



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

# The International Fund for Animal Welfare

IFAW MENA

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

20-21 May 2025, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

**ifaw**



**UN**  
environment  
programme



- Animals and People Thriving Together in the Place We Call Home:
  - a) Established in the MENA region with dedicated UAE offices since 2007
  - b) Leading an international dedicated “Wildlife Crime” Program
  - c) Contributing to positive change in regional and international policies
  - d) Supporting the establishment of the South-West Asia Illegal Taking of Migratory Birds Intergovernmental Task Force.



## Coordination

- Fresh Thinking and Bold Action :
  - a) Networking through strong relationships with MENA governments
  - b) Collaboration with a big number of universities, NGOs and other entities in the MENA region.
  - c) Advocating combating wildlife crime at international fora and MEA's.



## Monitoring

- Enforcing rescue capacity, tackling poaching and illegal trade including:
  - a) The Levant Operation for Bird Rescue (LOBR)
  - b) The MENA cyber crime hub is disrupting illegal wildlife trade online
  - c) Granted the “Trusted Flagger” status under the EU’s Digital Services Act



## Capacity Building

- Providing professional technical training in the region:
  - a) 80+ regional (in person/virtual) trainings about combating trafficking delivered in the MENA region
  - b) Covering illegal wildlife trade, birds under CITES and other relevant topics
  - c) An international dedicated institution and depository of educational modules
  - d) Develop training materials & related modules.



## Academy of Rescue and Conservation

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# Thank You

