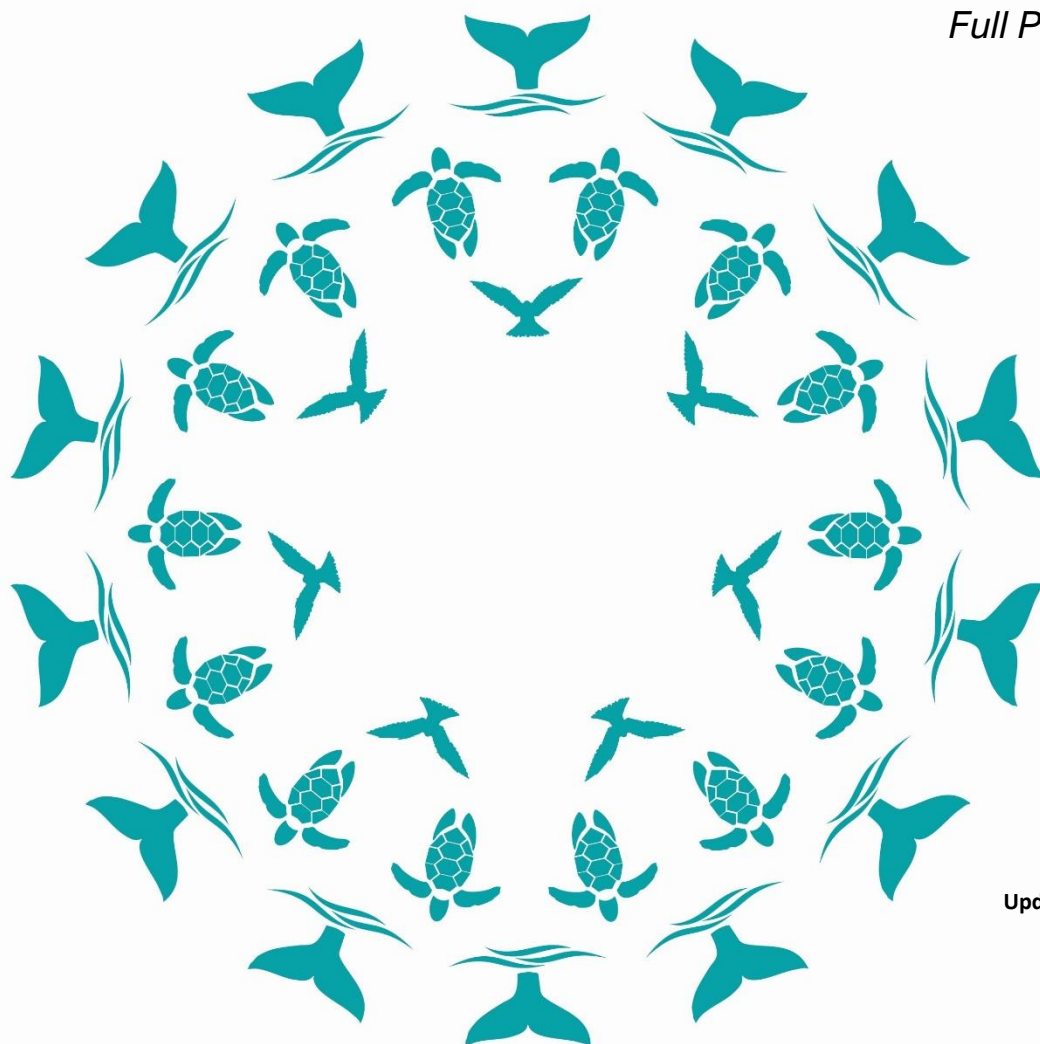




SIDE EVENTS

Full Programme



Updated 06/02/2020



Hello! I am Gibi, the Great!

*This booklet shows you the full programme
of CMS COP13 Side Events.*

*And remember, there are no side events on Friday
because you're all going on an excursion!*

Monday 17 February 2020

Lunchtime – First Session – 12:45-13:30

Event Description and Organizer(s)	Room
<p>A Call for Global Species Conservation Action in the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework</p> <p>This event will outline IUCN's position on the post-2020 global biodiversity framework focusing on the need for a paradigm shift in species conservation action; it will include the need for enhanced connectivity and improved action-oriented synergies between all stakeholders. Particular reference will be made to the Abu Dhabi Call for Global Species Conservation Action</p> <p>Organizer(s): International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)</p>	Room 1
<p>Advancing Jaguar Conservation: Listing <i>Panthera onca</i> on Appendices I and II of CMS</p> <p>This event will discuss the rationale for an Appendix I and II CMS listing for jaguars as well as regional efforts to manage and protect the largest native cat in the Americas.</p> <p>Organizer(s): Range States: Costa Rica, Bolivia, Paraguay, Peru International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS)</p>	Room 2
<p>Innovative approaches to achieve Aichi Biodiversity Target 11</p> <p>The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) is inextricably linked to the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals – supporting the achievement of U.N. Sustainable Development Goals.</p> <p>The 15th meeting of the Conference of Parties to the CBD will be held in October 2020 - when the CBD Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 that laid down the 20 Aichi Biodiversity Targets is culminating. The CBD Secretariat believes that Aichi Target 11 is one of the targets that can be achieved globally by the end date of the Strategic Plan. To achieve Aichi Target 11, it is important for Parties to report protected areas coverage to the World Database on Protected Areas. According to India's Sixth National Report to CBD, India has surpassed Aichi Target 11 and its national biodiversity target with 27 per cent of its geographical area protected. Another approach to achieving Target 11 is to focus on identifying, documenting and reporting other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs).</p> <p>The side-event aims to share, with the global community, innovative approaches being undertaken in India for OECMs.</p> <p>The side event is being co-organized by UNDP India and the CBD Secretariat with participation from the Biodiversity Division, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change and the</p>	Room 3

Monday 17 February 2020

Lunchtime – First Session – 12:45-13:30

Event Description and Organizer(s)	Room
<p>National Biodiversity Authority of India. UNDP India along with ICIMOD Nepal have been designated as the Regional Coordinators for the South Asia sub-regional implementation support network for achieving Aichi Target 11 by 2020 which aims to foster dialogue and experience sharing among policy makers and experts on Target 11.</p> <p>Organizer(s): United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) India Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)</p>	
<p>Global Swimways Initiative: Balancing Conservation of Migratory Fishes and Development</p>	Room 4
<p>This side event will introduce the Global Swimways Initiative promoting awareness and international cooperation for action to conserve and restore migration routes for the world's migratory freshwater fishes. There is currently a lack of focus on migratory freshwater fishes within CMS. There are at least 1,200 migratory freshwater fish species, many of which cross international borders, yet only a few are included in the CMS. Recent analysis has highlighted a major global decline in migratory fishes in large part due to loss of connectivity through construction of large dams. This session will include: presentations by a CMS Party supporting this initiative; a CMS Councillor on the global status of migratory freshwater fishes; and the first global map of migration routes of freshwater fishes. We will discuss how Parties could further integrate migratory freshwater fish into existing CMS processes to address the global impact of reduced connectivity impacting these species.</p> <p>Organizer(s): International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) UN Environment Programme-World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC)</p>	
<p>Landscape-based Conservation and Management Planning</p>	Room 5
<p>The current approach of biodiversity management is generally Protected Area (PA)-centric. Often, the rules and regulations surrounding a PA are restrictive and non-inclusive. While in certain context the PA-centric approach has delivered desired conservation results, such approach may have alienated communities dependent on PAs for livelihoods and subsistence. This is particularly relevant to species and species assemblages with large home-range sizes having considerable interface with humans. A side-event is proposed to compare PA-based and landscape-based approach to conservation, example of landscape-based, multi-stakeholder management planning / species recovery programme focusing on migratory species, achievements and challenges. The side event will pave the way to shift thinking from a PA-centric approach to conserve migratory species to a landscape- participatory approach</p> <p>Organizer(s): Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India (MoEF&CC)</p>	

Monday 17 February 2020

Lunchtime – Second Session – 13:45-14:30

Event Description and Organizer(s)	Room
<p data-bbox="444 317 1114 348">Bridging Information of Wetlands and Waterbirds</p> <p data-bbox="201 386 1360 579">Sustainably managing wetlands is crucial if declining populations of migratory waterbirds is to be halted and reversed. Regional homogeneities in the wetland regimes, their influencing drivers and pressures, policy environment, and capacities indicate possibilities of benefitting from regional collaboration and exchange in South Asia, especially learning from experiences and success stories from the field while seeking migratory waterbirds conservation and outcomes from the wise use of wetlands.</p> <p data-bbox="201 617 1360 747">The session will bring policy and decision-makers from South Asia region to discuss regional collaboration opportunities and mechanisms for conserving migratory waterbirds and wetlands in South Asia. A tool for systematic wetlands inventory, assessment and monitoring of wetlands to provide a basis for integrated management planning will also be launched.</p> <p data-bbox="201 785 1135 852">Organizer(s): Wetlands International South Asia (WISA) Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)</p>	Room 1
<p data-bbox="256 957 1302 1031">Aquatic Wild Meat in West Africa: Addressing a Local Issue with International Responsibility</p> <p data-bbox="201 1068 1360 1167">Aquatic wildmeat harvest is a growing threat to many CMS-listed species in West Africa. Drawing on the experience of communities in the region, this event will explore the problem and develop recommendations for CMS COP13.</p> <p data-bbox="201 1205 1360 1493">Opened and officiated by West African dignitaries, the event is a co-presentation from governments and civil society, including Benin, Ghana, Senegal, Togo, BEES and OceanCare, with the presence of the CMS Secretariat (tbc). The preliminary survey, Aquatic Wildmeat in the Coastal Regions of Benin and Togo: A Study of Consumption and Drivers, will be presented and Parties will discuss the implications of the survey findings as well as the international support they need to address this issue; exploring opportunities to build strong partnerships between coastal communities to address manage their resources and find sustainable livelihoods, as well as the role of the CMS regional instruments (turtles, aquatic mammals, sharks, AEWA). Recommendations for CMS COP13 will be developed</p> <p data-bbox="201 1530 976 1598">Organizer(s): OceanCare Benin Environment and Education Society (BEES)</p>	Room 2
<p data-bbox="201 1709 1360 1782">People's Participation Approach: A Bottom-Up Approach Towards Migratory Species Conservation</p> <p data-bbox="201 1820 1360 1887">To mainstream biodiversity conservation and manage the conservation of species, it is significant to mobilize joint efforts from the general public and the local authorities.</p>	Room 3

Monday 17 February 2020

Lunchtime – Second Session – 13:45-14:30

Event Description and Organizer(s)	Room
<p>In 2016, the CBCGDF established its very first Community-based Conservation Area Program (Community Conservation Area for something at somewhere “CCAfa”) for the protection of an endangered migratory species (Great Bustard) and presently over 130 CCAfa have been established around China. Different from other protected areas, the CCAfa is a programme that runs effectively based on a bottom-up approach solely dependent on People’s Participation otherwise known as a volunteer system and over the years, it has proven to be quite effective in fully mobilizing and rallying the government and the indigenous people to jointly contribute to the cause of protecting species and their habitats. The practice of the People's Participation approach through the CCAfa programme can effectively redress the current shortage and absence of local conservation forces and form a set of fast, convenient and effective biodiversity conservation mechanisms, especially on fighting against illegal wildlife killing, poisoning and trade</p> <p>Organizer(s): China Biodiversity Conservation and Green Development Foundation (CBCGDF) TERRE Policy Center (TPC)</p>	
Addressing the Impact of Linear Infrastructure on Migratory Species	Room 4
<p>The world is expected to invest around US\$90 trillion in infrastructure over the next 15 years. Linear infrastructure, including roads, railways, canals, fences and pipelines is a type of infrastructure that is expected to have a significant increase. At least 25 million kilometres of new roads are projected to be developed by 2050 and 90 % of new construction will occur in developing countries. Against this background, it is becoming increasingly important for Parties to implement preventive as well as mitigative measures to assure the movements of migratory species when planning and designing infrastructure.</p> <p>Organizer(s): Convention on Migratory Species (CMS)</p>	
Integrated Reporting Tools for Biodiversity Knowledge Management, Supporting the Post-2020 Evidence Base	Room 5
<p>Effective Scientific and technical coordination, cooperation and synergies among conventions is crucial, both at national and international levels, to address institutional fragmentation in national reporting. This is especially true when it comes to planning, implementing and monitoring activities to achieve the objectives set by the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework. The objectives of this side event are to present innovative, Party-led initiatives and approaches for synergistic activities to coherently implement the biodiversity-related conventions and to provide a brief overview of existing tools supporting integrated data management and reporting at the national level. The side event addresses the</p>	

Monday 17 February 2020

Lunchtime – Second Session – 13:45-14.30

Event Description and Organizer(s)

Room

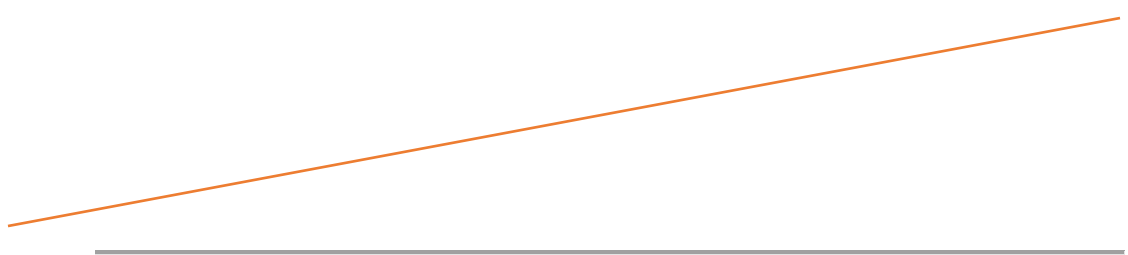
UNEP/CMS/Resolution 11.10 (Rev.COP12) and will provide an input to CMS COP13 agenda items 17 and 18. UNEP aims to facilitate an interactive discussion among experts and CMS Parties on the opportunities of integrated data management for aligned reporting in the context of the negotiations of a Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework.

Organizer(s): United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
United Nations Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring
Centrw (UNEP/WCMC),
European Union (EU)
Federal Office for the Environment Switzerland (FOEN)



Tuesday 18 February 2020

Lunchtime – First Session – 12:45-13.30

Event Description and Organizer(s)	Room
	Room 1
<p>Racing Extinction: Challenges in Cheetah Conservation and importance of the African Carnivore Initiative</p> <p>The establishment of the Joint CITES-CMS African Carnivores Initiative (ACI) is a crucial step forward in addressing the threats to African Carnivores. With a focus on the Cheetah, this side event will highlight threats and conservation challenges in protecting this CMS and CITES App. I species and invite participants to an open discussion on the role of the ACI in protecting it.</p> <p>With a global population of 7,100 individuals (Durant et al. 2017) and specific sub-species (Asia, Horn of Africa, Sahara) facing imminent extinction, this side event will discuss the linkages of mechanisms within CMS and without, available to protect it.</p> <p>Outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased awareness of the threats facing the Cheetah and other African Carnivores; Increased understanding of the Range Wide Conservation Programme for Cheetah and African Wild Dog, which was proposed as a potential model for coordination of the ACI at its 1st meeting; Promoting engagement of Parties in the ACI. <p>Organizer(s): Cheetah Conservation Fund (CCF) Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) Zoological Society of London (ZSL)</p>	Room 2
<p>Safeguarding Connectivity: from Bird Data to Management Tools</p> <p>Stakeholders from government, business to conservationists all need information about and tools for management and conservation of migratory (water)birds and their habitats across all major flyways.</p> <p>This includes data on bird numbers and their habitats from monitoring systems such as the International Waterbird Census and Important Bird Area monitoring), estimates of waterbird population sizes and trends (critical for designation of sites and development of action plans) and policy advice and decision support through application of advanced climate-related water and species distribution models for identification and prioritization of sites for conservation and</p>	Room 3

Tuesday 18 February 2020

Lunchtime – First Session – 12:45-13:30

Event Description and Organizer(s)

Room

restoration and serving that information back through an advanced decision support “Critical Site Network Tool”.

The various steps from data to application will be showcased in this event by the launch of the latest AWC India report, presentation of a ‘Visual Prototype’ of a new waterbird estimates portal and the presentation of the plans for a global connectivity tool

Organizer(s): Wetlands International (WI)

Generating Actionable Knowledge for the Effective Protection of Marine Migratory Species

Room 4

Key elements of the International Climate Initiative-funded Global Ocean Biodiversity Initiative (GOBI) aim to develop and disseminate actionable knowledge for marine migratory species, moving beyond the aggregation of data in open-access repositories. Important Marine Mammal Areas (IMMAs), Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas (IBAs) and the Migratory Connectivity in the Ocean (MiCO) system are all providing valuable information relevant to policy, management and industry audiences. This is recognized by CMS Resolutions on ecological networks, connectivity and IMMAs. Scientific research is building on these resolutions and strengthening the evidence base for the protection of migratory species in an increasingly pressured ocean.

This side event will explain how marine migratory species information generated by GOBI supports international policy mechanisms, in particular the CBD’s EBSA process, and will inform the development of the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework. GOBI’s work can facilitate synergies between CMS and CBD in support of the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals.

Organizer(s): Global Ocean Biodiversity Initiative (GOBI)

Vultures are Still Dying from Poisoning, but the Vulture Multi-species Action Plan (Vulture MsAP) is Working

Room 5

This side event aims to

- review the progress in the fight against poisoning of vultures, notably in Africa (training) and Europe (Balkan anti-poisoning project),
- reiterate priorities from the Vulture Multi-species Action Plan (Vulture MsAP),
- encourage and support implementation of CMS Resolutions and (Vulture MsAP) actions on poisoning,
- highlight importance of government support and engagement in this process.

Organizer(s): Vulture MsAP Coordination Team of the CMS Raptors MOU

Tuesday 18 February 2020

Lunchtime – Second Session – 13:45-14:30

Event Description and Organizer(s)	Room
<p>India's National Action Plan for Conservation of Migratory Birds and their Habitats along the Central Asian Flyway (CAF) and the implementation strategies</p> <p>The Government of India prepared a five years "National Action Plan for conservation of Migratory Birds along the Central Asian Flyway" (NAP) with due deliberations and stakeholder consultations.</p> <p>The Action Plan emphasizes coordination and cooperation between various Central Government Ministries, State Government Departments, and managers of protected areas. Local Communities, Civil Society and Private Sector. The NAP also provides a common strategic framework for regional collaboration and affirmative action for protecting, conserving, restoring, and sustainably managing populations of migratory bird species and their habitats in India. Six regional committees have been constituted to develop the implementation strategies for regional level. A National committee to monitor implementation of the NAP.</p> <p>Guidelines for Identification of important sites for the migratory species has also been developed and given in the NAP to ensure protection of new sites. Implementation strategies will be discussed which may helpful to other CAF Range Countries to replicate.</p> <p>Organizer(s): Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India (MoEF&CC) Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS) Wildlife Institute of India (WII)</p>	Room 1
<p>Beyond Ecological Connectivity: Building a Network of Sites, People and Institutions</p> <p>This event looks at promoting connectivity in the ranges of long-distance migratory species, using the example of endangered crane species in the East Asia Flyway. It will look beyond traditional site networks to build connectivity among local communities, including site managers and particularly young people, focusing on schoolchildren and teachers, to build an effective constituency for conservation across species ranges that include countries with different languages and cultures. This also extends to international frameworks set up to address conservation of migratory species.</p> <p>We need to plan for future landscapes that may look very different in 10, 20 or 50 years as a result of climate change and developmental impacts and connectivity will need to be treated as a dynamic and adaptive process. East Asian countries have designated 2020 as Year of the Cranes and we will discuss using this celebration to raise awareness and create new constituencies and supporters.</p> <p>Organizer(s): International Crane Foundation (ICF) IUCN WCPA Connectivity Conservation Specialist Group (CCSG)</p>	Room 2

Tuesday 18 February 2020

Lunchtime – Second Session – 13:45-14.30

Event Description and Organizer(s)	Room
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Introducing the UNODC, CITES and CMS Programme on Cross-Regional Wildlife Conservation in Eastern and Southern Africa and the Indian Ocean

Room 3

Many of Africa's most important and iconic species are under increasing threat. Exploitation through the international wildlife trade, together with habitat loss resulting from land use changes, are bringing species to the brink of extinction. To address these threats, Governments from across these regions and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS), are working together for wildlife conservation across the region.

Through the programme on Cross-Regional Wildlife Conservation, the three agencies are collaborating with National Governments to: i) strengthen wildlife law enforcement capacity and cross-border collaboration; ii) enhance anti-trafficking efforts; and iii) promote establishment and strengthen sustainable management of Transfrontier Conservation Areas. This side event will introduce this new programme and invite stakeholders from across the region to work with us for wildlife.

Expected outputs:

- Socialization of the interagency programme with potential partners and stakeholders
- Informal information sharing for coordination among implementing partners.
- Programme and EU visibility

Organizer(s): Convention on Migratory Species (CMS)

Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)

European Union (EU)

Chimpanzee Culture: a New Criterion for Conservation

Room 4

Chimpanzees survive in 21 countries across Africa, and are increasingly having to adapt to changing environments. The threats they face include direct hunting, conversion of their habitat to agricultural land (leading to conflict with people) and changing rainfall patterns. Long-term behavioural studies have revealed a large number of cultural differences in different chimpanzee 'tribes'. In West Africa, some chimpanzee populations have developed a culture of nut-cracking, using a hammer and anvil technique, that allows them to survive the dry season in marginal habitat. This event will discuss the thinking behind the proposal for a Concerted Action to identify and conserve populations exhibiting this behaviour which might better equip them to survive changes in the ecology of their habitat.

Tuesday 18 February 2020

Lunchtime – Second Session – 13:45-14.30

Event Description and Organizer(s)	Room
<p>Nut-cracking chimpanzees is an example of animal culture that could make the difference between survival or extinction. When allocating limited conservation finance, should the conservation of cultural traits be taken into account as well as maintaining genetic diversity</p> <p>Organizer(s): Born Free Foundation (BFF)</p>	
<p>Veterinary Drugs and the CMS Vulture Multi-species Action Plan (Vulture MsAP): a Call for Wider Action</p> <p>This event will bring together recent information to support discussion of a proposed Amendment to Resolution 11.15 on Preventing Poisoning of Migratory Birds, in relation to veterinary NSAIDs (non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs) and make recommendations on implementation of the Vulture MsAP (adopted at COP12) actions 2.1.2 (prohibit or withdraw veterinary use of drugs toxic to vultures and replace them with known safe alternatives in all Range States) and 2.1.3 (develop a formalized approval process before market authorization, and identify additional safe alternatives to NSAIDs toxic to vultures). Toxicity is best known for diclofenac but other NSAIDs are shown to be dangerous, while at least one (meloxicam) is safe. Since the Vulture MsAP's adoption, further evidence for the impact and spread of vulture-toxic drugs has emerged, and positive outcomes following bans and replacement with meloxicam have been documented. National and regional licensing has been debated, with toxic drugs still licensed in some countries but not in others.</p> <p>Organizer(s): Vulture MsAP Coordination Team of the CMS Raptors MOU</p>	Room 5

Tuesday 18 February 2020

Evening Session – 18:15-19:30

Event Description and Organizer(s)	Room
<p data-bbox="207 317 1338 386">The Road Ahead: Toyota and the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species towards the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework</p> <p data-bbox="175 422 1370 560">The IUCN Red List is the world's most comprehensive information source on the global conservation status of more than 104,000 wild species. IUCN and its partners are delivering an ambitious project to expand the IUCN Red List to include over 160,000 species by the end of 2020. This high-level event will consist of:</p> <ul data-bbox="175 588 1370 840" style="list-style-type: none"> • An introduction to recent progress in expanding the taxonomic coverage of the IUCN Red List and the importance of partnership with the Toyota Motor Corporation in achieving this • An explanation of how the IUCN Red List is used to support the work of CMS, including summary statistics of CMS-listed and non-listed migratory species on the IUCN Red List • A high-level panel discussion on the IUCN Red List's contributions to IPBES and the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework <p data-bbox="175 865 1370 966">The main output will be an increased understanding of the IUCN Red List and its role in supporting CMS and contributing to the development and achievement of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework</p> <p data-bbox="175 991 1008 1024">Organizer(s): International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)</p>	<p data-bbox="1398 317 1507 350">Room 1</p>
<p data-bbox="318 1176 1227 1209">Climate Change Adaptation – How Can Migratory Species Survive?</p> <p data-bbox="175 1245 1370 1346">Climate change is causing significant change to the ecology of migratory species around the world. This workshop will consider how migratory species might adapt to these changes and what measures could be put in place to help their survival.</p> <p data-bbox="175 1377 1370 1507">The workshop will include a series of short presentations focusing on the issues in marine, coastal and terrestrial ecosystems. It will highlight particular case studies where action is required to assist species conservation. It will also highlight cases where action is being taken and will consider how to learn from “best practice” to inform future projects.</p> <p data-bbox="175 1539 1370 1608">The presentations will be followed by a short facilitated discussion with the participants to identify priorities for future action.</p> <p data-bbox="175 1640 1370 1709">It is intended that the session will help inform the work of the CMS Climate Change Group, with this Group convening a meeting later in 2020 to take forward its work programme.</p> <p data-bbox="175 1740 841 1774">Organizer(s): Convention on Migratory Species (CMS)</p>	<p data-bbox="1398 1176 1507 1209">Room 2</p>

Tuesday 18 February 2020

Evening Session – 18:15-19.30

Event Description and Organizer(s)	Room
<p>Reducing Impacts of Poison on Migratory Birds from Agricultural Chemicals and Poison Baits</p> <p>Global intensification of agriculture and increase in chemicals threaten birds that use agricultural landscapes. Numbers and range of species affected in Asia indicate agrochemical poisoning is a serious problem hindered by lack of reporting, limited resources to verify cause of death, and individuals unwilling to report incidents. Birds suffer both targeted and non-targeted poisoning. Seeds treated to control pests unintentionally poison birds. Poisoned bait may be placed to specifically take geese, ducks, or threatened species for sale or consumption.</p> <p>During this side-event, specialists will share knowledge and propose mechanisms to undertake a detailed assessment of severity and scope of poisoning; identify hotspots; identify knowledge gaps; understand socio-economic drivers; and recommend suitable responses. We will discuss how to involve volunteers, and officials to monitor and report incidents; treat poisoned birds; and deter birds from feeding in vulnerable areas (i.e., maintaining feeding habitat in reserves or reducing chemicals in adjacent farmland).</p> <p>Organizer(s): International Crane Foundation (ICF) China Biodiversity Conservation and Green Development Foundation (CBCGDF) In partnership with bird specialist groups</p>	Room 3
<p>Transboundary Cooperation</p> <p>Strengthening bi-lateral and multilateral partnerships is imperative for effective conservation and monitoring of migratory species. Concepts such as “trans-boundary peace park” have received little political backing with limited ground-level implementation. The Government of India is undertaking initiatives to strengthen trans-boundary cooperation in the Indian sub-continent. Such initiatives are expected to boost conservation and monitoring of migratory species through joint forest management, joint biodiversity monitoring, intelligence sharing and surveillance to products. The proposed side-event will focus on understanding existing trans-boundary cooperation for biodiversity conservation, with a focus on wide-ranging and migratory species, and fill in gaps in existing mechanisms.</p> <p>Organizer(s): Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India (MoEF&CC)</p>	Room 4
<p>Elephant Conservation Beyond Borders</p> <p>The Asian Elephant is a migratory species found in 13 countries across South and South East Asia. For the conservation of this endangered species, cooperation across the Asian Elephants Range States is crucial. The future of the elephant depends on the ability of our governments and people to combine the insights of science with effective governance and an ecologically aware people.</p>	Room 5

This side event will showcase examples of transboundary cooperation across the Range States and call for further regional cooperation. It will also highlight efforts made by the Government of India under the Project Elephant, which has been in place since 1992 to ensure long-term conservation of viable populations of the Asian Elephant.

Speakers:

Dr. Prajna Panda, National Coordinator, Elephant Cell

Mr. Raquibul Amin, CR IUCN Bangladesh

Ms. Andrea Dekrout, Programme Manager, CMS

Mr Noyal Thomas, IGF and Director PE, MoEFCC

Mr Vivek Menon, Executive Director & CEO Wildlife Trust of India & Chair IUCN SSC Asian Elephant Specialist Group

Mr Sonam Wangdi, Chief Forestry Officer, Nature Conservation Division, Department of Forests and Park Services, Bhutan

Organizer(s): Convention on Migratory Species (CMS)

Project Elephant Division Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change,
Government of India (**MoEF&CC**)

Elephant Cell of Project Elephant (**MoEFCC**),

Wildlife Institute of India (**WII**)

Wildlife Trust of India (**WTI**)

IUCN SSC Asian Elephant Specialist Group (**AsESG**)



Wednesday 19 February 2020

Lunchtime – First Session – 12:45-13:30

Event Description and Organizer(s)	Room
<p data-bbox="246 310 1331 382">Humpbacks in the South Atlantic: a Flagship Species for Implementing the CMS Action Plan for South Atlantic Whales</p> <p data-bbox="201 420 1377 739">Humpback Whales have staged an encouraging comeback from whaling around the world, including in the South Atlantic, a region for which CMS approved at COP12 an Action Plan for the Protection and Conservation of South Atlantic Whales. Given the species' distribution and common challenges and potential for its conservation and management among Range States, this side-event aims at presenting the case for Humpback Whales as a flagship species to begin implementing the Action Plan and also encouraging a dialogue among interested stakeholders to develop concrete action for such implementation, made even more necessary in light of recent findings about the importance of large whales to ocean ecosystem processes, including carbon balance.</p> <p data-bbox="201 777 1123 810">Organizer(s): Brazilian Humpback Whale Institute (Instituto Baleia Jubarte)</p>	Room 1
<p data-bbox="240 940 1338 1012">Conservation of the Black-necked Crane: Current Status and Possible Courses of Action</p> <p data-bbox="201 1054 1377 1306">Considering that the CMS member states declared the protection status of the Black-necked Crane (<i>Grus nigricollis</i>) more than 40 years ago and taking into account it's special ecological and cultural significance as flagship species in the mountains of the Himalayas, conservationist emphasize the potential of intensified cross-border cooperation for this species. After a description of current conservation efforts in China, India, and Bhutan, key priority actions for Black-nacked Cranes will be presented ad supplemented by suggestions for future cross-border cooperation.</p> <p data-bbox="201 1344 1328 1541">Organizer(s): NABU International - Foundation for Nature The German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, and Nuclear Safety (BMU) Royal Society for the Protection of Nature (RSPN Bhutan) International Crane Foundation (ICF) World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF India)</p>	Room 2
<p data-bbox="305 1675 1269 1747">IUCN Save Our Species African Wildlife Initiative (SOS AWI): Supporting Implementation of the Joint CITES-CMS African Carnivores Initiative</p> <p data-bbox="201 1785 1377 1885">The event will present the IUCN Save Our Species African Wildlife Initiative (SOS AWI) - in partnership with the European Commission for coordinated species conservation action across Africa helping protect many of its iconic yet threatened animals.</p>	Room 3

Wednesday 19 February 2020

Lunchtime – First Session – 12:45-13.30

Event Description and Organizer(s)

Room

The event will also showcase how SOS AWI could support the CITES-CMS African Carnivores Initiative (ACI) as a potential funding mechanism for the implementation of ACI.

Organizer(s): International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
Cat Specialist Group (IUCN SSC CSG)
Convention on Migratory Species (CMS)
Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)
European Union (EU)
and selected African Range States

Connecting Wetlands and Migratory Species: Connectivity and the Post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework

Room 4

Greater efforts are needed to increase the cooperation and synergies between the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands and the Convention on Migratory Species, in particular in areas of connectivity. Within the framework of the two conventions there should be a discussion of the importance of ecological and hydrological connectivity as a conservation tool. The event will involve other actors including IUCN WCPA Connectivity Conservation Specialist Group and it aims to scoping the management and conservation of ecological connectivity with a view to the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework.

Organizer(s): Ramsar Convention on Wetlands
Convention on Migratory Species (CMS)
IUCN WCPA Connectivity Conservation Specialist Group (CCSG)

Control of Illegal Trade in Wildlife Including Migratory Species

Room 5

India has strong legislation for conservation of wildlife, viz. the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. Over the years, the illegal trade in wildlife and its parts and products has become a transnational crime. Illegal killing and trade of migratory species are included in such transitional crime, migratory birds, Rhino Horn, Elephant Ivory, marine turtle, etc. are few examples. The Government of India has been taking strong measures for curbing this illegal trade and has established a Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB). India is a Party to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). The role of local communities in conservation and in controlling illicit removal and trade of precious fauna and flora is also of utmost importance. India's side event during the CMS COP will showcase the initiatives taken by India in control of poaching and illegal trade of wildlife including those of migratory species.

Organizer(s): Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India (MoEF&CC)
Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS India)

Wednesday 19 February 2020

Lunchtime – Second Session – 13:45-14:30

Event Description and Organizer(s)	Room
<p>Towards Eradication of Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade of Wild Birds</p> <p>Illegal killing, trapping and trade of migratory birds is a low-risk and high-profit activity with multiple dimensions that has received insufficient attention to eradicate it. It affects migratory birds from songbirds, to waterbirds, to birds of prey, for different reasons, including for human consumption, for the cage-bird trade or persecution for 'predator control' and it is prevalent at the global level. The side event will discuss the challenges that remain and showcase the work being undertaken by countries, MEAs and NGOs to tackle IKB, including the CMS Intergovernmental Task Force on Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade of Migratory Birds in the Mediterranean (MIKT), the Bern Convention's Tunis Action Plan, CAFF and EAAFP in regions considered hotspots: especially the Mediterranean and the East-Asian Australasian Flyway. The side event will also discuss recent findings from the BirdLife International/Ornithological Society of the Middle East-led preliminary assessment of IKB in the Arabian peninsula, Iran and Iraq and plans to address the issue in this region. CMS mandate: Resolution 11.16 (Rev.COP12)</p> <p>Organizer(s): Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) Bern Convention (COE) Arctic Migratory Birds Initiative / Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (AMBI/CAFF) BirdLife International (BLI)</p>	Room 1
<p>Marine Animal Conservation Programmes: Sea Turtles, Whale Shark and Dugong in India</p> <p>India has a total coastline of 7516.6 km and has been taking marine animals conservation actions. India is the signatory to the IOSEA Marine Turtles MOU and Dugong MOU. India has developed the National Marine Turtle Conservation Action Plan to protect, conserve and recover the populations and their habitats of marine turtles in India. Whale Sharks were one brutally hunted along the shores of the India State of Gujarat. To stop this slaughter, the species (<i>Rhincodon typus</i>) was added to Schedule I of India Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, thereby according it the highest level of protection in the country. Various projects were implemented across the country to stop slaughtering and creating awareness. Conservation measures are being taken in various part of India for Conserving this species. India has also implemented the Dugong conservation plan and has also developed the marine stranding guidelines for conserving the iconic marine species in India</p> <p>Organizer(s): Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India (MoEF&CC) Wildlife Institute of India (WII) Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI) Wildlife Trust of India (WTI)</p>	Room 2

Wednesday 19 February 2020

Lunchtime – Second Session – 13:45-14:30

<i>Event Description and Organizer(s)</i>	<i>Room</i>
<p>Concepts and Tools for the implementation of the Joint CMS -CITES African Carnivores Initiative</p> <p>The African Carnivores Initiative strives for comprehensive and integral conservation of Lions, Cheetahs, Leopards, and African Wild Dogs. This requires broad cooperation and the development of relevant concepts and tools for the effective implementation of CITES and CMS Decisions and the ACI Plan of Work. The Secretariats of the Conventions are working on such tools together with the IUCN SSC Cat Specialist Group and in consultation with the African Range States. We present the strategic aims of the ACI and practical instruments for their implementation made available through CMS, CITES and IUCN SSC. These include the Guidelines for the Conservation of the Lion in Africa, the Roadmap for the Conservation of Leopards in Africa, the Cheetah Resource Kit, and the African Lion Database.</p> <p>Organizer(s): International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Cat Specialist Group (IUCN SSC CSG) Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) European Union (EU) and selected African Range States</p>	Room 3
<p>Addressing the Conservation Crisis of the Atlantic Humpback Dolphin</p> <p>The Atlantic Humpback Dolphin has a patchy distribution within the tropical and subtropical nearshore waters of western Africa and as a direct result of human activities is listed by the IUCN as Critically Endangered. Unless immediate efforts are made to reverse the decline, we will soon witness the extinction of yet another dolphin species. The side event provides an overview of international efforts under way, including the CMS Concerted Action, and gives opportunity to discuss effective measures to be put in place to save the species</p> <p>Organizer(s): Whale and Dolphin Conservation (WDC) Convention on Migratory Species (CMS)</p>	Room 4
<p>Saker Falcon Global Action Plan</p> <p>The Saker GAP will be outlined and participants invited to update on the work being undertaken to manage the species. Innovative species management techniques will be considered and the forward priority actions under the GAP explained. The seminar will be introduced with a short initial update on the Saker GAP and then a facilitated discussion will cover conservation measures, sustainable use, socio-economic issues and priority actions for the future.</p> <p>Organizer(s): Saker Falcon Task Force of the CMS Raptors MOU</p>	Room 5

Wednesday 19 February 2020

Evening Session – 18:15-19:30

Event Description and Organizer(s)

Room

SOS Central Asia: Supporting CAMI Implementation

Room 1

The event will present the Save Our Species Central Asia initiative (SOS CA) by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) as a funding mechanism for the implementation of the CMS Central Asian Mammals Initiative (CAMI), highlighting current SOS CA projects' contributions. Examples of contributions to the CAMI Programme of Work (PoW) will be presented by an SOS CA grantee and a government representative of one of the CAMI Range States. An overview of the future CAMI PoW will be given and the long-term vision of SOS CA will be outlined, reflecting the initiatives' perspectives on funding priorities.

Organizer(s): International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
Convention on Migratory Species (CMS)

Community-based Conservation

Room 2

Involving Local Communities and stakeholder is important to achieve long-term conservation of species and landscapes. Recently, there have been numerous examples of successful species / landscape conservation programmes, e.g. Amur Falcon, Olive Ridley Turtle, Snow Leopard, etc. where local communities and institutions have played a key role along with government agencies and NGO partners.

The proposed side-event will focus on past, ongoing and planned conservation initiatives for migratory species at local, regional and national levels, degree of involvement of line departments, NGOs, local institutions and local communities in migratory species conservation. The side-event will facilitate strengthening of the global narrative of planning species /landscape management using community-based conservation initiatives.

Organizer(s): Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India
(MoEF&CC)

The International Whaling Commission at 75 years: Meeting New Challenges through Collaboration

Room 3

The goal of the event is to raise awareness of the relatively recent and growing work programmes of the IWC, as we approach its 75th anniversary, in both science and stewardship of cetaceans and highlight the importance of partnerships with IGOs and stakeholders.

The IWC and CMS collaborate on an ever-growing range of science and conservation themes addressing the status and trends of cetaceans as well as the threats faced by these populations. CMS COP 13 provides an excellent opportunity for the IWC to highlight these work programmes that overlap with CMS's mandate.

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Room

This side event will provide an overview of the most relevant areas of IWC's work for CMS COP 13 participants, with a particular emphasis on the expanding range of non-whaling threats. These include several important collaborative efforts with CMS: whale watching, bycatch, ship strikes, small cetaceans, and more. Banners and concept notes/flyers will be made available for participants to provide further information on these areas of work. The IWC Whale Watching Handbook will be available on one or more laptops in the room for a hands-on demonstration, in three languages, of this powerful tool.

The side-event welcomes all who are interested in ocean conservation and in addressing some of the most intractable threats to cetaceans and other marine species.

Organizer(s): International Whaling Commission (IWC)

Celebrating the River Dolphin Concerted Actions

Room 4

CMS COP13 will evaluate proposals for Concerted Actions for Ganges River Dolphins and Irrawaddy dolphins. Both species are Endangered and rely on Asian rivers for their survival. Like all river dolphins, they are iconic species that serve as indicators of river system health; for people and nature to thrive.

The side event highlights these CA's and the Government of India which proposed them. Building on this experience, we will explore the need to develop a complementary CA for the other obligate fresh water dolphins of the world, securing the future for the ambassadors of eight river basins they inhabit. Exchange between the Asian and South American species will be fostered. Together, we will discuss the outlines for such CAs and identify possible governmental champions to bring this process forward.

The side event welcomes all who care for river dolphins and healthy rivers to participate and join the celebration and discussion

Organizer(s): World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF International)

India and the Arctic Migratory Birds Initiative (AMBI): for the Conservation of threatened Arctic Breeding Shorebirds Wintering in India

Room 5

Long distance migratory birds that breed in the Arctic and winter in India—such as the Curlew Sandpiper, Spoon-billed Sandpiper, Bar-tailed Godwit, Red Knot, Great Knot, and Lesser White-fronted Goose—are experiencing alarming population declines due to global climate change, habitat loss and poaching on staging and wintering grounds.

This session highlights initiatives by the Arctic Council and the Government of India to build cooperation for the conservation of long-distance migrants across Asian flyways. It will

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Room

summarize conservation issues discussed during the recent AMBI session at the International Conference on Wetlands and Migratory Birds of the Asian Flyways, organized by the Bombay Natural History Society, and discuss further steps on the implementation of the Arctic Council's AMBI Work Plan 2019-2023 and India's National Action Plan for the Conservation of Migratory Birds and their Habitats along the Central Asian Flyway 2018-2023.

Organizer(s): Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS)

Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India

(MoEF&CC)

Arctic Migratory Birds Initiative / Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna

(AMBI/CAFF)



Thursday 20 February 2020

Lunchtime – First Session – 12:45-13.30

Event Description and Organizer(s)	Room
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The African Elephant Fund: A decade safeguarding the African Elephant and restoring its habitat	Room 1
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The African Elephant Fund is a multi-donor trust fund created under the auspices of CITES to implement the African Elephant Action Plan across the 38 Range States. Since its inception in 2010, the Fund has supported the implementation of sixty-two projects across the African continent that have contributed to reduced poaching incidence, restored elephant habitats and reduced human-elephant conflicts.

The purpose of the side-event will be to showcase various projects from Cote d'Ivoire, Gabon, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Namibia, Nigeria, Uganda, and the United Republic of Tanzania, among others including their contributions to elephant conservation and lessons learnt. Additionally, various techniques will be presented ranging from bee keeping and use of chili-pepper to mitigate human-elephant conflict; capacity building and training to create awareness of elephant conservation; aerial census and dung count to determine elephant population; field intelligence, surveillance and law enforcement to reducing poaching and much more

Organizer(s): United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

<p align="center">Saving the Gentle Giant: Whale Shark Conservation Success in Gujarat, India</p>	Room 2
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India is an important Range State for the “Endangered” Whale Shark (*Rhyncodon typus*). For the conservation of whale sharks in Gujarat (India), a private-public partnership model led by the Wildlife Trust of India, the Gujarat Forest Department and Tata Chemicals has become a globally recognized and nationally awarded conservation success.

This conservation initiative has made Gujarat one of the safe havens for whale shark in India. More than 700 Whale Sharks have been voluntarily released by the fishers of Gujarat till date and other coastal states of India are slowly adopting this conservation model.

Conservation initiatives to save Whale Sharks are operational successfully in several countries along the two Large Marine Ecosystem-LME (Arabian Sea & Bay of Bengal). However, conservation efforts of Whale Shark Range States need to be strengthened as killing of accidentally entangled whale sharks are still being practised.

To take the conservation efforts further forward, the side event is planned with the objective of sharing the learnings of the conservation action projects of the countries adjoining the two LME -Arabian Sea & Bay of Bengal.

Organizer(s): Wildlife Trust of India (WTI)
Tata Chemicals Ltd.
Gujarat Forest Department (GFD)

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Event Description and Organizer(s)	Room
<p>Connected Energy Solutions for a Connected World: Rapidly Reconciling Renewable Energy Investment with Biodiversity Conservation</p> <p>In order to meet the predicted 30% increase in global energy demand by 2040 and achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement, a substantial increase in the generation of renewable energy is required. However, poorly located renewables, such as wind energy infrastructure, has detrimental impacts on biodiversity including migratory birds. The CMS Energy Task Force (ETF) is a multi-stakeholder platform involving industry, investment banks, Energy and Environment Ministries, MEAs and NGOs. It works to reconcile renewable energy and powerline development with the conservation of migratory species to ensure the continued long-term economic feasibility, 'green' reputation and ecological sustainability of renewables.</p> <p>The side event will include an overview of the ETF, presentations by government and industry members, will detail the latest guidance and tools for planning, locating or retrofitting existing renewables and powerlines, best practice country case studies, recommendations for standards and safeguards, and will highlight the latest research and knowledge gaps.</p> <p>Organizer(s): CMS Energy Task Force (ETF) BirdLife International (BLI)</p>	Room 3
<p>State of India's Birds</p> <p>This side event focuses on the first assessment of the state of India's birds, including trends and geographic range of over 800 species. Discussion will focus on the results and their implications for conservation policy, management and research. Although the assessment covers a large number of species, regardless of migratory status, there will be a special focus at the event on migratory species, and in particular Central Asian Flyway priority species</p> <p>Organizer(s): National Biodiversity Authority India (NBAI)</p>	Room 4
<p>Sahelo-Saharan Megafauna: Conservation Success Stories</p> <p>The Sahelo-Saharan Megafauna Concerted Action was initiated in 1994 under the framework of CMS. The Concerted Action aims to conserve and restore six antelope species: Addax (<i>Addax nasomaculatus</i>), Cuvier's Gazelle (<i>Gazella cuvieri</i>), Dama Gazelle (<i>Nanger dama</i>), Scimitar-horned Oryx (<i>Oryx dammah</i>), Slender-horned Gazelle (<i>Gazella leptoceros</i>), and Dorcas Gazelle (<i>Gazella dorcas</i>).</p> <p>One of the most successful conservation activities conducted under the Concerted Action is the reintroduction of the Scimitar-horned Oryx (<i>Oryx dammah</i>) in Chad, which was supported</p>	Room 5

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Room

by the United Arab Emirates represented by the Environment Agency Abu Dhabi with technical assistance by the Sahara Conservation Fund. This species had been extinct in the wild over its range for 30 years.

Despite such successful conservation efforts, Sahelo-Saharan Megafauna continues to face a catastrophic decline. Unsustainable hunting, armed conflicts, infrastructure development and resource extraction in the region pose threats to the survival of the species. Without taking further actions, this unique biodiversity may soon be lost forever.

In this context, this side event aims to highlight successful conservation efforts in the region and call for further actions to replicate these conservation actions across the region to conserve the unique megafauna.

Organizer(s): United Arab Emirates Ministry of Climate Change and Environment
(UAE MoCCaE)
Convention on Migratory Species (CMS)

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Event Description and Organizer(s)

Room

A Global Animal Migration Atlas

Room 1

The Global Animal Migration Atlas is an initiative developed under the auspices of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals. This side event aims at illustrating progress in the initiative since its launch at CMS COP11 as well as perspectives for future developments. It will include presentations of progress in the development of the modules already initiated, and will discuss options for development of new modules and linkages with other relevant initiatives.

Organizer(s): Convention on Migratory Species (CMS)

Rehabilitation of Migratory Wetland Birds Affected by Avian Botulism in Sambhar Lake, Rajasthan

Room 2

Avian botulism has been a major threat to wetland birds worldwide. The disease causing a large-scale epidemic was reported for the first time among wetland migratory birds from Sambhar saltwater lake in Rajasthan. The outbreak, which was first noticed on 10 November 2019, killed more than 20,000 birds of more than 25 species. Around 1,000 birds were picked up alive for rehabilitation and release. The Wildlife Trust of India in collaboration with the Rajasthan Forest Department and help of various other NGOs such as Raksha and Hope & Beyond, established emergency shelters to take care of the birds that were admitted every day. With limb and wing paralysis being the major symptoms, the less severely affected birds had to pass through a series of rehabilitation stages, before they were considered fit for release. This side event will highlight the lessons learned of this massive undertaking to the audience through displays, photographs, videos, and presentations

Organizer(s): Wildlife Trust of India (WTI)
Rajasthan Forest Department (RFD)
HCL Foundation (HCLF)
Hope and Beyond (HaB)
Raksha

Species Conservation Initiatives in India with Reference to Asian Elephants, Great Indian Bustard, Gangetic River Dolphins and Tigers

Room 3

India has been taking concerted actions for conservation of endangered species. Dedicated projects include initiatives such as Project Tiger, Project Elephant, Project Snow Leopard are examples in this regard. The Government of India has also identified 21 critically endangered species for taking up focused recovery programmes. It includes, the Snow Leopard, Bustards (including Floricans), Dolphins, the Hangul, the Nilgiri Tahr, marine turtles, the Dugong, the Edible Nest Swiftlet, the Asian Wild Buffalo, the Nicobar Megapode, the Manipur Brown-antlered Deer, vultures, the Malabar Civet, the Indian Rhinoceros, the Asiatic Lion, the Swamp Deer, Jerdon's Courser, the Northern Indian Terrapin (Batagurbaska); the Clouded Leopard, the

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Event Description and Organizer(s)	Room
<p>Arabian Sea Humpback Whale and the Red Panda. The concerned State Governments in India implement the conservation activities in their respective areas.</p> <p>The side event would showcase India's efforts to conserve endangered species, especially the efforts for conserving migratory species such as Asian Elephants, Great Indian Bustards, Ganges River Dolphins and Tigers.</p> <p>Organizer(s): Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India (MoEF&CC)</p>	
<p>CMS Sharks MOU: A Global Platform to Facilitate Cooperation among Range States of Migratory Sharks and Rays</p> <p>The Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation of Migratory Sharks was established in 2010 as a special agreement under the umbrella of CMS with the aim to achieve and maintain a favourable conservation status for chondrichthyan species listed under CMS. The young instrument has steadily grown and reached a membership of 49 Signatories which receive support with implementation from 13 Cooperating Partner organizations.</p> <p>The Secretariat in cooperation with the Government of the UAE and IFAW are inviting all Range States of Migratory Sharks to learn about the overall objectives of the MOU and about some of the key achievements of the UAE in implementing the MOU.</p> <p>Organizer(s): CMS Sharks MOU</p>	Room 4
<p>Coastal mudflats as a key wintering habitat for migratory birds: conservation issues and challenges</p> <p>Mudflats are characteristics of coastal intertidal regions and are found across the globe where the mud is deposited in sheltered bays, lagoons, creeks and estuaries. Mudflats are highly productive ecosystems that harbor a variety of invertebrates that attract a variety of vertebrates including the migratory birds. Mudflats are a critical habitat for shorebirds as they offer; multidimensional feeding opportunities. Globally mudflats are threatened due to a range of anthropogenic activities including the change in land patterns. In India, mudflats are converted for aquaculture and encroached upon for development purposes. Ever since the tsunami, mangrove afforestation on the mudflats has taken precedence ignoring its ecosystem services and significance. The Ramsar COP during 2018 has resolved to maintain and conserve the mudflat ecosystems as important habitat for different coastal life forms. Understanding the importance to migratory birds, it is essential to resolve conservation of mudflats through multi-sectoral dialogues and policies.</p> <p>Organizer(s): Sálim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History (SACON) under the MoEF&CC</p>	Room 5

<i>Event Description and Organizer(s)</i>	<i>Room</i>
<p>India's initiatives for the Conservation of Gyps Vultures and National Action Plan for Conservation of Asian Vultures</p> <p>India has taken the lead in the conservation of Indian Vultures over the last two decades. The Government of India responded immediately to warnings of massive Gyps decline by researchers. All Gyps Vultures are protected under Schedule I of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. India launched its "Vulture Recovery Plan" in 2006; in 2015, human use of diclofenac was restricted to single dose of 3 ml via. Intensive policy advocacy programmes are being implemented. Government of India is supporting the BNHS for Vulture Conservation Breeding Programme and has identified and implemented four vulture safe zones in India. India has developed the revised "National Vulture Conservation Action Plan" with multi-stakeholder participation recently. The side event will showcase the success story of the vulture conservation in India.</p> <p>Organizer(s): Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India (MoEF&CC)</p>	Room 1
<p>Navigating troubled waters: Conserving India's vast marine space</p> <p>India is amongst the 17 mega-diverse countries in the world. It encompasses a long coastline, varied climatic regimes and diversity of habitats, that harbours a plethora of marine life. The ecosystems play a vital role in the country's economy, supporting livelihoods and sustaining almost 30% of India's coastal population.</p> <p>However, in the past decade, rapid habitat degradation, advance of mechanized fisheries, climate change and inadequately planned resource extraction activities, has led to the decline in marine megafaunal populations, collapse of fisheries and loss of critical habitats and ecosystems.</p> <p>WCS-India has been working to address these issues by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">(1) strengthening the existing Marine Protected Area network,(2) conserving marine ecosystems and threatened megafauna,(3) addressing unsustainable fisheries, and(4) updating and implementing relevant marine laws and policies. <p>In this side event, we propose to invite leading experts on marine conservation in India, and organize a discussion on the present status of Marine Protected Areas in India and conservation of marine megafauna. The discussion will also focus on the ways and tools to strengthen the existing network of MPAs in the Indian Ocean.</p> <p>Organizer(s): Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS India)</p>	Room 2

Thursday 20 February 2020

Evening Session – 18:15-19.30

Event Description and Organizer(s)	Room
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Using Sensitivity Mapping to Avoid Conflict between Birds and Renewable Energy Infrastructure in India and Asia	Room 3
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To meet the challenge of climate change, we must rapidly transition from fossil fuels to renewable sources of energy. India is already the world's fourth largest wind energy producer with ambitious targets to install 175 GW of renewable energy capacity by 2022. To ensure that biodiversity is effectively integrated into the country's renewable energy plans, the Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS) and BirdLife International will use this side event to launch the development of an avian 'sensitivity map' for India.

BirdLife International has pioneered avian sensitivity mapping techniques for identifying sensitive areas where renewable energy development should be avoided to minimize impacts on birds. These are now used around the world and will be discussed further at the event. With support from the Asian Development Bank (ADB), additional maps are planned for key emerging markets across Asia to inform truly sustainable energy production.

Organizer(s): BirdLife International (BLI)
Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS)

Transboundary Conservation of Threatened Freshwater Fauna	Room 4
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Environments over the globe are separated by political limits, so they are exposed to wide range of policy, legitimate and institutional structures, management and governance regimes; and they are sometimes affected by complex relations between nations. Thus, it is to bring attention to transboundary issues and enhance international cooperation in conservation for certain iconic however threatened species such as Northern River Terrapin (*Batagur baska*), Gharial (*Gavialis gangeticus*), Ganges River Dolphin (*Platanista gangetica*), and Hilsa (*Tenualosa ilisha*), that this workshop is proposed. We hope that this will not only assist various stakeholders sharing dialogues about the species status, research methodologies, knowledge as well as conservation initiatives being undertaken across the border.

Discussing representative species will bring the attention toward various groups such as freshwater turtles, crocodiles, cetaceans and fishes in South Asian countries, which will further encourage parties to resolve joint solutions to address basin-level challenges such as food security, ecosystem integrity and climate change adaptation

Organizer(s): Turtle Survival Alliance India (TSA India)

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<i>Event Description and Organizer(s)</i>	<i>Room</i>
<p>The Final Flight: Conserving Eurasia's Iconic Bustard Species</p> <p>This side event will introduce attendees to four bustard species: Bengal Florican, Great Bustard, Great Indian Bustard, and Little Bustard. We will discuss the diverse threats to these large grassland birds, and efforts to conserve them via CMS. These include new species listings, and concerted actions proposed at this COP, and the development of Action Plans.</p> <p>Organizer(s): Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS India) Eurasian Bustard Alliance (EBA) The Corbett Foundation (TCF)</p>	<p>Room 5</p>



Thank You!

