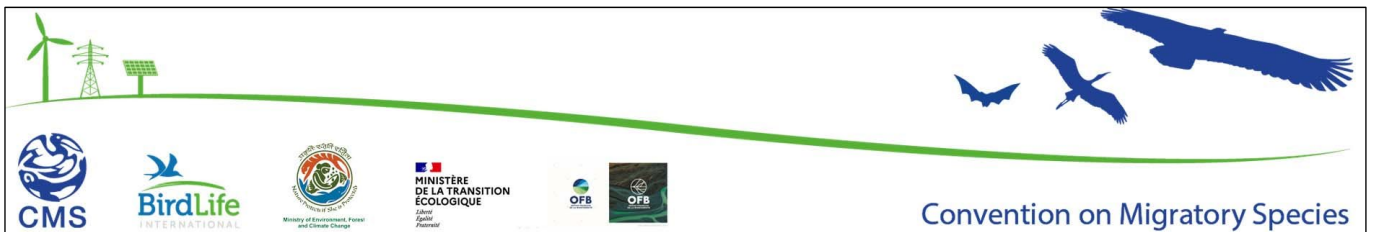


## 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the CMS Multi-Stakeholder Energy Task Force

9-10 February 2022, online

ETF6/Doc.4

### UPDATES FROM THE ETF'S TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP



The Government of India, through the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change were recognized as Champion Plus for their generous support and commitment towards Making energy safe for wildlife for the period 2020-2023. The operations of the Energy Task Force have been funded with the contribution granted by India under the Migratory Species Champion Programme.



## TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP UPDATE FOR 2021

1. In accordance with the interest shown by Members of the Energy Task Force (ETF) at the 5th meeting of the ETF (ETF5), 2021 saw the reinitiating of the ETF's Technical Working Group (TWG).
2. The role of the TWG is to advise the wider ETF on key knowledge gaps and research priorities and to pursue opportunities to conduct research, communicate new knowledge and promote best practice.
3. At its first meeting in February 2021, Tris Allinson of BirdLife International was elected chair of the Working Group. The Working Group consists of 5 active members (BirdLife International, British Trust for Ornithology, IUCN Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation, BirdLife South Africa and EUROBATS Secretariat).
4. The Working Group prepared and adopted an updated Terms of Reference (ToR) and established research priorities for the period 2021-2022.
5. The TWG has established the following recommended research priorities for the ETF:
  - Promote research in regions outside Europe and North America, especially in emerging renewable energy markets in high biodiversity regions
  - Promote research into (migratory) taxa not encountered in Europe and North America and consequently under-studied
  - Consider how European and North American recommendations can be translated to other regions. Recommendations should consider what constitutes a robust baseline Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) in a data-poor region
  - Anticipate and investigate novel impact
  - Promote research into cumulative impacts to equip developers and regulators with tools and guidance to calculate acceptable thresholds of impact.
  - Promote research on population level impact
  - Promote research into novel and understudied technologies
  - Improve collaboration, engagement and alignment with multi-stakeholder groups, such as developers and engineers
  - Promote the collation of biodiversity data necessary to inform robust spatial planning tools
  - Facilitate multidisciplinary planning that brings together experts in all aspects of energy development
  - Work to promote environmental and social impact assessments (ESIAs) as necessary precursors to renewable energy deployment globally and create and promote global best practice standards to ensure consistent and rigorous assessments
  - Promote research into the efficacy (and technical constraints) of mitigation and compensation offsets with consultation from the energy sector
  - Promote the Best Practice Handbook on Post Construction Fatality Monitoring, encourage the sharing of monitoring data and investigate the possibility of developing a centralised database of collision data
  - Develop and disseminate materials, films, webinars and other educational tools to make all relevant stakeholders, including the general public, aware of the issues and potential solutions
  - Engage with other relevant stakeholder networks, groups and task forces to ensure collaboration, to fill knowledge gaps and to avoid the duplication of effort.

6. The following key recommended outputs have been proposed by the TWG:
  - **Survey:** The TWG intend to conduct an in-depth survey of relevant stakeholders to better understand the key issues, regions and obstacles associated with reconciling energy infrastructure and migratory wildlife. This survey should take advantage of the various networks at our disposal—CMS, AEWa, EUROBATS, the BirdLife Partnership, etc.
  - **Stakeholder mapping:** The TWG will undertake a stakeholder mapping exercise to identify wider international research groups and scientific communities.
  - **White paper/horizon scan:** The TWG will compile the results of the survey, as well as the finding of research undertaken, in a “white paper/horizon scan”.
7. Due to a lack of resources, the TWG has not yet begun work on delivering these key outputs.