



CMS Mandate and CMS Task Forces against Illegal Taking of Migratory Birds, update from CMS COP15

Iván Ramírez

Head of Avian Species Unit



Workshop on National IKB Action Plans: North Africa

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Section Title

2026 has been a very relevant year for IKB





COP15 key outcomes

- New Monitoring Framework for the Samarkand Strategic Plan
- Renewed mandate for global action against IKB
- Success in expanding IKB Task Forces beyond Mediterranean
- New Global Initiative on Illegal and Unsustainable Take of Species launched

Key Outcomes on IKB

- **Illegal Taking: Resolution 11.16 (Rev.COP15)**








**CONVENTION ON
MIGRATORY
SPECIES**

UNEP/CMS/Resolution 11.16 (Rev.COP15)
Original: English

**THE PREVENTION OF ILLEGAL KILLING, TAKING AND TRADE
OF MIGRATORY BIRDS**

Adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its 15th Meeting (Campo Grande, March 2026)

Recalling Article III (5) of the Convention, which provides for Parties that are Range States to prohibit the taking of species included in Appendix I, and Article V (5) (k) on Guidelines for AGREEMENTS, which suggests, where appropriate and feasible, each Agreement should prepare for procedures for coordinating action to suppress illegal taking,

- Since COP14, MIKT members have endorsed the Suggested Methodology and Guidance for Conducting Socio-Economic Research into the Motivations behind IKB (June 2023).
- Furthermore, the CMS Secretariat has contracted BirdLife International through a small-scale funding agreement to conduct a survey on IKB motivations in MIKT countries.

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- The Resolution was amended to include the development and implementation of national action plans or policy documents as key tools to organize and prioritize efforts to combat illegal taking of birds (ITB) at the national level.
- COP also adopted updated Terms of Reference (ToR) for the ITTEA, expanding its scope to include waterbirds, which were previously excluded. ITTEA has also advanced its work on IKB baseline data and a draft scoreboard framework.
- In addition, the Terms of Reference for SWAITB were approved, and new COP15 decisions further strengthen the process and implementation of its Action Plan.

COP15: Samarkand Strategic Plan for Migratory Species: New Monitoring Framework

Table 2. Goal 2: The habitats and ranges of migratory species are maintained and restored, supporting their connectivity.

Target	Indicator(s)	Baseline(s)	Potential Action(s)
Target 2.1. By 2029, all important habitats for migratory species listed in CMS Appendices are identified, assessed and monitored to ensure their functionality and ability to support migratory species throughout their life cycles. <i>Explanation:</i> Using best available science and information, actions are taken to ensure that all habitats, sites and ranges for migratory species are identified, assessed and monitored to understand their functions in migratory processes.	2.1.1: Percentage of Parties that have fully or to a large extent identified all important habitats and sites for CMS-listed species at the national level (Party-level; Data source: CMS National Reports). 2.1.2: Percentage of CMS-listed species for which at least one important site has been recognized through an existing site identification initiative (Global; Data source(s): Key Biodiversity Area database, IMMA, ISRA and IMTA databases, other relevant site identification initiatives). 2.1.3: Percentage of Key Biodiversity Areas triggered by CMS-listed species that have been monitored in the previous ten years (Global; Data source: Key Biodiversity Area database; other recognized site identification schemes, where sufficient monitoring data are available).	2.1.1: As of 2023, 14% of reporting Parties indicated that critical habitats and sites for migratory species had been fully identified in their country; an additional 45% of reporting Parties indicated that these critical habitats and sites had been identified to a large extent (Data source: Analysis of CMS National Reports to COP144; Q.XIII.1). 2.1.2: 61% of CMS-listed species are trigger species for at least one Key Biodiversity Area (Data source: State of the World's Migratory Species; underpinning data analysed in 2023). Baseline information on the number of IMMAs, ISRAs and IMTAs that have been identified for CMS-listed species has not yet been compiled. 2.1.3: 33% of the 9,469 Key Biodiversity Areas that have been triggered by one or more CMS-listed species have undergone a monitoring assessment (Data source: State of the World's Migratory Species; underpinning data analysed in 2023).	1.a) Sites and areas that provide important habitats for CMS-listed species – and the migratory pathways that connect them – should be identified across their entire life cycle. Parties should work collaboratively with relevant partners and organizations to support their recognition as Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs), Important Marine Mammal Areas (IMMAs), Important Shark and Ray Areas (ISRAs) or Important Marine Turtle Areas (IMTAs) when the relevant qualifying criteria are met, or their inclusion within other regional or national site networks, as appropriate. (Key mandates: Resolution 12.13, resolution 14.7, Resolution 14.16 (Rev.COP15).) 1.b) Parties should establish, support and/or expand regular monitoring of ecological networks and sites of importance for MS-listed species, to allow for early detection of changes in site condition, rapid identification of threats and timely action to maintain site integrity. (Key mandates: Resolution 14.16 (Rev.COP15).)

4 The analysis was based on based on the 55 National Reports that were received by 11/06/2023 (representing 41% of the 133 CMS Parties).

Vision: By 2032, migratory species are thriving and live in fully restored and connected habitats.

Goal 1. The conservation status of migratory species (MS) is improved

Goal 2. The habitats and ranges of MS are maintained and restore supporting their connectivity.

Goal 3. Threats affecting MS are eliminated or significantly reduce

Goal 4. Implementation of CMS is supported by adequate knowledge capacity and resources.

Goal 5. Implementation of CMS is supported by effective governance including use of best available science and information, and collaborative working.

Goal 6. The profile of CMS and synergies with other relevant international frameworks are enhanced.

Monitoring Framework: Next steps

- National Reports format being revised now
- Once final formats agreed, CMS will assess what are the fields that still need to be measured through an additional monitoring tool
- Activities delivered by Parties and stakeholders on flyway conservation can be used to report against the indicators approved in COP15



COP15: New Global Initiative on Illegal and Unsustainable Taking of Migratory Species

- Collaborative global effort under CMS that will bring together governments, orgs., scientists and indigenous peoples and local communities
- Four key areas of work:
 - 1) improve data and monitoring
 - 2) strengthen legal and policy frameworks
 - 3) enhance community engagement
 - 4) raise awareness





Despite good
mandate, migratory
birds continue to
decline

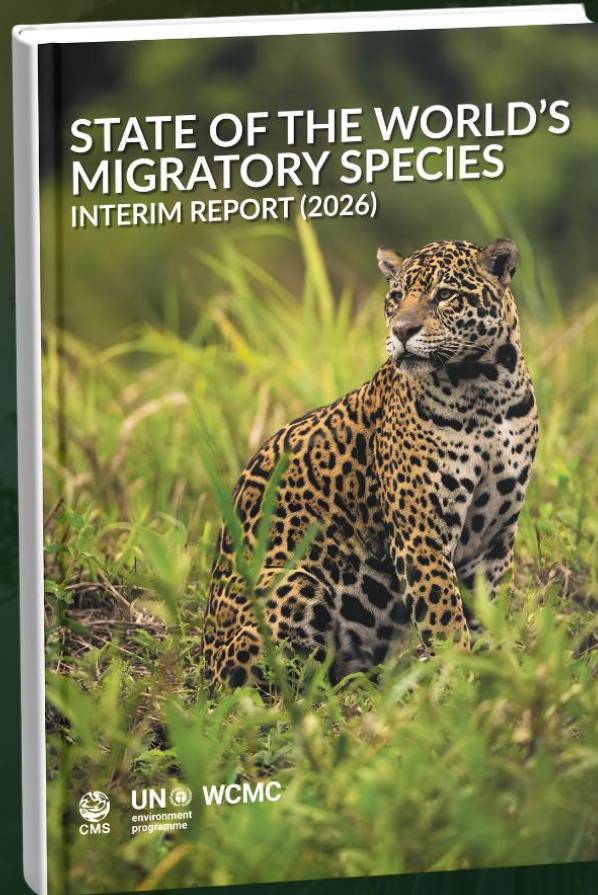
COP14

STATE OF THE WORLD'S MIGRATORY SPECIES



Convention on the Conservation of
Migratory Species of Wild Animals

COP15 CMS update of the World's Migratory Species Report



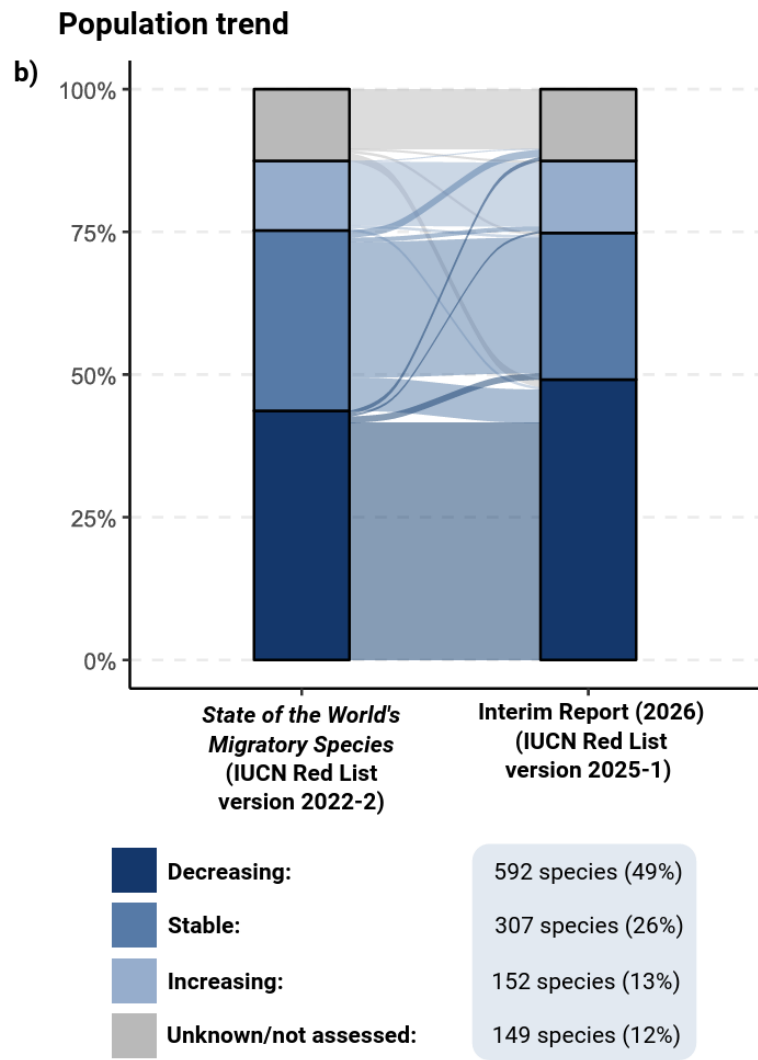
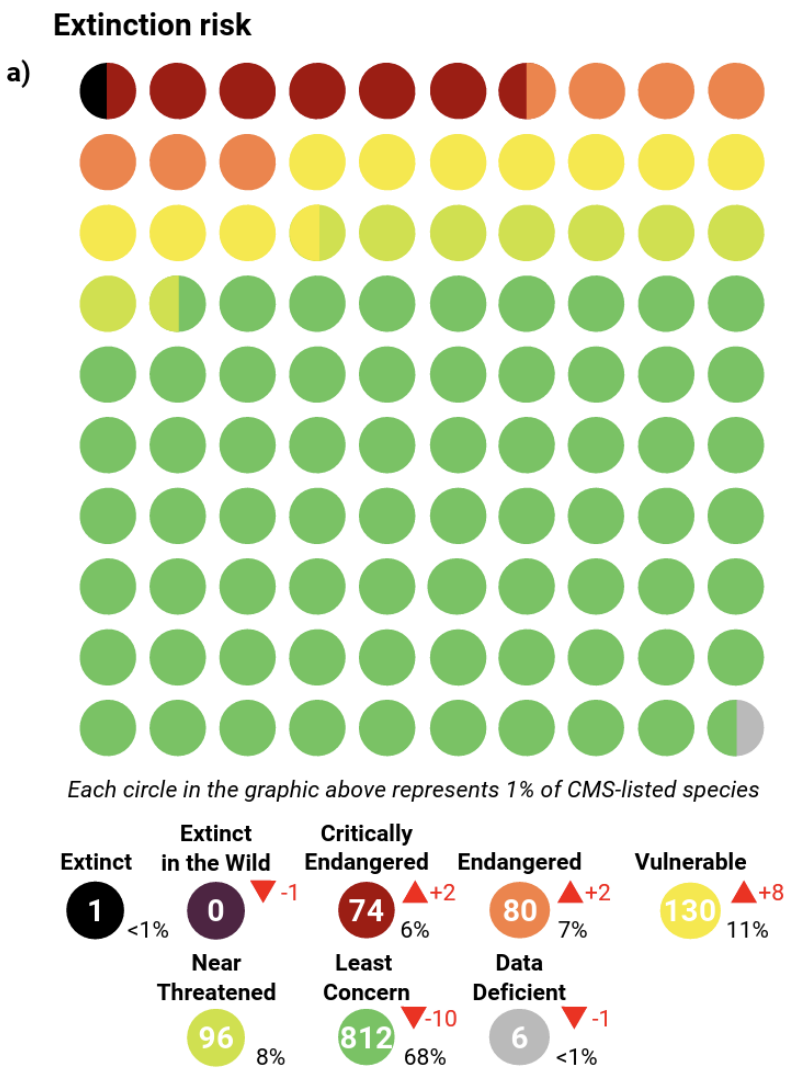
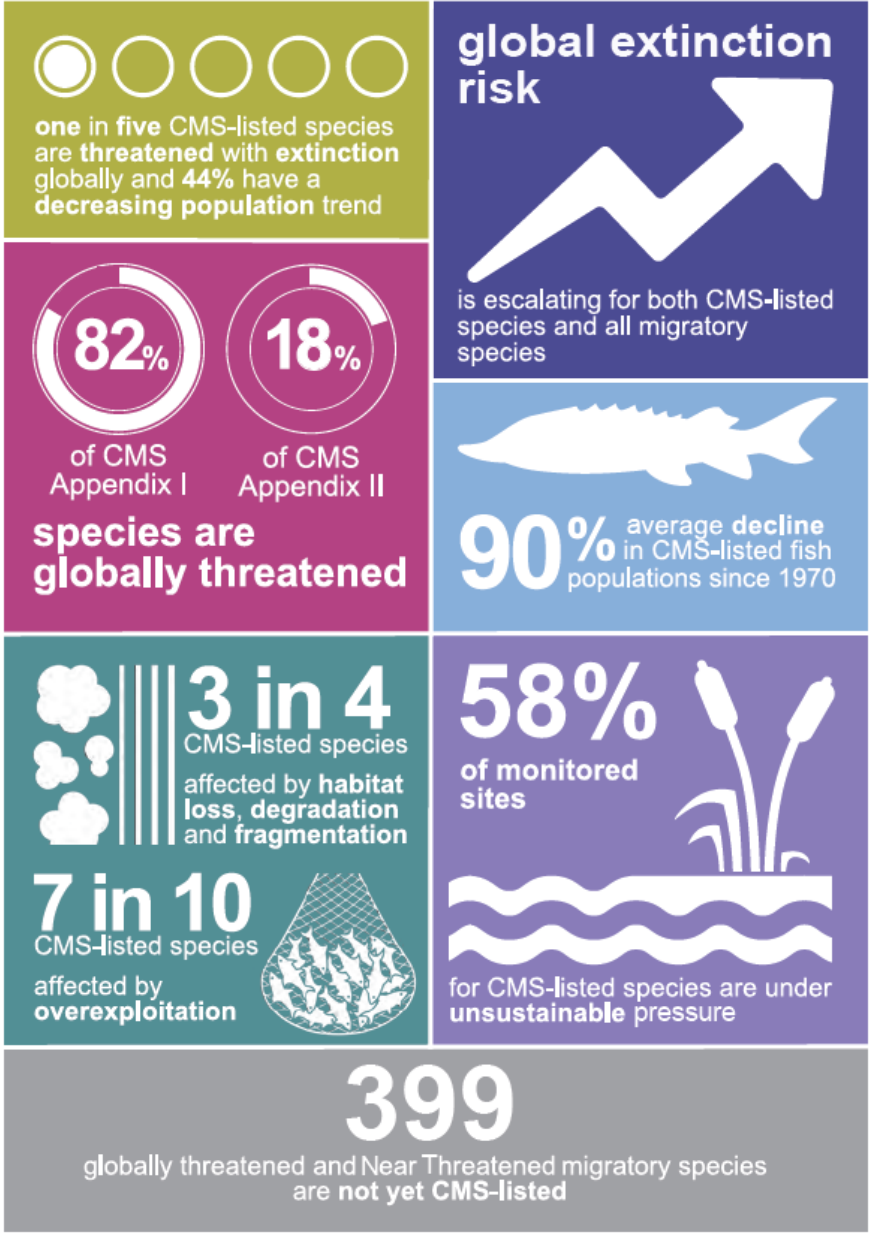
NEW REPORT

49% of CMS-listed species are in decline, up 5% since 2024

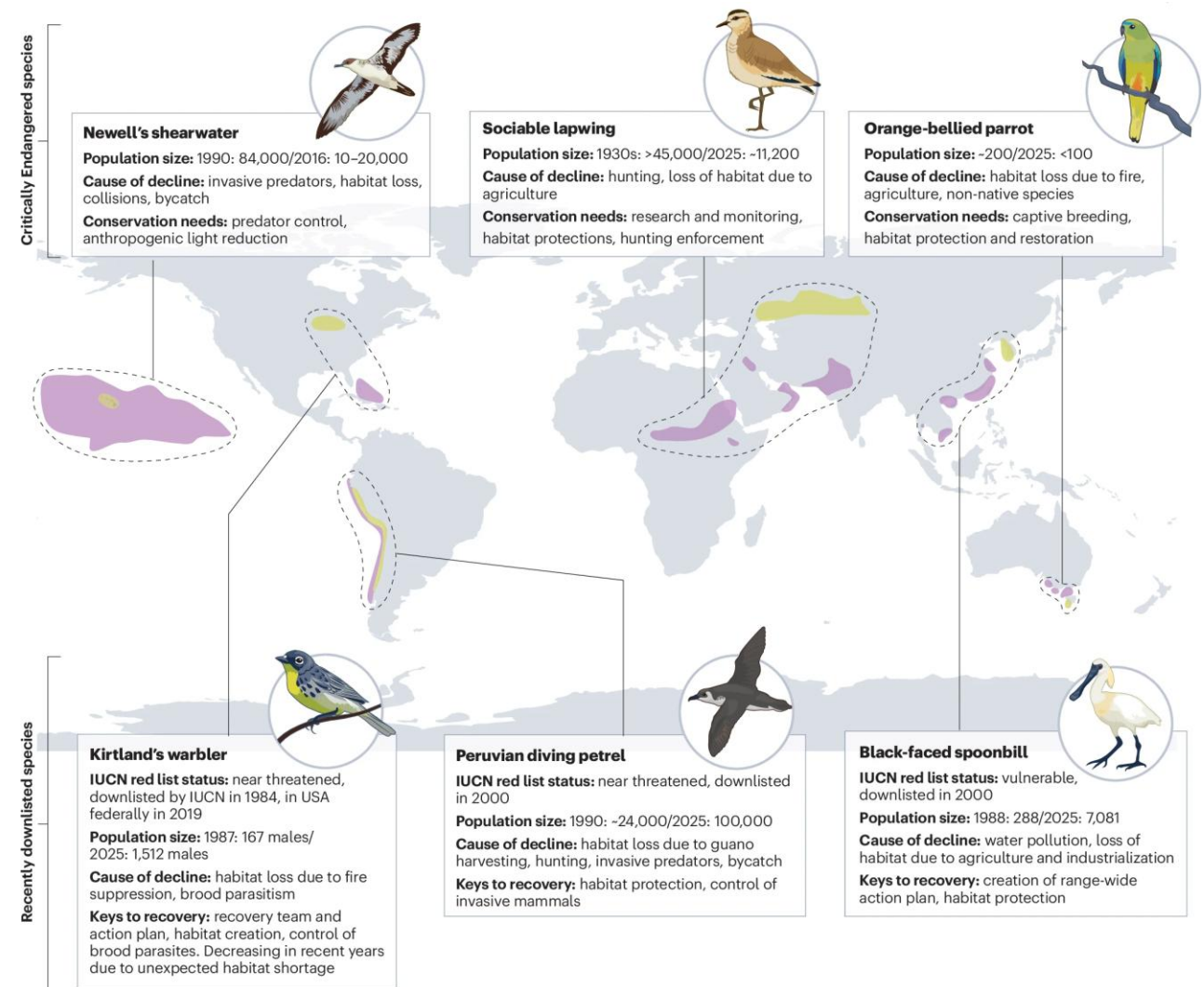
24% of these species face extinction, 2% more than in 2024

26 species have moved to higher extinction risk categories but 7 have improved





Migratory birds keep receiving a lot of attention



Marra, P. P. et al. (2026). Status, threats and conservation of Earth's migratory birds. *Nature Reviews Biodiversity*.



IKB Task Forces are
expanding

MIKT was the first one, but Asia has already 2 task forces



COP15 Decisions on MIKT

Decision 15.143 to Parties

Undertake national reviews of the production, sale, use and regulation of mist nets and other nets that are used for illegally trapping wild birds

Decision 15.145 to Secretariat

- In conjunction with Resolution 11.31 (Rev.COP15) *Illegal and Unsustainable Taking of Wildlife*, undertake a scientific review of IKB across sub-Saharan Africa and Central Asia
- build on the 2024–2025 BirdLife International analysis "*Assessing the use and impact of nets, including mist-nets, on wild bird populations in Asia*" and expand this work to a global level

Other COP15 Decisions relevant to IKB



Poisoning WG is back on the agenda

- Preventing Poisoning WG and Lead Task Force received renewed mandate. Parties are encouraged to
- Undertake national review and monitoring exercises to encourage implementation of the phase-out of all types of lead ammunition and lead fishing weights
- Nominate representatives to the Lead Task Force
- An analysis of the current impacts and hotspots of poisoning of migratory wildlife
- An update of the Guidelines to Prevent the Risk of Poisoning to Migratory Birds
- Regional workshops of interested vulture range states with priority given to Asia in collaboration with the Raptors MOU Coordinating Unit and WOA



So why are we here?

- CMS Mandate is strong
- CMS Parties and non Parties can be part of IKB TF
- Migratory birds are declining and IKB continues to be a top threat
- Applying effective legislation does make a huge difference
- North Africa is still behind in terms of monitoring and enforcement of effective anti IKB measures
- Sharing and learning from each other is the first step towards success!



MERCI
GRACIAS
THANK YOU!

