



Memorandum of Understanding
on the Conservation of
Migratory Birds of Prey in
Africa and Eurasia

Distribution: General
UNEP/CMS/Raptors/TAG4/Doc.6.5

08 November 2021

Fourth Meeting of the Technical Advisory Group | *Online, 13-15 December 2021*

CONSERVATION STATUS ASSESSMENT REPORT CONCEPT

Prepared by BirdLife International

Introduction

1. The Raptors MOU aims to promote internationally coordinated actions to achieve and maintain the favourable conservation status of migratory birds of prey throughout their range in the African-Eurasian region, and to reverse their decline when and where appropriate.
2. For the Meeting of Signatories (MOS) to have the overview of whether a favourable conservation status is being achieved and maintained for the species on Annex 1 of the MOU throughout their range, it could be valuable for a report to be submitted periodically to future Meetings of the Signatories summarising what is known about the conservation status of Annex 1 species and highlighting any knowledge gaps.
3. An outline is proposed in Annex A to this document covering the proposed content of a first trial report to be produced by TAG and presented to MOS3.

Action requested:

TAG is requested to review, provide any feedback on and endorse the concept.

Annex A: Key content for a first Conservation Status Assessment Report (CSAR)¹

A. What is the current conservation status of migratory raptors in Africa-Eurasia and how has this been changing over time?

- Overview of proportion of Annex 1 species falling within different categories of global IUCN Red List conservation status.
- Additional information on conservation status from regional processes.
- Overview of trend in the conservation status of migratory raptor species covered by Annex 1 over time².
- Table 1 breakdown into different categories now and over time.

B. What are the indications of how well we are doing at halting and reversing population declines of migratory raptors in Africa-Eurasia?

- Overview of global or regional population trends of Annex 1 species; what proportion of species are increasing, stable, decreasing or unknown in population trend?

C. What are the threats recorded to be affecting Annex 1 species?

- Overview of IUCN coded threats to Annex 1 species.
- Detailed breakdown of relative importance of different threats to Annex 1 species.

D. Which habitats are of key importance for Annex 1 species?

- Which IUCN habitat's types are most frequently recorded as being suitable or important for Annex 1 raptor species.
- Detailed breakdown of habitats important at different stages of the annual cycle.

E. Conservation actions: Overview of gaps in species action plans (as per TAG3)

- A report on the work TAG engaged in and presented at TAG3 (UNEP/CMS/Raptors/TAG3/Doc.4.2a) to summarise which Table 1 Category 1 species (the globally threatened and near threatened species) are not currently known to have an international single species action plan (SSAP) or be covered by an international multi-species action plan (MsAP) would be incorporated into this CSAR. It would highlight gaps where TAG3 considered the development of an SSAP or MsAP could be beneficial in coordinating efforts to reverse the decline in a Table 1 Category 1 species.

¹ National reporting serves a different purpose to the CSAR, but it could be important to refer in the CSAR to the overview results of national reporting on questions relating to national information on conservation status, population trends and monitoring

² <https://www.iucnredlist.org/assessment/red-list-index>

F. Conservation actions: Listing of African-Eurasian raptor species on CMS Appendix 1

- Which Raptors MOU Annex 1 species could benefit from CMS Appendix I listing? (Gap analysis between Raptors MOU Table 1, Category 1 and CMS Appendix I).

G. Key knowledge gaps

- Report highlights knowledge gaps that if filled, could improve conservation status assessment.

The CSAR for future Meetings of Signatories

The MOS3 CSAR will be a test of concept, and it is recognised that the content of future reports could be modified in line with the aim, and potentially expanded to make use of available sources of information and support the needs of the MOU. Internationally important sites for raptors are clearly a key component in supporting populations of migratory raptors. It is not proposed to include a site element to the MOS3 CSAR since Table 3 is still under discussion, but site network analysis (such as that undertaken by TAG as a pilot) could be a useful addition to the CSAR in the future.

Analyses will be based on 2021 IUCN Red List species datasets, so could not begin until Sept 2021 and some key draft content for the report will be shared at TAG4.