



المركز الوطني
لتنمية الحياة الفطرية
National Center for Wildlife
المملكة العربية السعودية

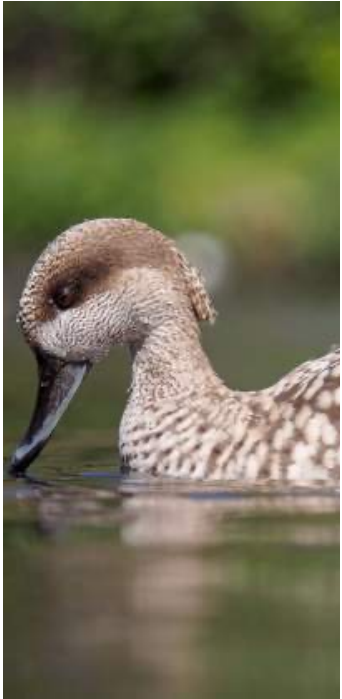
1st Meeting of the South-West Asia Illegal Taking of Migratory Birds Intergovernmental Task Force

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20-21 May 2025, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia



**Mandates, initiatives and
major opportunities in
addressing illegal taking of
migratory birds**

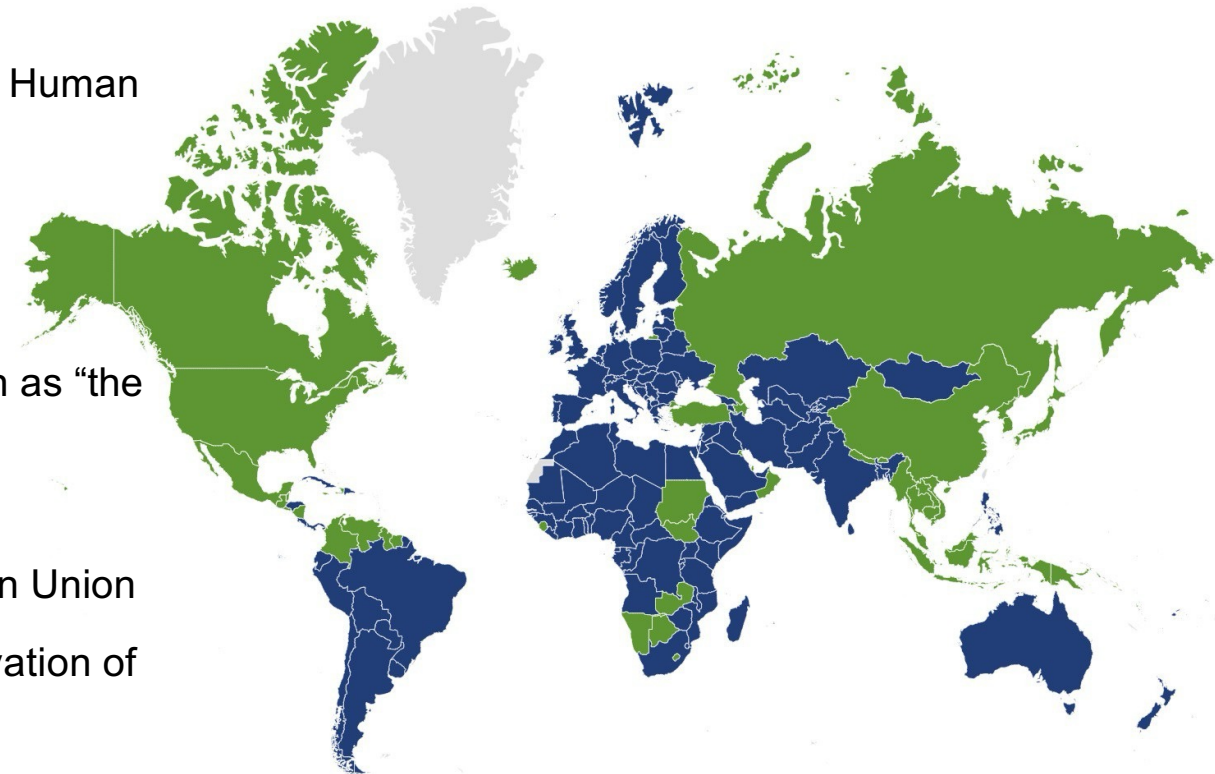




CMS and COP14 Outcomes

The Convention on Migratory Species

- CMS is a multilateral environmental agreement (MEA) of the United Nations
- History:
 - Stockholm 1972 - UN Conference on the Human Environment – establishment of UNEP
 - Recognized the special threats faced by migratory species and the need for an international agreement
 - CMS signed in 1979 in Bonn (also known as “the Bonn Convention”)
 - Entered into force on 1 November 1983
- 133 Parties – 132 countries plus the European Union
- The only global treaty to focus on the conservation of migratory species and their habitats



Party Non-Party

CMS Appendices

Appendix I – Endangered Species

- Grants highest degree of protection
- In danger of extinction in all or most of their range
- Habitat to conserve/restore
- Parties must prohibit taking



- *Species can be listed on Appendix I and II at the same time*



Appendix II - Species Requiring International Agreements

- Have an unfavorable conservation status
- Would benefit significantly from international cooperation achieved through international agreements



COP14 ITB relevant outcomes



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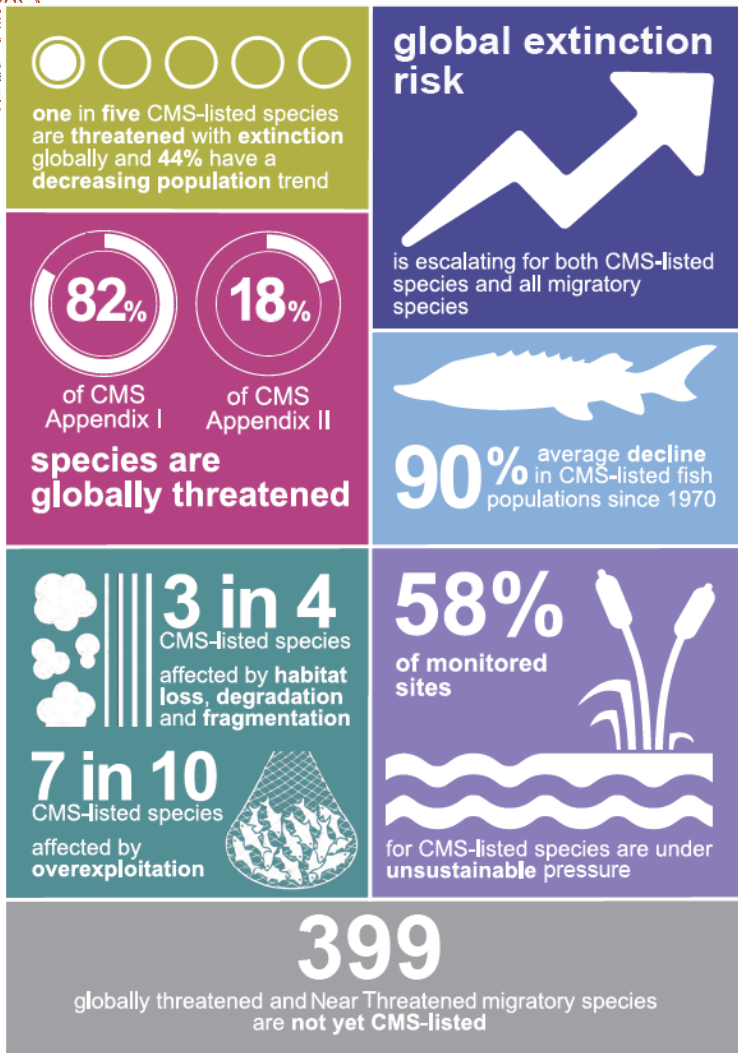


- State of the World's Migratory Species
- New Strategic Plan for Migratory Species
- Renewed mandate for global action against IKB
- Success in expanding IKB Task Forces at three regions

STATE OF THE WORLD'S MIGRATORY SPECIES



Convention on the Conservation of
Migratory Species of Wild Animals



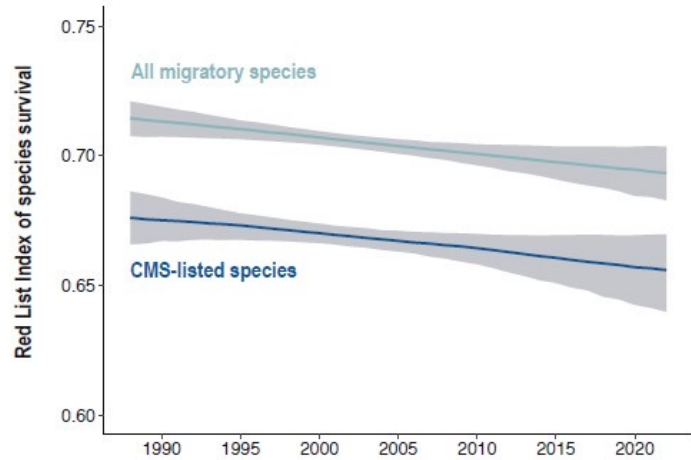


Figure 2.4: Red List Index of species survival for CMS-listed (n=1,118) and all migratory (n=2,428) species for which data were available. Grey shading shows confidence intervals. An index value of 1 equates to all species being categorized as 'Least Concern', while an index value of 0 equates to all species being categorized as 'Extinct'.

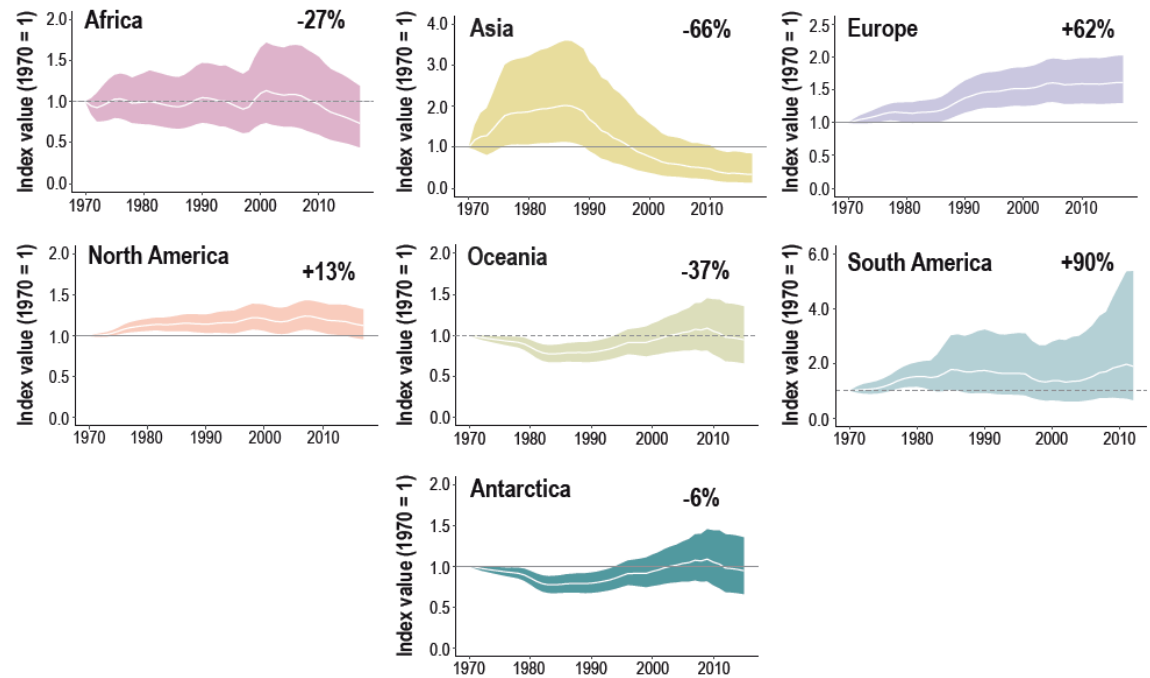


Figure 2.9: Average change in relative abundance, between 1970 and 2017, of CMS-listed species by region. Trends are for 631 populations of 161 species in **Africa** (-27%, range -56% to +19%); 370 populations of 126 species in **Asia** (-66%, range -86% to -15%); 1,627 populations of 291 species in **Europe** (+62%, range +30% to +103%); 420 monitored populations of 206 species in **North America** (+13%, range -4% to +33%); 6,356 monitored populations of 52 species in **Oceania** (-37%, range -60% to 0%); 86 populations of 13 species in **Antarctica** (-6%, range -34% to +35%); and 270 populations of 74 species in **South America** (+90%, range -34% to +439%). Shaded areas represent the statistical uncertainty surrounding the trend. Please note the different y-axis scales due to the large range of confidence intervals across regions.

Samarkand Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2024-2032

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 restored, supporting their connectivity.

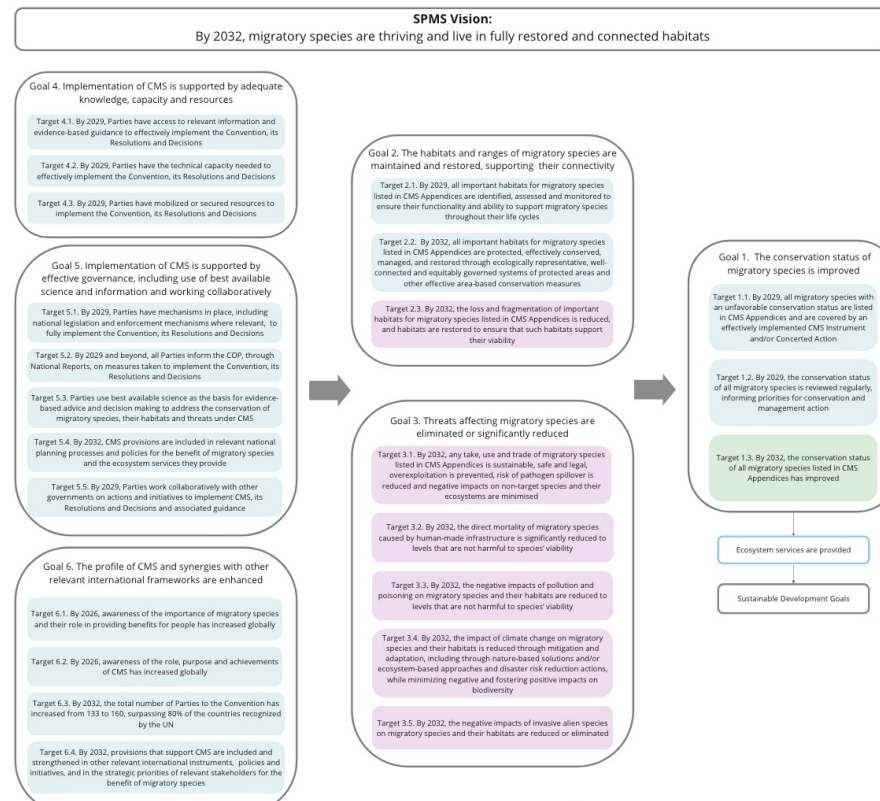
Goal 3. Threats affecting MS are eliminated or significantly reduced.

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.

Theory of Change for CMS SPMS 2024-2032 (9 years)




COP14 Key Outcomes on ITB

- **Illegal Taking: Resolution 11.16 (Rev.COP14)**

UN environment programme

CMS

 **CONVENTION ON
MIGRATORY
SPECIES**

UNEP/CMS/Resolution 11.16 (Rev.COP14)
Original: English



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


Adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its 14th Meeting (Samarkand, February 2024)

- Includes now a clear mention of the **Rome Strategic Plan** and an encouragement to Secretariat, Parties, NGOs and other stakeholders to support its implementation
- **Acknowledges** the work in developing and using **the Scoreboard in the Med**
- Requests the Task Force to collect the experience from the use of the **Scoreboard and submit proposal for amendment at CMS Standing Committee**

COP14 Key Outcomes on ITB

- **Illegal Taking: Resolution 11.16 (Rev.COP14)**

UN environment programme  

 **CONVENTION ON
MIGRATORY
SPECIES** UNEP/CMS/Resolution 11.16 (Rev.COP14)
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**THE PREVENTION OF ILLEGAL KILLING, TAKING AND TRADE OF MIGRATORY
BIRDS**

Adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its 14th Meeting (Samarkand, February 2024)

- **Expansion and reinforcement of the prevention** of illegal hunting, taking, and trade of migratory birds
- Calls for strengthening the **Asia-Pacific Intergovernmental Task Force (ITTEA)**
- **Decision to establish a new Task Force in South-West Asia**, based on the successful model of the Task Force in the Mediterranean region.

MIKT 5



MIKT model expanding to Asia-Pacific & South-West Asia regions





CMS is actively working against wildlife crime , and synergies are needed

Improving legal frameworks on Wildlife Crime

- Article III (5) of convention requires Parties to prohibit taking of Appendix-I, but many Parties have not adequately implemented this at national level
- CMS National Legislation Programme
 - Reviews how parties have implemented their obligations
 - Can help countries to improve wildlife-related laws on taking, trade, hunting, etc
- Dedicated workshop on the National Legislation Programme scheduled for June 2025



Key mandate and Guidance

- [CMS Resolution 11.31 \(Rev.COP14\)](#) Illegal and unsustainable taking of wildlife
- [CMS Resolution 11.16 \(Rev.COP14\)](#) Prevention of Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade of Migratory birds.
- Specific guidance for Migratory birds
 - Vast experience in tackling IKB and supporting countries in setting up legislative frameworks and establishing baseline studies to monitor IKB and reduce and/or eliminate this threat to migratory species
 - [CMS Model Law on Provisions on IKB](#)
 - [CMS Legislative Guidance on IKB](#)
 - Guidance on establishment of IKB Baseline at country level
 - Guidance on developing National Action Plan against IKB
 - Capacity building of enforcement agencies, judiciary, prosecutors





Our meeting priorities

SWAITB 1st Meeting Objectives



Be informed about the current CMS mandates following CMS COP14,



Learn about the activities of different range states to combat illegal taking of migratory birds



Finalise and endorse the Terms of Reference for the Task Force and recommend them for adoption by the CMS Standing Committee.



Agree on the way forward to deliver an ITB Action Plan in the region and recommend it for adoption for the next TF meeting.



Agree on next steps for the Task Force, including the engagement of a Coordinator.



SAWITB in 2025



Focus on strategic documents (ToR, Action Plan, Timeline)



Resources key, need to gather support and engagement across region

Key messages

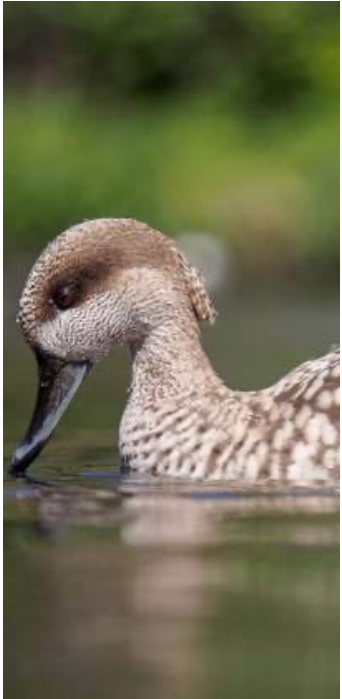
- National ITB Action Plans are excellent instruments to promote involvement from stakeholders and monitor IKB.
- Adapting National Legislation is considered as the best performing area to tackle ITB
- Establishing a baseline and effective monitoring are urgent challenges for SWAITB countries





Key messages

- Understanding motivations and factors driving ITB in this region is key to tailor specific actions and for them to become successful
- Education and Awareness at all levels is key. Need to design attractive and easy-to-read materials that can be spread through the region
- Capacity building (enforcement agencies, rangers, NGOs, local communities) already identified as big gap
- Joint fundraising is key. We hope other countries in the region will agree to supporting actions within the Action Plan.
- CMS Secretariat staff are ready to support coordinated activities, including funding proposals, communication campaigns and tailored events



Thank you

