

2019 CMS National Report

Deadline for submission of the National Reports: 17 August 2019

Reporting period: from April 2017 to August 2019

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 12.4 requested the Secretariat, taking account of advice from the informal advisory group, to develop a proposal to be submitted for the approval of the 48th meeting of the Standing Committee (StC48) for a revision of the format for the national reports to be submitted to the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties and subsequently. The new format was adopted by StC48 in October 2018 and made available as an offline version downloadable from the CMS website in December 2018. The revised 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 StC48. In addition, as requested by StC48, 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 a guidance document 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).

For any question, please contact Ms. María José Ortiz, Programme Management Officer, at maria-jose.ortiz@cms.int

High-level summary of key messages

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

Guidance: This section invites you to summarise briefly 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 some very brief and simple "high level" messages for decision-makers and for wider audiences. Although keeping it brief, please try also to be specific where you can, e.g. "New wildlife legislation enacted in 2018 doubled penalties for poisoning wild birds" is more informative than "stronger laws"; "50% shortfall in match-funding for GEF project on gazelles" is more informative than "lack of funding".

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

> The Updated Environment Protection and Management Act, enacted in 2019 provides protection of the Appendix 1 species within Antigua and Barbuda, provides for restoration of habitats, and creates a Sustainable Financing Mechanism that provides funding for Agencies, NGO's, Community Groups for Biodiversity conservation and sustainable use.

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

[Environmental Protection and Management Act 2019 \(1\).pdf](#) - EPMA. 2019

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

> Lack of Human and Financial Resources, are the main impediments in implementing the Convention. Expertise in the conservation process is needed, to be more specific expertise in species conservation, habitat restoration, prioritisation of critical habitats and connectivity are essential to assist in moving forward.

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

> The major priority of Antigua and Barbuda is ensuring that the concept of connectivity is considered when Protected Areas are selected and established.

I. Administrative Information

Name of Contracting Party

> Antigua and Barbuda

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

> 01/01/2007

Any territories which are excluded from the application of the Convention

> Not applicable

Report compiler

Name and title

> Helena Jeffery Brown, Technical Coordinator (ag)

Full name of institution

> Department of Environment

Ministry of Health, Wellness and the Environment

Telephone

> 2684624625

Email

> doe@ab.gov.ag

Designated CMS National Focal Point

Name and title of designated Focal Point

> H.E. Ms. Diann Black Layne, Ambassador

Full name of institution

> Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Mailing address

> Department of Environment

P.O. Box W693

#1 Victoria Park Botanical Gardens,

Factory Road.

St. John's,

Antigua

Telephone

> (+1 268) 462 4625

Email

> dcblack11@gmail.com; doe@ab.gov.ag; antiguaenvironmentdivision@gmail.com

Representative on the Scientific Council

Name and title

> Not Applicable

Full name of institution

> na

Mailing address

> na

Telephone

> na

Email

> na

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:

>

Country participation in Agreements/MOUs:

Please select only one per line

	Party/Signatory	Range State, but not a Party/Signatory	Not applicable (= not a Range State)
Western African Aquatic Mammals	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
West African Elephants	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Wadden Sea Seals	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Southern South American Grassland Birds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
South Andean Huemul	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Slender-billed Curlew	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Siberian Crane	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sharks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Saiga Antelope	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ruddy-headed Goose	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Pacific Islands Cetaceans	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Monk Seal in the Atlantic	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Middle-European Great Bustard	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
IOSEA Marine Turtles	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
High Andean Flamingos	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Gorilla Agreement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
EUROBATS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Dugong	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Bukhara Deer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Birds of Prey (Raptors)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Atlantic Turtles	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ASCOBANS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Aquatic Warbler	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
AEWA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ACCOBAMS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ACAP	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 the 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. In adopting the current format for national reports, the Standing Committee was aware that there are occasional cases where it may be difficult to determine what is a “normal” migration route, and for example to distinguish this from aberrant or vagrant occurrences. This issue has been identified for possible examination in the future by the Sessional Committee of the CMS Scientific Council. In the meantime, if in doubt, please make the interpretation that you think will best serve the wider aims of the Convention. A note on the application of the Convention to Overseas Territories/Autonomous Regions of Parties can be found at https://www.cms.int/sites/default/files/instrument/territories_reservations%202015.pdf.

References throughout this report format 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 file is correct and up to date (please upload the file as your confirmation of this, and include any comments you may wish in respect of 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 I Antigua and Barbuda.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: See the guidance note in question III.1 concerning the interpretation of “Range State”.

Please select only one option

- Yes the file is correct and up to date (please upload the file as your confirmation of this, and include any comments you may wish in respect of 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 Antigua and Barbuda.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

>

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).

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.

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

[Section IV prohibition of take Antigua and Barbuda\(updated\).xlsx](#) - Section IV Prohibition of take AnB (updated)

Please identify the legal statute(s) concerned

> Environmental Protection and Management Act, 2019, Schedule IX - List of Protected Wildlife

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

[Environmental Protection and Management Act 2019 \(1\).pdf](#) - EPMA. 2019

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 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 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 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

>

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 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

>

Are any vessels flagged to your country engaged outside national jurisdictional limits in intentionally taking Appendix I species?

Please select only one option

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

Please provide more information on the circumstances of the take, including any future plans in respect of such take.

>

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.)

During the reporting period, please indicate the actions that have been taken by your country 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).

- 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.

> In general, many of the Government agencies and NGOs have public awareness programmes intended to educate the public on the value of biodiversity. This more often than not also includes the value and importance of migratory species and their habitats.

Examples are as follows:

The Fisheries Division has undertaken a number of public awareness activities aimed at improving the public awareness of the values and role of biodiversity in national development. This includes newspaper articles and local media appearances, social media posts, field trips and school presentations. The Division has also produced a number of PSAs and documentaries on marine biodiversity and Marine Protected Areas in Antigua and Barbuda and has aired these on local television stations. Additionally, each year, the Division collaborates with both private and public partners to stage activities around World Wetlands Day. Fisheries, in collaboration with the Marine Ecosystem Protected Area Trust, has also embarked on a series of presentations with community groups regarding the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and local actions that can assist in contributing to the targets.

The Department of Agriculture has played an integral part to raising awareness of biodiversity values.

Examples of how some of the many Units and Divisions within the Department of Agriculture conduct this function are as follows:

The Plant Protection Unit (PPU) has educated the public about Integrated Pest Management (IPM). The role of PPU is to ensure that plant biodiversity is protected from the effects of pests. One of the management options in the use of pesticide as part of an IPM approach, the application of a number of actions to result in control of that pest are promoted: 1. know the pest, 2 know its biology, so if a pesticide has to be used it is specific to a particular type of pest instead of using a broad spectrum pesticide. Cultural measures are also used, keeping records to forecast when the pest shows up to reduce the amount and type of pesticide used. If pesticide is used then only environmentally friendly ones are chosen to reduce the loss of beneficials. Education on Pesticide use is essential to protecting the habitats of our migratory species.

- The Forestry Unit carries out many lectures in both primary and secondary schools to increase the awareness of the value of biodiversity. They have assisted many local communities to set up Arboretums within school yards. Many tree planting exercises have been conducted in schools and communities using both forest type trees and fruit trees. Ensuring that habitats have rich plant life and water supply also ensures that habitats for migratory species remain resilient.

- Agricultural Stations: The Stations give lectures to both Schools and Civil Society Organizations showcasing the value of Biodiversity. The Stations also give "Back Yard Garden" demonstrations to the public. The Stations also have a policy to hire workers from the surrounding communities to ensure that as many persons in the area receive the training necessary to value, conserve and use biodiversity sustainably. Again, because of the coastal nature of Antigua and Barbuda, there is a direct positive impact on the habitats of our migratory species.

- Agricultural Extension Division: This Division provides education of farmers by their daily extension services, and regular public formal training sessions to ensure that farmers value, conserve and use Biodiversity sustainably.

- Veterinary and Livestock Division: This Division has officers that teach in the schools to ensure that biodiversity is valued and used sustainably. They also have daily extension services to Livestock Farmers

where they are able to educate about biodiversity values (NRCBD, n.d). Because of the small size of Antigua and Barbuda all efforts to improve public education on the value of Biodiversity, directly affects the habitats of our migratory species.

The Department of Environment (DOE) promotes the awareness of biodiversity values via a wide range of methods. These include:

- The Annual Arbour Month campaign: This includes importance of trees, tree diversity, role of trees in ecosystems, horticultural seminars open to the public, and tree planting exercises with schools and community groups.

- Public Awareness: The DOE has its own Environmental Education Unit. There is a constant public relations campaign on various issues related to biodiversity conservation. This campaign is implemented via various means such as regular school and community group lectures, print media articles, television interviews and social media. This Unit along with other agencies and NGO's have worked with the Ministry of Education in the past to incorporate the message of the value of maintaining Biodiversity into the Curriculum for both Primary and Secondary Schools. They also utilize international environment holidays to highlight specific topics.

- Technical Advisory Committee: This is an inter-sectoral group that oversees technical aspects of DOE projects and programmes. This spreads awareness at a higher level.

- Partnership with NGOs, academia and private sector- this allows both conservation and research to be achieved and is then reported to the public. Notable partners include: EAG, WAITT, Hawksbill Turtle Conservation Project, Team Antigua.

- Aggressive Legislative Framework: There has been Legislation passed in last 5 years which promotes conservation and sustainability. Examples are the Environmental Protection and Management Act, 2015 (EPMA -legislation being reviewed for updating), Regulations for EPMA, Chemicals Management Act, updated Building Codes, and development of Local Area Pans.

- The Data Management Unit of DOE, receives requests from other Government Agencies and Civil Society Organizations for information on biodiversity topics throughout the year. These requests generally include information on flora, fauna and protected areas.

- The DOE also facilitates the Biodiversity courses within the Department of Undergraduate Studies at the Antigua State College.

NGOs have also contributed significantly to raising awareness about the value of biodiversity and in turn that of migratory species, their habitats and migration systems. The NGO - Environmental Awareness Group (EAG) hosts "Floating Classrooms" - boat trips showcasing marine ecosystems, off-shore islands (habitats for migratory species) and conservation programs. Additionally, EAG has published weekly newspaper articles, and are very active on social media. They center many activities around international Biodiversity Days, such as World Environment Day, World Wetlands day among others.

Both the Antigua and Barbuda Horticultural Society and the Greengold Tropical Gardens have set up their own medicinal gardens and regularly entertain schools so that the students can be taught about Biodiversity. This also assists in raising awareness of the importance of maintaining resilient ecosystems necessary of all biodiversity including the migratory species.

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

Tick one box

Please select only one option

- 1. Very little impact
- 2. Small impact
- 3. Good impact
- 4. Large positive impact
- Not known

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

> During the period of October to December 2019, interviews were done with Natural Resource Managers from the Ministry of Agriculture and Environment, Community Groups and individuals to gather information for the Sixth Biodiversity National Report. It was found that most Public Awareness Campaigns did consider conservation and sustainable use of natural resources as far as possible. But in many cases the public still were not as informed as expected. Social Media messages are to be improved since this has greater reach with the public, but the other methods of outreach will be continued.

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 a short summary:

> The National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) and the Sustainable Island Resource Management Zoning Plan (SIRMZP) both speak to conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. Within the NBSAP, the National Biodiversity Target 11 speaks to Migratory Species - "Target 11: A national system, including protected areas, for the management and conservation of biodiversity is developed and established by 2020. This will include, terrestrial areas, wetlands, areas important to migratory species and marine environments". SIRMZP speaks to the importance of conservation of biodiversity especially with respect to zoning.

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

[AnB_NBSAP_2014_FINAL.pdf](#)

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

Please select only one option

- Yes
 No

Please provide a short summary:

>

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

> Public Awareness Role in Conservation

NGOs have also contributed significantly to raising awareness about the value of biodiversity and in turn that of migratory species, their habitats and migration systems. The NGO - Environmental Awareness Group (EAG) hosts "Floating Classrooms" - boat trips showcasing marine ecosystems, off-shore islands (habitats for migratory species) and conservation programs. Additionally, EAG has published weekly newspaper articles, and are very active on social media. They center many activities around international Biodiversity Days, such as World Environment Day, World Wetlands day among others.

The Antigua Sea Turtle Program (ASTP) also has an educational component, to teach residents about turtle biology and behaviour, getting persons interested from a young age. They conduct training sessions with new volunteers, and lead turtle tours depending on the turtle nesting traffic in a given season. The ASTP also produce educational material that helps to identify sea turtles and understand the threats that they encounter.

Technical Role in Conservation

The EAG working with Government Agencies and International NGOs such as FFI, BirdsLife, among others have cleared 16 off-shore islands and Redonda of Invasive Alien Species such as rats and goats. This has led to the complete rebounding of the flora of the islands providing pristine habitats for many avian migratory species. The incidences of nesting of these birds have risen significantly over the years.

Jumby Bay Hawksbill Conservation Program: This program is one of the longest running conservation programs. It began in the 80's. It has resulted in a significant increase in nestings of Hawksbill Turtles and increased live hatchings over the decades.

Antigua Sea Turtle Programme (ASTP): This programme within the EAG is by a team of dedicated volunteers who are assigned to beaches across Antigua, and who sometimes, most recently in 2018, work on Barbuda as well. The team monitors the three species of sea turtles that nest on the beaches of Antigua and Barbuda - Hawksbill (*Eretmochelys imbricata*), Green (*Chelonia mydas*), and Leatherback (*Dermodochelys coriacea*). There efforts have resulted in an increase in nestings of turtles and live hatchings.

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

> The private sector has worked with the EAG in many cases in ensuring that restoration and conservation

programs are successful. For example, they have provided lower cost helicopter rides to off-shore islands that were otherwise inaccessible, allowing easy access of restoration and conservation staff to the island and have assisted in removing large invasive alien species such as goats.

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?

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 a short summary:

>

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 briefly how this assessment was made

>

Has any committee or other arrangement for liaison between different sectors or groups been established at national or other territorial level in your country that addresses CMS implementation issues?

Guidance: 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 (https://www.cms.int/sites/default/files/basic_page_documents/Internet_english_09012014.pdf) may be helpful in giving further context for this.

Please select only one option

- Yes
 No

Please provide a short summary:

> The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) established by cabinet consists of Natural Resource Managers from Government Agencies and NGOs. They primarily provide technical advice for all the projects of the Department of Environment and seek synergistic opportunities. They can also provide advice that addresses CMS implementation issues.

Does collaboration between the focal points of CMS and other relevant Conventions take place in your country to develop the coordinated and synergistic approaches described in paragraphs 23-25 of CMS COP Resolution 11.10 (Rev. COP12) (Synergies and partnerships)?

Please select only one option

- Yes
 No

Please provide a short summary:

> Fortunately, the focal point of CMS and other relevant Conventions is the Director of the Department of Environment. Therefore, having the focal point in one office allows for improved coordination and synergistic approaches.

Has your country or any jurisdictional subdivision within your country adopted legislation, policies or action

plans that promote community involvement in conservation of CMS-listed species?

Please select only one option

Yes

No

Please identify the legislation, policies or action plans concerned:

> Environmental Protection and Management Act, 2019, Section 3 (3) (d) and (l)

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

[Environmental_Protection_and_Management_Act_2019_\(1\).pdf](#)

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 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.

> The Ministry of Health, Wellness and the Environment banned plastic bags and styrofoam containers and have waived taxes on the importation of alternatives such as reusable bags and plant-based containers. These tax waivers encourage the populace to comply with the ban. The reduction of plastic bags (<https://www.environment.gov.ag/search/plastic%20bag%20ban/1>) and styrofoam containers in the landfill and the environment in general greatly assists in the fight for conservation of biodiversity.

Has there been development and/or application of positive incentives in your country 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.

> The Ministry of Health, Wellness and the Environment also issues tax exemptions for newer cars. These new cars are usually more efficient in burning fuel and have reduced emissions and hence reduce the possible contamination of the environment.

Schools and Clinics are being offered grants for solar energy under the Grid Interactive Solar PV Systems Project by the Department of Environment. Again, this reduces emissions produced by these buildings and therefore reduces the contamination of the environment.

The Fisheries Division waives duty charged for sustainable fishing gear.

The Agricultural Department that promotes sustainable agriculture, also waives duty charges for farmers importing agricultural equipment. The Forestry Unit within the Agricultural Department assists land owners in reforesting property and tax breaks may be offered to encourage this practice.

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

> The Department of Agriculture promotes sustainable agricultural practices (via hydroponics, aquaponics school gardens, regenerative organic farming methods, vermiculture, composting), through demonstration sites, training and education. Additionally, integrated pest management is promoted which significantly reduces the quantity of pesticides in the environment.

Under the Fisheries Act of 2006 (a2006-22 Fisheries act.pdf) and accompanying regulations (Fisheries.Regulations 2013.pdf), harvesting of vulnerable marine species is regulated through closed seasons, no-take (on all sea turtles) and restrictions on fishing gear and methods. The Fisheries Division also conducts established data collection and reporting programme for commercial fish catch. The Fisheries Division has implemented a number of measures to ensure fisheries yields are within safe limits. This includes technical control measures such as gear restrictions as well as biological controls including the establishment of fisheries closed seasons and size limits for certain species. The Division has also established a number of closed areas aimed at reducing the pressure on nearshore stocks and protecting nursery/spawning areas.

The Ministry of Health, Wellness and the Environment has banned plastic bags (<https://www.environment.gov.ag/search/plastic%20bag%20ban/1>) and styrofoam containers which has contributed significantly to the sustainable production of natural resources.

The Ministry of Public Utilities, Civil Aviation and Energy promotes the use of alternative energy with Solar-powered street lights, thereby reducing greenhouse gas emissions and reducing environmental pollution.

The Ministry of Tourism promotes agri-tourism by local farmers, encouraging the sustainable use of agricultural lands.

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

> The following evidence is provided with respect to Fisheries:
Fisheries data (Active fishing vessels in A&B 2003 - 2014, Analysis of Beach Changes 2009 - 2015, CARIFICO Summary Report of the Fish Trap Component, Fisheries Production 2013 and 2014)

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

[fisheries_production_2013_and_2014.pdf](#)

[CARIFICO Summary Report of the Fish Trap Component - ANU 2018 0319.pdf](#)

[ANALYSIS OF BEACH CHANGES 2009 - 2015 FINAL.pdf](#)

[active_fishing_vessels_in_antigua_and_barbuda_2003_to_2014.pdf](#)

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?

>

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.

Direct killing and taking

	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
Illegal hunting		not applicable
Legal hunting		
Other harvesting and take		
Illegal trade		
Deliberate poisoning		

Bycatch

	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
Bycatch	Appendix 1- Chelonia mydas, Caretta caretta, Eretmochelys imbricata, Lepidochelys olivacea	1

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		
Wind turbines		
Other collisions		

Other mortality

	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
Predation		
Disease		
Accidental/indirect poisoning		
Unexplained stranding events	Appendix 1 -Phocidae, Tursiops truncatus ponticus, Physeter macrocephalus.	3

Alien and/or invasive species

	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
Alien and/or invasive species	All fish species are affected by the invasive Lionfish (pterois)	2

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	Appendix 1 -Chelonia mydas, caretta caretta, Eretmochelys imbricata	3
Light pollution	Appendix 1 -Chelonia mydas, caretta caretta, Eretmochelys imbricata	2
Underwater noise		

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
Habitat loss/destruction (including deforestation)	Appendix 1 -Chelonia mydas, caretta caretta, Eretmochelys imbricata	2
Habitat degradation	Appendix 1 -Chelonia mydas, Eretmochelys imbricata	2
Mineral exploration/extraction		
Unsustainable land/resource use		
Urbanization		
Marine debris (including plastics)		
Other pollution		
Too much/too little water		
Fire		
Physical barriers		

Climate change

	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
Climate change		not applicable

Levels of knowledge, awareness, legislation, management etc.

	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
Lack of knowledge		not applicable
Inadequate legislation		
Inadequate enforcement of legislation		
Inadequate transboundary management		

Other (please specify)

	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
		not applicable

What are the most significant advances that have been made since the previous report in countering any of the pressures identified above? (Identify the pressures concerned).

> To combat the threat light pollution poses to turtle hatchlings, Antigua has introduced red street lights. These street lights reduce the incidence of hatchlings moving inland.

In response to the invasive lionfish (pterois) species, there are many initiatives (governmental and non-governmental) that encourage fishers to target lionfish in their catch.

What are the most significant negative trends since the previous report concerning the pressures identified above? (Identify the pressures concerned).

> With respect to "light Pollution", there was a trend of hatchlings moving inland as well as adult turtles getting lost inland.

With respect to "Invasive Species", there was a trend of population of native fish decreasing because of the increase in the population of Lion Fish.

Have you adopted new legislation or other domestic measures in the reporting period in response to CMS Article III(4) (b) ("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")?

Please select only one option

Yes

No

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

>

Please add any further comments on the implementation of specific provisions in relevant CMS COP Resolutions, including for example:

Resolution 12.22 on by-catch.
Resolution 12.14 on underwater noise.
Resolution 12.20 on marine debris.
Resolution 7.3 (Rev. COP12) on oil pollution
Resolution 11.22 (Rev. COP12) on live captures of cetaceans (and Decision 12.48).
Resolutions 7.5 (Rev. COP12) and 11.27 (Rev. COP12) on renewable energy.
Resolutions 7.4 and 10.11 on power lines and migratory birds.
Resolution 11.15 (Rev. COP12) on poisoning of migratory birds.
Resolution 11.16 (Rev. COP12) on illegal killing, taking and trade of migratory birds (and Decision 12.26).
Resolution 11.31 on wildlife crime.
Resolution 12.21 on climate change (and Decision 12.72).
Resolution 11.28 on invasive alien species.
Resolution 12.6 on wildlife disease.
Resolution 12.25 on conservation of intertidal and coastal habitats.
Resolution 10.2 on conservation emergencies
Resolution 7.2 (Rev. COP12) on impact assessment.
> No further Comments.

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 (for example national Red List category changes) have been recorded in your country in the current reporting period?

If more rows are required, please upload an Excel file (using the attachment button below) detailing a longer list of species.

Guidance: “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).

The emphasis of this question is on “major changes” in the current reporting period. Information is therefore expected 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 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)

	Comments	Source reference	Change in status (including time period concerned)	Species/subspecies (indicate CMS Appendix where applicable)
				no data available

Aquatic mammals

	Comments	Source reference	Change in status (including time period concerned)	Species/subspecies (indicate CMS Appendix where applicable)
				no data available

Bats

	Comments	Source reference	Change in status (including time period concerned)	Species/subspecies (indicate CMS Appendix where applicable)
				no data available

Birds

	Comments	Source reference	Change in status (including time period concerned)	Species/subspecies (indicate CMS Appendix where applicable)
				no data available

--	--	--	--	--

Reptiles

	Comments	Source reference	Change in status (including time period concerned)	Species/subspecies (indicate CMS Appendix where applicable)
				no data available

Fish

	Comments	Source reference	Change in status (including time period concerned)	Species/subspecies (indicate CMS Appendix where applicable)
				no data available

Insects

	Comments	Source reference	Change in status (including time period concerned)	Species/subspecies (indicate CMS Appendix where applicable)
				no data available

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.)

In the current 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 (following the advice in COP Resolution 12.8)?

Please select only one option

- Yes
 No

Please provide a short summary:

>

In the current 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

In the current reporting period, has your country participated in the implementation of concerted actions under CMS (as detailed in COP Resolution 12.28) to address the needs of relevant migratory species? (See the species list in Annex 3 to Resolution 12.28 www.cms.int/en/document/concerted-actions-1)

Please select only one option

- Yes
- No

Please describe the results of these actions achieved so far:

>

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), including for example (but not limited to) measures to implement Resolution 12.11 (and Decision 12.34) on flyways and Resolution 12.17 (and Decision 12.54) on South Atlantic whales?

Please select only one option

- Yes
- No

Please provide details:

>

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 (for example by an inventory) in your country?

Guidance: The CMS does not have a formal definition of what constitutes a “critical” site or habitat for migratory species, and in this context it is left to report compilers to work to any interpretations which may be in existing use at national level, or to use informed expert judgement. The Scientific Council Sessional Committee is likely to give this issue further consideration at a future date. In the meantime some helpful reflections on the issue can be found in the “Strategic Review of Aspects of Ecological Networks relating to Migratory Species” presented to COP11 (<https://www.cms.int/en/document/strategic-review-aspects-ecological-networks-relating-migratory-species>) and the “Critical Site Network Tool” developed under the auspices of AEWA and the Ramsar Convention (<http://wow.wetlands.org/informationflyway/criticalsiteneetworktool/tabid/1349/language/en-US/Default.aspx>).

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 main gaps include human and financial resources, that is, specialists to identify habitats and finances to fund the identification process, as well as the scientific support to determine priority areas.

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

Please select only one option

- Yes
- Partly / for some areas
- In development
- No

Please provide a short summary:

>

Please provide a short summary:

>

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:

> Environmental Protection and Management Act, 2019, Section 54 (1)

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

[Environmental Protection and Management Act, 2019 \(1\).pdf](#) - Environmental Protection and Management Act, 2019

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/or summarise 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 describe:

>

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

Resolution 12.7 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.

> No further information.

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?

Please select only one option

- Yes
 Partly / in progress
 No

Please provide a short summary (including source references where applicable):

>

Please provide a short summary (including source references where applicable):

> Fisheries Division is in the development stage of National Marine Protected Area legislation to support existing and future marine protected areas. Although there needs to be an overall improvement in the management of Marine Protected Areas declared by the Fisheries Division, the Fisheries Division has designated four Marine Protected Areas in the waters and coastal areas of Antigua and Barbuda. These have a combined area of over 12, 687 hectares.

There will be a GEF project "Path to 2020" of which the Department of Environment is the focal point to be launched in early 2019. This project aims to implement Objective 1 of Antigua and Barbuda's NBSAP: A national system, including Protected Areas (PAs), for the management and conservation, is developed and established. By strengthening institutional coordination for PAs, supporting legal frameworks and blending local co-investment with international financing, this project will position Antigua and Barbuda to tap into global opportunities in conservation investments. The project will use innovative financing to enable the private sector and the NGO's to participate in the management and sustainable use of protected areas. The outcomes of this project will be as follows:

- PA management and financing framework in Antigua and Barbuda strengthened and coordinated to support biodiversity conservation and to enable a Public Partnership agreement for future management of the PA system.
- Globally significant biodiversity and agro-biodiversity conserved, managed and sustainably used to improve livelihoods and generate PA revenues
- Reduced negative impacts on biodiversity and ecosystem services through enhanced sustainable livelihoods in rural communities.

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?

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

>

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.)

Are priorities for the conservation and management of migratory species, their habitats and migration systems explicitly addressed by your country's national biodiversity strategy or action plan?

Please select only one option

Yes

No

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

> National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan

You have attached the following documents to this answer.

[AnB_NBSAP_2014_FINAL.pdf](#) - National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan

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

> National Biodiversity Target 11 : "A national system, including protected areas, for the management and conservation of biodiversity is developed and established by 2020. This will include terrestrial areas, wetlands, areas important to migratory species and marine environments."

There was no reference to any CMS instruments in the NBSAP.

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

> The process for the implementation of the strategy or action plan for target 11 is as follows:

- Establish a Protected Areas System for terrestrial and marine conservation in Antigua and Barbuda under the completed PA system plan.

- Identify critical habitats and species for conservation and limited sustainable use in Antigua and Barbuda (terrestrial and marine).

- Review available information to identify the individual species, habitats and ecosystems that are most vulnerable to human disturbance and develop recommendations for their protection, both within and outside protected areas.

- Identify, map and characterize areas to be included in a Protected Areas System (terrestrial and marine).

- Conduct inventories and select priority areas to be protected.

- Map areas to be protected.

- Submit recommendations of areas to be accorded protected area status to the relevant Authorities, for declaration under the appropriate Acts.

Develop and implement management plans for protected areas (terrestrial and marine).

- Develop and implement guidelines for the management of protected areas with emphasis on the protection of biological resources.

- Establish an Integrated Pest Management Programme.

- Identify those areas for sustainable use, establish guidelines for this sustainable use, and determine the parameters of this sustainable use.

- Undertake relevant investigations to determine sustainable levels of use of biodiversity.

- Develop and implement plans for fisheries, agriculture and eco-tourism development, and establish appropriate limits (carrying capacity) for the sustainable use by these activities.

- Develop and implement, where appropriate, pilot projects to demonstrate sustainable practices that are compatible with biodiversity conservation.

- Enhance the country's capability to manage protected areas and their associated biodiversity.

- Identify/Select appropriate parameters, criteria and methods of monitoring biodiversity.

- Collect relevant baseline and other data on relevant biodiversity components.

- Conduct periodic surveys of threatened species of flora and fauna.

- Establish and maintain a national bio-geographic (ecosystem) database.

- Evaluate and mitigate the activities that threaten biological diversity.

- Provide accurate and timely information on the specifics of population size and trends especially of threatened species.

- Take appropriate legal and regulatory action when the measures governing the protection and sustainable use of the areas selected are infringed.

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.)

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

Have actions been taken in your country to foster effective participation 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
- Formal recognition of rights
- Inclusion in governance mechanisms
- Management strategies & programmes that integrate traditional and indigenous interests
- Other

>

Please add comments on the implementation of the actions concerned.

> Engagement initiatives: The SPPARE (Special Pathways Protected Areas of Renewable Energy and the Path to 2020 Project in the Protected Areas components incorporate co-managing of Protected areas with the local communities that live in these Protected Areas. Local Communities through the GEF Small Grants Project Coordinator have formed active community-based Organizations, faith Based Organizations and are able to apply for funding to carry out projects.

Formal Recognition of rights: The Civil Society Organization have been invited to be a part of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) facilitated by the Department of Environment (DOE), the purpose of the TAC is to provide technical advice to all the projects that the department is presently working on.

Inclusion in governance mechanisms: The Fisheries Division has undertaken co-management strategies for the management of Fish Aggregating device fisheries as well as with queen conch fishery. The Division consults fishers in the formulation and review of fisheries policies and legislation.

Management strategies & programmes that integrate traditional & indigenous interests: The Forestry Unit reported that they regularly involve the local communities who live within areas surrounding the forests in reforestation activities. Inside the Body Ponds area, community groups have been given the responsibility of managing certain areas. The Agricultural Stations also actively hire staff from the local communities surrounding them. This allows members of the communities to assist in managing these 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 one option:

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 add comments on the progress made (where applicable).

> Local Community Groups are now empowered in improving the resilience of the ecosystems within their communities. Due to the small size of the island and coastal nature, any improvement in the resilience of ecosystems improves habitats for migratory species.

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.)

In the current 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? (see text above, and the answers given in Section V concerning SPMS Target 1 on awareness)

(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
- Other (please specify):

>

- No steps have been taken

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

Education campaigns in schools

> The Forestry Unit: carries out lectures in both primary and secondary schools to increase the awareness of the value of biodiversity. They have assisted many local communities in setting up Arboretums within school yards. Many tree planting exercises have been conducted in schools and communities using both forest type trees and fruit trees.

Agricultural Stations: The Stations give lectures to both Schools and Civil Society Organizations showcasing the value of Biodiversity. The Stations also give "Back Yard Garden" demonstrations to the public. The Stations has a policy to hire workers from the surrounding communities to ensure that as many persons in the area receive the training necessary to value, conserve and use biodiversity sustainably.

Veterinary and Livestock Division: This Division has officers that teach in the schools to ensure that biodiversity is valued and used sustainably. They have daily extension services to Livestock Farmers where they educate about biodiversity values.

The Department of Environment facilitates the undergraduate course "Diversity of Life" at the local College which educates about the importance of Biodiversity and includes local examples of migratory species.

The Environmental Awareness Group (EAG) produces a suite of educational material that may be project-specific or species-specific. Some of its most sought-after educational materials include the bird identification cards and the biennial nature calendar. Field trips are a regular part of the EAG's work programme and are either entirely free or at extremely reduced costs. One of the most successful field trips is the Floating Classroom, which began since 2001, and has taken thousands of school children across the sea into the NEMMA (protected area). The Floating Classroom educates the public about marine ecosystems and island ecosystems showcasing the habitats of migratory species.

Public awareness campaigns

> The Fisheries Division has undertaken several activities aimed at improving the public awareness of the values and role of biodiversity in national development. These include: News paper articles and local media appearances, social media posts, field trips and school presentations. The Division has produced several Public Service Announcements (PSAs) and documentaries on marine biodiversity and Marine Protected Areas in Antigua and Barbuda which have been aired on local television stations. Each year the Division Collaborates with both private and public Partners to stage activities around World Wetlands Day. Fisheries, in collaboration with the marine Ecosystem Protected Area Trust, has also embarked on a series of presentations with community groups regarding the Aichi Targets and local actions that can assist in contributing to the targets. The Department of Agriculture has played an important role in raising awareness of biodiversity values. The following is a list of examples of how some Units and Divisions within the Department has carried out this function.

The Plant Protection Unit (PPU) has educated the public about Integrated Pest Management (IPM). The role of PPU is to ensure that plant biodiversity is protected from Pests infestations. One of the management options is the use of pesticide as part of an IPM approach, the application of several actions which results in control of the pest are promoted: 1. know the pest, 2 know its biology, so in a case where a pesticide has to be used it is specific to a particular type of pest instead of using a broad spectrum pesticide. Cultural measures are also used, keeping records to forecast the presence of pests to reduce the amount and type of pesticide used. If pesticide is used, then only environmentally friendly ones are chosen to reduce the loss of beneficials.

Agricultural Extension Division: This Division provides education to farmers by their daily extension services,

and regular public formal training sessions to ensure that farmers value, conserve and use Biodiversity sustainably.

The Department of Environment (DOE): promotes the awareness of biodiversity values via a wide range of methods. These include: The Annual Arbour Month Campaign, Public Awareness, Technical Advisory Committee, Partnerships with NGOs, Aggressive Legislative Framework, The Data Management Unit of DOE and the Facilitation of Biodiversity Courses.

The NGO - Environmental Awareness Group (EAG) also has strong media presence, consistently being on the radio and television, and maintaining active social media pages. The organisation commonly writes for regional airline companies' in-flight magazine, appearing in Compass and Zing, as examples. EAG has contributed to coffee-table magazines such as "A Little Bit of Paradise" and "Simply Antigua & Barbuda". The EAG publishes an article every Thursday, called "The EAG Talk" in the local newspaper, The Daily Observer. Through this weekly publication, the EAG is able to share not only their work, but the work of other conservation organisations in the island and across the region.

Capacity building

> Many of the Civil Service Organizations interviewed were micro-businesses or community groups. They have all expressed a need for strengthening both their technical and administrative capacity to implement their work. They have all also discussed the struggle to financially support their projects/ventures and have credited the GEF-SGP for supporting their work. With the constant need for financial support, it may be very likely that financial sustainability is an area of need among the various groups, which should strive to develop innovative and long-lasting means of support the project work.

Measures to Overcome Obstacles:

- The DOE helps to find capacity building opportunities that the CSO's can participate in within project frameworks
- The DOE also seeks to build the capacity of CSO's by providing Technical Support and in the future financial support via the Sustainable Island Framework (SIRF) Fund.

Knowledge and data-sharing initiatives

> There are several avenues through which data is shared in Antigua and Barbuda. The main repository for data is the National Statistics Division, however the agencies involved in natural resource management collect their own environmental data. These agencies include the Fisheries Division, Department of Analytical Services, Department of Agriculture, Ministry of Tourism and the Ministry of Health, Wellness and the Environment. This data is used within these agencies to develop national reports, to assess proposed developments and to assess the state of the environment

The National Statistics Division collects and manages demographic and socio-economic data. Analysed data is shared amongst agencies and the general public. Government agencies provide data analysis support to NGOs however it is limited due to the lack of trained personnel in some agencies.

The Fisheries sector in Antigua and Barbuda is managed through on going scientific research. The Division monitors the annual production and fishing effort in the industry and continues to monitor biological aspects of the fishery including length-weight relationships for key species. The division recently completed fisheries independent assessments of the fish trap fishery with a review of several critical parameters including catch rates inside and outside MPAs and the validation of the mean size and catch rates for spiny lobsters. All fisheries data and information is shared amongst regional and international databases (Food and Agriculture Organisation) at the regional conferences (The Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute) annual conferences and through the National Statistic Division.

The Department of Agriculture compiles data from all of its Units and Divisions on a quarterly basis. All Units and Divisions keep records and the Forestry Unit keeps photographic records and species tracking data. This Agricultural data is used to assist with forecasting.

The Data Management Unit (DMU) in the Department of Environment serves as a central location for biodiversity data. The Environmental Information Management and Advisory System (EIMAS) is an environmental GIS database established under the Environmental Protection and Management Act (EPMA), 2019. It is a functional comprehensive environmental data storage managed by the DOE with provisions for private, public and NGO access. The DOE has adopted internal guidelines for spatial data collection and management.

Capacity assessments/gap analyses

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Agreements at policy level on research priorities

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Other

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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

>

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?

- 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 has this made a contribution? (Identify all those that apply).

(SPMS, including targets: www.cms.int/en/document/strategic-plan-migratory-species-2015-2023-4)

> Target 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10, 11, 12,13, 14, 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
- Not known

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)

>

- Other

>

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

(SPMS, including targets: www.cms.int/en/document/strategic-plan-migratory-species-2015-2023-4)

> Target 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15

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

> These migratory species were found on Redonda:

Brown Boobies (*Sula leucogaster*), Masked Boobies (*Sula dactylatra*), Red-footed Boobies (*Sula sula*) and the Magnificent Frigate Birds (*Fregata magnificent*).

The GEF-funded SIRMM Project has done conservation and restoration work in various sites and several migratory species have benefited including the following: Leatherback turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*), Green sea turtle (*Chelonia mydas*), Hawksbill turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*), Magnificent Frigatebird (*Fregata magnificens*), Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*), Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*), Sora (*Porzana carolina*), Yellow-throated Vireo (*Vireo flavifrons*), Black and White Warbler (*Mniotilta varia*), Northern Parula (*Parula americana*), Yellow Warbler (*Dendroica petechia*), Chestnut-sided Warbler (*Dendroica pensylvanica*), Magnolia Warbler (*Dendroica magnolia*), Cape May Warbler (*Dendroica tigrina*), Black-throated Blue Warbler (*Dendroica caerulescens*), Black-throated Green Warbler (*Dendroica virens*), Bay-breasted Warbler (*Dendroica castanea*), Blackpoll Warbler (*Dendroica striata*), American Redstart (*Setophaga ruticilla*), Worm-eating Warbler (*Helmitheros vermivorus*), Ovenbird (*Seiurus aurocapillus*), Northern Waterthrush (*Seiurus noveboracensis*), Louisiana Waterthrush (*Seiurus motacilla*), Kentucky Warbler (*Oporonis formosus*), Hooded Warbler (*Wilsonia citrina*).

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
- Not known

Which are the most important CMS implementation priorities requiring future support in your country? (Name up to three specific types of activity).

> OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 3.1: TO ESTABLISH NETWORKS OF PROTECTED AREAS THROUGHOUT THE MIGRATION RANGE OF ENDANGERED SPECIES.

The SPPARE (GEF-Special Pathways Protected Areas of Renewable Energy) and the GEF-Path to 2020 Project in the Protected Areas components incorporate co-managing of Protected areas with the local communities that live in these Protected Areas. Local Communities through the GEF Small Grants Project Coordinator have formed active community-based Organizations, faith Based Organizations and are able to apply for funding to carry out projects.

Path to 2020 (GEF UNEP Project): This project aims to implement Objective 1 of Antigua and Barbuda's National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (2014 - 2025): A national system, including protected areas, for the management and conservation of biodiversity conservation is developed and established. By strengthening institutional coordination for protected areas, supporting legal frameworks, and blending local co-investment with international financing, this project will position Antigua and Barbuda to tap into global opportunities in conservation investments. The project will use innovative financing to enable the private sector and NGOs to participate in the management and sustainable use of protected areas.

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 3.2: ESTABLISH NETWORKS OF REQUIRED SPECIES SPECIFIC HABITATS ALONG MIGRATORY ROUTES THROUGH ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT AND HABITAT RESTORATION.

The Redonda Restoration Programme has been responsible for the largest island restoration to date. Redonda is the most distant of all the offshore islands. This restoration programme was conducted by the NGO - Environmental Awareness Group (EAG) and has seen the return of various bird species and geckos. The group successfully removed the black rats and goats which plagued the island.

OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE 4.2: TO PROMOTE AWARENESS AMONG DECISION MAKERS AND STAKEHOLDERS ABOUT THE CONVENTION'S AIM, WORK AND UNIQUE ROLE IN GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION.

The DOE has notified the public, private, government owned and non-governmental organizations about the importance of conserving biodiversity through several medium: campaigning, inviting the community to be apart of (TAC) meetings, outreach initiatives etc.

Please add any further comments you may wish on the implementation of specific provisions in COP Resolution 10.25 (Rev. COP12) on Enhancing Engagement with the Global Environment Facility.

> No further comments.