



**CMS**

## **2022 CMS National Report**

**Deadline for submission of the National Reports: 26 April 2023**

**Reporting period: from February 2020 to April 2023**

Parties are encouraged to respond to all questions and are also requested to provide comprehensive answers, when required.

COP Resolution 9.4 called upon the Secretariats and Parties of CMS Agreements to collaborate in the implementation and harmonization of online reporting implementation. The CMS Family Online Reporting System (ORS) has been successfully implemented and used by CMS, AEWA, IOSEA and Sharks MOU in collaboration with UNEP-WCMC.

Decision 13.14 requested the Secretariat to develop a proposal to be submitted for the approval of the 52nd meeting of the Standing Committee (StC52) for a revision of the format for the national reports to be submitted to the 14th meeting of the Conference of the Parties and subsequently. The new format was adopted by StC52 in October 2021 and made available as an offline version downloadable from the CMS website also in October 2021. The format aims inter alia at collecting data and information relevant to eight indicators adopted by COP12 for the purpose of assessing implementation of the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2015-2023.

This online version of the format strictly follows the one adopted by StC52. In addition, as requested by StC52, it incorporates pre-filled information, notably in Sections II and III, based on data available at the Secretariat. This includes customized species lists by Party. Please note that the lists include taxa at the species level originating from the disaggregation of taxa listed on Appendix II at a level higher than species. Please review the information and update or amend it, when necessary.

The Secretariat was also requested to develop and produce several guidance documents to accompany any revised National Report Format. Please note that guidance has been provided for a number of questions throughout the national report as both in-text guidance and as tool tips (displayed via the information 'i' icon). As requested by different COP13 Decisions, additional guidance is also provided in separate documents on how to report on the implementation of actions to address the impact of climate change and infrastructure development on migratory species, actions to address connectivity in the conservation of migratory species, and actions concerning flyways.

For any question, please contact Mr. Aydin Bahramlouian, Public Information Officer, [aydin.bahramlouian@un.org](mailto:aydin.bahramlouian@un.org)

**NOTICE:** Before clicking on the hyperlinks in this questionnaire, please keep pressing the **Ctrl button** on your keyboard to open the link in a new tab.

### RESOURCES FOR THE CMS NATIONAL REPORT FROM OTHER RELEVANT INTERGOVERNMENTAL PROCESSES

Convention/Agreement/Process

Information source

Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

National Reports

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

Annual trade reports, Annual illegal trade reports, Implementation reports

Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat

National Reports, Ramsar Information Sheets

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

Country reports

United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)

National Reports

United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF)

National Reports

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

National Communications, Biennial Reports, Update Reports

Various CMS Family Agreements and Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs)

National Reports

2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals

National Reports

Note: These reporting processes of other relevant intergovernmental frameworks are examples of information resources to be used when filling out this national report, which may assist in identification and strengthening of synergies among these processes. This list is **not** exhaustive. There are many other sources of information that may also be of relevance for migratory species, their habitats and migrations systems.

## High-level summary of key messages

### In your country, during the reporting period, what does this report reveal about:

Guidance:

This section invites you to summarise the most important positive aspects of CMS implementation in your country and the areas of greatest concern. Please limit this specifically to the current reporting period only.

Your answers should be based on the information contained in the body of the report: the intention is for this section to distil the technical information in the report into “high level” messages for decision-makers and wider audiences.

Please try also to be specific or provide specific examples where you can, e.g. “New wildlife legislation enacted in 2018 doubled penalties for poisoning wild birds” rather than “stronger laws”; “50% shortfall in match-funding for GEF project on gazelles” rather than just “lack of funding”.

The most successful aspects of implementation of the Convention? (List up to five items):

>>> 70.1% of the area of SPAs has protection mechanisms in place (Protected Areas, Emerald Network).

52.9% of the area of IBAs has protection mechanisms in place (Protected Areas, Emerald Network).

The National Red List of Georgia was updated at the end of 2022 and is awaiting official adoption on a national level.

A draft Law on Biodiversity was developed in close coordination with various stakeholders and it covers the main principles of the CMS SPMS. The draft law adoption is expected next year.

The greatest difficulties in implementing the Convention? (List up to five items):

>>> Absence of a National Biodiversity Monitoring System with all existing raw data and

Lack of human resources to provide analysis of trends.

Lack of sustainable funding for periodic monitoring.

The main priorities for future implementation of the Convention? (List up to five items):

>>> Continue coordination between the various international conventions and initiatives in the field of nature conservation, so that synergies are enhanced.

Establishment of the unified biodiversity monitoring system with the responsible agencies and developed data flow

Update of the national legislation through consultations with stakeholders

Implement priorities of the Convention through the new NBSAPs

## **I. Administrative Information**

Name of Contracting Party

>>> Georgia

Date of entry into force of the Convention in your country (DDMMYY)

>>> 01.06.2000

Any territories which are excluded from the application of the Convention

>>> None

### **Report compiler**

Name and title

>>> Salome Nozadze, NFP of Georgia for CMS

Full name of institution

>>> Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia

Telephone

>>> (+995)599139969

Email

>>> salome.nozadze@mepa.gov.ge

### **Designated CMS National Focal Point**

Name and title of designated Focal Point

>>> Ms. Salome Nozadze, Chief Specialist of the Biodiversity and Forestry Department

Full name of institution

>>> Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia

Mailing address

>>> 6, Marshal Gelovani Ave,  
0159, Tbilisi, Georgia

Telephone

>>> (+995 32) 42 01 01; +995599139969

Email

>>> salome.nozadze@mepa.gov.ge

### **Representative on the Scientific Council**

Name and title

>>> Mr. Zurab Gurielidze, Associated Professor, Director

Full name of institution

>>> Ilia State University, Tbilisi Zoo

Mailing address

>>> 64 Kostava Street  
0171 Tbilisi  
GEORGIA

Telephone

>>> (+995 32) 221 3040

Email

>>> zgurielidze@zoo.ge; zurab\_gurielidze@iliauni.edu.ge

## II. Accession/Ratification of CMS Agreements/MOUs

Please confirm the status of your country's participation in the following Agreements/MOUs, and indicate any updates or corrections required:

*Please select only one option*

- Yes, the lists are correct and up to date  
 No, updates or corrections are required, as follows:

Updates or corrections:

>>> Memorandum of Understanding concerning Conservation Measures for the Slender-billed Curlew, changed Range State into Signatory.

Country participation in Agreements/MOUs:

*Please select only one per line*

	Range State, but not a Party/Signatory	Not applicable (= not a Range State)	Party/Signatory
Aquatic Warbler	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ACAP	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ACCOBAMS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
AEWA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ASCOBANS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Atlantic Turtles	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Birds of Prey (Raptors)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bukhara Deer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dugong	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
EUROBATS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Gorilla Agreement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
High Andean Flamingos	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
IOSEA Marine Turtles	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Middle-European Great Bustard	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Monk Seal in the Atlantic	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pacific Islands Cetaceans	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ruddy-headed Goose	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Saiga Antelope	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sharks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Siberian Crane	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Slender-billed Curlew	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
South Andean Huemul	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Southern South American Grassland Birds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wadden Sea Seals	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
West African Elephants	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Western African Aquatic Mammals	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### III. Species on the Convention Appendices

Please confirm that the Excel file linked to below correctly identifies the Appendix I species for which your country is a Range State.

Please download the Appendix I species occurrence list for your country **here**.

Guidance:

Article I(1)(h) of the Convention defines when a country is a Range State for a species, by reference also to the definition of “range” in Article I(1)(f). The latter refers to all the areas that a migratory species inhabits, stays in temporarily, crosses or overflies at any time on its normal migration route.

There are cases where it may be difficult to determine what a “normal” migration route is, and for example to distinguish this from aberrant or vagrant occurrences. As per **Decision 13.140**, the Scientific Council has been requested to develop a practical guidance and interpretations of the terms ‘Range State’ and ‘vagrant’. In the meantime, if in doubt, please make the interpretation that you think will best serve the wider aims of the Convention. Feel free to consult the Secretariat in this regard.

A note on the application of the Convention to Overseas Territories/Autonomous Regions of Parties is found **here**. References to “species” should be taken to include subspecies where an Appendix to the Convention so provides, or where the context otherwise requires.

*Please select only one option*

- Yes, the list is correct (please upload the file as your confirmation of this, and include any comments regarding individual species)
- No, amendments are needed, and these are specified in the amended version of the Excel file provided (in the file, please select all the species that apply, including the source of information supporting the change, and upload the amended file using the attachment button):

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

[Section III Appendix I Georgia.xlsx](#)

Please confirm that the Excel file linked to below correctly identifies the Appendix II species for which the country is a Range State.

Please download the Appendix II species occurrence list for your country **here**.

Guidance: Please consider the guidance tip in question III.1 concerning the interpretation of “Range State”.

*Please select only one option*

- Yes, the list is correct (please upload the file as your confirmation of this, and include any comments regarding individual species)
- No, amendments are needed and these are specified in the amended version of the Excel file provided (please upload the amended file using the attachment button below).

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

[Section III Appendix II Georgia.xlsx](#)

## IV. Legal Prohibition of the Taking of Appendix I Species

Is the taking of Appendix I species prohibited by national or territorial legislation in accordance with CMS Article III(5)?

*Please select only one option*

- Yes for all Appendix I species  
 Yes for some species  
 Yes for part of the country, or a particular territory or territories  
 No

Please identify the legal statute(s) concerned

Please provide links and clearly identify the relevant statute(s) by providing the title, date, etc.

>>> According to the Georgian legislation, taking from the wild of all species of wild animals is prohibited, except those listed in a specially developed Hunting List, which are allowed for hunting. No Appendix I species are listed in the Hunting List.

**Exceptions:** Where the taking of Appendix I species **is** prohibited by national legislation, have any exceptions been granted to the prohibition during the reporting period?

*Please select only one option*

- Yes  
 No

If yes, please indicate individual cases and provide details of the circumstances in the Excel file linked below, which species, which reasons (among those in CMS Article III(5) (a)-(d)) justify the exception, any temporal or spatial limitations applying to the exception, and the nature of the “extraordinary circumstances” that make the exception necessary.

Please download the list of species here, select all that apply and upload the amended file using the attachment button below.

### **GUIDANCE TIP:**

Parties are requested to provide specific information on cases wherein an exception has been granted during the reporting period. This would not include information on what exceptions might be theoretically possible or exceptions that occurred before the reporting period. According to Article III(5) of the Convention, exceptions to a legal prohibition against taking of Appendix I species can only be made for one (or more) of the reasons specified in sub-paragraphs (a)-(d) of that Article.

For any species you list in the table, you must identify (in the second column of the table in the Excel file) at least one of the reasons that justify the exception relating to that species. In any case where you identify reason (d) as applying, please explain (in the third column) the nature of the “extraordinary circumstances” involved.

According to Article III(5), exceptions granted for any of the four reasons must also be “precise as to content and limited in space and time”. Therefore, please state what the specific mandatory space and time limitations are, in each case, using the third column; and indicate the date on which each exception was notified to the Secretariat in accordance with Article III(7).

Please consider consulting reports submitted to CITES that may be relevant when answering this question.

Please indicate in the Excel file linked to below the species for which taking is prohibited.

Please download the list of species here, select all that apply and upload the amended file using the attachment button below.

Please identify the legal statute(s) concerned

Please provide links and clearly identify the relevant statute(s) by providing the title, date, etc.

>>>

**Exceptions:** Where the taking of Appendix I species is prohibited by national legislation, have any exceptions been granted to the prohibition?

*Please select only one option*

- Yes  
 No

If yes, please indicate in the Excel file linked to below which species, which reasons among those in CMS Article III(5) (a)-(d) justify the exception, any temporal or spatial limitations applying to the exception, and the nature of the “extraordinary circumstances” that make the exception necessary.

Please download the list of species here, select all that apply and upload the amended file using the attachment button below.

Guidance: According to Article III(5) of the Convention, exceptions to a legal prohibition against taking of Appendix I

species can only be made for one (or more) of the reasons specified in sub-paragraphs (a)-(d) of that Article. For any species you list in this table, therefore, you must identify (in the second column of the table in the Excel file) at least one of the reasons that justify the exception relating to that species. In any case where you identify reason (d) as applying, please explain (in the third column) the nature of the “extraordinary circumstances” involved. According to Article III(5), exceptions granted for any of the four reasons must also be “precise as to content and limited in space and time”. Please therefore state what the specific mandatory space and time limitations are, in each case, using the third column; and indicate the date on which each exception was notified to the Secretariat in accordance with Article III(7).

Where the taking of all Appendix I species is **not** prohibited and the reasons for exceptions in Article III(5) do not apply, are steps being taken to update existing legislation or develop new legislation to prohibit the taking of all relevant species?

*Please select only one option*

- Yes
- No

Please indicate which of the following stages of development applies

*Please select only one option*

- Legislation being considered
- Legislation in draft
- Legislation fully drafted and being considered for adoption in (specify year)

>>>

Other

>>>

Please provide further information about the circumstances

>>>

Please indicate in the Excel file linked to below the species for which taking is prohibited. Please download the list of species here, select all that apply and upload the amended file using the attachment button below.

Please identify the legal statute(s) concerned

>>>

Where the taking of all Appendix I species is **not** prohibited and the reasons for exceptions in Article III(5) do not apply, are steps being taken to update existing legislation or develop new legislation to prohibit the taking of all relevant species?

*Please select only one option*

- Yes
- No

Please indicate which of the following stages of development applies:

*Please select only one option*

- Legislation being considered
- Legislation in draft
- Legislation fully drafted and being considered for adoption in (specify year)

>>>

Other

>>>

Please provide further information about the circumstances

>>>

Where the taking of all Appendix I species is **not** prohibited and the reasons for exceptions in Article III(5) do not apply, are steps being taken to update existing legislation or develop new legislation to prohibit the taking of all relevant species?

*Please select only one option*

- Yes
- No

Please indicate which of the following stages of development applies:

*Please select only one option*

- Legislation being considered
- Legislation in draft



Legislation fully drafted and being considered for adoption in (specify year)

>>>

Other

>>>

Please provide further information about the circumstances

>>>

Are any vessels flagged to your country engaged in the intentional taking of Appendix I species outside of your country's national jurisdictional limits?

*Please select only one option*

Yes

No

Unknown

Please provide information on the circumstances of the taking(s), including where possible any future plans in respect of such taking(s)

>>>

## V. Awareness

(SPMS Target 1: People are aware of the multiple values of migratory species and their habitats and migration systems, and the steps they can take to conserve them and ensure the sustainability of any use.)

Please indicate the actions that have been taken by your country during the reporting period to increase people's awareness of the values of migratory species, their habitats and migration systems (note that answers given in section XVIII on SPMS Target 15 may also be relevant).

(select all that apply)

### **GUIDANCE TIP:**

Awareness raising that demonstrates work towards achieving Target 1 may include actions, steps, programmes, initiatives and/or activities described in various CMS documents, such as Resolutions **11.8 (Rev.COP12)** (Communication, information and outreach plan), **11.9 (Rev.COP13)** (World Migratory Bird Day), as well as a number of other resolutions and decisions which include specific provisions about awareness raising, including Resolutions **13.6** (Insect Decline), **12.6** (Wildlife Disease and Migratory Species), **12.11 (Rev.COP13)** (Flyways), **12.17** (Conservation and Management of Whales and their Habitats in the South Atlantic Region), **12.19** (Endorsement of the African Elephant Action Plan), **12.20** (Management of Marine Debris), **12.21** (Climate Change and Migratory Species), **12.25** (Promoting Conservation of Critical Intertidal and Other Coastal Habitats for Migratory Species), **11.16 (Rev.COP13)** (The Prevention of Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade of Migratory Birds), **11.17 (Rev.COP13)** (Action Plan for Migratory Landbirds in the African-Eurasian Region), **11.24 (Rev.COP13)** (Central Asian Mammal Initiative), **11.31** (Fighting Wildlife Crime and Offences within and beyond Borders), **8.12 (Rev.COP12)** (Improving the Conservation Status of Raptors and Owls in the African-Eurasian Region), Decisions **13.95** (Conservation and Management of the Cheetah and African Wild Dog) and Decision **13.113** (Improving Ways of Addressing Connectivity in the Conservation of Migratory Species).

- Campaigns on specific topics
- Teaching programmes in schools or colleges
- Press and media publicity, including social media
- Community-based celebrations, exhibitions and other events
- Engagement of specific stakeholder groups
- Special publications
- Interpretation at nature reserves and other sites
- Other (please specify)

>>>

- No actions taken

### **Impact of actions**

Please indicate any specific elements of CMS COP Resolutions 11.8 (Rev. COP12) (Communication, Information and Outreach Plan) and 11.9 (World Migratory Bird Day) which have been particularly taken forward by these actions.

>>> Wide range of awareness-raising activities are implemented annually.

In addition to the publications on the official page of the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture, the Agency of Protected Areas as well frequently posts information regarding bird and other migratory species, World Migratory Bird Day, Earth Day, etc. Non-Governmental and scientific organizations are actively involved in awareness raising campaigns, trainings and lectures for school students, regional eco-clubs.

Kolkheti, Kobuleti and Mtirala protected area administrations are the closest to the Black Sea beach when migration occurs, these administrations are overly active for their educational activities with youth. For example, Number of participants in eco-educational events, in Kobuleti Protected Area in the last three years was 1877 persons, 3690 in Kolkheti Protected Areas, 767 in Mtirala Protected Area. Another important migratory corridor lays through the Javakheti plateau where Javakheti protected area is situated, during the last three years the administration reached 2702 persons directly through the eco-educational activities; school teachers, school students, local community representatives are the target groups for the lectures/seminars, fieldwork/ tour into the protected area, clean up events, eco-camps organized by the administrations of Protected Areas.

The Universities have developed ecology module for bachelor's and master's degrees, which include frequent field trips and species monitoring (including migratory birds and sturgeon species).

Batumi Raptor Count is an organization and at the same time a famous annual practice, which gathers dozens of birdwatchers and volunteers at the Black Sea, which during at least 2 months of autumn migration gathers data on different bird species of Batumi bottleneck and maintain website. Data from annual migration is accessible on the web site: <https://www.batimiraptorcount.org/data>

Non-governmental organization "SABUKO" is actively involved in bird, including migratory bird conservation, habitat restoration and awareness raising. Their project "Spring Alive" - included visits to schools, walking tours, translation of literature, campaigns, competitions. The main theme of the project is bird migration, however, The theme of the campaign changes every year. For example: How to be a good bird watcher, bird

nests, collision with glass problem, citizen science.

National Geographic Georgia in consultation with various stakeholders, has developed the species distribution map for citizen communication (<https://map.nationalgeographic.ge/en/>)

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

[Sabuko - raising awareness](#)

Overall, how successful have these awareness actions been in achieving their objectives?

Tick one box

**GUIDANCE TIP:**

If the impact of awareness actions has been assessed by (for example) project evaluation studies or follow-up audience attitude surveys during the reporting period, those provide a basis for answering this question. If the assessment has involved any type of quantitative measure of the impact, please specify. It is recognized that such assessment studies may not always be available, in which case it is acceptable to base your answer on an informed subjective judgement. Alternatively, if there is genuinely no basis for forming such a judgement, please select "Unknown".

Question V.4 gives you the opportunity to explain the basis on which you have answered question V.3.

*Please select only one option*

- 1. Very little impact
- 2. Small impact
- 3. Good impact
- 4. Large positive impact
- Unknown

Please identify the main form(s) of evidence that has/have been used to make this assessment.

>>> Decline of gun shots - illegal killing of raptors in one of the most difficult villages - Sakhalvasho and Shuamta, Ajara region is clear evidence of impact of intensive education and policy work.

Annually there are more volunteers interested in nature conservation, bird identification. The exact numbers are not on the table, however, comparing the awareness and amount of activities especially for young people, is absolutely progressive.

## VI. Mainstreaming Migratory Species in Other Sectors and Processes

(SPMS Target 2: Multiple values of migratory species and their habitats have been integrated into international, national and local development and poverty reduction strategies and planning processes, including on livelihoods, and are being incorporated into national accounting, as appropriate, and reporting systems.)

Does the conservation of migratory species currently feature in any national or local strategies and/or planning processes in your country relating to development, poverty reduction and/or livelihoods?

*Please select only one option*

- Yes  
 No

Please provide details:

### GUIDANCE TIP:

Note that these strategies/planning processes may be relevant for objectives, actions, steps, programmes, initiatives and/or activities described in various CMS documents, such as Decisions **13.95** (Conservation and Management of the Cheetah and African Wild Dog), and **13.116** (Transfrontier Conservation Areas for Migratory Species). Please make reference to any relevant CMS documents in your response as appropriate.

>>> The documents which inquire conservation of migratory species are usually National level documents or municipality-level documents where migratory species conservation is one of the objectives. Species of CMS Appendices are considered accordingly in frames of the following mechanisms: 1. The Law of Georgia on the Red List and Red Book of Georgia Emerald Network sites; Management plans of Protected Areas 2. EIAs for construction and other development activities, etc. The state migratory species are regularly mentioned in the State of Environment Reports.

Vision 2030 - is a multi-sectoral Development Strategy document that was adopted in 2022. The document comprises multispectral priority fields for development including the conservation of sturgeons and their habitats as well as the development of a monitoring program, control of nitrates in agricultural activities and protection of freshwater habitats, development of river basin management plans, etc.

Does your country integrate the 'values of migratory species and their habitats' referred to in SPMS Target 2 in any other national reporting processes?

E.g. Agenda 2030, reporting for International Whaling Commission, CBD, EU Nature Directives, etc.

### GUIDANCE TIP:

Responses to this question should be focused on the reporting processes of the country rather than on plans and regulations within the country. This question intends to understand if the values of migratory species and habitats are featured in other national reporting that your country participates in, such as reporting to other biodiversity MEAs, the International Whaling Commission, European Commission etc.

*Please select only one option*

- Yes  
 No

Please provide details:

>>> The migratory species are regularly taken into consideration in the State of Environment Reports, National Environment Action Program, NBSAPs.

On an international level, the state of migratory species is reported to several Conventions, such as Bern Convention, Convention on Biological Diversity, CMS Convention, Ramsar Convention.

Describe the main involvements (if any) of non-governmental organizations and/or civil society in the conservation of migratory species in your country.

>>> NGO SABUKO – Society for Nature Conservation, Birdlife member. Its main activities are:

Species conservation programs: Caucasian Grouse and other Galliformes, Black and Griffon Vultures, Lammergeyer, Imperial Eagle and other raptors, Caucasian salamander and other amphibians;  
National IBA program development;

NGO NACRES - Species Conservation Center, works mostly on large mammals;

Fauna and Flora International which has been and continues its work for the conservation of sturgeon species;  
WWF Caucasus - one of the main stakeholders in terms of sturgeon conservation. WWF has continuous work with national and international experts, it coordinates the Stakeholder platform of the Sturgeons.

Monitoring programs: migratory raptors, wintering water birds, and wildlife monitoring of large development projects.

Caucasus Nature Fund -

Assistance to the protected areas in bird monitoring capacity building;

Conservation and sustainable management planning for wetlands and mountain ecosystems;

Birdwatching promotion;

Schools for Nature program: needs assessments, small grants for schools, provision of materials, the establishment of wildlife clubs;  
Capacity building of community-based organizations: training, small grants, institutional capacity building;  
Publishing: books, brochures, posters, and other printing materials on birds, nature, and conservation;  
Promotion of transboundary cooperation in the Caucasus for biodiversity conservation;  
Policy and advocacy: participation in the national biodiversity strategy and policy developments, biodiversity assessments.

Describe the main involvements (if any) of the private sector in the conservation of migratory species in your country.

>>> No involvement of private sector

Are legislation and regulations in your country concerning Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) and Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEA) considering the possible impediments to migration, transboundary effects on migratory species, and of impacts on migratory patterns and migratory ranges?

**GUIDANCE TIP:**

Please refer to Resolution **7.2 (Rev.COP12)** (Impact Assessment and Migratory Species) and Decision **13.130** (Infrastructure Development and Migratory Species) for more information on Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA).

*Please select only one option*

Yes

No

Please describe any hindrances and challenges to the application of EIA and SEAs with respect to migratory species, lessons learned, and needs for further capacity development.

>>> The main regulations are:

-Law of Georgia "Environmental Assessment Code" (Article 10), Strategic Environmental Assessment - Chapter III

-Law of Georgia on Environmental Liability

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

<http://>

[LAW OF GEORGIA ON ENVIRONMENTAL LIABILITY](#)

[SEA EIA](#)

To what extent have biodiversity and migratory species considerations been specifically integrated into national energy and climate policy and legislation?

**GUIDANCE TIP**

Please refer to Resolutions **12.21** (Climate Change and Migratory Species), **11.27 (Rev.COP13)** (Renewable Energy and Migratory Species), **10.11 (Rev.COP13)** (Power Lines and Migratory Birds), and Decision **13.108** (Support to the Energy Taskforce) for more information.

>>> The migratory species and their habitat conservation is not considered in the climate change strategy 2030 of Georgia and the Energy Strategy is under development. Comments to be considered are provided to the relevant institution.

Please provide any examples related to such policy and legislation.

>>>

## VII. Governance, Policy and Legislative Coherence

(SPMS Target 3: National, regional and international governance arrangements and agreements affecting migratory species and their migration systems have improved significantly, making relevant policy, legislative and implementation processes more coherent, accountable, transparent, participatory, equitable and inclusive.)

Have any governance arrangements affecting migratory species and their migration systems in your country, or in which your country participates, improved during the reporting period?

### GUIDANCE TIP:

This question is intended to understand improvements in governance arrangements in your country, which may potentially include improvements in policy, legislation, governance processes, plans etc. Please also consider the guidance below in VII.2.

*Please select only one option*

- Yes
- No, but there is scope to do so
- No, because existing arrangements already satisfy all the points in Target 3

Please provide details:

>>>

To what extent have these improvements helped to achieve Target 3 of the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species (see text above)? Tick one box.

*Please select only one option*

- 1. Minimal contribution
- 2. Partial contribution
- 3. Good contribution
- 4. Major contribution
- Not known

Please describe how this assessment was made

>>>

Has any committee or other arrangement for liaison between different government agencies/ministries, sectors or groups been established at a national and/or subnational level in your country that addresses CMS implementation issues?

### GUIDANCE TIP:

There is no fixed model for what these arrangements may involve, and it is for each Contracting Party to decide what best suits its own circumstances. Examples could include a steering group that includes representatives of territorial administration authorities, a coordination committee that involves the lead government department (e.g. environment) working with other departments (e.g. agriculture, industry); a forum that brings together government and NGOs; a liaison group that links with business and private sector interests; a stakeholder forum involving representatives of indigenous and local communities; a coordination team that brings together the National Focal Points for each of the biodiversity-related MEAs to which the country is a Party (see also question VII.3); or any other appropriate mechanism.

These mechanisms may be specifically focused on migratory species issues, or they may address CMS implementation in conjunction with related processes such as NBSAP coordination, a National Ramsar Committee, etc.

**The Manual for National Focal Points for CMS and its Instruments** may be helpful in giving further context.

*Please select only one option*

- Yes
- No

Please provide details:

>>> Georgia is actively working on the conservation of Sturgeon species which is one of the key priorities for the Ministry. A stakeholder platform was established in 2022 in order to have different sector representatives in a room. Meetings on different topics happen on a regular basis and are coordinated by the WWF Caucasus. Scientists, Ministry of Rural Development, The Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development; Ministry of Regional Development and Infrastructure of Georgia; Academic sector, NGO.

Georgia has become a Chair of the Group of National Focal Points of the Pan-European Action Plan for Sturgeons under the Bern Convention in 2022.

Georgia was a vice-Chair of the 4th joint Bern Convention - CMS meeting on Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade of Wild Birds in 2022 among Bern Convention and CMS.

Does collaboration between the focal points of CMS and other relevant global or regional Conventions take place in your country to develop the coordinated and synergistic approaches described in paragraphs 25-

27 of **Resolution 11.10 (Rev. COP13)** (Synergies and partnerships)?

Relevant Conventions may include other global agreements such as biodiversity-related Conventions and Agreements, UNFCCC, UNCCD, as well as regional agreements, including CMS Agreements. Such collaboration may also be relevant to aligning efforts related to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021-2030, and NBSAPs as described in **Resolution 13.1**(Gandhinagar Declaration on CMS and the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework) and **Resolution 8.18 (Rev.COP12)**(Integration of Migratory Species into NBSAPs and into On-going and Future Programmes of Work under CBD).

*Please select only one option*

Yes

No

Please provide details:

>>> The Focal Points of the Bern Convention, Bonn Convention (+ AEWA, EUROBATS and ACCOBAMS), CBD, CITES, and Ramsar Convention work for the same department. We can communicate on a daily basis. Additionally, Georgia is represented in the group of Experts of the Strategic Plan 2030 of the Bern Convention and in the WG of the CMS Intersessional Working Group - Strategic Plan for Migratory Species.

Has your country or any jurisdictional subdivision within your country adopted legislation, policies, initiatives or action plans during the reporting period that promote community involvement in conservation of CMS-listed species?

*Please select only one option*

Yes

No

Please identify the legislation, policies, initiatives, or action plans concerned:

>>>

## VIII. Incentives

(SPMS Target 4: Incentives, including subsidies, harmful to migratory species, and/or their habitats are eliminated, phased out or reformed in order to minimize or avoid negative impacts, and positive incentives for the conservation of migratory species and their habitats are developed and applied, consistent with engagements under the CMS and other relevant international and regional obligations and commitments.)

Has there been any elimination, phasing out or reforming of harmful incentives in your country during the reporting period resulting in benefits for migratory species?

*Please select only one option*

- Yes
- Partly / in some areas
- No, but there is scope to do so
- No, because no such incentives have existed

Please indicate what measures were implemented and the time-periods concerned.

>>>

Please indicate what measures were implemented and the time-periods concerned.

>>>

Please indicate what measures were implemented and the time periods concerned:

>>>

Has there been development and/or application of positive incentives in your country during the reporting period, resulting in benefits for migratory species?

*Please select only one option*

- Yes
- Partly / in some areas
- No, but there is scope to do so
- No, because there is no scope to do so

Please indicate what measures were implemented and the time-periods concerned.

>>>

Please indicate what measures were implemented and the time-periods concerned.

>>> - Eco-Corridors Programme in the Southern Caucasus” (ECF) is implemented in South Georgia by the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) Caucasus Programme with further objectives:

1. Conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity outside Protected Areas;
2. Securing at least equal income to the local rural population;
3. Supporting beneficiaries to manage the land in ecologically sound way and
4. Setting up a funding facility (Eco-Regional Fund) as an instrument to promote sustainable land use practices and to fund the conservation agreements beyond the programme duration

The project area is the ecological corridor situated in the Western Lesser Caucasus Landscape, Southwest of Georgia, and includes the Colchic rainforests and wetlands UNESCO world heritage sites on the Black Sea coast (including Kintrishi and Mtirala Protected Areas), the Machakhela National Park, the entire Autonomous Republic of Adjara, Samtskhe Javakheti region with the Borjomi-Kharagauli National Park and the Ktsia-Tabatskuri Managed Reserve. On the Turkish border, the landscape connects to the Camili Biosphere Reserve and the Posof Wildlife Reserve. The ecological corridor connecting the network for protected areas mainly follows the Meskheta mountain range but also provides a link with the Arsian Range over the Goderdzi pass and the lower gorge of Adjaristskali river.

In order to involve the local communities in the implementation of conservation measures, the project started 10-year community conservation Agreements. Beneficiaries became accountable for the sustainable use of natural resources during this agreed period. In exchange for carrying out conservation measures or for refraining from activities with adverse effects on the environment, the ECF provides long-term funding to the beneficiaries as per Habitat Management Plans and Conservation Agreements. These activities overall have a positive influence on the conservation of migratory bird species as well, because the region is situated near the Batumi bottleneck and the Black Sea coast which hosts millions of migratory birds annually.

- The National Bank of Georgia has adopted The Sustainable Finance (SF) Taxonomy which identifies activities that deliver on key climate, green, social, or sustainability objectives. Green taxonomy provides a list of activities that aim to achieve environmental objectives and contribute to the development of a green economy. Social taxonomy, on the other hand, proposes a list of categories focused on achieving social objectives primarily but not exclusively for target population. Apart from that, green/social activities that have social/green co-benefits are considered as sustainable activities.



## IX. Sustainable Production and Consumption

(SPMS Target 5: Governments, key sectors and stakeholders at all levels have taken steps to achieve or have implemented plans for sustainable production and consumption, keeping the impacts of use of natural resources, including habitats, on migratory species well within safe ecological limits to promote the favourable conservation status of migratory species and maintain the quality, integrity, resilience, and ecological connectivity of their habitats and migration routes.)

During the reporting period, has your country implemented plans or taken other steps concerning sustainable production and consumption which are contributing to the achievement of the results defined in SPMS Target 5?

*Please select only one option*

- Yes
- In development / planned
- No

Please describe the measures that have been planned, developed or implemented

>>>

Please describe what evidence exists to show that the intended results of these measures are being achieved.

>>>

Please describe the measures that have been planned, developed or implemented

>>>

Please describe what evidence exists to show that the intended results of these measures are being achieved.

>>>

What is preventing progress?

>>> The CMS species are protected by national legislation, according to which no CMS species are subject to consumption, except for the specific species subject to regulated hunting.

## X. Threats and Pressures Affecting Migratory Species; Including Obstacles to Migration

(SPMS Targets 6+7: Fisheries and hunting have no significant direct or indirect adverse impacts on migratory species, their habitats or their migration routes, and impacts of fisheries and hunting are within safe ecological limits; Multiple anthropogenic pressures have been reduced to levels that are not detrimental to the conservation of migratory species or to the functioning, integrity, ecological connectivity and resilience of their habitats.)

### Which of the following pressures on migratory species or their habitats are having an adverse impact in your country on migratory species included in the CMS Appendices?

Guidance: This question asks you to identify the important pressures that are reliably known to be having an actual adverse impact on CMS-listed migratory species at present. Please avoid including speculative information about pressures that may be of some potential concern but whose impacts have not yet been demonstrated.

Please note that, consistent with the terms of the Convention, “in your country” may in certain circumstances include areas outside national jurisdictional limits where the activities of any vessels flagged to your country are involved.

### Intentional Taking

#### GUIDANCE TIP:

Please note that as per Article 1(i) of the Convention, “Taking” means taking, hunting, fishing, capturing, harassing, deliberate killing, or attempting to engage in such conduct.

	Species/species groups affected (please provide names and indicate whether Appendix I and/or Appendix II); and any other details	Overall relative severity of impact 1 = severe 2 = moderate 3 = low
Deliberate poisoning	No cases registered	3
Illegal trade	Buteo rufinus (1) case; Anas platyrhynchos (2)	3
Other harvesting and take	No cases registered	3
Illegal hunting	Buteo buteo (1), Tetrax tetrax (3), Falco tinnunculus (1),	3
Legal hunting	Anas platyrhynchos (6); Fulica atra (1) Coturnix coturnix (17);	2

What are the most significant advances that have been made since the previous report in addressing intentional taking?

>>> New draft law on hunting has been developed and is undergoing consultations;  
Species restoration plans are consulted with stakeholders and will be developed for the limited number of selected species;  
The capacities of the Environmental Supervision Department are being strengthened;

What are the most significant negative trends since the previous report concerning intentional taking?

#### GUIDANCE TIP:

Significant advances may include efforts, actions, steps, programmes, initiatives and/or activities described in CMS documentation, such as Resolutions **13.3** (Chondrichthyan Species), **13.4** (African Carnivore initiative), **12.10** (Conservation of African-Eurasian Vultures), **12.11 (Rev.COP13)** (Flyways), **12.12 (Rev.COP13)** (Action Plans for Birds), **12.15** (Aquatic Wild Meat), **12.17** (Conservation and Management of Whales and their Habitats in the South Atlantic Region), **12.19** (Endorsement of the African Elephant Action Plan), **11.15 (Rev.COP13)** (Preventing Poisoning of Migratory Birds), **11.16 (Rev.COP13)** (The prevention of Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade of Migratory Birds), **11.17 (Rev.COP13)** (Action Plan for Migratory Landbirds in the African-Eurasian Region), **11.18 (Rev.COP12)** (Saker Falcon Global Action Plan), **11.21** (Single Species Action Plan for the Loggerhead Turtle in the South Pacific Ocean), **11.22 (Rev.COP12)** (Live Capture of Cetaceans from the Wild for Commercial Purposes), **11.24 (Rev.COP13)** (Central Asian Mammal Initiative), **11.31** (Fighting Wildlife Crime and Offenses within and beyond Borders), and Decisions **13.50** (Conservation of African-Eurasian Vultures), **13.27-28** (Task Force on Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade of Migratory Birds in the Mediterranean), **13.74** ((Live Capture of Cetaceans from the Wild for Commercial Purposes) and **13.94** (Conservation and Management of the Cheetah and African Wild Dog).

>>>

### Unintentional Taking

	Overall relative severity of impact 1 = severe 2 = moderate 3 = low	Species/species groups affected (please provide names and indicate whether Appendix I and/or Appendix II); and any other details
Other forms of unintentional taking		
Catch in Abandoned, Lost or otherwise Discarded Fishing Gear (ALDFG)		
Bycatch		

What are the most significant advances that have been made since the previous report in addressing bycatch or catch in ALDFG?

**GUIDANCE TIP:**

Significant advances may include efforts, actions, steps, programmes, initiatives and/or activities described in CMS documentation, such as Resolutions **12.22**(Bycatch), **12.20** (Management of Marine Debris), **11.21** (Single Species Action Plan for the Loggerhead Turtle in the South Pacific Ocean), **10.15 (Rev.COP12)** (Global Programme of Work for the Cetaceans) and **13.3** (Chondrichthyan species).

>>> By-catch is not allowed according to national legislation. Therefore by-catch facts are not reported by fishermen. If it is the case, such facts are reported by the Environmental Supervision Department.

For example, in case of Sturgeons,

Since the sturgeons are by-caught mostly in bottom trawls, there are relevant restrictions in place: bottom trawling is allowed only in a few areas, where the impact on the sea bottom is minimal. Besides that, fishing on sturgeons is prohibited in areas close to the river estuaries in 300 m radius.

What are the most significant negative trends since the previous report concerning bycatch?

**GUIDANCE TIP:**

Please provide information on any significant trend in bycatch of CMS-listed species, notably those listed on App. I. Related to the guidance given on the overarching part of Question X.1, this is a key example where you are encouraged to think about activities outside national jurisdictional limits of any vessels flagged to your country (in addition to any other circumstances in which bycatch is a noteworthy pressure on relevant species).

>>> Not assessed

**Collisions and electrocution**

	Species/species groups affected (please provide names and indicate whether Appendix I and/or Appendix II); and any other details	Overall relative severity of impact 1 = severe 2 = moderate 3 = low
Electrocution	no data	no data
Other collisions	no data	no data
Wind turbines	No data	No data

What are the most significant advances that have been made since the previous report in addressing collisions and electrocution?

>>> During the power line project planning process, several seasonal field research is conducted by construction companies, and the results are reflected in the EIA reports.

According to the results obtained during the research, measures to avoid impact and mitigate measures the above are determined. The mitigation measures and general standards are in accordance with international guidelines. For infrastructure projects, it is mandatory to implement various mitigation measures, such as arranging line marking devices, taking into account the minimum distance between power lines, etc.

What are the most significant negative trends since the previous report concerning collisions and electrocution?

**GUIDANCE TIP:**

Significant advances may include efforts, actions, steps, programmes, initiatives and/or activities described in CMS documentation, such as Resolution **7.4** (Electrocution of Migratory Birds), **7.5 (Rev.COP12)**(Wind Turbines and Migratory Species), **10.11 (Rev. COP13)** (Power Lines and Migratory Birds), **11.17 (Rev.COP13)** (Action Plan for Migratory Landbirds in the African Eurasian Region), **11.27 (Rev.COP13)** (Renewable Energy and Migratory Species),

## 12.10(Conservation of African Eurasian Vultures).

>>> Not assessed

### Other mortality

	<b>Overall relative severity of impact</b> 1 = severe 2 = moderate 3 = low	<b>Species/species groups affected (please provide names and indicate whether Appendix I and/or Appendix II); and any other details</b>
Disease	-	-
Accidental/indirect poisoning	-	-
Unexplained stranding events	-	-
Predation	-	-

What are the most significant advances that have been made since the previous report in countering other mortality?

>>> Not assessed

What are the most significant negative trends since the previous report concerning other mortality?

#### **GUIDANCE TIP:**

Significant advances may include efforts, actions, steps, programmes, initiatives and/or activities described in CMS documentation, such as Resolutions **11.15 (Rev.COP13)** (Preventing Poisoning of Migratory Species), **12.6** (Wildlife Disease and Migratory Species), **13.4** (African Carnivore initiative), **13.6** (Insect Decline), and Decisions **13.50** (Conservation of African-Eurasian Vultures) and **13.94** (Conservation and Management of the Cheetah and African Wild Dog).

>>>

### Alien and/or invasive species

	<b>Species/species groups affected (please provide names and indicate whether Appendix I and/or Appendix II); and any other details</b>	<b>Overall relative severity of impact</b> 1 = severe 2 = moderate 3 = low
Alien and/or invasive species	No reliable data	No reliable data

What are the most significant advances that have been made since the previous report in addressing alien and/or invasive species?

>>> impact of the invasive alien species on the ecosystems and biodiversity of Georgia has not been completely explored. Information on invasive species is still scarce and it is not possible to take appropriate action to appearance, spread and controlling invasive species.

The list of the most aggressive 50 plant species was developed, however, it is not reflected in the legislation.

The following objectives are planned for the following years:

identification of ways of entry of invasive species; identifying actions needed for each path of entry and thus preventing invasive species. A preliminary assessment of possible damage caused by invasive species to economic sectors should also be carried out.

What are the most significant negative trends since the previous report concerning alien and/or invasive species?

#### **GUIDANCE TIP:**

Significant advances may include efforts, actions, steps, programmes, initiatives and/or activities described in CMS documentation, such as Resolution **11.28** (Future CMS Activities related to Invasive Alien Species).

>>> Not assessed

### Disturbance and disruption

	Species/species groups affected (please provide names and indicate whether Appendix I and/or Appendix II); and any other details	Overall relative severity of impact 1 = severe 2 = moderate 3 = low
Disturbance	No reliable data	No reliable data

What are the most significant advances that have been made since the previous report in addressing disturbance & disruption?

>>>

What are the most significant negative trends since the previous report concerning disturbance and disruption?

**GUIDANCE TIP:**

Significant advances may include efforts, actions, steps, programmes, initiatives and/or activities described in CMS documentation, such as Resolutions **12.16** (Recreational In-Water Interaction with Aquatic Mammals), **11.29 (Rev.COP12)** (Sustainable Boat-based Wildlife Watching), **13.4** (African Carnivore initiative) and Decision **13.66**(Marine Wildlife Watching).

>>> Not assessed

**Pollution**

	Species/species groups affected (provide names and indicate whether Appendix I and/or Appendix II); and any other details	Overall relative severity of impact 1 = severe 2 = moderate 3 = low
Other pollution		
Underwater noise		
Light pollution		
Marine debris (including plastics)		

What are the most significant advances that have been made since the previous report in addressing pollution?

>>> Not assessed

What are the most significant negative trends since the previous report concerning pollution?

**GUIDANCE TIP:**

Significant advances may include efforts, actions, steps, programmes, initiatives and/or activities described in CMS documentation, such as Resolutions **13.5** (Light Pollution Guidelines for Wildlife), **12.14** (Adverse Impacts of Anthropogenic Noise on Cetaceans and Other Migratory species), **12.17** (Action Plan for the Protection and Conservation of south Atlantic Whales), **12.20** (Management of Marine Debris), **7.3 (Rev.COP12)** (Oil Pollution and Migratory species), and Decision **13.122** (Impacts of Plastic Pollution on Aquatic, Terrestrial and Avian Species).

>>> Not assessed

**Habitat destruction/degradation**

	Species/species groups affected (please provide names and indicate whether Appendix I and/or Appendix II); and any other details	Overall relative severity of impact 1 = severe 2 = moderate 3 = low
Physical barriers		
Fire		
Too much/too little water		
Urbanization		
Unsustainable land/resource use		

Mineral exploration/extraction		
Habitat degradation		
Habitat loss/destruction (including deforestation)		

What are the most significant advances that have been made since the previous report in addressing habitat destruction/degradation?

>>> In June 2022, Kolkheti National Park was expanded by 671.5 hectares and currently, the total area of National Park is 44,980 hectares. Expanded 671.5 hectares incorporate the marine area, the Rioni River estuary and its section from the river mouth upstream – up to 7 km. Overall, the extended area is important for the anadromous migration of sturgeons during the spawning period, as well as for their growth and wintering.

The Kolkheti protected area, including its marine area was enlarged in 2022 in order to eliminate stress from fishing and by-catch of sturgeons, as well as protection of their spawning migration route.

Additionally monitoring program for the sturgeon conservation was developed with involvement of stakeholders, with support of WWF Caucasus.

What are the most significant negative trends since the previous report concerning habitat destruction/degradation?

**GUIDANCE TIP:**

Significant advances may include efforts, actions, steps, programmes, initiatives and/or activities described in CMS documentation, such as Resolutions **13.3** (Chondrichthyan species), **13.6** (Insect Decline), **12.7 (Rev.COP13)**(The Role of Ecological Networks in the Conservation of Migratory Species), **12.11 (Rev.COP13)** (Flyways), **12.12 (Rev.COP13)**(Action Plans for Birds), **12.13** (Important Marine Mammal Areas), **12.17** (Conservation and Management of Whales and their Habitats in the South Atlantic Region), **12.19** (Endorsement of the African Elephant Action Plan), **12.24**(Promoting Marine Protected Areas Networks in the ASEAN Regions), **12.25** (Promoting Conservation of Critical Intertidal and Other Habitats for Migratory species), **12.26 (Rev.COP13)** (Improving Ways of Addressing Connectivity in the Conservation of Migratory Species), **11.17 (Rev.COP13)** (Action Plan for Migratory Landbirds in the African-Eurasian Region), **11.18 (Rev.COP12)** (Saker Falcon Global Action Plan), **11.21** (Single Species Action Plan for the Loggerhead Turtle in the South Pacific Ocean), **11.24 (Rev.COP13)** (Central Asian Mammal Initiative), and Decisions **13.50** (Conservation of African-Eurasian Vultures), **13.94** (Conservation and Management of the Cheetah and African Wild Dog).

>>>

**Climate change**

	Overall relative severity of impact 1 = severe 2 = moderate 3 = low	Species/species groups affected (please provide names and indicate whether Appendix I and/or Appendix II); and any other details
Climate change	No data	No data

What are the most significant advances that have been made since the previous report concerning climate change?

>>> An Integrated National Energy and Climate Plan as required by the Governance Regulation<sup>26</sup>

is not yet adopted. Georgia adopted however a 2030 Climate Change Strategy and 2021-2023 Action Plan, which it started to implement.

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

[EU4Climate - Georgia](#)

What are the most significant negative trends since the previous report concerning climate change?

**GUIDANCE TIP:**

Significant advances may include efforts, actions, steps, programmes, initiatives and/or activities described in CMS documentation, such as Decision **13.126** (Climate change and Migratory Species).

>>> Not assessed

**Levels of knowledge, awareness, legislation, management etc.**

	Overall relative severity of impact 1 = severe 2 = moderate 3 = low	Species/species groups affected (please provide names and indicate whether Appendix I and/or Appendix II); and any other details
Inadequate enforcement of legislation	3	
Lack of knowledge	2	-
Inadequate legislation	3	
Inadequate transboundary management	-	

What are the most significant advances that have been made since the previous report in levels of knowledge, awareness, legislation, management etc?

>>> 66 Emerald Network sites were adopted in December 2022 by the Standing Committee of the Bern Convention. Management plans of all Emerald sites are either developed or under development. The system of Protected Areas (all 6 protected area categories of IUCN) was expanded and by 2023 it covers 13.1 % of Georgia. All of the 100 protected areas have either a management plan adopted or are under development.

70.1 % of Special Protection Areas for Birds are within either the Protected Areas or Emerald Network

52.9 % of Important Bird Areas are within either the Protected Areas or Emerald Network

Law of Georgia on Environmental Liability Entered into force on 2 March 2021, the draft law was prepared in consultation with various stakeholders and experts.

The Law of Georgia "Environmental Assessment Code" entered into force on 01 January 2018

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

LAW OF GEORGIA ON ENVIRONMENTAL LIABILITY

What are the most significant negative trends since the previous report concerning levels of knowledge, awareness, legislation, management etc.?

>>>

**Other (please specify)**

	Overall relative severity of impact 1 = severe 2 = moderate 3 = low	Species/species groups affected (please provide names and indicate whether Appendix I and/or Appendix II); and any other details

What are the most significant advances that have been made since the previous report in other pressures?

>>>

What are the most significant negative trends since the previous report concerning other pressures?

>>>

During the reporting period, has your country adopted new legislation or other domestic measures in response to CMS Article III(4) (b) specifically addressing obstacles to migration?

CMS Article III(4)(b) states 'Parties that are Range States of a migratory species listed in Appendix I shall endeavor...to prevent, remove, compensate for or minimize, as appropriate, the adverse effects of activities or obstacles that seriously impede or prevent the migration of the species.'

**GUIDANCE TIP:**

This question is intended to specifically report on any new legislation or domestic measures **addressing obstacles to migration**. Relevant information would not include general conservation measures.

Please select only one option

- Yes
- No

Please give the title or other reference (and date) for the measure concerned:

>>>



## XI. Conservation Status of Migratory Species

(SPMS Target 8: The conservation status of all migratory species, especially threatened species, has considerably improved throughout their range.)

**What (if any) major changes in the conservation status of migratory species included in the CMS Appendices (e.g. national Red List category changes) have been recorded in your country during the reporting period?**

**“Conservation status” of migratory species is defined in Article I(1)(b) of the Convention as “the sum of the influences acting on the migratory species that may affect its long-term distribution and abundance”; and four conditions for conservation status to be taken as “favourable” are set out in Article I(1)(c).**

**If more rows are required, please upload an Excel file detailing a longer list of species.**

### **GUIDANCE TIP:**

The emphasis of this question is on “major changes” during the reporting period. Information is expected to be provided here only where particularly notable shifts in status have occurred, such as those that might be represented by a re-categorisation of national Red List threat status for a given species (or subspecies, where relevant). Please record if any CMS listed species has become extinct or extirpated from your country - or reintroduced/re-established/established - during the reporting period (or before if not previously reported to CMS).

Please note also that you are only being asked about the situation in your country. Information about global trends, and global Red List reclassifications etc, will be communicated to the CMS via other channels outside the national reporting process.

Terrestrial mammals (not including bats)

	Change in status (including time period concerned)	Comments	Source reference	Species/subspecies (indicate CMS Appendix where applicable)
				Not Applicable

Aquatic mammals

	Change in status (including time period concerned)	Comments	Source reference	Species/subspecies (indicate CMS Appendix where applicable)
				Not applicable

Bats

	Change in status (including time period concerned)	Comments	Source reference	Species/subspecies (indicate CMS Appendix where applicable)
				Not applicable

Birds

	Change in status (including time period concerned)	Comments	Source reference	Species/subspecies (indicate CMS Appendix where applicable)

				Not applicable

Reptiles

	Change in status (including time period concerned)	Comments	Source reference	Species/subspecies (indicate CMS Appendix where applicable)
				Not applicable

Fish

	Change in status (including time period concerned)	Comments	Source reference	Species/subspecies (indicate CMS Appendix where applicable)
	No scientifically reliable data			Not applicable

Insects

	Change in status (including time period concerned)	Comments	Source reference	Species/subspecies (indicate CMS Appendix where applicable)
				Not applicable

## XII. Cooperating to Conserve Migration Systems

(SPMS Target 9: International and regional action and cooperation between States for the conservation and effective management of migratory species fully reflects a migration systems approach, in which all States sharing responsibility for the species concerned engage in such actions in a concerted way.)

During the reporting period, has your country initiated or participated in the development of any proposals for new CMS Agreements, including Memoranda of Understanding, to address the needs of Appendix II species?

E.g. Developments following the advice in Resolutions **12.8** and **13.7**.

*Please select only one option*

- Yes  
 No

Please provide details:

>>>

During the reporting period, have actions been taken by your country to encourage non-Parties to join CMS and its related Agreements?

*Please select only one option*

- Yes  
 No

Please specify which countries have been approached:

- Azerbaijan  
 Bahamas  
 Bahrain  
 Barbados  
 Belize  
 Bhutan  
 Botswana  
 Brunei Darussalam  
 Cambodia  
 Canada  
 Central African Republic  
 China  
 Colombia  
 Comoros  
 Democratic People's Republic of Korea  
 Dominica  
 El Salvador  
 Grenada  
 Guatemala  
 Guyana  
 Haiti  
 Iceland  
 Indonesia  
 Jamaica  
 Japan  
 Kiribati  
 Kuwait  
 Lao People's Democratic Republic  
 Andorra  
 Lebanon  
 Lesotho  
 Malawi  
 Malaysia  
 Maldives  
 Marshall Islands  
 Mexico  
 Micronesia  
 Myanmar  
 Namibia  
 Nauru  
 Nepal  
 Nicaragua

- Niue
- Oman
- Papua New Guinea
- Qatar
- Republic of Korea
- Russian Federation
- Saint Kitts and Nevis
- Saint Lucia
- Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
- San Marino
- Sierra Leone
- Singapore
- Solomon Islands
- South Sudan
- Sudan
- Suriname
- Thailand
- Timor-Leste
- Tonga
- Turkey
- Turkmenistan
- Tuvalu
- United States of America
- Vanuatu
- Vatican City State
- Venezuela
- Viet Nam
- Zambia

During the reporting period, has your country participated in the implementation of Concerted Actions under CMS (as detailed in Resolutions **12.28 (Rev.COP13)**) to address the needs of relevant migratory species?

*Please select only one option*

- Yes
- No

Please describe the results of these actions achieved so far:

**GUIDANCE TIP:**

If any progress report on implementation of Concerted Actions has been submitted to the COP and/or the Scientific Council in the period under consideration, Parties can refer to that report rather than restating the same information in replying to this question (please indicate the document number)

>>> - On September 20-22, 2022 Georgia hosted First Range State Meeting for the Persian Leopard. As a result of the meeting range states approved the Range-wide Strategy for the Conservation of the Persian Leopard. Most of the areas which are potential habitats of Leopard are protected by national legislation. When developing/updating the management plans of above-mentioned protected areas, Leopard usually is selected as a key conservation priority.

- New protected area "Nugzar Zazanashvili protected area with sustainable use of natural resources (IUCN protected area category VI) was established mainly to guarantee full protection of the Gazella subgutturosa reintroduced population in Samukhi valley.

- In June 2022, Kolkheti National Park was expanded by 671.5 hectares, and currently, the total area of the National Park is 44,980 hectares. Expanded 671.5 hectares incorporate the marine area, the Rioni River estuary, and its section from the river mouth upstream – up to 7 km. Overall, the extended area is important for the anadromous migration of sturgeons during the spawning period, as well as for their growth and wintering.

Have any other steps been taken which have contributed to the achievement of the results defined in Target 9 of the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species (all relevant States engaging in cooperation on the conservation of migratory species in ways that fully reflect a migration systems approach)?

E.g., steps implementing Resolutions **12.11 (Rev.COP13)** (Flyways) and **12.17** (South Atlantic Whales), and Decisions **13.36** (Action Plan for Migratory Landbirds), **13.41** (Flyways), **13.95** (Conservation and Management of the Cheetah and African Wild Dog) and **13.108** (Support to the Energy Task Force).

*Please select only one option*

- Yes

No

Please provide details:

>>>

Has your country mobilized resources and/or taken steps to promote and address ecological connectivity and its functionality in relevant international processes?

E.g., Post-2020 framework, 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021-2030, etc.

**GUIDANCE TIP:**

Please describe initiatives aimed at implementing Decision **13.113 a)**

*Please select only one option*

Yes

No

Please provide details:

>>> Georgia constantly negotiates with various donors in order to fulfill the objectives of different strategic documents. There are ongoing processes covering ecological corridors, development of an interconnected network of protected areas, critical analysis, and spatial planning, supported either by donors or national budget.

Georgia has the first Biodiversity Finance plan, pilot activities from the plan were implemented in practice (Ecotourism assessment in Forested area, agriculture subsidies, etc.). New National Biodiversity and Action Plan development encompasses elaboration of a new Biodiversity Finance Plan as well, where the topics on ecological connectivity play an important role.

The Biodiversity Finance plan is developed for three main reasons: Avoiding future costs, efficient use of existing resources, and generation of future resources from three main sources (national budget, private sector, and donor).

### XIII. Area-Based Conservation Measures

(SPMS Target 10: All critical habitats and sites for migratory species are identified and included in area-based conservation measures so as to maintain their quality, integrity, resilience and functioning in accordance with the implementation of Aichi Target 11, supported where necessary by environmentally sensitive land-use planning and landscape management on a wider scale.)

Have critical habitats and sites for migratory species been identified (e.g. by an inventory) in your country?

**GUIDANCE TIP:**

The CMS does not have a formal definition of what constitutes a “critical” site or habitat for migratory species. It is left to report compilers to work with any interpretations which may be in existing use at national level, or to use informed expert judgement.

Helpful reflections on the issue can be found in the “**Strategic Review of Aspects of Ecological Networks relating to Migratory Species**” presented to COP11 and the “**Critical Site Network Tool**” developed under the auspices of AEWA and the Ramsar Convention.

*Please select only one option*

- Yes, fully
- Partially - to a large extent
- Partially - to a small or moderate extent
- No

What are the main gaps and priorities to address, if any, in order to achieve full identification of relevant critical habitats and sites as required to achieve SPMS target 10?

>>> The association agreement between Georgia and the European Union, signed on 27 June 2014, includes obligations regarding the implementation of the following two EU directives relevant for the conservation of biological diversity:

Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora and Council Directive 79/409/EEC of 2 April 1979 on the conservation of wild birds.

According to the association agreement Georgia is obliged to establish a network of Emerald and Special Protection Areas (SPA) and to initiate priority management measures within four years after signing of the association agreement.

In this regard the following have been implemented:

- Identified candidate Special Protected Areas for Birds (as future Emerald sites) - Completed
- Performed baseline study for each individual candidate SPA (biodiversity-georgia.net/SPA) - Completed
- Prepared of maps of each SPA (biodiversity-georgia.net/SPAmaps) - Completed
- Developed a monitoring scheme of the SPAs - In progress
- Produced SPA monitoring manual - in progress
- Prepared database for monitoring data
- Performed monitoring of 3 selected pilot SPAs - in progress
- Updated checklist of Bird species of Georgia (biodiversity-georgia.net/aves) - Completed
- Produced web page for the SPAs for birds - Completed

As of January 1, 2023, all 66 sites of the Emerald Network were approved by the Standing Committee in December, 2022. The total area of adopted Emerald sites covers 1,306,748 ha, which is 18.7% of the country's total area. It should be noted that the Emerald Network partially covers the protected areas of Georgia, which is about 42% of the Emerald Network.

Over 80 habitats have been identified in Georgia during the latest years, which were assessed during Biogeographical Seminars of the (Bern) Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats. There is a need of a national-level inventory of the habitats by EUNIS classification. There is a very limited resource in order to implement the habitat inventory, therefore at this stage, information is available only for patched areas.

By 2023, the system of protected areas of Georgia expanded and comprises 100 protected areas under the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) 6 categories, namely: 14 State Reserves, 14 National Parks, 26 Managed Reserves, 40 Natural Monuments, 5 Protected Landscapes and 1 Multi-Purpose Use Area. The national categories of protected areas cover a total of over 912 908 hectares, which is over 13% of the country's overall territory. In order advance representativeness of species and habitats, and improve efficient management and governance of the network of protected areas, the Ministry carries out Protected area Policy reform, therefore it develops the new policy document – Concept of the Protected Areas of Georgia;

Has any assessment been made of the contribution made by the country's protected areas network specifically to migratory species conservation?

**GUIDANCE TIP:**

The “contribution” may relate to habitat types, and/or geographical coverage/distribution factors, and/or coverage of particular priority species or species groups, and/or factors concerning functional connectivity, and/or any other factor considered relevant to the achievement of SPMS Target 10.

(If you have information on assessments of management effectiveness, please do not include that here, but provide it instead in your response to question XIII.4).

Please select only one option

- Yes  
 Partly / for some areas  
 In development  
 No

Please provide details:

>>>

Please provide details:

>>>

Has your country adopted any new legislation or other domestic measures in the reporting period in response to CMS Article III(4) (a) ("Parties that are Range States of a migratory species listed in Appendix I shall endeavor ... to conserve and, where feasible and appropriate, restore those habitats of the species which are of importance in removing the species from danger of extinction")?

Please select only one option

- Yes  
 No

Please give the title or other reference (and date) for the measure concerned:

>>>

In respect of protected areas in your country that are important for migratory species, have any assessments of management effectiveness been undertaken in the reporting period?

Please select only one option

- Yes  
 Partly / for some areas  
 In development  
 No

Please provide a reference and details on what is covered:

>>>

Beyond Protected Areas, are other effective area-based conservation measures implemented in your country in ways which benefit migratory species?

Please select only one option

- Yes  
 No

Please provide details:

>>>

Please add any particular information about key steps taken to implement specific provisions in relevant CMS COP Resolutions and Decisions, including for example:

**Resolution 12.7 (Rev.COP13)** on Ecological Networks.

**Resolution 12.13** on Important Marine Mammal Areas.

**Resolution 12.24** on Marine Protected Area networks in the ASEAN region.

**Resolution 12.25** on Intertidal and Other Coastal Habitats.

**Resolution 13.3** on Chondrichthyan Species

**Decision 13.116** on Transfrontier Conservation Areas for Migratory Species

>>> - The Emerald Network which includes 66 adopted sites, covers more than 50% of Special Protection Areas (SPA) for birds and most of the important areas for migratory birds, including the CMS species.

- There is one important marine area identified for marine mammals, which is included in the Kolkheti Protected Area.

Important steps were made in terms of Sturgeon species protection:

- Kolkheti National Park was expanded both, in terrestrial and marine parts. The main reason was to ensure the safe migration of sturgeons from the Sea to the Rioni River and vice-versa.

- The national level monitoring Programme of the Sturgeon species was developed by the WWF Caucasus office and agreed among the main stakeholders' consultations.

## XIV. Ecosystem Services

(SPMS Target 11: Migratory species and their habitats which provide important ecosystem services are maintained at or restored to favourable conservation status, taking into account the needs of women, indigenous and local communities and the poor and vulnerable.)

Has any assessment of ecosystem services associated with migratory species (contributing to the achievement of SPMS Target 11) been undertaken in your country since the adoption of the SPMS in 2014?

### **GUIDANCE TIP:**

The phrase “associated with” migratory species allows you to report on any assessments that cover ecosystem services of systems, habitats or species assemblages that include migratory species. The question is therefore not expecting you to limit this to assessments focused solely on one or more migratory species.

For a broader biodiversity assessment to be relevant here, the migratory species involved must be making some identifiable contribution to the ecosystem services concerned.

Note also the particular aspects to be taken into account that are specified in the wording of the SPMS target. For the CMS definition of “favourable conservation status”, see Article I(1)(c) of the Convention text.

*Please select only one option*

- Yes
- Partly / in progress
- No

Please provide details (including source references where applicable):

>>>

Please provide details (including source references where applicable):

>>> Recently a new study was elaborated "Ecosystem Service Valuation and Cost-Benefit Analysis of Investment in Georgian Protected Areas" where the values of ecosystem services within protected areas were assessed. The study was not especially planned for the migratory species, but more as a baseline study of the available ecosystem services.



## XV. Safeguarding Genetic Diversity

(SPMS Target 12: The genetic diversity of wild populations of migratory species is safeguarded, and strategies have been developed and implemented for minimizing genetic erosion.)

Are strategies of relevance to migratory species being developed or implemented to minimize genetic erosion of biodiversity in your country?

### **GUIDANCE TIP:**

Strategies to be considered under this section do not necessarily have to specifically address migratory species but be of sufficient relevance in relation to the objective of safeguarding the genetic diversity of wild populations.

*Please select only one option*

Yes

No

Please select the relevant strategies (select all that apply):

Captive breeding

Captive breeding and release

Gene typing research

Reproductive material archives/repositories

Other

>>>

Please describe the Captive breeding strategy:

>>>

Please describe the captive breeding & release strategy:

>>>

Please describe the gene typing research strategy:

>>>

Please describe the reproductive material archives/repositories strategy:

>>>

## XVI. National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans

(SPMS Target 13: Priorities for effective conservation and management of migratory species, their habitats and migration systems have been included in the development and implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans, with reference where relevant to CMS agreements and action plans and their implementation bodies.)

Does your country's National Biodiversity Strategy or Action Plan (NBSAP), or other relevant plans or strategies used in your country, explicitly address obligations under CMS, priorities for the conservation and management of migratory species, their habitats and migration systems, and ecological connectivity?

*Please select only one option*

Yes

No

a. Please provide a link to or attachment of the strategy/action plan

>>> <https://www.cbd.int/doc/world/ge/ge-nbsap-v2-en.pdf>

You have attached the following Web links/URLs to this answer.

[NBSAP Georgia 2014-2020](#)

b. Please identify the elements in the plan/strategy that are particularly relevant to migratory species, and highlight any specific references to the CMS/CMS instruments

### **GUIDANCE TIP:**

Specify page numbers, section/paragraph numbers etc., where possible.

>>> C.4 - page 81;

C.6 - page 82

Objective C.4-o7. Develop transboundary cooperation with protected areas of neighbouring countries

C.2-o1.14. Develop and implement a water bird conservation management plan

C.2-o1.12. Update and implement the existing Caucasian leopard conservation management plan

C.2-o1.4. Implement the existing programme of goitered gazelle restoration in Georgia

C.2-o1.16. Develop and implement a Georgian sturgeon conservation management plan

c. Please add comments on the implementation of the strategy or action plan concerned.

>>> A Sturgeon monitoring program was developed and agreed among stakeholders; in 2018 the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats Standing Committee adopted Pan-European Conservation Plan for Sturgeons. Georgia's conservation activities in relation to Sturgeons are guided by the above-mentioned international document until the national action plan is adopted.

The goitered gazelle reintroduction project has been in place for 10 years and eventually resulted in a positive outcome. The translocated gazelle individuals in 2022 reached 200 individuals and gave birth to the 7th generation on the territory of Georgia. Vashlovani Protected Area administration has actively been monitoring the population.

However in 2023 new protected area - Nugzar Zazanashvili multi-purpose use area (cat. VI) was established in the only Gazelle habitat - Samukhi valley, bordering Azerbaijan. This activity was implemented in order to ensure the protection of the population.

Transboundary cooperation was established between Samtskhe-Javakheti PA and Lake Arpi PA on the Armenian side. The cooperation consisted of the joint monitoring of waterbirds on the volcanic plateau of Javakheti-Arpi.

Please provide information on the progress of implementation of other relevant action plans (single species, species group, etc.), initiatives, task forces, and programmes of work in your country that have not been addressed in previous questions.

E.g. AEMLAP, Great Green Wall, Bonn Challenge, Action Plans for Birds, Action Plan for the Protection and Conservation of South Atlantic Whales, Energy Task Force, Programme of Work on Climate Change and Migratory Species, etc.

>>> Georgia was a Chair to the First Range State Meeting for the Persian Leopard in September 2022 in Tbilisi. As a result of 2 day expert meeting the Range-wide Strategy for the Conservation of the Persian Leopard was adopted.

In order to implement the priority objectives of the strategy, during the development/update process of relevant protected areas management plans leopard was considered a key priority species for monitoring and conservation. The positive side in terms of the leopard habitats is that every potential habitat is under protection. This means that if the leopard crosses the borders of Georgia, it will most probably enter the protected area.

Georgia was Chairing the first meeting of focal points of the Pan-European Action Plan for sturgeons in 2022.

Within its capacities, Georgia implements the objectives and activities of the Action plan.

Please describe the monitoring and efficacy of measures taken in regard to these relevant action plans, initiatives, task forces, and programmes of work and their integration into delivery against other relevant international agreements.

**GUIDANCE TIP:**

In answering this question, compilers can provide link to relevant reports under other agreements.

>>> Activities that are planned and implemented in Georgia are fully in line with The Pan-European Action Plan.

The National action plan is not yet developed but is planned in the future.

The Stakeholder Platform of Sturgeon Conservation is an effective tool for communicating challenges, activities with the other sectors.

A long-term Monitoring program for sturgeon species was developed in consultation with the stakeholders.

## XVII. Traditional Knowledge, Innovations and Practices of Indigenous and Local Communities

(SPMS Target 14: The traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of migratory species, their habitats and migration systems, and their customary sustainable use of biological resources, are respected, subject to national legislation and relevant international obligations, with the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities, thereby contributing to the favourable conservation status of migratory species and the ecological connectivity and resilience of their habitats.)

Note that progress in achieving Target 13 of the Strategic Plan considers indigenous and local communities.

In the absence of a national definition of 'indigenous and local communities', please refer to the Convention of Biodiversity document **Compilation of Views Received on Use of the Term "Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities"** for helpful guidance on these terms.

During the reporting period, have actions been taken in your country to foster consideration for the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities that are relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of migratory species, their habitats and migration systems?

*Please select only one option*

- Yes
- Partly / in some areas
- No
- Not applicable

During the reporting period, have actions been taken in your country to promote and foster effective participation and involvement of indigenous and local communities in the conservation and sustainable use of migratory species, their habitats and migration systems?

*Please select only one option*

- Yes
- Partly / in some areas
- No
- Not applicable

If 'yes' or 'partly/in some areas' to either of the preceding two questions, please select which actions have been taken:

(select all that apply)

- Research & documentation
- Engagement initiatives (e.g. as part of development projects)
- Formal recognition of rights
- Inclusion in governance mechanisms (legislation, policies, etc.)
- Management strategies, programmes and action plans that integrate traditional & indigenous interests
- Other

>>>

Please provide details on the implementation of the actions concerned.

### **GUIDANCE TIP**

Responses to these questions may involve actions, steps, programmes, initiatives and/or activities described in CMS documentation, such as those described in Decisions **13.95** (Conservation and Management of the Cheetah and African Wild Dog), and **13.116** (Transfrontier Conservation Areas for Migratory Species).

>>> Participation and involvement of local communities in the conservation and sustainable use of migratory species are guaranteed during the development or update of the protected areas management plans, and the development of Emerald Network management plans. Most of the management plans include information on traditional knowledge and practices, especially in mountainous areas.

How would you rank progress since the previous report in your country to achieving Target 14 of the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species (see text above)?

*Please select only one option*

- 1. Little or no progress
- 2. Some progress but more work is needed
- 3. Positive advances have been made
- 4. Target substantially achieved (traditional knowledge is fully respected and there is effective participation from communities)

Please provide details on the progress made (where applicable).

>> Unfortunately such progress is not assessed because there were no baseline studies elaborated in order to have a possibility to compare.

## **XVIII. Knowledge, Data and Capacity-Building**

(SPMS Target 15: The science base, information, training, awareness, understanding and technologies relating to migratory species, their habitats and migration systems, their value, functioning, status and trends, and the consequences of their loss, are improved, widely shared and transferred, and effectively applied.)

During the reporting period, which steps taken in your country have contributed to the achievement of the results defined in Target 15 of the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species? (Answers given in Section V may be relevant)

(select all that apply)

- Education campaigns in schools
- Public awareness campaigns
- Capacity building
- Knowledge and data-sharing initiatives
- Capacity assessments/gap analyses
- Agreements at policy level on research priorities
- Research by academia, research organizations and other relevant stakeholders
- Other (please specify):

>>>

- No steps have been taken

**Please describe the contribution these steps have made towards achieving the results defined in Target 15:**

### **GUIDANCE TIP**

Steps taken may include actions, programmes, initiatives and/or activities described in CMS documentation, such as Resolutions **13.3** (Chondrichthyan Species), **13.4** (African Carnivore initiative), **13.35** (Light Pollution), **13.6** (Insect Decline), and Decisions **13.37** (AEM LAP), **13.39** (Preventing Poisoning of Migratory Birds), **13.50** (Conservation of African-Eurasian Vultures), **13.90** (Conservation and Management of the African Lion), **13.95** (Conservation and Management of the Cheetah and African Wild Dog), **13.106** (Support to the Energy Task Force), **13.110** (Addressing Unsustainable Use of Terrestrial and Avian Wild Meat), and **13.113** (Improving Ways of Addressing Connectivity in the Conservation of Migratory Species).

### **Education campaigns in schools**

>>> Under above mentioned Campaigns, the NGO SABUKO has covered hundreds of schoolchildren and university students. Raptors of Ajara and and teaching manual od Imperial Eagles were developed by SABUKO and consulted by dozens of teachers.

### **Public awareness campaigns**

>>> Society for nature conservation SABUKO (Partner of Birdlife International in Georgia) is leading campaign on conservation of imperial eagles in Georgia and scaling down illegal killing of birds across Batumi bottleneck.

### **Capacity building**

>>>

### **Knowledge and data-sharing initiatives**

>>>

### **Capacity assessments/gap analyses**

>>>

### **Agreements at policy level on research priorities**

>>>

### **Other**

>>>

Research by academia, research organizations and other relevant stakeholders

>>>

What assistance (if any) does your country require in order to build sufficient capacity to implement its obligations under the CMS and relevant Resolutions of the COP?

(select all that apply)

- Funding support
- Technical assistance
- Education/training/mentoring
- Other skills development
- Provision of equipment or materials
- Exchange of information & know-how
- Research & innovation
- Mobilizing volunteer effort (e.g. citizen science)
- Other (please specify):

>>>

- No assistance required

## XIX. Resource Mobilization

(SPMS Target 16: The mobilization of adequate resources from all sources to implement the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species effectively has increased substantially.)

During the reporting period, has your country made financial or other resources available for conservation activities specifically benefiting migratory species?

### GUIDANCE TIP:

The “resources” that are relevant here can be financial, human or technical. In addition to funding, “in-kind” forms of support such as staff time or administrative infrastructure could be relevant, as could the loan of equipment, provision of data processing facilities, technology transfer, training or mentoring schemes and other initiatives for capacity building.

Further comments on resource mobilization issues in the CMS context can be found in the **Strategic Plan for Migratory Species**, Chapter 4.

Further examples could include providing resources to actions, steps, programmes, initiatives and/or activities described in CMS documentation, such as Resolution **13.4** (Joint CMS-CITES African Carnivore Initiative, and Decisions **13.23** (Review Mechanism and National Legislation Programme, **13.25** (Conservation Status of Migratory Species, **13.32** (Illegal Hunting, Taking and Trade of Migratory Birds in the EAAF), **13.36** and **13.37** (AEMLAP), **13.39** (Preventing Poisoning of Migratory Birds), **13.41** (Flyways), **13.50** (Conservation of African-Eurasian Vultures), **13.69** (Marine Turtles), **13.76** (European Eel), **13.80** (Global Programme of Work for Cetaceans), **13.90** (Conservation and Management of the African Lion), **13.95** (Conservation and Management of the Cheetah and African Wild Dog), **13.102** (Conservation Implications of Animal Culture and Social Complexity), **13.106** (Support to the Energy Task Force), **13.113** (Improving Ways of Addressing Connectivity in the Conservation of Migratory Species), **13.120** (Community Participation and Livelihoods), **13.122** (Impacts of Plastic Pollution), and **13.134** (Infrastructure Development).

- Yes, made available for activities within the country
- Yes, made available for activities in one or more other countries
- No

To which particular targets in the **Strategic Plan for Migratory Species**, and which initiatives, plans and programmes has this made a contribution? (Identify all those that apply).

>>> Activities of the Scientific organizations, NGOs and Donor support contributed to the following targets of the SPMS: target 1, 6, 7 and 15.

Please indicate whether the overall levels of resourcing concerned are the same or different from those in the previous reporting period:

*Please select only one option*

- Increased
- The same
- Decreased
- Unknown

During the reporting period, has your country received financial or other resources for conservation activities specifically benefiting migratory species?

*Please select only one option*

- Yes
- No

Please select the source(s) concerned (select all that apply):

- Multilateral investment bank
- The Global Environment Facility (GEF)
- Other intergovernmental programme
- Private sector
- Non-governmental organization(s)
- Individual country governments/government agencies (please specify)

>>> Switzerland

Other

>>>

To which particular targets in the **Strategic Plan for Migratory Species**, and which initiatives, plans and programmes has this made a contribution? (Identify all those that apply).

>>> Targets: 1, 6, 7, 10, 13, 15.

Partly in a smaller extent to some other targets.

Which migratory species have benefited as a result of this support?



>>> Gypaetus barbatus  
Gyps fulvus  
Melanitta fusca  
Neophron percnopterus I  
Ciconia nigra  
Phoenicurus erythrogastrus  
Grus grus  
Tadorna ferruginea  
Larus armenicus  
Pelecanus crispus I  
Pelecanus onocrotalus I  
Sturgeon species

Please indicate whether the overall levels of resourcing concerned are the same or different from those in the previous reporting period:

*Please select only one option*

- Increased
- The same
- Decreased
- Unknown

Which are the most important CMS implementation priorities requiring resources and support in your country during future reporting periods?

**GUIDANCE TIP:**

Please consider answers provided in HLS.3 when answering this question where appropriate, as they may be of relevance.

>>> The need is to have the priorities of the CMS SPMS clearly defined in the new NBSAP of Georgia, with related indicators in order to measure success.

The challenge as well is that there is no financial sustainability, so finances from the National budget also depend on other priorities of the Department, of the Ministry. Last year and in 2023 there were funds available for the CMS/AEWA bird species monitoring and for the additional study of the sturgeons distribution in other rivers.

Would be helpful to have joint programs with bordering countries, or twinning programs for consultations and non-formal communication among Parties/focal points.