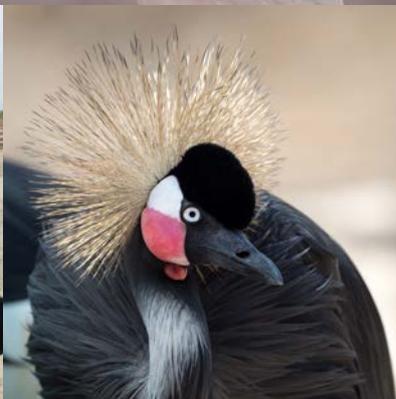




# AEWA Plan of Action for Africa 2019-2027



A Guide to the Implementation of the  
AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027

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

**AEWA Plan of Action for Africa 2019-2027**

Adopted at the 7<sup>th</sup> Session of the Meeting of the Parties  
(4-8 December 2018, Durban, South Africa)

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

## Table of Contents

Photo Credits .....	2
List of Acronyms and Abbreviations .....	3
1. Introduction .....	5
2. AEWA Plan of Action for Africa 2019-2027 .....	6
3. Implementation of the AEWA Plan of Action for Africa .....	10
4. Actions for Implementing the AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027 in Africa .....	12
Species Conservation .....	13
Sustainable Use .....	22
Flyway Network of Sites .....	30
Habitat in the Wider Environment .....	37
Secure Resources .....	43
5. Implementation and Collaboration along the Flyways .....	50

## Photo Credits

- Cover: Greater Flamingo (*Phoenicopterus roseus*) © Andrew Martin  
 Waterbird Identification Exercise during an AEWA Training of Trainers © Tim Dodman  
 Black Crowned-crane (*Balearica pavonina*) © Jean van der Meulen  
 Cleaning of a Water Body in the Framework of an AEWA Small Grants Fund Project © Direction des Parcs Nationaux, Senegal  
 Great White Pelicans (*Pelecanus onocrotalus*) © aleenheer / pixabay.com
- p. 5: Lesser Flamingo (*Phoeniconaias minor*) © Jacques Trouvilliez
- p. 8: Waterbird Monitoring in the Framework of an AEWA Small Grants Fund Project © Direction des Parcs Nationaux, Senegal
- p. 9: Cape Gannet (*Morus capensis*) © Sylvain Cordier
- p. 10: Awareness-raising Activity during an AEWA Training of Trainers © Tim Dodman
- p. 11: Yellow-billed Stork (*Mycteria ibis*) © Mathieu Hagnery / pixabay.com  
 Monitoring Exercise during an AEWA Training of Trainers © Tim Dodman
- p. 12: Great White Pelicans (*Pelecanus onocrotalus*) © aleenheer / pixabay.com
- p. 13: Shoebill (*Balaeniceps rex*) © Mathias Putze
- p. 22: Grey Crowned-crane (*Balearica regulorum*) © Kerstin Riemer / pixabay.com
- p. 30: Lesser Flamingos (*Phoeniconaias minor*) © Adam Riley
- p. 37: Sighting of Wattled Cranes (*Bugeranus carunculatus*) in the Framework of an AEWA Small Grants Fund Project © Birdlife Zimbabwe
- p. 43: Waterbird Identification in the Framework of an AEWA Small Grants Fund Project © Kouassi Firmin Kouame

## List of Acronyms and Abbreviations

AEMLAP	(CMS) African-Eurasian Migratory Landbirds Action Plan
AEWA	Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds / African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbird Agreement
AEWMP	African-Eurasian Waterbird Monitoring Partnership
AI	(AEWA) African Initiative
AFRING	African Bird Ringing Scheme
AMBI	Arctic Migratory Birds Initiative
AMCEN	African Ministerial Conference on the Environment
ARC-WH	Arabic Regional Centre for World Heritage
AU	African Union
BBI	Bio-Bridge Initiative (CBD)
BirdLife	BirdLife International
BirdLife EAFI	BirdLife East Atlantic Flyway Initiative
BIMP	BirdLife International Marine Programme
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CBLT	Lake Chad Basin Commission / Commission du Bassin du Lac Tchad
CBNRM	Community-based natural resource management
CEMAC	Economic and Monetary Community of Central Africa
CEPA	Communication, Education and Public Awareness
CEPA FP	(AEWA) CEPA Focal Point
CIRAD	Agricultural Research Centre for International Development / Centre de coopération internationale en recherche agronomique pour le développement (France)
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species
CMS	Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals
COP	Conference of the Parties
CP	Contracting Party
CPW	Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management
CSN	Critical Sites Network
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
CSR	(AEWA) Conservation Status Report
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
ESA	European Space Agency
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation
FFEM	French Facility for Global Environment / Fonds Français pour l'Environnement Mondial
FP	Focal Point
FTK	Flyway Training Kit
GIS	Geographic Information System
GITES	Initiative on Integrated Management of Dryland Territories / Initiative Gestion Intégrée des Territoires en Zones Sèches
IBA	Important Bird and Biodiversity Area
IKI	International Climate Initiative (Germany)
IMSAP	(AEWA) International Multi-Species Action Plan
IPBES	Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services
IRP	(AEWA) Implementation Review Process
ISEG	(AEWA) International Species Expert Group
ISWG	(AEWA) International Species Working Group
ISSAP	(AEWA) International Single Species Action Plan
IUCN	International Union for the Conservation of Nature
IWC	International Waterbird Census
m	months
MAB	(UNESCO) Man and the Biosphere Programme
MBP	Migratory Birds for People Programme
MEA	Multilateral Environmental Agreement
MIKT	(CMS) Intergovernmental Task Force on Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade of Migratory Birds in the Mediterranean
MOP	Meeting of the Parties
NBA	Niger Basin Authority

NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
NC	National Coordinator
NFP	(AEWA) National Focal Point
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
OFB	French Agency for Biodiversity (previously ONCFS – National Hunting and Wildlife Agency) / Office Français de la Biodiversité (anciennement l'ONCFS – Office National de la Chasse et de la Faune Sauvage)
OMPO	Migratory Birds of the Western Palearctic - European Institute for the Management of Wild Birds and their Habitats / Oiseaux Migrateurs du Paléarctique Occidental - Institut européen pour la gestion des oiseaux sauvages et de leurs habitats
OMVS	Organisation for the Development of the Senegal River / Organisation pour la mise en valeur du fleuve Sénégal
PoAA	(AEWA) Plan of Action for Africa
Ramsar	The Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar Convention)
RESSOURCE	Strengthening Expertise in Sub-Saharan Africa on Birds and their Rational Use for Communities and their Environment Project / Projet « Renforcement d'Expertise au Sud du Sahara sur les Oiseaux et leur Utilisation Rationnelle en faveur des Communautés et de leur Environnement »
REC	Regional Economic Community
RFMO	Regional Fisheries Management Organisation
SABAP2	The Second Southern African Bird Atlas Project
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SAP	Species Action Plan
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
SGF	(AEWA) Small Grants Fund
SP	(AEWA) Strategic Plan
SPMS	(CMS) Strategic Plan for Migratory Species
SrFPC	(AEWA) Sub-regional Focal Point Coordinator
StC	(AEWA) Standing Committee
SWM	Sustainable Wildlife Management Programme (EU)
TC	(AEWA) Technical Committee
TFP	(AEWA) Technical Focal Point
ToT	Training of Trainers
TSU	Technical Support Unit (to support the implementation of the AEWA Plan of Action for Africa)
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNEP-WCMC	UN Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNWTO	World Tourism Organisation
WG	Working Group
WHC	World Heritage Convention
WHS	World Heritage Site
WIOMSA	Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association
WLI	Wetland Link International
WOW	Wings Over Wetlands project
WMBD	World Migratory Bird Day
WSFI	Wadden Sea Flyway Initiative
WWT	Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust



## 1. Introduction

### African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbird Agreement (AEWA)

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

AEWA covers 255 species of migratory waterbirds that are ecologically dependent on wetlands for at least part of their annual cycle, which cross international boundaries during their migration and require good quality habitat for breeding, as well as a network of suitable sites to support their annual journeys. International cooperation across their entire migratory range, as provided by AEWA, is therefore essential for their effective conservation and management.

The Agreement area stretches from the northern reaches of Canada and the Russian Federation to the southernmost tip of Africa, covering 119 Range States from Africa, Europe, the Middle East and parts of Asia and Canada. As at 1 June 2020, AEWA has 80 Contracting Parties (CPs), with 42 from Eurasia (including the European Union) and 38 from Africa. AEWA provides for coordinated and concerted action to be taken by the Range States throughout the migration systems of waterbirds to which it applies.

The Agreement has three main bodies:

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

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

### The AEWA Action Plan

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

### The AEWA Strategic Plan 2019-2027

The AEWA Strategic Plan (SP) 2019-2027 provides the framework for implementation of the Agreement by the Contracting Parties, Standing Committee, Technical Committee, UNEP/AEWA Secretariat and Partners. The goal of the AEWA Strategic Plan is to “*maintain migratory waterbird species and their populations in a favourable conservation status or to restore them to such a status throughout their flyways*”. Implementation of the AEWA

Strategic Plan will contribute to the implementation of provisions under key global frameworks for environmental conservation, including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Aichi Biodiversity Targets, Strategic Plan for Migratory Species (SPMS) and the 4<sup>th</sup> Ramsar Strategic Plan 2016-2024, as clearly indicated in the AEWA SP. AEWA's first Strategic Plan covered the period 2009–2017, and was later extended to 2018, in line with the schedule for the 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Parties (MOP7) to AEWA. The current Strategic Plan is for the years 2019 – 2027 (three AEWA triennia).

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

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

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

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

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

The African region constitutes a significant part of the AEWA range and supports populations of migratory waterbirds in unfavourable conservation status, including for globally threatened species, as well as populations of quarry species. The region also has a wide range of key habitats essential for the survival of these species. Recognising that additional efforts were needed for the

implementation of the Agreement in Africa, the AEWA Parties in 2008 unanimously supported the establishment of the African Initiative for the Conservation of Migratory Waterbirds and their Habitats in Africa by adopting resolution 4.9 of MOP4. The African Initiative aims to promote the implementation of AEWA in Africa and thus help conserve migratory waterbird populations that use the region. Resolution 4.9 also suggested the development of a Plan of Action for Africa as one of the key activities under the initiative.

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

## 2. AEWA Plan of Action for Africa 2019-2027

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

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

### Geographical Region

The PoAA covers the entire African region (Figure 1), comprising the following African Range States as outlined in Table 2 (Contracting Parties as at 1 September 2019 are shown in upper case, non-Party Range States in lower case):

Table 2: AEWA geographic sub-regions in Africa

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

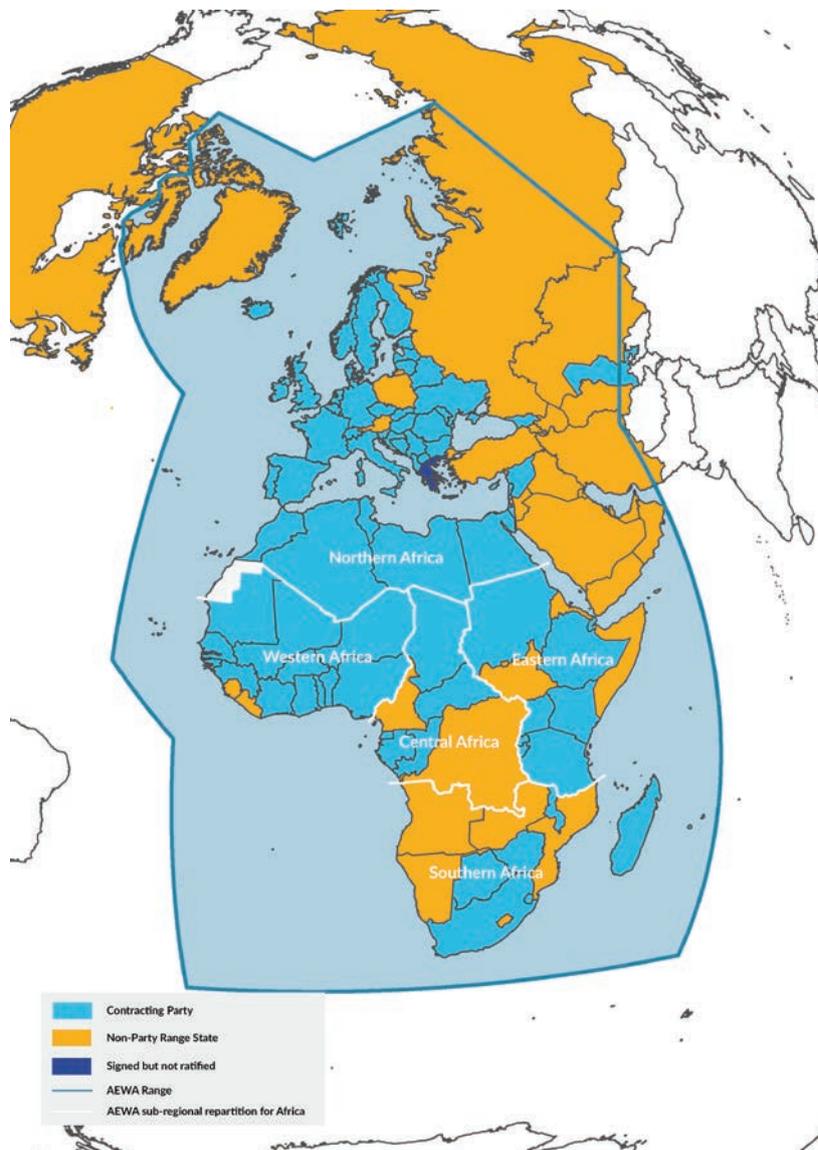


Figure 1: AEWA Range Map showing the African sub-regions (as at 1 September 2019)



### Challenges and issues to implementing the AEWA Strategic Plan in Africa

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

#### *Limited awareness*

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

#### *Limited capacity*

Knowledge and capacity required for effective conservation and management of migratory waterbirds and their habitats is limited. Constant effort is required in order to build a greater understanding for good management of natural resources, as well as institutional capacity. A wide range of technical, administrative, institutional

and resource mobilisation skills are needed for effective implementation of the PoAA, including for:

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

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

#### *Low perceived value of waterbirds*

The value of waterbirds is often not fully appreciated, despite their contribution to various social, cultural and economic activities, such as ecotourism and sustaining

livelihoods. On a wider level, trade-offs are inevitable between the impacts of issues such as population growth and conservation of the wider environment. In all scenarios, putting a realistic value to natural resources, including migratory waterbirds and their habitats, is of benefit, noting the importance of cultural value, which are hard to measure.

#### *Weak governance, legislation and coordination*

Effective conservation requires good governance and decision-making as well as good coordination, especially between government departments and focal points of the different MEAs. Some actions, e.g. related to illegal trade and hunting or formal conservation and management of protected areas, require dynamic legislative systems that permit timely legislative modifications and/or enforcement of laws. However, in many countries there are numerous branches of legislation with responsibilities of different Ministries, resulting in cumbersome and time-consuming procedures for amendment and presenting political hurdles to revision and enforcement of laws.

#### *Limited financial resources*

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

#### *Limited human resources*

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

#### **Development of the PoAA 2019-2027**

This Plan of Action for Africa has been developed through a consultative process with CPs and AEWA

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



### 3. Implementation of the AEWA Plan of Action for Africa

#### Partnership and collaboration

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

- AEWA African Contracting Parties;
- National governmental departments, e.g. energy, agriculture and fisheries sectors;
- Academic / research institutions, educational / training institutes at different levels;
- National NGOs / Civil Society Organisations (CSOs);
- Focal Points and coordinators of relevant schemes, e.g. International Waterbird Census National Coordinators (IWC NCs);
- Local communities, especially those living in or utilising key sites;
- Experts / consultants;
- Non-African AEWA Contracting Parties (as appropriate);
- AEWA African Non-Party Range States;
- Other Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs), especially CMS and Ramsar, as well as relevant regional agreements;
- International NGOs;
- International and regional initiatives, especially flyway initiatives;
- Regional authorities, including fisheries and river basin authorities;
- The donor community;
- The private sector, including international, national and local businesses;
- Interested individuals.

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

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





AEWA Resolution 5.9 also approved the establishment of the Technical Support Unit (TSU), while the 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the AEWA Standing Committee (Trondheim, Norway, 2013) approved the Terms of Reference for the functioning of the TSU. The TSU constitutes a team of experts in various domains, offered by the Governments of France and Senegal, to support the implementation of the AEWA Plan of Action for Africa on the ground. The TSU works in collaboration with the African Parties, the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat and other partners, to ensure coordination of activities conducted in Africa towards the implementation of the PoAA.

### Timeframe

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

### Prioritisation

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

### Budget

Given that budget requirements vary widely per country and over time, no precise budget has been set for implementation of the plan; instead, budget thresholds have been suggested. Budget thresholds for actions addressed at the national level are indicated as estimates per country. These will vary significantly depending on the

size and scale of issues to be addressed in each Party (e.g. number of priority populations and key sites for migratory birds in a given Party). It is highly recommended that Parties draw up their own specific budget requirements as part of their national AEWA PoAA implementation plans.

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

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





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

### Key to PoAA Action Tables

Main Actor	
<i>This column indicates whether an action is to be implemented at the national level (Parties) or at Agreement level (Secretariat).</i>	
<b>Parties:</b>	National AEWA implementing agencies in African Contracting Parties; on some occasions, specific reference in the action column is made to National Focal Points (NFPs) or other actors acting on behalf of Parties.  <i>Parties should work with appropriate partners for all actions.</i>
<b>Secretariat:</b>	UNEP/AEWA Secretariat with input from the TC, StC and partners as appropriate
Priority	
Symbol	Description
★	Medium
★★	High
★★★	Essential
Budget <sup>1</sup>	
Symbol	Description
€	< €1,000
€€	€1,000 - €10,000
€€€	€10,000 - €50,000
€€€€	€50,000 - €100,000
€€€€€	> €100,000
Z	Regular internal cost, e.g. staff time (may be covered by existing mechanisms, but will vary, e.g. between countries)

<sup>1</sup> Cost estimates for African Parties are 'per Party'

# Species Conservation

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



Aichi Targets to which this objective contributes:



SDGs to which this objective contributes:



## SP Target 1.1:

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

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 1.1)	PoAA Action	Main Actor	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
1.1.a) Review existing domestic legislation	Parties establish and conduct a collaborative workflow to review and update domestic legislation relevant for AEWA species conservation based on the latest AEWA text and MOP amendments	Parties	6 m after MOP	★★★	Z
	NFPs/TFPs prepare formal submissions to relevant national institutions for updating existing or developing new legislation	Parties	9 m after MOP	★★★	Z
1.1.b) Align domestic law with AEWA requirements	NFPs coordinate submission of formal requests to relevant national institutions to amend existing or develop and adopt new legislative measures	Parties	12 m after MOP	★★★	Z
	Parties build latest AEWA requirements into domestic law and policy, regulations and guidelines	Parties	18 m after MOP	★★★	Z - €€
1.1.c) Review and strengthen compliance with and enforcement of legislation	Develop guidelines for Parties on how to review and report on enforcement of and compliance with the legal measures required by the AEWA Action Plan for species conservation	Secretariat	by end 2020	★★	€€
	Parties review enforcement of and compliance with relevant domestic legislation and establish national mechanisms to ensure compliance therewith	Parties	by 2021	★★	Z
	Parties develop measures to strengthen compliance with relevant domestic legislation, in response to the outcomes of the national legislative review	Parties	12 m before MOP8 and next MOPs	★★	Z
	Parties implement established measures to strengthen compliance with relevant domestic legislation and undertake regular review of compliance thereof	Parties	on rolling basis	★★	Z
	NFPs ensure wide awareness within relevant stakeholder groups of the latest AEWA-related legal updates and arising obligations, and their link to other MEAs	Parties	18 m after MOP, then on rolling basis	★★	Z
	Apply the AEWA IRP, jointly with relevant MEAs (e.g. CMS, Ramsar, WHC), for priority cases where non-compliance with domestic AEWA-relevant legislation negatively affects or has the potential to negatively affect AEWA species and/or their sites and habitats	Secretariat	on rolling basis	★★	€€-€€€

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 1.1)	PoAA Action	Main Actor	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
1.1.d) Share experience and exchange best practice	Parties provide updates on the degree of compliance and enforcement in their National Reports to MOP	Parties	before MOPs/ on rolling basis	★★	Z
	Facilitate sharing of experience / best practice between Parties concerning the review and enforcement of, and measures to strengthen compliance with, the legal requirements under the AEWA Action Plan for species conservation	Secretariat	on rolling basis	★	Z

### SP Target 1.2:

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

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

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 1.2)	PoAA Action	Main Actor	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
1.2.c) Convene AEWA ISWGs/ISEGs to coordinate implementation of ISSAPs	Convene AEWA ISWGs for 'African' ISSAPs/IMSAPs and identify lead coordinating organisations within 6 months after adoption of each ISSAP	Secretariat	6 m after MOP	★★	Z
	NFPs designate national representatives and experts to the ISWGs	Parties	on rolling basis	★★	Z
	AEWA ISWGs coordinate implementation with back-up from the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat	Secretariat	on rolling basis	★★	€€
1.2.d) Implement ISSAPs at national level and report	NFPs elevate prioritisation of AEWA ISSAPs/IMSAPs at national level and incorporate into NBSAPs, with guidance from the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat	Parties	on rolling basis	★★	Z
	Principal Range States as defined in the respective ISSAPs/IMSAPs develop and adopt national SAPs based on ISSAPs/IMSAPs and secure resources for their implementation	Parties	on rolling basis	★★	€ - €€€€
	Parties that are principal Range States establish national WGs to coordinate implementation of AEWA ISSAPs/IMSAPs in their countries	Parties	12 m after MOP	★★	€ - €€
	NFPs provide regular feedback on implementation of ISSAPs/IMSAPs to the AEWA ISWG as well as to the MOP through National Reports	Parties	on rolling basis	★	Z
1.2.e) Review status of implementation of ISSAPs	International and National WGs for each 'African' ISSAP/IMSAP contribute the necessary information for flyway level assessment of the implementation of the plans	Secretariat	on rolling basis	★★	Z
1.2.f) Develop flyway-scale projects for selected SAPs	ISWG Coordinators develop project portfolios for specific 'African' ISSAPs and IMSAPs with input of the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat, Parties and other partners	Secretariat	on rolling basis	★★	€-€€
	AEWA international partners coordinate the development of flyway projects for the East Atlantic Flyway, Western Indian Ocean Flyway, Intra-African Flyways and Mediterranean / trans-Saharan Flyways (see section 5)	Secretariat	on rolling basis	★★	€€
	Strengthen partnerships with flyway initiatives, such as WSFI, AMBI, BirdLife EAFI and MBP Programme, for project development and fundraising	Secretariat	on rolling basis	★★	Z
	Implement flyway projects for which resources are secured	Secretariat	on rolling basis	★★	€€€ - €€€€€

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 1.2)	PoAA Action	Main Actor	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
1.2.g) Develop resource mobilisation plan for SAPs	Develop budgets and fundraising portfolios for 'African' ISSAPs and IMSAPs within the international AEWA resource mobilisation plan (see activity 5.6.a)	Secretariat	by MOP8	★★	€€
	Parties allocate resources to and raise funds for implementation of ISSAPs and IMSAPs at national level through national fundraising strategies	Parties	on rolling basis	★★	Z
	Parties along flyways identify flagship species and twinning opportunities as a basis for fundraising	Parties	on rolling basis	★★	Z

### SP Target 1.3:

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

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

**SP Target 1.4:**

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

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 1.4)	PoAA Action	Main Actor	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
1.4.a) Improve collection, quality and availability of monitoring data	Work with partners at the national and flyway level, in consultation with Wetlands International and the Waterbird Monitoring Partnership to improve data collection and management	Secretariat	on rolling basis	★★★	€€
	Establish a schedule for Parties to include population status and supporting data in their National Reports to MOP	Secretariat	12 m after MOP	★	Z
	Assess priorities for training needs in data collection and analysis	Secretariat	by 2021	★★★	Z
	Organise training courses to enhance national capacity for data collection and analysis in priority countries based on outcomes	Secretariat	on rolling basis	★★★	€€ - €€€€
	Parties define and update national waterbird monitoring schemes and align scope to site management and national and international priorities	Parties	12 m after MOP7	★★★	Z
	Parties activate existing national committees or facilitate the establishment of new ones to coordinate waterbird monitoring activities implemented by different stakeholders (e.g. government agencies, research institutes and NGOs) and facilitate implementation of national monitoring schemes	Parties	by MOP8	★★	Z
	Parties work together to improve coordinated sub-regional, transboundary and flyway level monitoring, and collaborate with relevant initiatives (e.g. WSFI), programmes and projects (e.g. BIMP and SABAP2)	Parties	on rolling basis	★★★	€ - €€
	Parties define time-bound plans to resource and implement schemes, then allocate financial, material and human resources (including effective national waterbird monitoring coordinators and data managers) for active coordination of waterbird and site monitoring, and facilitate availability of monitoring data to partners	Parties	12 m after MOP/ on rolling basis	★★★	Z - €€€

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 1.4)	PoAA Action	Main Actor	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
1.4.b) Collect / analyse information on drivers of population trends	Support partners to analyse drivers of trends for African waterbirds and promote collaboration with research institutes/agencies and universities	Secretariat	on rolling basis	★★	€€€
	Parties establish mechanisms to collect relevant comparable data, in collaboration with existing schemes (e.g. IWC and IBA monitoring)	Parties	on rolling basis	★★★	Z
	Produce a plan on monitoring drivers of population trends building on synergies with key partners including UNEP, BirdLife International, Wetlands International and Ramsar (linking to the ESA-Ramsar GlobWetland Africa project and on Ramsar Sites data analysis from Section 5 of the Ramsar National Reports)	Secretariat	by 2021	★★	€€
	Enhance CSR and CSN Tool capability as key tools to contribute to analyses	Secretariat	on rolling basis	★★	€€€
	Parties incorporate monitoring drivers of waterbird population trends into their national biodiversity monitoring programmes	Parties	on rolling basis	★★	€€

### SP Target 1.5:

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

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 1.5)	PoAA Action	Main Actor	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
1.5.a) Use data to inform decision-making and conservation at flyway level	Develop flyway-level recommendations through the CSR process based on data updates (e.g. AEWA Table 1 population listing) and communicate these to African Parties for consideration in national decision-making	Secretariat	immediately after MOP / on rolling basis	★★	Z
	Parties contribute data to existing platforms and share data at the flyway level, especially through active participation in relevant regional and flyway initiatives, e.g. WSFI, BirdLife EAFI	Parties	on rolling basis	★★	Z

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 1.5)	PoAA Action	Main Actor	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
1.5.b) Use data to inform AEWA implementation at national level	Produce guidelines for African Parties about the different uses of monitoring data for implementing AEWA	Secretariat	by MOP8	★★★	€€
	NFPs/TFPs retrieve national data analyses from national waterbird monitoring coordinators after each CSR and develop recommendations based on IWC and other monitoring data for improving national AEWA implementation for dissemination to decision-makers and other partners	Parties	6 m after MOP / on rolling basis	★★	€
	TFPs coordinate analysis of national waterbird data and the preparation and dissemination of an annual report with conclusions, and promote recommendations for action	Parties	by end of each year	★	Z

**SP Target 1.6:**

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

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 1.6)	PoAA Action	Main Actor	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
1.6.a) Identify multilateral processes to progress AEWA priorities related to mortality and threats	Identify relevant international and regional processes that can contribute to progressing AEWA priorities related to mortality of and threats to waterbirds in Africa e.g. under UN Environment, CBD, Ramsar and CMS and its instruments; regularly disseminate an updated list of these to relevant Parties and stakeholders for action	Secretariat	on rolling basis	★★	Z
1.6.b) Identify strategic opportunities to influence processes and ensure AEWA representation	Secure input of African Parties and partners to identify opportunities to influence processes identified in activity 1.6.a, e.g. meetings and events in Africa	Secretariat	on rolling basis	★★	Z
	Parties / NFPs use these opportunities to advance AEWA's agenda	Parties	on rolling basis	★	Z
	Parties collaborate among themselves and with other MEAs or partners to implement existing or new Action Plans that contribute to reducing migratory bird mortality, e.g. the existing CMS Sub-Regional Implementation Plan to Prevent Poisoning of Migratory Birds in Southern Africa	Parties	on rolling basis	★	€€ - €€€€
	The UNEP/AEWA Secretariat and international partners use identified international opportunities to advance the Agreement's agenda on mortality and threats to migratory waterbirds, including through direct or indirect participation in relevant forums	Secretariat	on rolling basis	★	€ - €€

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 1.6)	PoAA Action	Main Actor	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
1.6.c) Communicate and advocate for AEWA priorities clearly and in a timely manner	Parties / NFPs communicate AEWA priorities on preventing migratory waterbird mortality, in a coordinated manner at identified international and regional forums	Parties	on rolling basis	★★	Z
	NFPs input AEWA priorities on preventing mortality of migratory waterbirds during the development of national negotiation mandates and positions in preparation for relevant MEA meetings and forums	Parties	on rolling basis	★★	Z
1.6.d) AEWA Parties align positions under MEAs	Parties align AEWA priorities relating to waterbird mortality and threats with other MEAs and policies, e.g. fisheries, agriculture, water, energy, transport and infrastructure via inter-agency forums (link to actions under targets 5.4 and 5.5)	Parties	on rolling basis	★★	Z
	AEWA SrFPCs and StC representatives coordinate and align CP input in promoting AEWA priorities at relevant MEA forums	Parties	on rolling basis	★★	Z
	AEWA NFPs meet with other MEA focal points and collaborate with them, especially towards preparation for relevant COPs / MOPs	Parties	on rolling basis	★★	Z
	AEWA NFPs actively participate in coordinating national positions prior to relevant COPs/ MOPs of other MEAs	Parties	on rolling basis	★★	Z
	Parties provide comprehensive feedback after each relevant COP/MOP to the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat and in National Reports to MOPs	Parties	on rolling basis	★	Z

# Sustainable Use

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



Aichi Targets to which this objective contributes:



SDGs to which this objective contributes:



**SP Target 2.1:**

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

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 2.1)	PoAA Action	Main Actor	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
2.1.a) Propose list of quarry species requiring harvest data	Develop specific criteria for prioritising quarry species for management in Africa requiring harvest data, including from harvest for livelihood and subsistence purposes	Secretariat	by 2019	★★	Z
2.1.b) Establish systems to estimate waterbird harvesting at national level	Develop simple guidelines to direct and harmonize estimating and collecting of harvest data at the national level and make available to Parties	Secretariat	by 2019	★★	€ - €€
	Develop sampling protocols for waterbird harvest levels in selected major wetlands in Africa, in collaboration with existing or new networks, programmes or projects, e.g. the RESSOURCE project	Secretariat	by 2021	★★	€ - €€€
	Parties establish national mechanisms to estimate harvest from different modes of and motivations for taking / hunting (e.g. subsistence, livelihood, commercial, cultural, recreational and management)	Parties	by 2020	★★★	Z
	NFPs develop practical procedures to estimate harvest using the established national mechanisms	Parties	by MOP8	★★	€
	Parties enhance national capacity (organisational and technical) in waterbird harvest sampling methodology	Parties	by 2022, then on rolling basis	★★	€ - €€
	Parties conduct inventories of waterbird harvest at markets, production and supply chains and recreational hunting agencies	Parties	on rolling basis	★★	€ - €€€
2.1.c) Provide waterbird harvest data in National Reports	Parties provide waterbird harvest data in National Reports to MOP9, then routinely include harvest data in subsequent National Reports	Parties	by MOP9/ for next MOPs	★★	Z
2.1.d) Establish informed estimates of harvest in non-Party Range States	Work with African non-Party Range States to produce harvest estimates with support of relevant partners and Parties	Secretariat	by MOP9/ for next MOPs	★	€€
	Based on harvest estimates from Parties (including through National Reports) and non-Party Range States, develop harvest estimates at the flyway level for key populations	Secretariat	by MOP9/ for next MOPs	★	€€

**SP Target 2.2:**

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

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 2.2)	PoAA Action	Main Actor	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
2.2.a) Review existing domestic legislation relating to use and management of waterbirds (see target 1.1)	NFPs facilitate and coordinate the review of relevant domestic legislation relating to waterbird use and management, according to the latest AEWA Action Plan and MOP amendments	Parties	6 m after MOP	★★★	Z
	NFPs submit legislative reviews to their governments and promote subsequent action (noting that government legislative actions can be lengthy)	Parties	9 m after MOP	★★★	Z
2.2.b) Align domestic law with AEWA requirements, especially in relation to waterbird harvest	Based on the reviews (activity 2.2.a), NFPs coordinate submission of formal requests to relevant national institutions to amend existing or develop and adopt new legislative measures, especially for harvest limits and the list of the quarry waterbird species	Parties	12 m after MOP	★★★	Z
	Parties build latest AEWA requirements relating to waterbird use into domestic law and policy	Parties	24 m after MOP	★★★	Z
	NFPs ensure wide awareness of the legal updates and obligations, especially relating to harvest limits and the list of the quarry waterbird species	Parties	on rolling basis	★★	Z
2.2.c) Review and strengthen compliance with and enforcement of legislation, especially for waterbird harvest limits and the list of quarry waterbirds species	Parties review the enforcement of and compliance with relevant domestic legislation relating to waterbird use, harvest limits and the list of quarry waterbird species	Parties	6 m after MOP	★★	Z
	Parties coordinate the application of compliance mechanisms for waterbird use, harvest limits and quarry waterbird species	Parties	on rolling basis	★★	Z
	Parties develop and implement measures to strengthen compliance with and enforcement of domestic legislation relating to waterbird use and harvest limits	Parties	on rolling basis	★★	Z
	Parties build on opportunities such as the Sustainable Wildlife Management (SWM) Programme and RESSOURCE project	Parties	on rolling basis	★★	Z
2.2.d) Phase out the use of lead shot in wetlands	Identify African countries where lead shot is used in wetlands and develop recommendations to phase out its use	Secretariat	by 2019	★★	€€
	Parties identified in this review develop work plans and timetables to phase out the use of lead shot, with guidance from the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat	Parties	by 2020	★★	€ - €€

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 2.2)	PoAA Action	Main Actor	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
2.2.d) Phase out the use of lead shot in wetlands	Concerned Parties implement their work plans to phase out the use of lead shot in wetlands	Parties	by MOP8 / agreed timetables	★★	€€-€€€
2.2.e) Reduce / eliminate illegal taking	Promote consideration for migratory waterbird issues in the framework of the Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management (CPW)	Secretariat	by 2022	★★	Z-€
	Parties work with stakeholders to identify issues relating to illegal taking of waterbirds, recommend measures to reduce it (alongside Activities 1.1.c and 2.1.c), and promote the consideration of migratory waterbirds in the national implementation of other relevant MEA processes	Parties	by end 2022	★★★	€€
	NFPs coordinate actions to increase awareness about illegal taking and benefits of controlling it	Parties	by MOP9	★★★	€€
	Parties develop and launch specific projects and actions for key areas and species that are impacted by illegal taking	Parties	by MOP9	★★★	€€ - €€€€
2.2.f) Share experience and exchange best practice on waterbird use and management	Organise events and communications to share best practice on waterbird use and management in Africa	Secretariat	on rolling basis	★★	€€
	Promote use of the CMS Family e-Community for exchange of experience on best practices that contribute to limiting illegal use of waterbirds	Secretariat	on rolling basis	★	Z
	NFPs actively contribute best practice news and information to the CMS Family e-Community and other forums	Parties	on rolling basis	★	Z
2.2.g) Apply AEWA Implementation Review Process	Parties and stakeholders promptly submit necessary information to the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat on priority cases of waterbird use that could benefit from AEWA IRP intervention	Parties	on rolling basis	★	Z
	Apply the AEWA IRP in waterbird harvest cases in Africa that require attention	Secretariat	on rolling basis	★★	€€

## SP Target 2.3:

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

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

**SP Target 2.4:**

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

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

**SP Target 2.5:**

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

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

**SP Target 2.6:**

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

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

# Flyway Network of Sites

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



Aichi Targets to which this objective contributes:



SDGs to which this objective contributes:



**SP Target 3.1:**

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

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 3.1)	PoAA Action	Main Actor	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
3.1.a) Review and confirm an inventory of known nationally and internationally important sites	Disseminate a simple site reviewing framework and guidance to Parties	Secretariat	by 2019	★★★	€€
	All Parties conduct a national site review building on existing inventories, and ensure they have active TFPs in place who are in a position to coordinate the review process	Parties	by 2020	★★★	Z
	Monitor and collate information from site review processes by partners in liaison with African Parties	Secretariat	by MOP8	★	Z
	Parties revise and confirm the list of key sites for their countries and identify gaps in site information in collaboration with other ongoing initiatives	Parties	by MOP8	★★★	Z
3.1.b) Update the CSN Tool with revised site information from Parties	Parties provide their list of key sites to the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat	Parties	by 2022	★★	Z
	Update / improve Africa information within the CSN Tool	Secretariat	by MOP9	★★	€€
3.1.c) Conduct national gap-filling surveys and incorporate results into CSN Tool	NFPs/TFPs coordinate with stakeholders, national work plans for site gap-filling and include lists of potential site gaps to be assessed	Parties	by 2024	★★	€ - €€
	Parties conduct national gap-filling surveys, including of less accessible sites, building on information from relevant projects and partners and in collaboration with academic institutions conducting relevant studies to address site gaps	Parties	by 2025	★★	€ - €€€
	Enhance organisational and technical capacity for inventory and surveys with partners, e.g. Ramsar, Wetlands International, BirdLife International and promote use of and training on the ESA/Ramsar GlobWetland Project Toolbox	Secretariat	by MOP10	★★★	€€ - €€€€
3.1.d) Review / update sites lists and communicate any changes to AEWA	Parties review and update inventories of sites of national and international importance based on gap-filling results (activity 3.1.c) and include in National Reports to MOP10	Parties	by MOP10	★★★	€ - €€
	Parties establish frameworks for regular inventory updates	Parties	by MOP10	★★	Z

## SP Target 3.2:

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

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

**SP Target 3.3**

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

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

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 3.3)	PoAA Action	Main Actor	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
3.3.c) Consider a joint strategic initiative for flyway network sites with the World Heritage Convention	Promote synergies at the national level for managing existing WHSs and MAB reserves and designating new sites	Parties	by MOP8	★★	Z - €€€
	Liaise with other Parties and partners to link WHSs along flyways, e.g. along the East Atlantic Flyway and the Rift Valley	Parties	by MOP8	★★	Z

### SP Target 3.4

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

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 3.4)	PoAA Action	Main Actor	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
3.4.a) Integrate flyway network sites into water- and land-use planning and decision-making	Parties integrate flyway network site priorities into other sectoral strategies and planning processes (agriculture, infrastructure, land-use planning), including through existing multisectoral working groups or frameworks (e.g. MEA or other inter-ministerial committees), and ensure their effectiveness	Parties	by 2023/ on rolling basis	★★★	Z
	Parties develop and implement projects for cross-sectoral planning at selected key flyway network sites	Parties	by MOP9/ on rolling basis	★★	€€ - €€€€
	Parties develop and launch climate change adaptation projects and initiatives along flyways guided by the Wetlands International-led Climate Resilient Flyway project sponsored by IKI	Parties	by MOP9	★★	€€
	Parties collaborate with Range States on climate change adaptation at flyway and catchment level to maintain coherent site networks	Parties	by MOP9	★★	Z
3.4.b) Share experience in integrating flyway network sites into planning and decision-making	Build on existing platforms, e.g. the CMS Family e-Community and World Wetland Network - <a href="http://www.worldwetnet.org/">http://www.worldwetnet.org/</a> (WWN) for exchange of information	Secretariat	on rolling basis	★	Z - €€
	Parties share experience via these platforms and along flyways	Parties	on rolling basis	★	Z

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 3.4)	PoAA Action	Main Actor	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
3.4.c) Conduct CEPA activities to showcase successful examples relating to flyway network sites	Develop an AEWA thematic CEPA Action Plan to promote the importance and conservation of the AEWA flyway network of sites	Secretariat	by 2023	★★	€ - €€
	Parties designate or update AEWA CEPA Focal Points and enhance their capacity	Parties	on rolling basis	★★	Z
	Parties develop national CEPA action plans, jointly with national Ramsar Administrative Authorities and other partners and allocate resources for their implementation	Parties	on rolling basis	★★	€€
	CEPA FPs coordinate and promote implementation of national CEPA action plans, including through capacity building, effective communication, showcasing success cases (e.g. reflooding of Ndiaël in Senegal) or conducting WMBD activities	Parties	on rolling basis	★★	€€ - €€€

### SP Target 3.5

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

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 3.5)	PoAA Action	Main Actor	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
3.5.a) Record adverse impacts of developments / pressures on flyway network sites and mitigation / compensation measures undertaken	Parties establish national frameworks to monitor and record impacts at key sites and to coordinate EIAs and mitigation measures	Parties	by MOP8	★★★	Z
	NFPs and partners inform the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat in good time about potential adverse development impacts and mitigation measures, include them in their National Reports to MOPs and share examples of good practices in appropriate forums	Parties	by MOP8, then on rolling basis	★★	Z
3.5.b) Ensure application of EIA/ SEA procedures and International Finance Corporation Standards	NFPs monitor relevant developments in and around flyway network sites to ensure that they are subject to independent EIAs or SEAs that meet international standards	Parties	by MOP8, then on rolling basis	★★★	€ - €€€
	Parties ensure capacity needs for effective involvement in EIA/SEA processes are assessed and met under activities 5.3.a and 5.3.e	Parties	by MOP8, then on rolling basis	★★	Z

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 3.5)	PoAA Action	Main Actor	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
3.5.c) Apply AEWA and other MEA guidelines	Parties apply AEWA and other MEA guidelines in development cases that have potential impact on migratory waterbirds	Parties	on rolling basis	★★★	Z
	NFPs distribute relevant AEWA and other MEA guidelines to departments dealing with planning applications	Parties	on rolling basis	★★	Z
	Parties organise national training in application of guidelines in collaboration with other MEAs and partners	Parties	on rolling basis	★★	€ - €€
3.5.d) AEWA Implementation Review Process is applied	Parties and stakeholders promptly provide necessary information on priority cases that could benefit from AEWA IRP intervention	Parties	on rolling basis	★★	Z
	Apply the AEWA IRP, jointly with relevant MEAs (e.g. CMS, Ramsar or WHC), for relevant cases in Africa where development issues have the potential to impact flyway network sites for migratory waterbirds	Secretariat	on rolling basis	★★	€€

# Habitat in the Wider Environment

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



Aichi Targets to which this objective contributes:



SDGs to which this objective contributes:



**SP Target 4.1:**

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

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

**SP Target 4.2:**

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

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

## SP Target 4.3:

National habitat conservation and management priorities have been identified and integrated into relevant sectoral policies of at least two-thirds of Contracting Parties [[link to actions under target 3.4](#)]

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

**SP Target 4.4:**

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

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 4.4)	PoAA Action	Main Actor	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
4.4.a) Encourage partnerships for 'wider habitat' conservation projects	Compile best practice of stakeholders working together, e.g. Ducks Unlimited on stakeholder collaboration in both waterbird harvesting and investment in habitat conservation	Secretariat	by MOP8	★★	€€
	Identify opportunities for joint habitat projects with other initiatives, such as the AEMLAP	Secretariat	by MOP9	★★	Z
	Enhance capacity of Parties in land and marine stewardship techniques through regional training events	Secretariat	on rolling basis	★★	€€ - €€€
	Parties of the Lake Victoria Basin forge a close collaboration for habitat conservation and coordinated management and monitoring	Parties	on rolling basis	★★	Z
	River basin Parties collaborate to analyse the impact of agriculture and water management in the major Sahelian river basins (Senegal, Niger, Chad, Nile)	Parties	on rolling basis	★★	€€€
	Parties make strategic use of offsets for conservation, EIAs and the tourism sector to develop new partnerships and approaches	Parties	on rolling basis	★★	€ - €€
4.4.b) Identify project opportunities, funding and technical support	Identify strategic projects and partners working with flagship species (e.g. cranes and land-use in the ICF/EWT projects across Africa), working on the flyway scale (e.g. Black-tailed Godwit ( <i>Limosa limosa</i> ), East Atlantic Flyway) or using the bio rights approach to habitat conservation in Africa and share this information with Parties and partners to promote joint action at international and national level	Secretariat	by MOP8	★★	Z
	Parties compile a portfolio of project briefs for fundraising, prioritizing actions for management of transboundary conservation areas (e.g. Djoudj / Diawling), in collaboration with identified partners and projects	Parties	by MOP8	★★	€
4.4.c) At least three new waterbird habitat projects are being implemented in the wider environment	Convene a project development workshop for Parties to develop at least two strategic habitat project concepts in Africa and to develop project proposal outlines	Secretariat	by 2023	★★	€€ - €€€
	Secure resources (financial and human) to launch and implement at least one habitat related project in Africa	Secretariat	by 2024	★★	€€€ - €€€€

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 4.4)	PoAA Action	Main Actor	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
4.4.c) At least three new waterbird habitat projects are being implemented in the wider environment	Parties work with Partners to raise funds for at least one selected habitat project in Africa	Parties	by MOP9	★★	€€
	Parties launch funded project(s) with relevant partners / stakeholders, ensuring strong local involvement and establish project management and coordination mechanisms to monitor implementation of project activities	Parties	by MOP9, then on rolling basis	★★	€€ - €€€€€
4.4.d) Launch CEPA activities to highlight model projects and best practice guidelines on waterbird habitat conservation	Parties and partners highlight best practice from habitat projects through targeted CEPA activities at site and national level, including through WMBD events	Parties	on rolling basis	★★	€€
	Develop (alongside activity 3.4.c) a thematic AEWA CEPA Action Plan to promote the importance of migratory waterbird habitats including compiling best practice guidelines and organising CEPA activities at flyway / international level	Secretariat	on rolling basis	★★	€€ - €€€
	Parties and partners involved in habitat projects share experience through existing forums, e.g. AEWA website and CMS Family e-Community	Parties	on rolling basis	★	Z

# Secure Resources

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



Aichi Targets to which this objective contributes:



SDGs to which this objective contributes:



**SP Target 5.1:**

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

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

**SP Target 5.2:**

The number of Contracting Parties has increased to at least 90

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

**SP Target 5.3:**

Initiatives are in place to address at least two-thirds of the priority capacity gaps restricting implementation of AEWA

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 5.3)	PoAA Action	Main Actor	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
5.3.a) Identify and prioritise gaps in capacity at international level to implement the Agreement	Strengthen the communication role of AEWA SrFPCs and StC representatives for Africa	Secretariat	by MOP8	★★	Z
	Identify capacity needs of NFPs, TFPs, CEPA FPs, AEWA National Report Respondents and SrFPCs for Africa	Secretariat	by MOP8	★★★★	Z
	Review TORs of SrFPCs for Africa and encourage Parties and partners to secure resources to enable them to perform these roles	Secretariat	by MOP8	★	Z
	Identify and prioritise capacity gaps in Africa, including at the flyway level, especially through liaison with other MEAs and regional mechanisms	Secretariat	by MOP8	★★★★	€€
	Identify flyway-level measures (e.g. twinning arrangements, regional trainings) to address capacity gaps, including joint action with other MEAs and partners	Secretariat	by MOP8	★★	€€
5.3.b) Address priority capacity gaps through national coordination mechanisms	Parties create or enhance national AEWA coordination mechanisms to implement the Agreement and share information and experience with national partners	Parties	by MOP9	★★	Z
	Parties use these mechanisms to address capacity building needs for improved AEWA implementation, including through bilateral cooperation	Parties	by MOP9	★★	Z
5.3.c) Establish regional capacity building activities to address priority gaps	Work with partners, particularly the TSU, to revitalise the African wildlife college partnership (Garoua / Mweka / Naivasha) and widen it to others (e.g. South African Wildlife College)	Secretariat	by MOP9	★★	€€€
	Work with partners, particularly the TSU, to explore options to extend the partnership to wildlife colleges in North Africa or create a similar sub-regional initiative	Secretariat	by MOP9	★★	€€€
	In collaboration with partners (e.g. BirdLife International, Wetlands International, Ramsar, the TSU, WSFI), organise and deliver appropriate training of trainers at the regional or flyway level, making use of existing and adaptable tools and targeting NFPs, TFPs, CEPA FPs, SrFPCs for Africa and training institutions in Africa	Secretariat	by MOP9, then on rolling basis	★★★★	€€€ - €€€€€
	Work with regional partners and MEAs to implement flyway-level actions including twinning arrangements, exchange programmes and regional or flyway initiatives	Secretariat	by MOP9, then on rolling basis	★★	€€€ - €€€€

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 5.3)	PoAA Action	Main Actor	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
5.3.c) Establish regional capacity building activities to address priority gaps	Work with partners to promote wide awareness of migratory waterbirds through WMBD, the production of materials and other tools and with the WWT-led schemes WLI and MBP by working through wetlands centres	Secretariat	by MOP9	★★	€€ - €€€
5.3.d) Establish criteria to assess implementation capacity at the sub-regional level	Secure input from SrFPCs for Africa to reflect African priorities and needs when establishing criteria to assess implementation capacity	Secretariat	by MOP9	★	€€
5.3.e) Fill significant capacity gaps guided by national capacity assessments	NFPs evaluate and prioritise national capacity gaps in collaboration with other MEA NFPs and integrate recommendations into national AEWA implementation plans	Parties	by MOP10	★	€€
	NFPs encourage government and NGO partners to secure resources for key positions (e.g. IWC NCs, CEPA FPs) and to make efforts to reduce staff turnover of these positions	Parties	by MOP10	★★	Z - €€
	Parties develop national action plans to fill capacity gaps, secure resources for them and commence implementation	Parties	by MOP10	★★	€€ - €€€€
	Secure funds for in-country training following sub-regional/flyway level ToTs	Secretariat	by MOP10	★	€€ - €€€

#### SP Target 5.4:

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

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 5.4)	PoAA Action	Main Actor	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
5.4.a) Participate in national planning related to Aichi Targets, the post-2020 biodiversity framework, SPMS and relevant SDG targets	Parties / NFPs collaborate with other MEAs via coordination mechanisms (see activity 5.3.b) to ensure wide involvement in the national processes relating to SDGs, Aichi Targets, post-2020 biodiversity framework and SPMS and promotion of migratory waterbird concerns therein	Parties	on rolling basis	★★	Z
	Parties identify priority actions in national AEWA PoAA implementation plans that contribute to delivery of other international conservation processes (SDGs, Aichi Targets, SPMS) and collaborate with other relevant NFPs and institutions for their implementation	Parties	by MOP8	★	Z

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 5.4)	PoAA Action	Main Actor	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
5.4.b) Communicate the potential role / contribution of AEWA to focal points of other MEAs	NFPs, TFPs and CEPA FPs work with relevant MEA FPs and other partners to communicate AEWA priorities widely through WMBD, CEPA activities and wetland centres	Parties	on rolling basis	★★	Z - €€
	Parties strengthen the skills base of their national AEWA networks and coordination mechanisms to enhance AEWA representation in relevant forums	Parties	on rolling basis	★★	Z
	NFPs identify mechanisms for coordination with other MEA focal points, and clearly communicate the role and remit of AEWA	Parties	by MOP8	★★	Z
5.4.c) Represent AEWA in relevant CBD, CMS and Ramsar meetings	Maximise synergies with other MEAs and large-scale projects, especially under CBD, Ramsar and CMS	Secretariat	on rolling basis	★★	Z
	Ensure effective AEWA representation in international forums	Secretariat	on rolling basis	★	Z

### SP Target 5.5:

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

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 5.5)	PoAA Action	Main Actor	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
5.5.a) Actively engage in preparation of NBSAPs	Liaise with UNEP / CBD concerning NBSAP development and inform African Parties of relevant issues	Secretariat	by 2021	★	Z
	Parties establish coordination within AEWA administrative authority for promoting AEWA implementation under NBSAPs	Parties	by MOP8	★★	Z
	NFPs actively engage in NBSAP processes relevant to AEWA	Parties	on rolling basis	★★	Z
5.5.b) Ensure that AEWA priorities are clearly communicated to CBD Focal Points	NFPs inform CBD FPs of AEWA priorities	Parties	on rolling basis	★★	Z
	Parties facilitate involvement of AEWA NFPs in NBSAP development	Parties	on rolling basis	★	Z

Concise SP Activity (SP Target 5.5)	PoAA Action	Main Actor	Timeframe	Priority	Budget
5.5.c) Share best practice and guidance for integration of AEWA priorities into NBSAPs	NFPs share experience in integrating AEWA priorities into NBSAPs through regular communication with the UNEP/AEWA Secretariat, via the CMS Family e-Community and in National Reports to MOP	Parties	on rolling basis	★★	Z

**SP Target 5.6:**

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

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

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

## 5. Implementation and Collaboration along the Flyways

The geographical conservation unit for a migratory bird is its whole flyway, i.e. the entire range through which it moves on an annual basis. The flyways of most migratory bird populations are unique. However, many follow similar routes or patterns, and fit broadly into a number of multi-species flyways.

Although there are several recognised flyways in Africa and between Africa and other continents, there are also less well-known migrations and much overlap between them. Thus, for the purposes of this plan, four flyway groupings have been used to present in a practical way the value of conservation activities at the flyway level:

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

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

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

A number of flyway activities are already underway in the region, given the importance of major coastal wetlands in Africa for migratory waders that have a high interest in Europe, many of which are also of conservation concern. Ongoing or new initiatives include the Wadden Sea Flyway Initiative (WSFI), which supports monitoring, management and training, in collaboration with Wetlands International and BirdLife International. There is also the new BirdLife East Atlantic Flyway Initiative (BirdLife EAFI) and a range of projects supported by the MAVA Foundation, whilst a few AEWA Small Grants Fund projects have also taken place.

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

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

## BOX 1:

### Flyways along the East Atlantic



## BOX 2:

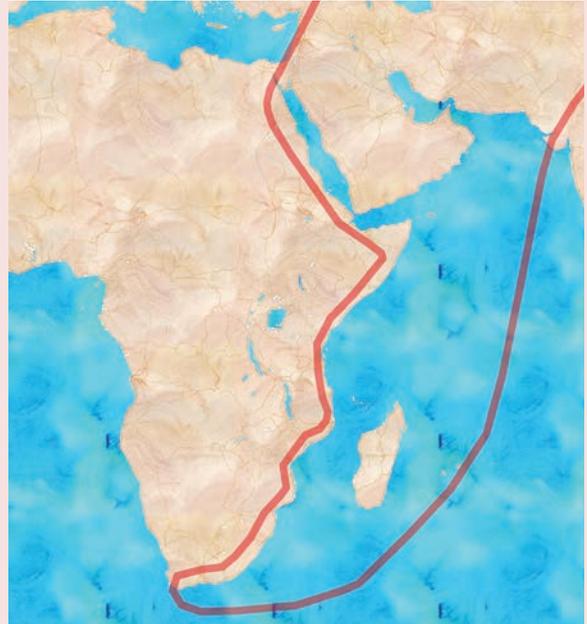
### Flyways along the Western Indian Ocean

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

## BOX 3:

### Intra-African Flyways



## BOX 4:

### Mediterranean and Trans-Saharan Flyways

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

Some initiatives underway within this region include support to the Mediterranean network of sites from France and in the Sahel region through the RESSOURCE project (supported by FAO, FFEM and the EU). The latter includes monitoring and socio-economic studies at some key sites. There is the Climate Resilient Flyway Network project, with pilot activities in Mali's Inner Niger Delta and Ethiopia's Central Rift Valley Lakes. There are also initiatives for the restoration and management of key wetlands for migratory birds, including at Trois Marigots and Ndiaël in the Senegal Delta.

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

- Conduct gap-filling surveys, while promoting the use of tools/methods such as aerial surveys, remote sensing and bird ringing, and enhancing capacity for the use of these methods within the flyway (e.g. training on the GlobWetland Africa toolbox and use of WOW Flyways and OFB training kits);
- Conduct socio-economic studies at key wetlands for migratory birds, including an analysis of the impact of agriculture over time on the four large river basins of the Sahel (Senegal, Niger, Chad, Nile);
- Promote the application of Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) for major development plans, noting their potential impact on waterbirds across this region;
- Carry out targeted advocacy campaigns in key regions to highlight the values of migratory waterbirds, e.g. in Sahelian wetlands, where birds form an important protein source for local people and play an important role in pest control;
- Promote serial designation of the Rift Valley as a World Heritage Site;
- Explore opportunities with other relevant instruments, such as the African-Eurasian Migratory Landbirds Action Plan (AEMLAP);
- Establish flyway scale conservation projects for target species such as Black-tailed Godwit (*Limosa limosa*) and Ruff (*Calidris pugnax*), and/or for target groups of species, such as migratory ducks, which are valued widely for harvest and tourism (e.g. Garganey (*Spatula querquedula*), Northern Pintail (*Anas acuta*), Northern Shoveler (*Spatula clypeata*) and whistling-ducks);
- At the appropriate regional scale, strengthen the integration of waterbird conservation within the agendas of river basin authorities such as the Niger Basin Authority (NBA), Organisation for the Development of the Senegal River (OMVS) and Lake Chad Basin Commission (CBLT);
- Promote collaboration with and between existing projects and initiatives such as the RESSOURCE project, the Mediterranean sites network and the CIRAD initiative on integrated management of dryland territories (GITES).



---

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](mailto:aewa.secretariat@unep-aewa.org)  
[www.unep-aewa.org](http://www.unep-aewa.org)