



REGIONAL WIND FARM PLANNING IN JORDAN

Introduction

The Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) Energy Task Force (ETF) is a multi-stakeholder platform that works towards reconciling energy developments with the conservation of migratory species. Jordan is an ETF member which champions a coordinated planning approach for the siting of wind farms in a manner that integrates soaring bird species considerations.

MIGRATORY SOARING BIRDS AND WIND FARMS

Wind farms can have a significant impact on birds and bird populations, including collision mortality, displacement and habitat fragmentation.

Jordan (specifically the Jordan Rift Valley) is an important area for bird migration. The location of development projects within a relatively limited geographical area of the Jordan Rift Valley area (one of the most important global flyways) provides an opportunity for collaborative working.

MIGRATORY SOARING BIRDS – JORDAN

The project aims to reduce mortality of migratory soaring birds from collisions with wind farms in Jordan (Tefila region and Jordan Rift Valley), via an integrated and coordinated regional planning approach.

Key species: Avifauna and migratory soaring bird species in Jordan include Egyptian Vulture, Steppe Eagle, Eastern Imperial Eagle, Saker Falcon.

Project partners: Jordan Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature (RSCN), Ministry of Environment (MoE).

Location: Jordan, Tefila region and Jordan Rift Valley.

JORDAN / JORDAN RIFT VALLEY

The Government of Jordan set a target to obtain 1,800 Megawatt (MW), or 10 per cent of the country's energy supply, from renewable sources by 2020.

SOLUTIONS AND ACTIONS TAKEN

- RSCN leads the development of national safeguard guidelines for wind energy in Jordan.
- MoE with technical support from RSCN established national energy round table.
- The round table facilitates the sharing of raw data on wind power and avifaunal operational monitoring with the MoE.
- Regular meetings are held with project developers.



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ENABLING CONDITIONS FOR SUCCESS

- Creating partnerships – strong collaboration and relationship among key stakeholders such as government, NGOs and private sectors.
- Political and government collaboration – developing national guidelines and achieving international biodiversity requirements.
- Joint goals of promoting sustainable and biodiversity-friendly renewable energy in Jordan.

NEXT STEPS – MONITORING AND MITIGATION

Build the capacities of national governments and wind power developers in international standards to ensure commitments to carry out appropriate mitigation.

Continue to improve national guidelines based on new evidence and advancements in the field.

Launch the national centralised online collision database for bird monitoring and species mortality and encourage public reporting of collision and electrocution through the online tool.

Monitor and assess the impact of powerlines on migratory birds along flyways in Jordan and identify hotspots, as well as develop national guidelines and work to isolate powerlines in identified sensitive areas in Jordan.

ABOUT CMS AND THE ETF

CMS, also known as the Bonn Convention, works for the conservation of a wide array of endangered migratory animals worldwide, engaging all relevant stakeholders through negotiation and implementation of agreements and species action plans. It has 131 Parties (as of August 2020).

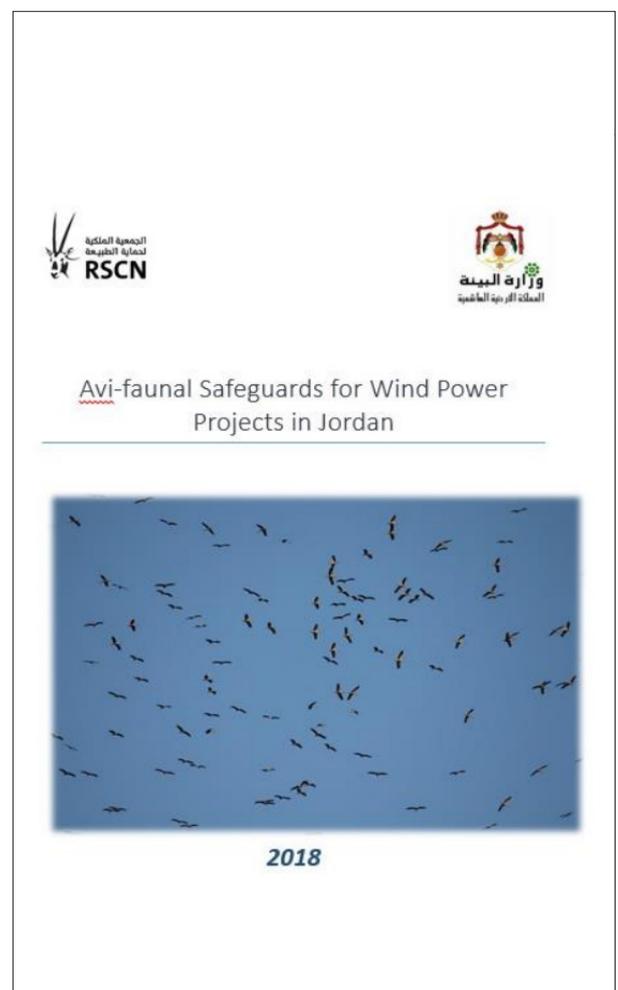
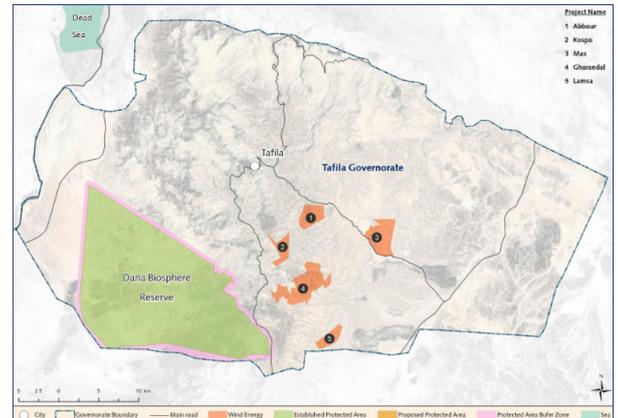
Animals receive protection under CMS through listing on its two Appendices, through global or regional agreements and through action plans. CMS engages all relevant stakeholders in addressing threats to migratory species in concert with all other aspects of wildlife conservation and management.

The CMS ETF brings together governments, multilateral environmental agreements, investors, the private sector and non-governmental organizations with an aim of avoiding and minimising the negative impacts of energy developments on migratory species.

GETTING INVOLVED

If you wish to learn more about the work of the ETF, become a member or engage otherwise, please contact the ETF coordinator:

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