin, and participated in Expo Uruguay Sostenible in 2025, reaching over 2,000 schoolchildren and adults. BallenasUY has conducted educational activities in coastal schools to raise awareness about the Southern Right Whale. In 2024, the Ministry of Environment held workshops for the Navy on integrated coastal management, including marine fauna strandings, emphasizing public awareness and community engagement. The Ministry also participated in the closing ceremony of the 2024 Southern Right Whale season to present the CMP objectives to the public, an event recognized and endorsed by multiple government and municipal authorities.

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<sup>6</sup> Marine Mammal Monitoring Support System

Action 10: Maintain and improve the quality of existing whale watching activities

Argentina	Brazil	Uruguay

**All three reporting Range States (Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay) noted work in progress for this action.**

**Argentina** detailed that the research program in Golfo San Matías also includes monitoring of whale-watching activities in Bahía San Antonio, where four companies operate since 2012. This monitoring process has gathered more than 1,300 sightings up to 2023. Solitary whales are also predominant in this dataset, but a recent increase in mother-calf pairs has been documented since 2022 (IWC Secretariat, 2024).

**Brazil** noted that in August 2023, the first International Symposium on Marine Ecotourism was held in Praia do Forte, which aimed to highlight national and international case studies of good practices and operational success in Whale Watching Tourism and Recreational Diving. In the Right Whale Environmental Protection Area (EPA) in Santa Catarina, Brazil, boat-based whale watching activities were banned in 2013. The activity was banned in areas outside the EPA. Land-based whale watching has been promoted and encouraged, and the Australis Institute has been offering training courses for environmental guides and professionals in the tourism sector.

**Uruguay** reported that since 2002, the Ministry of Tourism has promoted responsible marine wildlife tourism, particularly cetacean watching. Initiatives have included awareness campaigns, annual Whale Watching Season launches, educational activities for National Southern Right Whale Day, and collaboration with scientific projects. From 2024, marine wildlife themes have been highlighted at international tourism fairs, and in 2025 the Ministry of Tourism presented responsible wildlife observation at the First Interdisciplinary Ocean Sciences Conference. To regulate tourism and protect marine mammals, DINARA drafted *Presidential Decree No. 261/002*, establishing a Registry of Tourism Operators for Cetacean Watching with mandatory vessel authorization and strict guidelines for approaching animals, including minimum distance rules to avoid disturbance and protect reproductive areas. Uruguay added that its efforts are mostly tied to individual projects or external support rather than a permanent, funded program. They highlighted a shortage of specialized staff in the Ministry of Tourism and the absence of a national plan for marine fauna tourism, which limits coordination, leadership, goal setting, indicators, and sustained financial backing.

Action 11: Contribute to education of the general public about whales and their ecosystems in the South Atlantic Area

Argentina	Brazil	Uruguay

**All three reporting Range States (Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay) noted work in progress for this action.**

**Argentina** recorded that the Southern Right Whale has been declared a National Natural Monument (*Law 23094*) since 1984, the highest category of protection for a species. Every 25 September, Argentina celebrates National Southern Right Whale Day to commemorate the anniversary of the rescue of ‘Garra’, a young Southern Right Whale that became entangled in the chains of a catamaran and was freed thanks to the joint efforts of the community of Puerto Pirámides. In addition, several institutions, particularly NGOs, are developing educational programs for children, teenagers, and training courses for teachers and tourist guides throughout the year.

**Brazil** reported that in Santa Catarina, the Australis Institute maintains a visitor centre with several attractions designed to raise awareness amongst visitors about Right Whale conservation. The centre regularly runs several conservation-related programs for students in local schools. Among the highlights are the Escola Franca Program, which works with high school students, and the "ABC do Franquinho" program for early childhood education. The Institute regularly offers teacher training courses, encouraging the inclusion of ocean culture in the topics covered. Related information is then published on its social media channels, aimed at raising public awareness about Right Whale conservation and public policies for the protection of species.

**Uruguay** reported that in 2023, an outreach project in the Cabo Polonio Protected Area promoted knowledge exchange on cetaceans. The project involved researchers, park rangers, students, educators, and local communities. Educational activities are also held annually at the National Museum of Natural History, targeting both adults and children. Since 2020, RENACE Uy has conducted management, education, and awareness programs to develop a cetacean stranding response network, delivering workshops and community presentations reaching over 370 participants between 2023 and 2025. Yaqu Pacha Uruguay has produced educational books for children and two short documentaries on Lahille’s Bottlenose Dolphin to raise awareness of bycatch and present scientific research in an accessible format.

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