



DRAFT AEWA PLAN OF ACTION FOR AFRICA 2019-2027 - A GUIDE TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AEWA STRATEGIC PLAN 2019-2027 IN THE AFRICAN REGION

Introduction

Resolution 6.14 of the AEWA MOP6 in November 2015, mandated the AEWA Standing Committee (StC), working with the AEWA Technical Committee (TC) and supported by the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat, to develop a draft AEWA Plan of Action for Africa (PoAA) 2019-2027, alongside the draft AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, and to submit both draft documents for consideration by the 7th Session of the Meeting of the Parties to AEWA (MOP7).

The Concept Note guiding the process of development of the draft PoAA 2019-2027 was approved by the AEWA Standing Committee (StC) in October 2016. In accordance with the PoAA Concept Note, a Working Group responsible for guiding the development of the PoAA 2019-2027 was convened in March 2017. A workshop of the PoAA Working Group took place in Dakar, Senegal from 10-12 October 2017, initiating the process for developing the draft plan.

Members of the PoAA Working Group comprise:

- The three African regional representatives from the AEWA StC;
- The four African regional representatives, three thematic experts, one invited CEPA expert and three NGO members from the AEWA TC;
- Seven African Contracting Party representatives from each of the five sub-regions, selected by the National Focal Points themselves, under the guidance of the Sub-regional Focal Point Coordinators;

Observers and partners admitted to the Working Group comprise:

- The Host Government of the PoAA Working Group workshop.
- Two non-African Contacting Parties;
- Five representatives from international organizations or initiatives
- Three representatives from Intergovernmental Treaties (CMS, Ramsar, UNEP)
- Four representatives of the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat.

Also in line with the PoAA Concept Note, the drafting of the PoAA was commissioned to a team of three independent consultants, working under the Rubicon Foundation, which also prepared the draft AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027. The PoAA Consultants, in close collaboration with the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat, facilitated the Working Group workshop and prepared the first draft of the PoAA based on the workshop outputs.

The workshop identified key challenges to migratory waterbird conservation in Africa, under the five objectives of the draft AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, opportunities for addressing these challenges and priorities for consideration in the new plan. These were translated into ideas for developing actions to address each of the Strategic Plan Activities, as well as ideas for strengthening regional and flyway level action and collaboration.

The first draft of the PoAA 2019-2027 was submitted to the PoAA Working Group for review and commenting on 22 May 2018. The deadline for comments was initially 8 June 2018, but subsequently extended to 15 July 2018.

The first draft plan was also submitted to the 13th Meeting of the AEWA Standing Committee for consideration. The StC 13 requested for the final draft PoAA, resulting from the consultation processes, to be submitted to the AEWA MOP7.

The second draft document resulting from the PoAA Working Group consultation process was circulated to the AEWA African Parties and key partners on 31 August 2018 for further consultation, with comments and inputs expected by 15 September 2018 at the latest. A final draft document with input from this final consultation phase will be submitted to the AEWA MOP7 for consideration.

AEWA

Plan of Action for Africa

2019-2027

**A guide to the implementation of the
AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027 in the African region**



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List of Acronyms

AEMLAP	African-Eurasian Migratory Landbirds Action Plan
AEWMP	African-Eurasian Waterbird Monitoring Partnership
AEWA	Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds / African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbird Agreement
AI	(AEWA) African Initiative
AFRING	African Bird Ringing Scheme
AMBI	Arctic Migratory Birds Initiative
AMCEN	African Ministerial Conference on the Environment
ARC-WH	Arabic Regional Centre for World Heritage
AU	African Union
BirdLife	BirdLife International
EAFI	BirdLife International East Atlantic Flyway Initiative
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CBNRM	Community based natural resource management
CEMAC	Economic and Monetary Community for Central Africa
CEPA	Communication, Education and Public Awareness
CEPA FP	(AEWA) CEPA Focal Point
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species
CMS	Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals
COP	Conference of the Parties
CP	Contracting Party
CPW	Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management
CSN	Critical Sites Network
CSO	Civil Society Organisations
CSR	(AEWA) Conservation Status Review
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
ESA	European Space Agency
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation
FP	Focal Point
FTK	Flyway Training Kit
GIS	Geographic Information System
IBA	Important Bird & Biodiversity Area
IKI	International Climate Change Initiative
IMSAP	Multi-Species Action Plan
InforMEA	United Nations Information Portal on Multilateral Environmental Agreements
IPBES	Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services
IRP	Implementation Review Process
ISEG	International Species Expert Group
ISR	International Site Review
ISWG	International Species Working Group
ISSAP	International Single Species Action Plan
IUCN	International Union for the Conservation of Nature
IWC	International Waterbird Census
MAB	Man and Biosphere the Programme
MBP	Migratory Birds for People
MEA	Multilateral Environmental Agreement
MIKT	(CMS) Intergovernmental Task Force on Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade of Migratory Birds in the Mediterranean
MOP	Meeting of the Parties
NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategic Action Plan
NC	National Coordinator
NFP	(AEWA) National Focal Point
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation

OMPO	Migratory Birds of the Western Palearctic - European institute for the management of wild birds and their habitats
ONCFS	Office National de la Chasse et de la Faune Sauvage (France)
PoAA	(AEWA) Plan of Action for Africa
Ramsar	The Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar Convention)
RESSOURCE	“Strengthening expertise in Sub-Saharan Africa on birds and their rational use for communities and their environment” Project
REC	Regional Economic Community
RFMO	Regional Fisheries Management Organisation
SABAP2	The Second Southern African Bird Atlas Project
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SAP	Species Action Plan
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
SGF	(AEWA) Small Grants Fund
SP	(AEWA) Strategic Plan
SPMS	(CMS) Strategic Plan for Migratory Species
SrFPC	Sub-regional Focal Point Coordinator
StC	Standing Committee
SWM	Sustainable Wildlife Management Programme (EU)
TC	Technical Committee
TFP	(AEWA) Technical Focal Point
ToT	Training of Trainers
TSU	Technical Support Unit
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UN Environment	United Nations Environment Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
WG	Working Group
WHC	World Heritage Convention
WHS	World Heritage Site
WI	Wetlands International
WIOMSA	Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association
WLI	Wetland Link International
WMBD	World Migratory Bird Day
WSFI	Wadden Sea Flyway Initiative
WWT	Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust
UNWTO	World Tourism Organisation

1. Introduction

AEWA

The Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds (AEWA) is an intergovernmental treaty dedicated to the conservation of migratory waterbirds and their habitats in the African-Eurasian region. Developed under the framework of the Convention on Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) and administered by the United Nations Environment Programme (UN Environment), AEWA brings together countries and the wider international conservation community in an effort to establish coordinated and concerted actions at flyway level for the conservation of migratory waterbirds and their habitats.

AEWA covers 254 species of migratory waterbirds that are ecologically dependent on wetlands for at least part of their annual cycle, which cross international boundaries during their migration and require good quality habitat for breeding, as well as a network of suitable sites to support their annual journeys. International cooperation across their entire migratory range, as provided by AEWA, is therefore essential for their effective conservation and management.

The Agreement area stretches from the northern reaches of Canada and the Russian Federation to the southernmost tip of Africa, covering 119 Range States from Africa, Europe, the Middle East and parts of Asia and Canada. As at 1 September 2018, AEWA has 77 Contracting Parties (CPs), with 41 from Eurasia (including the European Union) and 36 from Africa. AEWA provides for coordinated and concerted action to be taken by the Range States throughout the migration systems of waterbirds to which it applies.

The Agreement has three main bodies:

- Meeting of the Parties (MOP), the governing body of AEWA
- Standing Committee (StC), responsible for steering the operations between sessions of the MOP
- Technical Committee (TC), responsible for providing scientific and technical advice

The UNEP/AEWA Secretariat based in Bonn, Germany, supports the Parties and services the bodies of the Agreement.

The AEWA Action Plan

The AEWA Action Plan, which constitutes as an integral part of the Agreement (Annex 3), is legally binding for all Contracting Parties. It specifies different measures to be undertaken by Parties to warrant the conservation of migratory waterbirds within their national boundaries. These include measures for species and habitat conservation and the management of human activities through various means including legal provisions, promoting sustainable use or addressing emergency measures. The Action Plan also identifies measures to promote research and monitoring, education and improved information and awareness on migratory waterbirds and their habitats in the Agreement Area. Priority is given to those waterbird populations of particular conservation concern, listed in Column A of Table 1 in the AEWA Action Plan in Annex 3 to the Agreement which indicates the status of the populations of migratory waterbird covered under AEWA.

The AEWA Strategic Plan

The AEWA Strategic Plan (SP) 2019-2027 provides the framework for implementation of the Agreement by the Contracting Parties, Standing Committee, Technical Committee, Secretariat and Partners. The goal of the AEWA Strategic Plan is to “*maintain migratory waterbird species and their populations in a favourable conservation status or to restore them to such a status throughout their flyways*”. Implementation of the AEWA Strategic Plan will contribute to the implementation of provisions under key global frameworks for environmental conservation, including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Aichi Biodiversity Targets, Strategic Plan for Migratory Species (SPMS) and the 4th Ramsar Strategic Plan 2016-2024, as clearly indicated in the AEWA SP. AEWA’s first Strategic Plan covered the period 2009–2017, and was later extended to 2018, in line with the schedule for the 7th Meeting of the Parties (MOP7) to AEWA. The current Strategic Plan is for the years 2019 – 2027 (three AEWA triennia).

The AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027 describes five objectives, including four substantive conservation objectives (1-4) and one enabling objective (5), as indicated in Table 1 below:

Table 1: Objectives of the AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027

Objective 1	To strengthen species conservation and recovery and reduce causes of unnecessary mortality
Objective 2	To ensure that any use and management of AEWA-listed migratory waterbird populations is sustainable across their flyways
Objective 3	To establish and sustain a coherent and comprehensive flyway network of protected areas and other sites, managed to maintain – and where necessary restore – their national and international importance for migratory waterbird populations
Objective 4	To ensure there is sufficient quantity and quality of habitat in the wider environment for achieving and maintaining favourable conservation status for migratory waterbird populations
Objective 5	To secure and strengthen the knowledge, capacity, recognition, awareness and resources required for the Agreement to achieve its conservation objectives

For each objective, between four to six Targets have been identified to be achieved by 2027, each accompanied by specific indicators with means of verification and corresponding activities.

The AEWA African Initiative and Plan of Action for Africa (PoAA)

The African region constitutes a significant part of the AEWA range and supports populations of migratory waterbirds in unfavourable conservation status, including for globally threatened species, as well as populations of quarry species. The region also has a wide range of key habitats essential for the survival of these species. Recognising that additional efforts were needed for the implementation of the Agreement in Africa, the AEWA Parties in 2008 unanimously supported the African Initiative for the Conservation of Migratory Waterbirds and their Habitats in Africa by adopting resolution 4.9 of MOP4. The African Initiative aims to promote the implementation of AEWA in Africa and thus help conserve migratory waterbird populations that use the region. Resolution 4.9 also suggested the development of a Plan of Action for Africa as one of the key activities under the initiative.

The AEWA Plan of Action for Africa (PoAA) is the operational guideline for implementation of the AEWA Strategic Plan in Africa. The first PoAA, adopted through Resolution 5.9 of the AEWA MOP5 (France, 2012) for the period 2012-2017, was later extended to 2018, alongside the AEWA Strategic Plan. Like the new AEWA Strategic Plan, the new AEWA PoAA covers the period of 2019-2027.

2. AEWA Plan of Action for Africa 2019-2027

This plan aims to provide practical guidance to Parties, the bodies of the Agreement, the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat, and partners to assist the enhanced implementation of the AEWA Strategic Plan in Africa.

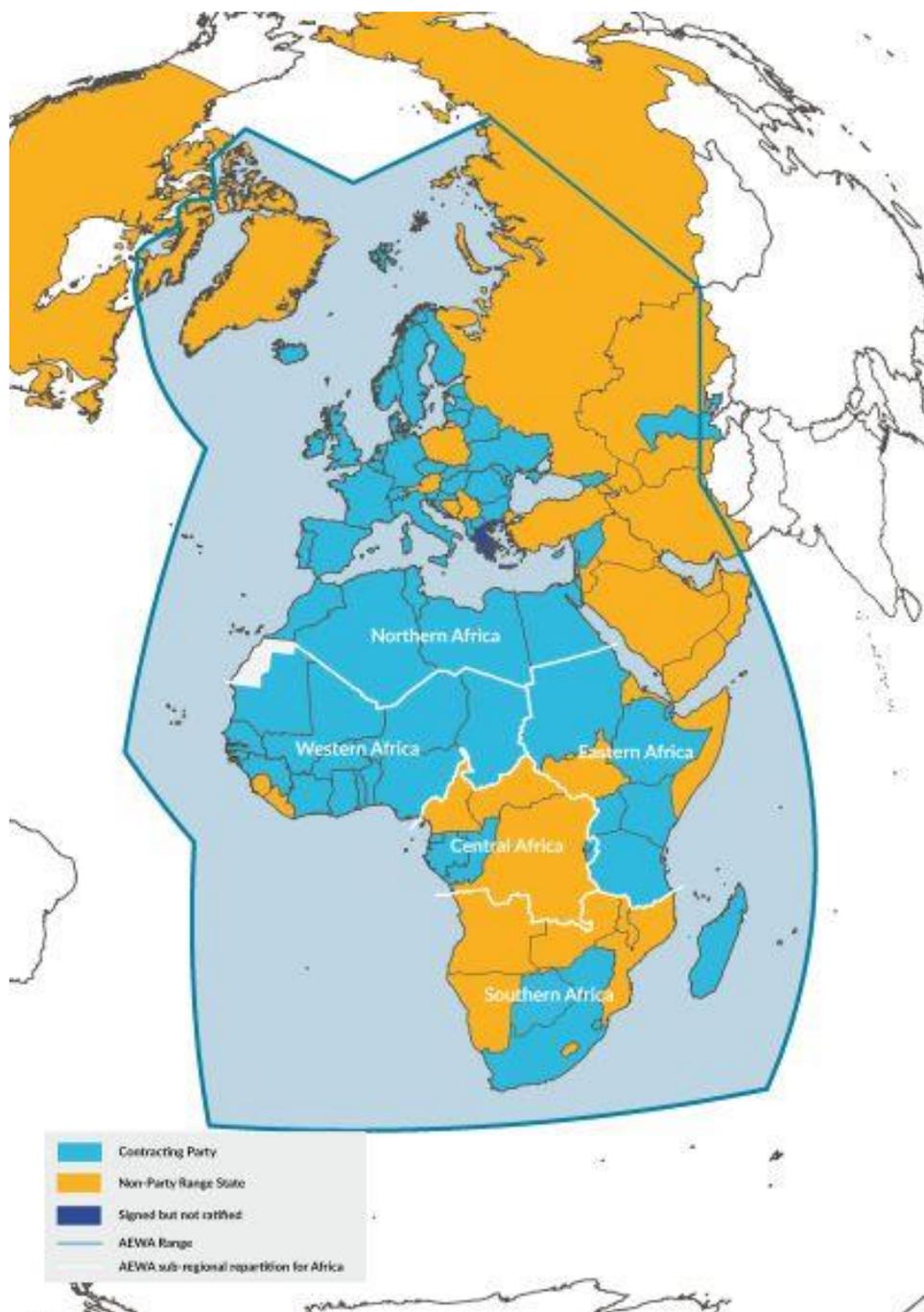
The AEWA Plan of Action for Africa 2019-2027, follows the structure and operational period for the current AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027. It provides a series of prioritised actions to be conducted for the prescribed activities under each SP Objective and Target. The PoAA also suggests project ideas, which should be considered for the development of flyway-level project concepts and proposals that address issues specific to the four principal flyways or flyway systems in Africa.

Geographical Region

The PoAA covers the entire African region (Figure 1), comprising the following African Range States as outlined in Table 2 (Contracting Parties are shown in upper case, non-Party Range States in lower case):

Table 2: AEWA geographic regions in Africa

Northern Africa	ALGERIA, EGYPT, LIBYA, MOROCCO & TUNISIA
Eastern Africa	DJIBOUTI, Eritrea, ETHIOPIA, KENYA, Somalia, South Sudan, SUDAN, UGANDA and TANZANIA
Southern Africa	Angola, BOTSWANA, Comoros, ESWATINI, Lesotho, MADAGASCAR, Malawi, MAURITIUS, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, SOUTH AFRICA, Zambia & ZIMBABWE
Western Africa	BENIN, BURKINA FASO, Cabo Verde, CHAD , CÔTE D'IVOIRE, THE GAMBIA, GHANA, GUINEA, GUINEA-BISSAU, Liberia, MALI, MAURITANIA, NIGER, NIGERIA, SENEGAL, Sierra Leone and TOGO
Central Africa	BURUNDI , Cameroon, Central African Republic, CONGO, Democratic Republic of Congo, EQUATORIAL GUINEA, GABON, RWANDA & São Tomé and Príncipe

**Figure 1: AEWA Range Map showing the African sub-regions**

Challenges and issues to implementing the AEWA Strategic Plan in Africa

Effective implementation of the PoAA requires commitment, good planning, proper coordination, resources and time. This invariably presents a wide range of challenges, in common with almost all conservation plans. Some of the challenges identified during the Workshop of the Working Group for the Development of the AEWA PoAA are listed below; these have been largely addressed through the actions prescribed in the plan.

Limited awareness

Despite past and ongoing efforts, there remains a generally low level of awareness of migratory waterbirds and their conservation needs, and a poor understanding of the value of waterbirds and wetlands, including among policy and decision makers and natural resource users. This restricts wider interest in waterbirds and enthusiasm for their conservation. This limitation emphasises the need for AEWA to develop momentum in actions that increase awareness, through establishing an effective network of CEPA FPs and using mechanisms such as the World Migratory Bird Day (WMBD - <https://www.worldmigratorybirdday.org>). With all stakeholders, AEWA also needs to demonstrate its relevance to global issues such as climate change. The Agreement should also highlight its role in contributing to the broader sustainable development agenda given that many AEWA obligations cross cut obligations under other MEAs and range states thereby satisfy their commitments under these conservation treaties through implementing AEWA.

Limited capacity

Knowledge and capacity required for effective conservation and management of migratory waterbirds and their habitats is limited. Constant effort is required in order to build a greater understanding for good management of natural resources, as well as institutional capacity. A wide range of technical, administrative, institutional and resource mobilisation skills are needed for effective implementation of the PoAA, including for:

- Ornithology
- Bird monitoring and surveys
- Data management, analysis & GIS
- Reporting on implementation of AEWA
- Policy development and application, law enforcement and good governance
- Communication, facilitation & negotiation
- Site and habitat management
- Scientific research (e.g. biologists, veterinarians, limnologists)
- Fundraising and donor liaison
- Advocacy and campaigning (e.g. through 'AEWA champions')

In some countries the number of people with such skills, including ornithologists or other experts is very low and naturally presents a barrier to implementation progress. On a regional level, strong networks are also important. Weak flyway-scale partnerships are likely to be ineffective, and AEWA needs to develop its own capacity for sub-regional integration. These issues underpin the need for AEWA to continue to address capacity-building through Training of Trainers (ToT) events, promoting the use of relevant existing toolkits and other means, including traditional and local knowledge. It is also crucial to strengthen the network of National Focal Points (NFPs), Technical Focal Points (TFPs) and Communication, Education and Public Awareness Focal Points (CEPA FPs), all of whom need to be dedicated and proactive, and work in collaboration in order to constitute a solid pillar for guiding, promoting and advancing national implementation of AEWA.

Low perceived value of waterbirds

The value of waterbirds are often not fully appreciated, despite their contribution to various social, cultural and economic activities, such as ecotourism and sustaining livelihoods. On a wider level, trade-offs are inevitable between the impacts of issues such as population growth and conservation of the wider environment. In all scenarios, putting a realistic value to natural resources, including migratory waterbirds and their habitats, is of benefit, noting the importance of cultural value, which are hard to measure.

Weak governance, legislation and coordination

Effective conservation requires good governance and decision-making as well as good coordination, especially between government departments and focal points of the different MEAs. Some actions, e.g. related to illegal trade and hunting or formal conservation and management of protected areas, require dynamic legislative systems that permit timely legislative modifications and/or enforcement of laws. However, in many countries legal systems can be fragmented and overly

specialised at the high level, resulting in cumbersome and time-consuming procedures for amendment and political hurdles to revision and enforcement of laws.

Limited financial resources

The availability of funds for conservation action is an issue that cuts across all sectors and in almost all parts of the world. There are many competing biodiversity conservation priorities and limited resources to address them, requiring prioritisation. In some countries, waterbird conservation may be a rather low priority compared, for instance, to conserving megafauna or to other national issues such as security and poverty alleviation. Furthermore, waterbirds may not be a focus for some major funding agencies. AEWA has some valued traditional supporting partners, including a number of Parties, but further partnerships need to be secured with other Parties, other funding agencies, the private sector and sub-regional organisations. Financing habitat protection along flyways is essential for long-term survival of migratory waterbirds and will require innovative means of financing, including proposing incentives measures, promoting natural resource-based alternative livelihoods options and promoting synergies with partners and stakeholders to maximise the limited resources available for biodiversity conservation.

Limited human resources

High staff turnover is an issue in many countries and can present difficulties, especially when key personnel, such as FPs or IWC NCs, are moved on from a role in AEWA or waterbird conservation. Quite often, there are more generalists and a limited number of specialists, and incentives for young people to develop an advanced interest in nature conservation may be limited. In general, the number of personnel allocated for waterbird and wetlands conservation is limited, compared to the attributed work load.

Development of the PoAA 2019-2027

This Plan of Action for Africa has been developed through a consultative process with CPs and AEWA partners. The main body responsible for guiding the development of the Plan is the **Working Group for the development of the AEWA Plan of Action for Africa 2019-2027**. A workshop of this Working Group took place in Dakar, Senegal from 10-12 October 2017, initiating the process for developing the draft plan. Three facilitators as well as members of the Secretariat supported the workshop and assumed the task of drafting the plan based on the workshop outputs as well as inputs from further consultation with the Working Group, Parties and partners. The workshop identified a number of issues related to each SP objective, as summarised below, which were then used to develop prioritised actions to be addressed in the region. The draft PoAA 2019-2017 was circulated to the PoAA Working Group and subsequently all African CPs and AEWA Partners for further comments and input, which were taken into consideration to produce the final draft document submitted to the AEWA MOP7 for consideration.

3. Implementation of the Plan of Action for Africa

Partnership and collaboration

For the effective implementation of the PoAA, a wide range of actors should be involved at all stages. In general, one set of actions (highlighted in **green**) should be addressed at the flyway or Agreement level and should be led by the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat with input of the Technical Committee and/or the Standing Committee and key partners. A second set of actions (highlighted in **blue**) should be addressed at the national level and should be led by the AEWA African Parties. All actions should be carried out in full collaboration with relevant partners or stakeholders, both governmental and non-governmental. Depending on the action, partners should include the following, among others:

- AEWA African Contracting Parties;
- National governmental departments, e.g. energy, agriculture and fisheries sectors;
- Academic / research institutions, educational / training institutes at different levels;
- National NGOs / Civil Society Organisations (CSOs);
- Focal points and coordinators of relevant schemes, e.g. International Waterbird Census National Coordinators (IWC NCs);
- Local communities, especially those living in or utilising key sites;
- Experts / consultants;
- Non-African AEWA Contracting Parties (as appropriate);
- AEWA African Non-Party Range States;

- Other Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs), especially CMS and Ramsar, as well as the relevant regional ones;
- International NGOs;
- International and regional initiatives, especially flyway initiatives;
- Regional authorities, including fisheries and river basin authorities;
- The donor community;
- The private sector, including international, national and local businesses;
- Interested individuals.

The PoAA does not generally specify named partners, projects, programmes or initiatives, because circumstances and modes of implementation will vary significantly between countries. However, attention should be given to promoting collaboration with partners and stakeholders at the national, transboundary and flyway levels, e.g. by seeking opportunities for joint implementation under relevant on-going and new projects, programmes and initiatives, and sharing of experiences and expertise. Such international collaboration is imperative for the effective conservation of migratory waterbirds as a shared natural resource. Depending on the specific action and the concerned flyways, collaboration should be strengthened or initiated with on-going projects, programmes or initiatives, including, among others the:

- CMS Task Forces and Working Groups particularly the Intergovernmental Task Force on Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade of Migratory Birds in the Mediterranean (MIKT), Energy Task Force, Working Group on Preventing Poisoning of Migratory Birds, Working Group on Migratory Landbirds in the African-Eurasian Region and Working Group on Flyways;
- Ramsar Regional Initiatives relevant for Africa, including the Mediterranean Wetlands Initiative (MedWet), Niger River Basin Network (NIGERWET), Ramsar Centre For Eastern Africa (RAMCEA), SenegalWet, West African Coastal Zone Wetlands Network (WACOWet);
- CBD Bio-Bridge Initiative (BBI);
- International Waterbird Census Programme;
- Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management (CPW);
- Wadden Sea Flyway Initiative (WSFI);
- Arctic Migratory Birds Initiative (AMBI);
- African-Eurasian Waterbird Monitoring Partnership (AEWMP);
- East Atlantic Flyway Initiative (EAFI) of BirdLife International;
- BirdLife Marine Programme;
- Migratory Birds for People (MBP) Programme and Wetland Link International (WLI), led by the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust (WWT);
- Sustainable Wildlife Management (SWM) Programme, of the EU;
- Project "Strengthening expertise in sub-Saharan Africa on birds and their rational use for communities and their environment" (RESSOURCE);
- Project on Climate Resilient Site Network in the African-Eurasian Flyway, led by Wetlands International and sponsored by the International Climate Change Initiative (IKI);
- Tunis Action Plan (TAP) 2013-2020 of the Bern Convention;
- African Strategy on Combating Illegal Exploitation and Illegal Trade in Wild Fauna and Flora in Africa 2016-2025, of Agenda 2063 of the African Union;
- EU Initiative, Larger than Elephants: Inputs for an EU Strategic Approach to Wildlife Conservation in Africa.

Timeframe

Many actions require implementation on a rolling basis and integration into regular national level operations, procedures and policies. Other actions are linked closely to the AEWA MOP cycles or to a specific AEWA MOP session and thereof to the AEWA National Reporting cycle, given that the MOP is the governing body of AEWA and presents the best opportunity for Parties to jointly review achievements, results and issues with input from key partners and direct the way forward for future action. A few actions have more specific timeframes, usually when a specific outcome needs to be realised.

Prioritisation

Three levels of priority (essential, high and medium) have been indicated for each action in the plan, to serve as guidance, especially when resources (human, financial) are limited. However, some priorities will no doubt vary between Parties, especially at the site level.

Budget

Given that budget requirements vary widely per country and over time, no precise budget has been set for implementation of the plan; instead, budget thresholds have been suggested. Budget thresholds for actions addressed at the national level are indicated as estimates per country. These will vary significantly depending on the size and scale of issues to be addressed in each Party (e.g. number of priority populations and key sites for migratory birds in a given Party). It is highly recommended that Parties draw up their own specific budget requirements as part of their national AEWA PoAA implementation plans.

Monitoring Implementation of the AEWA Plan of Action for Africa 2019-2027

Considering that the AEWA PoAA 2019-2027 is aligned to the AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, a module for reporting on the implementation of the AEWA PoAA will be developed under the National Reporting Format for the AEWA MOPs. The AEWA PoAA implementation reporting module should be available on time for reporting to the AEWA MOP8 and subsequent MOPs. The timeframe for the PoAA implementation reporting process should be aligned to that for the MOP. The UNEP/AEWA Secretariat (at the international level) and AEWA Parties (at the national level) should actively collaborate with other MEAs and frameworks for implementing relevant on-going and new initiatives and projects that promote synergies in harmonizing national reporting under MEAs.

4. Actions for implementing the AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027 in Africa

KEY TO COLOUR CODE SHADING AND SYMBOLS

 2027 Target of the AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027

Parties (= National AEWA implementing agencies in African Contracting Parties)

NFPs / others: specific actors on behalf of Parties

Note that Parties should work with appropriate partners for all actions

Secretariat with input of TC / StC as appropriate

TABLE 3: KEY TO BUDGET

Symbol	Description
Z	Regular internal cost, e.g. staff time; (may be covered by existing mechanisms, but will vary, e.g. between countries)
Actions for which additional funds are needed	
€	< €1,000
€€	€1,000 - €10,000
€€€	€10,000 - €50,000
€€€€	€50,000 - €100,000
€€€€€	> €100,000

Cost estimates for African Parties are 'per Party'

TABLE 4: KEY TO PRIORITIES

Symbol	Description
★	Medium
★★	High
★★★	Essential

SPECIES CONSERVATION

Objective 1: To strengthen species conservation and recovery and reduce causes of unnecessary mortality

Aichi targets to which this objective contributes:



SP TARGET 1.1:

The legal measures required by the AEWA Action Plan are transposed into all Parties' domestic legislation and enforced effectively [[link to actions under target 2.2](#)].

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 1.1)	PoAA Action	Parties / NFPs (blue)	Secretariat (green)	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
1.1.a) Review existing domestic legislation	Parties set a collaborative workflow to review & update national legislation based on the latest AEWA text and MOP amendments			6 m after MOP	★★★	Z
	NFPs / TFPs prepare formal submissions for updating existing or developing new legislation			9 m after MOP	★★★	Z
1.1.b) Align domestic law with AEWA requirements	NFPs coordinate submission of formal requests to relevant national institutions to amend existing or develop and adopt new legislative measures			12 m after MOP	★★★	Z
	Parties build latest AEWA requirements into national law and policy, regulations and guidelines			18 m after MOP	★★★	Z
1.1.c) Review & strengthen compliance with and enforcement of legislation	Conduct a review of enforcement of & compliance with AEWA obligations in Africa and produce related recommendations and guidelines, in collaboration with CMS on implementation of Resolution 12.9 on the National Legislative Programme.			by end 2019	★★	€€
	Develop guidelines for Parties on how to review and report on enforcement & compliance with AEWA			by end 2020	★★	€€
	Parties establish national mechanisms to review national compliance with AEWA obligations and enforcement			By 2021	★★	Z

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 1.1)	PoAA Action	Parties / NFPs (blue)	Secretariat (green)	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
	Parties develop measures to strengthen compliance with AEWA obligations			12 m before MOP8 & next MOPs	★★	Z
	Parties undertake regular review of national compliance and implement established measures to strengthen compliance with AEWA obligations			on rolling basis	★★	Z
	NFPs ensure wide national awareness of the latest AEWA-related legal updates and arising obligations, and their link to other MEAs			18 m after MOP, then on a rolling basis	★★	Z
	Apply the AEWA IRP, jointly with relevant MEAs (e.g. CMS, Ramsar, WHC), for priority cases where non-compliance with AEWA provisions negatively affects AEWA species and/or their sites and habitats.			on rolling basis	★★	€€ - €€€
1.1.d) Share experience & exchange best practice	Parties provide updates on the degree of compliance & enforcements in their National Reports to MOP			Before MOPs / on rolling basis	★★	Z
	Facilitate sharing of experience / best practice between Parties			on rolling basis	★	Z



SP TARGET 1.2:

All priority species/populations are covered by effectively implemented Species Action Plans at flyway level.

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 1.2)	PoAA Action	Parties / NFPs (blue)	Secretariat (green)	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
1.2.a) Review / update list of ISSAPs required (list new plans & changes to existing plans)	Review & update the list of species / populations requiring new, revised or retired ISSAPs based on the MOP amendments to AEWA Table 1			6 m after MOP	★★	€
	Based on the updated AEWA ISSAP/IMSAP list, NFPs maintain & update a list of species / populations requiring ISSAPs in their country, and inform national stakeholders accordingly			9 m after MOP	★	Z
1.2.b) Develop ISSAP work plan including for drafting of new ISSAPs	Establish a prioritized AEWA work plan for development/revision/retiring of ISSAPs/IMSAPs			6 m after MOP	★★	€€
	Implement the AEWA ISSAP/IMSAP work plan, for 'African species', with close engagement of Parties and technical partners in all range states			on rolling basis	★★	€€ - €€€€€

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 1.2)	PoAA Action	Parties / NFPs (blue) Secretariat (green)	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
	African Range States actively contribute to ISSAP/IMSAP revision or drafting through hosting or participation in workshops and communication		on rolling basis	★★	€€ - €€€€
1.2.c) Convene AEWA ISWGs/ISEGs to coordinate implementation of ISSAPs	Convene AEWA ISWGs for 'Africa ISSAPs/IMSAPs' and identify lead coordinating organisations within 6 months after adoption of each ISSAP		6 m after MOP	★★	Z
	NFPs designate national representatives & experts to the ISWGs		on rolling basis	★★	Z
	AEWA ISWGs coordinate implementation with Secretariat back-up		on rolling basis	★★	€€
1.2.d) Implement ISSAPs at national level & report	NFPs elevate prioritisation of AEWA ISSAPs/IMSAPs at national level and incorporate into NBSAPs, with guidance from Secretariat		on rolling basis	★★	Z
	Key Range States develop & adopt national SAPs based on ISSAPs/IMSAPs and secure resources for their implementation		on rolling basis	★★	€ - €€€€
	Parties establish national WGs to coordinate implementation of AEWA ISSAPs/IMSAPs in their countries		12 m after MOP	★★	€ - €€
	NFPs provide regular feedback on implementation of ISSAPs/IMSAPs to the AEWA ISWG as well as to the MOP through National Reports		on rolling basis	★	Z
1.2.e) Review status of implementation of ISSAPs	International and National WGs for each 'African' ISSAP/IMSAP contribute the necessary information for flyway level assessment of the implementation of the plans		on rolling basis	★★	Z
1.2.f) Develop flyway-scale projects for selected SAPs	ISWG Coordinators develop project portfolios for specific 'Africa ISSAPs' and IMSAPs with input of Secretariat, Parties and other partners		on rolling basis	★★	€ - €€
	AEWA international partners coordinate the development of flyway projects for the East Atlantic Flyway, Western Indian Ocean Flyway, Intra-African Flyways and Mediterranean / trans-Saharan Flyways (see section 5)		on rolling basis	★★	€€
	Strengthen partnerships with flyway initiatives, such as WSFI, AMBI, EAFI and MBP Programme, for project development and fund-raising		on rolling basis	★★	Z
	Implement flyway projects for which resources are secured		on rolling basis	★★	€€€ - €€€€€
1.2.g) Develop resource mobilisation plan for SAPs	Develop budgets and fund-raising portfolios for 'Africa ISSAPs' and IMSAPs within the international AEWA resource mobilisation plan (see activity 5.6.a)		by MOP8	★★	€€
	Parties allocate resources to and raise funds for implementation of ISSAPs & IMSAPs at national level through national fund-raising strategies		on rolling basis	★★	Z
	Parties along flyways identify flagship species and twinning opportunities as a basis for fund-raising		on rolling basis	★★	Z

**SP TARGET 1.3:**

For all other populations in unfavourable conservation status, science-based conservation and management guidance is made available by AEWA and/or its Partners and is applied by Parties and other stakeholders.

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 1.3)	PoAA Action	Parties / NFPs (blue)	Secretariat (green)	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
1.3.a) Identify populations requiring conservation & management guidance	Identify waterbird populations in Africa in unfavourable conservation status requiring conservation & management guidance, and their ranges			6 m after MOP	★★	Z
1.3.b) Update / prepare / disseminate guidance	Prepare guidance for these waterbird populations with input of experts from Africa and other experts and disseminate to concerned Range States			12 m after MOP	★★	€€
1.3.c) Implement conservation actions in countries supporting >1% of a population	Based on the outcome of activity 1.3.a, NFPs / TFPs produce a list of populations in their country in need of conservation action for which they support >1% of their population			18 months after MOP	★★	Z
	Parties use guidance to establish procedures / national work plans to implement conservation actions for identified populations			on rolling basis	★★	Z
	Parties include actions for priority waterbird populations in national funding priorities and budgets			on rolling basis	★★	Z
	Parties implement conservation actions aimed at improving the status of identified populations			on rolling basis	★★	€€ - €€€€

**SP TARGET 1.4:**

The quality of waterbird population status assessments, including information on drivers of population trends, is improved so that at least two-thirds of all AEWA waterbird populations are being assessed on the basis of the most complete and up-to-date monitoring information available.

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 1.4)	PoAA Action	Parties / NFPs (blue)	Secretariat (green)	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
1.4.a) Improve collection, quality & availability of monitoring data	Work with partners at the national and flyway level, in consultation with Waterbird Monitoring Partnership to improve data collection and management			on rolling basis	★★★	€€
	Establish a schedule for Parties to include population status and supporting data in their National Reports to MOP			12 m after MOP	★	Z
	Assess priorities for training needs in data collection & analysis			By 2021	★★★	Z
	Organise training courses to enhance national capacity for data collection and analysis in priority countries based on outcomes			on rolling basis	★★★	€€ - €€€€

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 1.4)	PoAA Action Parties / NFPs (blue) Secretariat (green)	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
	Parties define & update national waterbird monitoring schemes and align scope to site management and national & international priorities	12 m after MOP7	★★★	Z
	Parties activate existing national committees or facilitate the establishment of new ones to coordinate waterbird monitoring activities implemented by different stakeholders (e.g. government agencies, research institutes and NGOs) and facilitate implementation of national monitoring schemes	By MOP8	★★	Z
	Parties work together to improve coordinated sub-regional, transboundary and flyway level monitoring, and collaborate with relevant initiatives (e.g. WSFI), programmes and projects (e.g. BirdLife Marine Programme and SABAP2)	on rolling basis	★★★	€ - €€
	Parties allocate financial, material and human resources (including effective national waterbird monitoring coordinators & data managers) to ensure active coordination of waterbird and site monitoring, and facilitate availability of monitoring data to partners	on rolling basis	★★★	Z - €€€
	Parties define time-bound plans to resource and implement schemes and identify means to resource these plans themselves	12 m after MOP/ on rolling basis	★★★	€€
1.4.b) Collect / analyse information on drivers of population trends	Support partners to analyse drivers of trends for African waterbirds	on rolling basis	★★	€€€
	Parties establish mechanisms to collect relevant comparable data, in collaboration with existing schemes (e.g. IWC & IBA monitoring)	on rolling basis	★★	Z
	Produce a plan on monitoring drivers of population trends building on synergies with key partners including UN Environment, BirdLife International, WI and Ramsar (linking to the ESA-Ramsar GlobWetland Africa project and the analysis of data on Ramsar Sites from Section 5 of the Ramsar National Reports)	By 2021	★★	€€
	Enhance CSR and CSN Tool capability to contribute to analyses	on rolling basis	★★	€€€€
	Parties incorporate monitoring of threats and drivers of population change into their national biodiversity monitoring programmes	on rolling basis	★★	€€

**SP TARGET 1.5:**

Decision-making for national and flyway-level conservation and management of waterbird populations is based on the best-available monitoring data.

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 1.5)	PoAA Action	Parties / NFPs (blue)	Secretariat (green)	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
1.5.a) Use data to inform decision-making & conservation at flyway level	Flyway recommendations resulting from the CSR process based on data updates (e.g. Table 1 listing) are communicated to African Parties and considered for national decision-making			Immediately after MOP / rolling basis	★★	Z
	Parties share data with others at the flyway level, especially through active participation in relevant regional and flyway initiatives, e.g. WSFI			on rolling basis	★★	Z
1.5.b) Use data to inform AEWA implementation at national level	Produce guidelines for African Parties about the different uses of monitoring data for implementing AEWA			by MOP8	★★★	€€
	NFPs / TFPs retrieve national data analysis from national waterbird monitoring coordinators after each CSR and develop recommendations based on IWC & other monitoring data for improving national AEWA implementation for dissemination to decision-makers and other partners			6 m after MOP / on rolling basis	★★	€
	TFPs coordinate analysis of national waterbird data and the preparation & dissemination of a report with conclusions and promote recommendations for action			by end of each year	★	Z

**SP TARGET 1.6:**

AEWA priorities relating to four causes of unnecessary additional mortality and other key threats to migratory waterbirds and their habitats are integrated in key multilateral processes.

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 1.6)	PoAA Action	Parties / NFPs (blue)	Secretariat (green)	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
1.6.a) Identify multilateral processes to progress AEWA priorities related to mortality & threats	Identify relevant international and regional processes that can contribute to progressing AEWA priorities related to mortality and threats to waterbirds in Africa e.g. under UN Environment, CBD, Ramsar and CMS and its instruments, and regularly disseminate an updated list of these to relevant Parties and stakeholders for action			on rolling basis	★★	Z
1.6.b) Identify strategic opportunities to influence processes and ensure AEWA representation	Secure input of African Parties & partners to identify opportunities to influence processes identified in activity 1.6.a, e.g. meetings and events in Africa			on rolling basis	★★	Z
	Parties / NFPs use these opportunities to advance AEWA's agenda			on rolling basis	★	Z

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 1.6)	PoAA Action Parties / NFPs (blue) Secretariat (green)	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
	Parties collaborate among themselves and with other MEAs or partners to implement existing or new Action Plans that contribute to reducing migratory bird mortality, e.g. the existing CMS Sub-Regional Implementation Plan to Prevent Poisoning of Migratory Birds in Southern Africa	on rolling basis	★	€€ - €€€€
	AEWA Secretariat and international partners use identified international opportunities to advance the Agreement's agenda on mortality and threats to migratory waterbirds, including through direct or indirect participation in relevant forums	on rolling basis	★	€ - €€
1.6.c) Communicate and advocate for AEWA priorities clearly and in a timely manner	Parties / NFPs communicate AEWA priorities on preventing migratory waterbird mortality, in a coordinated manner at identified international and regional forums	on rolling basis	★★	Z
	NFPs input AEWA priorities during the development of national negotiation mandates	on rolling basis	★★	Z
1.6.d) AEWA Parties align positions under MEAs	Parties align AEWA priorities relating to waterbird mortality & threats with other MEAs & policies, e.g. fisheries, agriculture, water, energy, transport & infrastructure via inter-agency forums (link to actions under targets 5.4 & 5.5)	on rolling basis	★★	Z
	AEWA SrFPCs & StC representatives coordinate and align CP input in promoting AEWA priorities at relevant MEA forums	on rolling basis	★★	Z
	AEWA NFPs meet and collaborate with other MEA focal points, especially in preparation for relevant COPs / MOPs	on rolling basis	★★	Z
	AEWA NFPs actively participate in coordinating national positions prior to relevant COPs/MOPs of other MEAs	on rolling basis	★★	Z
	Parties provide comprehensive feedback after each relevant COP/MOP to the AEWA Secretariat and in National Reports to MOPs	on rolling basis	★	Z

SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT

Objective 2: To ensure that any use and management of migratory waterbird populations is sustainable across their flyways

Aichi targets to which this objective contributes:



SP TARGET 2.1:

Harvest levels are monitored and readily available at flyway level to support sustainable harvest of all prioritised quarry species.

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 2.1)	PoAA Action	Parties / NFPs (blue) Secretariat (green)	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
2.1.a) Propose list of quarry species requiring harvest data	Develop specific criteria for prioritising quarry species for management in Africa requiring harvest data, including from harvest for livelihood and subsistence purposes		by 2019	★★	Z
2.1.b) Establish systems to estimate waterbird harvesting at national level	Develop simple guidelines to direct and harmonize estimating and collecting of harvest data at the national level and make available to Parties		By 2019	★★	€ - €€
	Develop sampling protocols for waterbird harvest levels in some major wetlands in Africa, in collaboration with existing programmes or projects, e.g. the RESSOURCE project.		By 2021	★★	€ - €€€
	Parties establish national mechanisms to estimate harvest from different modes of and motivations for taking / hunting (e.g. subsistence, livelihood, commercial, cultural, recreational & management)		by 2020	★★★	Z
	NFPs develop practical procedures for estimating harvest		by MOP8	★★	€
	Parties enhance national capacity (organisational & technical) in waterbird harvest sampling methodology		By 2022, then on a rolling basis	★★	€ - €€
	Parties conduct inventories waterbirds harvest at markets, production and supply chains and recreational hunting agencies		on rolling basis	★★	€ - €€€

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 2.1)	PoAA Action	Parties / NFPs (blue)	Secretariat (green)	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
2.1.c) Provide waterbird harvest data in National Reports	Parties provide waterbird harvest data in National Reports to MOP9, then routinely include harvest data in subsequent National Reports			by MOP9 / for next MOPs	★★	Z
2.1.d) Establish informed estimates of harvest in non-Party Range States	Work with African non-Party Range States to produce harvest estimates with support of relevant partners and Parties			by MOP9 / for next MOPs	★	€€
	Develop harvest estimates at the flyway level for key populations			by MOP9 / for next MOPs	★	€€



SP TARGET 2.2:

The provisions of the AEWA Action Plan that relate to the use and management of migratory waterbirds, including harvesting, are transposed into all Parties' domestic legislation and enforced effectively [link to actions under 1.1].

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 2.2)	PoAA Action	Parties / NFPs (blue)	Secretariat (green)	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
2.2.a) Review existing domestic legislation relating to use & management of waterbirds (see target 1.1)	NFPs facilitate and coordinate the review of domestic legislation according to latest AEWA Action Plan and MOP amendments			6 m after MOP	★★★★	Z
	NFPs submit legislative review to their governments and promote subsequent action, (noting that government legislative actions can be lengthy)			9 m after MOP	★★★★	Z
2.2.b) Align domestic law with AEWA requirements, especially in relation to waterbird harvest	Based on review (activity 2.2.a), NFPs coordinate submission of formal requests to relevant national institutions to amend existing or develop & adopt new legislative measures, especially for harvest limits and the list of the quarry waterbird species			12 m after MOP	★★★★	Z
	Parties build latest AEWA requirements relating to waterbird use into national law & policy			24 m after MOP	★★★★	Z
	NFPs ensure wide awareness of the legal updates and obligations, especially relating to harvest limits and the list of the quarry waterbird species			on rolling basis	★★	Z
2.2.c) Review & strengthen compliance & enforce legislation, especially for waterbird harvest limits and the list of the quarry waterbirds species	Parties review their national compliance with regard to the latest AEWA obligations on waterbird use, harvest limits and the list of the quarry waterbird species			6 m after MOP	★★	Z
	Parties coordinate the application of compliance mechanisms for waterbird use, harvest limits and quarry waterbird species			on rolling basis	★★	Z
	Parties develop and implement measures to strengthen compliance with and enforcement of national legislation for waterbird use and harvest limits			on rolling basis	★★	Z

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 2.2)	PoAA Action	Parties / NFPs (blue)	Secretariat (green)	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
	Parties build on opportunities such as the Sustainable Wildlife Management (SWM) Programme and RESSOURCE project			on rolling basis	★★	Z
2.2.d) Phase out the use of lead shot in wetlands	Identify African countries where lead shot is used in wetlands and develop recommendations to phase out its use			by 2019	★★	€€
	Parties identified in this review develop work plans and timetables to phase out the use of lead shot, with guidance from Secretariat			by 2020	★★	€ - €€
	Concerned Parties implement their work plans to phase out the use of lead shot in wetlands			by MOP8 / agreed timetables	★★	€€ - €€€
2.2.e) Reduce/eliminate illegal taking	Promote consideration for migratory waterbird issues in the framework of the Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management (CPW)			By 2022	★★	Z - €
	Parties work with stakeholders to identify issues relating to illegal taking of waterbirds, recommend solutions to reduce it, and promote the consideration of migratory waterbirds in the national implementation of other relevant MEA processes			by end 2022	★★★★	€€
	NFPs coordinate actions to increase awareness about illegal taking and benefits of controlling it			by MOP9	★★★★	€€
	Parties develop & launch specific projects and actions for key areas & species that are impacted by illegal taking			by MOP9	★★★★	€€ - €€€€
2.2.f) Share experience & exchange best practice on waterbird use and management	Organise events & communications to share best practice on waterbird use and management in Africa			on rolling basis	★★	€€
	Promote use of the CMS Family E-community for exchange of experience on best practices that contribute to limiting illegal use of waterbirds			on rolling basis	★	Z
	NFPs actively contribute best practice news & information to the CMS Family e-Community and other forums			on rolling basis	★	Z
2.2.g) Apply AEWA Implementation Review Process	Parties and stakeholders promptly submit necessary information to the AEWA Secretariat on priority cases of waterbird use that could benefit from AEWA IRP intervention			on rolling basis	★	Z
	Apply AEWA IRP in waterbird harvest cases in Africa that require attention			on rolling basis	★★	€€


SP TARGET 2.3:

Best-practice codes and standards for waterbird hunting are in place and applied to support enforcement of hunting laws and regulations, including customary law where appropriate and consistent with AEWA objectives, in ensuring sustainable use of migratory waterbirds in at least three-quarters of Contracting Parties.

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 2.3)	PoAA Action	Parties / NFPs (blue)	Secretariat (green)	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
2.3.a) Develop & apply best practice hunting codes, including for emergency situations/measures	Provide guidance to Parties in developing best practice hunting codes			by 2020	★★	€€
	Parties establish mechanisms and partnerships to promote and apply best practice hunting codes			by MOP8 / on rolling basis	★★	Z
	Parties identify and build on traditional hunting codes and self-regulatory mechanisms			by MOP8	★★	Z
	Parties develop best practice hunting codes following AEWA Conservation Guidelines No.5, especially on Code of Conduct in Harvesting and Limits of Taking and with considerations for potential emergency situations as outlined in AEWA guidelines No. 2			by MOP8	★★	Z
	Identify training needs for sustainable harvest management			By MOP8	★★	€€
	Parties identify training needs to create competence & responsibility within hunting communities, and deliver training together with partners			on rolling basis	★★	€€ - €€€
	Parties incorporate best practice into codes & regulations			on rolling basis	★★	Z
2.3.b) Share experience & exchange best practice on sustainable hunting practices	Make inventory of relevant best practice that promotes sustainable hunting practices and share between Parties for dissemination to hunting organizations			on rolling basis	★★	€€
	Parties use the CMS Family e-Community and other suitable means of communication targeting hunters, to share case studies on the application of best practice codes for waterbird hunting			on rolling basis	★	Z


SP TARGET 2.4:

Adaptive harvest management regimes are in place and being effectively implemented at flyway level in the framework of Species Action or Management Plans for all prioritised declining quarry populations and 'conflict' species.

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 2.4)	PoAA Action	Parties / NFPs (blue)	Secretariat (green)	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
2.4.a) Assess harvest sustainability of declining quarry populations and prioritise species / populations for adaptive harvest management	Based on the harvest sustainability assessment for quarry populations conducted at the Agreement level, establish a prioritised list of possible migratory waterbird populations to consider for adaptive harvest management			by 2023	★★	Z
2.4.b) Develop adaptive harvest management plans for an initial set of priority species/populations	In consultation with Range States and partners develop at least one pilot adaptive harvest management plan for an identified priority waterbird population in Africa requiring adaptive harvest management at flyway level (if applicable)			by MOP9/ on rolling basis	★★	€€ - €€€ per plan
2.4.c) Ensure a coordination mechanism & routine implementation are in place for each Action or Management Plan	Establish a coordination mechanism and secure a lead organisation to guide and monitor flyway-level implementation of the adopted pilot adaptive harvest management plan in Africa			6 m after MOP9	★★	Z
	NFPs facilitate the designation of national representatives to the coordination mechanism for the pilot adaptive harvest management plan			6 m after MOP9	★	Z
	AEWA NFPs &, designated national representatives, in collaboration with relevant stakeholders and institutions, coordinate and promote the identification of measures to promote national implementation of the African pilot adaptive harvest management plan			on rolling basis	★★	€€ - €€€
	NFPs monitor implementation of the pilot plan at the national level and provide feedback in National Reports to MOP and through other means as identified under the plan			on rolling basis	★★	Z

**SP TARGET 2.5:**

Waterbird-related ecotourism is promoted in at least half of the Contracting Parties following the model/example of at least three ecotourism pilots focusing on migratory waterbirds that exemplify benefits to local communities as well as for the conservation status of AEWA populations and their habitats.

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 2.5)	PoAA Action	Parties / NFPs (blue)	Secretariat (green)	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
2.5.a) Collate ecotourism case studies and identify ecotourism partners	Build up a portfolio of ecotourism case studies from Africa			by 2020	★★	€
	Identify at least one strategic ecotourism partner for development of joint work programmes in Africa			by MOP8	★★	Z
2.5.b) Conceive and launch at least 3 pilot ecotourism initiatives in different areas at the Agreement level	Launch at least one pilot CBNRM ecotourism project in Africa with identified strategic partner under activity 2.5.a and other organisations, e.g. Ramsar, WTO, CMS and prioritizing key sites (e.g. CSN, transboundary, Ramsar, WHSs)			by 2023	★★	€€€€
	Parties involved support the development of a pilot project(s) and establish procedures to facilitate project implementation			on rolling basis	★★	Z - €€
	NFPs in pilot project countries support and monitor project implementation and provide feedback through National Reports to MOP			on rolling basis / report to MOP10	★★	Z
2.5.c) Integrate wetland- and waterbird-related ecotourism into national strategies	NFPs develop recommendations to promote wetland- and waterbird-related ecotourism, including priority sites and species, and highlight benefits			by 2025	★★	Z
	NFPs coordinate the development of official proposals to integrate wetland & waterbird issues into national tourism development strategies and action plans, accounting fully for local situations, especially security			by 2026	★★	Z
	NFPs maintain close links with tourism sector and actively promote and monitor integration			by MOP10	★★	Z
2.5.d) Share ecotourism experience, know-how, best practice and lessons learned	Share Africa ecotourism experience, particularly through AEWA website and CMS Family e-Community (or via a dedicated ecotourism forum as needed)			by MOP10	★★	Z
	Parties contribute experience through relevant media including CMS Family E-community and National Reports to MOP			by MOP10	★★	Z


SP TARGET 2.6:

Consideration of the ecosystem services derived from migratory waterbirds is integrated into policy and decision-making processes that affect waterbird habitats in at least two-thirds of AEWA Parties.

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 2.6)	PoAA Action	Parties / NFPs (blue)	Secretariat (green)	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
2.6.a) Provide guidance on cultural & ecosystem services in relation to migratory waterbirds	Secure input from African Parties and partners to develop guidance			by MOP8	★★	Z
	Update AEWA Conservation Guidelines No. 7 on development of ecotourism at wetlands, to include guidance on cultural and ecosystem services in relation to migratory waterbirds and to reflect suitable ecotourism models			by MOP8	★★	€€€
2.6.b) Implement national pilot projects and showcase decision-making that take into consideration the value of waterbirds & wetlands	At least one Party in each African sub region develops a national waterbird- and/or wetland- related pilot project that actively accounts for waterbird values, and conduct projects in close collaboration with the national Ramsar Administrative Authorities and other partners			by 2022	★★	€€
	Concerned Parties launch and implement national pilot projects that value waterbird services, in partnership with relevant stakeholders, including under the SWM programme and RESSOURCE project			by MOP9	★★	€€ - €€€€€
	NFPs of all Parties share information and experience on inclusion of waterbird values in decision-making and national level projects, including in National Reports to MOP			by MOP9	★★	Z
2.6.c) Produce & communicate AEWA guidelines on valuation of ecosystem services from migratory waterbirds and their habitats	Ensure that guidelines are practical and relevant for Africa and take into consideration existing guidance (e.g. the Ramsar technical publication No. 3 on Valuing Wetlands)			by MOP10	★★	Z

FLYWAY NETWORK OF SITES

Objective 3: To establish and sustain a coherent and comprehensive flyway network of protected areas and other sites, managed to maintain – and where necessary restore – their national and international importance for migratory waterbird populations

Aichi targets to which this objective contributes:



SP TARGET 3.1:

Known sites of national or international importance for populations listed in Table 1 of the AEWA Action Plan have been reviewed and confirmed (in conformity with Paragraph 3.1.2 of the Action Plan) and at least three-quarters of the priority site gaps are filled in the case of Contracting Parties.

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 3.1)	PoAA Action	Parties / NFPs (blue)	Secretariat (green)	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
3.1.a) Review and confirm an inventory of known nationally & internationally important sites	Disseminate a simple site reviewing framework and guidance to Parties			by 2019	★★★	€€ - €€€
	All Parties conduct a national site review building on existing inventories, and ensure they have active TFPs in place who are in a position to coordinate the review process			by 2019	★★	Z
	Monitor and collate information from site review processes by partners in liaison with African Parties			by MOP8	★	Z
	Parties revise and confirm the list of key sites for their countries and identify gaps in site information in collaboration with other ongoing initiatives			by MOP8	★★★	Z
3.1.b) Update the Critical Site Network (CSN) Tool with revised site information from Parties	Parties provide their list of key sites to the AEWA Secretariat			by 2022	★★	Z
	Update / improve Africa information within the CSN Tool			by MOP9	★★	€€
	NFPs/TFPs coordinate with stakeholders, national workplans for site gap-filling and including lists of potential site gaps to be assessed			by 2024	★★	€ - €€

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 3.1)	PoAA Action	Parties / NFPs (blue)	Secretariat (green)	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
3.1.c) Conduct national gap-filling surveys and incorporate results into CSN Tool	Parties conduct national gap-filling surveys, including for less accessible sites, building on available from relevant projects and partners and in collaboration with academic institutions conducting relevant studies to address site gaps			by 2025	★★	€ - €€€
	Enhance organisational and technical capacity for inventory and surveys with partners, e.g. Ramsar, WI, BirdLife and promote use of and training on the ESA/Ramsar GlobWetland Project Toolbox			by MOP10	★★★	€€ - €€€€
3.1.d) Review / update sites lists and communicate any changes to AEWA	Parties review and update inventories of sites of national & international importance based on gap-filling results (activity 3.1.c) and include in National Reports to MOP10			by MOP10	★★★	€ - €€
	Parties establish frameworks for regular inventory updates			by MOP10	★★	Z



SP TARGET 3.2:

The status of, the threats to, and the effectiveness of conservation measures implemented at flyway network sites are being assessed at flyway scale, using data provided by at least three-quarters of Contracting Parties.

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 3.2)	PoAA Action	Parties / NFPs (blue)	Secretariat (green)	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
3.2.a) Develop a monitoring framework for the AEWA flyway site network	Collaborate with other initiatives, especially the Ramsar State of the World's Wetlands and their Services to People and BirdLife IBA monitoring scheme, to coordinate data collection on the status of sites			by MOP8	★	Z
3.2.b) Assess and report on the status of flyway network sites	TFPs liaise with partners to develop workplans to assess and monitor the site network at the national level			by 2022	★★	Z
	Parties collect status information for sites identified under activity 3.1.a with relevant stakeholders, and actively engage community organisations in the process			by 2022	★★★	€ - €€€
	Parties assess the status of sites in their flyway network and submit information through their National Reports to MOP9 and subsequent MOPs			by MOP9 / to next MOPs	★★★	Z
3.2.c) Assess the conservation status of flyway network sites	Parties ensure that updated site status & inventory information for flyway network sites is available to Secretariat			by MOP10	★★	Z
	Disseminate recommendations on site conservation needs resulting from the AEWA flyway-level site network assessment to African Parties and relevant Partners			by MOP10	★★	Z


SP TARGET 3.3:

At least two-thirds of all flyway network sites are actively protected and actively managed, focusing in particular on internationally important sites and those in transboundary areas.

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 3.3)	PoAA Action	Parties / NFPs (blue)	Secretariat (green)	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
3.3.a) Develop & implement national strategies/plans to protect & manage flyway network sites and/or build into existing national strategies/plans	Parties develop or review & update national strategies & action plans to protect and manage flyway network sites (identified in activity 3.1.a)			by MOP8	★★★	€ - €€
	Parties implement their national strategies & action plans and ensure progress in site management planning			by MOP8, then on rolling basis	★★★	€€ - €€€
	Parties develop management plans for key flyway network sites through participatory & cross-sectoral approaches			on rolling basis	★★	€ - €€€
	Parties implement site management plans			on rolling basis	★★	€€ - €€€
3.3.b) Promote Ramsar designation of relevant flyway network sites	The UNEP/AEWA Secretariat collaborates with the Ramsar Secretariat to establish an official framework at the international level to promote the update or designation of new Ramsar Sites among qualifying flyway network sites, as well as the inclusion of qualifying Ramsar Sites in the CSN Tool			by MOP8	★★	Z
	The UNEP/AEWA Secretariat liaises with the Ramsar Secretariat to develop and implement at least one joint flyway-level project with actions linking or connecting sites within the AEWA and Ramsar site networks			By MOP9, then on a rolling basis	★★	€€ - €€€€
	AEWA TFPs/NFPs and partners identify key flyway sites that qualify as Ramsar Sites, and liaise with Ramsar NFPs to promote their consideration for Ramsar site designations			By MOP8, then on a rolling basis	★★	Z - €€
	AEWA NFPs liaise with Ramsar NFPs and partners to conduct or update National Wetlands Inventories to include key flyway network sites			by MOP8, then on a rolling basis	★★	Z - €€€
3.3.c) Consider a joint strategic initiative for flyway network sites with the World Heritage Convention	Establish formal collaboration with WHC to consider and recommend the designation of key flyway network sites as WHSs and serial designations (e.g. along the East Atlantic Flyway and Rift Valley)			by 2020	★★	Z
	Work with partners to prepare and promote recommended new WHSs and serial designations			by MOP8	★★	€€ - €€€
	Promote synergies at the national level for managing existing WHSs & MAB reserves and designating new sites			by MOP8	★★	Z - €€€
	Liaise with other Parties and partners to link WHSs along flyways, e.g. along the East Atlantic Flyway and in the Rift Valley			by MOP8	★★	Z


SP TARGET 3.4:

The need to maintain the importance and integrity of AEWA flyway network sites is taken into account in planning and decision-making processes in all Contracting Parties.

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 3.4)	PoAA Action	Parties / NFPs (blue)	Secretariat (green)	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
3.4.a) Integrate flyway network sites into water- and land-use planning and decision-making	Parties integrate flyway network site priorities into other sectoral strategies and planning processes (agriculture, infrastructure, land-use planning), including through existing multisectoral working groups or frameworks (e.g. MEA or other inter-ministerial committees), and ensure their effectiveness			by 2023 / on a rolling basis	★★★	Z
	Parties develop and implement projects for cross-sectoral planning at selected key flyway network sites			by MOP9 / on rolling basis	★★	€€ - €€€€
	Parties develop and launch climate change adaptation projects & initiatives along flyways guided by the WI-led Climate Resilient Flyway project sponsored by IKI			by MOP9	★★	€€
	Parties collaborate with Range States on climate change adaptation at flyway and catchment level to maintain coherent site networks			by MOP9	★★	Z
3.4.b) Share experience in integrating flyway network sites into planning & decision making	Build on existing platforms, e.g. the CMS Family e-Community and World Wetland Network - http://www.worldwetnet.org/ (WWN) for exchange of information			on rolling basis	★	Z - €€
	Parties share experience via these platforms and along flyways			on rolling basis	★	Z
3.4.c) Conduct CEPA activities to showcase successful examples relating to flyway network sites	Develop an AEWA thematic CEPA Action Plan to promote the importance and conservation of the AEWA flyway network of sites			By 2023	★★	€ - €€
	Parties designate or update AEWA CEPA focal points and enhance their capacity			on rolling basis	★★	Z
	Parties develop national CEPA action plans, jointly with national Ramsar Administrative Authorities and other partners and allocate resources for their implementation			on rolling basis	★★	€€
	CEPA FPs coordinate and promote implementation of national CEPA action plans, including through capacity building, effective communication, showcasing success cases (e.g. reflooding of Ndiaël in Senegal) or conducting WMBD activities			on rolling basis	★★	€€ - €€€

**SP TARGET 3.5:**

Legal or administrative measures are in place at national level – and being implemented effectively – to avoid, mitigate and compensate for adverse impacts of development activities and other pressures, including the impacts of climate change, on sites of national and international importance for migratory waterbirds in all Contracting Parties.

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 3.5)	PoAA Action	Parties / NFPs (blue) Secretariat (green)	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
3.5.a) Record adverse impacts of developments / pressures on flyway network sites and mitigation / compensation measures undertaken	Parties establish national frameworks to monitor & record impacts at key sites and to coordinate EIAs and mitigation measures		by MOP8	★★★	Z
	NFPs and partners inform AEWA Secretariat in good time about potential adverse development impacts and mitigation measures and include in their National Reports to MOPs		by MOP8, then on rolling basis	★★	Z
3.5.b) Ensure application of EIA/SEA procedures and International Finance Corporation Standards	NFPs monitor relevant developments in & around flyway network sites to ensure that they are subject to independent EIAs or SEAs that meet international standards		by MOP8, then on rolling basis	★★★	€ - €€€
	Parties ensure capacity needs for effective involvement in EIA/SEA processes are assessed and met under activities 5.3.a and 5.3.e		by MOP8, then on rolling basis	★★	Z
3.5.c) Apply AEWA and other MEA guidelines	Parties apply AEWA & other MEA guidelines in development cases that have potential impact on migratory waterbirds		on rolling basis	★★★	Z
	NFPs distribute relevant AEWA and other MEA guidelines to departments dealing with planning applications		on rolling basis	★★	Z
	Parties organise national training in application of guidelines in collaboration with other MEAs and partners		on rolling basis	★★	€ - €€
3.5.d) AEWA Implementation Review Process is applied	Parties and stakeholders promptly provide necessary information on priority cases that could benefit from AEWA IRP intervention		on rolling basis	★★	Z
	Apply the AEWA IRP, jointly with relevant MEAs (e.g. CMS, Ramsar or WHC), for relevant cases in Africa where development issues impact flyway network sites for migratory waterbirds		on rolling basis	★★	€€

HABITAT IN THE WIDER ENVIRONMENT

Objective 4: To ensure there is sufficient quantity and quality of habitat in the wider environment for achieving and maintaining favourable conservation status for migratory waterbird populations

Aichi targets to which this objective contributes:



SP TARGET 4.1:

Priorities for habitat conservation and management in the wider environment (as defined at the Objective level) are identified at Agreement level and corresponding actions are being implemented in at least half of Contracting Parties.

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 4.1)	PoAA Action	Parties / NFPs (blue)	Secretariat (green)	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
4.1.a) Assess the status of principal waterbird habitats in the wider environment	Habitats in Africa study: Assess habitat requirements of waterbirds and the status of waterbird habitats in Africa, including in mangroves and agricultural areas (particularly rice fields)			by 2020	★★★	€€€€
	NFPs / TFPs coordinate contributions of habitat information to the assessment			by 2020	★★	Z
4.1.b) Develop an action plan accounting for different habitat types and threats/drivers	Develop a Habitat Conservation Action Plan, including actions for habitats in Africa and for collaboration with key partners such as Ramsar and UNCCD at the national and international levels			by 2020	★★★	€€€
	Raise funds for implementation of the habitat plan at the flyway level			by MOP8, then on a rolling basis	★★★	€€€
	Establish a coordination mechanism to guide implementation of the action plan, especially for mutually shared habitats, e.g. transboundary floodplains or mangroves			by MOP8	★★	€€€
4.1.c) Commence implementation of the prioritised habitat conservation action plan	Parties identify priority national actions within the AEWA Habitat Action Plan (see Activity 4.1.b) and establish national Habitat Implementation Plans to ensure and coordinate in-country implementation			by MOP9, then on a rolling basis	★★★	Z

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 4.1)	PoAA Action	Parties / NFPs (blue)	Secretariat (green)	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
	Parties work with partners to implement priority national actions through joint projects and initiatives, with a focus on transboundary habitat conservation activities and improving knowledge and capacity for habitat conservation			on rolling basis	★★★	€€ - €€€€



SP TARGET 4.2:

At least half of the key international policy mechanisms identified have made tangible progress towards integrating the waterbird habitat priorities and prescriptions of AEWA as they relate to the wider environment.

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 4.2)	PoAA Action	Parties / NFPs (blue)	Secretariat (green)	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
4.2.a) Identify international policy mechanisms to maximise delivery of habitat action plan	Identify international, regional and sub-regional policy mechanisms for Africa, e.g. AU Agenda 2063, UNFCCC, UNCCD, CBD, Ramsar, river or lake basin authorities, RFMOs, AMCEN, African Regional Economic Communities (RECs), etc. and inform Parties			by 2022	★★	Z
4.2.b) Establish and/or strengthen AEWA engagement with those mechanisms	Establish regional work plans to guide engagement of Parties and Secretariat in identified mechanisms			by MOP9	★★	€€
	NFPs actively engage in mechanisms at national level to positively influence policies in favour of key habitats for waterbirds			by MOP9	★★	Z
	African StC representatives and SrFPCs guide the engagement of NFPs at forums relevant for AEWA habitat priorities			by MOP9	★★	Z
4.2.c) Provide policy advice on maximising incentives and habitat measures for waterbirds	Share information with interested African Parties on how to input habitat conservation measures into policy, linked to outcomes of the AEWA compliance and enforcement review under activity 1.1.c			by MOP10	★★	€€
	Influence international and regional policy mechanisms (e.g. AU, AMCEN) to prioritise policies that do not degrade natural habitats			on rolling basis	★★	€€


SP TARGET 4.3:

National habitat conservation and management priorities have been identified and integrated into relevant sectoral policies of at least two-thirds of Contracting Parties.

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 4.3)	PoAA Action	Parties / NFPs (blue)	Secretariat (green)	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
4.3.a) Identify national priority measures for improved waterbird habitats in the wider environment	Identify relevant multilateral processes at international and regional levels that can contribute to progressing AEWA priorities related to waterbird habitat conservation as identified in activity 4.1.a (e.g. under Ramsar, UNCCD or the IPBES Africa Assessment) and disseminate information to Parties and stakeholders for action			By 2023, then on a rolling basis	★★	Z
	Use identified international opportunities to advance AEWA waterbird habitat conservation priorities, including through representation of the Agreement at relevant meetings or forums and through communication			On a rolling basis	★★	Z - €€
	AEWA NFPs collaborate closely with other MEA FPs and partners, to advance consideration for national habitat conservation priorities (identified under Activity 4.1.c) in corresponding national inter-sectoral and regional processes			by MOP9	★★	Z - €€€
4.3.b) Ensure that AEWA 'wider habitat' priorities are fed into sectoral policy development	NFPs actively work with other government partners (including through MEA committees) to build AEWA priorities into agriculture, fisheries and forestry policies and related planning processes			by MOP10 / on rolling basis	★★★	Z
	Parties work with corporate sector to mitigate impacts of developments (e.g. 'land grabbing' & oil) on key waterbird habitats, and implement a no net habitat loss policy			by MOP10 / on rolling basis	★★★	Z
	Parties take steps to actively engage with private sector/foundations and share success examples in relevant forums including the CMS Family e-community			by MOP10 / on rolling basis	★★	Z
	Apply the AEWA IRP, jointly with relevant MEAs (e.g. CMS, Ramsar, WHC), to address relevant cases in Africa where development issues, projects or policies negatively impact migratory waterbird conservation in the wider environment.			On a rolling basis	★★	€€ - €€€€


SP TARGET 4.4:

At least three of the innovative, international multi-stakeholder partnerships result in the improved management, creation and/or restoration of waterbird habitats in the wider environment.

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 4.4)	PoAA Action	Parties / NFPs (blue)	Secretariat (green)	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
4.4.a) Encourage partnerships for 'wider habitat' conservation projects	Compile best practice of stakeholders working together, e.g. Ducks Unlimited on stakeholder collaboration on both waterbird harvesting and investment in habitat conservation			by MOP8	★★	€€
	Identify opportunities for joint habitat projects with other initiatives, such as the AEMLAP			By MOP9	★★	Z
	Enhance capacity of Parties in land and marine stewardship techniques through regional training events			on rolling basis	★★	€€ - €€€
	Parties of the Lake Victoria Basin forge a close collaboration for habitat conservation and coordinated management & monitoring			on rolling basis	★★	Z
	River basin Parties collaborate to analyse the impact of agriculture and water management in the major Sahelian river basins (Senegal, Niger, Chad, Nile)			on rolling basis	★★	€€€
	Parties make strategic use of offsets for conservation, EIAs & the tourism sector to develop new partnerships and approaches			on rolling basis	★★	€ - €€
4.4.b) Identify project opportunities, funding and technical support	Identify strategic projects and partners working with flagship species (e.g. cranes & land use in the ICF/EWT projects across Africa), working on the flyway scale (e.g. Black-tailed Godwit, East Atlantic Flyway) or using the bio rights approach to habitat conservation in Africa and share this information with Parties and partners to promote joint action at international and national level			by MOP8	★★	Z
	Parties compile a portfolio of project briefs for fund-raising, prioritizing actions for management of transboundary conservation areas (e.g. Djoudj / Diawling), in collaboration with identified partners and projects			by MOP8	★★	€
4.4.c) At least 3 new waterbird habitat projects are being implemented in the wider environment	Convene a project development workshop for Parties to develop at least 2 strategic habitat projects concepts in Africa and to develop project proposal outlines			by 2023	★★	€€ - €€€
	Secure resources (financial and human) to launch and implement at least one habitat related project in Africa			By 2024	★★	€€€ - €€€€
	Parties work with Partners to raise funds for at least one selected habitat project in Africa			by MOP9	★★	€€
	Parties launch funded project(s) with relevant partners / stakeholders, ensuring strong local involvement and establish project management and coordination mechanisms to monitor implementation of project activities			by MOP9, then on a rolling basis	★★	€€ - €€€€
	Parties and partners highlight best practice from habitat projects through targeted CEPA activities at site & national level, including through WMBD events			on rolling basis	★★	€€

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 4.4)	PoAA Action Parties / NFPs (blue) Secretariat (green)	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
4.4.d) Launch CEPA activities to highlight model projects and best-practice guidelines	Develop (alongside activity 3.4.c) a thematic AEWA CEPA Action Plan to promote the importance of migratory waterbird habitats and should include compiling of best practice and organisation of CEPA activities at flyway / international level	on rolling basis	★★	€€ - €€€
	Parties and partners involved in habitat projects share experience through existing forums, e.g. AEWA website and CMS Family e-Community	on rolling basis	★	Z

SECURE RESOURCES

Objective 5: To ensure and strengthen the knowledge, capacity, recognition, awareness and resources required for the Agreement to achieve its conservation objectives

Aichi targets to which this objective contributes:



SP TARGET 5.1:

Key gaps in scientific and technical information, including population monitoring data, required for implementation of the Agreement have been identified and assessed and initiatives to fill all priority gaps have been completed or are in progress.

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 5.1)	PoAA Action	Parties / NFPs (blue)	Secretariat (green)	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
5.1.a) Establish AEWA's role in filling information gaps and recommend priorities	Assess and prioritise gaps in information required for implementation of AEWA			by 2020	★★	€€
	Parties identify national priorities to fill information gaps based on the Agreement-level assessment and recommended measures for filling these gaps			by MOP8	★★	Z
5.1.b) Establish partnerships and joint research programmes to fill priority knowledge gaps	Strengthen skills and competence for a network of experts in African Range States including through training with existing tools (e.g. WOW FTK, ONCFS waterbird toolkit, BirdLife IBA tools, GlobWetlands toolbox, OMPO training modules) and by facilitating partnerships between training institutions/universities			on rolling basis	★★	€€€ - €€€€€
	Encourage existing programmes, projects and partners in Africa to fill priority information and knowledge gaps, with special focus on better understanding of intra-African waterbird movements and ecology through research monitoring & communication			on rolling basis	★★	€€
	Parties promote and monitor joint research programmes and include relevant results in National Reports to MOP			by MOP9	★	Z


SP TARGET 5.2:
The number of Contracting Parties has increased to at least 90.

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 5.2)	PoAA Action	Parties / NFPs (blue)	Secretariat (green)	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
5.2.a) Set out priorities to recruit new Contracting Parties	Identify priority African countries for recruitment as new Parties in Africa and conduct necessary actions to encourage and facilitate their accession, including fund-raising for AEWA promotion workshops			by 2019 / on a rolling basis	★★	Z - €€€
	NFPs/TFPs/CEPA FPs, with guidance of regional StC representatives and SrFPCs, actively engage with non-party African range states to promote accession.			on rolling basis	★	Z


SP TARGET 5.3:
Initiatives are in place to address at least two-thirds of the priority capacity gaps restricting implementation of AEWA.

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 5.3)	PoAA Action	Parties / NFPs (blue)	Secretariat (green)	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
5.3.a) Identify and prioritise gaps in capacity at international level to implement the Agreement	Strengthen the communication role of AEWA SrFPCs and StC representatives for Africa			by MOP8	★★	Z
	Identify capacity needs of NFPs, TFPs, CEPA FPs, AEWA National Report Respondents and SrFPCs for Africa			By MOP8	★★★★	Z
	Review TORs of SrFPCs for Africa and encourage Parties & partners to secure resources to enable them to perform these roles			by MOP8	★	Z
	Identify and prioritise capacity gaps in Africa, including at the flyway level, especially through liaison with other MEAs and regional mechanisms			by MOP8	★★★★	€€
	Identify flyway-level measures (e.g. twinning arrangements, regional trainings) to address capacity gaps, including joint action with other MEAs and partners			by MOP8	★★	€€
5.3.b) Address priority capacity gaps through national coordination mechanisms	Parties create or enhance national AEWA coordination mechanisms to implement the Agreement and share information & experience with national partners			by MOP9	★★	Z
	Parties use these mechanisms to address capacity building needs for improved AEWA implementation, including through bilateral cooperation			by MOP9	★★	Z

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 5.3)	PoAA Action	Parties / NFPs (blue) Secretariat (green)	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
5.3.c) Establish regional capacity building activities to address priority gaps	Work with partners (e.g. the TSU) to revitalise the African wildlife college partnership (Garoua / Mweka / Naivasha) and widen it to others (e.g. South African Wildlife College)		by MOP9	★★	€€€
	Work with partners (e.g. UST, TdV, ONCFS) to explore options to extend the partnership to wildlife colleges in North Africa or create a similar sub-regional initiative		by MOP9	★★	€€€
	In collaboration with partners (e.g. BirdLife, WI, Ramsar, UST, WSFI), develop & deliver appropriate training of trainers at the regional or flyway level, making use of existing and adaptable tools and targeting NFPs, TFPs, CEPA FPs, SrFPCs for Africa and training institutions in Africa		by MOP9, then on rolling basis	★★★	€€€ - €€€€€
	Work with regional partners & MEAs to implement flyway-level actions including twinning arrangements, exchange programmes, regional or flyway initiatives, etc.		by MOP9, then on a rolling basis	★★	€€€ - €€€€
	Work with partners to promote wide awareness of migratory waterbirds through WMBD, production of materials and other tools or with WWT-led schemes WLI / MBP by working through wetlands centres		by MOP9	★★	€€ - €€€
5.3.d) Establish criteria to assess implementation capacity at the sub-regional level	Secure input from SrFPCs for Africa to reflect African priorities and needs when establishing criteria to assess implementation capacity		by MOP9	★	€€
5.3.e) Fill significant capacity gaps guided by national capacity assessments	NFPs evaluate and prioritise national capacity gaps in collaboration with other MEA NFPs and integrate recommendations into national AEWA implementation plans		by MOP10	★	€€
	NFPs encourage government & NGO partners to secure resources for key positions (e.g. IWC NCs, CEPA FPs) and to make efforts to reduce staff turnover of these positions		by MOP10	★★	Z - €€
	Parties develop national action plans to fill capacity gaps, secure resources for them and commence implementation		by MOP10	★★	€€ - €€€€
	Secure funds for in-country training following sub-regional/flyway level ToTs		by MOP10	★	€€ - €€€

**SP TARGET 5.4:**

Conservation of migratory waterbirds is integrated into national implementation policies and plans related to the SDGs, Aichi Targets, the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species and Ramsar Strategic Plan 2016-24 in at least two-thirds of Contracting Parties and the contribution of AEWA to these global frameworks is recognised and supported.

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 5.4)	PoAA Action	Parties / NFPs (blue)	Secretariat (green)	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
5.4.a) Participate in national planning related to Aichi Targets, the Post-2020 biodiversity framework, SPMS and relevant SDG targets	Parties / NFPs collaborate with other MEAs via coordination mechanisms (see activity 5.3.b) to ensure wide involvement in the national processes relating to SDGs, Aichi Targets, post-2020 biodiversity framework & SPMS and promotion of migratory waterbird concerns therein.			on rolling basis	★★	Z
	Parties identify priority actions in national AEWA PoAA implementation plans that contribute to delivery of other international conservation processes (SDGs, Aichi Targets, SPMS) & collaborate with other relevant NFPs and institutions for their implementation			by MOP8	★	Z
5.4.b) Communicate the potential role / contribution of AEWA to focal points of other MEAs	NFPs, TFPs and CEPA FPs work with relevant MEA FPs and other partners to communicate AEWA priorities widely through WMBD, CEPA activities and wetland centres			on rolling basis	★★	Z - €€
	Parties strengthen the skills base of their national AEWA networks and coordination mechanisms to enhance AEWA representation in relevant forums			on rolling basis	★★	Z
	NFPs identify mechanisms for coordination with other MEA focal points, and clearly communicate the role and remit of AEWA			by MOP8	★★	Z
5.4.c) Represent AEWA in relevant CBD/CMS meetings	Maximise synergies with other MEAs and large-scale projects, especially under CBD, Ramsar and CMS			on rolling basis	★★	Z
	Ensure effective AEWA representation in international forums			on rolling basis	★	Z

**SP TARGET 5.5:**

Conservation of migratory waterbirds is integrated into the new generation of NBSAPs and/or similar national plans/policies by at least three-quarters of Contracting Parties.

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 5.5)	PoAA Action	Parties / NFPs (blue)	Secretariat (green)	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
5.5.a) Actively engage in preparation of NBSAPs	Liaise with UN Environment / CBD concerning NBSAP development and inform African Parties of relevant issues			by 2021	★	Z

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 5.5)	PoAA Action	Parties / NFPs (blue)	Secretariat (green)	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
	Parties establish coordination within AEWA administrative authority for promoting AEWA implementation under NBSAPs			By MOP8	★★	Z
	NFPs actively engage in NBSAP processes relevant to AEWA			on rolling basis	★★	Z
5.5.b) Ensure that AEWA priorities are clearly communicated to CBD Focal Points	NFPs inform CBD FPs of AEWA priorities			on rolling basis	★★	Z
	Parties facilitate involvement of AEWA NFPs in NBSAP development			on rolling basis	★	Z
5.5.c) Share best practice and guidance for integration of AEWA priorities into NBSAPs	NFPs share experience in integrating AEWA priorities into NBSAPs through regular communication with the AEWA Secretariat, via CMS Family E-community and in National Reports to MOP			on rolling basis	★★	Z



SP TARGET 5.6:

The resources required for coordination and delivery of the Strategic Plan at international and national levels have been assessed as realistically as possible and corresponding resource mobilisation plans implemented.

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 5.6)	PoAA Action	Parties / NFPs (blue)	Secretariat (green)	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
5.6.a) Develop a resource mobilisation plan for coordination & delivery of the 2019–2027 AEWA Strategic Plan	Develop a prioritised resource mobilisation work plan for the implementation of PoAA and Strategic Plan actions at the international level			by 2019	★★	Z - €€
	Actively encourage Parties to take appropriate measures to implement AEWA's Strategic Plan and PoAA at the national level			by end 2019, then on a rolling basis	★★	Z
	Encourage Parties to organise advocacy campaigns focused on PoAA priorities			by end 2019, then on a rolling basis	★★	€€
	Strengthen resources for coordination of African Initiative: seek additional human & financial resources to increase AI coordination capacity			by end 2019	★★★★	€€€€
	Promote the agreement of all AEWA Parties via MOP resolutions to make additional allocations in AEWA core budget for coordination of the PoAA 2019-2027			by end 2019 / for next MOPs	★★★★	Z
	Promote the use of the CMS Family Manual for NFPs including through training and other means, to enhance knowledge and capacity on their roles			on rolling basis	★	Z - €€€
	Promote designation and efficacy of NFPs, TFPs and CEPA FPs and provide support through forums such as pre-MOP meetings			on rolling basis	★★	€€ - €€€

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 5.6)	PoAA Action	Parties / NFPs (blue) Secretariat (green)	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
	Support the search for funding to maintain, develop & secure activities of the TSU		by end 2019	★★	€€
	Extend the current geographical and focal remit of the TSU and/or promote development of additional support mechanisms to cover all Africa		by end 2019 / on rolling basis	★★	€€€
	Engage 'champion countries' to recruit other donor countries		by end 2019 / on rolling basis	★★	€€€
5.6.b) Develop national resource mobilisation plans for delivery of the 2019-2027 AEWA Strategic Plan	Through national AEWA coordination mechanisms (activity 5.3.b), Parties develop national AEWA PoAA implementation plans based on the PoAA 2019-2027, including a national resource-mobilisation action plan		by end 2019	★★★★	€€
	NFPs, TFPs and CEPA FPs encourage state-level decision makers to mobilise resources for AEWA's Strategic Plan & PoAA through targeted advocacy		On a rolling basis	★★★★	Z
	NFPs / Parties identify and encourage members of the private sector to support the PoAA implementation		by end 2019 / on rolling basis	★★	€€
	NFPs promote implementation of national AEWA priorities by partners within ongoing and planned initiatives		by end 2019	★★	€€
	AEWA NFPs identify technical and scientific partners through the CBD BBI and collaborate with NFPs for CBD and other MEAs to develop project proposals for migratory waterbird conservation		On rolling basis following the BBI cycle	★★	Z
5.6.c) Review / update plans for resource mobilisation	Actively seek information from African Parties in preparation of international reviews of resource needs & mobilisation		9 m before MOP	★★	€€
	Parties review resource needs and progress in implementing national resource-mobilisation strategies, and record progress in National Reports to MOP		9 m before MOP	★★	€€
	Parties identify gaps in resource mobilisation and seek & secure new funding sources and other resources		on rolling basis	★★	Z

5. Implementation and collaboration along the flyways

The geographical conservation unit for a migratory bird is its whole flyway, i.e. the entire range through which it moves on an annual basis. The flyways of most migratory bird populations are unique. However, many follow similar routes or patterns, and fit broadly into a number of multi-species flyways. Although there are several recognised flyways in Africa and between Africa and other continents, there are also less well-known migrations and much overlap between them. Thus, for the purposes of this plan, four flyway groupings have been used to present in a practical way the value of conservation activities at the flyway level:

- **Flyways along the East Atlantic;**
- **Flyways along the Western Indian Ocean;**
- **Intra-African Flyways;**
- **Mediterranean & trans-Saharan Flyways.**

These flyway groupings are geographical units within Africa that relate closely to recognised flyways, but also overlap with others. The first two are coastal; the second two are continental. Please see the below boxes for an overview and broad actions for each of the four flyway groupings.

BOX 1: Flyways along the East Atlantic

The East Atlantic Flyway extends from the Arctic (Canada to Russia) through Western Europe (mainly Atlantic and North Sea areas) to the entire western coastline of Africa. Some consider it to extend inland in Africa as far as Chad. The unit used for the purposes of this plan is the Atlantic coastal belt of Africa, taking in coastal wetlands and river estuaries, from Morocco to South Africa.



A number of flyway activities are already underway in the region, given the importance of major coastal wetlands in Africa for migratory waders that have a high interest in Europe, many of which are also of conservation concern. Ongoing or new initiatives

include the Wadden Sea Flyway Initiative (WSFI), which supports monitoring, management and training, in collaboration with Wetlands International and BirdLife International. There is also the new BirdLife East Atlantic Flyway Initiative (BirdLife EAFI) and a range of projects supported by the MAVA Foundation, whilst a few AEWA Small Grants Fund projects have also taken place.

Key priorities for flyway-scale projects on waterbird conservation within these flyways:

- Strengthen partnership between key actors, especially for coordinated flyway-level activities such as waterbird and site monitoring, and share information on waterbird conservation efforts along the flyway.
- Enhance coverage and regularity of the IWC, and improve data availability and use, including data analysis at the flyway scale and regular updating and use of the CSN Tool.
- Promote joint initiatives and shared agreements at the many transboundary wetlands along the flyway.
- Promote the conservation of critical sites for migratory waterbirds along the East Atlantic Flyway.
- Conduct flyway level socio-economic studies on goods and services related to waterbirds.
- Develop a multispecies action plan for coastal waders and/or for tidal flats of the East Atlantic Flyway.
- Promote a strong network of technical experts along the flyway by enhancing capacity of site managers, AEWA Technical Focal Points and field teams.
- Enhance the profile, significance and funding base of the East Atlantic Flyway through wider partnerships with development agencies and the private sector.

BOX 2: Flyways along the Western Indian Ocean

The Western Indian Ocean coastline of Africa supports many migratory waterbirds, some with flyways extending to/from the Arctic (mainly Russia) through a broad area from Central Europe to Western Asia and the Middle East. The West Asian/East African flyway (as described for waders) includes the whole Indian Ocean coastline of Africa, but also extends far inland to the Rift Valley. Birds that have coastal flyways include several terns and the Crab Plover *Dromas ardeola*.

The unit used for the purposes of this plan is the African coastal zone of the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean, including Madagascar and the Indian Ocean islands.



Key priorities for flyway-scale projects on waterbird conservation within these flyways:

- Improve knowledge and understanding of the conservation status of migratory waterbirds of the Indian Ocean coastline through the IWC and IBA monitoring and subsequent analysis.
- Develop a regional flyway initiative along the Western Indian Ocean, to include research, monitoring and site management, whilst enhancing technical and managerial capacity for waterbird conservation and promoting widespread awareness about migratory waterbirds and their values.
- Promote collaboration to enhance conservation efforts along the Red Sea and Indian Ocean coastline through encouraging the establishment of joint projects between West Asian and African countries with appropriate organisations, such as the Arabic Regional Centre for World Heritage (ARC-WH), the Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA) and the Convention for the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Eastern African region (Nairobi Convention).
- Minimise the gap in conservation effort through promoting AEWA membership of non-Party African Range States (e.g. Mozambique, Eritrea and Somalia), as well as Asian Range States.
- Develop / implement ISSAPs for migratory waterbirds of the flyway such as the Madagascar Pratincole, and IMSAPs for groups of birds, such as for coastal migratory waders and for seabirds.
- Further enhance conservation efforts through encouraging the coordination of climate change adaptation projects within the flyway and the development of flyway scale pilot projects on other relevant thematic issues including ecotourism.

BOX 3: Intra-African Flyways

There are many different flyway systems within Africa, including nomadic movements, mostly related to African rains cycles and the changing conditions between the rainy and dry seasons. There is limited knowledge and information on bird movements within Africa, compared to intra-continental movements.

For the purposes of this plan, the intra-African flyways unit includes all movements of African birds between separate breeding and non-breeding areas within the African continent and related islands.



Key priorities for flyway-scale projects on waterbird conservation within these flyways:

- Identify knowledge gaps of migratory birds and establish a prioritized list of studies/activities for addressing them.
- Exploit options for technical and scientific collaboration in the framework of the CBD Bio-Bridge Initiative, to address identified knowledge gaps.
- Encourage close collaboration and coordination for waterbird monitoring and management between countries falling within the Lake Victoria Basin.
- Investigate options for twinning between sites along flyways for population and habitat conservation and community engagement to enhance capacity and the exchange of knowledge and experience, building on twinning experience in relation to the White-winged Flufftail.
- Promote the implementation of existing ISSAPs, such as for the Maccoa Duck, Shoebill, Slaty Egret, Grey Crowned-crane, White-winged Flufftail and Lesser Flamingo (whilst also addressing conservation of the Greater Flamingo).
- Support the development of new ISSAPs, such as for the Black Crowned-crane and Wattled Crane.
- Develop regional or site projects that focus on:
 - Emerging waterbird conservation issues, including poisoning, extractive industries (mining and exploration), including activities at key wetlands;
 - Land use issues, e.g. agriculture, water management;
 - Improving livelihoods through sustainable management of wetlands.
- Develop waterbird-focused ecotourism projects that benefit local communities, linking to the UNWTO Destination Flyways project.

BOX 4: Mediterranean & Trans-Saharan Flyways

Trans-Saharan Flyways cover the movements of birds between the Palearctic and sub-Saharan Africa that do not follow a coastal route, principally trans-Saharan and Rift Valley migrations and including birds breeding in Mediterranean Africa (e.g. in coastal wetlands), which move south after breeding. Within parts of the region, especially in the Sahel, migratory waterbird conservation faces major challenges including widespread insecurity, the large size of sites and their remoteness, increased irrigated agriculture, climate change impacts and limited attention from the donor community.



Some initiatives underway within this region include support to the Mediterranean network of sites from France and in the Sahel region through the RESSOURCE project, which includes monitoring and socio-economic studies at some key sites, and the Climate Resilient Flyway Network project, with pilot activities in Mali's Inner Niger Delta and Ethiopia's Central Rift Valley Lakes. The Trois Marigots and Ndiaël in the Senegal Delta are key wetlands for migratory birds where restoration and management actions are taking place.

Key priorities for flyway-scale projects on waterbird conservation within these flyways:

- Conduct gap-filling surveys, while promoting the use of tools/methods such as aerial surveys, remote sensing, bird ringing, etc. and enhancing capacity for the use of these methods within the flyway (e.g. training on the GlobWetland Africa toolbox).
- Conduct socio-economic studies at key wetlands for migratory birds, including an analysis of the impact of agriculture over time on the four large river basins of the Sahel (Senegal, Niger, Chad, Nile).

- Promote the application of Environmental Impact Assessments for major development plans, noting their potential impact on waterbirds across this region.
- Carry out targeted advocacy campaigns in key regions to highlight the values of migratory waterbirds, e.g. in Sahelian wetlands, where birds play an important role in pest control.
- Promote serial designation of the Rift Valley as a World Heritage Site
- Explore opportunities with other relevant instruments, such as the African-Eurasian Migratory Landbirds Action Plan (AEMLAP).
- Establish flyway scale conservation projects for target species such as Black-tailed Godwit and Ruff, and/or for target groups of species, such as Palearctic migratory ducks, many of which are in decline (e.g. Ferruginous Duck, Garganey, Pintail, Northern Shoveler).
- At the appropriate regional scale, strengthen the integration of waterbird conservation within the agendas of river basin authorities such as the Niger Basin Authority (NBA), Organisation for the Development of the Senegal River (OMVS) and Lake Chad Basin Commission (CBLT).
- Promote collaboration with and between existing projects and initiatives such as the RESSOURCE project, the Mediterranean sites network or the French project on integrated management of dryland territories (GITES).