



AEWA Strategic Plan 2019 - 2027

Agreement on the Conservation of
African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds (AEWA)

Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds (AEWA)

Strategic Plan 2019-2027

Adopted by the 7th Session of the Meeting of the Parties
(04-08 December 2018, Durban, South Africa)

*Published by
the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat
(This document is also available in French)*

Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds (AEWA)

Strategic Plan 2019-2027

Adopted by the 7th Session of the Meeting of the Parties
(04-08 December 2018, Durban, South Africa)

*Published by
the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat
(This document is also available in French)*

CONTENTS

| | | |
|----|--|----|
| 1. | Preface..... | 3 |
| 2. | Scope..... | 4 |
| 3. | Process..... | 4 |
| 4. | Structure..... | 4 |
| 5. | Overarching and Crosscutting Issues..... | 6 |
| 6. | Operational Principles..... | 7 |
| 7. | Logical Framework Table..... | 8 |
| 8. | Annex I – Summary of Technical Committee Outputs required under the AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027..... | 38 |
| 9. | Annex II – List of AEWA partners covered by the ‘Main Actors’ column of the Strategic Plan..... | 39 |

Preface

The first AEWA Strategic Plan was adopted by the 4th Session of the Meeting of the Parties (MOP4) in 2008 through Resolution 4.7 and covered the period 2009-2017. Noting that MOP7 will not have taken place before 2018, in November 2015, MOP6 decided to extend the Strategic Plan until 2018 as per Resolution 6.14. Through the same Resolution, the MOP instructed the Standing Committee, working with the Technical Committee and supported by the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat, to revise the AEWA Strategic Plan taking into account the CMS Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2015-2023, and to present a draft plan for the period 2019-2027 for consideration and adoption by MOP7.

The current Strategic Plan for the period 2019-2027 was adopted by the 7th Session of the Meeting of the Parties on 04-08 December 2018 in Durban, South Africa.

1. Scope

Building on AEWA's first Strategic Plan, which initially covered the period 2009–2017 but was later extended to 2018, the *AEWA Strategic Plan 2019–2027* provides the framework for implementation of the Agreement by the Contracting Parties, Standing Committee, Technical Committee, Secretariat and Partners. It covers three complete triennia (or intersessional periods) between sessions of the Meeting of the Parties (MOP), from MOP7 (in 2018, when the draft *Strategic Plan 2019–2027* was tabled for discussion and final adoption by Contracting Parties), to MOP10 due to be held in 2027.

2. Process

MOP6 (Bonn, 2015) instructed the Standing Committee, working with the Technical Committee and Secretariat, to revise the existing Strategic Plan and to present a draft covering the period 2019–2027 for consideration at MOP7 (2018). The Standing Committee established a Strategic Plan Working Group (SPWG) with participation as follows:

Parties: Uganda (Chair of Standing Committee and Chair of SPWG), France (Vice-Chair of Standing Committee), Georgia, Ghana, Libya, Netherlands (all Standing Committee members), plus EU, plus nine other Parties (appointed on a 'first-come, first-served' basis) – Benin, Czech Republic, Germany, Kenya, Mauritius, South Africa, Swaziland, the United Kingdom and the United Republic of Tanzania.

Technical Committee: Chair & Vice-Chair, three thematic experts, invited CEPA expert, NGO members (CIC, IUCN, Wetlands International).

Observers & Partners: CMS, AEWA African Initiative Technical Support Unit, BirdLife International, FACE, OMPO, WWT.

A facilitated meeting of the SPWG was held in Bonn, 28–30 June 2016. This discussed the findings of an evaluation of the existing Strategic Plan 2009–2018 and identified some of the key elements to be included in the new Strategic Plan, including provisional Objectives and content for many of the associated Targets and Actions. Alongside detailed notes taken during the meeting, these have been used by the compilers (in consultation with the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat) as the basis for a preliminary consultation draft circulated to members of the SPWG in September 2016.

The following revised draft, which took into account the comments from Working Group members, was discussed in detail between the consultants and the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat, following which a further amended draft was transmitted to all Contracting Parties (in both English and French) in March 2017. Based on feedback from Parties, this final draft was produced and agreed by the Working Group in July 2017, which has formally also been approved by the Standing Committee for submission to MOP7 at its 13th meeting in July 2018.

The 7th Session of the Meeting of the Parties on 04–08 December 2018 in Durban, South Africa reviewed the final draft presented and adopted the Strategic Plan 2019–2027 for implementation.

3. Structure

A hierarchical logical framework structure has again been followed, adapting that used for the 2009–2017 Strategic Plan. The principal high-level elements are:

- **Mission** (of AEWA)
- **Goal** (of the Strategic Plan 2019–2027)

- **Purpose** (of the Strategic Plan, including six high-level indicators for assessing whether the Purpose has been met by 2027)
- **Objectives**

There are five **Objectives** – four substantive conservation objectives and one enabling objective:

Substantive conservation objectives

1. To strengthen species conservation and recovery and reduce causes of unnecessary mortality.
2. To ensure that any use and management of AEWA-listed migratory waterbird populations is sustainable across their flyways.
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.
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.

Enabling 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 and six 2027 **Targets** have been identified, with every **Target** incorporating as far as possible a tangible threshold against which delivery can be assessed.

Each Target is accompanied by specific **Indicators** with **Means of Verification** and corresponding **Actions**. A few Indicators are tagged with the qualifier ‘interim’ in brackets. These are used for tracking the progress of interim elements of composite targets leading towards the delivery of the final anticipated result. The term **traffic light assessment** appears regularly in the ‘Indicator and means of verification’ column in relation to qualitative indicators. The traffic light system is simply used to attach a ‘green’, ‘amber’ or ‘red’ ranking to a given indicator, according to whether the progress made is assessed as good, moderate or poor. Simple assessment criteria or thresholds will be required for each traffic light indicator proposed.

The last two columns of the logical framework provide links to relevant resources produced by AEWA and/or its Partners and highlight, especially the contribution of the AEWA Strategic Plan to three major global frameworks for action, notably:

- Sustainable Development Goals (SGDs)¹
- Aichi Biodiversity Targets²
- Strategic Plan for Migratory Species (SPMS)³

A number of important linkages with the World Heritage Convention and the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands are also highlighted.

¹ <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/>

² <https://www.cbd.int/sp/targets/>

³ https://www.cms.int/sites/default/files/document/CMS_Sharks_MOS2_Inf_9.pdf

4. Overarching and Cross-cutting Issues

These are fundamentally important factors that do not fit under any single Objective exclusively, but rather apply to several or all five of them. They have been taken into account in the preparation of the Strategic Plan but more importantly need to be active elements of its implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

- **Climate Change** – The impacts of climate change, which are already having demonstrable effects on migratory waterbirds and their habitats across the Agreement Area, together with appropriate mitigation and adaptation measures, are integrated into the planning and implementation of all species and habitat conservation measures under the AEWA Strategic Plan, in line with Targets 13.1 and 13.2 of the Sustainable Development Goals and Targets 10 and 15 of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets.
- **Indigenous and local communities** – The traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of migratory species, their habitats and migration systems, and their customary sustainable use of biological resources, are taken into account subject to national legislation and relevant international obligations, including in particular paragraph 2.1 of the AEWA Action Plan. See also Target 18 of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, Target 14 of the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species and Target 10 of the Ramsar Strategic Plan.
- **Poverty alleviation and gender equality** – In line with the Sustainable Development Goals (Goal 1, Goal 5) and Aichi Biodiversity Targets (Target 14) and considering the relevance of community livelihood issues in the framework of the conservation of migratory waterbirds and their habitats, projects, programmes and activities developed and implemented in the framework of this Strategic Plan are reviewed and, where necessary and feasible, adapted to ensure that they contribute to furthering poverty alleviation and gender equality.
- **Communication, Education and Public Awareness (CEPA)** – Successful CEPA is recognised as a prerequisite for meeting each of the Objectives of the AEWA Strategic Plan by means of a dedicated AEWA CEPA Plan which identifies specific CEPA activities relevant to the implementation of the Strategic Plan Targets and Actions.
- **Capacity building** – Capacity for implementation varies widely across the Agreement Area. The Parties, the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat and project development/implementation Partners continue to attach high priority to strengthening institutional, technical and resource capacity, subject to available resources and in conjunction with the AEWA Plan of Action for Africa, where this is required for successful delivery of Strategic Plan Targets.
- **Science-based approach** – Implementation of AEWA, including the review of listing of waterbird populations in Table 1 of the AEWA Action Plan and the development of flyway-level Species Action and Management Plans for species/populations and habitats, is based on the best-available scientific information (e.g. International Waterfowl Census data), as advised by the Technical Committee and taking into account the input of technical and research Partners. The science-based approach of AEWA is reflected throughout this Strategic Plan.

5. Operational Principles

These identify specific aspects of AEWA's internal functioning that will be equally critical to achievement of all five strategic Objectives:

- **Alignment of AEWA strategic documents and workplans** – The AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, the Plan of Action for Africa 2019-2027 and the workplans of the Technical Committee and Secretariat, including the Agreement's Communication Plan, are fully aligned.
- **Use of AEWA National Reports to support the implementation of the Strategic Plan and its monitoring** – The National Report format is optimised so that it enables the analyses required for generating and tracking the indicators for Strategic Plan Targets, as well as implementation of other AEWA work plans and documents aligned to the Strategic Plan. All Parties complete and submit full and comprehensive National Reports to each session of the MOP.

6. Logical Framework Table

AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027

| | |
|---|--|
| AEWA's mission: | To undertake coordinated and concerted actions at flyway level for the conservation of migratory waterbirds and their habitats. ⁴ |
| Goal of the Strategic Plan 2019–2027: | To maintain migratory waterbird species and their populations in a favourable conservation status or to restore them to such a status throughout their flyways. ⁵ |
| Purpose of the Strategic Plan 2019–2027: | By 2027 the status of AEWA populations ⁶ is improved. |

| Purpose-level indicators (These six indicators with their associated target thresholds are for use in monitoring the degree to which the overall Purpose of the Strategic Plan is being met. They are complemented by the target-level indicators listed under each Objective of the Strategic Plan.) | Explanatory information and current baseline |
|--|--|
| P1. At least 75% of AEWA populations with known trends show a stable or increasing trend. | Current baseline: 65% (n=432 populations) |
| P2. At least 55% of 'priority' populations (as established in 2018) show a stable or increasing trend. | 'Priority' populations are those listed in Table 1 of the AEWA Action Plan and classified as Globally Threatened species (i.e. Critically Endangered, Endangered and Vulnerable) or Near Threatened species on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species ⁷ as reported in the most recent summary by BirdLife International, as well as those listed in Table 1, Column A, Categories 2 and 3 that are marked with an asterisk. Current baseline: 45% (n=80 populations) |
| P3. At least 60% of populations with unfavourable conservation status in 2018 show a stable or increasing trend. | Populations with unfavourable conservation status include those listed in Column A, Categories 1(c), 2 & 3 and Column B, Category 2, in Table 1 of the AEWA Action Plan. Current baseline: 51% (n=155 populations) |
| P4. Percentage of harvested AEWA populations with known trends that show a stable or increasing trend. | A harvested population is a population that is legally harvested in at least one country within its range. |

⁴ The Mission reflects Article II.1 of the Agreement text.

⁵ The Goal reflects the penultimate paragraph of the preamble to the Agreement text.

⁶ 'AEWA populations' means those listed in Table 1 of the AEWA Action Plan, Annex 3 to the Agreement.

⁷ <https://www.iucn.org/resources/conservation-tools/iucn-red-list-threatened-species>

| | |
|---|---|
| | <p>The target threshold for this indicator is to be defined on the basis of the most up-to-date information available after the baseline has been identified.</p> <p>Current baseline: to be identified once the list of harvested populations has been determined.</p> |
| <p>P5. At least 70% of AEWA populations highly dependent on site networks with known trends show a stable or increasing trend.</p> | <p>Populations highly dependent on site networks are those for which 25% or more of the population occurs at relatively few key sites during at least one season of its annual cycle.</p> <p>Current baseline: 63% (n=355 populations)</p> |
| <p>P6. At least 70% of dispersed AEWA populations with known trends show a stable or increasing trend.</p> | <p>A dispersed population is one where at least 75% of the population is ‘dispersed’ during at least one season of its annual cycle, with relatively small numbers occurring at multiple sites.</p> <p>Current baseline: 63% (n=320 populations)</p> |

| 2027 Target | Indicator & means of verification | Actions | Main actors ⁸ | Key resources | Contribution to SDGs ⁹ , Aichi Targets ¹⁰ & Strategic Plan for Migratory Species (SPMS) ¹¹ |
|---|--|--|--|---|---|
| Objective 1: To strengthen species conservation and recovery and reduce causes of unnecessary mortality | | | | | |
| <p>1.1 The legal measures required by the AEWA Action Plan¹² are transposed into all Parties' domestic legislation and enforced effectively.</p> | <p>Indicator (quantitative): Percentage of Parties that have transposed all of the legal measures required in Paragraph 2.1 of the AEWA Action Plan into domestic legislation.</p> <p>Means of verification: National reviews under Action 1.1. a); National Reports to MOP8–MOP10.</p> <p>Indicator (qualitative): Degree of enforcement of legislation as assessed by each Party; analysis of trends between MOPs (could be undertaken on a Party-by-Party basis, or regionally/sub-regionally).</p> <p>Means of verification: National Reports to MOP8–</p> | <p>a) Following each MOP, Parties review their existing domestic legislation against the provisions of the latest version of the Agreement text and its Annexes, including Table 1 of the Action Plan, taking into account any amendments adopted by the MOP.</p> <p>b) By the subsequent MOP, Parties have identified and put in place the process for enacting appropriate legislative measures, so as to align domestic law with AEWA requirements.</p> <p>c) On a rolling basis adapted to the MOP and National Reporting cycle, Parties review compliance with, and enforcement of, relevant legislation and identify and implement measures to strengthen compliance and enforcement where needed.</p> <p>d) Technical Committee and Secretariat</p> | <p>Parties Technical Committee (advisory capacity)</p> | <p><i>AEWA Conservation Guidelines No.15 on National Legislation for the Protection of Species of Migratory Waterbirds and their Habitats</i>¹³ adopted through Resolution 6.5 (MOP6, 2015).</p> <p><i>Guidance on measures in national legislation for different populations of the same species, particularly with</i></p> | <p>SDGs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No direct counterpart, though Target 15.7 on addressing poaching and trafficking of wildlife is relevant. <p>Aichi Targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No direct counterpart <p>Strategic Plan for Migratory Species:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target 3 |

⁸ This column lists the actors with primary responsibility for implementing actions. It does not list actors that play a secondary supporting/facilitating role.

⁹ <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/?menu=1300>

¹⁰ <https://www.cbd.int/sp/targets/>

¹¹ https://www.cms.int/sites/default/files/document/Res_11_02_Strategic_Plan_for_MS_2015_2023_E_0.pdf

¹² This Target refers in particular to Paragraph 2.1 of the Action Plan.

¹³ <http://www.unep-aewa.org/en/document/draft-guidelines-national-legislation-protection-species-migratory-waterbirds-and-their-1>

| 2027 Target | Indicator & means of verification | Actions | Main actors ⁸ | Key resources | Contribution to SDGs ⁹ , Aichi Targets ¹⁰ & Strategic Plan for Migratory Species (SPMS) ¹¹ |
|--|--|---|---|--|--|
| | MOP10. | facilitate sharing of experience and exchange of best practice. | | <i>respect to hunting & trade</i> ¹⁴ adopted through Resolution 6.7 (MOP6, 2015). | |
| 1.2 All priority species/populations ¹⁵ are covered by effectively implemented Species Action Plans at flyway level ¹⁶ . | <p>Indicator (quantitative): Percentage of relevant species/populations covered by flyway-level Species Action Plans.</p> <p>Means of verification: Technical Committee assessment.</p> <p>Indicator (qualitative): Traffic-light assessment of implementation status.</p> <p>Means of verification: Technical Committee assessment, National Reports.</p> | <p>a) After each MOP, Technical Committee to review and update as necessary the list of Species Action Plans required for priority species/populations, taking into account the possible need to develop new Plans and to retire, revise or prolong existing Plans.</p> <p>b) Secretariat to establish a corresponding work plan, including the drafting and agreement by the next MOP of Species Action Plans for newly classified Globally Threatened Bird species.</p> <p>c) Within one MOP cycle following the adoption by the MOP of a Species Action Plan, Secretariat to convene AEWA Working or Expert Groups for the corresponding priority species (or group of species) to coordinate implementation of that</p> | Parties (including through Species Working and Expert Groups) Non-Party range states Technical Committee Partners ¹⁷ Secretariat | <p><i>Criteria for prioritising AEWA populations for action and management planning and for the revision and retirement of Action Plans as well as guidance on the definition of Principal Range States in Action Plans</i>¹⁸ adopted through Resolution 6.8 (MOP6, 2015).</p> <p><i>Developing international best practice for the conservation of</i></p> | <p>SDGs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target 15.5 <p>Aichi Targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target 12 <p>Strategic Plan for Migratory Species:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targets 8 & 9 |

¹⁴ <http://www.unep-aewa.org/en/document/guidance-measures-national-legislation-different-populations-same-species-particularly-1>

¹⁵ ‘Priority’ populations are those listed in Column A, Categories 1(a) and 1(b), plus Column A populations marked with an asterisk, in Table 1 of the AEWA Action Plan.

¹⁶ Encompassing both international single-species and multi-species action plans (see Resolution 2.1) and international habitat action plans (see Resolution 5.2).

¹⁷ See definition and listing in Annex II.

¹⁸ <http://www.unep-aewa.org/en/document/criteria-prioritising-aewa-populations-action-and-management-planning-and-revision-and-0>

| 2027 Target | Indicator & means of verification | Actions | Main actors ⁸ | Key resources | Contribution to SDGs ⁹ , Aichi Targets ¹⁰ & Strategic Plan for Migratory Species (SPMS) ¹¹ |
|---|--|---|--------------------------------|--|---|
| | | <p>Species Action Plan.</p> <p>d) MOP8–MOP10, Parties implement and report on actions taken at national level in the framework of adopted Species Action Plans.</p> <p>e) The Technical Committee and AEWA Species Working and Expert Groups, drawing on National Reports and supported by the Secretariat, regularly review the status of implementation of all existing Species Action Plans.</p> <p>f) By MOP9, and thereafter on a rolling basis, develop flyway-scale projects to implement selected Species Action Plans.</p> <p>g) By MOP8 undertake a review and prioritisation of the resources required for the development, coordination and implementation of Species Action Plans and draft an appropriate resource mobilisation plan.</p> | | <p><i>threatened waterbirds through action planning and re-establishment¹⁹ adopted through Resolution 4.4 (MOP4, 2008).</i></p> <p><i>Revised Format for AEWA Single Species Action Plans²⁰ adopted through Resolution 7.5 (MOP7, 2018).</i></p> | |
| 1.3 For all other populations in unfavourable | Indicator (quantitative): (a) Number/percentage of all relevant populations for | a) By MOP8, Technical Committee to conduct a rapid review of existing information to identify relevant | Parties Technical Committee | Preliminary advice can be found in the Ecology and | SDGs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target 15.5 Aichi Targets: |

¹⁹ <http://www.unep-aewa.org/en/document/developing-international-best-practice-conservation-threatened-waterbirds-through-action-0>

²⁰ <https://www.unep-aewa.org/en/document/draft-revised-format-aewa-international-single-and-multi-species-action-plans-1>

| 2027 Target | Indicator & means of verification | Actions | Main actors ⁸ | Key resources | Contribution to SDGs ⁹ , Aichi Targets ¹⁰ & Strategic Plan for Migratory Species (SPMS) ¹¹ |
|---|---|--|---|--|--|
| <p>conservation status²¹, science-based conservation and management guidance is made available by AEWA and/or its Partners and is applied by Parties and other stakeholders.</p> | <p>which conservation and management advice is available to Parties; (b) Number/percentage of Parties reporting action to reduce threats to relevant populations where they support more than 1% of the biogeographic population. Means of verification: (a) Technical Committee outputs for MOP8–MOP10; (b) National Reports to MOP8–MOP10.</p> | <p>populations for which new or improved conservation and management guidance is required for AEWA purposes. b) By MOP8 agree roles, responsibilities and mechanisms for updating of guidance and preparation/dissemination of new guidance. c) By MOP10 Parties implement actions to reduce threats to populations with unfavourable conservation status where they support more than 1% of the biogeographic population.</p> | <p>Partners</p> | <p>Threats sections of the relevant species fact sheets in the BirdLife International Data Zone²² and in the corresponding assessments of the IUCN Red List.²³</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target 12 <p>Strategic Plan for Migratory Species:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targets 8 & 15 |
| <p>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 populations are</p> | <p>Indicator (quantitative): Percentage of populations for which good quality size and trend data as well as information on drivers of trends, is available and regularly updated. Means of verification: Conservation Status Review.</p> | <p>a) Promote and strengthen, including through building of capacity, the collection, quality and availability of monitoring data. b) Collect and analyse information on drivers of population trends.</p> | <p>Parties Technical Committee Partners (notably Wetlands International, African-Eurasian Waterbird Monitoring Partnership)</p> | <p><i>Strengthening monitoring of migratory waterbirds, Resolution 7.7²⁴ (MOP7, 2018).</i> <i>Revised AEWA Conservation Guidelines No.9 on</i></p> | <p>SDGs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targets 17.18 & 17.19 <p>Aichi Targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target 19 <p>Strategic Plan for Migratory Species:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target 15 |

²¹ “Other populations in unfavourable conservation status” are those listed in Category 1 (c), Category 2 or Category 3 in column A or Category 2 in column B, in Table 1 of the AEWA Action Plan.

²² <http://www.birdlife.org/datazone/species/search>

²³ <http://www.iucnredlist.org/>

²⁴ <https://www.unep-awa.org/en/document/strengthening-monitoring-migratory-waterbirds-3>

| 2027 Target | Indicator & means of verification | Actions | Main actors ⁸ | Key resources | Contribution to SDGs ⁹ , Aichi Targets ¹⁰ & Strategic Plan for Migratory Species (SPMS) ¹¹ |
|--|---|--|--|---|---|
| being assessed on the basis of the most complete and up-to-date monitoring information available. | | | | <i>Waterbird Monitoring</i> ²⁵ adopted through Resolution 7.8 (MOP7, 2018). | |
| 1.5 Decision-making for national and flyway-level conservation and management of waterbird populations is based on the best-available monitoring data. | <p>Indicator (quantitative): Number/percentage of Parties confirming their use of IWC and/or other relevant monitoring data to inform national-level implementation.</p> <p>Indicator (quantitative): Number/percentage of AEWA populations with flyway-level conservation measures in place that are regularly reviewed on the basis of updated IWC and other relevant monitoring data.</p> <p>Means of verification: Conservation Status Review; Technical Committee outputs and National Reports to MOPs.</p> | <p>a) Use data from IWC²⁶ and other relevant monitoring programmes to inform decision-making, conservation and management at flyway level under the Agreement.</p> <p>b) Parties actively use IWC and other relevant monitoring data to inform national-level implementation of AEWA.</p> | Parties Technical Committee Partners (notably Wetlands International, African-Eurasian Waterbird Monitoring Partnership) | <p><i>Strengthening monitoring of migratory waterbirds</i>, Resolution 7.7²⁷ (MOP7, 2018).</p> <p><i>Revised AEWA Conservation Guidelines No.9 on Waterbird Monitoring</i>²⁸ adopted through Resolution 7.8 (MOP7, 2018).</p> | <p>SDGs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targets 17.18 & 17.19 <p>Aichi Targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target 19 <p>Strategic Plan for Migratory Species:</p> <p>Target 15</p> |

²⁵ <https://www.unep-aeawa.org/en/document/draft-revised-aeawa-conservation-guidelines-waterbird-monitoring-aeawa-conservation-0>

²⁶ International Waterbird Census coordinated by Wetlands International.

²⁷ <https://www.unep-aeawa.org/en/document/strengthening-monitoring-migratory-waterbirds-3>

²⁸ <https://www.unep-aeawa.org/en/document/draft-revised-aeawa-conservation-guidelines-waterbird-monitoring-aeawa-conservation-0>

| 2027 Target | Indicator & means of verification | Actions | Main actors ⁸ | Key resources | Contribution to SDGs ⁹ , Aichi Targets ¹⁰ & Strategic Plan for Migratory Species (SPMS) ¹¹ |
|---|--|---|---|---|---|
| <p>1.6 AEWA priorities relating to four causes of unnecessary additional mortality and other key threats to migratory waterbirds and their habitats²⁹ are integrated in key multilateral processes.³⁰</p> | <p>Indicator (quantitative): (a) Number of issues for which AEWA priorities have been formally communicated to the most relevant multilateral process(es); (b) Number of relevant decisions, actions, recommendations and guidance under these processes that incorporate AEWA priorities.</p> <p>Means of verification: Secretariat and Technical Committee outputs for MOPs.</p> | <p>a) Identify those multilateral processes that can contribute most to progressing AEWA priorities (led by Technical Committee in consultation with Secretariat and Partners).</p> <p>b) Identify strategic opportunities for positively influencing these processes (meetings of technical bodies, working groups etc.) and ensure, as far as possible, that AEWA's views are represented.</p> <p>c) Communicate/advocate AEWA priorities in a clear and timely manner.</p> <p>d) Ensure that AEWA Parties take coherent, mutually reinforcing aligned positions under different conventions and related processes.</p> | <p>Parties Technical Committee Secretariat Partners (notably other convention secretariats and technical bodies, e.g. CMS, Ramsar, CBD)</p> | <p><i>Avoiding additional and unnecessary mortality for migratory waterbirds</i>, Resolution 6.12³¹ (MOP6, 2015)</p> <p>Plus, specific AEWA guidance, e.g. relating to electricity power grids³² and infrastructure development.³³</p> | <p>SDGs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targets 15.5, 15.7 & 15.8 <p>Aichi Targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No direct counterpart, but linkages with Targets 6 & 9, for example. <p>Strategic Plan for Migratory Species:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targets 3, 6, 7 & 8 |

²⁹ Causes of unnecessary additional mortality and other key threats include: energy infrastructure (especially powerlines, wind turbines); illegal taking & killing; fisheries bycatch; and invasive alien species.

³⁰ Examples of relevant multilateral processes include, but are not limited to, Agenda 2030, CBD, CMS, Ramsar Convention, Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMOs), UNFCCC.

³¹ <http://www.unep-aewa.org/en/document/avoiding-additional-and-unnecessary-mortality-migratory-waterbirds-2>

³² http://www.unep-aewa.org/sites/default/files/publication/ts50_electr_guidelines_03122014.pdf

³³ http://www.unep-aewa.org/sites/default/files/publication/cg_11_0.pdf

| 2027 Target | Indicator & means of verification | Actions | Main actors ³⁴ | Key resources | Contribution to SDGs ³⁵ , Aichi Targets ³⁶ & Strategic Plan for Migratory Species (SPMS) ³⁷ |
|--|--|---|---|--|--|
| Objective 2: To ensure that any use and management of migratory waterbird populations is sustainable across their flyways | | | | | |
| 2.1 Harvest levels are monitored and readily available at flyway level to support sustainable harvest of all prioritised quarry species. | <p>Indicator (quantitative): (a) Number/percentage of Parties making harvest data for the prioritised quarry species available; (b) Number/percentage of prioritised quarry species with sufficient harvest data³⁸ at flyway level.</p> <p>Means of verification: (a) National Reports; (b) Technical Committee outputs for MOPs; (c) Reports of the pertinent AEWA Species Working Groups.</p> | <p>a) By 2019, Technical Committee to propose a list of quarry species that should be prioritised for the international collation of harvest data.</p> <p>b) By MOP8, Parties establish and/or maintain adequate systems for making realistic estimates of all forms of waterbird harvesting, including illegal taking, at national level.</p> <p>c) By MOP9, Parties provide waterbird harvest data (or links providing access to such data) as part of their National Reports, in accordance with paragraph 4.1.3 of the AEWA Action Plan.</p> <p>d) By MOP9, Technical Committee and Secretariat work with relevant non-Party Range States to establish informed estimates of harvest.</p> | Parties Technical Committee Secretariat non-Party States in Agreement Area | <i>Revised AEWA Conservation Guidelines No.5 on Sustainable Harvest of Migratory Waterbirds</i> ³⁹ adopted through Resolution 6.5 (MOP6, 2015). | <p>SDGs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target 12.2 <p>Aichi Targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No direct counterpart. <p>Strategic Plan for Migratory Species:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targets 6 & 15 |
| 2.2 The provisions of the AEWA | Indicator (quantitative): Percentage of Parties that | a) Following each MOP, Parties review their existing domestic legislation | Parties | <i>Phasing out the use of lead shot for</i> | SDGs: |

³⁴ This column lists the actors with primary responsibility for implementing actions. It does not list actors that play a secondary supporting/facilitating role.

³⁵ <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/?menu=1300>

³⁶ <https://www.cbd.int/sp/targets/>

³⁷ https://www.cms.int/sites/default/files/document/Res_11_02_Strategic_Plan_for_MS_2015_2023_E_0.pdf

³⁸ As determined by the AEWA Technical Committee.

³⁹ https://www.unep-awa.org/sites/default/files/publication/ts62_cg5_sustainable%20harvest_guidelines_0.pdf

| 2027 Target | Indicator & means of verification | Actions | Main actors ³⁴ | Key resources | Contribution to SDGs ³⁵ , Aichi Targets ³⁶ & Strategic Plan for Migratory Species (SPMS) ³⁷ |
|--|--|---|---|---|---|
| <p>Action Plan that relate to the use and management of migratory waterbirds, including harvesting,⁴⁰ are transposed into all Parties' domestic legislation and enforced effectively.</p> | <p>have transposed all the legal measures required in Paragraph 4.1 of the AEWA Action Plan into domestic legislation.</p> <p>Means of verification: National reviews under Action 2.2. a); National Reports to MOP8–MOP10.</p> <p>Indicator (qualitative): Degree of enforcement of legislation as assessed by each Party; analysis of trends between MOPs (could be undertaken on a Party-by-Party basis, or regionally/sub-regionally).</p> <p>Means of verification: National Reports to MOP8–MOP10; Technical Committee outputs.</p> | <p>against the provisions of the latest version of the AEWA Action Plan, taking into account any amendments adopted by the MOP.</p> <p>b) By the subsequent MOP, Parties have identified and put in place the process for enacting appropriate legislative measures, so as to align domestic law with AEWA requirements.</p> <p>c) On a rolling basis adapted to the MOP and National Reporting cycle, Parties review compliance with, and enforcement of, relevant legislation and identify and implement measures to strengthen compliance and enforcement where needed.</p> <p>d) By MOP8, Parties that have not already done so phase out the use of lead shot in wetlands (in accordance with paragraph 4.1.4 of the AEWA Action Plan).</p> <p>e) By MOP9, Parties that have not already done so implement measures to reduce, and as far as possible eliminate, illegal taking (in accordance with paragraph 4.1.6 of</p> | <p>Technical Committee Secretariat Partners</p> | <p><i>hunting in wetlands: experiences made and lessons learned by AEWA Range States⁴² (AEWA, 2009).</i></p> <p><i>AEWA Conservation Guidelines No.15 on National Legislation for the Protection of Species of Migratory Waterbirds and their Habitats⁴³ adopted through Resolution 6.5 (MOP6, 2015).</i></p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targets 12.2 & 15.7 <p>Aichi Targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No direct counterpart <p>Strategic Plan for Migratory Species:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target 3 |

⁴⁰ This Target refers, in particular, to Paragraph 4.1 of the Action Plan.

⁴² <http://www.unep-aewa.org/en/publication/phasing-out-use-lead-shot-hunting-wetlands-experiences-made-and-lessons-learned-aewa>

⁴³ <http://www.unep-aewa.org/en/document/draft-guidelines-national-legislation-protection-species-migratory-waterbirds-and-their-1>

| 2027 Target | Indicator & means of verification | Actions | Main actors ³⁴ | Key resources | Contribution to SDGs ³⁵ , Aichi Targets ³⁶ & Strategic Plan for Migratory Species (SPMS) ³⁷ |
|---|---|--|---|---|--|
| | | <p>the AEWA Action Plan).</p> <p>f) Technical Committee, Partners and Secretariat facilitate sharing of experience and exchange of best practice, e.g. with CMS Lead Task Force (ongoing).</p> <p>g) AEWA Implementation Review Process⁴¹ is applied in selected cases (ongoing).</p> | | | |
| <p>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</p> | <p>Indicator (quantitative): Number/percentage of Parties for which there is national coverage of best-practice codes or standards for waterbird hunting (recognising that such codes and standards may be developed and applied regionally).</p> <p>Indicator (qualitative): Traffic-light assessment of extent to which codes/standards are <u>applied</u>.</p> <p>Indicator (qualitative): Traffic-light assessment of extent to which codes/standards are <u>effective</u></p> | <p>a) Parties that have not already done so develop and apply best practice hunting codes and standards, including those related to Article III 2 (f) of the Agreement and Paragraph 2.3 of the AEWA Action Plan (emergency situations/ measures).</p> <p>b) Technical Committee, Partners and Secretariat facilitate sharing of experience and exchange of best practice.</p> | <p>Parties Technical Committee Secretariat Partners</p> | <p><i>Revised AEWA Conservation Guidelines No.5 on Sustainable Harvest of Migratory Waterbirds</i>⁴⁴ adopted through Resolution 6.5 (MOP6, 2015).</p> <p><i>Updated AEWA Conservation Guidelines No.2 on Identifying and Tackling Emergency Situations for</i></p> | <p>SDGs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target 12.2 <p>Aichi Targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targets 1 & 4 <p>Strategic Plan for Migratory Species:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target 15 |

⁴¹ <http://www.unep-awa.org/en/activities/irp>

⁴⁴ https://www.unep-awa.org/sites/default/files/publication/ts62_cg5_sustainable_harvest_guidelines_0.pdf

| 2027 Target | Indicator & means of verification | Actions | Main actors ³⁴ | Key resources | Contribution to SDGs ³⁵ , Aichi Targets ³⁶ & Strategic Plan for Migratory Species (SPMS) ³⁷ |
|---|--|---|--|---|---|
| of Contracting Parties. | in supporting enforcement of hunting laws and regulations. Means of verification: National Reports to MOP8–MOP10. | | | <i>Migratory Waterbirds</i> ⁴⁵ adopted through Resolution 5.10 (MOP5, 2012). | |
| 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 ⁴⁶ . *These may include Species Action Plans developed | Indicator (quantitative): Number/percentage of priority species/populations for which flyway-level adaptive harvest management plans have been agreed. Indicator (quantitative): Number/percentage of such adaptive harvest management plans that are being implemented. Indicator (qualitative): Traffic-light assessment of effectiveness of implementation. Means of verification: Collation and analysis of reports from each Species Action or Management Plan | a) By MOP9, undertake a rapid assessment ⁴⁷ of sustainability of harvest of declining quarry populations and identify priority species/ populations for inclusion in adaptive harvest management processes coordinated at flyway-level. b) By MOP9, and thereafter on a rolling basis, develop adaptive harvest management plans as part of Species Action or Management Plans for an initial set of priority species/populations. c) By the MOP succeeding the adoption of each adaptive harvest management plan, ensure that a coordination mechanism and routine implementation are in place. | Parties Technical Committee Partners (notably hunting organisations, other NGOs) | <i>Revised AEWA Conservation Guidelines No.5 on Sustainable Harvest of Migratory Waterbirds</i> ⁴⁸ adopted through Resolution 6.5 (MOP6, 2015). Adaptive harvest management plan for the Pink-footed Goose. ⁴⁹ <i>AEWA International Single Species</i> | SDGs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target 12.2 Aichi Targets: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targets 4 & 12 Strategic Plan for Migratory Species: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6, 7, 8 |

⁴⁵ http://www.unep-aeawa.org/sites/default/files/publication/cg_2new_0.pdf

⁴⁶ These are species for which significant conflicts with, for example, agriculture or fisheries have been identified in part of the Agreement Area.

⁴⁷ The rapid assessments will not be in-depth, but instead use approximation methods based on population size, population trend and available harvest data.

⁴⁸ https://www.unep-aeawa.org/sites/default/files/publication/ts62_cg5_sustainable_harvest_guidelines_0.pdf

⁴⁹ <http://pinkfootedgoose.aewa.info>

| 2027 Target | Indicator & means of verification | Actions | Main actors ³⁴ | Key resources | Contribution to SDGs ³⁵ , Aichi Targets ³⁶ & Strategic Plan for Migratory Species (SPMS) ³⁷ |
|--|--|--|--|--|---|
| <i>under Target 1.2</i> | coordination mechanism timed to coincide with MOP cycle. | | | <p><i>Action Plan for the conservation of the Taiga Bean Goose (Anser fabalis fabalis)</i>⁵⁰ adopted through Resolution 6.8 (MOP6, 2015).</p> <p><i>Towards sustainable management of huntable migratory waterbirds in Europe</i> (Wetlands International Waterbird Harvest Specialist Group, 2015).⁵¹</p> | |
| 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 | <p>Indicator (interim): Number of waterbird-related ecotourism pilot initiatives launched and implemented.</p> <p>Indicator (quantitative): Number/percentage of Parties reporting the existence of ecotourism initiatives <u>specifically based on</u> migratory waterbirds and their</p> | <p>a) By MOP8, collate case studies of ecotourism initiatives with <u>proven benefits</u> for both community livelihoods <u>and</u> conservation of AEWA species and their habitats, and identify one or more potential strategic partners with ecotourism expertise for AEWA to work with.</p> <p>b) By MOP9, conceive and launch at least three pilot ecotourism-related</p> | Parties Technical Committee Partners External expert partners | AEWA <i>Conservation Guidelines No.7 on Development of Ecotourism at Wetlands</i> ⁵³ adopted through Resolution 1.10 (MOP1, 1999). | <p>SDGs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targets 1.4, 8.9, 15.c <p>Aichi Targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target 14⁵⁶ <p>Strategic Plan for Migratory Species:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target 11⁵⁷ |

⁵⁰ <http://www.unep-aewa.org/en/publication/international-single-species-action-plan-conservation-taiga-bean-goose-ts-no-56>

⁵¹ http://archive.wetlands.org/Portals/0/SustainableWaterbirdHarvesting_2015_02_26_final.pdf

| 2027 Target | Indicator & means of verification | Actions | Main actors ³⁴ | Key resources | Contribution to SDGs ³⁵ , Aichi Targets ³⁶ & Strategic Plan for Migratory Species (SPMS) ³⁷ |
|---|---|---|---------------------------|--|--|
| <p>waterbirds that exemplify benefits to local communities as well as for the conservation status of AEWA populations and their habitats.</p> | <p>habitats. Indicator (qualitative): Traffic-light assessment of extent to which these initiatives are <u>designed to deliver both</u> conservation and community benefits. Indicator (qualitative): Traffic-light assessment of extent to which these <u>dual benefits are being delivered in practice</u>, with commentary on ingredients for success and/or barriers. Means of verification: National Reports to MOP8–MOP10.</p> | <p>initiatives in different parts of the Agreement Area.⁵² c) By MOP10, integrate wetland- and waterbird-related ecotourism into national tourism development strategies or other relevant national strategies. d) By MOP10, promote sharing of experience, know-how, best practice and lessons learned.</p> | | <p>Ramsar Convention guidance on <i>Issues for stakeholders to address in achieving sustainable tourism and recreation in and around wetlands</i>⁵⁴ (Annex 2 to Resolution XI.7 adopted by COP11, 2012). Ramsar Convention and World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO) publication <i>Destination Wetlands: Supporting sustainable tourism</i>.⁵⁵</p> | |

⁵³ <http://www.unep-aewa.org/en/publication/aewa-conservation-guidelines-no-7-guidelines-development-ecotourism-wetlands-ts-no-22>

⁵⁶ AEWA SP Target 2.5 relates only to the aspect of the benefit from biodiversity and ecosystem services to local communities of the broader Aichi Target 14

⁵⁷ AEWA SP Target 2.5 relates only to the aspect of the benefit from ecosystem services provided by migratory species and their habitats to local communities of the broader Target 11 of the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species

⁵² Both the case studies under action a) and the pilot projects under action b) to have a strong focus on demonstrating impact, sustainability and potential for replication/adaptation.

⁵⁴ <http://www.ramsar.org/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/cop11/res/cop11-res07-e.pdf>

⁵⁵ http://cf.cdn.unwto.org/sites/all/files/pdf/ramsar_unwto_tourism_en.pdf

| 2027 Target | Indicator & means of verification | Actions | Main actors ³⁴ | Key resources | Contribution to SDGs ³⁵ , Aichi Targets ³⁶ & Strategic Plan for Migratory Species (SPMS) ³⁷ |
|---|---|--|---|---|--|
| <p>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.</p> | <p>Indicator (quantitative): Number/percentage of Parties reporting specific measures to integrate cultural/provisioning services of migratory waterbirds in decisions affecting waterbird habitats. Means of verification: National Reports to MOP8–MOP10.</p> | <p>a) By MOP8 provide concise initial guidance (in language adapted to policy/decision makers) on the provisioning and cultural aspects of ecosystem services in relation to migratory waterbirds.</p> <p>b) By MOP9, implement national pilot projects and/or collate and make available examples/case studies of decision-making which takes into consideration waterbird values and their habitats</p> <p>c) By MOP10 produce AEWA guidelines on valuation of ecosystem services derived from migratory waterbirds and their habitats and communicate to relevant stakeholders at all levels.</p> | <p>Parties Technical Committee Partners</p> | <p><i>Valuing wetlands – Guidance for valuing the benefits derived from wetland ecosystem services</i> (Ramsar Technical Report No.3, CBD Technical Series No.27, 2006).⁵⁸</p> | <p>SDGs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target 15.9 <p>Aichi Targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targets 2, 5, 14 <p>Strategic Plan for Migratory Species:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targets 2 & 11 |

⁵⁸ http://www.ramsar.org/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/lib/lib_rtr03.pdf

| 2027 Target | Indicator & means of verification | Actions | Main actors ⁵⁹ | Key resources | Contribution to SDGs ⁶⁰ , Aichi Targets ⁶¹ & Strategic Plan for Migratory Species (SPMS) ⁶² |
|---|--|---|--|---|---|
| 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 | | | | | |
| 3.1 Known sites of national or international importance ⁴⁴ 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 ⁶³ are filled in the case of Contracting Parties. | <p>Indicator (quantitative): Number/percentage of Parties that have reviewed and confirmed the known internationally and nationally important sites for migratory waterbirds in their territory.</p> <p>Indicator (quantitative): Number/percentage of Parties that have conducted gap-filling assessments at national level.</p> <p>Means of verification: National Reports to MOP8–MOP10; Site Network Review; Technical Committee outputs.</p> | a) By MOP8, Parties review and confirm an inventory of the known nationally and internationally important sites in their territory, taking into consideration existing site inventories and using a simple framework to be developed and disseminated by the Technical Committee in 2019. This framework should include provision of brief guidance to Parties on interpreting AEWA Action Plan references ⁶⁴ to "sites of international or national importance" and "internationally accepted criteria of international importance". It should also take into account existing site network criteria, including those used to | Parties Technical Committee Partners | Critical Site Network Tool ⁶⁶ <i>Consolidated Report on the Subregional Gap Identification Workshops under the Wings Over Wetlands Project, WOW Technical Report 12, 2008.</i> ⁶⁷ <i>Preliminary Report on the Site Network for Waterbirds in the Agreement</i> | <p>SDGs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targets 14.2, 15.1, 15.5 <p>Aichi Targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target 11 <p>Strategic Plan for Migratory Species:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target 10 |

⁵⁹ This column lists the actors with primary responsibility for implementing actions. It does not list actors that play a secondary supporting/facilitating role.

⁶⁰ <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/?menu=1300>

⁶¹ <https://www.cbd.int/sp/targets/>

⁶² https://www.cms.int/sites/default/files/document/Res_11_02_Strategic_Plan_for_MS_2015_2023_E_0.pdf

⁶³ As identified in *Consolidated Report on the Subregional Gap Identification Workshops under the Wings Over Wetlands Project* WOW Technical Report 12, 2008.

⁶⁴ Paragraphs 3.1.2 and 3.2.2 of the AEWA Action Plan state that Parties shall endeavour "as a matter of priority, to identify all sites of international or national importance for populations listed in Table 1" and "to give special protection to those wetlands which meet internationally accepted criteria of international importance". However, neither the Agreement text, nor that of the AEWA Action Plan, provides guidance on interpreting these provisions. This Action of the Strategic Plan therefore includes tasking the Technical Committee with providing such guidance to Parties.

| 2027 Target | Indicator & means of verification | Actions | Main actors ⁵⁹ | Key resources | Contribution to SDGs ⁶⁰ , Aichi Targets ⁶¹ & Strategic Plan for Migratory Species (SPMS) ⁶² |
|--|---|--|---|---|---|
| | | <p>identify EU Special Protection Areas, Ramsar Sites⁶⁵, Emerald Network Sites (Council of Europe/Bern Convention) and Important Bird & Biodiversity Areas (BirdLife International).</p> <p>b) By MOP9, update the Critical Site Network Tool with the revised site information communicated by Parties.</p> <p>c) By MOP10, conduct gap-filling surveys at national level and incorporate the results into the Critical Site Network Tool.</p> <p>d) By MOP10 (and at least for every other MOP thereafter), Parties review and update as necessary their sites lists and communicate any changes to AEWA.</p> | | <p>Area⁶⁸ (MOP5, 2012)</p> | |
| <p>3.2 The status of, the threats to, and the effectiveness of conservation measures</p> | <p>Indicator (qualitative): traffic-light assessment of protection and management status of network sites at individual site level and</p> | <p>a) By MOP8, develop a monitoring framework for the AEWA flyway site network⁶⁹ (building on the preliminary Site Network Review presented to MOP5) and coordinated</p> | <p>Parties Technical Committee Partners</p> | <p><i>Preliminary Report on the Site Network for Waterbirds in the Agreement Area</i>⁷¹ (MOP5,</p> | <p>SDGs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target 17.18 <p>Aichi Targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target 19 |

⁶⁶ <http://criticalsites.wetlands.org/en>

⁶⁷ http://wow.wetlands.org/Portals/1/documents/gap_identification_report.pdf

⁶⁵ AEWA Resolution 5.19 *Encouragement of Further Joint Implementation of AEWA and the Ramsar Convention* is especially relevant here.

⁶⁸ http://www.unep-aewa.org/sites/default/files/document/mop5_15_preliminary_site_network_report_0.pdf

⁶⁹ The ‘AEWA flyway site network’ comprises all sites that qualify as being of national or international importance for at least one AEWA population (meaning those populations listed in Table 1 of the AEWA Action Plan, Annex 3 to the Agreement).

| 2027 Target | Indicator & means of verification | Actions | Main actors ⁵⁹ | Key resources | Contribution to SDGs ⁶⁰ , Aichi Targets ⁶¹ & Strategic Plan for Migratory Species (SPMS) ⁶² |
|---|--|--|---------------------------|--|--|
| implemented at flyway network sites are being assessed at <u>flyway scale</u> , using data provided by at least three-quarters of Contracting Parties. | grouped by flyway and species (or species assemblage), where data permit. Indicator (quantitative): number/ percentage of Contracting Parties providing national-level data on site threats and effectiveness of conservation measures. Means of verification: National Reports, TC outputs. | with similar reporting under other multilateral processes ⁷⁰ . b) By MOP9, Parties are assessing and reporting on the status of their flyway network sites. c) By MOP10, the Technical Committee and Partners produce a flyway-level assessment of the conservation status of flyway network sites. | | 2012) | Strategic Plan for Migratory Species: • Targets 9 & 15 |
| 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 | Indicator (quantitative): The number/percentage of flyway network sites covered by national or international protected area designations. Means of verification: National Reports, AEWA Site Network Report, UNEP/WCMC World Database on Protected Areas/Protected Planet, | a) By MOP8, Parties that have not already done so develop and implement national strategies/plans for the protection and management of flyway network sites and/or ensure that such measures are incorporated into existing national strategies/plans. b) By MOP8, develop a joint programme with the Ramsar Convention to promote Ramsar | Parties Secretariat | AEWA <i>Conservation Guidelines No.4 on Management of Key Sites for Migratory Waterbirds</i> ⁷² adopted through Resolution 1.10 (MOP1, 1999). | SDGs: • Targets 6.5, 6.6, 14.2, 15.1, 15.5, 15.9 Aichi Targets: • Target 11 Strategic Plan for Migratory Species: • Targets 9 & 10 |

⁷¹ http://www.unep-aewa.org/sites/default/files/document/mop5_15_preliminary_site_network_report_0.pdf

⁷⁰ Notably Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, the EU Birds Directive and the Bern Convention Emerald Network.

⁷² <http://www.unep-aewa.org/en/publication/aewa-conservation-guidelines-no-4-guidelines-management-key-sites-migratory-waterbirds>

| 2027 Target | Indicator & means of verification | Actions | Main actors ⁵⁹ | Key resources | Contribution to SDGs ⁶⁰ , Aichi Targets ⁶¹ & Strategic Plan for Migratory Species (SPMS) ⁶² |
|--|--|--|---------------------------|--|---|
| areas. | <p>BirdLife Data Zone.</p> <p>Indicator (quantitative): The number/percentage of flyway network sites for which actively implemented management plans are in place.</p> <p>Means of verification: National Reports; AEWA Site Network Report.</p> <p>Indicator (qualitative): Traffic-light assessment of effectiveness of conservation management measures.</p> <p>Means of verification: National Reports; UNEP/WCMC Protected Planet collation of protected area management effectiveness (PAME) reports.</p> | <p>designation of relevant flyway sites.</p> <p>c) By MOP8, explore the possibility of a joint strategic initiative with the World Heritage Convention (e.g. recommendation to promote the serial designation of World Heritage sites within particular flyways (e.g. East Atlantic, Rift Valley).</p> | | <p>Ramsar Convention Handbooks (5th edition).⁷³</p> <p><i>Wetland Management Planning: A Guide for Site Managers</i> (WWF with IUCN, Ramsar and Wetlands International, 2008).⁷⁴</p> <p><i>The Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention.</i>⁷⁵</p> | |
| 3.4 The need to maintain the importance and integrity of AEWA flyway network sites is taken into | <p>Indicator (quantitative): Number/percentage of Parties confirming that the importance of AEWA flyway network sites is <u>explicitly</u> taken into account in water-</p> | <p>a) By MOP9, Parties that have not already done so take measures to integrate flyway network sites into their water- and land-use planning/decisions.</p> <p>b) Parties share experience and best</p> | Parties | Ramsar Convention Handbooks (5 th edition). ⁷⁶ | <p>SDGs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targets 6.5, 6.6, 14.2, 15.1, 15.5, 15.9 <p>Aichi Targets:</p> |

⁷³ <http://www.ramsar.org/news/new-edition-of-the-ramsar-handbooks>

⁷⁴ http://assets.panda.org/downloads/wetlands_management_guide_2008.pdf

⁷⁵ <http://whc.unesco.org/en/guidelines/>

⁷⁶ <http://www.ramsar.org/news/new-edition-of-the-ramsar-handbooks>

| 2027 Target | Indicator & means of verification | Actions | Main actors ⁵⁹ | Key resources | Contribution to SDGs ⁶⁰ , Aichi Targets ⁶¹ & Strategic Plan for Migratory Species (SPMS) ⁶² |
|---|---|--|--|--|--|
| account in planning and decision-making processes in all Contracting Parties. | and land-use planning and decision making. Means of verification: National Reports to MOP8–MOP10. | practice in integrating flyway network sites into national planning/decision making (ongoing). c) Conduct CEPA activities to showcase successful examples. | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targets 2, 11 Strategic Plan for Migratory Species: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targets 2 & 10 |
| 3.5 Legal or administrative measures are in place <u>at national level</u> – 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. | Indicator (quantitative): Number of flyway network sites in the territory of each Party that are threatened with adverse impacts from development. Indicator (quantitative): Number of Parties that have adopted legal or administrative measures to avoid, mitigate and compensate for adverse impact of development and other pressures on flyway network sites in general. Indicator (quantitative): Number of flyway sites where specific threats have been effectively avoided, mitigated or compensated. Indicator (quantitative): | a) By MOP8, Parties record cases of adverse impacts (relating to waterbirds and/or their habitats) of development activities and other pressures on flyway network sites and the mitigation and/or compensation measures undertaken. b) By MOP8, Parties ensure application of EIA/SEA procedures (in accordance with Paragraph 4.3.1 of the AEWA Action Plan) and International Finance Corporation Standards ⁷⁷ . c) Parties apply relevant AEWA guidelines and those made available under other relevant multilateral processes (e.g. Ramsar Convention). d) AEWA Implementation Review Process ⁷⁸ is applied in selected cases (ongoing). | Parties plus, Standing Committee, Technical Committee and Secretariat in relation to Action d), in which Partners, including other MEAs (e.g. through joint missions), may also have a role. | Ramsar Convention Handbooks (5 th edition). ⁷⁹ | SDGs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targets 6.5, 6.6, 12.2, 14.2, 15.1, 15.3, 15.5, 15.9 Aichi Targets: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targets 3, 5 & 7 Strategic Plan for Migratory Species: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targets 2, 4, 7 & 10 |

⁷⁷ http://www.ifc.org/wps/wcm/connect/topics_ext_content/ifc_external_corporate_site/ifc+sustainability/our+approach/risk+management/performance+standards/environmental+and+social+performance+standards+and+guidance+notes

⁷⁸ <http://www.unep-awa.org/en/activities/irp>

⁷⁹ <http://www.ramsar.org/news/new-edition-of-the-ramsar-handbooks>

| 2027 Target | Indicator & means of verification | Actions | Main actors ⁵⁹ | Key resources | Contribution to SDGs ⁶⁰ , Aichi Targets ⁶¹ & Strategic Plan for Migratory Species (SPMS) ⁶² |
|-------------|--|---------|---------------------------|---------------|--|
| | Number of sites with known specific threats where no effective avoidance, mitigation or compensation measures have been implemented. Means of verification: National Reports. | | | | |

| 2027 Target | Indicator & means of verification | Actions | Main actors ⁸⁰ | Key resources | Contribution to SDGs ⁸¹ , Aichi Targets ⁸² & Strategic Plan for Migratory Species (SPMS) ⁸³ |
|--|--|--|--|---------------|--|
| Objective 4: To ensure there is sufficient quantity and quality of habitat in the wider environment⁸⁴ for achieving and maintaining favourable conservation status for migratory waterbird populations | | | | | |
| 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. | <p>Indicator (interim): AEWA habitat conservation priorities agreed by MOP9.</p> <p>Means of verification: MOP9 outcomes.</p> <p>Indicator (quantitative): Number of Contracting Parties implementing the agreed action plan.</p> <p>Indicator (qualitative): Traffic-light assessment of level of implementation.</p> <p>Means of verification: National Reports to MOP10 onwards.</p> | <p>a) By MOP8, conduct Agreement-level assessment of the status of principal waterbird habitats in the wider environment, drawing on existing studies wherever possible⁸⁵.</p> <p>b) By MOP8, on the basis of this assessment, develop an action plan (identifying priorities, opportunities and a set of recommended actions), taking into account regional and sub-regional differences in key habitat types and threats/drivers.</p> <p>c) By MOP9, Parties commence the implementation of the prioritised action plan developed under Action 4.1.(b).</p> | Parties Technical Committee Partners | | <p>SDGs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targets 2.4, 14.2, 15.1–15.5 <p>Aichi Targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targets 5 & 7 <p>Strategic Plan for Migratory Species:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No direct counterpart; Targets 5 & 7 indirectly relevant |
| 4.2 At least half of the key international policy | <p>Indicator (interim): Table indicating the key international policy</p> | <p>a) After MOP8, identify which international policy mechanisms AEWA should focus its attention on</p> | Parties Technical Committee | | <p>SDGs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targets 14.2 & 15.1–15.5 |

⁸⁰ This column lists the actors with primary responsibility for implementing actions. It does not list actors that play a secondary supporting/facilitating role.

⁸¹ <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/?menu=1300>

⁸² <https://www.cbd.int/sp/targets/>

⁸³ https://www.cms.int/sites/default/files/document/Res_11_02_Strategic_Plan_for_MS_2015_2023_E_0.pdf

⁸⁴ ‘Wider environment’ encompasses land, coastal and marine areas that constitute important habitats for waterbirds beyond the boundaries of recognised sites and/or formally designated protected areas. These may include, for example, many farmed landscapes and other areas of land and water with multiple uses.

⁸⁵ e.g. Tucker G.M. & Evans M.I. 1997. *Habitats for Birds in Europe – a conservation strategy for the wider environment*. BirdLife International.

| 2027 Target | Indicator & means of verification | Actions | Main actors ⁸⁰ | Key resources | Contribution to SDGs ⁸¹ , Aichi Targets ⁸² & Strategic Plan for Migratory Species (SPMS) ⁸³ |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| mechanisms identified ⁸⁶ have made tangible progress towards integrating the waterbird habitat priorities and prescriptions of AEWA as they relate to the wider environment. | <p>mechanism(s) to be targeted and the priorities to be promoted with each mechanism is established.</p> <p>Indicator (qualitative): Traffic-light assessment, by MOP10, of progress made for each cell of the table.</p> <p>Means of verification: Technical Committee outputs and Secretariat reports to MOP8 to MOP10 and interim updates.</p> | <p>to maximise delivery of the prioritised actions identified under Target 4.1.</p> <p>b) By MOP9, establish and/or strengthen AEWA engagement with those mechanisms at both international and national levels.</p> <p>c) By MOP10, provide advice and guidance to selected international policy mechanisms on maximising incentives and habitat measures for waterbirds, which provide positive impacts and avoiding negative impacts from perverse incentives/subsidies.</p> | Partners (including the governing and/or technical bodies and secretariats of relevant mechanisms) | | <p>Aichi Targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targets 5 & 7 <p>Strategic Plan for Migratory Species:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targets 3 & 9 |
| 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. | <p>Indicator (quantitative): Number of Parties reporting that national habitat conservation and management priorities have been identified.</p> <p>Indicator (quantitative): Number of Parties reporting that the identified national habitat conservation and management priorities have been integrated across the relevant sectoral policies.</p> | <p>a) By MOP9, Parties identify priority measures required to maintain or increase the extent and quality of waterbird habitats in the wider environment.</p> <p>b) By MOP10, Parties establish and/or strengthen mechanisms to ensure that AEWA ‘wider habitat’ priorities for waterbirds are fed into sectoral policy development.</p> | Parties | Ramsar Convention Handbooks (5 th edition). ⁸⁷ | <p>SDGs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targets 2.4, 6.5, 6.6, 14.2, 15.1 & 15.9 <p>Aichi Targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target 2 <p>Strategic Plan for Migratory Species:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targets 2, 4 & 10 |

⁸⁶ As identified under Action 4.2.a.

⁸⁷ <http://www.ramsar.org/news/new-edition-of-the-ramsar-handbooks>

| 2027 Target | Indicator & means of verification | Actions | Main actors ⁸⁰ | Key resources | Contribution to SDGs ⁸¹ , Aichi Targets ⁸² & Strategic Plan for Migratory Species (SPMS) ⁸³ |
|---|--|--|-----------------------------|---|--|
| | <p>Indicator (quantitative): Number of Parties reporting significant measures to improve extent and quality of waterbird habitats in the wider environment.</p> <p>Indicator (qualitative): traffic-light assessment, perhaps sub-regional, of progress made MOP8–MOP10.</p> <p>Means of verification: National Reports.</p> | | | | |
| <p>4.4 At least three of the innovative, international multi-stakeholder partnerships⁸⁸ result in the improved management, creation and/or restoration of waterbird habitats in the wider environment.</p> | <p>Indicator (quantitative): Number of specific projects being implemented and/or have been completed.</p> <p>Indicator (qualitative): Traffic-light assessment of the impact of these projects on management, creation and/or restoration of waterbird habitats in the wider environment.</p> <p>Means of verification: National Reports to MOP8–MOP10; Reports from Partners.</p> | <p>a) Parties actively encourage the establishment of innovative, international, multi-stakeholder partnerships to guide the development and implementation of habitat management, creation and restoration projects in the wider environment.</p> <p>b) By MOP8, AEWA Parties and Partners identify project opportunities, including potential sources of funding and technical support.</p> <p>c) By MOP9, at least three new waterbird habitat management restoration projects are being implemented in the wider</p> | <p>Parties Partners</p> | <p>Guidelines on the restoration of multifunctional wetlands in the wider environment, including – but not limited to – agricultural landscapes (Technical Committee to advise on most suitable documents).</p> | <p>SDGs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targets 2.4, 6.5, 6.6, 14.2, 15.1, 15.3, <p>Aichi Targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targets 5, 14 & 15 <p>Strategic Plan for Migratory Species:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targets 7, 11 |

⁸⁸ As established under Action 4.4.a.

| 2027 Target | Indicator & means of verification | Actions | Main actors ⁸⁰ | Key resources | Contribution to SDGs ⁸¹ , Aichi Targets ⁸² & Strategic Plan for Migratory Species (SPMS) ⁸³ |
|-------------|-----------------------------------|---|---------------------------|---------------|--|
| | | <p>environment, taking into consideration, as far as possible regional balance in the Agreement Area.</p> <p>d) CEPA activities (project partners and Parties as well as the Secretariat) highlight model projects, especially those providing multi-functional benefits (e.g. in relation to food/water security, climate-change mitigation, flood control, recreation, as well as waterbird conservation) and best-practice technical guidelines.</p> | | | |

| 2027 Target | Indicator & means of verification | Actions | Main actors ⁸⁹ | Key resources | Contribution to SDGs ⁹⁰ , Aichi Targets ⁹¹ & Strategic Plan for Migratory Species (SPMS) ⁹² |
|--|---|--|--|---------------|--|
| Objective 5: To ensure and strengthen the knowledge, capacity, recognition, awareness and resources required for the Agreement to achieve its conservation objectives | | | | | |
| 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. | <p>Indicator (interim): Prioritised list of key information gaps established.</p> <p>Indicator (quantitative): Number of initiatives underway to fill priority gaps (per priority gap).</p> <p>Indicator (qualitative): Progress of initiatives tracked via traffic-light assessment in relation to specified deliverables and timeframe.</p> <p>Means of verification: Technical Committee outputs for MOP8–MOP10.</p> | <p>a) By MOP8, Technical Committee identifies <u>key gaps</u> in information availability on relevant aspects of the implementation of the Agreement, to establish the potential role of AEWA in filling these, and to recommend priorities accordingly.</p> <p>b) By MOP9, establish partnerships and initiate joint research programmes, with clear timeframes for delivery, to fill priority knowledge gaps by MOP10, where feasible.</p> | <p>Technical Committee Parties</p> <p>Partners (including research institutions)</p> | | <p>SDGs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target 17.6 <p>Aichi Targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target 19 <p>Strategic Plan for Migratory Species:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target 15 |
| 5.2 The number of Contracting Parties has increased to at least 90 ⁹³ . | <p>Indicator (quantitative): (a) number of new Parties during period of Strategic Plan; (b) number of Parties per region/sub-region and percentage of theoretical total.</p> | <p>a) By 2020, develop and implement a prioritised action plan (to be approved by the Standing Committee) setting out priorities for the recruitment of new Contracting Parties (setting out clear roles and</p> | <p>Parties</p> <p>Standing Committee Secretariat Partners</p> | | <p>SDGs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target 17.9 <p>Aichi Targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No counterpart <p>Strategic Plan for</p> |

⁸⁹ This column lists the actors with primary responsibility for implementing actions. It does not list actors that play a secondary supporting/facilitating role.

⁹⁰ <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/?menu=1300>

⁹¹ <https://www.cbd.int/sp/targets/>

⁹² https://www.cms.int/sites/default/files/document/Res_11_02_Strategic_Plan_for_MS_2015_2023_E_0.pdf

⁹³ At MOP7 (2018), the number of Contracting Parties was 77.

| 2027 Target | Indicator & means of verification | Actions | Main actors ⁸⁹ | Key resources | Contribution to SDGs ⁹⁰ , Aichi Targets ⁹¹ & Strategic Plan for Migratory Species (SPMS) ⁹² |
|--|--|---|--|---|---|
| | <p>Indicator (qualitative): sub-regional traffic-light assessment of degree of progress made towards recruiting potential Parties that have still not yet joined.</p> <p>Means of verification: Reports of the Depositary and Secretariat Reports to MOP8-MOP10.</p> | <p>responsibilities for existing Parties, the Standing Committee and the Secretariat, as well as identifying the potential contribution of Partners).</p> | | | <p>Migratory Species:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targets 3 & 15 |
| <p>5.3 Initiatives are in place to address at least two-thirds of the priority capacity gaps restricting implementation of AEWA.</p> | <p>Indicator (quantitative): Number of Contracting Parties that have identified and prioritised capacity gaps for implementation of the Agreement.</p> <p>Indicator (quantitative): Number of Contracting Parties that have established national AEWA implementation coordination mechanisms.</p> <p>Indicator (qualitative): traffic-light assessment, based on Parties' own review, of effectiveness of national AEWA coordination mechanisms</p> <p>Indicator (qualitative): Sub-regional traffic-light</p> | <p>a) By MOP8, identify and prioritise gaps at international level in capacity for the implementation of the Agreement, taking account of regional specificities, as well as consideration of possible joint action with other MEAs and the potential for site-based twinning arrangements (or similar exchange mechanisms).</p> <p>b) By MOP9 national AEWA implementation coordination mechanisms are in place to address <i>inter alia</i> priority capacity gaps.</p> <p>c) By MOP9, establish regional capacity building activities to address priority gaps.</p> <p>d) By MOP9, establish criteria for assessing implementation capacity at subregional level.</p> <p>e) By MOP10, Parties complete</p> | <p>Parties Standing Committee Secretariat Partners</p> | <p><i>Promote Twinning Schemes Between the Natural Sites Covered by the AEWA and the Network of Sites Listed Under the Ramsar Convention, Resolution 5.20⁹⁴ (MOP5, 2012)</i></p> | <p>SDGs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target 17.9 <p>Aichi Targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No counterpart <p>Strategic Plan for Migratory Species:</p> <p>Targets 3 & 15</p> |

⁹⁴ http://www.unep-aewa.org/sites/default/files/document/res_5_20_twinning_sites_aewa_ramsar_0.pdf

| 2027 Target | Indicator & means of verification | Actions | Main actors ⁸⁹ | Key resources | Contribution to SDGs ⁹⁰ , Aichi Targets ⁹¹ & Strategic Plan for Migratory Species (SPMS) ⁹² |
|--|--|--|---|--|---|
| | assessment of implementation capacity. Means of verification: National Reports to MOP8-MOP10. | national capacity assessments and have developed and are implementing action plans to fill significant gaps. | | | |
| 5.4 Conservation of migratory waterbirds is integrated into national implementation policies and plans related to the SDGs ⁹⁵ , Aichi Targets ⁹⁶ /Post-2020 biodiversity framework, the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species ⁹⁷ and the Ramsar Strategic Plan ⁹⁸ in at least two-thirds of Contracting Parties and the contribution of | Indicator (quantitative): Number/percentage of Contracting Parties reporting inclusion of AEWA focal points in national processes relating to SDGs, Aichi Targets/Post 2020 biodiversity framework, SPMS and the Ramsar Strategic Plan. Indicator (qualitative): Traffic-light indicator of progress assessed by each Party. Means of verification: National Reports to MOP8–MOP10; Concise triennial summaries, compiled by the TC, of AEWA’s contributions | a) By MOP8, Parties ensure that AEWA Administrative Authorities/focal points participate in national implementation coordination and planning processes related to the Aichi Targets/Post-2020 biodiversity framework, SPMS, Ramsar Strategic Plan and relevant targets of the SDGs. b) By MOP8, AEWA Administrative Authorities ensure that the potential role and contribution of AEWA, together with relevant AEWA priorities, are communicated to focal points for other relevant global processes. c) Secretariat and/or members of the Standing Committee or Technical Committee represent the Agreement | Parties Standing Committee Technical Committee Secretariat | CMS Guidelines on the integration of migratory species into NBSAPs. ⁹⁹ Ramsar Convention Handbooks (5 th edition). ¹⁰⁰ | SDGs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No counterpart Aichi Targets: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No counterpart Strategic Plan for Migratory Species: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target 3 |

⁹⁵ United Nations Sustainable Development Goals adopted in 2015.

⁹⁶ Aichi Biodiversity Targets under the *Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020* adopted by Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity through Resolution X/2.

⁹⁷ *Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2015–2023* adopted by Parties to the Convention on Migratory Species through Resolution 11.2.

⁹⁸ Ramsar Strategic Plan 2016-2024: <https://www.ramsar.org/document/the-fourth-ramsar-strategic-plan-2016-2024>

⁹⁹ <https://www.cbd.int/doc/nbsap/NBSAP-guidelines-CMS.pdf>

¹⁰⁰ <http://www.ramsar.org/news/new-edition-of-the-ramsar-handbooks>

| 2027 Target | Indicator & means of verification | Actions | Main actors ⁸⁹ | Key resources | Contribution to SDGs ⁹⁰ , Aichi Targets ⁹¹ & Strategic Plan for Migratory Species (SPMS) ⁹² |
|---|--|--|---------------------------|--|--|
| AEWA to these global frameworks is recognised and supported. | to the relevant global frameworks that can be used by Parties, Standing Committee members, Technical Committee members and Secretariat to highlight at national and international levels the role of AEWA). | in relevant meetings under CBD, CMS and Ramsar. | | | |
| 5.5 Conservation of migratory waterbirds is integrated into the new generation of NBSAPs ¹⁰¹ and/or similar national plans/policies by at least three-quarters of Contracting Parties. | <p>Indicator (quantitative): Number/percentage of Parties reporting that migratory waterbird conservation priorities are explicitly addressed in NBSAPs (or similar).</p> <p>Means of verification: National Reports to MOP8–MOP10</p> | <p>a) Parties make sure that AEWA Administrative Authorities are fully involved in preparation of NBSAPs (AEWA National Focal Points to play a key role by seeking active engagement in relevant NBSAP processes).</p> <p>b) AEWA Administrative Authorities/focal points ensure that AEWA priorities are clearly communicated to NBSAP coordinator/focal point.</p> <p>c) Successful examples, best practice and guidance for the integration of AEWA priorities into NBSAPs and other national processes are shared by Parties (with support from the Technical Committee and Partners).</p> | Parties | CMS Guidelines on the integration of migratory species into NBSAPs. ¹⁰² | <p>SDGs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target 15.9 <p>Aichi Targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target 17 <p>Strategic Plan for Migratory Species:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target 13 |
| 5.6 The resources | Indicator (interim): | a) Within one year of MOP7, the | Parties | | SDGs: |

¹⁰¹ National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans required under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).

¹⁰² <https://www.cbd.int/doc/nbsap/NBSAP-guidelines-CMS.pdf>

| 2027 Target | Indicator & means of verification | Actions | Main actors ⁸⁹ | Key resources | Contribution to SDGs ⁹⁰ , Aichi Targets ⁹¹ & Strategic Plan for Migratory Species (SPMS) ⁹² |
|---|---|---|--|---------------|--|
| <p>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.¹⁰³</p> | <p>International-level resource requirements assessed and corresponding resource mobilisation plan produced.</p> <p>Indicator (quantitative): Percentage of international-level resource requirement that has been successfully mobilised.</p> <p>Indicator (quantitative): number of Contracting Parties that have (i) assessed resource requirements at national level; and (ii) implemented resource mobilisation plans.</p> <p>Indicator (qualitative): traffic-light assessment (grouped regionally or sub-regionally) of progress made with resource mobilisation at national level.</p> <p>Means of verification: Standing Committee and Secretariat Reports to MOP8–MOP10; National Reports to MOP8–MOP10</p> | <p>AEWA Secretariat, in close consultation with the Standing Committee and Technical Committee, assesses the resource requirements for international coordination and delivery of the 2019–2027 AEWA Strategic Plan and develops a corresponding resource mobilisation plan for approval by the Standing Committee.</p> <p>b) Within one year of MOP7, Parties undertake a national-level assessment of resource requirements for the delivery of the 2019-2027 AEWA Strategic Plan and draw up appropriate national resource mobilisation plans.</p> <p>c) Review and update as necessary in time for consideration at MOP8–MOP10 (i) international and national resource requirements and (ii) progress in the implementation of corresponding resource mobilisation plans.</p> | <p>Standing Committee Technical Committee Secretariat Partners</p> | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targets 15.a, 17.1–17.3 <p>Aichi Targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target 20 <p>Strategic Plan for Migratory Species:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target 16 |

¹⁰³ Recognising that implementation of AEWA contributes to implementation of Parties' commitments under other MEAs, including CBD, CMS and Ramsar.

Annex I – Summary of Technical Committee outputs required under the AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027

| SP Objective | Related Technical Committee outputs* (*also includes outputs prepared by others but requiring review by the TC) 'UPDATE' indicates an updated version of an existing output. 'NEW' indicates a completely new TC output required under the Objectives of the Strategic Plan. |
|---------------------|--|
| Objective 1.2: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● UPDATE: Priority lists of populations for action planning ● UPDATE: Status of preparation and implementation of AEWA International Single Species Action and Management Plans as well as Multi-Species Action Plans |
| Objective 1.3 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● NEW: List of populations for which new or improved conservation and management guidance is required |
| Objective 1.5 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● UPDATE: Conservation Status Report |
| Objective 1.6 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● NEW: Report on multilateral processes that can contribute most to progressing AEWA species conservation priorities |
| Objective 2.1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● NEW: Priority lists of populations for collecting harvest data |
| Objective 2.2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● UPDATE: Guidelines on national legislation for the protection of species of migratory waterbirds and their habitats ● UPDATE: Report on pertinent hunting and trade legislation in each country relating to the species listed in Annex 2 to AEWA |
| Objective 3.1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● NEW: Framework for the inventory of internationally and nationally important sites, including interpretation of the terms sites of international or national importance and internationally accepted criteria of international importance (2019) ● NEW: Inventory of nationally and internationally important sites in the Agreement Area (following MOP8) ● UPDATE: Site network review (MOP10) |
| Objective 3.2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● NEW: Monitoring framework for the AEWA flyway site network (MOP8) ● UPDATE: Site network review (MOP10) |
| Objective 4.2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● NEW: Table indicating the key international policy mechanism(s) to be targeted and the habitat conservation priorities to be promoted with each mechanism ● NEW: Advice and guidance to selected international policy mechanisms on maximising incentives and habitat measures for waterbirds, which provide positive impacts and avoiding negative impacts from perverse incentives/subsidies |
| Objective 5.1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● NEW: Report on key gaps in information availability on relevant aspects of the Agreement |
| Objective 5.4 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● NEW: Summary report on AEWA's contribution to the relevant global frameworks |

Annex II – List of AEWA Partners covered by the ‘Main Actors’ column of the Strategic Plan

“Partners” includes, but is not necessarily restricted to, the following:

- Other United Nations bodies and Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs).
- Secretariats and technical/scientific bodies of other MEAs and their projects/programmes/initiatives, notably those within the CMS Family, but also the Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar Convention – including relevant Ramsar Regional Initiatives), Convention on the Conservation of Biological Diversity (CBD), Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna & Flora (CITES), Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife & Natural Habitats (Bern Convention), Trilateral Cooperation on the Protection of the Wadden Sea, and the Revised African Convention on the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources. MEAs with specific relevance to the seabird species covered by AEWA include: Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission (HELCOM), Conservation of Arctic Flora & Fauna (CAFF), Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic (OSPAR Convention), Convention for Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution (*Barcelona Convention*), the Convention on the Protection of the Black Sea Against Pollution (Bucharest Convention), Convention for Cooperation in the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Atlantic Coast of the West, Central and Southern Africa Region (Abidjan Convention), Convention for the Protection, Management and Development of Marine and Coastal and Environment of the Western Indian Ocean Region (Nairobi Convention), and Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMOs).
- Other frameworks, including the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN – notably the Specialist Groups of the IUCN Species Survival Commission) and the East Asian-Australasian Flyway Partnership (EAAFP).
- Secretariats and relevant bodies of Regional Economic Integration Organizations.
- International nature conservation NGOs, notably BirdLife International, International Crane Foundation / Endangered Wildlife Trust, Wetlands International, the Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust, and the World Wildlife Fund (WWF).
- International hunting organisations, notably the European Federation of Associations for Hunting & Conservation (FACE), International Council for Game & Wildlife Conservation (CIC), and Migratory Birds of the Western Palearctic (OMPO).
- Other relevant international and national NGOs, including from other sectors.
- Universities and technical/research institutes, including the University of Aarhus and the US Geological Survey.

CONTENTS

| | | |
|----|--|----|
| 1. | Preface..... | 3 |
| 2. | Scope..... | 4 |
| 3. | Process..... | 4 |
| 4. | Structure..... | 4 |
| 5. | Overarching and Crosscutting Issues..... | 6 |
| 6. | Operational Principles..... | 7 |
| 7. | Logical Framework Table..... | 8 |
| 8. | Annex I – Summary of Technical Committee Outputs required under the AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027..... | 38 |
| 9. | Annex II – List of AEWA partners covered by the ‘Main Actors’ column of the Strategic Plan..... | 39 |

Preface

The first AEWA Strategic Plan was adopted by the 4th Session of the Meeting of the Parties (MOP4) in 2008 through Resolution 4.7 and covered the period 2009-2017. Noting that MOP7 will not have taken place before 2018, in November 2015, MOP6 decided to extend the Strategic Plan until 2018 as per Resolution 6.14. Through the same Resolution, the MOP instructed the Standing Committee, working with the Technical Committee and supported by the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat, to revise the AEWA Strategic Plan taking into account the CMS Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2015-2023, and to present a draft plan for the period 2019-2027 for consideration and adoption by MOP7.

The current Strategic Plan for the period 2019-2027 was adopted by the 7th Session of the Meeting of the Parties on 04-08 December 2018 in Durban, South Africa.

1. Scope

Building on AEWA's first Strategic Plan, which initially covered the period 2009–2017 but was later extended to 2018, the *AEWA Strategic Plan 2019–2027* provides the framework for implementation of the Agreement by the Contracting Parties, Standing Committee, Technical Committee, Secretariat and Partners. It covers three complete triennia (or intersessional periods) between sessions of the Meeting of the Parties (MOP), from MOP7 (in 2018, when the draft *Strategic Plan 2019–2027* was tabled for discussion and final adoption by Contracting Parties), to MOP10 due to be held in 2027.

2. Process

MOP6 (Bonn, 2015) instructed the Standing Committee, working with the Technical Committee and Secretariat, to revise the existing Strategic Plan and to present a draft covering the period 2019–2027 for consideration at MOP7 (2018). The Standing Committee established a Strategic Plan Working Group (SPWG) with participation as follows:

Parties: Uganda (Chair of Standing Committee and Chair of SPWG), France (Vice-Chair of Standing Committee), Georgia, Ghana, Libya, Netherlands (all Standing Committee members), plus EU, plus nine other Parties (appointed on a 'first-come, first-served' basis) – Benin, Czech Republic, Germany, Kenya, Mauritius, South Africa, Swaziland, the United Kingdom and the United Republic of Tanzania.

Technical Committee: Chair & Vice-Chair, three thematic experts, invited CEPA expert, NGO members (CIC, IUCN, Wetlands International).

Observers & Partners: CMS, AEWA African Initiative Technical Support Unit, BirdLife International, FACE, OMPO, WWT.

A facilitated meeting of the SPWG was held in Bonn, 28–30 June 2016. This discussed the findings of an evaluation of the existing Strategic Plan 2009–2018 and identified some of the key elements to be included in the new Strategic Plan, including provisional Objectives and content for many of the associated Targets and Actions. Alongside detailed notes taken during the meeting, these have been used by the compilers (in consultation with the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat) as the basis for a preliminary consultation draft circulated to members of the SPWG in September 2016.

The following revised draft, which took into account the comments from Working Group members, was discussed in detail between the consultants and the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat, following which a further amended draft was transmitted to all Contracting Parties (in both English and French) in March 2017. Based on feedback from Parties, this final draft was produced and agreed by the Working Group in July 2017, which has formally also been approved by the Standing Committee for submission to MOP7 at its 13th meeting in July 2018.

The 7th Session of the Meeting of the Parties on 04–08 December 2018 in Durban, South Africa reviewed the final draft presented and adopted the Strategic Plan 2019–2027 for implementation.

3. Structure

A hierarchical logical framework structure has again been followed, adapting that used for the 2009–2017 Strategic Plan. The principal high-level elements are:

- **Mission** (of AEWA)
- **Goal** (of the Strategic Plan 2019–2027)

- **Purpose** (of the Strategic Plan, including six high-level indicators for assessing whether the Purpose has been met by 2027)
- **Objectives**

There are five **Objectives** – four substantive conservation objectives and one enabling objective:

Substantive conservation objectives

1. To strengthen species conservation and recovery and reduce causes of unnecessary mortality.
2. To ensure that any use and management of AEWA-listed migratory waterbird populations is sustainable across their flyways.
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.
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.

Enabling 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 and six 2027 **Targets** have been identified, with every **Target** incorporating as far as possible a tangible threshold against which delivery can be assessed.

Each Target is accompanied by specific **Indicators** with **Means of Verification** and corresponding **Actions**. A few Indicators are tagged with the qualifier ‘interim’ in brackets. These are used for tracking the progress of interim elements of composite targets leading towards the delivery of the final anticipated result. The term **traffic light assessment** appears regularly in the ‘Indicator and means of verification’ column in relation to qualitative indicators. The traffic light system is simply used to attach a ‘green’, ‘amber’ or ‘red’ ranking to a given indicator, according to whether the progress made is assessed as good, moderate or poor. Simple assessment criteria or thresholds will be required for each traffic light indicator proposed.

The last two columns of the logical framework provide links to relevant resources produced by AEWA and/or its Partners and highlight, especially the contribution of the AEWA Strategic Plan to three major global frameworks for action, notably:

- Sustainable Development Goals (SGDs)¹
- Aichi Biodiversity Targets²
- Strategic Plan for Migratory Species (SPMS)³

A number of important linkages with the World Heritage Convention and the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands are also highlighted.

¹ <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/>

² <https://www.cbd.int/sp/targets/>

³ https://www.cms.int/sites/default/files/document/CMS_Sharks_MOS2_Inf_9.pdf

4. Overarching and Cross-cutting Issues

These are fundamentally important factors that do not fit under any single Objective exclusively, but rather apply to several or all five of them. They have been taken into account in the preparation of the Strategic Plan but more importantly need to be active elements of its implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

- **Climate Change** – The impacts of climate change, which are already having demonstrable effects on migratory waterbirds and their habitats across the Agreement Area, together with appropriate mitigation and adaptation measures, are integrated into the planning and implementation of all species and habitat conservation measures under the AEWA Strategic Plan, in line with Targets 13.1 and 13.2 of the Sustainable Development Goals and Targets 10 and 15 of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets.
- **Indigenous and local communities** – The traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of migratory species, their habitats and migration systems, and their customary sustainable use of biological resources, are taken into account subject to national legislation and relevant international obligations, including in particular paragraph 2.1 of the AEWA Action Plan. See also Target 18 of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, Target 14 of the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species and Target 10 of the Ramsar Strategic Plan.
- **Poverty alleviation and gender equality** – In line with the Sustainable Development Goals (Goal 1, Goal 5) and Aichi Biodiversity Targets (Target 14) and considering the relevance of community livelihood issues in the framework of the conservation of migratory waterbirds and their habitats, projects, programmes and activities developed and implemented in the framework of this Strategic Plan are reviewed and, where necessary and feasible, adapted to ensure that they contribute to furthering poverty alleviation and gender equality.
- **Communication, Education and Public Awareness (CEPA)** – Successful CEPA is recognised as a prerequisite for meeting each of the Objectives of the AEWA Strategic Plan by means of a dedicated AEWA CEPA Plan which identifies specific CEPA activities relevant to the implementation of the Strategic Plan Targets and Actions.
- **Capacity building** – Capacity for implementation varies widely across the Agreement Area. The Parties, the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat and project development/implementation Partners continue to attach high priority to strengthening institutional, technical and resource capacity, subject to available resources and in conjunction with the AEWA Plan of Action for Africa, where this is required for successful delivery of Strategic Plan Targets.
- **Science-based approach** – Implementation of AEWA, including the review of listing of waterbird populations in Table 1 of the AEWA Action Plan and the development of flyway-level Species Action and Management Plans for species/populations and habitats, is based on the best-available scientific information (e.g. International Waterfowl Census data), as advised by the Technical Committee and taking into account the input of technical and research Partners. The science-based approach of AEWA is reflected throughout this Strategic Plan.

5. Operational Principles

These identify specific aspects of AEWA's internal functioning that will be equally critical to achievement of all five strategic Objectives:

- **Alignment of AEWA strategic documents and workplans** – The AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027, the Plan of Action for Africa 2019-2027 and the workplans of the Technical Committee and Secretariat, including the Agreement's Communication Plan, are fully aligned.
- **Use of AEWA National Reports to support the implementation of the Strategic Plan and its monitoring** – The National Report format is optimised so that it enables the analyses required for generating and tracking the indicators for Strategic Plan Targets, as well as implementation of other AEWA work plans and documents aligned to the Strategic Plan. All Parties complete and submit full and comprehensive National Reports to each session of the MOP.

6. Logical Framework Table

AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027

| | |
|---|--|
| AEWA's mission: | To undertake coordinated and concerted actions at flyway level for the conservation of migratory waterbirds and their habitats. ⁴ |
| Goal of the Strategic Plan 2019–2027: | To maintain migratory waterbird species and their populations in a favourable conservation status or to restore them to such a status throughout their flyways. ⁵ |
| Purpose of the Strategic Plan 2019–2027: | By 2027 the status of AEWA populations ⁶ is improved. |

| Purpose-level indicators (These six indicators with their associated target thresholds are for use in monitoring the degree to which the overall Purpose of the Strategic Plan is being met. They are complemented by the target-level indicators listed under each Objective of the Strategic Plan.) | Explanatory information and current baseline |
|--|--|
| P1. At least 75% of AEWA populations with known trends show a stable or increasing trend. | Current baseline: 65% (n=432 populations) |
| P2. At least 55% of ‘priority’ populations (as established in 2018) show a stable or increasing trend. | ‘Priority’ populations are those listed in Table 1 of the AEWA Action Plan and classified as Globally Threatened species (i.e. Critically Endangered, Endangered and Vulnerable) or Near Threatened species on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species ⁷ as reported in the most recent summary by BirdLife International, as well as those listed in Table 1, Column A, Categories 2 and 3 that are marked with an asterisk. Current baseline: 45% (n=80 populations) |
| P3. At least 60% of populations with unfavourable conservation status in 2018 show a stable or increasing trend. | Populations with unfavourable conservation status include those listed in Column A, Categories 1(c), 2 & 3 and Column B, Category 2, in Table 1 of the AEWA Action Plan. Current baseline: 51% (n=155 populations) |
| P4. Percentage of harvested AEWA populations with known trends that show a stable or increasing trend. | A harvested population is a population that is legally harvested in at least one country within its range. |

⁴ The Mission reflects Article II.1 of the Agreement text.

⁵ The Goal reflects the penultimate paragraph of the preamble to the Agreement text.

⁶ ‘AEWA populations’ means those listed in Table 1 of the AEWA Action Plan, Annex 3 to the Agreement.

⁷ <https://www.iucn.org/resources/conservation-tools/iucn-red-list-threatened-species>

| | |
|---|---|
| | <p>The target threshold for this indicator is to be defined on the basis of the most up-to-date information available after the baseline has been identified.</p> <p>Current baseline: to be identified once the list of harvested populations has been determined.</p> |
| <p>P5. At least 70% of AEWA populations highly dependent on site networks with known trends show a stable or increasing trend.</p> | <p>Populations highly dependent on site networks are those for which 25% or more of the population occurs at relatively few key sites during at least one season of its annual cycle.</p> <p>Current baseline: 63% (n=355 populations)</p> |
| <p>P6. At least 70% of dispersed AEWA populations with known trends show a stable or increasing trend.</p> | <p>A dispersed population is one where at least 75% of the population is ‘dispersed’ during at least one season of its annual cycle, with relatively small numbers occurring at multiple sites.</p> <p>Current baseline: 63% (n=320 populations)</p> |



 **AEWA**

UNEP/AEWA Secretariat
UN Campus
Platz der Vereinten Nationen 1
53113 Bonn
Germany
Tel.: +49 (0) 228 815 2413
Fax: +49 (0) 228 815 2450
aewa.secretariat@unep-aewa.org
www.unep-aewa.org