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**SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS OF IMPLEMENTATION REPORTS FOR THE ACTION PLAN TO
ADDRESS AQUATIC WILD MEAT HARVESTS IN WEST AFRICA**

(Prepared by Secretariat)

Summary:

This document contains a summary and analysis of Implementation Reports for the Wild Meat Action Plan. Responses were received by Burkina Faso, Ghana, Nigeria and Togo.

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Introduction

The Action Plan to Address Aquatic Wild Meat Harvest in West Africa was adopted in 2024 by CMS Parties ([CMS Resolution 14.15](#)). This document provides a summary of reports on the implementation of this Action Plan. Reports are based on a template that was developed by the Secretariat, as instructed in CMS Decision 14.193. The format requests information on each of the activities that are included in the Action Plan: actions taken, obstacles to implementation and progress in implementing activities. The reports gathered from Range States, as instructed through Decision 14.190(c), will be used to inform recommendations for further implementation of the Action Plan.

Out of 15 Range States, 4 responded to CMS [Notification 2025/002](#) and follow-up emails which requested Range States to report on the implementation of the Action Plan to address aquatic wild meat in West Africa. Due to the timing of responses, this summary could only be published as an Information Document. The findings described below apply only to these four countries. Responses were received from Burkina Faso, Ghana, Nigeria and Togo.

Discussion of Key Points

The Secretariat's analysis of implementation progress summarized in Table 1 using a traffic-light system, offers only a partial picture, being limited both due to the overall low submission rate (less than 27 per cent), and the fact that several reporting countries did not use the drop-down menu provided in the reporting template to indicate progress status under the progress column. As a result, the assessment highlights general patterns rather than a comprehensive overview of progress across all actions.

Among the available reports, the strongest engagement relates to Action 5.1 on awareness raising and behaviour change, with three of the four reporting Range States indicating that some activity has begun in this area. By contrast, limited financial resources emerged as a recurring constraint, explicitly mentioned by two reporting countries (Burkina Faso and Togo) as a primary barrier to moving forward on several action points. These findings suggest uneven implementation capacity and underscore the need for more consistent support mechanisms across the region.

Looking ahead, several potential areas of response can be identified. To support continued progress under the Action Plan, the following recommendations to further strengthen the Action Plan implementation have been extracted from the reports, based on challenges identified by Range States:


- Secure additional funding to ensure effective implementation of the Action Plan, with a focus on engaging with individual Range States to best support and aid.
- Establish capacity-building and training across stakeholders and Range States to equip Range States with necessary technological knowledge to tackle various action points.
- Facilitate improved exchange of relevant conservation data to inform planning and monitoring.
- Ensure continued technical support from regional and international partners by facilitating access to expert guidance, standardized tools, and best practices that help align Range States' national actions with SSAP objectives.
- Promote interagency collaboration through targeted capacity-building to address action points, including regular training, joint workshops, and shared best practices.


Table 1: Overview of the progress report for each action on the Aquatic Wild Meat


Action	Primary Actor	Range States			
		Burkina Faso	Ghana	Nigeria	Togo
		Progress			
1.1.1 Briefing notes on scientific knowledge	AWM WG in collaboration with Focal Points				
1.1.2 Disseminate briefing notes	CMS Secretariat	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
1.2.1 Assess Scientific Knowledge	Focal Points of CMS, CITES, Abidjan Convention, Ramsar, IUCN, and FAO				
1.2.2 Identify and approach key scientific institutions	AWM WG	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
1.2.3 Encourage establishment and expansion of networks	AWM WG	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2.1.1 Prepare briefing note on importance of AWM as local food	Research Institutions, NGOs, and Gov. Agencies with support of AWM WG	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2.1.2 Research and publish relationship between supply, demand, and benefits	AWM WG closely involving research institutions	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2.1.3 Research and publish on IUU and small-scale fishing fleets in region	AWM WG closely involving West African research institutions	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2.1.4 Prepare briefing on ecosystems vulnerable to climate change and biodiversity loss	AWG WG in collaboration with Focal Points of CMS, CITES, Abidjan Convention, Ramsar, IUCN, and FAO				
2.2.1 Prepare country briefing notes on socio-ecological systems	CMS Focal Points with support of civil society and research institutions				
2.2.2 Prepare briefing note on demographic trends	Focal Points of CMS, CITES, Abidjan Convention, Ramsar, IUCN, and FAO with the support of civil society and research institutions				
2.3.1 Develop strategy for dissemination of information	AWM WG in collaboration with Focal Points of CMS, CITES, Abidjan Convention, Ramsar, IUCN and FAO				
2.3.2 Develop fundraising strategy to support the dissemination strategy	CMS Secretariat	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2.3.3 Summarize findings from 1.1, 1.2, 2.1 and 2.2 and distribute.	AWM WG in collaboration with CMS Focal Points and other institutions and actors				
3.1.1 Drawing on the information provided in actions 1.1 and 2.3, research further and create summary of biodiversity findings in regions	AWM WG and regional research and academic institutions	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Action	Primary Actor	Range States			
		Burkina Faso	Ghana	Nigeria	Togo
		Progress			
3.1.2 Briefing note on different agencies and relevant NGOs with focus on environment	AWM WG in collaboration with Focal Points of CMS, CITES, Abidjan Convention, Ramsar, IUCN, and FAO				
3.1.3 Briefing note on opportunities for agencies to better address IAWM harvesting	AWM WG collaboration with Focal Points of CMS, CITES, Abidjan Convention, Ramsar, IUCN, and FAO				
3.2.1 Briefing note on mandates of CITES, CMS, and Abidjan Convention	AWM WG and Focal Points of CMS, CITES, Abidjan Convention, Ramsar, IUCN, IWC, and FAO				
3.3.1 Meet as a region, as an online meeting, to explore opportunities for synergies between agencies and expand action plan	Focal Points of CMS, CITES, Abidjan Convention, Ramsar, IUCN, IWC, and FAO				
4.1.1 Identify, document and publish good practice examples of community-driven led species conservation	AWM WG in collaboration with Focal Points of CMS, CITES, Abidjan Convention, Ramsar, IUCN, IWC, and FAO				
4.1.2 Meet with communities to find common learning and solutions	AWM WG in collaboration with Focal Points of CMS, CITES, Abidjan Convention, Ramsar, IUCN, IWC, and FAO				
4.1.3 Repackage the information generated in actions 1.1, 2.3, and 3.1 and translate	AWM WG in collaboration with Focal Points of CMS, CITES, Abidjan Convention, Ramsar, IUCN, IWC, and FAO, local NGOs, civil society, and universities				
4.1.4 Develop and implement a dedicated programme to disseminate common learnings to other communities	AWM WG in collaboration with Focal Points of CMS, CITES, Abidjan Convention, Ramsar, IUCN, IWC, and FAO, local NGOs, and civil society				
4.2.1 Establish and carry out comprehensive anti-poaching strategy	Focal Points of CMS, CITES, Abidjan Convention, Ramsar, IUCN, and FAO, supported by AWM WG				
4.2.2 Develop regional plan and tools for enforcement and monitoring	Focal Points of CMS, CITES, Abidjan Convention, Ramsar, IUCN, and FAO, supported by AWM WG				
4.2.3 Create synergy of action to support the states to achieve the CBS 30x30 objectives of protected areas	Focal Points of CMS, CITES, Abidjan Convention, Ramsar, IUCN, and FAO and associated national committees				
5.1.1 Undertake knowledge and attitudes survey analysis	Focal Points of CMS, CITES, Abidjan Convention, Ramsar, IUCN, and FAO, in collaboration with AWM WG				

		Range States			
		Burkina Faso	Ghana	Nigeria	Togo
Action	Primary Actor	Progress			
5.1.2 Develop environmental education and communication (EEC) programme	Focal Points of CMS, CITES, Abidjan Convention, Ramsar, IUCN, and FAO, NGOs and media	Red	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow
5.1.3 Increase capacity, information exchange, advocacy and public awareness of different community groups at local level	Focal Points of CMS, CITES, Abidjan Convention, Ramsar, IUCN, and FAO	Red	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow
6.1.1 Map donors with convergent geographic and thematic interests for conservation of aquatic wild meat species	AWM WG in collaboration with Focal Points of CMS, CITES, Abidjan Convention, Ramsar, IUCN and FAO	Red	Red	Yellow	Red
6.1.2 Create funding database	AWM WG in collaboration with Focal Points of CMS, CITES, Abidjan Convention, Ramsar, IUCN and FAO	Red	Red	Red	Red
6.1.3 Establish institutional mechanisms for sustainable fundraising and management of acquired funds	AWM WG after consulting with Focal Points of CMS, CITES, Abidjan Convention, Ramsar, IUCN, FAO and ECOWAS	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
6.1.4 Promote the funding strategy to financial partners (advocacy documents)	AWM WG after consulting with Focal Points of CMS, CITES, Abidjan Convention, Ramsar, IUCN, FAO and ECOWAS	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
6.2.1 Fund and recruit a regional coordinator to support the CMS Focal Points and Action Plan delivery	Donor agencies and CMS Focal Points	Red	Red	Red	Red

 Complete

 Work in Progress

 No Action

Theme 1 – Taking stock of scientific knowledge and identifying gaps

5-year theme goal: To make known science readily available to range states across West Africa and foster the collection of information to fill the scientific knowledge gaps.

Objective 1.1 - Consolidate scientific knowledge on the impact of aquatic wild meat harvest on CMS-listed species.

Action 1.1.1 – Produce a briefing note on scientific knowledge for each country, with links to published documents and in the appropriate language for each country.

Burkina Faso	Ghana	Nigeria	Togo

This action is the responsibility of the Aquatic Wild Meat Working Group (AWM WG). The AP foresees Focal Points of CMS to work with the AWM WG and will be approached in due time.

Action 1.1.2 – Make the briefing note available to all Range States of the Action Plan

Burkina Faso	Ghana	Nigeria	Togo
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

This action is the responsibility of the CMS Secretariat.

Objective 1.2: Identify and address gaps in scientific knowledge.

Action 1.2.1 – Assess scientific knowledge against know species distribution in each Range State and identify scientific knowledge gaps

Burkina Faso	Ghana	Nigeria	Togo

One Range State (Nigeria) reported progress regarding this action. In Nigeria, limited action on comprehensive research activities was taken due to inadequate funding. Nigeria reported there was few comprehensive scientific documentation on the state of aquatic wildmeat, however, there was many media reports on overexploitation and threat to aquatic wildlife, reports on interventions by different conservation stakeholders to raise awareness and rescue some threatened species, and other species and habitat-based research that still need to be collated. Burkina Faso and Togo stated a lack of financial means as their reason for no action taken.

These references were offered:

Abass, K. O., Seriki, A. K., Orebiyi, E. O., Ewuyemi, O. & Adeseja, O. (2020). Socio-Economic Aspect of African Manatee (*Trichechus Senegalensis*) Hunting and Capturing in Parts of Ogun and Ondo State, Southwest Nigeria. *American Journal of Agricultural and Biological Sciences*, 15(1), 107-117. <https://doi.org/10.3844/ajabssp.2020.107.117>

Ajah, P., Georgewill, M., & Ajah, M. (2006). The food and feeding habits of five freshwater and brackish-water fish species in Nigeria. *African Journal of Aquatic Science*, 31(2), 313–318. <https://doi.org/10.4314/ajas.v31i2.19717>

Bradley, B. Byrd, K. A. Atkins, M. et al. (2020). Fish in food systems in Nigeria: A review. Penang, Malaysia: WorldFish. Program Report: 2020-06

1.2.2 Identify and approach key scientific institutions and conduct joint fundraising campaigns with them to promote their contributions to the Action Plan by conducting key research projects on the most pressing information gaps, such as:

Action 1.2.2 – Identify and approach key scientific institutions and conduct joint fundraising campaigns with them to promote their contributions to the Action Plan by conducting key research projects on the most pressing information gaps, such as:

- *socio-cultural aspects of harvesting and consuming aquatic wild meat, including the role of taboos systems;*
- *nutritional roles aquatic wild meat provides;*
- *quantitative assessments of consumption and trade in aquatic wild meat to better understand demand and trade pathways;*
- *ecological sustainability of current harvests, as well as the population parameters, processes, and science-based management strategies needed to overcome problems, especially in the face of climate change impacts on habitats;*
- *the design and testing of fishing methods to minimise and ultimately eliminate bycatch mortality;*
- *use of aquatic wild meat as bait for other commercial fisheries and the possibility of using alternative baits that can be derived sustainably; and*
- *migration routes for aquatic megafauna with a view to better understanding the role of immigration and emigration in populations being used for aquatic wild meat.*
- *incidence and impact of aquatic zoonoses (one health approach and definition of appropriate mitigation measures)*

Burkina Faso	Ghana	Nigeria	Togo
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

This action is the responsibility of the Aquatic Wild Meat Working Group (AWM WG).

Action 1.2.3 – Encourage the establishment and expansion of a network of appropriate experts and local actors with important information, specifically but not limited to within the CMS Aquatic Wild Meat Working Group and the Abidjan Aquatic Wildlife Network (working closely with other important networks in West Africa) to support Range States with the delivery of the Action Plan.

Burkina Faso	Ghana	Nigeria	Togo
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

This action is the responsibility of the Aquatic Wild Meat Working Group (AWM WG).

Theme 2 – Understanding drivers and pressures for aquatic wild meat harvest

5-year theme goal: To develop a deeper understanding of the drivers and pressures for aquatic wild meat harvest to better inform solutions.

Objective 2.1: Identify and address gaps in scientific knowledge.

Action 2.1.1 Prepare a briefing note relevant to regions across West Africa on the importance of aquatic wild meat as a local food with species preferences for some countries, with an emphasis on protected species and species most affected, establishing the situation on the ground to support and enable relevant authorities to take action.

Burkina Faso	Ghana	Nigeria	Togo
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

This action is the responsibility of research institutions, NGOs, and government agencies with the support of AWM WG.

Action 2.1.2 Research and publish the relationship between supply, demand, and the benefit of aquatic illegal wild meat harvesting.

Burkina Faso	Ghana	Nigeria	Togo
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

This action is the responsibility of the AWM WG and other research institutions.

Action 2.1.3 Research and publish (in French and English) a better understanding of illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) and small-scale fishing fleets fishing in the region by distant water fleets in relation with to food security, and where this information is not available to highlight the need to gather this data.

Burkina Faso	Ghana	Nigeria	Togo
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

This action is the responsibility of the AWM WG and other research institutions.

Action 2.1.4 Prepare a briefing note on the vulnerability of the region aquatic ecosystems to the impacts of climate change and biodiversity loss.

Burkina Faso	Ghana	Nigeria	Togo

This action is the responsibility of the AWM WG in collaboration with Focal Points of CMS, CITES, Abidjan Convention, Ramsar, IUCN, and FAO. The AP foresees Focal Points of CMS to work with the AWM WG and will be approached in due time.

Objective 2.2: Better understand the social, political and institutional drivers for illegal aquatic wild meat harvesting in the region

Action 2.2.1 Prepare a briefing note, per country, on the socioecological systems across the region with focus on traditional wildlife management and governance.

Burkina Faso	Ghana	Nigeria	Togo

No Range States reported progress regarding this action. Burkina Faso and Togo stated a lack of financial means as their reason for no action taken.

Action 2.2.2 Prepare a briefing note on the demographic trends as a consequence of human population growth and internal human migrations.

Burkina Faso	Ghana	Nigeria	Togo

No Range States reported progress regarding this action. Burkina Faso and Togo stated a lack of financial means as their reason for no action taken.

Objective 2.3: Disseminate core information to policy makers, fisheries agencies, and wildlife managers across the region.

Action 2.3.1 Develop a strategy for the dissemination of the information generated as part of actions 1.1, 1.2, 2.1 and 2.2 (local, regional, national etc.).

Burkina Faso	Ghana	Nigeria	Togo

This action is the responsibility of the AWM WG in collaboration with Focal Points of CMS, CITES, Abidjan Convention, Ramsar, IUCN, and FAO. The AP foresees Focal Points of CMS to work with the AWM WG and will be approached in due time.

Action 2.3.2 Develop a fundraising strategy to support the dissemination strategy, targeting and working with donors and funders (GEF, African Development Bank etc.) and coordinate with relevant regional strategies (such as the ECOWAS West African Strategy for Wildlife Crime).

Burkina Faso	Ghana	Nigeria	Togo
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

This action is the responsibility of the CMS Secretariat.

Action 2.3.3 Gather the summary and published information generated as part of actions 1.1, 1.2, 2.1 and 2.2, summarise into appropriate formats for different audiences and distribute to national fisheries and wildlife institutions across the region (as defined in the strategy @2.3.1). Generate funding proposals to support the Focal Points to increase regional capacity.

Burkina Faso	Ghana	Nigeria	Togo

This action is the responsibility of the AWM WG in collaboration with Focal Points of CMS and other institutions and actors. The AP foresees Focal Points of CMS to work with the AWM WG and will be approached in due time.

One Range State (Nigeria) reported progress regarding this action. Burkina Faso stated a lack of financial means as hindering progress. Nigeria reported action will be coordinated by the regional focal point and other stakeholders.

Theme 3 – Understanding the intersection between fisheries and environment (domestic and international) and creating stronger linkages

5-year theme goal: To develop a deeper understand of the region’s importance in the world, address the inconsistencies of management, and the opportunities for synergies and better management.

Objective 3.1: Identify and address gaps in scientific knowledge.

Action 3.1.1 Drawing on the information provided in actions 1.1 and 2.3, research further and create a three-page summary of the richness of the aquatic faunal biodiversity and fish stocks, the importance of both elements for food security and economic stability, and the role West African’s aquatic ecosystems play in a broader ecological context, while also making important linkages to international conventions (CITES, CBD, etc.).

Burkina Faso	Ghana	Nigeria	Togo
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

This action is the responsibility of the AWM WG and regional research and academic institutions.

Action 3.1.2 Develop a briefing note of different international, regional and domestic agencies, and relevant NGOs, with focus on environment (ECOWAS, AU, ADB, FAO etc.), and identify inconsistencies.

Burkina Faso	Ghana	Nigeria	Togo

This action is the responsibility of the AWM WG in collaboration with Focal Points of CMS, CITES, Abidjan Convention, Ramsar, IUCN, and FAO. The AP foresees Focal Points of CMS to work with the AWM WG and will be approached in due time.

Action 3.1.3 Develop a briefing note on opportunities for international, regional, and domestic agency to better address illegal aquatic wild meat harvesting.

Burkina Faso	Ghana	Nigeria	Togo

This action is the responsibility of the AWM WG in collaboration with Focal Points of CMS, CITES, Abidjan Convention, Ramsar, IUCN, and FAO. The AP foresees Focal Points of CMS to work with the AWM WG and will be approached in due time.

Objective 3.2: Identify and address gaps in scientific knowledge.

Action 3.2.1 Develop a briefing note on the mandates of CITES, CMS, and the Abidjan Conventions, and the roles of Parties and observers to create a strong signal with effective details for agency action.

Burkina Faso	Ghana	Nigeria	Togo

This action is the responsibility of the AWM WG in collaboration with Focal Points of CMS, CITES, Abidjan Convention, Ramsar, IUCN, IWC, and FAO. The AP foresees Focal Points of CMS to work with the AWM WG and will be approached in due time.

No Range States reported progress regarding this action. Nigeria noted that actions were to be coordinated by the regional focal point and the other stakeholders, like the NCF and NIOMR; however, limited funding for stakeholders to meet research obligations and technical outputs was listed as a challenge. Burkina Faso stated a lack of financial means as hindering progress.

Objective 3.3: Identify and address gaps in scientific knowledge.

Action 3.3.1 Meet as a region, as an online meeting, to explore opportunities for synergies between agencies and expand the action plan accordingly.

Burkina Faso	Ghana	Nigeria	Togo

No Range States reported progress regarding this action. Nigeria noted that actions were to be coordinated by the regional focal point and the other stakeholders, like the NCF and NIOMR; however, limited funding for stakeholders to meet research obligations and technical outputs was listed as the reason for limited action taken. Burkina Faso stated a lack of financial means as their reason for no action taken.

Theme 4 – Fostering community-driven solutions and building law and enforcement where needed

5-year them goal: To foster community-driven solutions and building law and enforcement where needed.

Objective 4.1: Identify and address gaps in scientific knowledge.

Action 4.1.1 Identify, document and publish good practice example of community-driven led species conservation and appropriate aquatic wild meat management from across the region to use as a tool for awareness raising (policy makers and community).

Burkina Faso	Ghana	Nigeria	Togo

This action is the responsibility of the AWM WG in collaboration with Focal Points of CMS, CITES, Abidjan Convention, Ramsar, IUCN, IWC, and FAO. The AP foresees Focal Points of CMS to work with the AWM WG and will be approached in due time.

No Range States reported progress regarding this action. Burkina Faso stated a lack of financial means as their reason for no action taken. Nigeria noted that action was to be coordinated by the regional focal point and the other stakeholders, like the NCF, NIOMR. NCF has ongoing community-led efforts to assess the presence and distribution of sea turtles and other marine biodiversity in Lagos and Bayelsa. However, limited action was taken due to lack of funding limiting the expansion of such activities to other sites.

Reference: https://web.facebook.com/NCFNigeria/posts/recent-activities-from-the-ncflfz-sea-turtle-conservation-project-highlight-the-968283732008216/?_rdc=1&_rdr#

Action 4.1.2 Meet with these communities to find common learning and solutions that can be applied elsewhere.

Burkina Faso	Ghana	Nigeria	Togo

This action is the responsibility of the AWM WG in collaboration with Focal Points of CMS, CITES, Abidjan Convention, Ramsar, IUCN, IWC, and FAO. The AP foresees Focal Points of CMS to work with the AWM WG and will be approached in due time.

Action 4.1.3 Repackage the information generated in actions 1.1, 2.3 and 3.1, and translate into appropriate local languages.

Burkina Faso	Ghana	Nigeria	Togo

This action is the responsibility of the AWM WG in collaboration with Focal Points of CMS, CITES, Abidjan Convention, Ramsar, IUCN, IWC, FAO, local NGOs, civil society, and universities. The AP foresees Focal Points of CMS to work with the AWM WG and will be approached in due time.

One Range State (Nigeria) reported progress regarding this action. Nigeria noted that they plan to develop a proposal to document community-based knowledge, cultural norms and practices, local governance and conservation approaches.

Action 4.1.4 Develop and implement a dedicated programme to disseminate these common learnings to other communities, fostering the wider uptake of community-driven solutions (including through community radios, brochures, etc.) and facilitating exchange trips between communities.

Burkina Faso	Ghana	Nigeria	Togo

This action is the responsibility of the AWM WG in collaboration with Focal Points of CMS, CITES, Abidjan Convention, Ramsar, IUCN, IWC, FAO, local NGOs and civil society. The AP foresees Focal Points of CMS to work with the AWM WG and will be approached in due time.

Two Range States (Ghana and Nigeria) reported progress regarding this action. In Ghana, media engagement was fostered such as regular radio and TV programs to educate communities and other key stakeholders. Nigeria noted that they plan to develop a proposal to document community-based knowledge, cultural norms and practices, local governance and conservation approaches.

Objective 4.2: Identify and address gaps in scientific knowledge.

Action 4.2.1 Drawing on existing international and regional strategies, establish and carry out a comprehensive anti-poaching strategy for aquatic wild meat within each country, focused on engagement with communities.

Burkina Faso	Ghana	Nigeria	Togo

One Range State (Ghana) reported progress regarding this action. Ghana reported intensive anti-poaching patrols and arrest and prosecution of offenders in Protected Areas and Ramsar Sites. Nigeria noted that this action would be coordinated by the national focal point and the other stakeholders, such as the NCF and NIOMR.

Action 4.2.2 Develop a regional plan and tools that strengthen and support national institutional capacity for efficient and effective enforcement and monitoring of illegal aquatic wild meat harvesting.

Burkina Faso	Ghana	Nigeria	Togo

No Range States reported progress regarding this action. Nigeria noted that this action would be coordinated by the national focal point and the other stakeholders, such as the NCF and NIOMR.

Action 4.2.3 Create a synergy of action to support the states to achieve the CBD 30x30 objectives of protected areas and appropriate community conservation governance in the region with involvement of local communities, taking into account socioeconomic and ecological aspects as well as participatory governance.

Burkina Faso	Ghana	Nigeria	Togo

One Range State (Ghana) reported progress regarding this action. In Ghana, community resources management areas (CREMA) were established to foster collaboration and protect species. Nigeria noted that this action would be coordinated by the national focal point in collaboration with other stakeholders at regional and global scales.

Theme 5 – Raising awareness and promoting behaviour change to achieve better protection of species used as aquatic wild meat.

5-year them goal: Transforming community attitudes towards protection of species used as aquatic wild meat and local ownership of conservation measures

Objective 5.1: Identify and address gaps in scientific knowledge.

Action 5.1.1 Undertake Knowledge and Attitudes Survey Analysis with local communities.

Burkina Faso	Ghana	Nigeria	Togo

Two Range States (Nigeria and Togo) reported progress regarding this action. Togo reported the organization of awareness meetings with fishers in coastal communities. However, Togo stated their progress was limited due to a lack of financial means. Burkina Faso also stated a lack of financial means as their reason for no action taken. Nigeria reported that they are developing a proposal to document community-based knowledge, cultural norms and practices, local governance and conservation approaches.

Action 5.1.2 Develop an environmental education and communication (EEC) programme to promote positive changes in attitudes and behaviour to reduce aquatic wild meat harvesting.

Burkina Faso	Ghana	Nigeria	Togo

Three Range States (Ghana, Nigeria and Togo) reported progress regarding this action. Burkina Faso stated a lack of financial means as their reason for no action taken. In Ghana, posters and information boards in protected areas and Ramsar Sites were developed for educational purposes to reduce poaching and enforce closed hunting seasons. Nigeria noted that they key into existing conservation education platforms being implemented by conservation stakeholders. Togo reported that there is action in progress.

Action 5.1.3 Increase capacity, information exchange, advocacy and public awareness of different

Burkina Faso	Ghana	Nigeria	Togo

Three Range States (Ghana, Nigeria and Togo) reported progress regarding this action.

Nigeria noted they aim to build the capacity of conservation practitioners in coastal and marine strategies. Nigeria reported on building the capacity of conservation practitioners in coastal and marine research and awareness strategies. Togo reported the formation of coastal “eco-guards” and raising awareness among coastal communities in collaboration with NGOs such as AGBO-ZEGUE, ERD, and la Société Lomé Container terminal (LCT).

Theme 6 – Developing and implementing a sustainable funding strategy for conservation of species used as aquatic wild meat

5-year theme goal: Establishing sustainable funding mechanisms for the protection of species used as aquatic wild meat.

Objective 6.1: Identify and address gaps in scientific knowledge.

Action 6.1.1 Map donors with convergent geographic and thematic interests for conservation of aquatic wild meat species.

Burkina Faso	Ghana	Nigeria	Togo

This action is the responsibility of the AWM WG in collaboration with Focal Points of CMS, CITES, Abidjan Convention, Ramsar, IUCN, and FAO. The AP foresees Focal Points of CMS to work with the AWM WG and will be approached in due time.

Three Range States (Burkina Faso, Ghana and Togo) reported no progress regarding this action. Burkina Faso stated a lack of financial means as their reason for no action taken. Nigeria reported that they coordinate and link conservation stakeholders with potential donors.

Action 6.1.2 Create fundraising database.

Burkina Faso	Ghana	Nigeria	Togo

This action is the responsibility of the AWM WG in collaboration with Focal Points of CMS, CITES, Abidjan Convention, Ramsar, IUCN, and FAO. The AP foresees Focal Points of CMS to work with the AWM WG and will be approached in due time.

Action 6.1.3 Establish institutional mechanisms for sustainable fundraising and management of acquired funds.

Burkina Faso	Ghana	Nigeria	Togo
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

This action is the responsibility of the AWM WG after consulting with Focal Points of CMS, CITES, Abidjan Convention, Ramsar, IUCN, FAO and ECOWAS. The AP foresees Focal Points of CMS to work with the AWM WG and will be approached in due time.

Action 6.1.4 Promote the funding strategy to financial partners (advocacy documents).

Burkina Faso	Ghana	Nigeria	Togo
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

This action is the responsibility of the AWM WG after consulting with Focal Points of CMS, CITES, Abidjan Convention, Ramsar, IUCN, FAO and ECOWAS. The AP foresees Focal Points of CMS to work with the AWM WG and will be approached in due time.

Objective 6.2: Identify and address gaps in scientific knowledge.

Action 6.2.1 Fund and recruit a regional coordinator to support the CMS Focal Points with Action Plan delivery.

Burkina Faso	Ghana	Nigeria	Togo

This action is the responsibility of donor agencies and Focal Points of CMS. No Range States reported progress regarding this action. Burkina Faso stated a lack of financial means as their reason for no action taken.