

## SIXTH MEETING OF THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP TO THE RAPTORS MOU

(online, 9 January 2024)

UNEP/CMS/RAPTORS/TAG6/Doc.3

### TAG Workplan 2023-2026 and comments received at MOS3

(prepared by the Coordinating Unit)

- The table below includes (marked in 'False Track Changes') the amendments to the Mandate column based on the revised Term of reference of the TAG as approved by the Third Meeting of Signatories to the Raptors MOU (MOS3).

Mandate <sup>1</sup>	Action	Expected Output	Lead (L) & Contributor (C)	Priority Level	Funding Required (USD)
TOR 4(b) 2 (iii) ROP 16(2)	1. Ensure changes in taxonomy and/or conservation status and knowledge of movement of migratory raptors are reflected in the Raptors MOU lists.	Amendments to Annexes 1, 2 and 3 (Table 1 and Table 3) proposed to MOS.	L: C:	Core activity	~30,000
ROP 16.3(c)	2. Review proposals submitted to MOS for the inclusion of species in Annex 1 of the MOU.	Written comments on each proposal tabled by Signatories.	L: C:	Core activity	~4,000
ROP 16.3(c)	3. Review proposals submitted to MOS for the inclusion of sites in Table 3 of the MOU's Action Plan.	Written comments on each proposal tabled by Signatories.	L: C:	Core activity	~7,000

<sup>1</sup> **TOR** = Terms of Reference of the TAG; **ROP** = Rules of Procedure for Meetings of Signatories to the Raptors MOU; **Table 2** = Table 2 of the Raptors MOU Action Plan.

TOR 4(a) 2(i)	4. Contribute scientific and technical advice on matters brought to the attention of the TAG by Signatories and relating to the following: conservation and management activities and promulgation of guidance; and capacity-building to develop guidance, good practice, and other activities.	To be determined (TBD) based on Signatories' requests.	L: C:	Core activity	TBD
TOR 4(d) 2(iv)	5. Report to MOS on TAG activities.	Report to MOS submitted by the deadline.	L: C:	Core activity	-
Table 2 Act. (5.1), 7	6. Contribute technical expertise on raptors to the work of the CMS Task Forces.	TAG advice provided to Lead and MIKT Task Forces.	L: C:	Core activity	-
		Outputs of CMS Task Force meetings shared with Signatories.	L: C:	Core activity	-
TOR 4(a) 2(i) Table 2 Act. 5.1	7. Contribute to the CMS Energy Task Force and ensure that the potential impact on raptors of energy production and distribution infrastructure is properly addressed.	TAG input into ETF documents, as required.	L: C:	Core activity	-
TOR 4(b) 2(iii) Table 2 Act. 1.1	8. Monitor consistency between the IUCN Red List status, Table 1 Category, and CMS Appendix listing of species.	List of species eligible for inclusion in CMS Appendix I or II.	L: C:	Very high	~1,500
TOR 4(b) 2(iii)	9. Clarify the criteria for inclusion of a species in Category 2 of Table 1 of the MOU's Action Plan.	Discussion paper to lead the TAG discussion aimed at clarifying what should be considered as a "regional assessment".	L: C:	Very high	~5,000
TOR 4(a) 2(iii) Table 2 Act. 1.2 Table 2 Act. 1.2, 1.3	10. Support assessments of whether national legislation appropriately protects birds of prey.	Support the clarification of the definition of legal protection. Support the identification of the right format for legislative guidance for Signatories. Support the review of national species protection legislation (indicator).	L: all TAG C: all TAG	High	TBD
TOR 4(a) 2(iii) Table 2 Act. 3.1	11. Support the assessment of the distribution, conservation, and protection status of habitats important for migratory raptors.	Inputs into the "Assessment of the State of principal birds' habitats" project.	L: C:	High	TBD

TOR 4(a) 2(i) Table 2 Act. 3.2	12. Provide guidance on the Migratory Raptor Safe Zones approach to Signatories.	Guidance document on Migratory Raptor Safe Zones.	L: C: André Botha	Low	-
TOR 4(a) 2 (iii) Table 2 Act. 3.2	13. Identify information gaps on key breeding areas, stopovers, refuelling, bottleneck, and other congregational and non-breeding sites along raptor flyways.	Site Network Analysis covering all relevant Annex I spp. (taking into consideration satellite tracking data).	L: C:	Very high	~60,000
TOR 4(a) 2(i) Table 2 Act. 3.2	14. Produce guidance on effective habitat and site protection.	Guidance on assessing the effectiveness of legal protection of sites and habitat (indicator).	L: C:	Medium	TBD
TOR 4(b) 2(iii) Table 2 Act. 3.2, 6.1	15. Assess the protection status of the sites listed in the Action Plan's Table 3 and their effectiveness in conserving migratory raptors.	Contribute to the Conservation Status Assessment Report to MOS4 an overview regarding protection of sites of international importance for raptors <b>and a measure of their effectiveness.</b>	L: C:	Very high	~9,000, depending on data sources used
TOR 4(a) 2(i) Table 2 Act. 4	16. Assess and provide recommendations on the value of new technologies, including satellite tracking, to: assess mortality; and identify mortality causes, important sites, distribution range, and migration pathways.	Collate information on the value of satellite tagging and the use of drones.	L: C:	High	TBD
		Information on mortality included periodically (i.e., when new significant information becomes available) in the Conservation Status Assessment Report.	L: C:	Very High	~5.000
TOR 4(a) 2(i) Table 2 Act. 4.1	17. Provide guidance on national threat assessment methodologies.	Guidance on how to assess threats at the national level (indicator).	L: C:	Medium	TBD

TOR 4(a) 2(i) Table 2 Act. 4.1	18. Study the impact on raptors of locust and Quelea control programmes.	Information material on locust and/or Quelea control programmes. Collaborate with FAO to promote access to data that may be used for impact assessments.	L: C:	High	TBD
TOR 4(a) 2(i) Table 2 Act. 4.1	19. Collate and disseminate information on the extent of climate change's impacts on raptors, their habitats and prey.	Information material on the impact of climate change on raptors, their habitat, and prey. Consider JNCC's work on climate change and migration, as well as the outcomes of the workshop on "Bird Migration and Climate Change" organized by Navarra Environmental Management on 31 March 2022, and any work being undertaken by CMS on climate change.	L: Matyas Prommer C:	Very high	TBD
TOR 4(a) 2(i) Table 2 Act. 6.2	20. Support the development of guidance on national monitoring of raptors.	Support the review of existing national monitoring protocols and programmes (indicator) with a focus on Asia.	L: C:	High	TBD
TOR 4(a) 2(iii) Table 2 Act. 4.1, 6.1	21. Monitor the conservation status of migratory raptors listed in Annex 1.	Conservation Status Assessment Report at each MOS.	L: C:	Very high	~18,000
TOR 4(b) 2(i)	22. Collate best-practice guidance on the use of satellite tags and drones for monitoring raptors.	Guidance material on the field use of satellite tracking and other technologies for raptor conservation.	L: C:	High	TBD
Table 2 Act. 6.3	23. Provide guidance and share information on how to identify conservation-related research needs.	Review of existing relevant research priority frameworks and platforms (indicator).	L: C:	Low	TBD
TOR 4(a) 2(i)	24. Advise on matters pertaining to raptor conservation, including in response to the climate-biodiversity crisis.	Horizon scanning paper.	L: C:	High	~15,000

TOR 4(b) 2(i)	25. Collate and disseminate guidelines on raptor reintroduction programmes and promote their application.	Consider any relevant work already published by IUCN and Cambridge Press.	L: C:	High	-
Table 2 Act. 7.1	26. Contribute to monitoring of awareness-raising activities related to raptors' migration and threats.	Develop a raptor-specific sub-indicator for the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership Biodiversity Barometer (indicator).	L: C:	Low	TBD
Table 2 Act. 7.2	27. Contribute to monitoring of awareness-raising activities at bottleneck sites for raptors' migration.	Support development of TORs for surveys on awareness-raising activities (indicator).	L: C:	Low	-
TOR 4(a) 2(i) Table 2 Act. 6.2, 7.2, 8.1, 8.2	28. Contribute advice to the development of an East African-Eurasian Flyway bottleneck monitoring project.	Advise on rationale and draft concept for monitoring and building capacity and awareness along the Flyway.	L: C:	High	-
TOR 4(a) 2(i) Table 2 Act. 9.1	29. Develop mechanisms for sharing data on raptors that can contribute to the MOU's objectives.	Guidance on good practice on data sharing that takes into account any synergies with BirdLife's work.	L: C:	Medium	TBD

2. The following text is a part of the draft Report of the Third Meeting of Signatories (Dubai 3-6 July 2023) regarding the comments received on the TAG Workplan. It is given here as an informal summary of the inputs provided by the Signatories.
3. “Expressing thanks to all retiring members and to the UAE for supporting TAG meetings, Mr Des Thompson (Chair of the TAG) presented the document, which explained the sources of the different actions that the TAG Workplan brought together. He considered that the improving gender balance of the TAG was a positive development. The TAG Workplan 2023-2026 was guided by actions foreseen in the TAG Workplan 2016-2020, the TAG TOR and relevant Raptors MOU documents, as well as new activities proposed by TAG at TAG5. It comprised eight core activities, and other activities ranked by priority. The TAG needed early notification in relation to the review of sites in Table 3. The TAG’s work in relation to climate change had increased significantly, within an overall ambitious work programme. The Chair of the TAG thanked Ms Vicky Jones (BirdLife International) for significant work undertaken to support the TAG.
4. The UK recognised and supported the ambitious Workplan and priority actions.
5. India appreciated the work carried out in developing this programme, and requested that actions on surveillance in relation to HPAI be integrated into the Workplan.
6. Chad expressed appreciation of the Workplan, and recommended inclusion of actions related to desertification with links to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, and the need to take capacity building into account.
7. Spain on behalf of the EU and its Member States recognised the Workplan and supported it going forwards.
8. Saudi Arabia took note of the Workplan and accepted the recommendations, adding that TAG input would be welcomed to the development of an Action Plan for the Steppe Eagle.
9. The Netherlands wished the TAG success in executing its ambitious Workplan. Noting that under a goose management platform, mechanisms on bird safety with respect to collisions with aircraft were receiving attention, the Netherlands recommended that the TAG also look at this issue, which had high social and economic impact, and in which birds of prey were implicated.
10. Israel considered that poisoning was missing from the TAG Workplan, there being no proposed direct action in regard to monitoring and awareness in relation to poisoning.
11. The Chair of the TAG agreed that the TAG should look at HPAI and recognised that air safety was an important point; both could be considered under Action16 dealing with causes of mortality. He agreed with the need to put a strong emphasis on climate change, and to put more resources into awareness raising, both nationally and regionally.
12. With respect to Action 28 on bottleneck monitoring, Kenya suggested that “to be determined (TBD)” should be added to the last column showing funding required. Kenya requested the advisory support of the TAG with respect to locust and quelea control, which impacted raptors in East Africa. Kenya also suggested that the TAG make use of existing platforms like eBird and local and regional atlases to share data on migration and local bird species.

13. Niger considered that capacity building was missing from the table of Actions. People living especially in rural areas of Africa needed to understand the importance of conserving raptors, and building capacity should be a priority, such as Training of Trainers. The Chair of the TAG thanked Niger and Chad for comments relating to capacity building and invited them to discuss this further.
14. The Chair and Saudi Arabia expressed their formal thanks to Mr Thompson for his professional approach to chairing the TAG over the past years, and for his immense contributions.
15. The Meeting took note of the TAG Workplan 2023-2026 contained in Annex 1 to the document, as previously approved by the TAG, and requested the Coordinating Unit to update the column “mandate” in the approved Workplan, to align with other outcomes adopted. The Meeting invited the TAG to identify suitable “leads” and “contributors” for implementing each Workplan action.”

**TAG is requested to:**

16. Consider how to incorporate the comment received
17. Identify Leads and contributor(s) for each action in the Workplan